

THE STORY OF GEORGE SINGER.

How Singer Came to Newfoundland.

L. C. MORRIS.
CHAPTER II.

HOW I MET SINGER.

It was on the evening of Sept. 15th, 1918, that I first met this man; but I had heard of him the day before, and had not hearing his name. At the time he was referred to there was in St. John's a branch of the Y.M.C.A., and among other agencies, it conducted Gospel service on Sunday evenings in the old Temperance Hall. These services began at a quarter past eight, and were attended by a very large number of people. On the date when I met George Singer, he was introduced to me by one of the committee, as an Evangelist from England, and after a short consultation it was decided to permit the stranger to address the meeting. In appearance he was like a military officer, and he wore blue uniform, and looked like the second officer of an ocean liner. In tone of voice was clear and audible; but he was a speaker he was quite common.

During his address he made a remark which attracted my attention particularly, and which led to my close acquaintance with him. He finally led up to this story. He said that he would want to place the exact words which he used as follows: "We shall want to come home at which to stay." At the time of the meeting I watched to see if any one would offer him a place; but no one did so. When all the people had gone, I asked him what he wanted by wanting a place to stay at. He told me that he had not anywhere to go, and that he was waiting for Dr. Sall to arrive from England the next morning, and that the latter would put things in order for him and his work. I then said to him, "Well, if a greater person will give you lodging for a day or so, I will." With this I left him in care of the gentleman who had introduced him to me, and went to my home.

The next morning before breakfast, the gentleman brought Singer into my premises, and asked me if I intended to do what I said I would. I immediately agreed to his promise, and took him into my home, with the clear understanding that he was to have a week's board and lodging free, and that by that time he would be in position to go on with his work, and that he would have funds to meet his expenses.

The week expired and in the meantime the Allan boat had arrived from Liverpool, and the Rev. Dr. Sall was at the passengers. This tended to make the case look all right for Singer; and when he stayed at our home for a little longer period than we agreed upon, we did not mind it, as we knew that delays often occur in the best of arrangements. But it became apparent that something was wrong between Dr. Sall and Mr. Singer, and that the work which they had agreed upon at Liverpool, and for

which the latter came to St. John's, was hanging fire. And so day after day passed, and the case became hopeless as far as his engagement with Dr. Sall went, and Singer was alone in a strange land, and with not a shilling to pay his expenses.

For six weeks George W. Singer had to stay at my home, and it was during that period that I made a study of the man, and learned his peculiarities, and it began to dawn upon me that he was a sort of mis-fit; and that there was something seriously wrong somewhere, or at sometime with him; but it was not until after he had been imprisoned, and all the evidence lay before me, that it occurred to me that he was the man for whom the London police were looking under the name of Jack the Ripper.

Altogether Singer spent more than a year in St. John's, and then he spent some time at Clarke's Beach and Salmon Cove, and he managed to keep himself respectable, and passable; but he lived daily at death's door, and were it not for the aid of some kind friends he surely must have perished. I have said that Singer was a deluded man, and so he was—he was the most deluded person I have ever met. I intend to devote a chapter to some of his delusions, so that my readers will be able to judge for themselves to what extremes a man may be carried in error, wrong, and suffering, and think it is the will of some higher power, when it is all his own doing.

After enduring much private remorse, and having almost exhausted the patience and goodwill of his friends, Singer was suspected of some improper conduct among boys, and was sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labor in the Penitentiary. He served his year and was sent out of the country, and nothing reliable was heard from him; although it was rumored in police circles that he was hanged in London for the murder of a woman. I made inquiry and found that the report had come from the late Inspector General of Police, who at the time of the murder was very prominent in all such matters. The rumor came to St. John's about two years after Singer had been transported. This report gave support to my suspicions of Singer, as all the while he was in Newfoundland, there were not any crimes committed at Hyde Park of the nature of those perpetrated by the man known as Jack the Ripper. But the facts as I shall relate them, will speak for themselves; and then, as I have already stated, my readers will be able to form their own conclusions in the matter.

(Continued on Saturday.)

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MILITIA ORDERS—No. 37.
By J. R. Bennett, Esq., Min. of Militia.
1.—Promotion.
Cadet (No. 1116 Act. C.S.M.) J. K. Bemister to be Hon. 2nd Lieutenant with effect from March 15th, 1919.
Cadet (No. 914, Act. Sergt.) B. Gardner to be Hon. 2nd Lieutenant with effect from March 14th.

2.—Retirement.
Captain J. J. O'Grady is retired with effect from March 15th, and is placed on the Reserve List of Officers.
The following are retired with effect from March 18th, and are placed on the Reserve List of Officers:—
Captain G. Paterson.
Captain H. S. Crowe.
Lieut. W. Martin.
Hon. 2nd Lieutenant J. K. Bemister is retired with effect from March 12th, and is placed on the Reserve List of Officers.
Hon. 2nd Lieutenant B. Gardner is retired with effect from March 14th, and is placed on the Reserve List of Officers.

