

Eagle Valley News

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C. E. Thorp

Editor

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RICHLAND, ORE., THURSDAY, JAN. 17, 1918, Vol. 6, No. 10.

URGED TO SLAY AND SPARE NOT

German Soldiers Incited to Acts of Cruelty by General Von Bissing.

'EMANATION OF HIGH KULTUR'

The horrors deliberately and systematically inflicted upon the people of Belgium by the German soldiers under the orders of their commanding officers, are shown in all their hideousness by official documents and the testimony of eye-witnesses, as well as by letters written by German soldiers in the field. The brazen effort of Emperor William to cast the odium of the fearful deeds on the Belgians is also shown. Quotations given are from documents already made public or in the possession of the government at Washington.

This interview was reproduced in the Berliner Tageblatt of November 29, 1914.

Mr. F. C. Walcott of the Belgian relief commission tells in the Geographical Magazine for May, 1917, of meeting Gen. von Bernhardi:

"As I walked out, Gen. von Bernhardi came into the room, an expert artilleryman, a professor in one of their war colleges. I met him the next morning, and he asked me if I had read his book, 'Germany in the Next War.'

"I said I had. He said: 'Do you know, my friends nearly ran me out of the country for that?' They said, 'You hate the cat out of the bag.' I said, 'No, I have not, because nobody will believe it.' What did you think of it?"

"I said, 'General, I did not believe a word of it when I read it, but I now feel that you did not tell the whole truth; and the old general looked actually pleased.'

Speaking on August 29, 1914, at Munster, of the extreme measures which the Germans felt obliged to take against the civil population of Belgium, Gen. von Bissing said:

"The innocent must suffer with the guilty. . . . In the repression of infamy, human lives cannot be spared, and if isolated houses, flourishing villages, and even entire towns are annihilated, that is assuredly regrettable, but it must not excite ill-fitted sentimentality. All this must not in our eyes weigh as much as the life of a single one of our brave soldiers—the rigorous accomplishment of duty is the emanation of a high kultur, and in that, the population of the enemy countries can learn a lesson from our army."

Officers Encouraged Atrocities.

Gen. von Bissing, after his appointment as governor general of Belgium, repented in substance the above opinion to a Dutch journalist. The interview is published in the Dusseldorfer Anzeiger of December 8, 1914.

Irvin S. Cobb states his conclusions on the responsibility of the higher German command for the atrocities:

"But I was an eyewitness to crimes which, measured by the standards of

Catarrhal Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure catarrhal deafness, and that is by a constitutional remedy. Catarrhal Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result. Unless the inflammation can be reduced and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Many cases of deafness are caused by catarrh, which is an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Medicine acts thru the blood on the mucous surfaces of the system.

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barbarity and civilization, impressed on us so deeply that any individual excess, any individual outrage, could never have been or can ever be, because these crimes individually were instigated on a wholesale basis by order of officers of rank, and must have been carried out under their personal supervision, direction, and approval.

"Taking the physical evidence offered before our own eyes, and buttressing it with the statements made to us, not only by natives, but German soldiers and German officers, we could reach but one conclusion, which was that here, in such and such a place, those in command had said to the troops: 'Seize this town and these people! And there they had said: 'Waste this town and shoot these people! And here the troops had discriminatedly spared, and there they had indiscriminately wasted, in exact accordance with the word of their superiors.'"—Irvin Cobb, Speaking of Prussians, New York, 1917, pp. 32-34.

Hoodyinked German People.

These ideas, then, were systematically impressed upon the military and official classes. It was necessary, however, to work upon the minds of the German people, so that they might lend themselves to the inhuman policies advocated by the military leaders. To do this was difficult, for, as has been shown often, many of the civilian leaders of public opinion, time and again, expressed their horror of the new spirit which was undermining the military authorities. The reeling debates give ample evidence of this, and the task of the military leaders would have been still more difficult if the reeling had any real power. (See War Information Series No. 3, "The Government of Germany;" see also Gerard's "My Four Years in Germany," chapter 2.)

