

# DRAMATIC RIDE IN RUSS TRAIN

### With Bands of Germans About, Engineer Shot, Rescue is Effected.

Petrograd, March 22.—The exploit of a Russian military locomotive engineer who ran his engine through the enemy's lines effecting the rescue of a number of stranded Russian passengers from a train disabled by the Germans is recounted by one of the members of the engine crew. The episode took place near Grodno during the recent German advance in that neighborhood.

"About 2 o'clock in the morning," said the narrator, "our passenger train arrived at the station V—. We were ordered to detach our engine and proceed with all possible speed to the station ahead and bring back our sentinels who were on guard there. On our way we noticed a detachment of the German cavalry within a few hundred yards of the tracks behind us. We wanted to turn back but when we attempted to we found our way barred by railroad ties which the Germans had placed on the tracks. The only thing left to do was go ahead.

"Some distance further along we found a section of a passenger train which had been left behind. We managed to hook onto these cars which were filled with frightened passengers and started towing them to a point where we knew there was a branch line. Over this line we encountered more obstacles in the way of old ties piled on the tracks, but we ran through them taking a chance on being derailed. When the Germans noticed that their barriers had failed to stop us they opened up on us with their rifles. Our soldiers replied as we sped along. One of the enemy's bullets pierced our tank and another bored a hole through the flues in the engine boiler.

"We had put out our headlight, but

the escaping steam lit up by the glow from the fire box enabled the Germans to locate us. One bullet later killed the engineer, another hit the officer in the face. The fireman opened the clenched hand of the dead engineer and took the throttle. A German Uhlan appeared and shouted stop. He fired at us but missed. Our bullets got him. The German cavalry continued to shout at us but we went ahead unharmed at a speed of about thirty miles an hour and reached our lines in safety."

## FIVE AMERICANS IN THE COLONY

Stockholm, March 22.—The diplomatic corps of Stockholm is unique in one particular when compared with the corps in other European capitals. At a dinner given recently by a member of the diplomatic corps here, the guests were amusing themselves by counting the number of their respective citizens within their circle. Ira Nelson Morris, the American minister, carried off first honors, for it was found that he could muster five real Americans in the local corps. These include, besides Mr. and Mrs. Morris, the wife of the French Minister, Mme. Thiebaut, who was Miss Bell of Washington; the wife of the German minister, Mrs. von Reichenau, formerly of New York, and the wife of the Swedish minister to Turkey, Mme. Anckarsward, who was Miss Durvea of New York.

## ASK CUSTOMERS TO CONSERVE OIL

Berlin, March 22.—A number of commercial organizations have issued an appeal to the shopping public to avail itself as little as possible of the delivery system for purchases, in order that gasoline and tires may be saved for possible future eventualities. "It is a patriotic necessity of the greatest importance," says the appeal, "to avoid every possible unnecessary and superfluous use of the delivery system. In such cases, however, where it is necessary, bear in mind the country's interests and do not insist on deliveries at stipulated hours."

It is pointed out that not only does every delivery use up gasoline that may be necessary for military purposes, but that horses must be fed in greater quantity if they are used in this way.

## WITH THE BRITISH ARMY ON THE WESTERN BATTLE FRONT



British artillery battery at Lille (top); English soldier hurling bomb into German trenches.

The efficiency of the British artillery is now first realized after their remarkable exploit of driving the Germans out of four miles of trenches in the region of Lille by their concentrated fire. It is believed in military circles that the promised onslaught of the allies in the spring has started and that the gains just made by the British are only the beginning of a well planned drive at the German

## NIGHT IN TRENCHES MOST WEIRD OF ALL SCENES ON BATTLE LINES

Phil Rader, in Fourth Letter to The Herald, Describes Conditions—Mad Hours of Waiting, With Cannon and Machine Guns Working.

(By Phil Rader. Written for the United Press. Copyright, 1915, by the United Press.)

London, March 20.—The most picturesque and weird hours of all the life in the trenches is the time between sunset and the fall of darkness.

If the real picture were put on the stage it would not be believed. As you see it and watch it yourself, you feel that your eyes and mind are deceiving you. As the sun sinks and glows and the shadows grow longer, the gulch of the trench fills with early night. It begins to grow cold and the frost crystals form on the muddy sides of the trenches, giving the effect of tinsel or bits of bright stones. The darkness of the trench is broken now and then by the flare of a cigaret, puffed nervously or by the flare of a rifle.

Silhouetted against the red sky is the eerie figure of a legion soldier, his glittering bayonet protruding above the trench walls and catching the dying glare of the sunlight. Further along are the ugly shadows of the machine guns, brightened by the polished brass work.

As the darkness grows deeper you

catch a glimpse of a sharp pin point of light on a distant hill, which flickers in the shadow, a signal of a battery to its comrades a mile distant. They are thinking some new plot to kill human beings. There is a rattle of rifle and then quick flashes, first at one point of your trench and then in another. From away off comes the putt, putt, putt of a Maxim gun. Nightfall is the machine gun's hour. During the hours of daylight, the machine gunners got their ranges and fixed their aims and now in the darkness, when their precious guns are safest from the sharpshooters, they flare out the result of the day's work.