W. F. RENDELL, Lieut.-Col. Chief Staff Officer.
His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint Messrs. J. J. Millin, J. P., and Joshua Brown (Trinity), to be members of the Church of England Board of Education for the District of Greenspond, in place of Messrs. R. G. Edgar, deceased, and Peter Carter, retired.

Department of the Colonial Secretary, March 18th, 1919.

Annual Meeting.

The Masonic Club held its annual meeting last night. After the reports had been read and received the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President—L. A. Diamond.
1st V. P.—P. J. King.
2nd V. P.—D. Macfarlane.
Sec.-Treas.—S. A. Churchill.
General Committee—F. Hamlyn, C. T. James, W. Barker, W. J. Martin, J. C. Pratt, J. Valentine, J. Nunnes, F. Moore, E. Willis, W. G. Currie.
Auditors—W. H. Christian, W. Pearce.

Following the election, the Executive officers and committee held a meeting, at which the various sub-committees were appointed and matters relative to the conduct of the club, for the ensuing year, discussed.

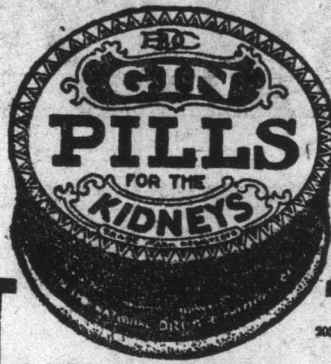
Soldier Weds.

At the residence of the bride, South Side, Ex-Corporal James McNelly was married this afternoon to Miss Nell White, daughter of the late Richard White, of the Lighthouse Department. Mr. McNelly is a returned soldier of the Newfoundland Regiment.

Not Fooled by Huns.

Coblenz, March 11.—Anti-American riots in Berlin have served to awaken Uncle Sam's 275,000 soldiers here in Germany to the fact that perhaps there will be some excitement for them after all. Despite current reports elsewhere that the American army of occupation has so thoroughly made up with the Germans that the men are sorry they ever fought them, a single call tomorrow for volunteers to march on Berlin or some other German city to safeguard American interests would be answered by every man.

The subtle German propaganda, which began with the arrival of the American soldiers in Germany more than two months ago, with the purpose of winning over the Americans by kind treatment and flattery, has fallen as



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flat here as in Berlin, where the mob demonstrated the real unvarnished Teuton sentiment toward the nation whose coming into the war caused Germany's defeat.

After a thorough investigation of present relations between the troops and the German population, and observation generally during the past two months, I am convinced that there is less fraternizing in the American area of occupation than in the areas occupied by either the French or the British armies. It is not uncommon in Mayence, Cologne, or some of the other cities occupied by our Allies to see German men with French or British soldiers in public. Probably the women are not of the better class of the enemy species is not often noted, but the fact remains that such an appearance by either officers or men in the American area of occupation would cause the immediate arrest and court-martial of the man involved, and not only that, but the trial and certain conviction of the women.

The Cologne civil police are working in conjunction with the American military authorities to prevent German girls parading the streets. The German civil authorities, however, appear to have offered this service only after they had been convinced that efforts to win over the American through certain devious methods had utterly failed.

The American soldier looks upon fraternizing as an infraction of military law which incurs severe penalties. The Germans made every effort to ingratiate themselves until it became evident that the average American officer or soldier would not "fall for it." To-day the pendulum swings the other way. There is less effort to fraternize and less fraternization than anywhere else, on the Rhine. There is no love lost between the American troops and the German civilians. Let the word go forth that the war is on again against anti-American agitators in Berlin or elsewhere and America will at once see the true status of the fraternization question.

Warning From the Super-Government.

Mr. William H. Anderson, Superintendent of the New York Anti-Saloon League, the Super-Legislative, and Super-Government of the State, has issued another message. Certain rascals and malefactors in the subordinate body have dared to talk about legalizing the sale of beer and light wines. They have composed a concurrent resolution, a "shameful" resolution for the purpose of unravelling and nullifying the Prohibition Amendment, passed by order of the Anti-Saloon League. Any such plumes into witness, the Fount of Government says, will not be submitted to by the people. Efforts at nullification, delays of the court in responding to the sacred order of the Drys, will result in "carrying the issue into the next campaign."

