

# Confessions of a Park Bench

by CORA MOORE

What Tales a Park Bench Could Tell if It Could Talk! Well, Cora Moore Makes It Talk, and You'll Enjoy the "Confessions." First Chapter Tomorrow

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# The Seattle Star

NIGHT EDITION

Weather Forecast: Tonight and Thursday, fair; moderate westerly winds.

THE GREATEST DAILY CIRCULATION OF ANY PAPER IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

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# 15,000 TAKEN!

## Americans Hold Cantigny Against Assaults

### Enemy Town Is Taken in Dash By U. S. Troops

PARIS, May 28.—"American troops have broken two successive German attacks on the newly captured town of Cantigny," the French war office announced today.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMIES IN FRANCE, May 28.—American losses in the battle of Cantigny were light, it was officially announced today. Artillery activity has increased in all sectors held by American troops.

BY HENRY WOOD  
United Press Correspondent

WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN THE FIELD, May 28.—(Night)—An American regiment, attacking German positions west of Montdidier this morning, captured the village of Cantigny, penetrated to the enemy's second line, and occupied boche positions on a front of two kilometers (1.24 miles), all in 45 minutes.

An American regiment consists of 4,522 men and 125 officers. The attack followed a violent ar-

### HERE'S FINE SUGGESTION

There are 100 graves of soldiers in the cemetery at Fort Lawton that ought not to go without decoration on Thursday, Memorial day.

This is the suggestion of Mrs. W. C. Mays, 7729 First ave. N. E., whose son, Robert A. Mays, who recently died at Fort Worden, is buried in the military cemetery.

"The grave of my boy is about the only one that ever has any flowers," Mrs. Mays told the Star today. "I think it would be fine if Seattle people would take a lot of flowers out to the cemetery or to regimental headquarters, at the fort, Thursday, and either decorate the graves of the soldiers themselves or give the flowers to the soldiers of the fort, who would arrange them."

### FRENCH LEFT IS DRAWN BACK IN TERRIFIC FIGHT

PARIS, May 29.—"The German rush, with the arrival of fresh divisions, continued last night on the two wings of the Soissons-Rheims front," the French war office reported today.

"The French left was drawn back to the eastern border of Soissons, where the battle is going on furiously," the communique said. (This represents a maximum retirement of about nine miles on the extreme French left.)

"On the right flank, the French and British, after an energetic defense of the Maanif (literally "wall") of St. Thierry (four miles northwest of Rheims), were drawn back slowly to the south and southeast of these heights. They are holding between the Vesle canal and the Aisne.

"In the center the fighting continued fiercely on the south bank of the Vesle, where the French are valiantly defending the heights.

"There is active cannonading on both sides of the Meuse and in the Lorraine sector.

"A series of German raids failed north of Bezonvaux (northeast of Verdun, where Americans are in the line), and in the Badeniers sector (which includes the American Lunville sector).

### ALLIED AIRMEN DOWN 252 FOES IN SEVEN DAYS

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Allied airmen brought down and destroyed 252 German airplanes during the week between May 16 and May 22, war office reports received by the British military attaché here stated today. The operations include only the Western front.

### TO THE COLORS!



### Autos Needed to Carry Veterans

The Seattle Elks need 200 autos to carry G. A. R. veterans and their wives, who are now too feeble to stand the strain of a march on Memorial day. Elks are asked to report with their machines at 8:30, at the club, to be sent out to pick up veterans.

Other owners of machines who are ready to help are to assemble, according to the make of their cars, on Bell, Blanchard, Lenora and Virginia sts., between Third and Fifth ayes, and on Fifth ave., between Blanchard and Bell sts., at 10 a. m.



As some day it may happen that new victims must be found. Who ought to go to work, who ought to go to work. I've made a list of people who are simply stalling 'round. Now, first job it is to shirk, whose job it is to shirk. Now, first job it is to shirk, "mechanic," who's "employed" in that garage. I don't know what his name is, but I think it's Camouflage. And likewise his assistant and his boss who sends the bill. And who'd be much more respected as the tapper of a till; I have the same regard for him as tho he were a Turk: I'd make him go to work; I would not let him shirk.

