

LIFE IN A GERMAN MUNITION PLANT

TOLD BY A BRITISH PRISONER NOW RELEASED.

How Germany Schemes With the Captives of War to Gain Her Own Disgraceful Ends!

The following story of life in a munition factory at Cassel, Germany, is furnished by a released prisoner (says a correspondent in the London Times). I give it in his own words:—"Henschel Steel Factory since the outbreak of the war turned its whole resources to the production of munitions. Approximately 20,000 people were employed in the latter part of 1915. Amongst these were 2,000 prisoners of war who were sent there not knowing until they arrived the nature of the work they were to perform. The majority of the prisoners of war immediately when they realize that they are at a munitions factory refuse to work, but either by force, persuasion or guile they subsequently remain. Compelling prisoners of war to work is peculiar. On arrival at the works the prisoners are given a good meal, a few bottles of beer and things to smoke. They are interviewed by the firm's interpreter whose duty it is to impress the prisoners that it is not a munitions factory. They only make bicycles, pocket knives, razors, etc. The field siege guns, machine guns and thousands of shells you see stacked in every spare foot of the yard are there to be painted. You flatly refuse to start work and a German officer of high rank appears, who the interpreter informs you, is in charge of the works and of prisoners of war and is invested with supreme power and can sentence you to death. You again refuse to work. Immediately you are surrounded by twenty sentries who tickle your ear with the butts of their rifles or bayonet you. When you regain consciousness you find yourself in an underground cell close to exhaust pipes of the various machines. You stick this usually three, four or five days. Then suddenly the interpreter appears and asks "Will you work now?" Should you answer in the negative you are left for another three or five days. Should you tell him you are thirsty and hungry, having had nothing to eat for three to five days, he will inform you that if you consent to work you can have anything in reason you desire. He takes you to a dining hall and you do justice to what is given you. Then you are given a few bottles of lager beer and a cigar. Your guardian angel unfolds to you a wonderful tale. Give the conversation as it actually took place between the interpreter and myself.

Ferrible State of Affairs.
He said: "If you will work for us at your trade (crucible steel smelting) we will pay you 25 marks a day, out of which you pay 10 marks for food and lodging. You shall live in a house in town with civilians and allowed to wear civilian clothes. When your work is finished you may go anywhere you wish, provided you are accompanied by the German with whom you are lodging. You can have any girl you wish, provided she is willing, and there is no reason why you should not be comfortable."

Looking around the shops the only peculiarity I noticed was the truth of the interpreter's remarks concerning the women. In every branch of the works where a prisoner was employed he had women and girls as neighbors. I questioned different Frenchmen about what I'd been told about the women, only to learn that it was true. As many as 500 prisoners of war were living with women and were allowed as much freedom of movement after working hours as the Germans themselves. A large number of girls between 18 and 20 were pregnant, the prisoners of war being responsible. I want it clearly understood that this practice was encouraged by the authorities, as it assisted the birth rate and ensured the output of more work.

What One Man Suffered.
I know a case of a man of a famous Scots regiment who, whilst employed loading a munition train at the siding of certain works in Germany, took thirty round axle boxes of each wagon and removed all grease, substituting gravel, so as to make the axle bearing run hot and cause serious delay, or better still, an explosion. Unluckily he was noticed by a brakeman just as he'd finished the last wagon. For this display of British patriotism he was sentenced by the officer in command to stand up stripped naked in the centre of a small shop. Smith's carpenters then built securely around him three circles of bayonets pointing inwards and upwards at an angle of 45 deg., the bottom circle of bayonets encircling his legs just below the knees, the middle encircling his stomach. In the circle encircling his neck the points were one inch from the man's vein. He was sentenced for 72 hours. What was most remarkable of all was that when the door was opened at the termination of 72 hours the man was found upright, but bleeding, and, needless to say, mad.

I was not an eyewitness to this wonderful feat of physical and mental endurance, but I am sure it is an advertisement were put out the man who told me the foregoing true story would vouch for it. He is in England at present. The other poor fellow is in an asylum in Germany.



Private Ross

Borrowed an Auto-Strop from his chum—he used it once and immediately wrote home for one.

Don't wait for a request from your soldier boy—include an Auto-Strop in your next Overseas package.

