

VIVID DESCRIPTION OF BATTLE OF MESSINES IS WRITTEN BY JIM MEEK

"We Blasted Him Up and Drove Him Out," Says Sergeant From Honolulu, Who Declares That "The Day" For the Hun Has Come and That He Must Perish By the Terrible Weapons To Which He First Resorted in His Cruel War On Humanity

"We blasted him up and drove him out," writes Sergeant Jim Meek, of the New Zealand Engineers, a Honolulu, in describing the great battle of Messines in a letter to Albert Wallace at Honolulu a description of a great event written by one who played a man's part in it and who has a wonderful gift of transferring his impressions to paper, as readers of The Advertiser well know.

"The Day" for the Hun has come, according to this vivacious correspondent, who writes between battles. "He took to shells and gas and liquid fire. He will perish by them."

Great Experience

"Of all the experiences I have had since leaving Honolulu to join the New Zealand forces, two years and seven months ago, none has equaled that which I have just passed through—the battle of Messines," he says in his latest letter.

"I am often glad that it was the New Zealand Expeditionary Force I selected to join, for it seemed to be selected for special stunts. It is interesting to see even the preparations for such events. It is wonderful to be actually in them."

"And it is a damned nice to be alive and out of them."

Description Difficult

"How can I convey to you my impressions of these operations? It is some job, for in these days the pick work is no lighter than the pencil. I am not an artist, and if I were I would require rest and leisure before attempting to draw word pictures of these events. And if I did succeed in portraying them, you, who live in a Pacific Paradise, would not, maybe, thank me for the result."

"You want a thrill, you desire beauty. What beauty is there in blasted villages, in shell scarred fields, in mud, and blood, and dusty dead? Only the beauty of courage that remains unshaken through it. Man is the bravest of all animals."

No Rough and Tumble

"A modern battle is not at all like two individuals having a rough and tumble scrap in the street. It is like a fight for the world's boxing championship, for which the contestants must have months of training. We had to prepare our jumping off position. We had to build a fort to attack a fort; to construct a network of trenches in which to conceal the men and weapons that were to effect its capture, and we had to do it all practically under the eyes of the enemy, for Messines is on a hill and we were at the bottom of the hill."

Every Disadvantage

"We were at a desperate disadvantage. We had to face an uphill fight. The firm soil was his; the boggy valleys were ours. The odds should all have been in his favor. He knew we intended to attack. He did all he could to stop our preparations. He made his stronghold doubly strong. But we beat him. We blasted him up and drove him out, turning his forts into prisons and tombs for his troops, and now it is our turn to look down; and his lot to look up at what he has lost and cannot regain."

"I know W. will be anxious for an account of my experiences in the affair, so I will try to tell you of the art played by the New Zealand Engineers in it."

Trench Housecleaning

"When we took over the system of trenches facing Messines, the front and we had played havoc with them throughout the winter. The spring weather was long in coming and we often worked in snow storms while draining, revetting, and constructing trenches and dugouts. Not much could be done in a day, but every day saw some improvement. It was a part of the game to get on with our work during dirty weather, for the enemy could not see us on foggy days. If we had waited until the sunny days we would have been 'strafed' severely."

"Not only did we rebuild old defenses, but we constructed new assembly, fire and communication trenches. Of course we screened them as much as possible, but the enemy must have noted from his vantage ground that something out of the usual was going on. The new works were constructed in named after the different districts of New Zealand—Otage Trench, Auckland, Bay of Plenty, and so on. These names sound a bit better than 'Dead Dog Ditch' or 'Suicide Alley'."

German Dared Not

"Now then, why did not the enemy forestall us by attacking our then inferior positions? Because in them were superior and confident men, and behind them superior artillery and over them superior air force. He dare not attack. His day is done. He took to shells and gas and liquid fire. He will perish by them."

"If he goes back he is defeated; if he stands he is defeated; if he attacks he is defeated. He cannot hold us where we are determined to go forward. His wounded, and many unwounded men, fall into our hands. He loses gas and gears of all sorts. Our casualties are generally light and we keep our wounded to fight when well again. The tactics of the attack have become superior to the tactics of the defense."

"As we engineers were proceeding each day from our tumbledown billets to the work of the trenches we could see others busy. Gun positions were being built, roads were being repaired and screened, dressing stations and ammunition dumps were being established. One day I was to be allowed a rest and I took advantage of it to walk north until I could see the ruins of the famous Cloth Hall at Ypres. I was moved. I could see miles of new railway lines. It is a fine experience for an old hand to note the vast difference in our British organization compared with the conditions of the old days."

