

WINS, DRUNKEN AND UGLY, FOOT AT WILL

Hugh Gibson Tells How, After Soaking Up Wines, Invaders Rob Belgian Homes.

ART COLLECTIONS STOLEN

Prince Worse Than Common Soldiers in One Case Recited—American Has Hard Time to Get Pass Brussels to Antwerp.

BY HUGH GIBSON. Secretary of the American Legation in Brussels at the outbreak of the war. Copyright, 1917, Doubleday, Page & Co., by Clis F. Wood.

(CONTINUED.) September 8.—The Count and Countess de X had an interesting story to tell of their experiences when the first German armies went through. When the war broke out they were at their chateau and were caught by the first onrush of troops. Their fine collections were emptied for the benefit of the invaders, but nothing more serious happened to them until the second wave came along. Then there was a demand for more wine. As all the wine had been carried away they could not comply. The Germans were convinced that they were being fooled, and searched the place very carefully.

Finally they impounded the X's for three days in the cellar and then brought them forth and stood them up before a firing squad and threatened to shoot them unless they told where the wine was hidden. At the critical moment a big gray military car rolled up, and to their utter amazement they saw that one of the occupants was a German princeling, who had formerly been their guest on several occasions. They called out to him, and his orders were immediately released.

Prince Practical Man. After expressing their thanks to him they went into the chateau to find that soldiers were engaged in packing up their fine collections of enamels and porcelains to ship to Germany. Another appeal to the Prince, who was most sympathetic. He was a practical and resourceful man, and said:

"Of course I'll stop this, but you will understand that our men would like to keep some little souvenirs of the war in Belgium. That would be hard to prevent. But I would suggest that you pick out all the pieces that you value most and pack them in a very large wardrobe. Then I'll do the rest."

Madame de X was, of course, delighted with this, and scurried about gathering up the pieces and packing them carefully into the big wardrobe. She kept it up as long as there was a nook or cranny where she could pack a piece, and then reported progress to the Prince.

"Are you sure that all the best pieces are there?" he asked. "All that could be packed there," answered Madame de X.

"Good," says the Prince, and then turning to his brotherly "Have that wardrobe sent to Brussels, and I'll take care of it."

Wine Is Taken by Hun. The way the German army cleaned out the wine of the country was a revelation to everybody. They would take what they needed for their drinking and would clear out whole cellars at a time and load what was not drunk and left to rot away.

The result was that people who had a little warning had recourse to all sorts of ingenious tricks to save some of their stores.

There was one bright man in the province of Namur who removed his stock of wine—all except a few thousand bottles of new wine—into a room in the ornamental pond near his chateau. The Germans arrived a few hours afterwards and raised a great fuss because they were not satisfied with the amount of wine they found.

The owner of the chateau had discreetly slipped away to Brussels and they could do nothing to him. However, they tapped all the walls for secret hiding places and went over the park to see if anything could be carried into it in vain. The next morning, however, the pond was covered with labels which had soaked off and floated to the surface, and they had to report the whole stock was carried away.

Writing Is Preserved. Madame B—, who was there, has an interesting souvenir which she proposes to keep if possible. During the first days of the war her chateau was occupied by a lot of officers, who got gloriously drunk and smashed up pretty well everything in the drawing-room and dining-room. One of them, with a fine sense of humor, took a piece of hard chalk and wrote on the top of the piano in large letters: Deutschland uber alles!

The crowd left the place in the morning without trying to cover their traces and Madame B— was left with the words to rights. The first thing she did was to get a large piece of plate glass to cover the top of the piano so that the words would not be effaced, and she placed an ordinary piano cover so that no future visitor would be allowed to erase the inscription. When the war is over she will have an interesting reminder of her visitors.

Evasive Tactics Adopted. This morning I was ready to start for Antwerp. My laissez-passer had been promised at 10 o'clock. When it did not come by that hour, I went up to see Baron von der Lancken who had agreed to attend to the matter. He received me most graciously, told me how delighted he was to see me, how it pleased him to see that we came to him with our little troubles, etc. He kept off the subject of the laissez-passer as long as he could, but when he could stand it no longer he said that he must ask me to see von Herwarth, who had been placed in charge of all matters regarding passports, etc. I made a blue streak over to Herwarth's office and saw him after a little delay. He kept me as long as he could, and told me all that he knew about the war and perhaps a great deal more. When we got down to the subject of my visit he said that von der Lancken was mistaken, that passports should be granted only by Colonel von Clever who had his office about a block away.