Remember, that the Auto-Strop is the only razor he can absolutely depend on—because it is always ready for service.

Price \$5.00

At leading stores everywhere

Auto-Strop

Safety Razor Co.

Limited

63-67 Duke Street,

Toronto, Ont.



Auto-Strop SAFETY RAZOR

THE BATTLE OF THE "MIDDIES"

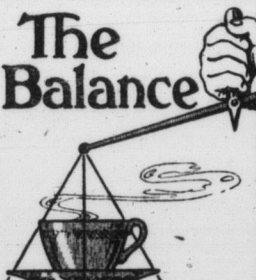
MIDSHIPMEN ARE PLAYING A GALLANT PART IN WAR.

Big Share in the Operations That Led to the Blocking of the Channels at Zebrugge and Ostend.

Middies (or "Snotties," as the Navy alternately calls them) were not asked to volunteer for Zebrugge—and the middies didn't like it, says a British naval officer. But a good many bore a hand in this important venture because they had the good fortune to be serving in coastal motor-boats, or "scouters."

"Scouters" are little more than a shell filled with high-powered engines. They slip through the water at tremendous speed, standing almost bolt upright on their sterns amidst a moving cloud of spray. Where nothing else can go the "scouter" slides dashing in, and there's no possible place where their young officers—one of whom is frequently a middy—will not take them.

Its Future Admirals.
Both at Ostend and Zebrugge they did splendid work. At the former place one of them put down the Brue-



as between POSTUM and other table beverages is in favor of the Wholesome, Healthful drink.

POSTUM is all this and more. It's most delicious. Besides there's no waste, and these are days when one should save. Try INSTANT POSTUM

seels, Captain Fryatt's old ship, which the Huns were using as a training school. Zebrugge, in fact, was the "scouters" first great opportunity, and they pulled it to the limit. To their credit, it should be remembered that middies are, so far as years go, only lads who are doing men's work at an age which finds most other boys still at school—and doing it remarkably well. Over thirty of them have already won special decorations for bravery. These awards were made for such diverse reasons as "whilst in charge of steamboats behaving with exemplary courage, skill, and coolness under heavy fire," for "showing great ability and resource in important duties whilst assisting the naval observation officer," for "valuable services in aircraft," and for "services in the destruction of an enemy submarine." This catalogue of honors shows that the Navy believes in giving its future admirals the earliest possible training in the art of real war, and teaches them the job all round.

Lion-Hearted Boys.
During the Gallipoli operations several middies were mentioned in despatches. Here it was that Midshipman Drevy won the V.C. for gallantry in the famous landing from the River Clyde. An example of what these boys in years, but men in heart and training, which counts for much, can do, is furnished by the achievement of Midshipman H. B. Anderson. He was in charge of a launch reconnoitering towards Jabani (Camerons). The Huns were firing at him from both banks of the river, when his Maxim jammed. "Mr. Anderson not only handled his boat well," says the official report, "but personally cleared his gun under a continuously heavy fire, and then swept both banks with it, the enemy suffering heavily." Midshipman H. Dixon, whilst in command of the Queen Elizabeth's picket boat, saved several officers and men from the irresistible under heavy fire. Equally courageous was the action of Midshipman H. W. D'Arcy-Evans, who, during the fight between HMS. Alcantara and the German raider Greif, swam about in the water helping men who were in difficulties to keep afloat.

The Right Stuff.
And who will have forgotten the heroism of Midshipman Donald Gyles in the great fight at night in the Straits of Dover between the Broke and German destroyers, just over a year ago?

Another wounded in the eye, Gyles, when nearly all others went down, took charge and gave the foe a very bad beating.

Such deeds as these are clear proof of the fine stuff our midshipmen are made of.

A NIGHT TORPEDO ATTACK

DESCRIBED BY A BRITISH NAVAL OFFICER.

How One Destroyer Made a Dash That Brought About Painful Results For the Germans.

Slowly, silently, the long, low shape of the torpedo-boat-destroyer stole round the breakwater, not a single light showing, her length camouflaged by her sable paint.

On her deck men crouched at gun and torpedo-tube, ready and waiting, hands and faces blackened with soot so that no gleam of white in the darkness should betray them and their desperate enterprise.