The Day Approaches

"As soon as the clear weather came our airmen became busy, many flying low over Messines and taking photos of the enemy defenses. We witnessed many an air fight. The number of our observation balloons increased. And the 'bird' game began to move in and to speak out."

"The artillery of the enemy increased and for weeks we were working in the center of a desperate artillery duel. Batteries shelled batteries, railways, villages, roads, billets, and trenches were shelled on the retaliation principle. There were shell holes everywhere. Civilians in houses miles away had to paste paper over their windows to prevent the glass breaking with concussion. You could see us in our spare time busy thickening the walls and roof of our dugouts."

OLD FRIEND GIVES KAISER WILHELM SOME GOOD ADVICE

Alfred Henschke Paints Picture of the War Lord That Is Far From Being Flattering

URGES MONARCH TO READ SIGNS OF TIMES

Renounce the Right To Be Sole Arbitrator of Peace and War, Famous Novelist Advises Emperor

It is not often that Wilhelm Hohenzollern, Emperor of Germany and chief exponent of the Divine Right of Kings, has the truth told to him, especially when the truth is not flattering to his ambition-maddened soul. But there is one German who is not afraid to tell Wilhelm II what is the matter with him and what he should do for the benefit of his people. In kindly manner he has been published in the Neue Zürcher Zeitung. This is a translation of the letter:

An Open Letter to Emperor Wilhelm II. By "Klabund" (Alfred Henschke)

Your Majesty!

Upon you are fixed today the pleading, appealing, imploring eyes of the whole world—more so than you in your political and individual isolation and loneliness can imagine.

True, the press hostile to you is still picturing you as a vandal and barbarian; incompetent or anemic diplomat who are more correctly characterized as cripples of the state, may still be fostering the foolish plan to drive out the devil Militarism with the Beebebe Imperialism, to destroy the under-devil Hohenzollern through the super-devil Nationalism.

Nevertheless, in all countries the eyes of the people—those that have remained human—the eyes of the mujiks, polus, and Tommies, of the field gray and the olive green all look to you.

For you, your Majesty, hold in your hand the restoration of an early peace to the world.

You point out that once before, in November of last year, you were ready "for peace."

Indeed, you did offer your hand to the enemy to shake and make peace—but the hand was a fist; it was not a human hand through which poured the red blood of mankind. It was the iron fist of Goetz von Berlichingen.

Reads Rightly

Your Majesty, read rightly the signs of the times; in them the blossom of eternity! Realize that in this was all ideas of power—all, without exception, no matter in what camp they were entertained—have been shipwrecked.

Might, where it is not alive with benevolence, justice and humanity, is a bronze fetish.

Forever gone must be the principle of Might and its satellites, tyranny, arrogance, police spirit, fetish worship, byzantinism, mammonism—all of which invariably grows together parasitically.

Sire! Your Easter message brightened the hearts of the German people, made farrowed forehead gladden with a weak ray of dawning light.

But you must realize, your Majesty, that to a people that would be free and that is honored and respected—one should speak as a freeman to free men.

You, however, speak as a free master (Freiherrlich). In the open and secret saloons of Berlin the principle of "brotherhood" still holds forth. And you were ill-advised when you keyed your Easter message to the tune of mercy.

Rights are inherent. Rights, your Majesty, are not granted. They were there originally, they exist.

Former Advertiser Employee Is First Hawaiian Drafted

GEORGE BUSH, first Hawaiian boy to be drawn in the draft.



George Bush, a former member of the composing room staff of The Advertiser, has been drafted into the United States Army. He is the first Hawaiian boy to be drawn in the draft.

Bush left here two years ago with a baseball team for a tour of the mainland. In Detroit he joined the "ard forces" and was one of the Hawaiian musicians in whom Ford took such delight. All of the Hawaiian musicians at the factory have registered but Bush is the first to be drafted. He is 22 years old.

"an no longer be violated, and the minority no longer suppressed) an empire will blossom forth governed by parliament and democracy in which the ministers will be appointed and responsible to the people's choice and will be responsible to the people, no longer to an individual."

No Peace With Czar Man

Sire! The peace after such a war as this cannot be concluded between the rulers of democratically governed nations, leaders elected by and responsible to their countries, on one hand, and one lone authoritative man, on the other, who, under the constitution, is the only one authorized to make peace, and waxes his power not directly to the people, but receives it from the supernatural, superhuman idea of divine right.

The new Russian government and Wilson in America—the most peace-loving among your enemies—are only waiting for you to step upon the road to the liberty of your people. Russia and Wilson are waiting for you to do so because that would make it possible for them to hear the voice of your nation and negotiate with its chosen representatives.

