

Daily Democrat

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AERIAL ARMIES

One of the most significant bits of war news we have had lately, one which might be said to mark an epoch in the history of warfare, told of a bombing expedition consisting of more than 350 airplanes.

Flying is yet so new to mankind that the sight of a single plane is enough to thrill an ordinary civilian. In the war zone, where it soon becomes a familiar story, it is seldom that more than a dozen machines are seen in a single squadron.

It seems to have been by far the largest air operation yet attempted. The fleet dropped 32 tons of explosives on German cantonments north of Verdun. It could have carried far more than that.

That fleet, we are proud to say, was under American command. Its personnel was American. Most of its machines are said to have been American.

The flight was but a forerunner of the aerial warfare that is soon to follow, when we have bombing and fighting planes in action by thousands instead of hundreds.

THOSE GERMAN COLONIES

Germany seems to imagine that she can trade some of her stolen territory for her forfeited African colonies.

In a recent speech at Stuttgart, Imperial Vice Chancellor von Payer suggested that as the "innocent and attacked party," Germany had a right to demand this restoration of colonial territory, and when the allies had consented to this, Germany might consider the evacuation of Belgium.

How the allies will regard the proposed return of the African colonies to Germany may be inferred from President Wilson's definite statement of terms essential to peace—that small states shall no longer be harried about, and that government of the lesser peoples of the world shall be with the consent, and for the benefit, of the governed.

Investigation of Germany's treatment of her colonial subjects has proved that she gave them an even more drastic kultur course of brutality, rapine and murder than she gave Belgium, France and Russia.

This excerpt from a letter of protest, written by an aged Hottentot chief to his German governor, is the best evidence we could have in the case:

"I have for ten years observed your laws. The souls of those who, during those ten years, without guilt or cause and without actual war, have fallen in peace time, and under agreements of peace, press heavily upon me."

It would be a grievous mistake for the allies to hand back to Germany for her further abuse any of the Little Brothers. And they will not make that mistake.

Jesse D. Ellis Receives a Broken Leg

Another letter was received today

by J. D. Ellis from his son, Jessie D. Ellis, who is in France with the 65th artillery, and he explains how he was injured.

He stated that he was near the front with his battery, and a German bomb was dropped, lighting near him, the result being that he received a broken leg. The leg was broken near the ankle. He was taken to a hospital nearby and later moved to the hospital at Bordeaux.

His letter was written September 15th and he said at the time that he met with his accident his company was not in the fight, but by now he thinks they are in the thickest of it.

HUNS WOULD REWARD FLEMISH TRAITORS

PARIS, Oct. 17.—In following out their scheme to Germanize Belgium, the Germans are attempting to enlist the sympathies of Flemish elements in the invaded territory and detach them from the loyal Belgian population.

The latest move is an attempt to form a Flemish "Reichswacht" or civil guard, ostensibly for police duty in the Flemish region under command of the German governor. With the assistance of a handful of Flemish trait-

ors, subsidized by the German government and formed into the self-styled "Council of Flanders," the Germans are trying to recruit more traitors to Belgium by offering commissions in the proposed "Reichswacht."

The German governor of Belgium has offered places in the so-called guard to Flemish prisoners taken by the Germans in the early days.

Altho the Belgian government is certain the invaders will be unable to make any headway with the scheme, it is warning the people in Belgium of the intentions of the Huns.

"IODINA" IS LARGE FINE MOTHERLY NURSE

WITH THE AMERICANS, Oct. 17.—They called her "Iodina" and she was the surgical dressing queen. She was tall and extremely stout and with her horn-rimmed glasses she was more professional than beautiful to look upon. "Iodina" was her name in that hospital because of her philosophy, which put in a single word was "iodine."

Iodine was applicable to any wound that came her way, believed this big American nurse. It was interesting to watch her. A man as big as she would be big and clumsy, his fingers would

get in the way of bandages, and he would hurt you every time he touched you.

Not so Iodine. She was as deft as the daintiest debutante in the establishment, as she removed bandages, blood-clotted and soiled, with a couple of quick scissors-clips, and after giving the wound a treatment of iodine if the doctor did not prescribe otherwise, wound up the wound with new yards of fresh bandages and adhesive tape.

From a surgical dressing nurse's point of view, which was all that Iodine ever got from her little nook of bottles and instruments and bandages, the war was just one injured man after another. All day they'd come, some new ones never seen before, mostly old ones who had been about for several days.

One after another she cleaned their wounds and bound them up, day in and day out. She is entitled to two service stripes now, tho all this time she has never had a closer glimpse of the front than the endless stream of men pouring through her ward for surgical dressings. She sees them come in, get well and go back, but never sees away herself. Some have come back, re-wounded, for her surgical dressings.

Iodina's remarks are few. Usually they consist of, "It looks fine today." You do not see anything very fine-looking about it, but since Iodine does, you let her have the job—it's about the only thrill her monotonous work affords. In the midst of wounds and surgical dressings, Iodine became real frank the other day.

"Yes, I'm pretty well fed up on war," she admitted, "but I get hold out as long as there are wounded men. But, say, if I ever catch the man who started this war, I'll give him something stronger than iodine."

What's more, Iodine is just the person who could do it to Mr. Wilhelm.

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