

### The Pious Devil

By KATE JORDAN  
Of The Vigilantes

Since that June day in 1914 when the assassination at Sarajevo gave the German kaiser, and the cormorants who guttured with him over the council tables, the opportunity for the crime against mankind for which they had been preparing for fifty years, we have had him described, quoted, photographed by the highest men of many countries—men of honor, whose word cannot be questioned.

His vanity is colossal—something to gibe at. Raymond Hitchcock described it when, as a reason for his having made the war, he explained that "the kaiser was all dressed up with nowhere to go." He is always "dressed up," either as an hussar, an admiral, a Turk. Yes, William Hohenzollern is "craxy about himself." He likes the way he "carries the duds."

With vanity there is always arrogance; and he is arrogant. His mustache ends alone are damning evidence of that. The points point up at him. It is evident, too, in his addiction to posing on a horse—he can look down, and ride over anything on foot. With vanity and arrogance, treachery makes a good third. In his own mind, the first two traits set him apart, a glorified unit, a law unto himself. What is, therefore, just common decency to other men has no meaning for one who is law. Because of this he can break his word, lie, cheat, steal, murder at every turn of the game—as he has done from the first moment.

These three traits could not exist without breeding cruelty. The German insensibility to suffering in others looms large in the "all-highest." In sheer savagery he has outdone the most barbarous Turk that ever lived. He has directed the slaughter of millions of men. And not only of his enemies—make no mistake of that! He has directed the slaughter of his own peasant and artisan armies with as untroubling a finger. It might be well for the Germans in this country who secretly yearn over the fatherland to think of this: The German kaiser does not spare his people. He murders his own—as a cat eats its own—when the idea seems good for aristocratic and Hohenzollern reasons.

Vanity, arrogance, treachery and cruelty! Surely these are enough of hell to exist in one man. But there is another, and it reeks from the brew—this is hypocrisy.

Yes, this man of lies and torn treaties, whose armies were directed to treat the betrayed Belgians as hyenas treat the graves they pull to pieces for bones; this killer of babes; this murderer of the wounded—is pious! If one were to believe him, each of his horrors has had God's auditing.

During this last year he has grown very old and white of hair. Some late photographs of him that have reached this country show no arrogance at all. No, he is now markedly sanctimonious and very, very sad. No wonder. He—and God—have not had the easy time that he expected.

You see he had the restaurant picked out and the date set for his triumphal dinner in Paris around Christmas, 1914. There was reason for his feeling so sure. When he started across Belgium, killing and burning all in his path, he was most hideously prepared for the fight he knew he would meet in France.

Perhaps it is not generally known just how prepared he was in a one-sided infantry. From sure authority I have recently read of the tons of barbed wire, 15 years in the making, that went with those first troops; that every German soldier as he took his first step over the Belgian frontier with Paris as his goal, had in his kit tubes of liquid gas and a perfectly constructed gas mask, also years and years in the making. When the kaiser ruminated on the liquid gas that was to come as a surprise upon his defenseless enemies while his own men were supermen, immune, is it any wonder that the points of his mustache wagged in a sweet, slow smile? Any wonder that he saw himself in Paris by Christmas, eating sauerkraut prepared by a French chef?

Well, in spite of all that he has brought to make solid his toothsome ambition, he is not in Paris. He is in Berlin, or near it, and glad to stay there.

He hadn't counted on England—and England's navy bottled up his ports; her millions poured over the channel after him.

He was sure Italy would hold to a feeble sort of promise to back him up if he were good. Italy thought him rotten bad; and so she went after him.

He wasn't afraid of America. America was too busy making money, too happy in selfishness, and luxury, and indulgence. America would never fight. She was like an overfed cat asleep in the sun. But from the time he sank the Lusitania America has really been at war with him in spirit, as she is now in reality. When she did wake up she put her head under the pump and the cold water made her vision so clear she could see nothing but the kaiser—and a gun.

And so, in spite of vanity and arrogance, and treachery and cruelty, and that cosy, comradly way he has with his God—not our God we say with full hearts—though he has succeeded in bringing chaos upon the world, he has

gained nothing. Instead he has lost much.

