

The Rape of Belgium

A Journal of the American Legation in Belgium

By Hugh Gibson, Witness



The secretary of the American Legation in Belgium, seeing everything, kept a personal diary of Germany's immortal sin. The seal of neutrality is broken, and here is one of the great documents of the war.

To-day's instalment: The courage of the Belgians—refugees pour out from Malines, leaving everything—and not one tear! Then to London to start the relief work.

On board S. S. Oranje Nassau, off Flushing, Sept. 30, 1914.

We got away on Sunday morning about 11 o'clock, after many calls at headquarters and a mild row about the laissez-passer that had not been sent. It was finally discovered that some boneheaded clerk had sent it by mail—a matter of three days! It was fished out of the military postoffice, and we got away in a few minutes.

We were in the big car, heavily laden—two trunks, several valises and a mail pouch on top—my two passengers inside with their small stuff, the chauffeur and I in front.

We made quick time out through Tervuren and down to Namur, hearing the heavy booming of cannon all the time away to the north. Ruin was all the way—odd farmhouses burned, towns with half the buildings in them, the Grand Place destroyed, etc. The great square at Namur a heap of brick and mortar.

Vise n'existez plus! Goodness knows what was done to the place, but there is nothing left but blackened walls. It took us a long time to find unnumbered roads and get through between the fallen walls. When we crossed the Dutch frontier we created a sensation. A big crowd gathered around the car, and by the time the leisurely customs officers had examined the papers given me by the Dutch Legation they were packed so tight that it took the united effort of several officers and citizens to get us extricated.

Dutch Army Ready for Trouble

Holland is taking no chances, and has quantities of troops massed in that part of the country. There are frequent posts to stop travellers and examine papers, and there is practically no traffic on the road save that of a military character.

We caught the boat at Moerdyk and got into Rotterdam a little before 4. I installed my companions at the Maas Hotel, overlooking the same old Meuse, and then started back through the rain toward Antwerp. At Willemsdorp we just missed the boat for Moerdyk and lost an hour. Eugene raged and smoked many cigarettes, to the danger of his health, because his sacrée machine had lost us so much time.

At 8 we got to Rosendaal, near the Belgian frontier, and were forbidden to go any further until morning, as the outposts were taking no chances.

Had a good supper at the little hotel, had my papers viséed by the Belgian Consul, and at 6 o'clock yesterday morning was up and away, by way of Putte.

Courage of Belgians Is Beyond Belief

The Belgian outposts received us with levelled rifles, but when we got near one of the officers recognized me through his glasses, and we got through without any more trouble. Arrived at the St. Antoine as everybody was coming down to breakfast. The Germans were bombarding the outer forts, and they could not believe their eyes when I came in. Not a word of news had got through the lines for some days, and I was nearly torn to pieces by the excited friends.

I had coffee with Colonel Fairholme, and got all the news he could tell me. Malines has been bombarded again and Antwerp is filled with refugees. Before I left the Germans had occupied Malines itself and were bombarding the fort at Waelhem.

On the way we saw hundreds of miserable refugees from Malines pouring down from the station. The courage of these Belgians is beyond all words. Save for the two in the freight station yard at Louvain, I have not seen a woman crying! It may be that they are numb, but they have none of the stupidity of numbness. And when you think that these very women will be creeping back to their homes and caring for the German wounded they find there, it gives you a fine lump in the throat.

Up again at 6 and took the 7:30 train for Flushing. It loafed along through the country, and we did not sail until 11. We have to go round to Folkestone, but hope to be in by 6 o'clock.

There are not more than twenty people on the ship, and the way they

Belgian Legation, and after a talk with the Belgian Minister we got things started.

As the food was intended for the civil population of Brussels, it was necessary to get the Belgian Minister to secure from the Foreign Office permission to ship it through the blockade. He felt that he must have some instructions from the government at Antwerp for his guidance in the matter, so I telegraphed at some length, with the result that he had ample instructions before the sun went down. The next day he made three or four calls at the Foreign Office and matters were got under way.

