

French and German Soldiers Swap "Makin's"; Throw Rocks at Each Other for Amusement

By Wm. Philip Sims

(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY AT THE FRONT, Dec. 29.—The French and German trenches are so close together that in the weeks the two armies have been thus face to face the soldiers are, after a fashion, personally acquainted with each other.

Here the fighting has become systematized and follows a routine. At certain sections of the trenches the French and Germans have reached an agreement that before a certain hour in the morning there is to be no killing; in the opposing trenches the men are to be allowed to wash up and make their toilet for the day.

After the gong taps, figuratively speaking, any head showing above the level of the ground gets promptly taken off. Rock battles often take place between the opposing sides. The men grow tired of having nothing to shoot at for hours at a time and in order to amuse themselves they bombard each other without the thrower exposing his person to the bullets of the

enemy.

The old-fashioned hand grenades have come back into style with this close trench fighting, the Germans using them frequently. They steal up to the trenches in the night, or through the heavy fogs now of almost daily occurrence in this region, and let go into the midst of a crowd of men.

At times the enemies, however, become almost friendly. "Say, over there!" a German shouted from his trench. "Have you guys got anything to smoke?"

"Sure!" the chorus came back from the French. "Have you?"

"Not a crumb!"

"Too bad. You ought to write the Kaiser."

"Gimme the makin's."

"Come and get 'em."

A giant of a young fellow stuck his head and shoulders above the ground, placed his hands on the edge of the trench, and VAULTED OUT ON THE SIDE TOWARDS THE FRENCH.

A month-old flaxen beard stood out about a very round face. Mud covered his formerly grayish-bluish, greenish uniform.

A little round, visorless fatigue cap made him look like a

young Santa Claus. Stooping, he ran swiftly across the highway which separated the trenches at this point, and, falling on his stomach, PEERED DOWN INTO THE ENEMY'S TRENCH.

"Where's them cigars?" he demanded.

"Here they are," a Frenchman replied. "You deserve them. Six, and they're worth a Louis d'or."

"Merci!" (French for "thanks") said the German, as he scurried back to his burrow.

"Say!" this same German shouted between puffs, "these cigars are great. Real imported hemps!"

A rock the size of a man's flat was the reply to this sally.

"Hey, you Frenchers," the German kept on, "you're a pretty decent lot. I'm going to give you a present, too. Will you shoot me if I come over again?"

"We will that!—after what you said about the cigars."

Once more the lumbering giant catapulted out of his trench and ran low over to the French, dropping on his stomach as before.

In his hand was an object, a dark green one, with tin foil

around the neck and the words, "Gout Americain" on a slip of paper across the sloping shoulder.

It was a bottle of champagne, swiped while the Germans were in Rheims.

"Here's your health, fellows," the German said. "Drink hearty!"

And back he ran.

Later in the day the German was killed and the news was shouted across the road.

He simply would keep sticking his head above the trench during business hours.

BUT IN THE NIGHT A WREATH OF WILD FLOWERS, GATHERED BY THE FRENCHMEN FROM HEAVEN KNOWS WHERE, AND AT NO ONE KNOWS WHAT RISKS, FELL INTO THE TRENCH WHERE HE WAS WONT TO HAVE HIS PLACE.

All is not cutting and slashing and shooting and gore in war. The spice of good humor and the milk of human kindness often, in this fighting, lessen the sting of hatred between the races.

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SEATTLE, WASH., THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1915.

ONE CENT

ON TRAINS AND
NEWS STANDS, 2c

NIGHT
EDITION

WEATHER FORECAST—Rain

TIDES AT SEATTLE
High. 1:42 p. m. 14.2 ft. Low. 9:34 a. m. 10.2 ft.
1:41 p. m. 13.7 ft. 10:13 p. m. 0.2 ft.

AUTOBUSMEN ORGANIZE AN ASSOCIATION

Encouraging headway toward systematizing the jitney bus business, putting the new common carrier on a solid footing with its better organized rival, the traction company, marked the initial gathering of drivers and owners Wednesday night.

The meeting was held on the top floor of the Commercial Club building.

Plans for permanent organization were drafted and temporary officers and committees installed.

The attendance exceeded expectations. Nearly 400 were present, all that could squeeze their way into the big room.

