

# Automobile Page

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### UNDER THE CAMOUFLAGE

PARIS, Dec. 4.—It was shortly after 11 a. m. when I reached the office of No. 1, the Bureau of Surveillance of Foreigners. The concierge explained that everybody had gone to lunch at 11 and wouldn't be back until 2. It was 12 when I reached No. 2, the Prefecture of Police, in the City. Everybody had gone to lunch. I went to lunch.

No. 1, being prompt and business like, had managed to get back to work after the three-hour lunch period and he put his stamp on my passport without further delay. No. 2 later did likewise and by 4.30 the last of the three, the British Consulate, had been passed. The train left at 5 o'clock. It couldn't be done, since the ticket had to be bought, none being sold without passports that satisfy the ticket seller, and no taxi in Paris could cover the remaining ground in half an hour. I got out in the morning.

Saw the Latin Quarter of tradition tonight. Wader knew a place. It is called the Cafe Duret and is located at 8 rue de Valenciennes.

Four great husky women run the place and the romance of it is supposed to possess. They have managed to preserve its atmosphere despite the war and the long wall seats on each side of the room were occupied by joyous men and girls of the sort always described in stories of the Quarter. The men, however, were in uniform for the most part; severe straight coat collars made flowing ties impossible and military barbers had done for the long hair that is supposed to distinguish artists.

Alas, it was a mighty fine dinner. Round the corner was a cabaret. Wader explained that Paris cabaret artists are mostly of the male persuasion and we passed it up. It does seem that this is war work that might be entrusted to the other sex.

Visited Comedie Francaise, where Maurice de Fervady, said to be the legitimate successor to Coquelin, was playing the title role in "Polche." His skilful comedy was a delight. Miss Cecile Sorel, feminine star, is a composite of Mrs. Flske and Leslie Carter, the latter contributing chiefly real hair and emotional vibrations. Miss Sorel's clothes, which are said to set the fashions in Paris, were wonderful; but if Mrs. Flske lived in Paris I believe there'd be a readjustment of taste at the Comedie.

The famous promenade fever was back, but the guests strolled about it, dodging the marble statuary, between the acts. It formed a weird experience.

Though it was the fashionable night all men were in business clothes, or something distinctly not evening dress. London's shining shirt fronts are taboo here for the period of the war. The women likewise observed the rule against elaborate theater toilettes. I had heard that this rule simply designated the distance that a gown might be open at the throat and that one result had been to produce many marvelous V-shaped backs. Apparently there's nothing in that report.

HAVRE, Dec. 5.—Rode down to Havre with Capt. Brozsa of the Italian military mission in London.

"The German invasion may prove the salvation of Italy," he declared. "I don't believe anything could have united the country as this invasion has done."

The train was some time winding into the aged town of Bolon after the church spires of the city had long been in view. I talked with a French citizen and found him anxious to correct one impression I'd brought from Paris.

"If you've been eating in Paris restaurants," he said, "please don't think that is the way all France is living. If it were it would be robbery for France to accept food supplies from America or anywhere else. Something ought to be done about the extravagance of Paris restaurants. It surely gives American visitors the wrong idea."

He said his own townsperson, while not in actual want, seldom had an opportunity to forget the need for economy.

"Of course," he said, "France is in better position to take care of herself in the matter of food than some other countries—England, for instance. There is practically no land going unused in France."

An Australian officer standing by interpolated a remark.

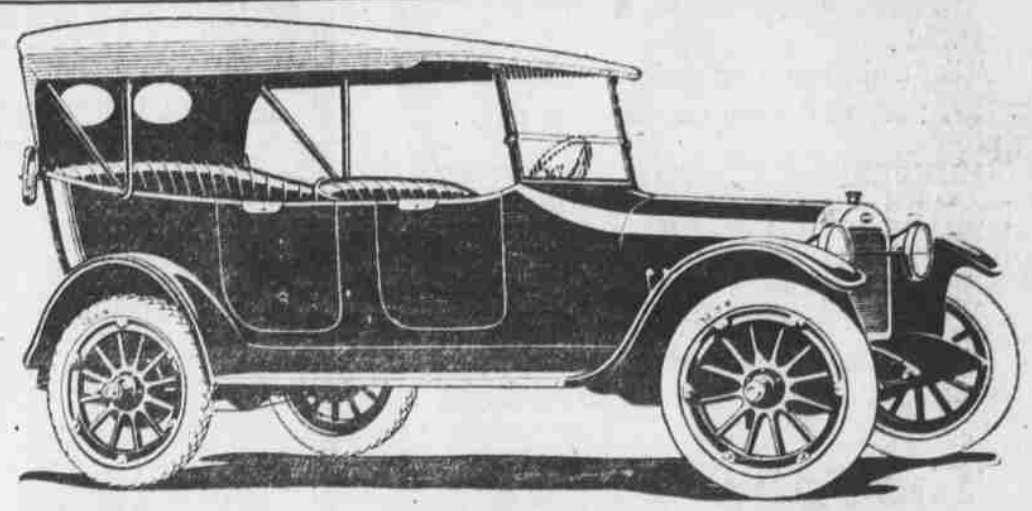
"There's plenty going to waste in England," he declared. "I'm wondering when they'll ever get around to cutting up some of those sacred old estates that are no good for anything but hunting and golf."

Strolled around Havre with Conner who in his A. P. days helped Carl Ackerman and the Kaiser to keep Berlin in the public eye. He's on his way home to become a captain or a major or something.

We encountered Brand Whitlock, minister to Belgium, just departing from a pleasant old house in an obscure street. The house proved to be the temporary U. S. legation to Belgium.

Whitlock somehow doesn't look much older than he did when mayor of Toledo, and for that matter, not a great deal older than when secretary to Governor Altgeld of Illinois. His hair is quite gray, but there is still a boyish light in his eyes and his old smile is the same slow, easy smile of old and his figure is as straight and slim as that of a Kuppenheimer hero. Still, I noticed when a bell rang at the gate ramp sharply he started as if from a physical shock. Belgium perhaps did not leave his nerves unscathed.

Wanted to ask him what he thought Gov. Altgeld's attitude would have been had he lived to see America's present fight with his Fatherland; but Mrs. Whitlock appeared all gloves and ready to escort him on the gaily walk which he said she enforced as a relief from the considerable burden of his work.



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KNITS SWEATER FOR PERSHING



Miss Esther Grosser, aged 22, never knitted a stitch until last fall. Today she is the champion knitter of Cleveland and vicinity. She won the title, a cash prize of \$100 and the honor of sending a sweater she knitted to General Pershing in a contest conducted by the Cleveland Press, in conjunction with the Red Cross.

The contest brought the Red Cross scores of new workers. Two thousand sweaters were knitted for the families in the preliminaries.

ROSE BLYDEN IS AT HILL MILITARY ACADEMY

PENDLETON, Feb. 9.—(Special.)—Rose Blyden, daughter of R. P. Blyden, of Pendleton, has been accepted as a member of the Hill Military Academy.

has taken up his work there with an interest that assures success.

Hill Military Academy will celebrate Father and Son week, February 11 to 17 when all the boys will be required to write letters to their parents and to study the lives of great men who have influenced the world for good. On Lincoln's birthday there will be a special program with songs and readings by the cadets and special military and patriotic features.

On Saturday night, February 16, the boys will entertain a few of the younger society girls at an informal dancing party. These parties are among the most attractive social affairs for the younger set. They always are chaperoned by some of the prominent patrons and patronesses of society.

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