

ATROCITY CHARGES
RENEWED IN BRITAIN

Bryce Committee Says Evidence, Duly Weighed, Gives Ample Support.

HIGH OFFICERS ARE BLAMED

Occurrences in Belgium Early in War Reviewed—Murder, Pillage and Worse Declared Part of Systematic Campaign.

LONDON, May 12.—Viscount Bryce, ex-British Ambassador at Washington and now chairman of a special government committee appointed to investigate and report on "outrages alleged to have been committed by German troops during the present war," has submitted the report of the committee to Premier Asquith.

The document is considered as probably the most severe arraignment thus far made of the German military sweep across Belgium, mainly because of the position of Viscount Bryce as a historian and also because of the care with which the investigation was made, the great number of witnesses who testified and were examined and the mass of evidence now submitted with the report of the committee.

Deliberate Massacres Charged.

Summing up, the committee says it regards the following facts as proved: "First.—That there were in many parts of Belgium, deliberate and systematically organized massacres of the civil population, accompanied by many isolated murders and other outrages.

"Second.—That in the conduct of the war generally, innocent civilians, both men and women, were murdered in large numbers, women violated and children murdered.

"Third.—That looting, house burning and the wanton destruction of property were ordered and countenanced by the officers of the German army, that elaborate provision had been made for systematic incendiarism at the very outbreak of the war, and that the burning and destruction were frequent when no military necessity could be alleged, being, indeed, part of a system of a general terrorization.

"Fourth.—That the rules and usages of war were frequently broken, particularly by using of civilians, including women and children, as shields for advancing forces exposed to fire, to a less degree by killing the wounded and prisoners, and in the frequent abuse of the Red Cross and white flag.

"Fifth.—That the conditions at Liege, Belgium, at the outbreak of the war the report gives a harrowing recital of occurrences at various points in the devastated territory. At Herze, on August 4, the report says, "the murder of an innocent fugitive civilian was prelude to the burning and pillage of the town and other villages in the neighborhood to the indiscriminate shooting of civilians of both sexes and to the organized military execution of batches of selected males. Thus some 50 men escaping from burning houses were seized, taken outside the town and shot. At Velen, a hamlet west of Herze, 40 men were shot. In one household alone the father and mother were shot, the daughter died after being repeatedly attacked and the son also was wounded.

"Entries in a German diary show that on August 19 the German soldiers gave themselves up to debauchery in the streets of Liege, and on the night of the 20th a massacre took place in the streets. Though the cause of the massacre was in dispute, the results are known with certainty. The Rue des Friteries and houses in the Place de l'Université and the 'Quai des Pêcheurs' were systematically fired with machine guns, and many inhabitants were burned alive in their houses, their efforts to escape being prevented by rifle fire. Twenty people were shot while trying to escape before the eyes of one of the witnesses. The Liege fire brigade turned out, but was not allowed to extinguish the fire. Its efforts, however, were usefully employed in removing heaps of civilian corpses to the town hall.

"Eight in One Family Killed. Taking up the valleys of the Meuse and Sambre, the report gives lengthy details of conditions described by witnesses at Andenne, and says:

"About 400 people lost their lives in this massacre, some on the banks of the Meuse, where they were shot according to orders given, and some in the cellars of the house where they had taken refuge. Eight men belonging to one family were murdered. Another man was placed close to a machine gun, which was fired through him.

"A half dresser was murdered in his kitchen, where he was sitting with a child on each knee. A paralytic was murdered in his garden. After this came the general sack of the town. Many of the inhabitants who escaped the massacre were sent to the houses of corpses and buried them in trenches. The prisoners were subsequently used as a shelter in protection for a pontoon bridge which the Germans had built across the river, and were so used to prevent the Belgian force from firing upon it.

"Many Incidents Related. The report cites a great number of incidents, giving the authority of witnesses seen by the committee. These include allegations of mutilation of corpses of civilians, attacks on women and murder of children. Incidents mentioned in this part of the report include:

"At Haescht several children had been murdered. One child 2 or 3 years old was found nailed to the door of a farmhouse by its hands and feet, a crime which seems almost incredible, but the evidence for which we feel bound to accept. In the garden of this house was the body of a girl who had been shot in the forehead.

