

START DRIVE ON PARIS

Raging Battle of Verdun Develops Into Smash at French Capital

"THE RED EMERALD," John Reed Scott's gripping novel of love, and diplomacy, and adventure, will begin in The Times next Monday. It will be published in six daily installments, ending Saturday. It is to be the second in The Times' Novel-a-Week Series, in which a book-sized popular story is being given readers of this paper, COMPLETE EVERY WEEK. If you are not a regular reader of The Times, call Main 12, ask for the circulation department, and have the paper delivered.

Some smashing page—a page that every woman reader as well as every man reader enjoys—that Times sports and amusements page, isn't it?

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Night Edition

WEATHER
Tacoma: Fair tonight and Tuesday.
Washington: Same.

ATTACK TRAIN IN TACOMA YARDS

Diva or Vaudeville Star: Which, Think You Has It Right?

By Edgar C. Wheeler

Have we Americans drifted to a point where we fail to take life seriously?

Have we forgotten our homes and firesides, our interest in higher arts and sciences to revel in one grand roughhouse of low brow pleasure and jumpy enjoyment?

Grace Cameron, looking out at her audiences night after night from behind the footlights, says we have.

Opera to Vaudeville
Grace, as a girl of 17, found herself endowed with a beautiful voice. She spent thousands of dollars training it. By hard work she became an opera singer and one of a circle of distinguished eastern artists and musicians.

She began to see a realization of her dreams of highest artistic triumphs.

Today she is delighting her audiences at Pantages theater with hilarious rough and tumble stunts.

Just Wistful
She puts her act across by staging a "take off" of heavy grand opera and Willie Shakespeare tragedy stuff, the stuff that her girlhood dreams were made of. She bounces around on a mild rampage of heavy death scenes.

And she gets by. The audience laughs.

"I had to do it? I had to drift along with my audiences and give them what they wanted. I had to make my living," she says.

But she's not bitter about it; only a little wistful.

"I'm just like a rubber ball. You can't keep me still. And if the audiences want me to raise the ceiling rather than have me sing them sweet little songs, why not give them what they want? It's good fun, anyway," she adds.

Sees Great Change
From her place behind the footlights, she says she has seen a remarkable change come over U. S. people in the last five years. And she's in a position to know.

"Only a short time ago my audiences were delighted when I sang such a simple, artistic song. Now such a song falls flat.

"Nobody is serious any more. What people want nowadays is excitement and fun.

Women in Cafes
"Our women have forgotten about their homes and firesides. Every evening, from 5 to 7 you can see them in the cafes, instead. If I were their husbands, I'd want them to come home.

"And so gradually in the last few years the demands of audiences have forced me to drift from grand opera to musical comedy, then to high price vaudeville and now finally to the low priced vaudeville.

"There is no telling where the end will be.

Seriousness Back Number
"But I'm not kidding. I'm earning a living. The halls of grand opera are empty. High price vaudeville houses have closed their doors.

"Today hundreds of musicians and artists are walking the streets of New York, just because they think they're too good to drift along, satisfying the demands of modern audiences.

"Seriousness is a back number in America."

Never before have Americans been so serious as they are today.

Never before have they shown such keen appreciation of the highest forms of serious art.

Never before have audiences listened with such intelligent understanding to the best there is in music.

Emmy Destinn, prima donna of the grand opera, known to the world as probably its greatest dramatic soprano, said today that since she came to the U. S. seven years ago she has seen Americans take big strides in seriousness.

Will Become Citizen.
And to show that she means it, she expects to become a full-fledged U. S. citizen next year.

She took out her first papers two years ago and is only awaiting the time for the second to arrive.

We wish to apologize to madame for calling her a prima donna. She despises the name, she says.

Anything in the way of "temperamental" or "flashy" prima donnism doesn't go with her.

She's an all-round good American fellow and loves America.

She says this "temperamental" stuff is nothing more than plain "temper."

Want Real Art.
"It was not many years ago that a fellow with mediocre ability could let his hair grow, put on a 'temperamental' attitude, a good advertising manager and get away with it," she said this morning at the Tacoma hotel.

"But that kind of stuff doesn't go with American audiences any more. They have no use for sham. They want real art and real artists, or they don't want any at all.

"This to me is one of the most convincing signs of growing American seriousness."

The fact that it has been a bad season for grand opera managers is no sign that serious American interest is lagging, she declared.

"The truth is that the managers have been unable to get the singers. And without the best artists they cannot draw their audiences.

Why She'll Become Yankee.
"I myself like the concert work better than grand opera because there is more chance to assert my own individuality. I don't like the paint and powder and costumes which are destroyers of individuality."

"Why do I want to become a U. S. citizen? In the first place, because we foreigners should not come to America, make our money here and then desert America. In the second place, because I find Americans appreciate the best things.

"And then, just because I love America."

Mystery in Attempt On Slavic Mmunition Carrier

Sam Rusky, age 23, and John Ross, age 22, both Austrians, are held incommunicado at the Tacoma city jail today, and officers are scouring the city for 15 other Austrians, as the result of a bold attack made at 7:30 o'clock this morning on a Great Northern train, loaded with war munitions, as it passed through the Tacoma yards.

