

HACKED HANDS OFF HUNGRY BOY BEGGING FOOD

German Soldier Uses Bayonet as Sword—French Porter, Fresh From Firing Line, Describes Brutalities of Germans to Belgian and French Women and Children.

By MILTON BRONNER.
NEW YORK, May 21.—"It was near Charleroi in Belgium. I didn't see this, but comrades of mine in the eighteenth French infantry regiment of the line vouch for it.

"The Belgians were starving. Children were clamoring for food. One German soldier was throwing bits of bread, enjoying himself watching little girls and boys scrambling for them. Just when one little boy had his hand outstretched, another German soldier with one blow of his sharp bayonet hacked off the child's hand."

The speaker was Charles Nicole, one of the two million poilus who thus far have helped save democracy. A 24-year-old veteran of the Somme, of Verdun, of the Argonne, he is in New York to recuperate and visit his family.

Hell for Women.

Nicole is a corporal in charge of a hand grenade squad, the first part of the regiment to leap forth when attack is ordered.

With the indomitable spirit of the French woman, his pretty wife has established a successful millinery business for the duration of the war.

"Monsieur, do you realize why we take very few prisoners?
"I will tell you. Back there in the villages of northern France many of my comrades of the eighteenth left wives and mothers and little sisters. The Germans came, took those villages—and turned northern France into a hell for our women folk.

"There is nothing—nothing—gross and bestial, and cruel that the German soldiers have not done to those hapless ones.

"One of my french mates, a fine fellow, went crazy and had to be sent to an institution. Do you know why? His wife and daughter were in one of those villages in northern France. Bad news travels, monsieur, and word came to Henri K—. There are things one doesn't print in newspapers. Henri went insane, and we, we, monsieur, went mad. We took no prisoners that day."

Germans Not Square.

"The German soldiers under the direction of their officers are not what you call square. One day we saw a bunch of them holding up their hands in token of surrender, coming towards us with what looked like knapsacks on their shoulders.

"When they came into our lines—whist—whist—there was a sound like that, and we saw those fellows manipulating pipes that were scattering liquid fire on our men.

"The knapsacks were really tanks with that terrible stuff in them. Nowadays we take no chances.

"Let me give you another instance. In the great fights around Douaumont a strong redoubt was turned over to the Red Cross so it could care for our wounded.

"The Germans attacked and took it one day, but we drove them out. Now after they had been in there the Germans knew what it was for. They saw stacks of bandages and gauzes and medicines and knew this was a field hospital.

Violate Red Cross.

"Later in the day the redoubt was filled with men of our regiment badly wounded. Most of them had first-aid bandages on. We saw a German aeroplane hovering over and a little later we saw smoke from that redoubt.

"The Germans had hurled shells which scattered liquid fire over the poor fellows. They were burning to death, suffering horrible agonies. Not even the Red Cross had been respected."

He paused. His blue-gray eyes glistened like points of steel.
"That evening we took a deadly toll of Germans."

MORGAN CONFERS ON PURCHASING AGENT

WASHINGTON, May 21.—J. P. Morgan conferred today for nearly two hours with treasury officials, with reference to the establishment of the central purchasing board in this country for all the allies and also in connection with the government's latest offering of \$200,000,000 in treasury certificates.

MRS. MOONEY ON TRIAL FOR MURDER IN BOMB OUTRAGE

SAN FRANCISCO, May 21.—Mrs. Rena Mooney went on trial here today for the murder in connection with a bomb explosion here last July in which ten persons were killed in the course of a preparedness parade. She is the wife of Thomas J. Mooney, now under sentence of death on the same charge that his wife faces.

Because of the voluntary retirement of Superior Judge Frank P. Dunne from sitting in the bomb cases following charges of bias and prejudice made against him by one of counsel for Mrs. Mooney, it was expected that Judge Emmet Sewell of Santa Rosa would be requested to preside.

More than 150 witnesses have been subpoenaed for the state, and it is expected that the trial will take at least a month. Frank C. Oxman, Oregon cattle man, who was the principal witness against Mooney, and who has been held for trial in the superior court on charges of attempted subornation of perjury, will be a witness against Mrs. Mooney.

Formal announcement that Judge Sewell would try the case was made shortly before court opened. Assistant District Attorney Louis Ferrari was named to appear for the prosecution, and announced that he would not object to the presence in court of

any of the four defendants indicated, with Mrs. Mooney, for murder. He said three weeks would be required for the presentation of the state's case, and that about thirty witnesses not heard at preceding trials would be offered.

