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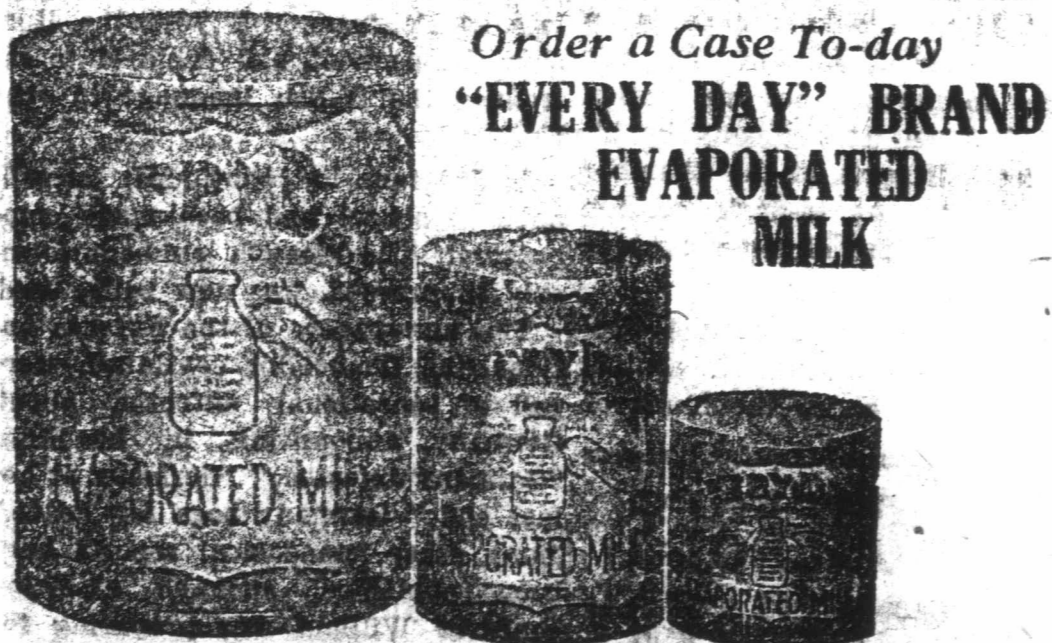
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NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

ALL SUBSCRIBERS for the Daily and Weekly issues of THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE will please observe that after JANUARY 1st, 1916, their names will be removed from the list of subscribers and the paper discontinued unless their subscriptions have been renewed by the end of this year. No subscription for less than six months will be accepted. The subscription for the Daily paper is at the rate of \$2 per year and the Weekly 50 cents per year.

RUINS OF ARRAS NOT A HOUSE UNSHELLED

The following interesting details of life at Arras are given by Mr. Warner Allen, the special representative of the British Press with the French armies:

Life in Arras today is not unlike what it was in the seventeenth century, when Arras was a beleaguered city. Provisions are plentiful, and there is communication with the outside world, but the pull of the bombardment is a hundred times greater. Then the people hid their cattle and themselves in enormous cellars stretching from house to house beneath the streets, which they called "caves"; today these same cellars give them shelter against German shells.

Of its 25,000 inhabitants, some 800, perhaps, still remain in Arras, and there is not a single house that has not received its shell. There are still one or two shops open. One of them is kept by a mother and daughter who have never and who left the town thru the unending bombardment that has lasted more than a year. The daughter, a girl of twenty, told us they had had only two shells in the house, which had reduced the back rooms to matchwood, but the front rooms were in excellent condition.

Contempt for Danger.

The contempt for danger is general. In the Grand Place I saw an old market woman sitting with her dog in the sun and both of them fast asleep. The noise of guns was incessant. A big shell came, but she did not move, though a minute later she was disturbed by a warning whistle to take cover. She moved slowly, calling the dog, to a cellar a yard or two away, waited a little, and then, as nothing happened, went back to sleep again.