And he will lose more. If necessary the whole world will rise to put him down. Something in the soul of man could not tolerate subjection to anything so visibly monstrous.

What will Germany be when the war is over? Industrially and commercially a cripple and a mendicant.

And how many centuries must pass before the German people by right living and fair thinking can wipe away the stain this pious devil has put upon their name?

### SLACKERS OLD AND NEW

By CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY  
of the Vigilantes.

The papers chronicle day by day the steady advance of the British soldiers northward through Palestine. Their lines extend from the Jordan to the sea and they are slowly but surely driving the Turks before them in this latest, greatest and most decisive crusade.

If the followers of Mahomet can make any stand against the followers of Christ it will surely be in the plain of Esdraelon, one of the natural battlefields of the world. It is singular how some places lend themselves inevitably to conflict. The plain of Jezreel, to give it another name, is one of these. It has been fought over continually since Thothmes there defeated the Hittites in the dawn of recorded history. Jew and Gentile; Canaanite, Assyrian, Babylonian, Scythian, Persian, Greek and Roman contested for its mastery in the East; English, French, Italian, German, Arabian, and Turk from Godfrey and Richard and Saladin to Napoleon drenched its fertile soil with blood in more modern times. May the forthcoming be the last of its many battles, and Allenby the last of the long line of crusaders.

One of the most decisive of the conflicts upon that plain occurred in 1206 B. C. when Barak, the Lightning, inspired by Deborah led ten thousand men down the slopes of Mount Tabor in a successful night onslaught and surprise of the army of the oppressor, Jabin of Hazor, under the command of Sisera. The Hizzorites were disastrously defeated, driven in panic terror down the narrow pass cut by the Kishon, then in full flood, and killed or drowned in large numbers.

Deborah made a great song about the triumph. One stanza runs this way:

"Curse ye Merax, said the Angel of the Lord, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty."

No one knows where Merax lay. No ruined vestiges remain to identify it. There is no other mention of it in the pages of history. There is no ground even for speculation about it. Yet for over thirty-two centuries it has been pilloried in its infamy in that immortal song. Whatever its prosperity and its works, whatever its hopes and achievements, the loves and hates, the successes or failures, of its people—they are all forgotten in the blistering, withering condemnation of the singer. It stands as a place accursed forever. Perhaps its utter oblivion is the result of the merited condemnation.

Shall there be written against our city, against our land, the curse of Merax? Shall we apply to these and to ourselves this slacker's text? Or shall we come to the help of the Lord today, tomorrow and forever, in the great conflict now, and at all times, being waged in Europe and everywhere against sin and the devil?

Curse ye Merax? Non nobis, Domine—Not unto us, Oh Lord!

### SOULS

By HAROLD CRAWFORD STEARNS  
of the Vigilantes.

I have a German neighbor who has a son twelve years old. Yesterday afternoon he was playing in the yard. Some other youngsters passed and called out:

"Hey, Joey, you Germans are going to get licked. How do you like being a German, Joey?" Joe's cheeks flamed. And his little fists clenched. "I ain't a German, see!" he cried. And there were tears in his voice.

And his soul? Were tears there, too? We and ours. Must be very careful these days. About the souls of youth.

### CONQUEST

By HENRI CHAPELLE.  
of the Vigilantes.

The broad, beloved life of a peaceful, home-keeping nation, is a product, not an ordinance to be proclaimed. Why, then, do we talk of negotiating peace, when it has been destroyed by violence? The forces that make peace must first be reestablished.

One might as well talk of peace to a man struggling in the hands of a murderous highwayman. One might as well talk of a peace settlement with the thief, to a man who has been robbed.

Whenever moral issues are involved, the instinct of mankind demands a clear-cut conquest of evil.

Whenever there is a definite attempt to injure another person, the one assailed knows he must win a decided conquest to be safe.

Whenever there is a man who lives justly, he is entitled to conquest over those who attacked him.

Right, safety, and justice all demand conquest over wrong, danger and brutality. Let conquest be the word we use in speaking of the disposition of this war.

### OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

Silverton will have a new municipal hospital.

