

BOCHES USE PRISONERS AS SHIELDS FOR MACHINE GUNS.

Make Observations Behind Women and Children—Dispatch Enemy Wounded Without Mercy And In One Instance Roasted 20 In A Small Hut.

There are great numbers of wounded Boches, on their solemn oaths, have related how, when lying on the field of battle, they saw their wounded comrades "finished off" by from but- trolver shots, or by bayonet stabs, or kicked ends, or by German soldiers, non-commissioned officers and even by officers.

We cannot pause to analyze these innumerable depositions. There is one evidence. How often, when a counter-attack has put us in possession of ground lost the day before, we found poor fellows "finished off"—with their throats cut, as in the case of the two sergeants of the Thirty-first Chasseurs of the Pass of Saint-Marie, or "with their own bayonets driven into their mouths," like the poor little fellow of the Seventh. The enemy often runs away like this: On August 23, 1917, at Remererville, a German tenant Touse- remererville tended out first at the saint (who passed out in July). When he fell in battle, this young officer was bayoneted by all the Germans who passed near him, and his body was a mass of wounds from a rifle and a machine gun.

At Oudry, a vehicle showing the Red Cross flag, and loaded with 10 wounded Boches, was taken to a small hut, and fired two volleys at it. At Bonneville, an officer murdered a helpless French wounded, strewn through in a barn, by shooting him through the ear. On 23d of August at Montigny-le-Tilleul, M. Vital was caught in the act of tending a French soldier, L. Sohler, by name, wounded in the head and side. Such a crime deserves punishment, and then the first shot, the orderly.

At Ethe, they set a shed on fire and roasted more than 20 wounded who were lying there. We all know the celebrated order of General Stenger in the region of Thiaville (Meurthe-et-Moselle). "No prisoners are to be taken. All prisoners are to be wounded or not, prisoners, who are interested, must be not only in Lorraine that such orders were given. Listen to the deposition of a German soldier: "The same day we saw 18 other Frenchmen. Lieutenant N. told us to shoot them with them. What else to do with them? I read in this letter found at L'Ecou- ville in a German trench which was recaptured: "Every day we take many prisoners, but they are shot once, as we no longer know where to put them."

Think of the diary in which a German soldier near Peronne recorded his impressions of the day: "They lie in heaps of 10 or 12, some dead and some still living. Those who could still walk were marched off. Those who were wounded in the head or lungs, and were finished off with a bullet. That is the order which we got."

A German soldier, while being nursed in a hospital at Nancy, confided to Dr. Roemer that the wound in his back had been inflicted on him by a German. "I refused to finish off a wounded Frenchman."

Let us call to mind the innumerable instances when the Boches, put up their hands, or waved a white flag, and cried, "Kamerad, pretzling to surrender; thus drawing our unsuspecting men toward them and then suddenly moving aside, to beat them on the field open to a party of riflemen or a machine gun, and to shoot them down. These are the tricks of cowards, which were constantly employed at the beginning of the war, and our men (at the cost of many victims) learned at last to equal them. But they are now doing things even more cowardly than this. There was the German officer who took to protect himself from danger while taking observations, but three children drench around him. At Nery, 25 persons, women and children, were com- pelled to walk at the side of a machine column to protect it from being shot.

Near Malines, six German soldiers who were taking with them five young girls, on meeting a Belgian patrol, placed the girls all round them to prevent the enemy from firing. At Jodoigne, a German officer, with his arms folded, and they did the same at Houzarde to another cure who was killed. A similar fate befell several civilians at Mons.

At Erpe, on September 12, a German column, attacked by a Belgian motor-machine gun, took out of the houses 20 to 25 men and young people (including a child of 13), and made them walk in front of the middle of the road. The machine-guns, seeing civilians in front of them, ceased firing. A German company attached the bridge. In front marched some 20 civilians with a machine gun hidden behind them. At Nimy, with the butt-ends of their rifles, they drove in front of them 500 men, women and children toward the English, who in consequence did not fire; and in this way the Eighty-fourth and Eighty-fifth Schleswig Regiments were able to continue their heroic march as far as Maubeuge.