The military authorities and those sympathetic with them have done all in their power to stimulate a hatred of other peoples in the minds of the Germans. A campaign of education before the war was carried on with the object of impressing upon the minds of the Germans the treacherous nature of the peoples against whom the military leaders were anxious to wage war. Not only were the Germans gradually led to believe that it was necessary to fight a defensive war against unscrupulous foes, but also that these foes would violate every precept of humanity, and consequently must be crushed without mercy as a measure of self-defense. The fruits of this campaign of suspicion and hatred became evident when almost at the outbreak of the war many Germans became possessed with the belief that the whole population of Belgium, the first country to be invaded, had violated every rule of honorable warfare, that the franc-tireurs (guerrillas) were everywhere present doing their deadly work in secrecy or under the cover of darkness; that women and even children were mutilating and killing the wounded or helpless prisoners,

Extract from a letter written by a German soldier to his brother. (This letter, now in the possession of the United States government, was obtained for this pamphlet from Mr. J. C. Grew, formerly secretary to the United States embassy at Berlin.)

"November 4, 1914.

"The battles are everywhere extremely tenacious and bloody. The Englishmen we hate most and we want to get even with them for once. While one now and then sees French prisoners, one hardly ever beholds French black troops or Englishmen. These people are not overlooked by our infantrymen; that sort of people is mowed down without mercy. The losses of the Englishmen must be enormous. There is a desire to wipe them out, root and all."

Urged to Kill Without Pity.

Extract from another letter to a brother: Schleswig, 25, S 14 (Aug. 25, 1914). "Dear Brother, . . . You will shortly go to Brussels with your regiment, as you know. Take care to protect yourself against these civilians, especially in the villages. Do not let anyone come too near. They are very clever, cunning, fellows, these Belgians; even the women and children are armed and fire their guns. Never go inside a house, especially alone. If you take anything to drink make the inhabitants drink first, and keep at a distance from them. The newspapers relate numerous cases in which they have fired on our soldiers whilst they were drinking. Yet soldiers must spread around so much fear of yourselves that no civilian will venture to come near you. Remain always in the company of others. I hope that you have read the newspapers and that you know how to behave. Above all have no compassion for these cutthroats. Make for them without pity with the butt-end of your rifle and the bayonet.

"Your brother, WILLI."

The emperor gave his sanction to the reports of the brutal acts of the Belgians in a telegram to President Wilson.

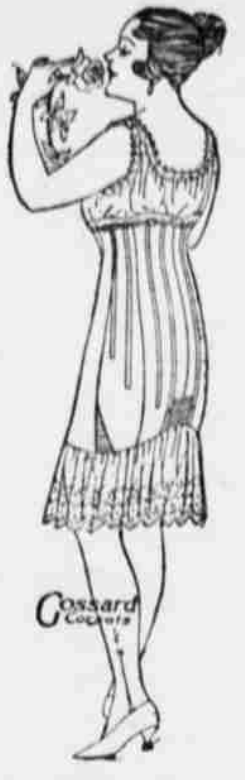
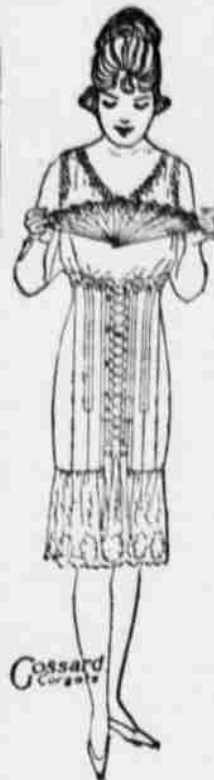
"Berlin, via Copenhagen, Sept. 7, 1914. "I feel it my duty, Mr. President, to inform you as the most prominent representative of principles of humanity, that after taking the French fortress of Longwy, my troops discovered there thousands of dum-dum cartridges made by special government machinery. The same kind of ammunition was found on killed and wounded troops and prisoners, also on the British troops. You know what terrible wounds and suffering these bullets inflict and that their use is strictly forbidden by the established rules of international law. I therefore address a solemn protest to you against this kind of warfare, which, owing to the methods of our adversaries, has become one of the most barbarous known in history. Not only have they employed these atrocious weapons, but the Belgian government has openly encouraged and long since carefully prepared the participation of the Belgian civil population in the fighting. The atrocities committed even by women and priests in this guerrilla warfare, also on wounded soldiers, medical staff and nurses, doctors killed, hospitals attacked by rifle fire, were such that my generals finally were compelled to take the most drastic measures in order to punish the guilty and to frighten the bloodthirsty population from continuing their work of vile murder and horror. Some villages and even the old town of Louvain (Louvain) excepting the fine hotel de ville, had to be destroyed in self-defense, and for the protection of my troops. My heart bleeds when I see that such measures have become unavoidable and when I think of the numerous innocent people who lose their home and property as a consequence of the barbarous behavior of those criminals. Signed, William, Emperor and King."