For this is the crux: to find a basis upon which men can speak to man. Not monarch to subject. Not master to servant. Not master to the enemy.

"Republic" is the only word. Wilson and Kerensky have no idea of propagating that form of government for Germany. They propose to make sense only with a government responsible to the people, a peace which the whole nation represents.

The domestic political question—realize that, your Majesty—is the most important in reaching an early peace. It is far more important than a probable of improbable victory in the west which the German high command perhaps still considers possible. For an future world-empire—the only imperialism of the future will be that of humanity—military successes will no longer be in consequence.

Approaching an End

The military age in which it was still possible to decide wars by the force of arms is approaching an end. Already today it is no longer the armies but it is the peoples that are combating each other. More important than the soldiers' might is economic power. More important than economic might is the power of civilization (Kulturmacht).

Be the first monarch to renounce voluntarily his fictive rights and bow to the message of human rights! Your name will then be mentioned as truly great in all the news books of history in which not the chronology of conflicts but the spiritual history of mankind will be written down.

Then you will find the people's kingdom of the Hohenzollerns upon rocks, while today it is more a cloud castle, which, unless you recognize the time, will swiftly vanish in the raging, mounting storm.

I am, Your Majesty's devoted,
KLABUND.

AN IMPROVED QUININE DOES NOT AFFECT THE HEAD

Because of its tonic and laxative effect LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE will be found better than ordinary Quinine. Does not cause nervousness, nor ringing in the head. Remember, there is only one "Bromo Quinine." The signature of E. W. Grove is on each box.

PLANTERS AROUSED OVER EXCESS TAXES

Are Uncertain As To Whether It Is Figured On Progressive Or Straight Basis

Much discussion has been aroused in business circles by the article published in The Advertiser Monday on the probable amounts that will be paid by the plantations of the Territory under the War Revenue Bill which is now pending in the senate. As to whether or not these amounts were figured on the proper basis, opinions differ, some holding that the tax is a progressive one and not a straight tax as it was deemed to be in the table and article which was prepared for The Advertiser.

Most of the agencies here incline to the theory that the tax is progressive and base their opinions on the advice given by the Corporation Trust Company in a circular which it has sent out dealing with the subject. On the other hand, some of the largest mainland corporations consider that it is a straight tax, a straight tax, which was the assumption in the published article.

Sure To Be Heavy

Some of the agencies here are not ready to express any opinion on the subject, preferring to wait until they see the final language of the law. They say it will be heavy in any event and that it is immaterial to them to seek figures in advance. As on the mainland, there is a difference of opinion among corporations here as to the meaning of the law. One agency says that unless it is progressive it would be unfair and might be held to be unconstitutional. Its wording, however, does not specifically state that the tax is a progressive one and this will have to be determined when the law is put into operation.

If the tax is figured as progressive it would considerably reduce amounts, as is shown by the following figures of estimate furnished on Ewa by the agency for that company.

The income for the pre-war years was as follows:	
1911	\$1,277,301
1912	809,297
1913	325,464
	\$2,412,062
or an average profit for the pre-war years of	\$ 787,354.

Assuming that Ewa plantation has a profit for the year 1917 of \$1,750,000, the tax in question would be approximately as follows:

	Tax Rate	Tax
First 15% average pre-war profit \$787,354	\$115,103 @ 12%	\$13,812
Next 10% "	78,735 @ 10%	12,277
" 25% "	19,838 @ 25%	28,206
" 25% "	19,838 @ 25%	47,950
Balance up to 50% "	215,294 @ 35%	75,352
Total Excess Profits taxed	\$982,646	
Add Average pre-war Profit	767,354	\$245,318
	\$1,750,000	

In The Advertiser's table there was an error in figuring the pre-war income of Ewa, the 1910 instead of 1913 figures being used and consequently taxable income was smaller in the table than it should have been. This is corrected in the above estimate.

The agency for the Waialua plantation figures the tax, on the same basis, as \$108,000 instead of \$236,000 which is the estimate under a non-progressive rate.

BEING A RUSSIAN DIPLOMAT TOUGH JOB THESE DAYS

Man Who Says He is One Is Here Now Trying To Convince Skeptical Officials He is What He Says He Is

In these parlous times the lot of a Russian diplomat is hard.

So says Boris A. Laskin, now at the Young Hotel, who arrived yesterday on the Eudor from Japan, and who is now trying to convince local federal officials that he is a Russian diplomat, but who has not yet succeeded.

Mr. Laskin's diplomacy has so far not stood him in good stead. He first put it to use on the customs officials, claiming that as a diplomat, he was entitled to have his baggage entered free of duty. The customs officials admitted that this was indisputable and asked for those imposing credentials which the gold plated seal and the baby blue ribbons which diplomats always carry around in their hip pockets.

