

GROUND BLACK WITH DEAD BODIES IN FRONT OF BRITISH FIRING LINE

Dorchester Clergyman Gets Letter From His Brother, Who is With the Royal Navy Brigade in the Dardanelles---Gaze Upon Skulls and Skeletons From Which Flesh Has Been Eaten by Vultures---The Heat Something Fearful.

Rev. E. C. Budd, Rector of the Episcopal church at Dorchester, N.B., is in receipt of an interesting letter from his brother, who is with the Royal Naval Brigade in the Dardanelles. Rev. Mr. Budd's brother, it may be said, has been in the navy for nearly 17 years, and from the commencement of the war till August last was with the grand fleet in the North Sea. From August till October, 1915, he has been at the Dardanelles. He has been in the hospital suffering from malarial fever and sunstroke, but is now convalescent and on the way to recovery. The following extracts from the letter to Rev. Mr. Budd will be read with interest:

I am just coming round and beginning to recognize the nurses and people, my mind and everything has been a perfect blank. I was brought away out of the firing line trenches on a stretcher with malarial fever and sunstroke, and put on board the hospital ship. It was a great surprise to me when I came round to my proper state of mind to wake up and find myself in the hospital.

This fever and sunstroke drives people mad, and you may quite understand what a fearful state the fellows get into here. I quite think that I am now pulling through alright as I am shortly going to be sent away for a few weeks in a convalescent home.

You might please hand this letter round as I am fearfully weak for letter writing. When I am fit again I shall be sent back to the Dardanelles. It takes 15 days for me to get a letter out here from England. Hope this will find you quite fit and well. Always your affectionate brother.

P.S.—I should have written you before but it is a fearful job to write when in the firing line and even in our dug out in the rest camp.

In front of the firing line ground is thick and black with dead bodies, and we cannot get out to them to drag them in and bury them on account of the heavy shrapnel and machine guns firing on us. Many of them are only 10, 15 and 20 yards from our trenches and many of them one can only see their skulls and skeletons, their flesh is eaten by vultures. I have watched these birds eating the flesh off these dead bodies. One cannot realize the great horror. The heat out here is fearful, nothing less than 120 in the shade. When I landed it was 150. We cannot estimate what it is in the sun. Most of the work stops out here in the day and starts at night. All our fellows are chocolate colour. I met and have been on board ship with them, some fellow whom I knew well etc., and could not recognize them on account of their chocolate coloured faces and some of them nearly black. Must now lie down, am fearfully weak. Goodbye.

WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH CHINA

KIOTO, Japan, Nov. 9.—Japan has assured the powers she has no intention of making a military or naval demonstration against China in connection with the pending negotiations or postponement of the re-establishment of a Monarchy, if this change in the form of Government should be decided upon.

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Germans Escape From Siberia

PROVIDENCE, R.I., Nov. 17.—The Providence Journal will say tomorrow: "The steamer Rotterdam, which left New York on Saturday, carried with her four German officers, who will be apprehended and taken off the vessel by British authorities the moment she reaches Falmouth. The German officers were captured by Russian troops over six months ago and sent as prisoners to Southern Siberia."

"Their presence on a Hamburg-American liner sailing from the port of New York last Saturday reveals a system of wholesale prisoner delivery as clever in conception and as romantic in execution as anything of the character that has ever been attempted in history.

"In the last six months, it is declared, over 200 German army officers, some of them still suffering from wounds, and all of them at various times captured by the Russians, have passed through New York on their way back to Germany armed with fraudulent American passports.

"These men have come from Siberia down through Manchuria into Northern China by caravan transportation routes, owned and operated by Germans. It has taken many of them from eight to ten weeks to make the trip from southwestern Siberia to the first point where they could reach more main travel roads, down to Tientsin.

"Caravans have been organized for this purpose and have been operated by Germans masked as Chinese coolies, and by many Chinese helpers.

"From Shanghai these officers have found their way to New York City, either through South American ports or California.