Hop picking in the vicinity of Eugene will begin about August 15.

Felix Dodele, resident of Oregon for almost half a century, died at his home in Albany, aged 70 years.

The assessed valuation for the city of Portland has decreased from \$295,128,755 in 1917 to \$284,808,805 in 1918.

The Compton sawmill, near Grizzly mountain, eight miles from Prineville, was burned Sunday. About 200,000 feet of lumber was destroyed.

The run of salmon at the mouth of the Columbia continues light and the pack thus far is approximately 50 per cent short of that of a year ago.

Cooz Bay will entertain the Oregon Editorial association in a fitting manner when it convenes there from August 9 to 11 for a three days' session.

A reduction of \$11,316 in the warrant indebtedness of the city of Albany has been effected since April 1, according to reports submitted by city officials.

The Astoria Marine Iron Works has established an innovation. Women are to be employed there in the future as well as men. Fifty jobs are ready for the first-try apply.

The Southern Pacific company has been instructed by R. H. Ashton, regional director of railroads, to proceed with the construction of an overhead crossing at Divide, in Lane county.

A. P. Howe, Jr., who was discharged from the British army on account of wounds sustained in the battle on the Arras-Lens road in France, has returned to his home in Brownsville and is recuperating.

Since the expiration on July 15 of the ban prohibiting the selling of dried fruits, practically the entire prune crop of the northwest has been sold, according to W. K. Newell, assistant state food administrator.

After a siege of six months in a hospital at Washington, D. C., Earl Withycombe, son of Governor Withycombe, has arrived in Salem on a furlough from military duty until he is sufficiently recovered to leave for France.

Governor Withycombe appointed John H. Burgard, of Portland, to represent the state at a conference for the consideration of a proposal to consolidate the health departments of Multnomah county, the state and the city, in Portland.

R. R. Bartlett, manager of the Port of Astoria, has sent a request to the public service commission for the placing of a chief deputy grain inspector, three samplers and three or four weighers at that point during the coming grain season.

By a small majority the synod of Oregon at its closing session at Eugene tabled a resolution recommending to the general assembly of the Presbyterian church that women be permitted to serve as ministers in the church as a war measure.

The Prineville municipal railroad has now reached Prineville and upon completion of the ballasting of the track and other small details the road will be ready for use. A rousing celebration is being planned, which will inaugurate the new service in Prineville and the surrounding country.

Charles Zieker, boniface, plunger and cafe proprietor, well known throughout the southwest in Albuquerque and El Paso, committed suicide at Marshfield by weighting himself with a heavy automobile part, filling his pockets with scrap iron and then jumping into the waters of Coos bay.

With a view to diverting every possible pound of traffic from rail to water lines between Portland and Astoria, Colonel George A. Zinn, of the government engineers at Portland, has asked the public service commission for all the data available as to rail and water transportation between these two points.

The public service commission has authority to disregard the terms in the contract granted by the city of Hillsboro to the North Coast Power company providing that the company shall furnish water free for municipal purposes, according to an opinion given by Attorney General Brown to the commission.

A drive on flour boarders was conducted by federal and county officials Saturday around Oregon City and adjoining communities, with the result that Anton Wentzel, of Canemah, Guy Gross and his father, Gottlieb Gross, of Willamette and E. Nabnitz, of Oregon City, must face charges in the federal court.

State Insurance Commissioner Harvey Wells has received a report from the Oregon Insurance rating bureau showing that fire insurance rates on virtually all buildings in the first 50 blocks, resurveyed by the bureau in Portland, will be reduced. As rapidly as the resurveys proceed the new ratings will be published in 50-block groups, according to James N. McCune, manager of the bureau.

Miss Edna Cornell, domestic science teacher, and Juanita Parker, teacher of Spanish in the Grants Pass schools during the past year, have been installed at a lookout at the Sanger Point lookout station near Takilma, and will spend the next month in the wilds of Josephine county, in the forestry department service.

Special reports for the state tax commission, upon which will be based the amount of extra tax levy to be asked of the people at the election in November, are beginning to arrive at the offices of the commission. In a number of cases no increases are estimated, while some of the activities are seeking substantial additions.