Danger of Trip Described. I began to smell a rat about this time, but kept plugging away. I spent an hour and a quarter in the ante-chamber of the Colonel, being unable to get to him or to any of his officers. It was all part of a game. Both von der Lancken and Herwarth harped upon the danger of the trip to Antwerp, advised against it and told how terribly they would feel if anything were to happen to me. I asked each of them point blank if they contemplated an attack while I was there. They both avoided the subject, but said that with the situation as it was now it was impossible to tell from one moment to another what might happen.

I saw that they were undecided about what was going to happen next, and that until they did know they did not

intend to let me go. They naturally do not wish to have anything happen to me or anyone else connected with the legation, so I feel entirely safe about going.

After lunch I went back to the siege and stayed until my friend, the Colonel, left by the fire-escape or some equally desperate way so as to avoid seeing me.

Von der Goltz had sent word to the Minister that he was coming here for tea this afternoon, and wanted to meet the Spanish Minister. That was our opportunity, and the Minister was all primed with what he was to say to the old chap. They beat us to it, however.

Pacifist Well Treated. The problem had evidently been decided since I saw von der Goltz in the morning, for he greeted me with the news that the laissez-passer would be around in the course of the evening. He added that the General was anxious to send one of the Belgian Ministers of State to Antwerp, and would appreciate it if I would take him with me. He was Count de Wasse, a man who has always fought against having an army, on the ground that Belgium was so fully guaranteed by her treaties that it was unnecessary. Baron von der Lancken says that they will make out a laissez-passer on which he will be included, and that the military authorities will mark out the route by which we had best go, so as to avoid running into trouble. I imagine it will take us by way of Termonde and St. Nicolas.

The crowd that came to tea included von der Goltz, the tacher Baron von der Lancken, Herr von Sandt, and Count Ortenburg—a scion of a mediatized Bavarian family. They told us of all the glorious triumphs of the German army, and of the terrible drubbing that was in store for their enemies. They stayed on for about an hour.

Many Men Reported Taken. When they left, I ascended the old man to his car. Before he climbed in, he looked me over curiously and remarked: "Tiens, c'est fou qui faites ce voyage aufer!" Four or five peacocks of courage. The tacher d'arranger un petit entracte pour vous eire agreable. Mais il vaut referer aussitot que possible!" They evidently intended to hold off for a day to await certain developments, and I am to get the benefit of the delay.

Western Mills Slow, Too. Marshal also told us that Maubeuge had fallen, and that they had made 45,000 prisoners. It seemed almost incredible that the French and English had been left that many men at Maubeuge when they knew that it was bound to fall. Perhaps we shall find that this is not altogether accurate. They say nothing about what is happening in Austria. The news from England and Antwerp is to the effect that the Russians are giving the Austrians a hard time of it.

This afternoon the German headquarters issued an order prohibiting the bringing of newspapers to Brussels from the outside world, and announcing that anyone who brings newspapers here or is found with papers in his possession will be severely punished. Two German papers will be distributed by the authorities, and everything else is taboo. They evidently intend that their own version of passing events shall be the only one to get out here.

Brussels, September 15, 1914.—Ever since the 9th we have been off on a little jaunt to Antwerp, and have not been able to get a line on paper. I was not at all sure that I was going to get away until I got down to the Legation on Wednesday morning and found my laissez-passer, signed by von der Goltz, waiting for me—another to add to my large collection of interesting collection. With it was a letter from my friend and well-wisher, Baron von der Lancken, who said that an officer would be assigned to accompany us as far as the German outposts. He suggested that I take along a large quantity of newspapers, and that I should for the run between the lines. The note and laissez-passer had arrived at the legation about 1 o'clock in the morning, and I was able to get away from a deep sleep to receive it.

(To Be Continued Tomorrow.)

SOUTH IS DERELICT IN BUILDING SHIPS

Timber Supply Declared Inadequate for Contracts Let in Territory.

PROFITS REGARDED HIGH

Senate Committee Takes Keen Interest in Price Paid for Steel Construction and Questions Subsidization Arrangement.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Shipping Board's wooden ship programme was flatly called a failure today by F. A. Bowles, former naval constructor and now assistant to the general manager of the board's Emergency Fleet Corporation. Summoned before the Senate commerce committee to shed light upon the causes of delays in building ships, Mr. Bowles said the wooden construction venture was a mistake and never should have been attempted.