Food Tied Up In Red Tape

Shaler is buying the food and getting it ready for shipment, and now all that is holding things up is the actual permission to go ahead and ship. Shaler has had some talk on the general problems that confront us with Herbert Hoover, an American mining engineer, who has given some very helpful ideas and may do more still.

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Another instalment to-morrow

Philadelphia Republicans Seek to Prevent Recount

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 28.—The Republican organization to-day petitioned the State Supreme Court to restrain the election court of Philadelphia from opening ballot boxes and having the votes cast at the recent election recounted. The Supreme Court reserved decision.

The action of the Republican organization is the result of the Town Meeting party challenging the returns in more than 600 of the 1,326 election districts, claiming that errors were made in some and fraud was committed in others. The regular Republicans have challenged the returns in about 200 districts where large Town Meeting majorities were returned.

William A. Saxe Killed By Auto in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Nov. 28.—William A. Saxe, of New York, secretary and treasurer of the Standard Concrete Steel Company, was killed instantly here to-day by an automobile driven by A. Morris Carey, Jr., seventeen years old, member of a prominent Baltimore family. The automobile is said to have skidded in the snow and struck Mr. Saxe, who was waiting to board a street car.

Police Aided in Gang Killings, Is Hint by Lewis

Brooklyn Prosecutor Asks How 23 Murders Were Otherwise Possible

Ralph Daniello's confession before District Attorney Swann about the secrets of the Italian gambling cliques and gangsters of this city, it developed yesterday, may lead even further than the clearing up of the twenty-three murder mysteries to the solution of which he gave the key.

The following through of the leads which Daniello—known as "Ralph the Barber"—has furnished may point to the person guilty of the murder of Michael A. Giamari, for which Michael Rofrano was tried and acquitted a year ago, and also may yield proof of police connivance in murders which have been ordered by three Italian gangs in this city.

Assistant District Attorney George N. Brothers, who prosecuted Rofrano, was yesterday assigned to the Daniello case, to learn whether "Ralph the Barber" can supply the motive for the murder of Giamari, the political lieutenant of Tom Foley in the 2nd Assembly District. Special significance was attached to this move in calling Mr. Brothers into the case, because the Rofrano defence was that the Giamari murder was the result of a gambler's feud.

The publication yesterday of Daniello's confession led to a clash between the offices of District Attorney Lewis Swann, Daniello had first made his revelations before the Brooklyn prosecutor, it is understood, and then he was turned over to Mr. Swann's office to aid in investigating the murders which occurred in Manhattan.

"The publication of the confession of Daniello," said Mr. Lewis, who was the only one of the disputants to discuss the failure of the two offices to work together, "makes me reluctant to make a further statement. Daniello was very much disturbed this morning, and fears that the publication of his revelations may endanger his life."

The first intimation that perhaps there had been police connivance with the Italian gangs who ordered murders at will came as a result of an interview with District Attorney Lewis.

"How were all these murders possible without the police learning anything about the origin of them?" Mr. Lewis was asked.

"I am not positive that the police were entirely ignorant," he replied, "and am now making an inquiry into this matter."

Daniello and three others were yesterday arraigned before Judge May in

the Brooklyn County Court. All four were remanded without bail, but the jails to which they were taken were not announced.

Daniello was indicted for murder in the first degree for his part in the murder of Nicholas Morello and Charles Ubricci, Harlem gangsters, on September 7, 1916, on Johnson Street and Hudson Avenue, Brooklyn. For alleged participation in these murders John F. Esposito was also indicted for murder in the first degree. Similar indictments were returned against Alessandro Vollero and Alphonso Siroia. The last two are believed to have been accessories before the fact, whereas Daniello and Esposito are charged with being two of five men who did the actual killing. Vollero is said to be a padrone, or boss, under whose direction underlings slew men who interfered with gang activities.

Ten More Reported Indicted

It is understood that indictments have been returned against ten other men whom the police are looking for. Gangsters throughout the city are believed to have sought cover yesterday, being afraid that a general crusade against the underworld inhabitants might be started.

