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German Reign of Terror

The following outline of the Report of the Committee appointed to enquire into charges of German barbarity is taken from the London Times of January 15th.

The Commission appointed to enquire into the German atrocities, consisting of M. Payelle, President of the Cour des Comptes; M. Mollard, ex-Minister to Luxemburg; M. Marinier, Councillor of State; and M. Faillol, Councillor of the Appeal Court, has presented a preliminary report to the Prime Minister, which will be published in the Journal Officiel tomorrow. The evidence on which the report is based has been tested rigorously. It was taken on oath, and supported by photographs. Wherever it has been possible to give the Germans the benefit of the doubt they have received it.

The preface fills 24 columns. I cannot do more than attempt to indicate the terrible impression of frightfulness acquired from it. Rape with every imaginable refinement of cruelty and bestiality marked the passage of the Huns with ghastly frequency. Irrefutable evidence has been collected as regards a great many cases, but owing to the natural reluctance of the victims to speak of the obvious crimes of which they have been the subject the cases contained in the report represent a minute portion of the horrible German record.

ORGANIZED ATROCITIES

Unless the discipline of the German Army is but a sham, officers, had they wished, could easily have reduced the extent of this crime. On several occasions, when the officers could have intervened, they took no action. But while these outrages may be attributed to the individual savagery and licentiousness of the infantry soldier, it is established beyond doubt by the report that incendiarism, murder, and pillage form part of the German military equipment as definitely as do big guns. For crimes under these three headings the highest officers of the German Army must be held responsible before history.

The massacres at Lunenburg, Gerbeville, Nomeny, and Scillis afford terrible proof of this assertion. Villagers have been torn from their homes and marched off into captivity in Germany. Those who by their age or infirmities fell by the roadside were bayoneted or kicked to death. In many instances women and children have been placed as a screen in front of German troops during the fighting or a bombardment. The stories of rape are so horrible in detail that their publication would seem almost impossible were it not for the necessity of showing to the fullest extent the nature of the wild beasts fighting under the German flag for German ideals and civilization.

BESTIAL CRIMES

At Gerbeville 20 out of 475 houses remain habitable and 100 persons have disappeared. Some were taken to the fields and executed other were assassinated in their homes, or shot down as they fled from the flames. Here two of the most horrible crimes of the whole series were committed. The Germans entered a house, took away the 36-year old son, who was wearing a Red Cross brassard, tied his hands behind his back, shot him in the street, and then returned and fetched his 70-year old father and mother. They saw their son stretched on the ground. As the body still moved the German poured petrol upon it and set it alight in the presence of the terrified mother.

At the same time the soldiers knocked at the house occupied by a man and his wife and his mother-in-law aged 78. The latter opened the door and was immediately shot. She fell back in the arms of her son-in-law, who carried her into the garden, where he covered the corpse, placing a handkerchief over her face. The man was taken and shot, while his wife was sent to join some 40 women and children who were threatened with death by the officer—a threat not executed. At Gerbeville a woman was murdered and her stomach ripped open. Here, again, the Bavarians were responsible.

CHATEAUX PILLAGED

At Lunenburg there were similar ghastly scenes unwarranted by any act of inhabitants or military necessity.

Pillaging everywhere was conducted on wholesale and organized lines, and where there was no time to carry away the contents of the houses, following the example of civil thieves, the military bandits gave themselves up to destruction.

Crimes against non-combatants—attacks upon doctors and stretcher-bearers, firing upon the Red Cross, and the shooting of the wounded as they lay on the battlefield—are so numerous that they will form the subject of a special report.

At Coulommiers on September 6 a woman was raped by a soldier whose husband and two children were kept in an adjoining room. In the neighbourhood of Rebaix several mothers were outraged in the presence of their children. One of the women whose resistance irritated the soldiers was strung up, but succeeded in cutting the rope and escaping.

BARBARITIES AT A CHATEAU

A chateau near La Ferte-Gaucher occupied by an old gentleman, his female servant, and a woman refugee was the scene of terrible deeds on September 9. Germans, including a non-commissioned officer, entered the chateau. After feeding, the non-commissioned officer, having made a proposal to the refugee, the proprietor, in order to save her from the man's designs, sent her to a neighboring farm. The German went after her, brought her back, and took her to the loft. The proprietor, wishing to summon assistance, fired a revolver on the staircase and was immediately shot by the non-commissioned officer, who then made the woman come down from the loft, forced her to step over the body of the man, and took her into another room, where, again, without success, he tried to master her. Finally he abandoned her, threw himself upon the servant, and left the refugee to the mercy of two soldiers, who both violated her in the room where lay the dead body of the proprietor.

