

WAR GAS IDEA IS CENTURIES OLD; HOW USED AT PRESENT

Grey and Yellow. Mist of Death in the Trenches Officially Described by Sir John French, Former Commander-in-Chief of British Forces—Victims an Appalling Sight

It was the Germans who brought back the use of gas into modern warfare. German thoroughness did not balk at the wholesale destruction caused by this form of offensive, but there is, at the same time, no credit due the Germans for originality in the matter.

For the use of deleterious gases back to the days before Christ; there is a record of that fact as early as from 431 to 404 B.C. in the histories of the Peloponnesian wars. It is noticeable, however, that even the ancients forbore to make use of it excepting in sieges and warfare.

In the Middle Ages, again, there was much recourse to what was commonly known as "Greek fire"; a liquid the constituents of which are now unremembered, but which was squirted through the air for the purpose of setting fire to buildings or places attacked—never, it is to be noticed, with the prime idea of burning down ranks of men.

This "Greek fire" served largely in sea fights, too, in order to set fire to the ships of the enemy, and the Byzantine Greeks made free use of it at the sieges of Constantinople in the years 1251 and 1412.

Sir John French Describes Gas The gas fighting which the Germans have evolved, however, is something tremendously more sweeping and noxious. Let alone all imaginative descriptions of it (and almost every English author and journalist now serving at the front has attempted to picture the grey and yellow mist of death as it rides across the trenches), it is enough to take the official notes sent in to the British War Office by Sir John French himself, in his report dated May 3, 1915:

"The gases employed have been ejected from pipes laid in the trenches, and also produced by the explosion of shells especially manufactured for the purpose. The German troops who attacked under cover of these gases were provided with especially designed respirators.

"The effect of this poison is not merely disabling or even painlessly fatal; those of its victims who do not succumb on the field and who can be brought into the hospital suffer acutely, and in large proportion of cases die a painful and lingering death.

"Those who survive are in little better case, as the injury to their lungs seems to be of a permanent character and reduces them to condition which points to their being invalids for life.

These injuries, as a matter of fact, are the result of a sudden and stretching contraction of the lungs so severe as to tear their tissues and the connecting bronchial tubes. The effect is not only sanguinary, say physicians who have served at the front, but permanently paralyzing.

Victims an Appalling Sight. A British ambulance officer gave this account, printed in all the London papers:

"When we got to the hospitals we had no difficulty in finding in which ward the gas victims were, as the noise of the poor devils trying to get breath was sufficient to direct us. We were met by a doctor belonging to our division who took us into the ward. There were about twenty of the worst cases in the ward on mattresses, all more or less in a sitting

position, propped against the walls. Their faces, arms and hands were of a shiny gray-black color, with mouths open and lead-glazed eyes, all swaying slightly backward and forward trying to get their breath. It was a most appalling sight, all these poor black faces, struggling, struggling for life."

Dr. J. S. Haldane, F.R.S., was sent out to France to study the effects of these gases and to suggest the best possible method of protection against them. His statement said:

"The symptoms and other facts so far ascertained point to the use by the German troops of chlorine and bromine for purposes of asphyxiation. There are also other facts pointing to the use in German shells of other irritant substances, though in some cases at least these agents are not of the same brutally barbarous character as the gas used in attack on the Canadians. The effects are not those of the ordinary products of combustion of explosives. On this point the symptoms described left not the slightest doubt in my mind."

Chlorine Used in Attacks.

In some attacks, again, the gases used were known to have been a mixture of chlorine and sulphurous acid. The former is green, the latter a dense white fog, and both are so much heavier than air that they could be relied upon to creep along the ground. Both of these gases, too, can be generated cheaply and with little labor by comparatively simple means right in the trenches. They are both asphyxiating in effect, even when in a diluted state—and when inhaled without too much dilution could be calculated upon to produce exactly the effect upon the lungs already described.

As regards the method of generating these gases, the sulphurous acid gas is probably made in the trenches by the simple process of throwing sulphur into open braziers containing charcoal or coke fires, while chlorine is brought to the trench lines compressed under five atmospheres of pressure into liquid form, in large steel cylinders similar to those used for compressed oxygen and hydrogen gases. The English, now forced to retaliate with a similar warfare, bring up their gases in huge steel drums.

Having brought a sufficient number of these cylinders of compressed chlorine forward, it is merely necessary to insert a delivery pipe through the outer wall or parapet of the trench, and then to wait for the favoring wind before turning the tap and permitting the gas to escape from the cylinder under its own pressure. The most modern trenches are now being equipped with electrically spun air fans which whirl the gas away under artificial draughts.