Down below, in the dimly-lit stokeholds, stokers fed the ever-hungry fires with the greatest of care lest all-revealing sparks should stream from a funnel.

And silence—a deep, palpable silence, hung over all.

Then, from the fore-bridge, a sibilant whisper cuts into the night. "Stand by both tubes!" commands the young officer on the bridge, who, peering ahead, hopes, almost against hope, that the enemy will not discover him at this eleventh hour, and frustrate utterly his well-laid plans.

"Into the Jaws of Death."

He has brought his craft, at immense risk, through the enemy's patrols and minefields, and now, at long last, he has achieved a point almost within striking distance of the great Hun Fleet which has believed itself secure behind its elaborate defences.

"Half-speed on both engines!" he orders now, and the low hum of the turbines assumes even a more minor note as his order is obeyed.

Then, suddenly, the blackness ahead assumes a deeper tinge, another and another—the black shapes of battleships dimly silhouetted against the black sky. The boat is in the very jaws of hell.

And then comes disaster. A belated picket-boat, containing a captain who has dined with a brother commander, crosses the unseen destroyer's bows. There is a crash and yell that is heard all over the harbor, and the picket-boat that gave the alarm sinks in two pieces as the destroyer picks up her heels and dashes onwards—determined to make the best of things, even if she dies in the attempt.

"Foremost tube—fire!" No whisper now, but a deep-voiced call, full of urgency. "After tube—fire!"

Two sharp cracks as the powder-impulses drive the torpedoes from their seating, two gleaming, silvery shapes leaping the short distance from the

destroyer's deck to the water, a churn of foam, and then a parallel pair of tracks of broken water showing where the unseen messengers of death are speeding towards their targets.

"Death Cometh Soon or Late."

Instantly a glaring arm of light stabs into the darkness, hovers for a moment, and then sweeps round till it rests full on the form of the destroyer.

And now the guns commence to belch, and the myriad shells to tear the ocean to shreds all around the fleeing boat. And, almost in the pandemonium of their first discharge, comes a long, shuddering, thunderous explosion, and two German cruisers, great holes rent in them, just where their hulls kiss the water, easily reel over.

And the German subs take toll, until, with a sudden blast of death, a gigantic eleven-inch shell finds the exact centre of the boat, and under its monstrous tearing force she breaks clean in halves and sinks into the loving embrace of her mother and mistress—the age-old ocean.

Styles for Summer



Another version of the cape, that is both smart and becoming. McCall Pattern No. 7859, Ladies' and Misses' Three-In-One Coat. In 3 sizes, small, 32-34; medium, 36-38; large, 40-42 bust. Price, 20 cents.



The collarless waist is very smart and attractive, and the draped skirt is proving to be quite popular. McCall Pattern No. 8423, Ladies' Waist. In 6 sizes, 34 to 44 bust. No. 8403, Ladies' two-piece Draped Skirt. In 7 sizes, 22 to 34 waist. Price, 20 cents each.

These patterns may be obtained from your local dealer, or from the McCall Co., 70 Bond St., Toronto, Dept. W.

Vancouver Women Pledged.

At a mass meeting of nearly two thousand women the pledge was made to conform exactly to the requirements of the Canada Food Board and to apply the restaurant regulations in their own homes. Furthermore it was "especially resolved to discountenance any social functions which promote the consumption of wheat products, pork, sugar and fats."

"Worry is interest paid on trouble before it falls due,"—Harry A. Thompson.

Several carloads of tractors have been sent into the Grande Prairie district this year.

If poultry houses are cleaned thoroughly and kept clean there will be little trouble from mites.

The stability of agriculture in any country depends a good deal on the live-stock industry. Selling grain and hay may be most profitable for a time, but marketing these crops through high-quality live stock not only brings in a remunerative revenue, but aids in maintaining soil fertility.

ISSUE No. 29—14

DRY YOUR VEGETABLES.

Various Methods Suggested by Canada Food Board.

Try drying your vegetables this year. It's a profitable business any way you look at it. The advantages over canning are the economy in space, the lower cost of jars and diminished risk of injury from frost or heat. There is the old-fashioned method of "sun drying" which is inexpensive, simple and satisfactory where there is enough sun. The most modern and the quickest method is that of using an electric fan either with or without artificial heat. Vegetables dried by this method are not so likely to discolor. The third method, known as "artificial heat," consists of utilizing the heat of the stove or of the oven. For the majority of town and farm homes this method is the most practicable.