At Montmirail on September 5, a non-commissioned officer attempted to violate the widow upon whom he was billeted. Her father rushed to the assistance and immediately 15 or 20 Germans broke down the door, dragged the man into the street, and shot him. At Esternay on September 6 soldiers while pillaging discovered a widow, her two daughters, and two other women hiding in a cellar, and ordered the two girls to undress. As the mother intervened they fired upon the group, wounding one and killing another.

The troops in the Marne appear to have been completely out of hand. They had no respect even for age, and in two neighboring places a child of 11 and a woman of 89 served to satisfy their bestiality. It is, however, impossible to distinguish among the German armies, all the places through which they have passed having been the scenes of similar horrors.

CASES OF MURDER

It is impossible to give all the authenticated cases of deliberate murder contained in the report. They include the case at Sermaize where, while an old man was being taken away as a hostage, his maddened wife and daughter-in-law threw themselves into the river. The man, having freed himself, ran to rescue them; but the Germans dragged him away, leaving the women struggling in the water. The bodies were afterwards found with shot-wounds in the head. They include organized battues in burning villages, where women and old men escaping from the burning houses were shot down as they ran.

A municipal councillor of Rebaix states that two British cavalrymen, surprised and wounded in that district, were finished off by the Germans, although both had dismounted and were holding their hands up when they were shot. At Champigny a 70-year-old man was tied to his bed by a neighbour and his wife and their four children, aged eleven, five, four, and one and a half years. A few days later the bodies of all these unfortunate people were discovered in a pool of blood. The man had been shot. Mme. X. had her

(Continued on page 8)

THE WEEK'S WAR NEWS

Turkish Army in Full Retreat Before British

LONDON, February 9 (12.48 a. m.)—The Official Press Bureau has made public official despatch received from Cairo which states that the Turkish army is in full retreat eastward. There are no enemy forces within twenty miles of the Suez Canal, the despatch says, except small retiring rear guards.

Artillery Duels of Violence Between Sea and the Oise

PARIS, Feb. 8.—The report on the progress of the war given out this afternoon by the French war office follows: "From the sea to the Oise there was an artillery duel yesterday of considerable violence in the vicinity of Cuiuchy to the West of Labassee.

"To the Southwest of Careney we were successful in a surprise attack on a German trench which had been blown up by one of our mines. The defenders of this position were either killed or taken prisoners.

"On the Aisne front and in Champagne yesterday saw an intermittent bombardment. The accuracy of our artillery fire was evidenced at several places. To the West of Hill 191 North of Massiges, our batteries checked an attempt on the part of the enemy.

"In the Argonne a German attack in the direction of Fontaine Madame was repulsed. At Bagatelle a violent infantry engagement was started by the Germans and has been going on since yesterday morning. According to latest reports all our positions were being maintained.

"On the rest of the front there is nothing to report."

WAR BRIEFS

One hundred and fifty German prisoners who were brought to St. Omer, France, say that they killed their Officers who endeavored to prevent them from surrendering.

A German hydroplane, loaded with bombs was found badly damaged on a small island on the North Sea. The occupants are supposed to have perished.

The German Admiral, Souchon, has been relieved of his command of the Turkish fleet, because of his failures in the Baltic Sea.

No more armories will be built till after the war. So says Col. Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia.

Eighty two men from the Canadian Contingent on Salisbury Plains were sent to reinforce the Princess Pat's Regiment.

Outside of the Indian troops Great Britain has two millions of men preparing for the war and expects to have a million more by the spring.

Canadian marine engineers are being offered positions in the British naval service.

Over 7,000,000 bushels of American wheat have been sent or ordered to supply the Belgian need.

The entire army of Holland is kept with the colors in case of emergency. So says VanDerlinden, the Premier.

The German Governor of Belgium has issued a proclamation, stating that the only orders having the force of law in the part of Belgium held by the Germans are those issued by himself or officials under his orders.

An inhabitant of Bruges, Belgium, has been sentenced by the Germans to five years imprisonment for carrying letters from Holland Belgium.

The Russians sank the Steamer Georgios having on board sixteen aeroplanes, the entire Turkish aerial fleet.

Strained relations exist between Turkish and German Officers in Constantinople and quarrels in public are not infrequently. And throughout Syria, Moslems and Christians are uniting in common hatred of Turkish rule.

The "Mad Mullah" is on the war path again. He and his troops have been scattered by British troops in Somaliland.

