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VIVID STORY NARRATED BY SGT. HUGUET

Hero of Marine Modestly But Graphically Describes Memorable Engagement--Reasons for Success.

"The sword must never be sheathed until Germany is crushed. Not that we desire Germany's downfall in itself, but that ugly nightmare of Britain and France for so many years—German militarism—must go. Not because we love war, but because we hate it, we will fight it out to the finish."

Sergeant Georges Huguet of the French army, who spoke Thursday evening at the Chateau Laurier, thus sums up the determination of his fellow soldiers and the feeling of the allied armies. Sergeant Huguet, who spoke under the auspices of L'Alliance Francaise, was warmly greeted by a densely packed audience of Ottawa's best people.

With his trim military figure garbed in the picturesque uniform of the 1st Regiment of French Colonial Infantry, he looked every inch a soldier. Returning to Canada severely wounded at the battle of the Marne, he is now completely recovered and left this morning at 9 o'clock for New York en route for France to rejoin his regiment. A French reservist, Sergeant Huguet proudly claims Canada as his adopted country, and his many friends wished him a hearty au revoir as they shook hands with him after the lecture.

"What does it feel like when one is charging with the bayonet?" asked the sergeant, as he modestly told of his part in the battle. "Well, it is very difficult to describe. One vaguely wonders which of the three of four men just in front he will attack first. He doesn't know what happens next. 'Have I knocked over any Germans?' he asks himself. 'I must have done so, for see, my bayonet is crimson with blood!' and onward he rushes again.

The Senegalese. Of a deep black color, lithe crouching, his rifle in his left hand, his terrible African rapier knife, sharp as a razor, in his right, on comes the Senegalese infantryman doing terrible execution in the German ranks. He is blindly obedient to his officers, thoroughly disciplined. His costume is picturesque. If he feels like wearing boots occasionally he takes them from the Germans.

The French Colonial Infantry, originally recruited to guard French territory abroad, has a proud record, albeit largely composed of wild young fellows, younger sons who were under a cloud at home and are anxious to retrieve themselves, and other rolling stones. They fired the last cartridge in the Franco-German war of 1870-71—they were the first to take up arms in 1914. Marching past the rich farms of Northern France, last fall some of these men cast longing eyes on the fat chickens, ducks and geese they were strictly forbidden to take. Though fresh beef was served out every day sundry fine birds were discovered cooking in the regimental pots by a captain. "Who stole these geese?" he roared. "Why, mon capitaine," expostulated one of the culprits, "what could we do? We were marching peacefully along the road. We were suddenly, savagely, attacked by these ferocious ganders. We had to defend ourselves, and—les volles, in these stew-pots."

From Marne to Aisne. Germany paid with the lives of some 85,000 soldiers, in the retreat from the Marne to the Aisne, for her invasion of France, and Sergeant Huguet's vivid description of this and of the retreat from Charleroi was of great military and tactical interest. The worn-out, bedraggled men from Charleroi, meeting the dapper Colonial Infantry fresh from Cherbourg, greeted them with "Aha! brand new soldiers, eh? You'll soon know what real war is like." And so they did. Rear guard actions with orders to fight as long as possible and then retreat; 3 hours sleep out of 24 for interminable days after days; retreat, retreat, always retreat; no food but army biscuit and coffee, as the smoke of cooking fires would discover them to the enemy; the bloody shoulders from the heavy haversacks, the ruined feet from the sticky mud—and then, Joffre's famous order: "Let each man die in his tracks rather than retreat a step farther." The savage joy of turning on the foe, driving him back first foot by foot, then metre by metre; then the German rout. "Here we first saw the real horrors of war," said the sergeant. "Thousands of German corpses for miles and miles, churches and barns filled with German wounded abandoned by the enemy to their

fate; helmets, rifles, food, wreckage of all kinds. First the French stopped to pick up relics, but finally threw them all away, and kept hustling the retreating enemy literally on the points of their bayonets.

"We will have lots of time to pick up relics on our return from Berlin," said Sergeant Huguet.

Successful Defence.

One of the best bits of description ever given in Ottawa was the sergeant's description of the defence of the stone house by his company. "It was very like the old stone houses around Quebec. These latter are said to be cold, but ours was good and hot," said he. Lamps, oils, and all inflammables were thrown into the canal, mattresses, utilized for barricades, triple rows of barbed wire set up outside. Each man had 640 cartridges. Explosives were placed in the cellar to blow up the place if all were killed; then came the German rush. It failed, but at nightfall 21 only out of 57 defenders were living. Next day in the counter attack Sergt. Huguet's left arm was shattered. He lay for two days with hundreds of others under the cross fire of the opposing armies. They sucked the water out of their rain-soaked clothes. They chewed the kernels of wheat, but most of it was rotted by rain. He asked a passing German for water. The latter picked up his rifle, smashed it and passed on. Finally they heard the roar of the French mitrailleuse, and knew help was near, for the experienced ear detects the different reports of the German weapon, which fires only 300 a minute, from the French, which fires 800 times in the same interval.

Making of Soldiers. "Knowing how to use a rifle and manoeuvre does not make a soldier of a man. It is not power of the arm, but firmness of soul, he needs," said the lecturer, "for after all a man can endure only a certain amount of terror. The spirit of sacrifice, of honor, or duty, of discipline from conviction not from force, must be his. We possess this more than do the Germans—therefore the Allies will win."