District Attorney Lewis made public the facts of sixteen of the twenty-three murders about which Daniello has confessed. They follow: Gaetano Deigrando was killed in a Manhattan restaurant on November 30, 1914; Tony Lionetti was killed on Johnson Street, near Navy, on January 5, 1917; Giuseppe Chiarello was killed in Manhattan on February 5, 1917; Felice Locallo's throat was cut and he died on May 1, 1916, in the Red Hook District, Brooklyn; Matteo Leone was killed in 112 Mulberry Street on September 9, 1915; Giuseppe Pellasano was shot in the Italian Gardens, Manhattan, on October 6, 1917; George F. Esposito was killed on November 9, 1914, at 334 East 108th Street; Michael Averno was killed on July 22, 1916, at Twenty-eighth Street and Second Avenue, and Nicholas Moraglio and Charles Ubricci were killed on September 7, 1916.

The six other murders had been named previously by District Attorney Swann. It is understood that four additional murders about which Daniello revealed information were committed in Philadelphia.

It was learned that writs were drawn yesterday to bring the ten prisoners, who are held as material witnesses in this investigation at the Raymond Street Jail, Brooklyn, before the New York County Grand Jury to-morrow. Additional indictments will be returned, it is understood.

Whole Family Is Murdered

CEUR D'ALENE, Idaho, Nov. 28.—The bodies of Michael Kelly, his wife and their three children were found with their throats cut to-day at their home, at Rose Lake, near here. The authorities have no clew save a blood-stained knife and a razor.

Swann's Bazaar Inquiry Uncovers Confidence Man

Waterbury "Collecting for Soldiers"—Arrest in Con-ley Check Case

District Attorney Swann said yesterday that he thought his efforts to expose dishonest persons engaged in collecting money for patriotic organizations had reached a climax when he received a complaint that Jules H. Ford, alias "Doc Waterbury," known from coast to coast as a skillful confidence man, was collecting money to give them a working knowledge of French. He was only recently released from Sing Sing.

"Waterbury" was sentenced in February, 1916, by Judge Mulqueen in General Sessions to a term of one year and three months to two years and six months after he had pleaded guilty to a charge that he fraudulently obtained \$200 from Dr. Allen Starr, of 5 West Fifty-fourth Street, on the representation that he was buying a life membership card in the Gridiron Club.

In an interview at the time "Waterbury" said he came from one of the best families in the state and had "the best wife in the world." He said he had made \$250,000 in the swindling game and couldn't quit it on account of a "dual personality."

Book Scheme Exposed

Mr. Swann said he had information that "Waterbury" and other collectors made their headquarters in the offices of the man who got up the French beginner's books. These cost the contributor \$1.50 each, but the contributor doesn't get the book, the prosecutor said. The soldier in France is supposed to get it. A subpoena has been issued calling for "Waterbury's" presence in the District Attorney's office to-morrow.

Assistant District Attorney Kilroe announced yesterday that he had obtained an admission from M. J. Delahunty, of 547 West 123d Street, that he, representing himself as an emissary from Colonel Louis D. Conley, of the 96th Regiment, had visited Walter J. M. Donovan, a broker at 80 Broadway, and had obtained a check for \$1,000

from Mr. Donovan for the regiment's benefit for dependent families of the enlisted members.

Delahunty told Mr. Kilroe that he forged Colonel Conley's name to the check and turned it over to a Lester Winkelman, now missing, to be cashed. He said he gave Winkelman 15 per cent and the remainder he split even with one James Francis, who, he said, gave him Mr. Donovan's name and instructions how to get the contribution.

Delahunty Locked Up

Delahunty was locked up in the Tombs, charged with forgery and grand larceny, and a man who says he is Charles James Quigley, who was found in the room with Delahunty at 547 West 123d Street, was also locked up with him as a material witness. The District Attorney said a more serious charge would be preferred against Quigley. Delahunty was a collector for the Wheaton Service Corporation, advertising solicitors, of 347 Fifth Avenue.

Mrs. Lillian L. Miller, of 600 Riverside Drive, who collected \$450 ostensibly for the War Babies' Cradle, of which Mrs. Jules S. Bache is treasurer, turned over the money yesterday to District Attorney Swann, who placed it in his safe. She said a man by the name of Swanson, who, she believed, was in Chicago, had asked her to sell de luxe editions of "Belgium's Tribute to King Albert" at \$10 a book, the proceeds of which, he said, were to go to the War Babies' Cradle. Mrs. Miller admitted, however, that she turned \$450 of her sales of the book in check form over to C. W. King, also of 600 Riverside Drive, who placed it in his account in the Garfield Trust Company.

