SEVEN LADIES WERE

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Which would have started a riot sure, if anyone had done it, because there were only seven girls to fifteen hundred boys. Anyway, there wasn't any ball room.

And just before the program started with Hawaiian songs by the stringed quartet, somebody looked up and saw an American "sausauge" balloon directly overhead. The observer wasn't invited they say, but he was looking down half the time and toward Germany the other half, and it's a safe bet he didn't miss much of the program.

Quite A Program.

They had skits, and boxing ,and songs, and band music, and, as the star feature brought on "Lady Evelyn" the Hula Hula dancer. Everybody thought "Lady Evelyn" really was a lady, with her mincing steps and ballet movements, until some one pulled off the wig and the boys recognized the assistant cook in B company.

Somebody said they couldn't stage a doughboy show to which women could come and still have it funny. But they showed skeptical ones, and everybody had to laugh with the fun and be serious with the "homesicky songs" which were popular and there wasn't a single "unsanitary" feature of the program.

As the chaplain said, after they'd called on the "Holy Joe" for a talk, everything passed the censor. Nobody "eussed" a single "cuss" word, and the colonel said in the buly speech he made at the end of the performance, he couldn't tell them how proud he was of them because they'd been in the trenches a long time and every doughboy was absolutely clean.

A Good Finale

Along toward the end of the "stunts" they heard a machine gun firing, and everybody looked up thru the branches to see a Yankee plane diving into a cautiously fleeing German plane. It was almost too appropriate to be real, this American aviator hovering over to ward off prying boches.

The American artillerymen somewhere in the woods turned loose with their evening salvo for the boches, and with a patriotic song from the regimental band it was a finish that left everyone fit and cheerful. Then the officers entertained their feminine guests with a dinner, topped by strawberry short-cake first ever seen at the front, it is said. Reports have it, three officers walked 15 miles and back to get those strawberries in a village behind the lines—which goes to show that officers as well as doughboys appreciate cougnauts and pies and kindnesses.

After that they had a band concert until dark, after which it was safe to go home to dug-outs and ruins without snooping boches seeing things, and everyone did so with the feeling that the chap who sang was right when he rendered as a grand finale to the picnic, that old "homesicky song," "The End of a Perfect Day."

"Over the Top" With Empey is "A Voice From the Trenches"

Sergt. Arthur Guy Empey in Vitagraph's master production, "Over the Top."

"A Voice fom the trenches," is the way Sergeant Empey's great story, "Over the Top," has been described by critics. As a drama with the fighting sergeant in the very role he enacted in the trenches it will be shown next Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Liberty theater.

The soldier-author with this play holds the mirror up to human nature as he found it in the English private soldier. His story will appeal to young and old alike, to all who love pathos and humor, great deeds and manly men.

The New York Times in commenting on the story "Over the Top," said:

"Prospective soldiers can learn here pretty nearly just what is awaiting them, in both incident and sensation, while their folks at home will be heartened."

Like the book, this Vitagraph drama is filled with anecdotes that will bring the smile and laughter. Empey proves that life in the trenches is not all gloom by any means. He says:

"War is not a pink tea, but in a worthwhile cause like ours, mud rats, cooties, shells, wounds or death itself are far outweighed by the deep sense of satisfaction felt by the man who does his bit. There is one thing my experience taught me that might help the boys who may have to go. It is this—anticipation is far worse than realization. In civil life a man stands in awe of the man above him, wonders how he could ever fill his job. When the time comes he rises to the occasion, is up and at it, and is surprised to find how much more easily than he anticipated he fills his responsibilities.

TERRIFIC LOSSES IN GERMAN ARMY SHOWN IN LETTERS

Letters On Captured Germans Tell Awful Stories of Hardships and Death

By Henry Wood
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

With the French Armies In The Field, June 29.—(By Mail).—Letters taken from German prisoners captured in American sectors make no secret of the terrible losses being inflicted by American infantry, machine gunners and artillery. This is especially the case in the sectors near Chateau-Thierry.

One letter, written June 12, by a soldier of a German infantry regiment reads as follows:

"My division has been engaged only since the situation has stabilized in the region of Bonnes-Chateau-Thierry. My company still numbers forty men. But in three days my battalion was exhausted and placed in reserve. However, we are still required to go wherever necessary across a terrible barrage fire. Naturally we got less and less numerous. Finally, when we were completely exhausted a battalion of the — regiment relieved us.

"Yesterday morning the poor devils were still asleep, they were so fatigued. They were taken prisoners and the French occupied their first line. We are accordingly given the alarm and were obliged at once to occupy the sustaining position.

