

OBSERVATIONS U. S. MILITARY ATTACHE ON USE OF POISONOUS GASES IN WAR

PARIS, July 17.—Col. Spencer Cosby, United States military attache at Paris, has been speaking in a hoarse whisper of late. His friends have noted it and have expressed their regrets at his very bad cold. Col. Cosby's voice has been permitted him to reply, and he has let it go at that—a cold. But it was not a cold.

The use which the German army has made of poison gas in the recent war has brought a new and terrible element of destruction into military science. Col. Cosby shared the keen interest of his brother military investigator and in one respect he went far beyond them. There was ample data, from the battlefields and the hospitals, where ghastly patients were living witnesses of the effects of the new element. But Col. Cosby determined on a direct personal investigation on the element itself—the poison gas in all its forms.

"But you should be warned of the extreme risk," said the chief chemist. "It is very dangerous—a matter of life and death." The colonel insisted. Large bottles contained the various forms of liquid gas, direct from the front, and in very degrees of strength. There were three distinct groups of these gases: first, those bursting

into flame and commonly known as liquid flame; second, the tear producing gases, which do not kill or permanently maim, but which so blind a column of onrushing troops that they become helpless and are brought to a halt; and, third, the actual poison gas which suffocates and kills with ten times the horror of a bullet or shell. This last, it is the belief of military experts, is a barbarism of warfare which must be ultimately banned by the universal sentiment of civilization.

Col. Cosby took a slight whiff of each gas. It was not overpowering or violent in its effect—only a pungent odor of ether. Col. Cosby was beginning to think the gases were not so very bad after all.

They had now reached the poison gas—the deadly gas which clutches and kills. The chemist paused. "You will not try this," he said appealingly.

"Yes, all of them," said the colonel positively, recalling the rather agreeable pungent odor of the other gases.

"Then we must be very cautious," said the chemist. "Place yourself about a foot away from the bottle. I will raise the glass stopper the slightest possible fraction of an inch, so that only an insignificant portion

of gas can escape—but it will be enough. Now, ready!"

He drew the stopper the slightest particle, and only for an instant, with Col. Cosby a foot away. But in that instant the colonel felt he had been hurled back twenty feet. Tongues of fire were eating at his throat, and ten thousand needles were darting around his neck. It seemed as though live vitriol had emptied in his mouth and was coursing through his veins. His whole vocal system was paralyzed. This infinitesimal portion of the deadly gas had, in an instant, overpowered him.

It was some little time before Col. Cosby was in a position to discuss his tests. The chief chemist said the effect would continue some hours and probably some days. It would be most observable, he said, in eating or drinking.

Col. Cosby took an auto home, his throat still on fire, but not otherwise physically affected. That night every mouthful of dinner had the unmistakable taste of the poison gas; each draught of water had the same taste of the deadly gas; and even the puffs of a cigar had the taste of so many puffs of this death-dealing gas—al-

ways the fiery needles and so many draughts of vitriol. Col. Cosby could speak to his family only in inarticulate whispers. They were naturally much concerned over the possible after effects.

When Col. Cosby saw a doctor next day the throat was found to be in a very bad condition, as from an acute attack of laryngitis. The colonel continued on his duties, but for a week he could speak only in whispers. It was ten days before the clutch of the poison gas on the throat had relaxed enough to let him speak again in full voice.

"That's a bad case of laryngitis," said the Russian ambassador.

"Yes," whispered Col. Cosby, "an acute form, recently discovered by German scientists—a form that kills."

In the event of his being hard pressed Gen. Carranza can shave off his beard and retire to private life unrecognized.—Louisville Journal.

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Announces his Candidacy for
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For United States Senator

SAM PLATT
Announces his Candidacy for
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For United States Senator

JOHN BARRIER
Announces his candidacy for
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for
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Serial No. 04909
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
U. S. Land Office at Carson City Nevada,
June 26, 1916.
Notice is hereby given that John
Bradford, of Death Valley, California,
who, on May 2, 1910, made Homestead
Application, No. 04909, for 8 1/2 NE 1/4
NW 1/4 SE 1/4, NE 1/4 SW 1/4, Section 11,
Township 13 South, Range 50 East, Mt.
Diablo Meridian, has filed notice of
intention to make Five-Year Proof to
establish claim to the land above de-
scribed, before Jessie Christensen, U.
S. Commissioner, at Beatty, Nevada, on
the 21st day of July, 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses:
John Sepp, of Death Valley, Cali-
fornia; John Deifs, of Beatty, Nevada;
Charlie Spears, of Death Valley, Cali-
fornia; Mrs. Della Sepp, of Death Val-
ley, California.
SHOBER J. ROGERS,
Register.
J23-307

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