The programme cannot be completed on time, he told the committee, because the country cannot furnish enough ship timber, the 458 awarded contracts calling for more lumber than is represented in the entire output of Southern pine producers for a year. Most of them were placed in the East and South and specify pine timbers.

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COREY SEES EMERGENCY

COMMISSIONER SUGGESTS SUSPENSION OF RULES.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Public Service Commissioner Corey, in a letter to the Commission suggests suspension of the reciprocal demurrage and average agreement rules of the Commerce Commission to become effective January 1, 1918.

"It seems to me that an emergency exists by reason of war and National Defense sufficient to warrant the suspension of the reciprocal demurrage rules, making them effective January 1, 1918. The average agreement rule, we believe, lends encouragement toward detention of cars over the free time limit, and the reciprocal demurrage rule, if not modified, will result in conditions over which they now have little or no control. I also deem it advisable to temporarily, at least, in the event of the demurrage charges to such extent as to make it unprofitable to use cars for storage purposes. This, however, will require formal hearing."

The agreement rule mentioned is a rule whereby a shipper who releases cars ahead of time is given a credit of free time of one day for other cars which he may have in his possession. Such offset of credits, however, is given only during any one month, and the shipper is not allowed to do so more than once in a month.

BOYS LOOKING FOR PIGS

Pasco Youngsters Eager to Produce Pork With Bank's Aid.

PASCO, Wash., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Boys of the public schools are out scouring the country today for sows that will bring pigs in the Spring. The boys have formed "pig clubs" and expect to try their hands at raising pigs. County Superintendent Dorsey is out with them and will assist them in making selections and selecting them started. The banks are lending the boys money with which to make their purchases, giving them until the time the pigs are marketed to repay the loans. The boys are very enthusiastic and expect to add materially to the Nation's pork supply.

Couple Travel Far to Wed.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Arthur Spencer and Miss Pearl Fredericks, both of Wasco, Or., were married at Bonner's Ferry, Idaho, today by Rev. U. S. Crowder, having traveled 400 miles for the purpose of having the ceremony performed by Mr. Crowder, who was formerly pastor of the Methodist Church at Wasco.

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JAPAN IN WAR TO LIMIT EMPEROR PLEDGES CO-OPERATION WITH ALLIES.

TOKIO, Dec. 27.—Co-operation of Japan with her allies in the war to the fullest extent of her ability was pledged by Emperor Yoshihito in the speech from the throne at the opening of Parliament today. The Emperor said Japan's relations with the entente powers were extremely close, which was greatly pleasing to him and continued:

"The European war is becoming more and more important. It becomes us to devote our efforts toward the active co-operation with the allied powers. We expect the alliance to secure the full fruits of victory and to obtain the objects with which we heartily sympathize. We are prepared to co-operate to the fullest extent of our ability while maintaining peace in the Orient."

In consequence of present conditions, we have ordered our ministers to present plans having to do with the necessities of National defense. The embassies and legations were fully represented in the diplomatic boxes. After the delivery of the speech from the throne, the Parliament adjourned until January 20.

SUSLAW TO BE BOOMED

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION GRANTS FRANCHISE.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—The Public Service Commission late today issued an order granting a franchise to the Suslaw Boom Company to boom, float, drive and raft logs and other timber products on the Suslaw River and certain of its tributaries. This is the first order issued by the Commission under the boom law of the last Legislature. Under the order, the company is required to begin work within 90 days and within three years complete the necessary improvements on the streams covered by the franchise. The Commission provides that the granting of the franchise shall not in

any way interfere with the rights of others in booming or rafting or driving logs or timber products on the Suslaw from its junction with Knowles Creek to its mouth, and the portions of the north fork of the Suslaw and of Sweet Creek, Hadson's Creek and Knowles Creek, affected by the tides, thus providing that the Commission will not attempt to grant an exclusive franchise under the act on tidewater streams.

JEW MURDERED BY TURKS

30 Executed When Moslem Army Surrendered Jerusalem.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Thirty Jewish men and women were executed by the Turkish army that surrendered Jerusalem to General Allenby December 10, according to an announcement made here today by the provisional executive committee of the general staff. Included in the number massacred were some of the leading residents of the holy city.

