

BELGIANS ACCUSED OF ATROCIOUS ACTS

Mutilation of Wounded Said to Intimate Organization of Predatory Gang.

GIRL OF 16 IS MARAUDER

Writer Says Germans Acted Solely in Self-Defense and Even Then Only Destroyed Property of Those Actually Implicated.

BERLIN, Sept. 21.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—"A cry of indignation has been called forth throughout the world," writes W. Scheuermann, a correspondent of several German newspapers who accompanies the German general staff, "by the so-called cruelty with which the Germans are carrying on this war."

"In all countries that get their news through English and French sources, stories of German barbarism are repeated. It is therefore doubly the duty for a war correspondent who can speak of what his own eyes have seen to report what he saw and what he can answer for before the forum of historical truth."

"I have spent days in the worst franc-tireur regions of Belgium and France. My first impressions of the horrors of war were obtained at Battice, on the road from Aachen to Liege, where fighting between franc-tireurs and our soldiers occurred. Instead of a flourishing village, with clean houses and neat villages, one sees there today charred ruins stretching along the highway for a mile."

"I saw things there that I shall remember as long as I live. Pitiful sights witnessed. I have passed through a village that was quite burnt out, where only a few German soldiers were standing guard—no other living beings visible anywhere, but when I came to the doorway of a house that had fallen I saw in what probably had been the living-room a white-haired woman with a kitchen knife raised to her throat, called to her. She did not hear me. Her face was like a gray stone, and her eyes fixed on me."

"In a front garden, which had been scorched by the flames, a woman in a black dress was crouching and weeping. I have never seen anything so grave, but I have never heard anybody weep like that woman. The sound of it will ring in my ears forever as one of the most terrible experiences of my life."

"Cursed called on Government. But a curse, and thrice a curse, on those who caused all this misery. For then there is no punishment in this world sufficient to atone for their evil deed. And when they now denounce our brave warriors as the cause of this desolation, this latter slander, shameful as it is, does not weigh much in comparison with what they actually did."

"Our German soldiers and landwehr men marched into the country of the enemy with the same order and discipline that they maintain on the drill ground and in army maneuvers. Wherever we came we guaranteed to the inhabitants security for life and property. In Battice the German proclamation promising the Belgians peace and the integrity of their territory was still seen on the walls of the burnt houses."

"Now, what happened in Battice, Clermont, Herbe, Fleuron and other Belgian places was, with singular similarity, as follows: The inhabitants let the Germans march in with their cringing friendliness, offered them wine in superfluous quantities and then fell on them at night. It was a saying among the franc-tireurs that they demanded that every murdered German was avenged. Where the murderers could be caught they were brought before a court-martial, and if their guilt was evident they were shot or hanged."

"Self-Control is Illustrated. All this was done in perfect order. How far the self-control of our troops extended was proved to me by an example only day before yesterday. At the entrance to the French fortress of Longwy, just captured, I saw German soldiers bring in a troop of franc-tireurs, a few old fellows, and among them a few common thieves scarcely beyond schoolboy age, all of them with criminal faces of the hardest type. Fifty that we did not photograph them so that the world might see what hideous scamps are killing our men."

"What did these men do? They demanded an officer. They put on Red Cross scarves, then went on the battlefield and mutilated the wounded. We caught them in the act, was the report."

"Young Girl is Shot. The reader should know what was the character of this mutilation. The eyes of our wounded men, lying helpless in their pain on the battlefield, were cut out with knives. But this was not by far the most cruel thing these beasts invented. Old and young men and women were caught as hyenas of the battlefield and they received their reward."

"At Vise a 16-year-old girl had to be shot because she was caught in the act of mutilating our wounded. There is no mercy for such deeds and there can be none. Beyond all doubt this franc-tireur warfare against us was organized. Otherwise it would be impossible to explain the uniform character of the mutilations, attacks on field hospitals where physicians, the wounded and even the nurses fell victims of these predatory rascals. In the attacks on villages and cities, the same tactics were repeated over and over again. Suddenly the entire village is in possession of arms, and in two cases, even of machine guns."

"Priest Around Arming Flock. In Etalle, between Arlon and Sedan, the priest was caught in the act of distributing arms and ammunition to his parishioners. In Clermont, on the other hand, the priest tried in vain to dissuade the citizens from listening to the Mayor, who was giving them arms and instigating them to fall on the Germans from ambush. But even where the priest tried to prevent the people from being armed, they marched through the village, did not make the whole village responsible, but only stormed and burned the houses from which shots were fired."

"In Herbe, Fleuron and other villages there are houses standing between others that were burned down. On their doors are written in chalk such words as these: 'House searched, everything is ordered; good people spare them; inmate absent, spare house; husband is soldier in the field, spare house.'"