"Before us now there are Americans. Previously there were English, French and Madagascar forces. I am astonished that I am still alive, for it has cost us masses of men."

Another letter taken from a prisoner of the 461st regiment of German infantry says:

"The enemy's resistance has become stronger and our losses now are heavy. During the night of June 3-4 I was called because several section commanders had already been killed. I was sent to the Third company, which had lost all its section commanders.

"Our attack was without result, owing to the terrible machine gun fire. Our second attack was repulsed on account of the heavy losses we sustained (more than half.) We are still in the midst of a terrible uninterrupted artillery fire than continues day and night.

"As adversaries we have seen English, negro colonial troops, French and Americans."

Taken from the same soldier was a letter he had written three days later after his regiment had had more to do with Americans. It reads:

"The artillery is becoming more and more violent than the preceding days. We receive shells of every calibre, even 280's. The mutilations are horrible. If mothers knew what happened to their sons I think they would smother them to death against their bosoms to save them such sufferings.

"Toward morning we were violently shelled and at five o'clock we were attacked, but repulsed the enemy. Beginning at noon there was a new bombardment that was frightful. At six o'clock an English and American attack was repulsed. We are completely in advance and our position is critical. The regiment at our right has already fallen back."

Three days later, just before this soldier was taken prisoner, his last letter read as follows:

"At five o'clock this morning, another attack. The remainder of the day was more calm. Toward evening the artillery fire increased and became even more terrible during the following morning. All who rest are killed and buried. I am the fifth to take command of the company."

Subjects of Neutral Countries May Enlist

Washington, July 12.—All subjects of neutral countries who have declared their intention of becoming citizens of this country and who wish to avoid military service may do so under the provisions of the army appropriation bill, explained Provost Marshal General Crowder. Such men, however, will have to cancel their naturalization applications and be classed as aliens forever. The provisions do not apply to those neutral countries with which we have treaties.

This provision makes a large reduction in class one men who are yet to be called, stated Crowder.

German and Austrian Crops Badly Damaged

Zurich, July 12.—A heavy rainfall in Austria and southern Germany has done immense damage to crops, according to reports here.

The Neue Wiener Tageblatt declares that Austria has lost more than half of its stock.

Victor Rakowsky, a mining man of Joplin, Mo., who is interested in zinc and lead mines of that state and who recently became interested in the manganese mines in the Lake Creek district has arrived in Medford from Joplin having made the 1400 mile trip by auto. He will locate at Medford.

FOUR AMERICAN

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been taken.

Longpont is a strategically important village on the eastern fringe of Vilelrs-Cotterets forest, 13 miles south and west of Soissons and about the same distance directly north of the American position at Bussiares. Corcy is a mile directly south of Longpont and Faverolles is three miles southwest of Corcy. Chavigny farm is a mile northwest of Longpont.

Take Prisoners and Guns.

London, July 12.—More than 120 prisoners and ten machine guns were captured in a minor operation southwest of Merris, on the Flanders front, Field Marshal Haig reported today.

Successful raids were conducted elsewhere on the Flanders front and in Picardy.

"In a minor enterprise southwest of Merris yesterday we captured more than 120 prisoners and ten machine guns," the statement said. "Yesterday we conducted a successful raid northeast of Merris.

"During the night, Welsh troops raided German trenches at Hamel, capturing sixteen prisoners and a machine gun and destroyed dugouts. Other successful raids were made by us at Meteren and prisoners were taken in patrol encounters at Gavrille and in the Kemmel sector.

"An attempted enemy raid yesterday south of Bucquoy was repulsed."

Constantinople Raided.

London, July 12.—Another British raid on Constantinople was announced by the air ministry today.

"An air force on July 7 attacked Constantinople, dropping a ton of bombs," the statement said.

The Turkish war office recently reported an allied air raid on Constantinople as having occurred on June 30, but declared there was "no damage."

Constantinople is nearly 300 miles in an air line from the nearest allied lines, on the Salonika front. It is possible, however, that these raids were made from a base on some of the Greek islands in the Aegean sea or that the machines were launched from a British squadron in those waters.

Turkish Troops Mutiny

Athens, July 12.—A Turkish regiment ordered from Aidin to Mesopotamia mutinied and murdered its German officers, according to reports received from the interior of Turkey.

Afterward, the mutineers were pardoned and were allowed to remain in Aidin.

Aidin is in Asiatic Turkey, 80 miles northeast of Smyrna.