Sergt. Huguet set right many popular fallacies regarding military tactics, notably as to the employment of the tirailleurs or sharpshooters. All batteries, he said, keep with them some infantrymen to prevent the enemy rushing the guns. President De Celles exactly voiced what all present felt, that our men who go voluntarily to the great war are greater heroes than the Spartans at Thermopylae, who had to fight whether they liked it or not. Sergt. Huguet has been living in Ottawa for a number of years and was one of the first reservists to return to the colors. His wife died in Ottawa while he was away.

WAR COST JAPAN \$50,000,000

Tokio, May 28.—Discussing in the Diet the Government's need for supplemental credits, Count Okuma, the Premier, said the failure of the Diet which was dissolved to adopt the budget of 1915-16 had compelled the Government to follow the budget of the previous year, which was insufficient for the nation's needs today.

Foreign Minister Kato, who followed the Premier, sketched at length the negotiations with China, and said treaties and notes with that nation soon would be signed and presented to the Emperor for ratification. All these documents later will be submitted to the Diet.

"When these agreements come into force," aron Kato said, "we will see the solution of a most important question which long has been pending between Japan and China to the detriment of their cordial relations. The results will be strengthened of friendship and a solidification of the peace of the Orient. He made no reference to the attitude of other Powers.

Minister of Finance Wakatsuki announced that the supplemental budget would call for \$26,000,000, which would be used for the creation of two new army divisions, naval construction, educational, industrial and harbor works. The allotment for the navy is \$6,000,000, but no details were given as to the purpose for which it would be used. A request was made for \$5,500,000 to conduct the war for the next five months, and \$2,500,000 for war incidentals. The Finance Minister told the Diet the war expenditures up to the present time had been approximately \$50,000,000.

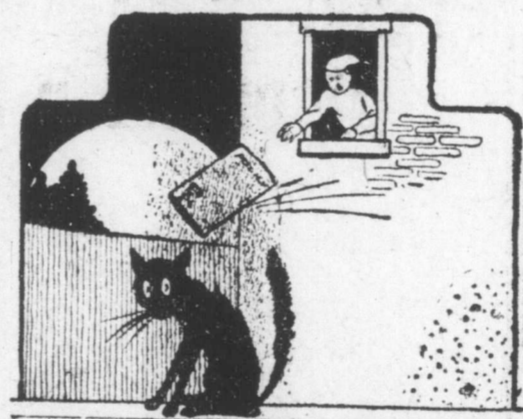
An American Review Of Lord Kitchener

Northcliffe's Attacks Are for Partizan Purposes London Papers Defend Kitchener

The upflare of criticism against Lord Kitchener is in part what the Liberal press describes it, a set attack by Lord Northcliffe's newspapers for partisan purposes. Having found the enemy—that is, the Liberal Government—on the run, the assault which began with Churchill has extended all along the line. Probably, there would have been no attack by Northcliffe if all had gone well with the British campaigns on land. It may very well be that Kitchener has partly failed to measure up to his task, in which respect he shares the fate that has overtaken leaders in other nations. If there is one thing an ambitious military leader or administrator should desire at the beginning of a war, it is that the post of honor should go to his dearest rival. This rival may be counted on to commit the inevitable errors that mark the beginning of nearly every war, and then to make room for some one else who will profit by his errors.

No nation has been spared this experience. The Kaiser was compelled to change his chief of staff; the Austrian generals who led the armies at the outbreak of hostilities are in retirement; the men who began the war for France are not the men who now dictate policies; in Russia by this time the reputation of the Grand Duke Nicholas is not what it might be. It would have been odd if Kitchener had escaped the common experience; all the more odd because his task was enormous. For to him fell more than the task of handling a ready machine, as with the Continental armies. Kitchener had to build his machine under fire. The mistake he has made consists primarily in assuming more responsibilities than it was humanly possible for him to justify.

The original cause of the crisis has, however, been somewhat obscured by a virulent attack on Lord Kitchener, organized by the newspapers (The Times and The Daily Mail) under the control of the notorious Lord Northcliffe. For once, however, if we may judge by the readiness shown by the decent section, both Liberal and Conservative, of the London press to take up the cudgels on behalf of Lord Kitchener, Lord Northcliffe appears to have overreached himself in his mania for sensationalism.—Nation.



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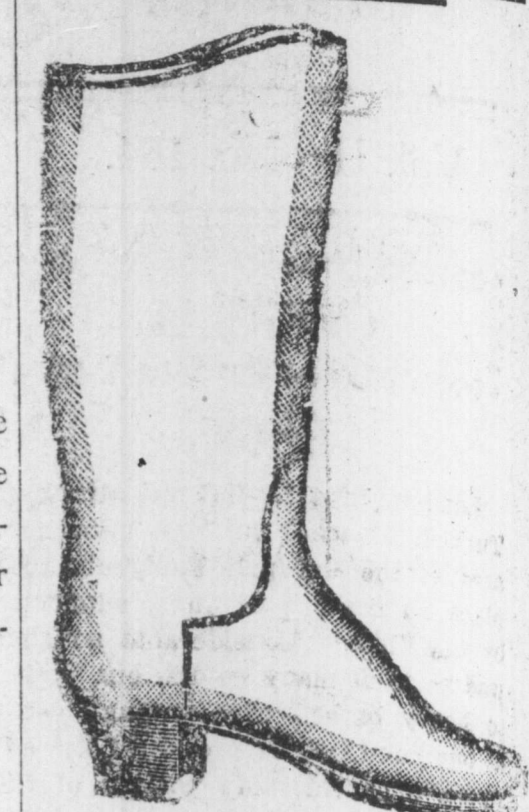
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