

AUSTRIAN ROUTE PATH OF HORROR

Marked by Devastated Country and by Innumerable Victims of Most Horrible Cruelties

London, Dec. 23.—The route of retreat of the Austrian army from Serbia is a path of horror.

It is a path marked by the bodies of dead and dying, of wrecked wagons and worse wrecks of men driven insane—hopelessly mad—by the suffering they endured.

I was with the Austrian army in its precipitate retreat from Serbia. I saw this army transformed almost in a day from that of conquerors to a helpless, staggering, disorganized mass of men.

The retreat from Serbia was a rout. After having spent weeks in Belgium and France, having seen the German army in the field and for weeks watched the fighting at Przemysl, it was in little Serbia that I witnessed the most horrible scenes of the war.

I had come to see the Serbian campaign after many weeks with the Austrian army in Galicia, where I had seen its heroic attack and defence against the Russians. I had seen the Austrians bearing up heroically under lack of hospital supplies.

A Silent Countryside. But this Serbian campaign was different. Perhaps the long, smouldering hatred of Serbia, the belief that Serbian plotters had arranged and carried out the assassination of Archduke Frederick, was responsible. The Austrian outrages in Serbia are greater than those the Germans are alleged to have committed in Belgium. For forty miles from the frontier the country is as deserted and as silent as a tomb. Hundreds of residents of Serbian towns have been executed.

On November 15, the Austrians jubilantly took the correspondents then with the army, to Serbia, to show how the lines of the enemy had been driven back. We travelled 150 miles into the north-west corner of Serbia. Eighteen towns which we passed through were utterly deserted. In every town I saw one or two walls, riddled with bullets, which had been execution places. The Austrian and Hungarian officers denied that they executed women, but admitted the execution of hundreds of men.

Barbarous Cruelty. One Hungarian officer proudly showed me a six-foot pole which he used in his killing. He explained that he stretched a rope from this pole, forced the Serb victim to sit on a chair and then after fastening the free end of the rope about the Serb's neck he knocked the chair out from under him. "He is usually dead within eight or ten minutes," said the officer.

I saw twenty-five square miles of trenches of perfect pattern in which were bodies of Serbians. They were even denied a decent burial.

The Austrians promised, with great jubilation, to take us to Belgrade November 25. But the plans were suddenly changed. We were hurried out of Serbia in wagons. There was no explanation for the sudden change of plans, and after leaving the wagons were loaded on a train and taken to Buda-Pesth.

There, huge wagon trains filled the roads. There were madmen and wounded, and then we discovered that the Serbians were advancing. We had taken part in a retreat—an utter rout.

Retreat in Blizzard. The day we left a terrific blizzard was raging. The roads were in an unspeakable condition. The whole thing was as if Belgium should suddenly arise and drive out the Germans. Many officers were insane during the retreat. One instance of this was not discovered until the Hungarian frontier was reached. An Austrian lieutenant, severely wounded, was lying on the roadside when he saw the major of his own regiment riding by in the retreat. The lieutenant called to him, whereupon the major turned and discharged his revolver at the wounded man, hitting him in one leg. When the major reached Matrovischi on the border he was discovered to be stark mad.

After my many weeks of association with Austrian officers and journalists I was taken completely by surprise at the terrible conditions in Serbia. The alarm, to be sensed in the population at Buda Pesta, was also to be noted in Vienna. The city was flooded with homeless refugees from Galicia. When I left Vienna on December 4, coal was being doled out to citizens in fifteen-pound lots and carried home by them either on their shoulders, or by the wealthy, in taxicabs and carriages.

Big Percentage Of French Injured Get Back To Front

Paris, Dec. 23.—No fewer than 54 per cent. of the French wounded returned to the firing line before December 12th, according to interesting figures supplied today by the surgical department to the Ministry of War.

Of the remainder 24 per cent. had been given convalescent leaves, 17 per cent. were still in hospitals, and 1½ per cent. of the wounded died.

These statistics demonstrate the remarkable advance made in surgery and show a lower percentage of deaths from wounds than in any preceding war.