"At Bonaparte the dead body of a child of 2 was sent in a basket to the ground with a German lance. The same witness saw a mutilated woman alive near Weerde on the same day.

"A chapter is given to conditions at Louvain. The report says:

"The massacre of civilians at Louvain was not confined to its citizens, large crowds of people were brought

SOME AMERICAN VICTIMS OF GERMAN TORPEDO WHICH SANK LUSITANIA.



into Louvain from the surrounding districts, not only from Aerschot and Celrod, but also from other places. For example, a witness describes how many women and children were taken in carts to Louvain and there placed in a stable. Of the hundreds of people thus taken from the various villages and brought to Louvain, some were massacred there, others were forced to march along with citizens of Louvain through various places, some being alternately sent to the Belgian lines at Malines; others were taken in trucks to Cologne, others were released.

High Officers Held Responsible.

"Some were marched through Cologne afterwards for the people to see. Ropes were put around the necks of some and they were told they would be hanged. An order then came that they were to be shot instead of hanged. A firing squad was prepared and five or six prisoners were put up but were not shot. This taking of the inhabitants in groups and marching them to various places must evidently have been done under the direction of a higher military authority. The ill-treatment of the prisoners was under the eyes and often under the direction and sanction of officers and officers themselves took part in it."

"The chapter of the report devoted to the diaries of German soldiers, from which many quotations are made, such as:

"A transport of 300 Belgians came through Duisburg in the morning. Of these 80, including the Cherburo-master, were shot according to martial law."

"About 250 inhabitants and the village were burned."

"Artillery is continuously shooting. Just now the crossing of the Meuse begins near Dinant. All villages, chateaux and houses are burned down during the night. It is a beautiful sight to see fires all around us in the distance."

"Another diary, by a member of the Second Mounted Battery, First Kurhessian field artillery, regiment No. 11, records an incident which happened in French territory near Lille on October 12:

"We had no fight, but we caught about 20 men and shot them."

"The committee says of this last diary: 'By this time killing not in a fight would seem to have passed into a habit.'"

"Set Purpose Defected. The committee says it draws the conclusion that the excesses reported were ordered or allowed in pursuance of a set purpose to strike terror into the civil population of Belgium. It adds:

"In the minds of Prussian officers war seems to have become a sort of sacred mission, one of the highest functions of an omnipotent state, which is itself as much an army as a state. An ordinary morality and the ordinary sentiment of pity vanished in its presence, superseded by a new standard which justifies the soldier every means that can conduce to success, however shocking to a natural sense of justice and humanity, however revolting to his own feelings.

"Obedience to the state and its warlord leaves no room for any other duty or feeling. Cruelty becomes legitimate when it promises victory. Proclaimed by the heads of the army, this doctrine would seem to have primed the officers and affected even the private soldiers, leading them to justify the killing of non-combatants as an act of war, and so accustoming them to slaughter that even women and children become at last the victims."

Class Makes Good Record.

WALLAWA, Or., May 12.—(Special.)—A fine record has been made by the pupils in the Eighth Grade. Out of a class of 21, it was necessary for only 12 to take in all of the subjects of the state test for certification to enter the high school next fall. Two having made the required grades were compelled to take the examination, owing to the fact that they had not been in the state long enough. Ten received exemptions, having made 80 per cent and above. The highest average was made by Jessie Dorsey.



At Top (Left)—Mrs. Harry J. Keiser, of Philadelphia, Who With Her Husband, Is Among the Missing. (Right) Recent Picture of Captain William T. Turner, Who Was Saved, Missing Since. Below—Mrs. Paul Crompton, of Philadelphia, and Her Six Children, All of Whom Were Lost. (Right) Alfred G. Vandenberg at the Pier Ready to Go on Lusitania. Below—Master Dean W. and William S. Hodges, of Philadelphia, Sons of Mr. and Mrs. William S. Hodges. These Boys Were Lost.