That stiff opposition, entangling legal entanglements and obstacles in the shape of legislative measures, would be offered by the traction people, was admitted as inevitable.

In face of this danger, it was decided not to lose a moment in molding a concrete defense to resist such attacks.

Meet by Candle Light

As another meeting was in progress in the Commercial Club, a room on the top floor of the building was utilized. It had been stripped of its electrical fixtures, so was lighted with candles.

The glowing candles, which danced grotesquely, added to the strangeness of it all.

For here, oddly enough, were gathered scores of men, many of them poor men, plotting and scheming for a smooth way on the road to wealth, which they suddenly have found open before them.

H. E. Foster, attorney, was appointed temporary chairman of the meeting. A. M. Prather, jitney bus owner, was temporary chairman.

Many Speakers Heard

Several speakers were heard, including Hugh Todd, Alfred Linz, C. E. Evans, Homer Bull, S. G. Thompson and B. D. Coles.

One of the speakers declared the traction magnates are preparing to put through the legislature a law taxing every driver \$40 a month.

Portland is several steps ahead of Seattle, S. G. Thompson told the assembly, in advising that the plan of operation here be patterned after the one effected in the Rose City.

Portland has a business agent in charge of its jitney bus system," Thompson said. "The business agent attends to the schedules, sees that five per cent of each driver's receipts is turned into the association every day, and directs the starters stationed at the various corners. The association's cars are identified by a white line.

Drivers Are Protected

"In case of legal proceedings, every driver is protected by a first-class staff of lawyers."

Lind, Evans and others who talked expressed belief that it was too early in the game yet to take up the matter of transfers, but agreed that this must be done ultimately.

The sale of six-for-a-quarter tickets on all buses, good for a ride in any car operated by an association driver, was also recommended.

Others laid stress on the immediate need of a liability arrangement guaranteeing protection to passengers in case of accidents.

The organization committee is composed as follows:

A. C. Petrig, M. E. Blaggett, S. G. Thompson, Hugh Todd, E. L. Holcroft, Alfred Linz, J. A. Roth, Homer Bull, A. L. Alexander, A. A. Meachem, J. W. Roth, Walter Davis and Mrs. Mercy R. Murray.

Mrs. Murray's picture appeared Wednesday in The Star.

The organization committee will meet Friday night at the office of H. E. Foster.

HOMES INVADDED BY RISING WATER IN OXBOW DISTRICT

With the height of the tide increasing daily, water which has flooded over a vast area at Oxbow as a result of a break in the Duwamish river dyke, reached above the floor level of many homes Thursday.

Half a dozen families, loading their effects into rowboats, abandoned their dwellings. Others on a higher level, are preparing to leave.

Although the tide will continue to rise until Jan. 17, and conditions are daily getting

worse, no repair work has been attempted.

At 5 o'clock Thursday morning the water rose until, in some homes, it was four inches deep on the floors. It did not recede until 7 o'clock, forcing occupants of these houses to remain in their beds. Light connections in several houses were put out of commission.

There is grave danger of the collapse of floors in some of the houses as a result of the weakened condition of the foundations.



COCAINE AGENTS CAUGHT

Rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief; doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief—whatever you are, you will be interested in a series of articles about Seattle, which are to be announced in The Star tomorrow.

You will be interested because these articles, thoughtfully written, will show you how you may defeat assaults which are being made upon you—



MAYOR WON'T SIGN CARLINE MEASURE

Because the bill providing for the extension of Division A into Ballard appropriates only \$50,000, Mayor Gill will not sign it, it is believed. The mayor says \$50,000 is not a sufficient amount.

Originally the bill called for \$100,000, and the mayor said then he would sign it, as he wanted the question of municipal ownership fairly tested.

WHEAT MAKES NEW HIGH PRICE RECORD

CHICAGO, Jan. 14.—All prices for recent years were surpassed by May wheat today, when it reached \$1.42½ at 11 a. m. The scenes in the pit were unprecedented.

Seattle steamer Governor and Mexico Maru held at Vancouver for carrying alleged contraband of war.

W. C. Hulfer, a clerk in a drug store at Broadway and Madison, was sentenced yesterday afternoon by Police Judge Gordon to four months in the county jail for unlawfully selling cocaine.

Thomas Crich, 20, and Harold Sittin, 21, messenger boys, were arrested last night by Patrolmen Frazer and Margalit, on suspicion of acting as agents for traffickers in cocaine and morphine.