From distant corners of the compass come the roar of deep throated batteries.

The stars seem all the brighter, because you are gazing at them from the bottom of your black trench. Suddenly the sky is bisected by an arc of sparks, terminated by a beautiful glare of pure white light, which transforms night into day for the space of many seconds. It is a night light sent up by the enemy so that they can see what they are doing, we might possibly they think, be out of our trenches, without bayonets fixed, charging upon them in the darkness. As the light fades away, the night seems darker than ever.

The bullets whistle and shriek overhead almost instantly and all the night it will be like this, noises and lights, noises and lights. The night is filled with danger and surprises. Daylight changes were never made. It was in the night time, in the smallest wisdest hours that either the Germans left their trenches, or the French, to run ahead into a hand to hand stabbing affair, with the enemy.

The grey of the morning is a sight to cheer. In our trenches we looked to see if we could see the legs of the corpse caught in the barbed wire, which had been fluttering there for some time, still in place. The dead man lay there through the nights and days. The French called this grotesque heap the juggler because it was stretched out in the fashion jugglers adopt.

When the rage of the juggler were plainly seen, then we knew the morning had really come, and their night of madness had passed and we might sleep until the night lights and the night noises broke out again at sunset.

Berlin, March 22, (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—Some new lights are shed upon the personality of the now famous Field Marshal von Hindenburg in a sketch of him brought out by a Berlin publisher.

He was not a particularly promising pupil in his early school days it appears. When he left his first school at Glogau at the age of twelve to enter a military school his certificate mentioned that he had failed to come up to requirements in mathematics, the branch which is regarded as especially the basis of a military education. Though Hindenburg is now described as a man of few words, his certificate at that time said that "talking too much in school" was the only exception to his otherwise good behavior. His status in Latin, German, French and geography, however, was just good enough to pass him, and so the teachers recommended him for promotion at the military school and sent him on his way "with God's blessing."

In 1864 when the boy saw his elder companions going away to the Danish wars against Austria he joined them, his military ambition having already been kindled. When about to start two years later to win his spurs in the wars against Austria he wrote to his parents: "It is high time that the Hindenburgs again smelt gunpowder. In that respect our family has been singularly neglected." He looked forward to his military career with the usual joyous confidence of the young officer: "I re rejoice in this future filled with bright colors, for to a soldier war is the normal condition, and besides that, I am in God's hands. If I fall it is the most beautiful and glorious death; if I am wounded it can only be of good service to me, and if I return unscathed all the better."

His sister writes of him as follows: "His military calling was ever the center of all his thoughts and brooding. Even as a cadet of ten years he would run along by the side of his father's company while exercising. When he was young officer he would come home on a furlough and we took walks together he would often stop on the top of a hill, survey the surroundings with every word for a long time, after which he would begin to describe to us a plan for a battle there. Then during the evening at home he would take a man of the general staff and bending down to study it carefully, making measurements from time to time. He was a battle-thinker."

"On his desk he keeps a card in view with the inscription in Latin 'work and pray.' It had formerly stood on our father's desk. When hundreds of his friends halted his friends halted his automobile at Graudenz and jubilantly honored him for his victory, some climbing into the car to get a sight of him, he made an upward gesture with the hand and said 'Thank Him up there'—and drove rapidly away."

## MILITARY DRILL NOT SANCTIONED

London, March 22.—The recent refusal of the educational authorities to sanction the introduction of military drill in the elementary schools of London and other cities has caused much consternation, and the matter has been taken up by several members of parliament, who propose to see that it is discussed during the present session.

In the house of lords, the matter has been brought to the attention of members by a motion introduced by Lord Willoughby de Broke: "That in the opinion of this house, definite military drill, including the use of arms, should from henceforth form part of our national system of education; and that cadet corps with universal membership thereof should be by law established in all male public schools and colleges in the United Kingdom."

Moscow, March 22.—A report issued by General Candetki, military governor of Moscow, indicates that a very large percentage of men brought to the hospitals from the front prove to be entirely sound upon examination. An hospital, out of 1,136 patients, only thirty-three were seriously in need of treatment. The report contained a reprimand to the hospital authorities for allowing men capable of continued service to become inmates of the hospitals.

Geneva, March 22.—Some of the fighting between the Germans and French has been so uncomfortably close to Swiss territory, that in an artillery engagement recently five shells fell in Switzerland. Two Swiss engineers, who were working nearby, were knocked down by the concussion, although not seriously hurt.

On the previous day, the French

had established a battery of heavy guns near Point 510, close to the Swiss frontier. This was apparently located by a German airman, but the French observers had seen him reconnoitering and promptly moved their battery back a mile or two the same night. But early the next day the Germans fired for some hours on the spot where the guns had been, and five of their shells came across the border.

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