"Such chivalry is practiced towards an absent enemy. Inhabitants of houses which did not rise against us are enjoying security. Our landwehr men billeted upon the inhabitants, sit before their doors and chat with them, or play with their children and think doubtless of those left at home. I saw one of our soldiers feeding the

CONCRETE BIELDS GERMAN ARTILLERY

Kaiser's Army Chooses Position Long Before Retreat, Is Belief.

"SUSPEND JUDGMENT," IS PLEA

Women Ask That Reports of Cruelty Be Discredited Until Proved.

TEUTONS LOSE IN SORTIES

London, Sept. 21.—The Daily Telegraph's correspondent behind the Allies' line along the Aisne, in a dispatch dated Saturday, says:

"The bulk of the fighting on the line held by General French's command has been done in inclosed country, where there are many woods that afford cover on every hill. The armies are dug in. Consequently it has been for the most part an artillery war."

"The German positions evidently were chosen long ago and the work of entrenchment was begun before the Germans turned away from Paris. One indication to support this view is the fact that most of the German heavy artillery is planted on concrete foundations, which would require several days to set and harden."

"So far the Germans have had the advantage in heavy artillery, but the British have captured three of their large guns which were mounted in concrete emplacements and French guns of big caliber have been hurled to the front. These probably are in action now, and the Allies soon will be superior in artillery."

"The German batteries have ranged beautifully. When the range was picked up they poured in a fire at a high rate and the infantry simply had to bury itself in the trenches to avoid annihilation. The casualties from shell fire have been heavy on both sides."

"Military men do not think that the Allies' line will move the valley of the Oise until the German front to the north of Soissons has been driven back. The Oise Valley is marshy, and after the copious downpour of the past week, the river is swollen and the roads and fields are heavy."

"Moreover, General Von Kluck has taken pains that the high ground between Noyon and Chauny is so strongly held as to dominate the whole valley. The Germans have made three sound night attacks in an attempt to break the Allies' front, where it stretched east and west along the Aisne. All three attacks have failed, and so enormous that the ground in front of the Allies' trenches is strewn with the enemy's dead and wounded."

"Bayonets Repel Night Attack. The bad morale of having to pass so many bodies of their comrades to the Germans to make their fourth attack Friday in the night time. The night was black and rain was falling heavily when the Germans sought to pierce the lines along Soissons with an attack covering a wide area. The Allies received warning from the outposts and repulsed the attack with a withering fire, followed by a bayonet charge."

"The rains have made traffic on the roads impossible and motorcycle dispatch riders are working under difficulties. The German artillery has made the work of the British officers at British headquarters exceedingly dangerous. Their observers keep a lookout for aeroplanes and as soon as the mirror begins to vibrate they train their guns on the instrument. The wireless poles too, are constant targets. One shell fell in a British field hospital, wrecking it. As shells continued to fall in the neighborhood the medical corps, after heroic efforts to rescue the wounded, were compelled to abandon the ten most serious cases."

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part of the German army proposes to maintain merely a defensive position in France while the main body makes a stand on the frontier, but optimists here believe it improbable that Emperor William's troops again during the present war will assume a general offensive on French territory. They contend, moreover, that a retirement of the German forces from French soil must soon become inevitable unless the offensive is assumed.

British eyes see further encouragement in the backward movement of the army of Crown Prince Frederick William, which, it is argued, means the failure to establish for the invaders new and shorter communications by way of Metz and the Rhine.

Dispatches say Vienna newspapers continue silent concerning the operations in Galicia and against the Servians, but they are appealing daily for more nurses, doctors and medical supplies to be sent to the front. The Austrian hospital equipment is said to be woefully inadequate, the wounded often lying on the field from 24 to 48 hours, greatly increasing not only the suffering, but the mortality.

From Trieste, the principal Austrian seaport on the Adriatic Sea, concerning whose attitude in case of an attack there has been much speculation, came a statement today from the governor that in case of being attacked he would not evacuate the city.

"Trieste," he said, "will resist. The Anglo-French fleet, however, before attacking Trieste must deal with the Austrian fleet at Pola."

British Enlistment Continues. Throughout the British Isles enlistment continues unabated and a noteworthy feature is the high standard of the recruits. Students and young professional men are conspicuous in every squad seen on the London streets.

There is a long "preparatory" now has become a fixed classic in the war march in the same manner as "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight" swept through the American Army in Cuba during the Spanish-American war. Even the German prisoners interned in England have caught the fever and may be heard singing as well as they can.

It was announced that David Lloyd-George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is heading a movement to raise a complete Welsh army corps.

BATTLE EXCEEDINGLY VIOLENT

Toll of British Officers Out of Proportion to Losses in Ranks.