They are held in the city jail pending further investigation by the police into their activities during the past two weeks. It is said they have peddled or delivered cocaine furnished by others whom the police are locating.

Look for Head of System

The police are looking for an old woman who, The Star has been reliably informed, is the "head and brains" of the drug traffic in Seattle. This woman is said to get her cocaine by express from a wholesale drug house in Missouri.

Four men have been arrested since The Star began its exposure of the cocaine traffic in Seattle. It is not likely that any of the men arrested were anything more than mere agents.

The persons getting the big profit out of the traffic have thus far escaped.

Arrests of more importance are looked for.

Hulfer took an appeal to the superior court and was released on \$1,000 bonds.

"Coke" User Is Witness

Austin Hardwick, a young man with sunken cheeks and snow-white hair, was the chief witness against Hulfer. He said he had been buying "the flake" of Hulfer for two months and had had no difficulty in procuring it.

Hulfer and Hardwick were arrested together at First and Madison. Hardwick said he had telephoned to Hulfer to bring him 50 cents worth of "flake."

Hulfer met him at the corner and delivered the drug, testified Hardwick, when the detectives grabbed them.

Denies He Sold Cocaine

Hulfer denied ever having sold cocaine to Hardwick or any one else. He said the detectives were mistaken.

Detectives Montgomery and O'Brien testified to conflicting stories told by Hulfer after having been taken to the police station.

The drug store at Broadway and Madison, where Hulfer was employed, is one of the places on the list furnished to the police by The Star.

NEGOTIATIONS ON FOR PEACE IN STRIKE OF ACME BUSINESS COLLEGE STUDENTS



Miss Clara Anderson, One of the Leading Student Strikers

Arrangements are being made today by U. S. Elkenberry, president of the Acme Business College, P. L. building, whereby the student strike that has been in effect all week may be terminated tomorrow or Monday.

Sixty-odd pupils walked out when O. L. Miller took charge as temporary receiver. They intimated they would not return to their studies until difficulties between the receiver and Elkenberry were adjusted to the latter's satisfaction.

Thus far they have stood pat.

PLEADS GUILTY TO MURDER; STATE WON'T ACCEPT PLEA

Because of an old territorial law, the state Thursday virtually refused to accept a plea of guilty from E. C. Collyer to the charge of first degree murder. Instead of trial being waived by Collyer's confession of guilt, exactly the same procedure was followed as though he had pleaded not guilty.

Under the impression that William Messersmith robbed him of \$140, Collyer shot and killed him at the latter's home, 808 Fourth ave., on the night of Nov. 29.

Later Collyer discovered he hadn't been robbed at all.

When he was first arraigned Collyer pleaded not guilty, and his attorney, A. D. Martin, had prepared to defend him on the grounds of insanity.

Thursday morning, however, Martin, in behalf of Collyer, changed

the original plea to guilty. Under the old territorial law, however, Prosecutor Lundin, who is handling the case personally, found it necessary to proceed to trial just the same, and in spite of Collyer, he will be given the benefit of legal defense.

Mrs. Messersmith, widow of the murdered man, testified that Collyer had spent the evening at their apartment, and that before leaving, he spoke of having suddenly discovered the loss of his money.

He came back later with a rifle and the tragedy followed.

While Collyer pleaded guilty to first degree murder, the jury will have the discretion to disregard it and find him guilty of only second degree murder.

On a first degree murder, the court must sentence Collyer to a life term in the penitentiary.

4,000 DEAD IN EARTHQUAKE; POPE IN PERIL

BY ALICE ROHE

United Press Correspondent

ROME, Jan. 14.—With martial law prevailing in the entire region devastated by an earthquake which destroyed many towns and did enormous damage in Central Italy, government officials this afternoon are making extraordinary efforts to compile a list of dead and to afford relief to the injured.

It is believed it will be several days before accurate figures are obtainable.

In reports received by members of the cabinet during a special session today estimates of the fatalities vary greatly.

Premier Salandra, after reviewing reports from all sources, said he did not believe more than 4,000 had been killed.

Vote \$50,000 for Relief

This estimate was made after receipt of messages from Potenza, indicating that the casualties in that vicinity had been exaggerated.

