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Germans Talking Bush Slang

Prepare Traps Enemy.

Some interesting and amusing ruses resorted to by the Turks under their German masters, are described by an Austrian trooper, who writes from the Dardanelles:

"The shades of night," he says, "naturally lend themselves to the guileful scheme, and it is under this protection that ruses are usually assayed, in some cases with success, in others with disaster. A fluent knowledge of English and, strange to say, a painstaking study of Bush slang seems to be part of the mental equipment of the German officers."

"No little confusion was caused at first owing to these men, whose knowledge of our units and their commanders was astonishing and no doubt the result of secret service at Cairo, penetrating our lines and assuming the role of Colonial officers. It must be understood that this did not signify guilelessness on our part or confusion in our ranks. We must not lose sight of the fact that, owing to the desperate nature of the conflict, the great mortality among our commanders and the rapid transference of intermingled troops from one point to another, the various units were welded into one fighting whole. Nothing was easier than for a daring man to pass orders along the line, having previously clothed himself in the garments of one of our dead officers and learned his name from the identity disk worn around the corpse's neck."

"In the matter of mines, too, the Prussian tried his hand with indifferent success. We had a good sprinkling of old soldiers among us, who 'fought shy' of comfortably constructed crossings and newly turned earth. We have been told that both the heaviest equipment and the large one farther back were mined in various places."

"The disturbance of the troops' rest at night is another phase of Germany's influence on Turkish ideas of war. All night long an extraordinary expenditure of ammunition goes on, serving no other purpose than to keep those manning the trenches alert. The general character of the night attacks is reminiscent of what we read of the doings on other fronts. The enemy advances frequently in close formation, making all manner of weird noises on their bugles and with their lungs. Our men, when they hear the shouting, call out 'Taala hena' ('come here' in Egyptian Arabic).

"Ottoman buglers made nerve-racking slaughter of our calls, and all to no purpose. The old Prussian Guard scheme of advancing in two or more lines of close formation, with machine guns carried in the rear, was nearly, but not quite, successful. On the occasion when the Turks tried their luck with it the front line lay flat just as one of our battalions was preparing to leave the trenches to wield the bayonet. As it happened, our men were ordered back and our machine guns played havoc with that party before it could do any damage."

"To enumerate, for instance, various orders that I passed along, perfectly satisfied at the time of their good faith: 'Indian scouts returning on our left; right flank fire rapid to protect them.' Immediately turbaned figures appeared and before we realized the situation they got a Maxim in position and poured in a hot fire. They had collected the uniforms of dead Sikhs. Once bit, twice shy. A Sikh was at once posted here and there along the line. Soon the same trick was attempted at another point. A German, in front this time, called: 'Don't fire; we are Indians.' A Sikh shouted a few words. No reply. Perhaps three of the dirty old masqueraders got back, and without their machine gun."

"Another order came along: 'French advancing on our left and English on our right; only fire in centre.' From mouth to mouth we passed it along. In five minutes heavy counter attacking parties got right up to our trenches before the position was realized, and the bayonet had to be resorted to."

"Steps were taken as soon as possible to prevent these daring Germans fooling us again like this. No order was permitted to be passed along save in writing. This served as a safeguard against another danger as well. It became evident that keen-eared scouts would creep up in the scrub and listen to orders being passed along and gain much that was of use to their side. If 'ammunition running short' was called too loudly it was more than an even chance if an attack was on the way toward our line then, the trench short would bear the brunt of it. Of course when at the earliest possible moment the units were reorganized, much of the danger mentioned was eliminated."

DARDANELLES CLAIMING AN AWFUL TOLL

Ottawa Lady Receives Graphic Letter From British Navy Man—One Shell Kills Eight Hundred

One of the first letters to come to Ottawa from the forces operating in the Dardanelles, has been received here by Miss Kathleen Sussanes, 27 Ladouceur avenue, from Charles P. Morris, a British seaman on board his Majesty's Transport S.S. Alamaia. The writer has gone through some harrowing experiences, as his letter indicates, and he witnessed the sinking of the Triumph and the Majestic by submarines. His letter is dated, June 16, and he gives his address as follows: H. M. T., No. E 2106, Egyptian No. 3 Base, Cape Helles, Dardanelles, Turkey. It follows:

"We are having an awful time of it taking on wounded soldiers, some with no legs and other shot half away. We have been taking on French, Indians and, of course, all who come along. It's an awful sight to see these young fellows, scarcely out of their mothers' care, dying around us and our putting them over the side. It's nothing to bury six a day and more often we have many more than that. We are getting used to it now."