When the owner of one house left the town on the advance of the Germans, he buried under a tree in his garden £60,000, in notes and stocks and shares. Later he returned to dig for his treasure. He dug and dug and still his spade did not strike the chest. The Germans began to bombard the town with exceptional violence. Then he began to dig madly under another tree, and found the still unopened chest. He had forgotten the tree under which he had buried it.

Unseen Hostile Eyes.

Arras, with its deserted streets, shattered houses, and the grass growing between the cobble, is particularly impressive. Everywhere one has the uneasy feeling that one is being watched by unseen hostile eyes, and the impression is correct enough, for a considerable part of the town is commanded by the German observation posts.

In the station my companion, Captain Semenov, was saluted by a German bullet, which hit the wall behind him and fell to the ground at his feet. There are barricades and barbed-wire entanglements everywhere, and the Germans are welcome to try to storm Arras when they please. As for the houses, they sometimes provide that mixture of comedy and tragedy which moves at once to tears and laughter. Some there are from which the front wall has been shorn clean away, leaving three or four rooms one above the other open to the public gaze like a scene at a theatre.

At the back of such rooms all the treasured objects are still where loving hands had placed them—pictures on the walls, a bookcase full of books, pianos with photograph frames still upon it. In front of them are chairs, tables, cupboards and the like, with two or three legs still on the parquet floor, and the rest balanced in defiance of all the laws of equilibrium over the nothingness where the shell passed. Some houses seemed at first sight to have escaped damage, and it was only when one looked more closely that one saw they were nothing but a facade and that their windows were like the eyes of a blind man.

Cathedral Soldier-Artist.

Despite bombardment, the streets of Arras are admirably kept. When a shell tears a hole in the roadway the hole is first of all fenced off—a very necessary precaution, since some of the projectiles have broken through the vault of deep cellars, opening a chasm fifty feet deep. Then, when possible, the hole is filled with debris and cobbles are laid down.

Arras might well be called a city of the dead if it did not lack the most impressive mark of desolation—silence. Almost always there is the roar of cannon and the wild hurle of huge projectiles that tear through the air with the noise of a runaway train on invisible rails far above.

For ten minutes or so I experienced the silence of Arras—a silence sadder and more oppressive than the silence of a desert. Evening was closing in and the guns had ceased. We were in the cathedral, which in

the past was an ugly eighteenth-century building, heavy and ungraceful. Now, however, great clefts have been opened in its sides and roof, letting in a glorious vision of the sunset sky. Its masonry, threatening to fall at any moment, hangs suspended as though it were lighter than air, and huge arches still remain aloft, balanced, fantastically beyond the maddest dreams of architecture, on a single column.

We found only one person in the cathedral, a bearded soldier who before the war was a well-known artist. He was painting the strange vision of the half-ruined cathedral.

A few minutes later the truce was ended. The guns broke out anew.

One Man Lives Out of 600

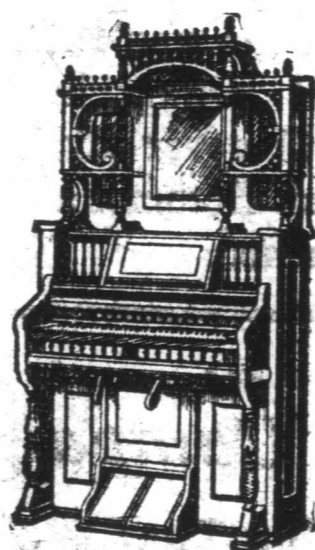
Some fresh details regarding the famous charge of the Australian Light Horse brigade against the Turks on the Nek, in which the best part of three Australian regiments participated and only one man returned alive, have just reached British headquarters through a Turkish prisoner.

The prisoner was able to state positively, what many Australians who witnessed the charge had suspected, that during the attack the Turks lost not a single man. They received a special complimentary order from their general and several medals and a good many promotions.

The Australians' charge followed a long period of bombardment.