After hearing reports regarding the devastation, the cabinet set aside an emergency fund of \$50,000 for immediate relief and instructed the minister of war to send 2,500 additional troops to aid the distressed to the stricken region yesterday.

Thousands of tents and a large quantity of provisions and medical supplies were rushed from Rome and Naples today.

All the medical officers of the army were ordered to give aid, and the army engineering corps was detailed to undertake the task of restoring communication.

List of Casualties

Although details are lacking, an estimate based on reports received from relief workers in the field indicated this result:

At Avezzano, about 1,000 of the 10,000 inhabitants killed or injured. Most of the town reported wrecked, and indications that many have perished in the surrounding territory.

At Altili, 1,000 reported dead and 500 wounded.

Argine, 150 dead, many injured.

Alzano, town badly damaged; dead unknown.

Arice, 40 dead.

Campo, 300 dead, many injured.

Campobasso, partly wrecked; 30 known dead; many injured.

Caserta, many houses demolished; no fatalities.

Cerveteri, 7 dead.

Giuliano, 3 reported dead.

Guilano, several dead in ruins of cathedral; others buried in homes.

Mediano, towns reported demolished; many fatalities feared.

Monte Rotondo, 3 known dead.

Naples, none dead; many injured.

Potenza, 80 miles east of Naples, badly damaged; no dead.

Potenza, town practically demolished; 500 of 4,000 inhabitants reported killed.

Poggiore, fatalities heavy; no details.

Palentino, 3 dead; many injured.

Rome, no fatalities; many hurt.

Ripoli, 19 dead; many hurt.

Sora, 100 dead; town wrecked.

Another earthquake shock of perceptible strength shook Rome and vicinity at 3 o'clock this morning. It created a panic throughout the stricken district.

People already in a state of terror as the result of yesterday's devastating tremor, rushed into the streets in their night attire. In most of the villages processions were formed and the Litany of the Virgin and other prayers recited to ward off another visitation.

King Victor Emanuel today took personal charge of the work of relief.

Pope Remains Cool

The highest praise for Pope Benedict is heard on all sides. He was saying the prayers of thanksgiving after mass yesterday when the shock started. He hastily concluded mass and hurried into the sacristy, where he began directing his subordinates to aid the suffering even while he was divesting himself of the sacred vestments.

The example of coolness given by his holiness quelled the incipient panic evident among the papal guards and other Vatican attendants. Today the pope ordered high masses sung in all the churches. He also ordered an immediate investigation of the damage done to St. Peter's.

WESTENDE IS WIPED OUT BY ALLIES' FLEET

AUSTRIA—Russian attempts to cross Nida river abandoned. Count Von Berchtold's resignation as foreign minister and president of council signifies changed policy.

GERMANY—Russian claims of victories in East Prussia denied. Berlin declares attacks there repulsed.

BERLIN, by wireless to London, Jan. 14.—The town of Westende abandoned from north to south. Combined fleet of the allied warships off the Belgian coast and the allied forces operating on land.

In making this announcement today the German statement declared allied torpedo boats and monitors which participated in the bombardment were driven off by the German land batteries after having damaged the town considerably.

THE WAR LINEUP

TURKEY AND PERSIA—Tiflis, and Turks massacring Christians and overrunning Persia.

FRANCE—French admit retreating from north to south bank Aisne river. Say movement necessary to protect communications. Germans reinforcing at Soissons, assaulting in force.

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WHEN A MAN'S MARRIED



GAY OLD DADDY DUCKS OUT WITH HIS SON'S YOUNG WIFE

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—Youth was not served in the case of Franklin D. Wood, a young hospital interne who is suing his 20-year-old wife, Lelia, for a divorce, naming his own father as co-respondent.

Young Wood married the wife he is trying to get rid of two years ago, and it was charged before Justice Cohan today that the father, Henry Jackson Wood, stole the little bride on the very night of the wedding and eloped with her to Chicago.

In running away with his son's wife, it is alleged in the suit, Wood abandoned his own wife, the mother of the son he despoiled.

Wood and his daughter-in-law are now said to be living together in St. Louis.

The elder Wood is 45, but does not look nor act his age.

It appears he was his son's secret rival all through the latter's courtship, but did not realize the strength of his affection for the fair Lelia until after she had married his offspring. His work from that time on was quick and decisive.