

Minor Sees the Ghastly War Smile!



HE WOULD ONLY ANSWER, "I AM STRONG." I REPLIED, "SO AM I."

BY ROBERT MINOR
Famous Cartoonist and Correspondent.

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NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—When I sailed from New York in late September, I had a foolish notion that it took eight days to reach the war zone. That is what the steamship agent told me.
But when New York faded away and the straight horizon of the sea surrounded us, I discovered that the zone of war was wider than shown on the map, and the minute a man steps onto a belligerent nation's ship he comes into this sphere.
HIS NAME IS HATE.
He travels in the mails and on the printing press and on men's tongues. He was on that ship. The first day out, Hate stalked about the deck.

Whole passenger List Loses Its Head

It was a ship load of Hate. Hate is poison to the mind, and if ever one heard crazier conversations than were heard on that boat, I should like to know where it was.
It took but one day for the entire passenger list to lose its head. If you don't think that it was as bad as I say, hear this little incident of the second day out and then decide whether minds had not lost their moorings and quit all sane valuation of human life itself.

I was standing on the rear deck, watching the waves, when a big, fine looking French reservist, on his way back to fight for "la Patrie," came up to me with the pleasant question, "Chump overboard?"
I did not care to jump overboard and declined the invitation.
He didn't care to talk about anything else, and walked away on the other side of the ship.

Carries "Joke" to An Extreme Length

A few minutes later I turned to see him climbing over the railing. On the outside of the railing was a narrow ledge of iron sloping off and down the side of the ship.
He stood on this. Thinking he was a little too much of a practical joker, I went to him and suggested that he had better come in.
He shook his head and smiled.

Savers are Servants

All the wealth in the world is the sum total of the savings of individuals.
These individuals instead of consuming what has been created have stored it for use in further production. The most practical way for most persons to do their share of this is by using a bank—that's one of the chief reasons why we are in business.

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balancing himself on the edge.
"What are you going to do?" I asked. "Take a walk on the water?"
"No," he replied, "but come here."
When I came up to hear what he had to say, he caught the front of my coat in a firm grip, and tried more or less gently to persuade me to climb over the railing to the ledge outside.
I tried to get on the safe side of the rail, still thinking him either a little drunk or else a reckless joker.

A Smile It Was, But of a Desperate Nature

The iron grip tightened on my coat, and I looked into his eyes, there to see a sight to upset my calmness. He was smiling, but there was something desperate behind the smile.
I looked into those eyes for a long five minutes while each of us tested his strength to overcome the other. And in those eyes I saw tragedy.
There was no one but two of us in sight. The struggle became grimmer, and as each lost breath, a bit slower. Again I asked him what his purpose was.
He would only answer "I am strong."
I replied, "So am I." Both of us were.

After my mind had run the course of those thoughts to which one's last moments are usually devoted, I began to see that we were too evenly matched, that neither could budge the other. He released his hold and stood on the very edge of the incline, slippery with spray.
"Where are you going?" I said.
He waved his hand towards the sky.

"To heaven?" I asked, deciding that he really was crazy.
"No, to hell," he said.

Belgian Would Slaughter Women and Children

He lay down on his back on the ledge and said "Au revoir." I could not reach him. HE PUSHED HIMSELF OVER AND QUIETLY ROLLED INTO THE SEA.
I THREW him a life preserver, and then looked down to see whether he had caught it. Again I saw his eyes looking up at me from the foamy water with the same maniac smile.

HE CALMLY SWAM AWAY ON HIS BACK

I shouted "Man overboard!" running for help, but though the ship stopped, the coming night made search useless. I shall never forget that smile. IT WAS A WAR SMILE. It was the fore-runner of the many weird, insane things that I was to see in Crazyland.
After that smile, I understood better how it was that a Belgian traveling with his wife and baby could fiercely shout that all GERMAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN MUST BE SLAUGHTERED.

Professor Goes, Probably, to Face Firing Squad

Also I understood when the passengers, led by a temperamental French count, wanted to throw overboard a Russian professor, because his wife, a north Swiss, had a German accent. And when an ex-captain of the French army stopped another man from discussing the right or wrong of France's going to war, by announcing brutally, "IF YOU DISCUSS THAT, YOU ARE SHOT."

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Home Edition

TACOMA Public Library
WEATHER
Tacoma: Rain tonight and Sunday.
Washington: Same.

AVALANCHE HITS G. N. TRAIN; 20 CASUALTIES

WELLINGTON CATASTROPHE DUPLICATED

LEAVENWORTH, Wash., Jan. 22.—At the end of the tunnel opposite to the scene of the great Wellington wreck of 1910, tons of rock and snow went crashing down a ravine at 6:45 this morning and hurled two passenger coaches of Great Northern train No. 25 300 feet into a gulch completely burying them.

At least 20 passengers are believed to have been killed and injured. Five of the dead already have been dug out of the wreckage.

The Great Northern train, known as the Spokane Owl, was standing at the entrance of the Wellington tunnel waiting for word to clear the tracks ahead of debris when with a roar the great mass of earth and snow came crashing down the mountainside.