It is reported from Berne, Switzerland that Germans and German citizens in the United States have been organized into a company ostensibly to send gifts of food to Germany, but, which the German Government will pay for.

The sentries who have been stationed at the gates of Paris have been removed, and Parisians can enjoy strolls through the avenues.

The Toko Maru, sunk by a German submarine on the coast of France was loaded with gifts for the Belgian refugees, among which were 97,000 carcasses of mutton, and quantities of clothing. The crew were rescued by French torpedo boats. But no warning was given by the Germans, who were also pledged to respect merciful gifts.

When the "Formidable" was sinking, and the order was given, "every man for himself," the ship's messman rushed below and seized his account books, which weighed about fifty pounds. The messman and his books reached ashore in safety.

Crossing the English Channel in the ship with Red Cross supplies, were two handsome young Englishwomen of the modern aviation type going over to drive a motor-ambulance. In their boots and Khaki, they might easily have been taken for British Officers.

"A penny worth of potash crystals, dissolved in hot water, will dye half a pound of yarn a beautiful Khaki."

"When nations fall out, Patriots fall in."

During three days 47,000 British troops recently crossed to France. An armada of swift cruisers, torpedo-boat destroyers and submarines guarded the transports.

Monitor's Belgian Relief

For some time now the Monitor has been making its appeal each week to the good people of Annapolis County for contributions to the Belgian Relief Fund. The response thus far has been indeed generous. Many doubtless have made sacrifices to give as they have. But many others have given nothing worthy of the abundance which they possess.

Well the opportunity to retrieve their self respect is still open to them. The need of the Belgians goes right on, and will continue, and grow more urgent as the war is further waged on Belgian soil. You can give a small amount each month. That is indeed what each of us should do; contribute regularly each month to the Fund as long as the need continues.

We have no desire to do any boasting and we are not doing so when we say that Nova Scotia has led North America in promptness and liberality. We are simply stating a plain, unvarnished fact. Premier Murray was one of the first on this continent to realize the great need of the Belgian people driven from their homes by fire and sword, and all the fierce barbarity of those German wretches. And we no sooner saw that need than we saw the practical duty of the people of this province toward it. He promptly issued his appeals, and the result was an immediate and generous response, with the further and equally gratifying result that the relief ship "Tremorah" loaded by the people of Nova Scotia was the first to reach Belgium from the outside world.

This is a record of which we may well feel proud, and we have been giving our aid to those suffering people ever since. But if we would be worthy of our record thus far, we must do even better in the next few months. Our record, the part we have played in this the greatest struggle of all the ages, is going to fill a place in history. Let us make those pages which we shall fill, glorious with our golden deeds.

The brave soldier who shoulders his rifle and goes out to face the foe, perhaps to bleed and die, does his duty to the Empire and to the great cause of humanity which is at stake in this war. But he does his duty no more than you who at this time give to the relief of the suffering Belgians, for you are also making sacrifices for the Empire and in the cause of humanity. The Belgians by their heroic stand disarranged the whole program of the German Kaiser, that fine, christian gentleman and apostle of Peace, who loves humanity so intensely, and has such a high opinion of his own nation and its "Kultur", that he tenderly cuts off the heads of all those ill-desired wretches who were so unfortunate as to be outside the pale of his kingdom, and the beneficent sway of sceptre, just to put them out of their misery.

The Belgians upset his program last August, and the world owes them a debt that it will never be able to pay, will never be able to fully appreciate. But as they stood by the cause of humanity last August, and checked the mighty on-rushing tide of German "Kulture" rolling on to submerge the whole world beneath its billows of sword and gun and barbaric ferocity, as they gave to stem it, their homes, their brave sons, their prosperity, everything which they possessed was stripped of all save honor. So let us stand by them today, and give as long as they may be needed, our dollars to save the lives of these brave people.