ICE HAMPERS THE PROSPERO

Bowring's Coastal Department halt the following from Capt. A. Kean of the Prospero this morning:

"Hampered very much by ice. Discharged Westport freight, half a mile from the harbor."

Marches Against Albanian Rebels

Bari, Italy, Dec. 28.—Advices have been received from Albania to the effect that Essad Pasha, Provisional President, has gathered 8800 soldiers together and marched against the Albanian rebels intending to engage them in a decisive battle.

COLL. ARNAUD WRITES FRIENDS FROM THE FRONT

John I. Robinson, of the Sydney Hotel is in receipt of a card from Coll Arnaud, formerly with the Steel Co., and now serving in the Princess Patricia's Pals. Mr. Arnaud asks to be remembered to the boys, and states that the Regiment is leaving shortly for Belgium.—Sydney Post.

NO TRUTH IN RUMORS

Stephano and Morvenna Are Quite Safe.

Rumor had it Saturday that the S.S. Morvenna had been blown up by a mine in the North Sea and yesterday it was said that the Stephano had met similar fate.

There is no truth whatever in the reports.

Great Reception Given New Show At the Casino

The people turned out in large numbers yesterday afternoon to attend the Casino to witness the re-appearance of Franklyn and Hiatt. In the evening the hall was filled to overflowing and before the overture was played by Prof. McCarthy every available seat was occupied and many were obliged to stand.

The programme opened with a splendid series of motion pictures. While they were all good, one may be pardoned for making special mention of the three-part feature "A Race for Millions." The heroine undergoes several thrilling escapades in trying to avoid the evil machination of the villainous pair who scheme to put her out of the way so that they may claim the fortune. There were several moments when the audience were wrapt in silence, so intense was the interest in the working out of the plot.

When Franklyn and Hiatt appeared on the stage they were given a most hearty reception, clearly demonstrating the popular standing which they occupied in the opinion of the public. Their lightning changes of costume were warmly applauded. "The Midnight Son" went especially well; everyone like the impersonations of the two "Club Chappies," and the applause was unanimous. This afternoon and to-night the show will be repeated, and on Monday, Franklyn and Hiatt will appear in a one act farce comedy.

Capt. T. Hollett, of Burin, is at present in the city on business.

Miss Sarah Grant of New Perlican entered the hospital this morning to undergo an operation for appendicitis.

The Austrians mercilessly criticize the Germans, asserting the Kaiser's forces are not helping them. The Hungarians bitterly assail the Austrians, charging the latter with forcing them to stand the brunt of the Serbian charges.

When I reached Buda Pesta, on November 30, I was told by journalists there that, on the previous day, Russian Cossacks had reached a point within sixty-five miles of the city. This was the reason for the panic in the residents there.

HOW TO REACH THE CROWD

Dear Sir.—I thank you for the kind reference you had in last night's edition to my having obtained the exclusive agency for The Thos. D. Murphy line of Trade Calendars and it may interest you to know that such is the circulation of your paper that my office has been besieged to-day by persons who had read your item and were under the impression that I was handling a line of Personal Greeting Calendars.

I can certainly supply the best Trade Calendar going but the friends you have brought to my office I have had to refer to Mr. Power of the Atlantic Bookstore across the street. It certainly speaks well, though, for the circulation of your paper.

—P. E. OUTERBRIDGE, St. John's, Dec. 23, '14.

Franklyn and Hiatt At the Casino Tonight

"All a Mistake" is the title of the one act comedy, which Nellie Franklyn and W. S. Hiatt will present at the Casino Theatre to-night. It is a screamingly funny sketch, and is bound to create much laughter.

There are also five excellent film features, with appropriate music and a pleasant evening is promised all who attend at the Casino Theatre to-night.

S.S. Carthaginian leaves Philadelphia on the 29th for St. John's.

S.S. Queen Wilhelmina leaves Liverpool on January 2nd for St. John's.

Germany Poses As Peacekeeper

Athens, Dec. 21.—Germany is making every effort to prevent a rupture between Greece and Turkey. Relations between the two countries are now strained to the utmost as a result of the arrest of the naval attaché of the Greek Embassy at Constantinople, by the Turks.