The smoking car, which contained 14 passengers and the diner were torn loose from the rest of the train and carried down the hillside. At the bottom they were buried deep in the pile of debris and snow.

One sleeping car was torn loose from the train, but hung tottering on the edge of the precipice. This "act of God," as the type of accident has been declared by the courts to be, occurred at Corea, at the east end of the horseshoe tunnel, after the train had stood at the entrance for more than an hour.

1910 Blunder Repeated.
Just as in the 1910 catastrophe, it is a puzzle today why the cars, bearing scores of passengers, were allowed to remain exposed to threatened snowfalls instead of being hauled a few feet to shelter within the tunnel.
That not more were killed and injured is believed to be due to the fact that most of the passengers still were in the sleeping coaches.

Rescue Train Sent.
The train left Spokane at 8:15 last night and was due in Seattle at 8:15 this morning.
A rescue train was rushed to the scene this noon from Leavenworth. It will probably be some time before the exact number of dead and injured and their identity can be determined.

ARTIST GIVES AWAY PRISONER

PORTLAND, Jan. 22.—Preserving his identity for more than a month in order to shield his family from disgrace, John Doe, on trial here for robbing the Multnomah station, was identified yesterday as Percy Campbell by his brother. An artist had made a court sketch of the prisoner.

Law Partnership Breaks Up With Divorce Action

The members of the law firm of Frank G. Riley and Mrs. Nelda Riley, his wife, apparently were unable to settle their differences out of court, for Mrs. Riley, through her attorney, Homer T. Bone, yesterday filed a suit for divorce in Judge Card's court, charging non-support and incompatibility of temperament.

After a brief secret hearing a decree was granted, and the bride's maiden name was restored.
Riley was a former athlete of the College of Puget Sound and also wrestling coach at the University of Washington. He is a well known attorney here, and was recently a candidate for the Tacoma school board.

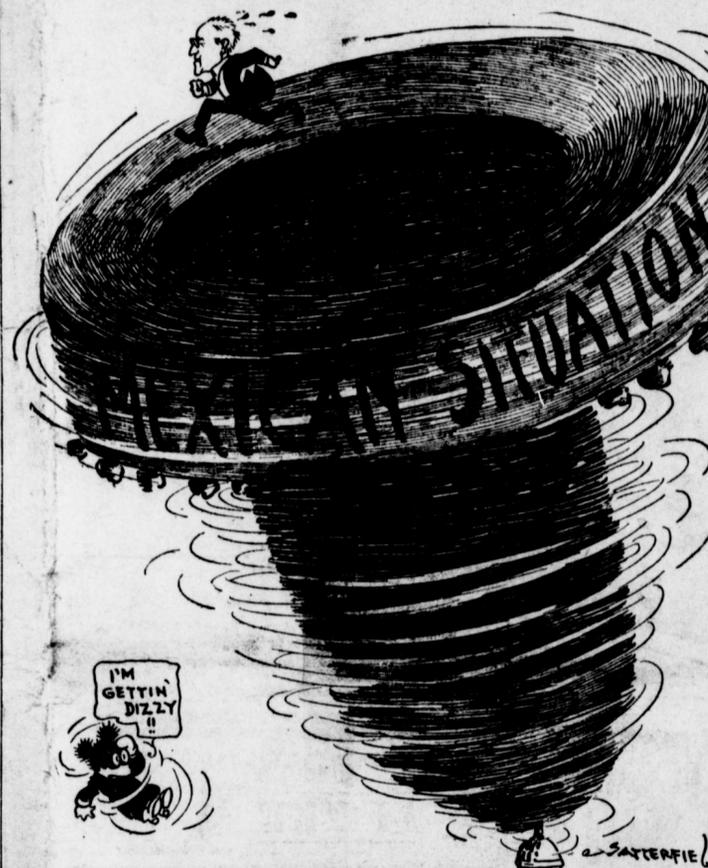
Mrs. Riley is a graduate of the University of Washington and was one of the most prominent women lawyers in the city. Before her marriage Mrs. Riley's name was Nelda Jaeger.

The two young barristers were married only last June and threw their fortunes together along the legal path, sealing a double partnership, with offices in the Fidelity building.

The first intimation that there was any friction in the firm was about a month ago, when the male member vacated and took offices in another building.

ROB GROCERY STORE
The grocery store of Ernest Meredith, 3639 South G street, was entered last night, and \$2 in cash together with some candy, stolen. Police officers attribute the crime to boys. An attempt was made to enter the Hicks drug store, 6th avenue and K street.

THE MERRY GO ROUND!



19 Homes Open to Boys

By E. A. Peters
Howard and Gene Wilson would interview him personally about the case today.
One woman declared that she would furnish a house with rent and wood free for a year for the family, in case Mrs. Wilson recovered from her illness, or would be glad to adopt the boys.
Tipton has a ranch in King county and would let the boys live with him there.