The cowards chiefly used civilians as shields, but sometimes they also made use of prisoners. At Keyem, they pushed 100 Belgian soldiers in front of them, some with their hands tied, and others with their arms in the air. At Dixmude, they advanced under shelter of 400 disarmed marines who had been taken prisoners. When they got in front of our lines our marines shouted: "For God's sake fire, these are Germans!" and these heroes fell gloriously under the French bullets. Such deeds are countless.

WHILE THE CITY BURNED. A Strange Picture of War as Seen at Night From a Distance. On a perfect night, brilliantly clear and absolutely still, what Stevenson would call a wonderful clear night of stars, Dr. William Boyd, author of "With a Field Ambulance at Ypres," determined to climb with some of his companions, a hill that overlooked the battle front. That was a strange ascent, he says. For the greater part of the way it lay through the woods, and we were continually falling over tree trunks, tumbling into shell holes, running into telephone wires and extracting ourselves from barbed wire. Not a sound was to be heard except the

confided to me the intention of Ger- many "one day" to make an "over- seas Germany" of South America. And an elephant catcher from Ham- burg told me years ago in the jungles of Lower Siam that "the day was coming" when Germans would not need to ask "permits of England or France or Siam" for a free hunt- ing hand in Siam or Malay. As a German officer at their Great Head- quarters in northern France said to me once at the close of a discussion as to where the war was leading the principal belligerents—Great Britain, France, Germany—"world power, or complete defeat; Germany wants no half way result."

A German victory would at once put in jeopardy all the principles for which we ever fought—freedom of thought, liberty at sea in 1812, the right of frontier lines in 1847, the re-affirmation of the freedom of the white man through giving free- dom to the negro in 1861; and the rights of little nations in 1898.

A fortnight ago, a German victory seemed the wisest improbability. Since then the situation has changed. The German armies are pouring into northern Italy. Italy may not be able to stop them. Germany may force her to make peace. With Rus- sia and Italy both out of the war, Germany and Austria would be able to send practically all their force against the Allies on the western Front.

The chances are that England, France and Belgium alone could not hold them. The United States must lead to their side, the American people must leap to their side. Not American soldiers only, not American ships only, but American men, women and children from Maine to Texas, from Texas to Oregon, must in one way or another consider themselves fighters at the side of America's Allies on the battle front.

If they cannot hold a gun, they must support those who do. They must save food and save money. They must talk war. They must think war. If they don't Germany will win. And then—By Casper Whitney, of The Vignettes.

TEUTONS MUST WIN AT ONCE OR NEVER. Smash at Italy is First Stage in Desperate Campaign Before Ameri- ca's Full Strength Enters war. Stockholm—Germany has reached the zenith of its fighting power. The dynamic genius of Ludendorff has exhausted his last reserves. The last of his human and material re- sources of the empire into military energy. The high pressure war in- dustrial mobilization is ended.

The production of guns, ammunition and technical machinery of war has been more than doubled within the past year, and is grueling pace can be best only maintained, not in- creased. The army is at the top of its form. Every last available, even partially fit man, of fighting age not more needed in war work behind the front.

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THE NEGRO TROOPERS HANGED. Military Court-Martial Makes Short Work Of Those Convicted. San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 11.—Thirteen negroes were hanged at Fort Sam Houston at 7.17 a. m. for complicity in the riot at Houston August 23.

More than 100 negro soldiers of the two companies of the Twenty-fourth Infantry were engaged in the riot that caused the death of 16 and the wounding of more than a score of persons. Captain Mattes, Illinois National Guard officer, who was slain by the negroes, was mutilated almost beyond recognition. The killing of Captain Mattes was accompanied by extreme cruelty according to reports.