The father and a sister of Aaron Aaronsohn, head of the Palestine agricultural experiment station, which is subsidized by the United States Department of Agriculture, were among the victims, according to the announcement. Mr. Aaronsohn is now in Washington.

The retreat of the Turks through Galilee drove 12,000 Jewish survivors northward, where they are in dire need. The committee has undertaken to furnish a minimum of \$20,000 monthly for their relief. It was said.

EX-CHIEF HEALEY ON STAND

Alleged Grafter Makes Sweeping Denial of All Charges.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—Charles C. Healey, former Chief of Police of Chicago, today took the witness stand in his own defense at his trial on charges of conspiracy in connection with alleged police graft.

"I never took a dollar to protect vice or crime," he dramatically exclaimed in the course of a sweeping denial of every charge made against him. Healey also denied that he had ever held telephone conversations with Tom Costello, self-confessed head of an underworld syndicate and the former chief's principal accuser.

Attorneys for the defense indicated that they will attempt to show that Healey is the victim of a campaign of persecution.

PAPERMAKERS TO GET MORE PAY.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Announcement was made today by the Crown-Willamette Paper Company and the Hawley Pulp & Paper Company of a flat increase of 20 cents a day in the wages of unskilled laborers, who have been receiving a minimum of \$2.90 a day. After January 1, 1918, the minimum wage will be \$3.10 per day.

Chinese Hold Conference.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—Before returning to their mother country to take up various lines of work, 40 Chinese students entered a conference here today to sum up the result of their investigations in the United States. The students have been studying American methods in the professions and different lines of business.

Senator Newlands Buried.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Funeral services for Senator Newlands, of Nevada, were held here today. President Wilson headed a distinguished gathering which attended.

The Last Two Days of Our Before-Stock-Taking Sale

Stocks to the lowest level before inventory, that's what we want. We'll get it if price and quality count. It's your great opportunity.

Choose Without Restriction Any Suit in Stock at 1/2 Price

- \$55.00 SUITS \$27.50
- \$39.50 SUITS \$19.75
- \$45.00 SUITS \$22.50
- \$49.50 SUITS \$24.75
- \$35.00 SUITS \$17.50
- \$29.50 SUITS \$14.75
- \$24.75 SUITS \$12.40
- \$19.50 SUITS \$9.75

Coats at Lowered Prices

Three special groups that will surprise you—

- \$12.50 TO \$17.50 COATS \$9.85
- \$18.50 TO \$22.50 COATS \$14.65
- \$24.75 TO \$29.50 COATS \$19.85

A Wonderful Group of Dresses at \$18.95

They formerly sold at \$24.75 to \$29.50, and in smart new styles of satins, crepe de chine, taffetas and serges. A splendid lot at \$18.95.

Entire Stock of Blouses Reduced Crepe de Chine Blouses

In smart, dainty styles of splendid heavy quality silks. Georgette crepes also included. Former prices to \$4.95. Special at... \$3.29

EMPORIUM
ZSWETT CO.
124 to 128 Sixth St. Just off Washington



Men's Midwinter Clothes \$15 and \$18 WARM, sturdy in fabric, pleasing in pattern, these Suits and Overcoats at \$15 and \$18 bring comfort and correct style at a modest outlay. I do not believe there are any better clothes than these sold on the Coast at the price. Third Floor—Elevator

Ben Selling
LEADING CLOTHIER
Morrison Street at Fourth

ENGLAND WON'T 'WELSH'

ALL WAR LIABILITIES TO BE PAID. DECLARES BONAR LAW. British Chancellor Says Overthrow of Government That Suggested Dishonor Would Be Certain.

OREGON GIRLS WAR BRIDES

John Day Men at Camp Lewis Principals in Double Wedding. TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Harold C. Blough and John Baker of Cle Elum, were arrested here today and charged with robbing a safe in the Cle Elum postoffice Christmas night. Deputy Sheriffs Read and Hays, of Kittitas County, made the arrest. Christmas night three men entered the Cle Elum postoffice, took the safe out into a vacant space, blew it up and obtained \$125 cash and stamps and money orders.

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You Can Select Any Trimmed Hat in our house without exception at 1/2 PRICE All Gold and Silver Hats 1/2 Price All White Hats 1/2 Price All Large Velvet Hats 1/2 Price All Untrimmed Shapes 1/2 Price Any Child's Hat 50c 200 to choose from on Third Floor