Surgeon General Gorges Investigates Camp Diseases

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Surgeon General Gorges, who has just returned from an inspection at Camp Wheeler, Macon, Ga., where there has been an epidemic of measles and pneumonia among the troops, has made a report to Secretary Baker, which probably will be made public to-morrow.

General Gorges was accompanied to the camp by a staff of trained medical officers, and a very thorough examination of conditions was made. It is understood they determined the cause of the epidemics at Camp Wheeler and at other training camps, and it is expected the report will contain recommendations looking to stamping out the diseases.

Ice Breakers in St. Lawrence

OGDENSBURG, N. Y., Nov. 28.—Severe cold weather has caused heavy ice to form in the St. Lawrence River, and navigation is impeded seriously. The Canadian government put ice breakers at work to-day breaking out channels for vessels. The steamship India sank last night in Lachine Canal here attempting to force her way through the ice.



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to be on sale at the same time, will consist of Medium-weight Balbriggan Shirts, with long or short sleeves; and Ankle-length Drawers to match . . . per garment 85c. Ankle-length Drawers to match, per garment . . . \$1.25 Gray Ribbed Worsted Union Suits; long sleeves and ankle length, per suit \$1.85 (Departments on First Floor)

Men's Balta House Slippers

are a particularly attractive feature at the present time in the Men's Shoe Department, suggesting a practical gift for every man who can enjoy a restful evening under his own roof-tree. Balta Slippers for men may be obtained at prices ranging from \$4.00 to \$15.00. (Men's Shoes, Sixth Floor)

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is well worth a visit by those contemplating the purchasing of separate articles of Boys' Clothing or complete Outfits.

Qualities, designs and prices are all that can be desired, and unusually good values are obtainable now in the items enumerated, which are the residue of several special lots.

For Boys 3 to 8 years of age:

- Overcoats of fine kersey cloth in brown or green, with velvet or self collar; new belted model \$11.50
- Blue Serge Suits in smart navy model, with gilt buttons \$8.50
- Serviceable Corduroy Suits in gray or brown, with Eton collar of white rep . . . \$6.75
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For Boys 8 to 18 years of age:

- Mackinaws in attractive, subdued plaids, at \$8.75
- Blue Serge Suits, excellent quality, well-tailored and dressy; with two pairs of knickerbockers \$15.00
- Scotch Sweaters of fine brushed yarn in heather mixtures; roll-collar style, \$6.00
- Pajamas of striped outing flannel, 1.00
- Blanket Bath Robes in desirable patterns at \$3.75

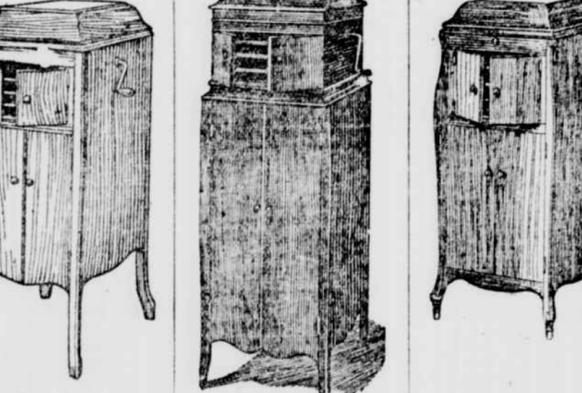
Military Uniforms are a special feature in the Boys' Clothing Department. (Sixth Floor)

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1 Dust-off.....	.15	2 McCreery Albums (65c each).....	1.30	1 Dust-off.....	.15
2 10-inch Double Face Records (75c each).....	1.50	1 Dust-off.....	.15	200 Needles.....	.20
1 12-inch Double Face Record.....	1.25	200 Needles.....	.20	2 10-inch Double Face Records (75c each).....	1.50
200 Needles.....	.20	2 10-inch Double Face Records (75c each).....	1.50	1 12-inch Double Face Record.....	1.25
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