Wounded by a rifle bullet, Captain Mattes was surrounded by the mis- erous soldiers with buckshot, and his body racked and stabbed in many places with bayonets. The body was almost unrecognizable. The sixteenth victim was E. M. Jones, a jitney driver, whose body was found near Camp Logan. His right arm was almost severed by bayonet strokes.

At the home of Mrs. Mary Winkler, 910 Lillian street, was enacted one of the most brutal incidents of the night. When the mutinous soldiers possessed her son, Fed. Winkler, and William J. Drucks, stepped to the front porch to see what provoked the loud talking, Winkler flashed on the gallery lights and Drucks got as far as the steps when a bullet penetrated the heart of Winkler and the right arm of Drucks was shattered.

For hours the Winkler family re- mained in darkness while Drucks lay upon the bed bleeding and the body of young Winkler remained on the porch. The trouble is said to have started after some of the negro soldiers had complained of treatment accorded them by members of the Houston police force. About 9 o'clock some 80 negroes, later being joined by others, formed at their camps and began a march toward downtown Houston. Lights in residences along the way were shot out and a number of per- sons wounded as they sat inside their homes.

Capt. K. S. Snow, commanding the negro troops guarding Camp Logan, declared that he attempted to control the men when he saw what was about to happen. "But they were beyond control," he said, "and about 150 of them started to shoot promiscuously in the camp and soon scattered in every direction. An attempt was made to kill Cap- tain Snow, he declared.

4,000 LATEST ESTIMATE OF DEAD IN HALIFAX; 20,000 ARE DESTI- TUTE. Death Toll Increases When Devas- tated District of Richmond Is Sur- veyed—Property Loss Put at \$50,000,000. Halifax, N. S., Dec. 8.—Four thou- sand persons were killed in the burn- ing and destruction of buildings re- sulting from the explosion of the ammunition ship in the harbor Thursday, according to estimates to- night by officials. This estimate is higher than any heretofore, was made after a survey of the devastated district of Richmond, where acres of debris probably will not be cleared for a month.

The outstanding fact that 20,000 persons are destitute and of the number perhaps one out of seven is suffering from injuries which in many cases are bound to prove fatal. Men of the naval forces dragged the water front today and recovered the bodies of 200 sailors, soldiers and women.

Federal provisional and Red Cross aid, supplemented by volunteer units from other cities and the United States, were being utilized to the best advantage. The Massachusetts relief train which had been stalled much of the night in snow drifts near the Nova Scotia border, arrived today bringing the first contin- gent of physicians, nurses and sup- plies. It was the first of several trains en route from the American side.

Street cars were stalled in the drifts during the night but today the service had been partly restored. The day also saw the lighting sys- tem renewed in part, and after dark- ness fell the city looked a little less black and forbidding. Fortunately the telephone service is good.

Machine Invented by Doctor Goes a Step Beyond the Mystic "Sixth Sense." Science has discovered something besides the mystic "sixth sense" to help the blind. If the new device in- vented by Dr. Fournier d'Albe is suc- cessful the ear will be made to do the work of the destroyed organ of sight. Already sufficient success has been achieved to demonstrate the practical value of the appliance.

By magnifying certain sounds caus- ed by light being projected from an illuminated disk upon selenium the ear is literally made to "hear" letters.

The light form is influenced by the form of the letters, each letter creat- ing a slight but perceptible variation in the sound. These sounds, magnified and trans- mitted thru a telephone instrument, enable the auditory "reading process" to be achieved. A printed page, placed over the illuminated disk and pass- ed across it, spells out in distinctive sound each letter against which the light shines.

By this expedient the Roentgen rays can be made to impress the sig- nificance of the letters upon the mind of the blind individual. In three or four days the peculiar "sound" alpha- bet can be mastered. In a short time the totally blind individual can read at the rate of twenty or thirty words a minute.

The machine is actually several years old, having been invented in 1912. At that time, however, it was regarded in the light of a curiosity and used chiefly to demonstrate the peculiar physical properties of the ap- paratus. The war, with its thousands of blind individuals, will make the device of incalculable value to those who have been deprived of their sight.