Mrs. Mooney, wearing a black hat with white plumes and smartly gowned, met her husband, Thomas J. Mooney, under death sentence, as she entered court. They shook hands and he whispered to her. Mooney was pale and seemed to show the effects of confinement. Five counsel were announced for Mrs. Mooney. They are Maxwell McNutt, Thomas M. O'Connor, Edward V. MacKenzie, Nathan Coghlan and Charles Henry Brennan. Frederick L. Berry, assistant district attorney, was named to assist Mr. Ferrari in conducting the state's case.

Examination of a jury panel, bearing 150 names, was started. This was part of a regular panel, left over from another case.

RAILROADS RESPONSIBLE FOR INADEQUATE CARS

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Federal laws prohibiting railroads from giving passes, the supreme court decided today, do not exempt them from liability to livestock attendants injured while traveling on a drover's pass issued under the uniform livestock contract. It was successfully contended that the drover's pass was not gratuitous but a part of the livestock transportation rate and that the liability exemption clause was void.

MAKE YOUR OWN TABLE SYRUP FROM YOUR SUGAR BEETS

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Sugar beets are grown in large quantities for sugar making, but their value as a source of the family syrup supply has been overlooked. Sugar beets suitable for syrup making may be grown wherever soil of reasonable fertility is available. The sweetness of the beets may be greater in one locality than in another, but all sugar beets contain sugar enough to make syrup, say specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture. The syrup may be made by a very simple process, and a few rows in the garden will produce beets enough to give a family all the syrup needed.

A bushel of beets will produce from three to five quarts of syrup. In making syrup the topped beets are cleaned by soaking a few minutes, then scrubbing with a coarse, stiff brush. The next step is to cut them into slices as thin as one-sixteenth of an inch if possible. A butcher knife may be used, but a krant cutter or some other slicing device is easier.

The sliced beets are placed in a tight barrel and just enough hot water to cover them—boiling water if possible—is poured in at once. The barrel is then covered with several thicknesses of canvas to hold the

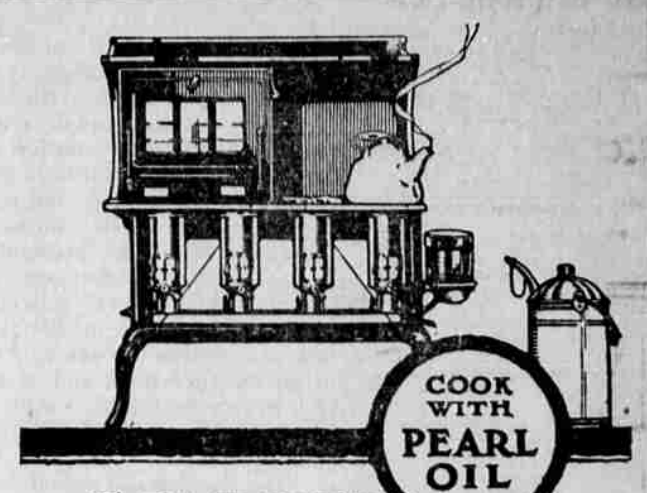
heat. The sliced beets are allowed to soak for 60 minutes. The barrel is agitated from time to time without being uncovered. This process brings out the sugar from the beets. The liquid is then drawn off, strained through several thicknesses of cheesecloth, and placed in a kettle or other vessel, in which it is boiled slowly until it has evaporated down to the thickness desired. It is important that the boiling be slow and the process will take several hours. The work may be done out doors if desired. Care should be taken not to scorch the syrup. The scum which arises to the surface of the liquid is skimmed off, to remove the strong, beet-like flavor.

The syrup is bottled or canned while hot and sealed to prevent molding. It is dark in color, has a pleasant flavor.

GERMANY APOLOGIZES TO SWEDEN AGAIN

COPENHAGEN, May 21.—The German minister is reported to have visited the Swedish foreign minister and expressed deepest regret at the sinking of the Swedish steamers Westerland, Viken and Aspen.

The Aspen, Vesterland and Viken were sunk in the Gulf of Bothnia, several members of the crews losing their lives. The vessels were laden with grain and released from British ports by the British government under a reciprocal agreement. The news of their destruction caused intense indignation in Sweden.



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