Those loafers who are sho-fers and whose engines idly run. I'd make 'em go to work, I'd make 'em go to work. They're simply wasting gas which should be used against the Hun; I wouldn't let 'em shirk, I wouldn't let 'em shirk. And those emulators and preachers who are "helping win the war." Using vile and vicious language we would spank our children for. And those other patriots whose chief job seems to be Abusing all who aren't "het up" as they proclaim to be. I'd put 'em in some safe place where the wary wardens lurk; I wouldn't let 'em shirk; I'd make 'em go to work.

Those speculators grabbing land to keep it out of use; I'd chain 'em to a hoe until they made the land produce; I'd make 'em go to work, I'd make 'em go to work. Those farmers who have moved to town and simply gone to seed. But who have the real experience their struggling renters need. Those profiteering patriots who've coined the war to kale. Until they have so much they have to count it by the bale; I'd take their fattened faces and subtract that smiling smirk; I'd make 'em go to work; I wouldn't let 'em shirk.

I could keep this list a growing, but it's time that I was thru. But still I mustn't shirk, I really mustn't shirk; It's likely soon I'll name the job you think is crowding you; You ought to go to work, you ought to go to work. There are so many people who are stingy of their bit. But some I really must put in before these verses quit: All poets who write parodies of Gilbert's ancient verse. And other poets I might name, whose stuff is even worse; I'd put 'em in the shock-troops with a dagger and a dirk; I wouldn't let 'em shirk; I'd set them all to work!

### Berlin Makes Huge Claims; Gains 15 Miles

Continuing their evident purpose of driving a wedge in the Franco-British line between Soissons and Rheims, German troops are today struggling furiously to increase their gains on the Aisne battlefield.

The Western front fighting reached a new crisis with this effort of the enemy. The boche advance to the vicinity of Fismes, an important railway center, provides a new menace comparative to his smashes up to Amiens and Ypres in the earlier thrusts.

A gain to the depth of 15½ miles at places is declared to have been made by the German armies.

However, it appears likely that the Teutons may receive a check. Reinforcements of the allies are continuing to come up, and it is believed possible that, with renewed strength, the British and French may counter-attack.

That the allied lines between Soissons and Rheims were lightly held appears the case from the boches' rapid advance. Twenty to 25 divisions were employed to make the push. This was superior to the allies, who gave ground as in other thrusts.

PARIS, May 29.—"The German advance, at certain points on the Aisne front has reached a depth of 15½ miles," the Echo De Paris declared today.

LONDON, May 29.—The Germans have penetrated a maximum depth of about 11 miles into the allied positions on the Aisne front, according to the claims of the Berlin war office, in its yesterday's and last night's reports. The capture of 15,000 prisoners also was claimed.

The maximum penetration was attained at only two points in the center of the new drive. The enemy advance is in the shape of a double triangle.

The larger one's base extends from Pinon to Berry-au-Bac, a distance of 21 miles in an air line. Its base is on the southern bank of the Vesle, where the Germans have crossed the river on both sides of Fismes. In attaining this advance, the Germans crossed the Chemin des Dames and the Ailette, Aisne and Vesle rivers.

Apparently the allies have thrown large reserves into the line for the defense of Fismes, which is an important railroad center.

The other triangle has for its base the nine-mile front from Berry-au-Bac to Brimont. The British, who are defending this sector, have held the enemy to a penetration of less than ten miles.

The French war office reported the Germans on the Aisne front greatly outnumber the allies, but declared the latter are inflicting great losses on the enemy.

### ALLIES FACING ENEMY WEDGE

WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN THE FIELD, May 29.—Development of the German offensive up to the hour of cabling appears to indicate that Ludendorff intends to drive a wedge thru the Franco-British lines midway between Soissons and Rheims.

The Germans apparently have engaged a minimum of 25 divisions before which the French and British in the front lines are putting up a dogged resistance, in order to permit reserves to intervene and turn the tide.