Previously acknowledged	\$562.79
Arthur S. Troop	
Granville Centre	1.00
Wallace Langley, Bridgetown	2.00
W. R. Brooks, Centerville	1.00
Bible Class of the Hampton Sunday School, Mrs. Elijah Risteen, Teacher	4.30
Portion of proceeds of supper at	

Upper Granville Hall per Mrs. R. I. Woodward	10.00
T. C. Minard, Clarence	1.00
R. J. Messinger, Lawrence town	
Third contribution	5.00
Proceeds of Lecture by Mr. F. L. Lawson, at Paradise, per Miss Annie L. Jackson	10.00
	\$97.09

Nova Scotia Mayors

Amherst—J. H. Douglas
Antigonish—Prof. A. G. Macdonald
Annapolis—Augustus Robinson
Bridgetown—Wm. R. Longmire
Bridgewater—Dr. C. S. Marshall
Canso—H. A. Rice
Dartmouth—E. F. Williams
Digby—W. W. Hayden
Dominion—J. R. McLean
Glace Bay—Dcn McKay
Kentville—F. A. Masters
Lunenburg—J. Frank Hall
Liverpool—D. C. Mulhall
Louisburg—W. E. McAlpine
Middleton—F. E. Bentley
New Glasgow—John D. Grant
North Sydney—Mayor McCormack
Pictou—James Primrose
Port Hawkesbury—J. C. Bourinot
Port Hood—A. D. McIsaac
Sydney Mines—Mr. McCormick
Stellarton—W. C. Macdonald
Shelburne—Geo. T. McDonald
Stewiacke—E. H. MacGregor
Truro—J. H. Blackford
Wedgeport—Jan. R. LeBlanc
Windsor—W. H. Roach
Westville—Geo. E. Munroe
Yarmouth—A. J. Fuller, M. D.

The large covered tennis court on Mr. Waldorf Astor's estate at Cloveland, England, is being rapidly converted into a military hospital for the reception of wounded soldiers. It is capable of holding 200 beds, and is pronounced the best and most complete improvised hospital in England.

Royal Bank of Canada

INCORPORATED 1869.

Capital Paid up - \$11,560,000
Reserve Funds - 13,575,000

Savings Department Accounts may be opened with an initial deposit of One Dollar. Interest is credited half yearly.

Joint Account An account in the name of two members of a family will be found convenient. Either person (or the survivor) may operate the account.

A. F. LITTLE MANAGER, Bridgetown
F. G. PALFREY MANAGER, Lawrence town
E. B. McDANIEL MANAGER, Annapolis Royal.



Small Deposits Welcome

If you wish to start a Savings Account do not hesitate because you have only a small sum to begin with; you will be welcome at our office. Some of our large accounts began as deposits of \$1. It is our aim to have customers come to us with the feeling that we will attend to their business with pleasure.

The Bank of Nova Scotia

Capital - \$6,800,000
Surplus - 12,000,000
Total Resources over - 90,000,000

BRIDGETOWN BRANCH
J. S. Lewis, Manager

Lawrencetown Red Cross

On February 3rd, the Lawrencetown Red Cross Relief Society sent the following contribution to the Belgian Relief Work:

- Clarence Branch
- T. C. Minard—\$1.00 and 1 pr. socks
- Mrs. F. W. Ward—1 parcel infants' clothing
- Mrs. H. H. Roach—1 parcel woman's clothing
- Mrs. A. P. Rumsey—1 parcel infants' clothing
- Red Cross Society—3 quilts
- Red Cross Society—1 parcel clothing
- Red Cross Society—1 pr. mitts
- Lawrencetown Branch
- Mrs. Joel Whitman—1 parcel clothing
- Mrs. N. G. Charlton—1 parcel clothing
- Mrs. West—1 pillow and slip
- Mrs. E. Daniels—1 parcel clothing
- Mrs. Ed. Banks, Inglisville—1 parcel clothing
- Mrs. West—1 parcel clothing
- Mrs. S. T. Jefferson—1 parcel clothing
- Mrs. Harlow—1 parcel clothing
- Mrs. I. F. Brown—1 parcel clothing
- Red Cross Society—1 parcel clothing
- Red Cross Society—1 quilt
- Mrs. John Schaffer—1 quilt
- Miss Lizzie Feltus—1 quilt
- Mrs. Wm. McPherson—1 quilt
- Enclosed please find \$1.00 which was donated by T. C. Minard, Clarence to be added to the Monitor Fund.

MRS. SCHAFFNER,
Sec. Lawrencetown Red Cross.

Patriotism and Production

Agricultural meetings will be held as follows:—
Stoney Beach, Feb. 16th at 7.30 p. m.
Centre Granville, Feb. 17th at 7.30 p. m.
Belle Isle, Feb. 18th at 7.30 p. m.
Upper Granville, Feb. 19th at 7.30 p. m.
Clarence Centre, Feb. 20th at 7.30 p. m.
Speakers: L. D. Robinson, M. A. and G. E. Sanders, entomologist.
How to treat Canker, to make Lime Sulphur and to exterminate Brown Tail Moth etc., will be explained. Come and learn.
D. W. ELLIOTT, Secretary.