BATTLE IS SEVERE

Attacks Follow Constantly on France-Flanders Front.

ALLIES HOLDING GROUND

Berlin Tells of Capture of Important Hill Near Ypres, and Paris Report Relates Advances and Capture of Prisoners.

LONDON, May 12.—Official reports from the front in Flanders and France indicate violent fighting on a considerable portion of the line, but do not agree as to many of the details. The British report, for example, says that east of Ypres the British forces repulsed three German attacks at heavy cost to the enemy. The German official report received here from Berlin, says: "East of Ypres we took an important hill."

There is substantial agreement between the Paris and Berlin reports on the fighting north of Arras. Berlin admits that "trenches taken by the French between Carony and Neuville are still in their possession." The Paris report tells of three attacks by the Germans in the region that were "completely checked," but it adds that additional progress was made this morning by the French and that 125 Germans were taken prisoner. The French official report adds:

"We have besides, taken three successive lines of trenches bordering the wood to the north of Carony, after which we penetrated the wood, thus threatening closely the last line of communication which remains open to the defenders of that position. Finally, we have taken a new part of the village, capturing there 400 prisoners."

"In the afternoon we attacked that section of Neuville-St. Vaast, which the enemy still holds and fighting in the streets gave us the mastery of several groups of houses. Our progress here continues."

"The total number of prisoners made by us since Sunday has reached 4000. On the rest of the front we brought to a sudden halt by our fire three German attacks—near Berry-au-Bac, Beaumont and Marie-Thérèse-Bazelle."

The German report, dealing with the



GORDON, CELEBRATED CHILD ACTOR.

NURSE TO ASK AID

Serbian Woman to Seek Port-land Help for Stricken.

TYPHUS THREATENS NATION

Unless Plague Is Stopped, No Assistance Will Be Needed, as None Will Be Left for Other Duties, Says Mme. Grouitch.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 12.—Mme. Slavko Grouitch, wife of the permanent under-secretary of foreign affairs of Serbia, and a war nurse and Red Cross worker in the Balkan battlefields, now in this country to secure relief for her impoverished people, is to visit Portland the latter part of this month, and extend an appeal to the people of that city and the Northwest to aid Serbia against the typhus fever plague, which she is seeking agricultural aid, that the women of Serbia may bring their fields once more under cultivation. The able-bodied men of Serbia, says Mme. Grouitch, are all in the field.

"Help us to stamp out the typhus plague, or your efforts to procure grain, seeds and agricultural implements for us will not be necessary. There will be few of us left."

This is the frantic appeal that is being sent to the United States from war-ridden and fever-infested Serbia. The country where a few years ago "there were no beggars and no rich men" has been involved in a war three times in three years. Only the women and children remain to plant the crops. They are huddled in concentration camps and there are no crops to plant and few homes left to give them shelter. Now the dreaded typhus fever has made its appearance.

Under the auspices of the Serbian agricultural relief committee of America, with headquarters at 70 Fifth avenue, New York City, Mme. Grouitch is making a tour of the principal cities in the United States in the interest of the local organizations being formed to take up the work. Dr. Charles W. Eliot, president-emeritus of Harvard, is president; Dr. Brock Trowbridge, of New York, is chairman, and Dr. T. T. Tilton Wells, of New York, is chairman of the executive committee, of the general relief committee.

"Unlike Belgium, Serbia has no rich neighbors like England and Holland to succor her," says Mme. Grouitch. "As far as outside help is concerned she has had to fend for herself. And also unlike Belgium, at the beginning of the present struggle, she was already staggering under the load left by two previous wars. We are not seeking a war fund, but a fund to be used for peaceful reconstruction."

"Unhappy and glorious Belgium needs so much I don't want one penny from her, and I don't want one penny from the poor here in deserving America, but if there is anything left, may it not be given to Serbia?"

The Serbian relief committee has extended an appeal to Portland to join with the other cities of the country and help Serbia as Belgium and other countries have been aided.