### Wilhelm Wins, Is Kaiser's Note to German Empress

AMSTERDAM, May 29.—The Kaiser is on the Aisne battle front, at a point south of Laon, according to a dispatch from Berlin today. Laon is 47 miles north and east of Soissons and about nine miles behind the original battle line.

Telegraphing from this point, the Kaiser sent the following message to the Kaiserin:

"With the crown prince attacked the English and French along the Chemin des Dames, completely surprising them.

"We have crossed the Aisne and are approaching the Vesle.

"Fritz (Prince Eitel Friederich), with the First guards infantry division, was one of the first to reach the Aisne.

"Our losses are slight. Tomorrow we will make further progress."

### LISTEN TO HUN PRESS AGENT "SLOP OVER" ABOUT KAISER

AMSTERDAM, May 29.—The Kaiser now has a special press agent, whose business it is to keep the German people in a properly worshipful attitude toward the all-highest.

Here's his latest effusion, describing how William, the Head Hun, and Hindenburg, the First Assistant Head Hun, started out for a motor tour of a battlefield.

"The supreme war lord clammers into the car. He summons Hindenburg to take a seat alongside of him, and even spreads the laprobe over the field marshal's knees with his own imperial hand.

"How knightly that is! It is more than that—it is a token of respectful solicitude. Cries of 'Hurrah' rend the air.

"The Kaiser and Hindenburg: What a spectacle! Ah, the sight of these two men together is enough to tell us that all is well.

"The troops are beside themselves with fervor. 'What a bit of luck,' they murmur gratefully, as the car, with its august passengers, fades from view."

### FATHERS PLEDGE HOME LOYALTY

University of Washington ambulance men who have been stationed at Allentown, Pa., since the outbreak of the war, will soon see active duty in France.

The Parents' association, made up largely of their parents, sent the boys a telegram Wednesday, which said in part:

"Boys, give loyalty. As the flag shall be borne unspotted, excited and victorious in the hands of our boys over every battlefield, so at home our fathers shall defend it from defamation and assault.

"Godspeed and God's blessing go with you."

### "Great Ball Game, Doc," Says Wounded Sammy After Cantigny Victory; His Pockets Bulge With Grenades

BY FRED S. FERGUSON  
United Press Correspondent

WITH THE AMERICANS IN PICARDY, May 29.—American troops charged to the capture of Cantigny yelling: "Now, we're in Germany. Let's wallop hell out of 'em and go on to Berlin!"

Back at headquarters, when the boys went over, officers waited anxiously for news of the attack. After 45 minutes of fighting, a voice came over the field telephone: "Hello! This is Cantigny."

And headquarters knew the Americans had taken one of the most important towns on the Aisne front and had won their biggest victory of the war to date.

Was Fast Work

The report came from a signal corps captain. Wire carriers, ignoring the German counter barrage, followed American infantry and French tanks in the attack. When Cantigny

fell the field telephone station was ready for business.

The attack took place over a front of more than a mile. Within 45 minutes after the infantry had gone over Cantigny, the chateau and several hundred yards of German second line trenches were American territory. The regiment sent back 182 prisoners, including five officers.

The wounded seem to be the happiest Americans in Picardy. I saw them in a tent field hospital today, laughing and cattering like magpies. Those in another tent had laughed and talked until they were tired, and were sleeping like babies.

Among the talkers, such expressions as these are illustrative of their spirits:

"It was the candy."

"Best fun I've had since the football game."

"I'd like to do it every day."

"That trench stuff made me

think war was a foolish game, but this is real sport."

After reaching the enemy trenches it was a game of hunting the boche machine guns. A corporal attacked an enemy machine gun crew of four men. The corporal was wounded five times, but he killed three boches and captured the fourth. He carried off the machine gun on his shoulder until his wounds forced him to lay it down.

The boches hid in the grass, in rye fields, in dugouts—anywhere where there was the slightest cover.

Then came the work with bayonets, grenades and flame throwers. Thirty Germans were incinerated in one dugout when they fired on the Americans after crying "kamerad."

Big cellars in Cantigny, where it was possible to conceal a hundred troops were smashed by American artillery. Enemy losses were prob-

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