It is reported that he produced a document not half as imposing as a diplomat's which looked like an ordinary passport, but as it was inscribed in Russian, no one could read it. At any rate Mr. Laskin paid duty on his baggage, it is reported.

Mr. Laskin stated last night that he will remain a week and then proceed to the embassy at Washington where he is to be attached.

"My mission is so simple," he explained last night, with expressive gestures, and rather halting English, "that the newspapers would not find it interesting to print. I am a diplomat from Russia and I am going to Washington."

MORE LAND TO BE PLANTED TO RICE

Kauai Business Men Gather Statistics On Production of Crop On That Island

Cooperating with the territorial food commission, the businessmen of Kauai have gathered valuable statistics on the production of rice in the Garden Island, showing that county expects to harvest this year, from 1730 acres, a crop of about 41,595 bags, and that for the 1918 crop an additional area of 435 acres of new land will be available.

The value of the reposit is to be judged from the fact that rice is the second largest food crop grown in Hawaii, and that despite this fact the great bulk of the cereal eaten here is imported. The best estimate available, that submitted to the food commission recently by J. F. Child, who now is executive officer, gives Hawaii's rice production as approximately 120,000 bags a year.

News of the Kauai statistics, which was gathered by the planter, the board of supervisors and the Chamber of Commerce, came this week from A. H. Case, the commission's agent.

Areage Has Fallen Off

In the last few years the rice acreage there has fallen away to almost half its former size. Case writes that some years ago there were 3000 acres under rice cultivation.

T. F. FARM PIG DIES AT ANTHRAX STATION

Another T. F. Farm animal has passed away. This time it is a pig, but whether its death was from anthrax or not cannot be learned. The pig, which was moved from the Maunaloa anthrax grounds with the other Farm quadrants to the new anthrax quarantine station in Aiea Moana Road, was well on Sunday evening, Monday morning it was dead.

The proposition also was taken up. Case says, "of having the committee of Kauai businessmen make a definite guarantee of five dollars a bag for rice produced after 1917, the planters would be sure of some price for their investment."

"As to this idea, nothing has been done yet, probably because the present high price of rice has made it unnecessary."

MAYOR FERN BETTER

Mayor J. J. Fern is improving. Yesterday morning he drove up to the city hall and chatted with friends for several minutes. His illness has reduced him in weight, and his face is drawn, but the old time smile has not been lost.

It may be several weeks, and possibly months, before Fern will be strong enough to take up his duties in the city hall. It is only in the last few days that he has left his bed for a motor ride around the city.

Supervisors Decide To Slaughter Democratic Emblem

In a touching letter written to the board of supervisors and read at the meeting last evening, the garbage department asked permission to kill a mule. The mule, explained the letter, had been kicked by a fellow mule and as a consequence was on the sick list and about to draw workmen's compensation.

Unfortunately for the troubled supervisors, the mule does not belong to the city and county. It has been hired from a local mule squatter, and the troubled supervisors were concerned over how much it would cost them if they carried out the sanguinary ambitions of the garbage department.

But the five Republican members of the board, remembering that the mule is the emblem of the Democratic party, decided to take a sporting chance; and so by sunset today there will be one mule less in the city and county of Honolulu.

It is very troublesome, I cannot now tell you who is minister of foreign affairs. Sometimes Kerensky is and sometimes he is something else and some one else it."

Mr. Laskin was quite obscure as to his rank in the diplomatic service. He did not know whether he was in the consular service, or the information division or on the embassy staff but he was going to the Washington embassy on a simple mission. He is quite sure of that.

KEEP IT HANDY

Immediate relief is necessary in cases of cholera, Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy should always be on hand. For sale by all dealers. Benson, Smith & Co., agents for Hawaii.

RECEIPTS OF HAWAII COUNTY SHOW GAIN

(Mail Special to The Advertiser)

HILA, August 3.—Further indication of the progressiveness of Hawaii is shown in the receipts collected by the county treasury for the month of July. The amount collected was \$38,811.80 as against \$34,515.50 during the same period last year, showing an increase for 1917 of \$4,296.30.

A feature of the amounts received by the treasury was the decrease in liquor and club license money. In 1916 there were no club licenses, yet the total received for liquor licenses reached \$11,450 for both liquor and club licenses. Of this amount the sum of \$10,000 represents liquor licenses only, the remaining \$1,450 being for club licenses.

The falling off in money collected for liquor licenses is probably due to the withdrawal of wholesale houses from business.