"As soon as the bombardment stopped," said the Turkish prisoner, "the English (the Turks call all the British troops, whether home or colonial by the name 'English') leaped over the parapet and charged down upon us. They came on well. As soon as they appeared every rifle in the place opened upon them direct across the Nek and a machine gun with its crossfire from the right swept them sheer off the face of the earth. Three of them managed to reach our trench and fell dead over the parapet into the bottom of it."

As for the men of the Light Horse brigade—after three months in the trenches, with many of them sick and some of the weak, with every officer and man at his appointed place, the instant the word was given they leaped from their trench and rushed on death—the first line may not have known it was death—the third line must have known it. And they died.



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British Blockade In Baltic Keeps Iron from Germany

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Nov. 30.—

Swedish iron mine owners state that the British submarine blockade will result in a complete stoppage of Germany's large iron importation from this country. Iron ore is not contraband, and could ordinarily be shipped on neutral vessels, but at present all Swedish and other neutral shipping is otherwise engaged, and no vessels are available.

Figures at hand show to what extent the exportation of iron ore has been concentrated on the Baltic and show shipping has decreased, owing to the risk of capture by British cruisers. In the year 1913, 3,180,000 tons of iron ore were shipped from Narvik, and 2,320,000 tons in 1914; and, according to reports of the current year, the total shipping of iron ore will not be over 1,200,000 tons. From Lulea, on the other hand, the amount of iron ore exported has increased from 900,000 tons—last year's figures—to 2,198,000, with one month of the shipping season still unreported. Other Baltic ports record a like increase.

The present stoppage of the iron ore trade is a heavy blow to Sweden, but the Swedish press, realizing Great Britain's necessity, has indulged in neither bitterness nor complaint.

German ships are now playing a difficult game. Navigating close to the shore in order to be in neutral waters is not easy during the best season, and with the rough seas of winter it will be particularly hazardous.

War Still Being Waged in Mexico

DOUGLAS, Ariz., Dec. 2.—Virtually cut off from the border, his forces scattered over a wide stretch of country Gen. Francisco Villa continues to defy the Carranza forces under the command of General Alvaro Obregon, to wrest from him the last vestige of power in northern Mexico.

Advices from Nogales say that Villa is making efforts to get in touch with Gen. Rodriguez who eluded Obregon's forces at Cananea last week. Villa, it is said, is anxious to divert Rodriguez's column south to assist in the renewed attack on Hermosillo, capital of the state of Sonora, where desperate fighting is reported to have been in progress for two days.

Gen. Obregon, whose headquarters has been established at Santa Cruz, reported last week that a Villa detachment under Gen. Acosta, had been repulsed after several hours' fighting a few miles west of Zorillo station. Acosta's men fled it was reported, leaving a number of killed and wounded on the field.

Another sanguinary battle between the main armies of Villa and Carranza is impending at Nogales, according to state and war department despatches to-day. Anti-American feeling among the Villistas is growing, it was stated, because the United States is permitting the transportation of Carranzista soldiers across American soil. A raid upon a detachment of American troops by a small band of alleged Villista soldiers was reported. There were no American casualties.

About 2,000 Carranza troops from Piedras Negras, en route to Douglas, have been diverted toward Nogales, across American soil. They are travelling unarmed, under guard of American troops, until they re-enter Mexico. Gen. Obregon's main army is also reported en route to attack Nogales. American field artillery is en route to Nogales.

NO MORE ORDERS FOR AMERICA

LONDON, Nov. 30.—Russia during the last few days has placed orders for 6,000,000 yards of khaki cloth in Yorkshire.

In announcing this at a meeting of the Huddersfield Chamber of Commerce last week, Chairman Kaye said he recently had seen in London representatives of the various Allied Governments on the subject of orders given to America, and he regarded the large Russian order as the outcome of a protest made by the Huddersfield Chamber.

Mr. Kaye stated that he had been assured no Italian orders for khaki would now go to America.

The magpie is deemed a bird of evil omen. Its unluckiness has been accounted for by its being the only bird which did not go into the ark with Noah.

It is a good omen for swallows to take possession of a place and build their nests around it; while it is unpropitious for them to forsake a place which they have once tenanted.

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