"A large number of German soldiers are held in camps situated in a triangle made between three Siberian cities.

"These officers have been receiving money through Red Cross agencies, from friends and relatives in Germany, and have used this money successfully in bribing Russian guards, not only to allow them to escape, but to furnish them with Russian passports, and to take them down to the points at which they can be picked up by the caravans.

"It is only the officers who are picked up in this way. As soon as these men reach New York they are supplied with money and fraudulent passports.

"Nine of these German officers reached New York on Thursday last, and four of them left on Saturday on the Rotterdam. The other five are being held in New York until passports can be secured that fit their description. Among the officers who have been passed through in this way was a German General Staff officer, whose name is said to be von Hofstein. This man had been wounded in both legs and walked on crutches. He left there some months ago on the steamer United States under the name of Schraut, and carrying a passport bearing that name."

Another Catholic Chaplin Dies

There will be widespread regret at the death by shrapnel of the Rev. Father John Gwynn, S. J., chaplain to the Irish Guards. He was killed in Flanders. The Rev. John Stuart, D.D. (late of St. Mary's Haddington), writes to say that he conducted the burial service on the day following Father Gwynn's death. No further details are at hand. Father Gwynn who was the son of an Army officer, was a member of the Irish Province of the Society of Jesus, and was, until the outbreak of the war, in charge of the University Students' Hospital in Dublin. He was the first chaplain of any denomination attached to the British forces in Flanders to be wounded. That was on February 1, 1915, at Quinchy, when the Irish Guards so distinguished themselves, and when Sergeant (now Second Lieutenant) Michael O'Leary, of the Irish Guards, won his Victoria Cross. The Irish Guards were ordered to retake a position. Father Gwynn had given them Absolution and Communion behind the trenches and now, before advancing, they knelt (as our Scottish soldiers did before the victory of Bannockburn) in silent prayer for a minute; then, each man making the sign of the Cross, they sprang to their feet, leapt over the trenches, and dashing in open order across the exposed ground swept by the enemy's fire, they routed the Germans at the point of the bayonet. Father Gwynn, encouraging the men to do their duty and keep up the honour of the regiment, followed hard after them. "The last thing," he subsequently wrote, "I remember was seeing the Guards get over the trenches, when a lurid blaze seemed to flash into my eyes with a deafening crash. I was hurled back five yards or so, and lay unconscious

for some minutes. A doctor bandaged me up, and I found I was not so bad. Splinters of the shell just grazed my face, cutting it a bit, too, struck me an inch or so above the knee, and lodged inside. But in an hour's time, when everything was washed and bandaged, I was able to give extreme unction to a poor Irish Guardsman who had been badly hit."

Father Gwynn is the third chaplain of the 1st Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers, at Sedd-el-Bahr, in the Gallipoli Peninsula, and a Scottish minister being the other two.—Edinburgh Catholic Herald.

Laverne's Statement Not Denied

OTTAWA, Nov. 12.—The statement made in the report sent out by the Canadian Press last week that the St. Stanislaus (Que.) meeting addressed by Armand Laverne and other Nationalists was held under Liberal auspices is indignantly denied at Liberal headquarters here. The meeting was purely a Nationalist one and not a single Liberal was invited to attend or speak. The campaign of the Nationalists against Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Liberal is as vicious and determined now as it was in 1911 when the Conservative-Nationalist alliance was in full and undisguised effect.

Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, who has been especially active in stimulating recruiting in the province of Quebec and who has addressed scores of patriotic meetings, has been subjected to the most bitter abuse of late from the Nationalist press and speakers, because of his imperialism.

Colonel Laverne's frank statement last week that both he and Mr. Bourassa were offered portfolios in the Borden government when the ministry was being formed is decidedly disconcerting to the Prime Minister now. Colonel Laverne's statement is, however, unrefuted, nor has his anti-recruiting answer to Sir Sam Hughes brought forth any ministerial criticism.