Since the liquefaction pressure of chlorine is very low, a large number of gas cylinders are required to transport a fair sized volume of gas to the enemy trenches, but this would not prove an insuperable obstacle to an army well provided with motor trucks.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

STRICKEN IN THE WAR MAY OPEN WOMEN'S EYES

Completely Restored To Health By "Fruit-a-tives"

382 St. Valere St., MONTREAL.
"In 1912, I was taken suddenly ill with acute Stomach Trouble and dropped in the street. I was treated by several physicians for nearly two years, and my weight dropped from 225 pounds to 160 pounds. Then several of my friends advised me to try 'Fruit-a-tives'. I began to improve almost with the first dose, and by using them, I recovered from the distressing Stomach Trouble—and all pain and Constipation were cured. Now I weigh 208 pounds. I cannot praise 'Fruit-a-tives' enough." H. WHITMAN.
Box, a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c. All dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

PULPWOOD IN WAR TIME.

One of Canadian industries which has gone on increasing rapidly during war time is the production of pulpwood and the manufacture of pulp. The total quantity of wood manufactured into pulpwood in Canada in 1916 was over a million and three-quarters cords, compared with one million four hundred thousand cords in 1915. The value of the pulpwood made into pulp in Canada and exported for making pulp abroad was nearly twenty million dollars. Very much more woods is now manufactured into pulp in Canada than in any other country. The pulp industry in Canada in 1916 is shown in a bulletin issued at the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior. Copies of the same may be had free upon application for the "Pulpwood Bulletin" for 1916 to the Director of Forestry Ottawa.

STEAMER AFIRE

By Courier Leased Wire.
New York, Aug. 20.—The Norwegian steamer, Christian Boers, of 4,076 tons, was damaged to the extent of \$1,000,000, by fire early this morning, while lying at her dock in South Brooklyn. The steamer arrived recently from Buenos Aires, and had about completed the discharge of a cargo of hides. Several fire boats fought the blaze, and it was under control, two hours after it was discovered. The origin of the fire has not been determined.

The Christian Boers was owned in Bergen and was under charter to the Prince Line.

The British steamship Baron Tedburgh, a vessel of 4,418 gross tons, discharging a cargo of sugar and glucose, was also badly damaged by the fire.

FARM HELP IN WEST.

Winnipeg, Aug. 20.—Four thousand and eastern farm laborers will be distributed over western Canada's wheat area by to-night. Eight trains arrive in the city over the week-end and all loaded to capacity and the greater portion of the men were dispatched to their destination during the night. Included were 150 soldiers from Valcartier on six weeks' leave from the 14th and 236th battalions.

LEGAL LIGHT DEAD

By Courier Leased Wire.
Montreal, Que., Aug. 20.—The Honourable Louis Onésime Loranger, retired justice of the Superior Court of the Province of Quebec, died at his country residence, St. Hilaire, on Saturday. Hon. L. O. Loranger was born at Yamachiche, Que., over 80 years ago. He was attorney-general in the Canadian provincial administration 1879 to 1883 and appointed to the bench in the latter year. He retired in 1909.

BETTER HUSBANDS AND WIVES.

"And when mothers stop crying over a girl baby and wishing it had been a boy, the children will make better husbands and wives. You don't know how bad it has been here. Why, only a few days ago I heard some of the women talking about a girl who died in the neighborhood. The only thing they found to say was that it was a mercy Frank hadn't been took because it was better for the girl to go."

"Better marriages, perhaps later marriages, because our girls won't rush in just to get away from a poverty-stricken home. That you can expect. But if you ask me whether the war will uproot marriage or turn it topsy-turvy, the answer is, No, my dear. Not likely."

INCENDIARY CHARGE

By Courier Leased Wire.
Quebec, Aug. 21.—Lyndus Ross, who last winter was charged with criminally causing fire to his home at Rimouski, in which his daughter perished, came again to-day behind the bars. Yesterday he shot at his wife when she refused to return to live with him and surrender him the children. The woman was saved by her coverts, which deflected the course of the bullet, and Ross is now awaiting trial at the Rimouski jail. The prisoner at one time worked in Montreal.

RUSS CONFERENCE.

By Courier Leased Wire.
London, Aug. 20.—The composition of the conference to be held at Moscow, August 25-27, to consider the political situation and plans for the new national government, is given in an Exchange Telegram dispatch from Petrograd as follows: Petrograd and Moscow town councils, 15 delegates each; other large towns, 7 each; Council of Soldiers and Workmen's delegates, 100; Peasants 100; Town Zemstvos; Co-operative societies 300; Industry 120; Agricultural societies 300; representatives of science 100; Duma 400.

May Enable Them To Find Out What Nuisances Hubbies Are

MARRIAGES CHANGED

In Future Wife Will be More Independent And Self-Reliant

Geoffrey Singleton writes from London, England:

From the day Great Britain set 500,000 women of all degrees working at munition propit has announced that marriage was done for. A little prematurely, they declared that the women of after-the-war would be economically independent and would need to marry. They said she would choose her husband where she liked and keep him as long as she chose and no longer.

Their chief mistake was in forgetting that neither men nor women live and love by themselves. They said that women were earning their own livings and, therefore, women were liberated. And they forgot that all the money in the world never liberated a woman from loving the right man nor did it emancipate her from a longing for children.