Germany has made a fine art of drying. Indeed, at the present time, the total capacity of the potato-drying factories in the enemy country is 37,000, 600 hundredweight. There are about 700 potato drying factories, 250 drying cylinders, 400 open drying plants, 160 corn-drying plants and 250 vegetable-drying factories.

The war gardeners of Canada might give the Hun a little of his own medicine by pitting their vegetable forces against his.

Allies Lack Meat.
The Allies' livestock has been decreased to such an extent as to mean 27.7% of home resources in meat. The percentages for the different countries range as follows: England, 12.5; Belgium, 82.0; France, 21.4; Italy, 17.8; Germany, 36.3; European Neutral Countries, 0.9.

NO FOUNDATION FOR TRAVEL RESTRICTION RUMORS
The volume of tourist traffic from the United States this year has been considerably lessened by misleading press despatches appearing in American and Canadian papers regarding the Canadian Registration Act. It was unwarrantably stated that visitors to Canada from the United States would be compelled to register at a post office before they could secure accommodation at a hotel, that passports were absolutely necessary, and more recently the absurd rumour was widely circulated, "that women from the United States would not be allowed to return home. This latter ridiculous report is specifically denied by Mr. W. D. Scott, Superintendent of Immigration, who officially designated it as "absolutely without any foundation in fact." Senator Gleason Robertson, a member of the Dominion Cabinet, and Chairman of the Registration Board, is equally positive in his denials of the other mischievous reports. The actual facts are, according to the official statement of the Registration Board, that the Registration Act applies only to people permanently resident in Canada and does not affect even remotely anyone living in the United States; that no registration at a post office is necessary, and that no passports are required. The possession of papers showing the holders to be American citizens is all that is necessary to cross into Canada. At the international boundary line the holders of these papers are given an identification card by the Canadian Immigration Officials, which enables the visitors to travel freely where they wish without any interference on the part of Canadian officials.

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Soldiers-of-the-Soil At Work.

Nearly twelve thousand Soldiers of the Soil boys are hard at work on the farm already, helping in the campaign for greater wartime production. In addition to those who arrange for their own employment independent of the Soldiers of the Soil organization. The Soldiers of the Soil are divided as follows: British Columbia, 669; Alberta, 616; Saskatchewan, 1,406; Manitoba, 1,006; Ontario, 4,621; Quebec, 670; New Brunswick, 677; Nova Scotia, 1,788; Prince Edward Island, 500. Reports indicate that the boys are thoroughly enjoying farm work.

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MAGIC BAKING POWDER
CONTAINS NO ALUM
MADE IN CANADA

Licenses Now Operative.
The Canada Food Board licenses are now operative in the following classes of dealers in foodstuffs in Canada: Grocers (wholesale and retail), bakers, (manufacturing and retail), manufacturers of breakfast foods and cereals, retail butchers, fish dealers (wholesale and retail), flour and feed dealers (wholesale and retail), produce dealers (wholesale and retail), canners, packers, manufacturing confectioners, proprietors of public eating places.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, Etc.
Canadians eat three pounds of cheese a year on an average normally. The English eat eleven, French, Belgians and Germans thirty pounds, or ten times as much as Canadians. Cheese is a good meat substitute. More cheese and less meat might be better for us.

MONEY ORDERS.
Send a Dominion Express Money Order. They are payable everywhere.

Bread is the staff of life, but very few Canadians need a staff.

FOR SALE
WEEKLY NEWSPAPER FOR SALE in New Ontario. Owner going to France. Will sell \$2,000. Worth double that amount. Apply J. H. C. Wilson Publishing Co. Limited, Toronto.

WELL EQUIPPED NEWSPAPER
and job printing plant in Eastern Ontario. Insurance carried \$10,000. Will go for \$1,200 on quick sale. Box 49, Wilson Publishing Co. Ltd., Toronto.

MISCELLANEOUS
WILL PURCHASE ALTERNATING Current Motors for Cash. Milton and Prentiss. Traders Bank Building, Toronto.