Stein Blown In.
"There is a rumor around that we are going home shortly to repair our ship which got badly damaged by a cruiser of the Dardanelles. It knocked half her stern in and put a big hole in her. I saw the Triumph and the Majestic sunk by a submarine and at the same time we got peppered by the land batteries, which, however, did little damage to us."

"It's very hot to-day and we have sixty naval men on the lookout all the time. We very often sleep with our clothes on in case of an accident. We never know what's going to happen next. They spring up everywhere—submarines and aeroplanes—and come like a flock of rocks dropping a few bombs and off again."

Brought Down Aeroplanes
"I saw a grand sight two days ago when two flying machines came along. It did not take long to bring them down. Two of our battleships caught

them fairly and fetched them down with two shots. When the occupants, who were Germans, landed on the beach, our soldiers nabbed them, and it was what they deserved."

Treat Turks Well
"The soldiers treat the Turks fairly well as they claim they were driven into the war by Germany, but Turkey will get all she deserves for being driven in because there will be no young fellows left after the war. They are being killed in thousands and they are certainly getting it worse than we are. I hope the Lord they will torture the Kaiser when he gets him. He has caused it all. I tell you all the nobility of England is going and there will be none to take its place."

800 By One Shell
"We have been in the thick of it for six weeks since we first struck the enemy on April 25th, Sunday morning at 4.30 a.m. It was a sight never to be forgotten. Thirty-two battleships firing six rounds every three minutes, sweeping the ground for the infantry to advance. They (the enemy) were lying like dead rats all over the place. One shell from the Queen Elizabeth killed eight hundred in one place. She had just got some ammunition from a convoy, which just came in time."

"We are losing several ships but cannot help it as we have been doing a lot of damage ourselves. The water is not safe. We got the news of the Lusitania. It's awful that we cannot get any papers here."

Mr. Morris here speaks of a number of friends of his who went down with the Lusitania and thanks his stars that he left her service before she went down.

He concludes in telling of a trip for coal and stores when they met a ship full of American sailors and Australians. "Free fights were in abundance there," he ends up, "as the Yankees still boast of what their great navy can do."

German Socialists And the Good Harvest

Berlin, via London, July 20.—The executive committee of the Socialist party and of the Federation of Social Labor Unions have united in a protest to the Minister of the Interior against any rise in the market price of grain and flour. It has been intimated that there will be an increase when the Federal Council adopts the new regulations for the conservation and the distribution of this year's harvest. The executive committee of the Federation publishes in the Vorwaerts a manifesto "against food harpies." This manifesto follows:
"The general rise in prices is pressing even heavier on the poor class. The prices of meat have risen almost 100 per cent. under the ruthless exploitation of the situation caused by the scarcity of swine and cattle, and the rise continues. The consumption of this so important food product has become thereby almost an impossibility in the widest circles, particularly among the laboring classes."

Substitutes Dear.
"All other food products, particularly those recommended as substitutes for meat, such as vegetables, fish, eggs, milk, butter, cheese and sugar are unusually dear and are steadily becoming more expensive. Speculation of the most unprecedented sort is again in evidence in the potato market. Potatoes stored for a month for price manipulation had to be unloaded in the spring and sold at low prices to dealers who in turn are selling at profits of from 200 to 300 per cent."

"It is now announced that the Federal Council is about to increase the maximum prices of grain, which already are from 30 to 40 per cent. higher than in times of peace. Bread the all-important food, is to cost the people more. This will arouse indignation in the widest circles."

Fight the Harpies.
"In the name of the working classes, upon whom the war already has imposed great sacrifices, we protest against any increase in the maximum prices. We demand instead a thorough regulation of price fixing in the provision markets and effective protection for the people against food harpies. We demand that, without regard to the profit of producers and dealers, moderate maximum prices for food be fixed on a basis assuring adequate alimentation of the people and excluding all enrichment at the expense of the people's food supply. The storing up of supplies in order to manipulate prices must be prevented by expropriation and compulsory sale."

"We urge party comrades throughout Germany to fight the food harpies by every means in their power. Representatives of labor in the legislatures must above all exert every influence to assure a supply of food to the people at non-exorbitant prices."

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