German Made Huge Purchases In Holland

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 17.—The presence in Holland of larger numbers of Germans than have been seen for a long time past is causing much curious speculation. The Germans are buying very large quantities of goods, both eatables and other merchandise, but most of such commodities as are not allowed by the Dutch Government to be exported. The German buyers seem to show no inclination as hitherto to try to get purchases over the frontier. They instead are making arrangements for the goods to remain in Dutch warehouses for the time being. Many Netherlanders regard these proceedings as indicating the approach of some sort of an armistice, during which the export problems might be temporarily removed. Others even suggest the enterprise may mean that peace is looked for and that preparations already are being made to cope with the tremendous rush to buy foodstuffs which in such an event would arise.

In any case, the circumstances are unusual and the Dutch are convinced that something is in the wind. Other and more sinister deductions are possible.

British Caught Enemy Sub.

PARIS, Nov. 15.—A despatch to the Havas Agency from Athens dated Tuesday, says:

"The newspaper Katrol says it has received assurances from a reliable source that British torpedo boat destroyers captured another submarine in Greek waters last week taking the crew prisoners. The submarine, with its engine damaged, was caught between Crete and Cythera and towed into Mudros."

The Week-End Programme at THE NICKEL Theatre.

A BROADWAY STAR FEATURE, ENTITLED—

"PAWNS OF MARS."

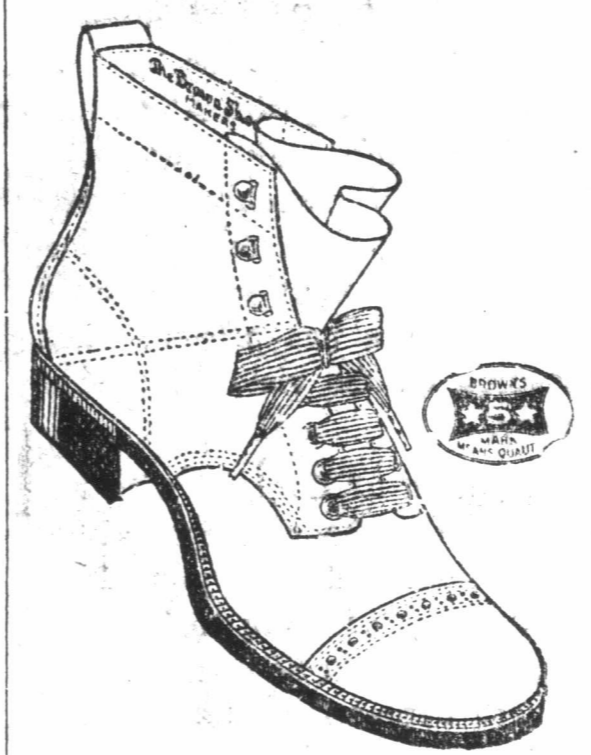
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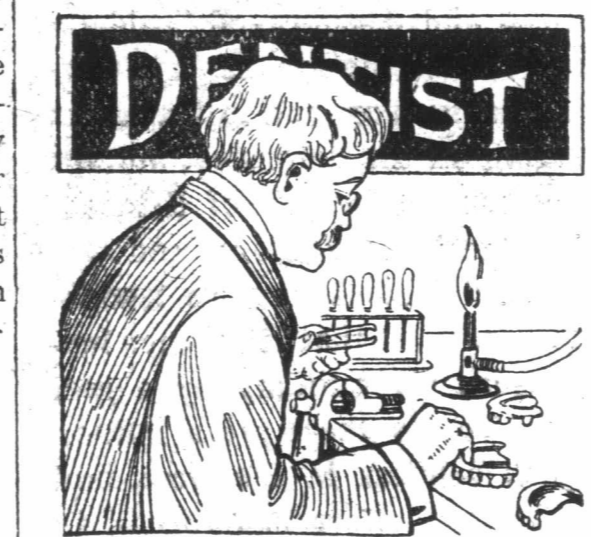
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