That the annual dipping of sheep in Oregon, which is ordered by law; unless suspended by the state livestock sanitary board, probably will be held in 1919 for the first time since 1907, was the opinion of the members of the board, who convened at Klamath Falls in a regular session. Prevalence of ticks on the sheep is believed to necessitate this action.

Five fatal accidents and 577 non-fatal ones were reported to the state industrial accident commission during the past week. The victims of the fatal accidents were: William Thomas Beagle, Medford, fireman; M. Nakayama, Des, lumbering; Dick Baker, North Portland, shipbuilding; J. F. Smith, Seaside, lumbering; C. B. Anderson, Portland, shipbuilding.

Portland and the Columbia river district will have delivered a fleet of 45 completed wooden steamers, worth \$20,000,000, to the government by the end of 1918 and will have 105 additional wooden hulls, worth \$50,000,000, launched and undergoing equipment. The \$80,000,000 expenditure will have added an ocean tonnage of 540,000 to the capacity of the offshore carriers of the United States.

Construction work has started on the Ochoco Canyon road under the supervision of Forest Supervisor V. V. Harpam and T. M. Davis, government representative of good roads. The road is a division of the McKenzie Pass, Eugene and Mitchell highway, and is located in the Blue mountains, 20 miles east of Prineville. It is 9.7 miles in length, and the cost of its construction is estimated at \$52,500.

The shifting of the population to the shipbuilding and lumbering centers is reflected in the annual school census reports of the various county school superintendents which have just been compiled by J. A. Churchill, superintendent of public instruction. These reports show a material gain in school population in Multnomah, Clatsop, Coos and Wasco counties, while other counties show a decided loss.

Organization of what probably will be known as the Fifth Oregon regiment of the Oregon national guard will start at once, Adjutant-General Williams announced following a conference with Governor Withycombe. The Fifth regiment will include 12 companies with a minimum strength of 100 men each, as well as a machine gun company, a supply company, headquarters company and a full complement of regimental officers and auxiliary troops.

Through the operation of the blue sky law Oregon has been able to protect its citizens against the inroads of fake stock and bond salesmen who have been giving the government serious concern since the inauguration of the Liberty loan. Dispensers of fake oil and coal stock have operated widely throughout the country and victimized many people with the argument that fuel needs of the government in the emergency demand the development of new oil wells.

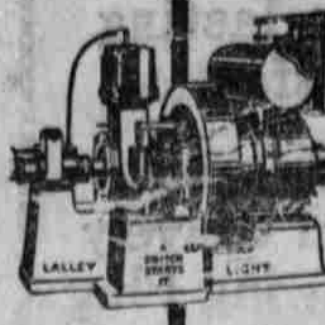
The first unit of the proposed shipping facilities in the Astoria harbor has been completed and is now ready to handle whatever of the great wheat crop of the northwest or of general freight may be dispatched that way in its journey to the marts of the world. The improvement cost \$393,000. On Saturday, August 17, the Port of Astoria will hold the formal opening of its new bulk grain elevator and bins which have a storage capacity of 1,200,000 bushels.

During August and September community fairs for the benefit of the boys and girls' industrial club work will be held at all central points in Douglas county, including Elkton, Smith River, Drain, Anlauf, Scotts Valley, Yoncalla, Umpqua, Sutherlin, Willbur, Roseburg, Glide, Ten Mile, Myrtle Creek, Riddle, Canyonville and Glendale. The one big purpose behind these fairs is patriotism in encouraging the industrial club workers to promote the conservation of food and increase food production.

State Engineer Lewis has approved the applications of E. A. Phillips and others for the construction of the Traverso Lake reservoir and the Echo Lake reservoir in Baker county for the storage of water at the head of West Eagle creek, and the application for the appropriation of the stored water, together with the waters of Goose creek and West Eagle creek for the irrigation of 2321 acres of land near Keating. This project involves the construction of two small reservoirs at an estimated cost of \$7000 and the distribution system is estimated to cost \$45,000, the total length of the main canal being about 20 miles.

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