Although extreme secrecy has been maintained about the attack, railroad officials admit that a gang succeeded in cutting an air-hose connection between two cars, thus effectively stopping the train, as it was approaching the 15th street viaduct.

Hand-to-Hand Battle.
Railroad trainmen rushed on the group just as the men were boarding the stalled train.

A hand-to-hand battle followed, resulting in the trainmen's capturing Rusky and Ross.

The other men, estimated to number at least 15, made their escape.

The prisoners were turned over to Policeman Hines, and taken to jail.

They were roughly dressed, but unarmed. Both spoke English.

The freight had come from the east, and contained several cars of automobiles consigned to the Russian army, to be delivered at Vladivostok, and a number of other cars said to contain clothing and other munitions.

Great Secrecy Observed.
The train was bound for Seattle. Because of the Great Northern's traffic difficulties in the Cascade mountains, the heavy freight had been detoured via Spokane and Vancouver, Wash.

The munitions were to be discharged into steamers of the Hill line.

Railroad detectives, with Tacoma city detectives, are working secretly on the case.

No one has been allowed to interview or even see the two Austrians.

Looking for Others.
"All we can say now is that the attack was made," said Special Agent Montgomery of the Northern Pacific detective department.

"We do not know whether the group of men intended to dynamite the train or planned to beat off the trainmen and take possession of the cars. All we know is that these two men are in jail and we are looking for the others."

The train was reported later to have arrived safely at Smith's Cove.

FLASHES

PASSIAC, N. J.—A block of this city was swept by fire today, entailing a loss of \$300,000 and making 75 families homeless.

HAMMOND, Ind.—In answer to an editorial attack made on him by a Hammond newspaper, Theodore Roosevelt wrote a letter today explaining his action in 1905 with the Korea case which the editorial said was similar to that of Belgium.

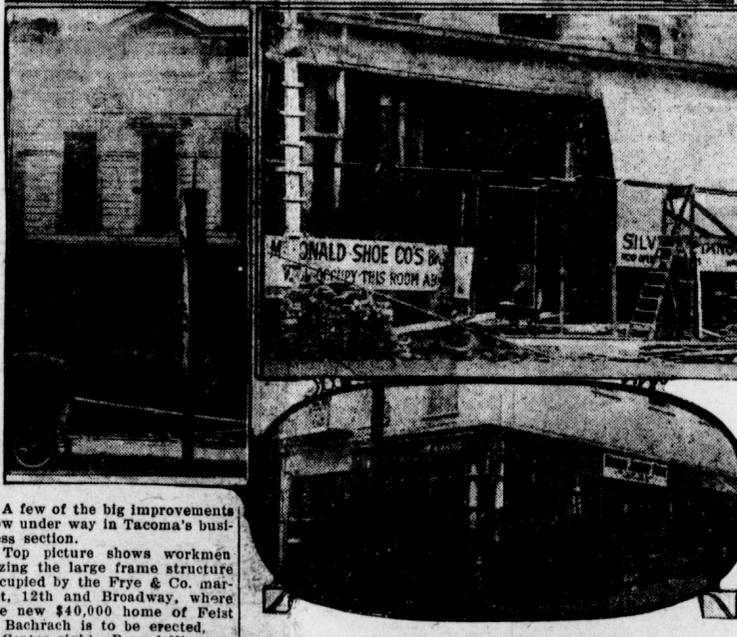
SEATTLE — Fire last night damaged the wholesale building of O'Callahan & Graham, entailing \$60,000 damages.

LONDON—The Petrograd correspondent in opinion that the should continue until conclusive victory.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Gore announced today that he would offer a resolution of American people announcing sentiment of congress to against Americans off armed belligerent ships.

DAHLONGEA, Ga.—Three men were drowned in an old well

This Means New Business for Tacoma



A few of the big improvements now under way in Tacoma's business section.

Top picture shows workmen razing the large frame structure occupied by the Frye & Co. market, 12th and Broadway, where the new \$40,000 home of Feist & Bachrach is to be erected.

Center right—Remodelling the Silvers Piano property on Broadway, in the Temple of Music, where the McDonald Shoe Co. and its consolidated stores will be located.

Left Center—The pioneer frame building on Pacific avenue adjoining the Berlin building, which is being torn down to make room for the new \$25,000 home of Drury, the tailor.

Bottom — Remodelling the Warburton building, 11th, Commerce and Broadway, at a cost of \$10,000.

Several new storerooms are being put into the 11th street side of the building.

today, while federal officers were destroying an illicit still. The men were attempting to bail out some of the liquor which had been poured in the well.

LINCOLN, Neb.—Three pieces of gas pipe were found in the furnace of the state capitol building shortly after an explosion. It is not known if the bombs were experimental ones made by the national guard or if they were placed there by fanatics.