Pendleton Pastor Resigns. PENDLETON, Or., May 12.—(Special.)—Rev. Tolbert F. Weaver, pastor of the Pendleton Christian Church since September, 1912, has tendered his resignation which becomes effective August 1. Need of a rest and change in the

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All baseball fans should see this picture.

COMING SUNDAY, MAY 16

MARY PICKFORD

in "FANCHON THE CRICKET."

nature of his work for several months is the reason. He will attend the state convention of the church at Turner, from July 6 to 12, and the National convention at Los Angeles, July 18 to 26, and then will go to his former home in Texas, returning to the Northwest in the Fall to enter upon a campaign for evangelistic work until January 1. He will continue in his position as secretary of the Northwest Parliament of Christian Churches.

TWIN FALLS OFFICIALS IN

Mayor's Appointment for Chief of Police Not Popular.

TWIN FALLS, Idaho, May 12.—(Special.)—The new city officials of Twin Falls have taken office. Probably the most important problem which the administration has to face is that of the city water supply, and the ticket elected was on a pledge to provide a pure water supply.

The appointments announced by Mayor Swedley were apparently satisfactory with the exception of the chief of police, James F. Ahern. He was not confirmed. The other appointments are as follows: Chief of fire department,

Fred A. Carlson; overseer of streets, W. F. Porter; weighmaster, A. W. Mowbray; electrician, inspector, C. L. Hushaw; plumbing inspector, J. M. Chambers.

Walla Walla Has Near-Cloudburst.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., May 12.—(Special.)—So much rain fell in so short a time Sunday evening and night and yesterday morning that near-cloudbursts were reported from some parts of the valley. No damage was done. The city water supply was made almost undrinkable and streams rose several inches. Near Third the water was waist-deep in the road.

Walla Walla Highwaymen Busy. WALLA WALLA, Wash., May 12.—(Special.)—J. Newsom put \$18 in a secret pocket of his trousers and left the garage where he is employed, for his home Sunday night at 10 o'clock. Two highwaymen bit him over the head without warning, slit the pocket and took his money. He was able to give no description to the police.

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Park, West Park Near Wash. St. Open Daily Noon to 11 P. M. Sunday 10:30 A. M. to 11 P. M.

Today and Friday

Helen IN The Breath of Araby
Gardner Special 3-Act Broadway Star Production
"Her Loves Are Virile, Her Hates Vindictive, and Her Path Striven With the Wreckage of Broken Hearts."

Boobley's Baby

OTHER GOOD PLAYS AND SPECIALTIES, including Mr. Louis Diamond and Mr. Clifford Carney, Master Organist.

FRIDAY (TOMORROW) Jovian Benefit for Rose Festival Electrical Parade. Rose Queens in Attendance in Evening.

Commencing Next Sunday

MRS. LESLIE CARTER

THE HEART OF MARYLAND

The most stupendous spectacle ever presented: five months to complete; involved 3000 people; cost over \$100,000. Directed by Herbert Brenon, who produced famous "Neptune's Daughter." Magnificent battle scenes; contains sentiment and deep emotion; heart throbs and sorrow; intense excitement and thrills; photography without equal; scenic splendor of Cumberland Mountains; burning of church and great beauty scene.

This play, featuring original star, Mrs. Leslie Carter, was chosen from scores of dramas submitted to open Hippodrome Theater, New York City, a few weeks ago—140,000 paid admissions in nine days.

Brought to National at Huge Expense Commences Next Sunday

SPECTACULAR BALLYHOO—Every day, beginning Sunday, Great Beltry scene, showing girl swinging from bell. Hours 2, 5:30, 7, 8:30, 9:30.

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The German report, dealing with the

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STAR THEATER

TODAY Until Sunday A Paramount Picture

GLADYS BROCKWELL in The

TYPHOON

An Absolute Sensational Triumph! Most wonderful acting by an all-star cast.

"The Typhoon" depicts the unusual story of the love and tragedy of a young Japanese and Helene, a beautiful Parisian actress.

A Broadway Masterpiece

10¢—Admission—10¢

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