After hearing a great deal of talk about the free woman I went to a certain munition factory and looked up the matron-in-chief an old friend of mine. Her experience in establishing social centres at munition plants had taken her all over England since the war began; she had made friends with thousands of girls and had been their mother-confessor; she knew many hundreds of married women who had come into the factories to make Bill and Bert a useful present in the shape of a shell. I asked her what effect munition work would have on the women of England.

Marriage not a "Washout"
"Listen," she said. "You take a year's holiday and wander through the factories—really, do. Then on the day when you find one of my girls crooning a lullaby to a fifteen inch shell or putting on her best bib and tucker for a box of cordite come to me and I will answer your question. I mean that you then that marriage is a 'washout', as the lads say. But not till then."

"Not but that it won't make a difference. I was talking to a woman yesterday; she's very good, really, and earned 30 shillings a week. Her separation allowance amounts to 25 more—she has several children. Of course, it's no use comparing that with the money when you think of prices and everything and it might not appear much to you Americans—not quite \$15 eh? But the fact is that 55 shillings a week is nearly twice as much as her husband used to earn and—well, now that he's at the front she says there's one drinker less in the family."

Learning What Nuisances Men Are.
"You seek a girl and out what a nuisance Alf was. She had to get up half an hour earlier to make Alf's breakfast, and she had to set aside so much for Alf's beer. Alf was a good chap, and all that, but he came high. For the time being Mrs. Alf is quite content to have Alf in Hespapola. At least, she says that's where he is."

"Well, a lot of our girls have seen the difference and when they marry they'll know their rights a little better than this generation know them. You don't realize that a good part of the population of England has been brought up in the fear of its brothers. He's a boy used to excuse everything a young hopeful did, and a girl never got a chance, I think that's going forever."

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Music and Drama

THE BRANT.

A tarring combination of unusual merit is that offered at the Brant theatre the first of this week, when Wallace Reid and Kathryn Williams co-star in the Morisco production "Big Timber", a gripping virile tale of the southern lumber camps interwoven with an absorbing theme of heart interest. Kathryn Williams has long been noted for her immensely powerful dramatic ability, while Wallace Reid enjoys a deserved niche of fame among the male stars of the screen to-day. And Oh, girls you should see Wally with a moustache, wearing a perfectly good suit of the roaring Keystone comedy "Villa of the Movies", presented by Mack Sennett's noted aggregation of fun-makers, Bushman and Bayne co-star once more in the latest chapter of the Metro mystery serial "The Great Secret". The Brevet-Merrill company, novelty illusionists, offer an unusual performance, at once weird, baffling and original, and sure to find favor with all.

FILM LETS.

Fred Kelsey, the director who produces Universal Western pictures with Harry Carey in them, takes part in the production himself whenever there is a particularly disagreeable role to be played. Bluebird Director Joseph De Grasse is a descendant of the famous Frenchman, De Grasse, who commanded the fleet sent to aid U. S. at Yorktown during the Revolutionary War.

Marin Sals says that she intends to do her "bit" in these troublous times by raising whatever she can on her three-acre ranch in Glendale. Miss Sals does not leave all the work to helpers, either. She thoroughly enjoys getting out into the fields herself.

Franklyn Farnum had to go for a compulsory swim in the chilly Pacific, wearing a perfectly good suit of evening clothes for his latest Bluebird picture, "The Clock."

Harold Lockwood, Metro star, has announced he is ready, in the event his services are needed in the present crisis to serve his country as an aviator. Mr. Lockwood is an expert at operating an aeroplane. He became interested in flying several years ago.

THE REX.

The Broadway Belles commenced the third week of their engagement at the Rex theatre yesterday with an entertaining and breezy musical comedy, "A Night on a New York Roof Garden." The chorus has been enlarged and the programme of songs hits was exceptionally good and lively.

"The Bugle Call" a Thos. Ince production depicting life in Western Military encampments and showing the rugged Western life in its true aspect is the feature picture for the first part of the week. Another of the famous O. Henry Stories and a Triangle comedy that made the audiences yesterday forget the heat rendered out a well balanced programme.

THE GRAND.

A light and entertaining entertainment for all is offered at the Grand Opera House the first of the week, in the performance by the Edward Keene Players of the great comedy success "Baby Mine," a production which is one long series of laughs from beginning to end, with unusually well sustained interest throughout, and an admirable adaptation of the various performers to their respective roles. The complications which ensue when a neglected wife seeks to win back her husband by palming off an adopted child as their own, are many and numerous, for the husband reaches home to discover not one baby, but a trio of lusty infants greeting him, and, the pandemonium that ensues but nights "Baby Mine" offers a welcome respite. For these hot relaxation and ample laughs for all.

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BRANT THEATRE

All Feature Program

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
Prevett—Merrill Co.
Novelty Illusionists

Kathryn Williams and Wallace Reid
IN
BIG TIMBER

Bushman and Bayne
IN
THE GREAT SECRET

Added Attraction
"Villa of the Movies"
A Roaring new