Mrs. Yenne of Puyallup has 10 children, but says that she was so touched by the pitiful circumstances of the two Wilson boys that she would gladly give one or both of them a home. All but three of her children are grown up.
The Big Brothers, a committee of the Tacoma Elks lodge, has offered assistance.
"There has been a wonderful response to the appeal for aid for these children," said Morals Officer Jurisch today.

"The Times did not exaggerate the case a bit. Of course, the boys are not starving now, because we sent them food. But they are in a terrible condition otherwise."

Expect German Navy to Fight

LONDON, Jan. 22.—England today anticipates an attack by German superdreadnaughts armed with 17-inch guns and capable of throwing shells weighing a ton 20 miles.
The naval critic of the News today reported the Germans are arming their new battleships with this formidable weapon. It is believed this is the same kind of a gun which bombarded Dunkirk several months ago.

The critic said that the gun outclasses anything in the British navy; hence the Germans may risk a sortie and challenge England's fleet.
The newspapers are filled with reports of a new German battle plane, called the Fokker, which has destroyed 16 British biplanes in recent months. One paper is convinced that several Fokkers will accompany the next Zeppelin raid in London.

What's Doing

Today
First big competitive shoot of Tacoma Women's Revolver club; 6h Holstetter range; 7:30 p. m.
Tomorrow
Address by Rev. E. C. Partidge, missionary to Turkey, at East Congregational church; 7:30 p. m.
Motion picture service; three full reels; First Congregational church; evening.
Musical program by orchestra of 35 pieces; First Methodist church; evening.
Address by Rev. C. W. Weyer on "A Legion of Devils"; Y. M. C. A.; 8:30 p. m.
Lecture by Prof. J. M. Bowman, under auspices Tacoma Central Labor Council; 9:45 1/2 Market street; 2:30 p. m.

Good morn'g. But we nearly forgot; we aren't going to say that any more. We have been called down. A sarcastic subscriber demands, "Why do you always say 'Good morning'? It is evening when I read your paper." So —
Greetings, how's your slush?
Speaking of slush, do you read the musical criticisms in the morning paper?
Headline in p. m. rival of ours: "Wants Beauties of Stellacom Advertised." Who can they mean—Ira Light or Valentine Eisenbeck?
Austria was so tickled about Montenegro's surrender (which Montenegro later reneged on) that she didn't save any enthusiasm for the future surrender of Great Britain.
We hate to give away a secret of the office, but the editor has a beautiful 1916 Southern Pacific calendar hanging directly over his desk.
The lady next door wants to know where she can get a good encyclopedia. She has the Britannica, and there's not a word about Mary Pickford.

GREAT PHONE FIGHT NEAR!

Beginning Monday Tacoma will be the center for at least a month of one of the great struggles over the regulation of public service corporations ever waged in the state.

The fight will occur at hearings to determine the ACTUAL VALUATION of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co.'s plants in Washington.

For more than two years the company has had a force of men at work preparing statements of its properties. Between 200 and 300 men have been engaged in the work, and it has cost the company fully \$200,000.

210 Volumes of Data.
The public service commission, which will conduct the hearings, has had another large force in the field and has accumulated a vast amount of evidence.

More than 200 complaints are on file.
One hundred and twenty-six exchanges were investigated.

The data already tabulated fills 210 volumes which, with other exhibits, constitutes a good truck load.
The object of the investigation is to determine, not what the company stocks and bonds may aggregate, but what its actual property is worth.

Forces Mobilizing.
When this figure is arrived at rates will be ordered lowered if it is shown that the present earnings are too high in proportion to the actual values of the plants.

J. H. Brown, secretary of the commission, today is in Tacoma arranging for the hearings. He expects to obtain the use of federal court room.

A whole battery of legal shars, and telephone experts is here, on the way, and both sides are preparing for a battle royal.

FLASHES

EL PASO.—Mexican thieves murdered B. L. Akers, his wife and three children near here today. Texas rangers are scouring the hills for the desperadoes.

COPENHAGEN.—More than 2,000 people were made homeless by a fire which destroyed a large section of the Norwegian town of Molde. The fire is still burning.

NEW YORK.—Mystery shrouds the origin of the fire aboard the steamer Syria, which put back to port today with a cargo of munitions consigned to the Russian government.

CHICAGO.—In a day light battle following the robbery of the Cook Tours Co., an officer was killed by William La Trasse, an escaped convict, who got away.

SAN FRANCISCO.—The mysteries of the Black Hand will be revealed Monday before the federal grand jury when the trial of Paul Teruao is resumed. He is charged with sending threatening letters through the mail.

JUNEAU.—A 70 mile gale and zero weather has halted all mining operations in this district.

CENTRALIA.—Several mills have begun operations after a long period of inactivity.

ST. LOUIS.—Joe Hing, Chinese restaurant keeper, resumed consciousness in time after being beaten and robbed by two bandits to shoot and kill one of them in a running duel.

BANDITS BLOW UP TRAIN; KILL 29

EL PASO, Jan. 22.—Bandits blew up a train near Pueblo yesterday, killing 29 persons, according to the statement of A. J. Trumbo, a mine owner, who arrived here yesterday.