LONDON, Sept. 21.—Graphic descriptions from correspondents hovering in the wake of the armies in France depicted that the past week's battles exceeded all previous fighting since the struggle at Port Arthur. There are stories of charges unequalled in the annals of British arms since Balaklava, and the casualty lists, which filter through day by day confirm this as an exaggeration.

The part that British officers are taking is illustrated by bare testimony of the casualty list. Seven hundred and ninety-seven officers are among the killed, wounded and missing, which is a percentage out of all proportion to the losses in the ranks. One hundred and thirty officers have been killed, 388 have been wounded and 279 are missing. Many of the missing probably must later be recorded as killed or wounded.

Coldstream Officers Rank First. The Coldstream Guards regiment holds the place of honor, with 21 casualties among its officers' corps. The King's Royal Rifle Corps, the Suffolk regiment have each had 25 officers killed or wounded, the Gordon Highlanders 18, the 1st Field artillery 18, Cameron Highlanders and Cheah's regiment each 15. The field artillery has lost 56 and the medical corps 52 officers. Listed by ranks, the names of the highest ranking officers are: Lieutenant-Colonel the Right Honorable A. R. M. Lockwood, one of the most popular members of the House of Commons, Saturday's list announced the death of Lord Guesbery, the lord of the Earl of Aylesford, and Lord Teignmouth Hay, heir of Marquis Tweeddale.

Captives Sent Letters. The official press bureau issued the following announcement: "It may be of some interest and comfort to the relatives of the officers whose names appear as missing or wounded and missing in the casualty lists issued by the War Office after the termination of their retreat from Mons, to know that letters have begun arriving in London from German hospitals, to which some of the captives are being. Several of them appear to be at Paderborn, Westphalia."

A letter from the chief surgeon of the hospital in Paderborn, in the case of a wounded officer is given. It says: "Dear Madam—Your husband is staying in the hospital in Paderborn, and feels well and his wound is getting on well. As he is a prisoner he is not allowed to write himself."

WAR TAX BILL IN HOUSE. Republicans Included in Call for Ways and Means Committee.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—The internal revenue war tax plan, designed to raise \$105,000,000, framed by the Democratic leaders in Congress and approved by President Wilson, was laid before the House today by Democratic Leader Underhill.

A call was issued later for a meeting of the ways and means committee tomorrow morning, when the Republicans called in for the first time, will record their opposition.

The bill will be voted out of committee favorably tomorrow and will be laid up in the House tomorrow under a special rule to insure expeditious consideration, despite solid Republican opposition.

FILIBUSTER WINS OUT. (Continued From First Page.) from Congress control of the public funds.

"This bill," he said, "has been more misrepresented than any other measure that has come before the Senate during my services. There is not a single item in the bill that is not a direct result of that is not a proper and just appropriation of the public money."

Prior to the introduction of the Bankhead motion the Senate voted down, 35 to 11, a proposal by Senator Borah to strike the appropriation of \$155,000 for the Trinity River in Texas out of Senator Burton's substitute for the bill.

Hold your orders on furniture and house-furnishings and take advantage of Calif. Bros. 9-day sale that starts Thursday at 10 and E. Morrison. Adv.

"I like that suit— It has lots of style but no freak fads. You can see that a good tailor made it and the cutter knew his business." The well-dressed men of Portland feel that way about the clothes we've made for them—and over two hundred agents take orders for us in nine western states—that's why the label in our clothes is called the "mark of clothes satisfaction." J.L. BOWMAN & CO. WHOLESALE TAILORS PORTLAND, OREGON. 500 Fabrics to Select From at \$25. Ready-to-wear Suits and Overcoats, tailored by our master workmen to keep them busy during the quiet period are ready at \$15, also \$10 to \$25. Third at Stark Street. The Right Way for You. --and-- \$18.50 to \$40.

GERMAN SHOTS MISS Crews of Captured British Steamers Call Aim Poor. PRISONERS WELL TREATED Men From Six Vessels, Five of Which Were Sunk by Emden, Arrive at Calcutta and Make Light of Captors' Marksmanship. COUNT THE DAYS To September 30—the last day of sale for EXCURSION TICKETS TO THE EAST Let us arrange your trip. We will reserve Standard or Tourist sleeping car berths on either of TWO DAILY 72-HOUR TRAINS THROUGH TO CHICAGO LOW WESTBOUND COLONIST FARES From the East, Sept. 24-Oct. 8. TICKETS: 255 Morrison St., Portland Phones: Main 244, A 1244 A. D. Charlton, A. G. P. A. NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY

Manning's 35c Coffee. WAR TAX BILL IN HOUSE. Republicans Included in Call for Ways and Means Committee. POSLAM HEALS IRRITATIONS OF THE SKIN. GET YOUR COPY AT GILL'S THE J. K. GILL CO. THIRD AND ALDER