By means of the "optophone," as it is called, blind men can be made to "hear" when a shade is lowered or a light turned on.

The Society of Electrical Engineers believes that the optophone has great possibilities and will do everything in its power to demon- strate the machine's worth.

How Much Does it Cost to Produce Wheat? Farm and Fireside, in an editorial, asks how much it costs to produce an acre of wheat. The writer says: "Now that the Government has fixed the price of wheat, both for the 1917 and 1918 crops, the question of actual cost of production becomes more inter- esting than ever. What is the average cost of producing an acre of wheat? Is a price of approximately \$2 a bushel too much? Let us see. A few years ago the cost of wheat was figured at from \$10.50 to \$12.50 an acre, with a few estimates running above or below these figures. That costs have greatly increased since the beginning of the European war all must admit.

"In round numbers the cost of an acre of wheat averaging 15 bushels is now \$20 with the chances for still greater cost in 1918. "Here are the figures showing ac- tual cost of wheat in a leading winter wheat State: Man labor 12.8 hours at 15 cents an hour, \$1.92; horse labor for 27.3 hours at 11 1/2 cents an hour, \$3.14; interest at 6 per cent on \$75 land, \$4.50; taxes, 25 cents; upkeep, 30 cents; seed (1 1/2 bushels) at \$2.25, \$3.37; cost of machinery, 80 cents; 1 1/2 pounds of twine at 17 cents, 26 cents; threshing-machine hire at 5 cents, 75 cents; coal, 15 cents; mar- keting, 80 cents; fertilizer, \$4.00. Total, \$20.24.

"A 15-bushel crop of wheat re- moves, in the grain alone, 17.5 pounds of nitrogen, 2.25 pounds of phosphor- us, and 4 pounds of potassium. Buy these ingredients in the form of com- mercial fertilizer and see how much you will have left out of \$1. "So with a 15-bushel crop next year, and with a price of \$2 a bushel, the wheat grower may realize \$9.75 an acre more than his wheat cost him. Provided he has no bad luck. On a 40-acre crop this is \$390."

What He Got. "A burglar got into my house about 2 o'clock this morning, when I was on my way home from the club," said Jones. "Did he get anything?" asked Brown. "I should say he did get something," replied Jones. "The poor chap is in the hospital. My wife thought it was me."—Answers.

DR. GEORGE E. BAUGHMAN, SURGEON DENTIST. ALL BRANCHES OF MECHANICAL DEN- TISTRY A SPECIALTY. CROWN AND BRIDGE WORK. PAINLESS EXTRACTING. GOLD AND ENAMEL FILLINGS. ALL WORK GUARANTEED. Office 114 E. Main St., Opposite Union National Bank, apr 3 1yr WESTMINSTER, MD

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Dr. H. M. Fitzhugh, Westminster, Md. Office Hours, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 4 to 6 P. M. Saturday Evening 6.30 to 8.30 P. M. nov 23-1m\*

Wanted!—Raw Furs. On and after November 24, I will be at John Leffer's Store, 5 East Main street, every Saturday from 10.30 a. m. to 5 p. m., to pay special cash prices for all kinds of RAW FURS. Bring them in and try me. H. A. LEISTER, Westminster, Md.

SES AND MULES! I will receive at my STABLES, on East Chestnut Street, Hanover, Pa., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10th, 1917, One Carload of Yearling and one car- load of Suckling MULES. Call and see them as they are all fine stock. H. A. SMITH, Hanover, Pa.

DR. J. FRED. WAESCHE DENTIST. Arcade Building, SYKESVILLE, MD. NOTICE! Can furnish you with good feeding Steers, Heifers and Bulls at all times. FAT HOGS WANTED. J. ELMER MYERS, Westminster, Md.

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CORN WANTED! Call 137 or 96R. G. N. Hunter.

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