Since Governor Whitman was beaten last Fall by his allies, the Prohibitionists, since the election of Governor Smith can't be explained otherwise than as a reflection of the popular disapproval of prohibition, Mr. Anderson's threat of an appeal to the voters is not without humor. He explains, indeed that Mr. Whitman was defeated because his managers "tried to flatter the Wets." The Governor might have liked to have the vote of the Wets, but the jugglery to that end was too apparent. The people gave their opinion on prohibition. Obdient to its boss, the Anti-Saloon League, the Legislature ratified the amendment in spite of the popular verdicts against it. Now some of these weak-kneed statesmen have heard from their constituents and would like to reconsider and rescind their vote. Rule by the minority is the linchpin of that government by little, arrogant societies and secret conciliabulums, whereof the Anti-Saloon League is one of the finest examples.

Mr. Anderson talks roundly, as usual. "The moral convictions of the nation, or even of the State," that is to say, of the league, must not be "frustrated," or great and terrible will be the revenge taken at the polls when "we" go back "to the people with the issue."

Mighty is the sceptre of Mr. Anderson, and any member of the Legislature who likes to tremble at that symbol of the league's empire is free to do so, but Mr. Anderson, as a serious foreigner, should not demean himself by talking about appeals to the people. The Anti-Saloon League is the people. It justifies, ratifies, and supports itself. Its power resides in its fulminations

and comminations. Why should it bother about ballots, with which, as a matter of fact, it is not too lucky?—N. Y. Times.

Dudley Lodge, S.O.E.

After the regular meeting of the Dudley Lodge, S. O. E., last night, the Lodge, presided over by D. D. Bro. Theo. Thompson, tendered a reception to its soldier members. Upwards of 100 sat down and regaled themselves with the good things provided, after which the following programme was taken up.

Toast List:
"The King"—God Save the King.
Song—Bro. Barnes.
"Our Soldier and Sailor Members Here and Overseas"—Prop. by Sergt. Quick; resp. N. Andrews.
Recitation—Bro. Green.
"Dudley Lodge"—Prop. W. H. Strong; resp. W. P. Butler.
Song—Bro. Fry.
"Sister Lodges"—Prop. T. Pope; resp. W. J. Pike.
Recitation—Bro. Thistle.
"Absent Friends"—Prop. C. W. Udle; resp. Bro. Clarke.
"The Chairman"—Prop. Bro. Pope; resp. Theo. Thompson, D. D.
A very enjoyable evening was spent by all present; the National Anthem closing the function.

A Famous Aviator.

Harry Hawker, the pilot who is to fly the Sopwith aeroplane across the Atlantic Ocean, is one of Great Britain's most famous aviators. He has flown to an altitude of 23,622 feet—the British record—at Hendon in a Sopwith machine. He holds the British record for duration, having remained in the air for 5 hours 33 minutes, also in a Sopwith machine. The Sopwith Company has constructed 75 per cent. of all Britain's fighting machines, in addition to holding considerable competition cups and medals, and their machines were the first ever to bomb Germany. To be the first Newfoundland to fly above the ancient town of St. John's in a machine built by the Sopwith people is no mean honor, and that there is to be heated bidding at the last moment is certain. To avoid disappointment, we once more advise, bid early and BID BIG. The Red Cross will benefit through your patriotism.

St. Pierre and Miquelon.

In the great clearing house of territorial and racial balances the Peace Congress is conducting in Paris there may be settlements that were little dreamt of even when the armistice was agreed upon, and it is certain that some of the fantastic changes dreamt of will not be made. Denmark is not likely to be asked, and is still less likely to offer, to transfer Greenland to Canada. The French Government has declared that it will not part with Miquelon and St. Pierre, island possessions of France lying close to the south coast of Newfoundland. These islands are the headquarters of the French fishing fleet that operates on the cod banks off Newfoundland every year, and because of their utility in that connection and because the small French population on the islands look to their mother country for aid in times of food scarcity, the French Government has no thought of exchanging the islands. If it were to entertain the idea of disposing of them, it would doubtless be to Newfoundland or Canada they would pass. No foreign power should be interested in acquiring them and no foreign power ought to have a chance to acquire them, says the Toronto Mail and Empire.
Those rocky islands are worthless for agriculture. If it were not for the abundance of fish yielded by the waters about them the slender population would starve. The town of St. Pierre, which was for a long time

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the emporium of a smuggling trade carried on by a daring band of seafarers at the expense of the Canadian, Newfoundland and American revenue, may see a revival of its fame and fortunes in that field of enterprise. Now that Canada is so nearly covered by prohibition legislation and that the United States seems to be on the eve of becoming entirely "dry," the bold skippers who used to run into St. Pierre with cargoes of rum and other contraband of trade, and from the center distribute their merchandise to their confidential customers in the coves of the St. Lawrence, of the Maritime Provinces and of the Eastern States, may find inducements to their business more inviting than ever. For a long time no representative of Britain was permitted to act in a consular capacity at St. Pierre. That was owing to the extremely private nature of the business centering in that port.—N. Y. Fishing Gazette.

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