Denies Jap Varn
LONDON, Feb. 24.—Reports that a Japanese fleet is in the Mediterranean are unfounded, the United Press was authoritatively informed today.

HALF MILLION MEN ENGAGE IN STRUGGLE

LONDON, Feb. 24.—The Germans have begun another drive toward Paris.

The Crown Prince's offensive against Verdun is the beginning of a renewed drive on the French capital, Amsterdam advices from Berlin indicated today.

The plan is to wreck the Verdun fortress, then begin a great smash toward Paris, 130 miles away.

Berlin is reported to believe that the fall of Verdun would mark the beginning of the end of the war.

Half a million men are engaged in the struggle in the woods to the north and northeast of the fortress.

Amsterdam reported today that the Teuton losses have been the largest in five months. A Paris dispatch, emphasizing the importance of the conflict, said the tremendous German losses have assured the defeat of the Verdun campaign.

Victory involves too great a sacrifice, the report said.

FRENCH EVACUATE

PARIS, Feb. 24.—The French have evacuated Brabant Sur Meuse, eight miles north of Verdun under a heavy attack, the communique admitted today.

KAISER ON GROUND

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 24.—The Kaiser arrived today at Verdun front to encourage his men.

He addressed them, urging them to conquer Verdun at any cost.

CAPTURE VILLAGES

BERLIN, Feb. 24.—Headquarters announced today the capture of Brabant Sur Meuse, Haumont woods, Samogneux, Jood and Herbs. Also the wooded districts northwest of Beaumont.

These villages are within a radius of seven miles of the Verdun forts, against which the drive is directed.

REPULSED AT BRABANT
PARIS, Feb. 24.—After capturing Brabant the Germans were repulsed while storming Samogneux, six miles from Verdun. Both sides lost heavily.

The German center made a fresh attack on Beaumont, seven miles northeast of Verdun, and were repulsed, the communique said today.

Infantry night attacks were frequent along the eight-mile front from Brabant to Beaumont.

Wow! Two Surprising Letters On Decollete

Editor The Times: In one of your interesting articles on decollete gowns you say that you know of cases where girls in restaurants and ice cream parlors lost their jobs because they refused to dress more modestly.

Well, I wouldn't doubt your word, but let me tell you, Mr. Editor, that I know of other girls—several of them—who have been FIRED from their jobs because they wouldn't expose as much of their persons as their employers wanted them to.

And I think you are familiar enough with what is going on in Tacoma so that you won't doubt my word on that either.

A WORKING GIRL.

A NEW PROPOSAL
Dear Editor The Times: Opinions appear to agree that the question of lowness or highness of women's dress depends a good deal on what we're accustomed to.

Also, that the only possible immoral effect of "the descending depths of the decollete" would lie in their suggestiveness—in what they conceal to the imagination of the evil-minded, rather than in what they actually expose to view.

If all this is true, why not settle the whole question by having a decree issued that all women's gowns shall be worn beginning from the waist down, at least during the warm months of the year? In winter, no gowns lower than

Talk o' the Times

Greetings, isn't "The Rose Garden Husband" exciting? We think we know how to pronounce "Emmy."

We're not quite so certain about "Destinn." But if it's spoken like it's spelled, we're willing that Tacoma be called the City of Destiny. Personally, we're very Destiny. For Emmy—well, Emmy goes on our list of favorites along with Kreisler, Tetraxini, Pavlova, Maude Adams and Mary Pickford.

D'Loss Sutherland got so wrapped up in the Novel-a-Week that he read the rest of the installments of "The Rose Garden Husband" when the editor wasn't looking," then sat up last night to plough through "The Red Emerald" that's coming out next week.

After collob finishes with the alleged defamers of Geo. Washington we hope he will prosecute with due diligence all those low anarchists who have been maligning Nero, Machiavelli and Judas Iscariot these many years.

Snoozenledger finds another mass of crime committed by Louis Brandeis. Tough guy, that Louis.

FLOSSIE FLIM FLAM'S ANSWERS

GUY LEWELLYN—You're right! Leonard Lurch was the man who played in that intensely dramatic scene where he frowned at the broom handle in "Frowsy Freda, the Chambermaid."

The lady next door, who rode out on the traction car yesterday, wants to know what the sign on the ball park means. It reads: "Bioschers 25 cents, children 10 cents."

QUAINT FACES
From the Directory.
Archie Little.
Arthur Drips
of Fred Waters
Thomas W. Little
Fred Bits
of Ole J. Sands
make a, etc.

Pass the Word Along

At no time in the history of the world has there been an opportunity to enter business and carry it on successfully as the present, but success means a connection with the

PUGET SOUND STATE BANK
H. N. TINKER, President.

What's Doing

Today
Sixteenth annual banquet of Tacoma retail grocers; Lotus grill; evening.

Y. W. C. A. women conduct campaign for \$5,000 to run association this year.

Tomorrow
Entire membership of civic bureau of Commercial club meets; noon; to inaugurate campaign for civic betterment.

Women of Y. W. C. A. continue campaign to raise \$5,000.