"GERARD, Berlin."

Lorenz Muller in the German Catholic Review, Der Feis, February, 1915, made the following statement in regard to the emperor's telegram: "Officially no instance has been proven of persons having fired with the help of priests from the towers of churches. All that has been made known up to the present, and that has been made the object of inquiry concerning alleged atrocities attributed to Catholic priests during this war, has been shown to be false and altogether imaginary, without any exception. Our emperor telegraphed to the president of the United States of America that

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SAUNDERS BRO'S.

even women and priests had committed atrocities during this guerrilla warfare on wounded soldiers, doctors and nurses attached to the Red Ambulance. How this telegram can be reconciled with the fact stated above we shall not be able to learn until after the war."

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

Our services until later notice will be as follows:

Sunday:
Bible School at 10:00 a. m.
Communion and preaching, 11:00.
Christian Endeavor, 7:00 p. m.
Preaching at 8:00 p. m.
Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening at 8:00.
Ladies Aid Friday afternoon.
You are cordially invited.
William E. Bean.

DRY GULCH DITCH CO., Richland, Oregon,

AT THE CITY HALL,
NOTICE
There is delinquent upon the following described stock, on account of assessments levied Feb. 29, 1916, and Feb. 3, 1917, the amount set opposite the following shareholder:

T. S. Burnside, Certificate No. 97,	\$57.94
15-3 Shares,	\$57.94

and in accordance with law and the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of said corporation, so many shares of the above parcel of stock, as may be necessary, will be sold at the City Hall of Richland, on the 7th day of Feb., 1918, at or about 11 o'clock A. M., to pay delinquent assessments thereon, together with the cost of advertising and expenses of the sale.
J. Roscoe Lee, Secretary,
Richland, Oregon.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

(Publisher)
Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at La Grande, Oregon, Sept. 28th, 1917.
Notice is hereby given that Ira D. Staggs, whose post office address is Richland, Oregon, did, on the 27th day of December, 1916, file in this office sworn Statement and Application, No. 016878, to purchase the S¹/₂ NW¹/₄ and S¹/₂ NE¹/₄, Section 17, Township 10 South, Range 41 East, Willamette Meridian, and the timber thereon, under the provisions of the act of June 3, 1878, and acts amendatory, known as the "Timber and Stone Law," at such value as might be fixed by appraisement, and that, pursuant to such application, the land and timber thereon have been appraised, at \$490.00, the timber estimated at 520,000 board feet at 95¢ per M, and the land \$300.00; that said applicant will offer final proof in support of the application and sworn statement on the 31st day of January, 1918, before Woodson L. Patterson, United States Commissioner, at his office, at Baker, Oregon.

Any person is at liberty to protest this purchase before entry, or initiate a contest at any time before patent issues, by filing a corroborated affidavit in this office, alleging facts which would defeat the entry.

C. S. DUNN, Register.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

(Publisher)
Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at La Grande, Oregon, Sept. 28th, 1917.
Notice is hereby given that Bernice A. Staggs, whose post office address is Richland, Oregon, did, on the 27th day of December, 1916, file in this office sworn Statement and Application, No. 016877, to purchase the NE¹/₄ NE¹/₄, Sec. 31, NW¹/₄ NE¹/₄, Sec. 33, and SW¹/₄ SW¹/₄, Section 29, Township 9 South, Range 41 East, Willamette Meridian, and the timber thereon, under the provisions of the act of June 3, 1878, and acts amendatory, known as the "Timber and Stone Law," at such value as might be fixed by appraisement, and that, pursuant to such application, the land and timber thereon have been appraised, at \$340.00, the timber estimated at 210,000 board feet at 75¢ and \$1.00 per M, and the land \$150.00; that said applicant will offer final proof in support of his application and sworn statement on the 31st day of January, 1918, before Woodson L. Patterson, United States Commissioner, at his office, at Baker, Oregon.

Any person is at liberty to protest this purchase before entry, or initiate a contest at any time before patent issues, by filing a corroborated affidavit in this office, alleging facts which would defeat the entry.

C. S. DUNN, Register.

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