The naval officer was sentenced to death as an alleged spy. The German Ambassador to Constantinople has been ordered to intervene and prevent the threatened execution of the Greek officer.

Swallowed Pencil

Lena Taylor, a little girl of Trepassy, arrived by the Portia, yesterday for treatment at the hospital.

Recently the child swallowed a piece of pencil, and she may have to be operated on.

OBITUARY

Mrs. John Day. We regretfully record the death of Katherine, wife of Mr. John Day, of the Reid Mfd. Co's. Electrical Department, which occurred at her residence Saturday last. Deceased had been ailing for some time, though death came almost unexpectedly.

A husband, four sons, two of whom—John E. and Leo—are with the First Newfoundland Regiment at Inverness and four daughters are left to mourn. The funeral takes place to-morrow afternoon from her late residence, York Street.

DEATHS

DAY.—On Saturday, 26th, after a long illness, Katherine, beloved wife of John O'Dea, leaving four daughters and four sons, two of whom are with the First Nfd. Regiment, to mourn their sad loss. Funeral on Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. from her late residence 16 York Street. Friends except this the only intimation. Boston papers please copy.

FOR SALE—Sample Furniture at a Bargain. Apply C. H. BULLEY, Renouf Bldg.—dec28,21

WANTED—A Young Man to take charge of a Manufacturer's Agents' Office. Must possess initiative; be an experienced book-keeper, and be able to handle correspondence. Apply in own handwriting to "C.T.," P.O. Box 922.—dec22,14

The "One Dip" Pen—(1 dip and write 600 words). Box of 12 pens, 25c. Box of 12 pens, Silver Plated, 35c. Sample, 5c. THE OLD COLONY SUPPLY CO. AGENTS, 213 New Gower Street, St. John's, Newfoundland.—dec28,m,w,sat

NOTICE.—Owing to the Convention Bay Convention to be held at Coley's Point the second week in January, there will be no meeting of Port de Grave District Council until that Convention is closed, when due notice will be given of the time and place of meeting. GEO. F. GRIMES, Chairman, Port de Grave District Council.

"Pleasant Habit" Of the Gurkhas At Close Quarters

London, Dec. 23.—The "mailed fist" has become a reality in the war.

The Gurkhas have a habit, when they charge, of seizing the Germans bayonets in their left hand while they wield their long knives with their right. Many of the Indian fighters have thus been wounded in the hand.

The Government is having special gloves made for the fighters, and insides of which are protected with steel chain mail.

PRESENTATION TO YOUNG BRIDE

Miss Emily Kelloway, lately employed at the British Clothing Factory, left by the Prospero for her home, Wesleyville, where she will be united in the silken bonds of matrimony, the happy man being Mr. Edgar Andrews, son of Capt. Noah Andrews.

She was a very popular young lady at the factory as her faithfulness as a worker and general manner brought to her the esteem of her employer and the love of the other ladies working with her.

On the eve of her departure, Miss Lizzie Dalton, on behalf of the employees, presented her with an address and two beautiful wedding presents.

Miss Ayer Sings To Crowded Houses

Christmas Day was a memorable one at the Nickel Theatre as the attendance was the largest in the history of the theatre.

The weather conditions were perfect; the pictures were exceptionally good, and beside, there was the new soloist. All combined to make the attendance a record one.

The Nickel is now looked upon as a regular part of Christmas and thither the crowds go.

Miss Margaret Ayer, the new soloist, who has come for a short engagement, made her first appearance. She was greeted by immense audiences throughout the day, and she favourably impressed all. When she appeared she was warmly applauded and at the conclusion of her song the clapping was so enthusiastic and general there was no doubt that all were pleased.

Miss Ayer's song was "Happy Days" which she rendered perfectly. Her voice is sweet and attractive and already she has made many warm friends who are anxiously waiting to hear her again.

Miss Ayer has an extensive repertoire of songs and we predict for her a very successful stay in St. John's. The programme will be repeated to-day. Those who were unable to attend yesterday should take in the entertainment.

SHIPPING

Fogota left Seldom early this morning.

S.S. Stephano leaves New York again on Wednesday next.

Bargt. E. S. Hocken, Capt. Martyn, arrived at Pernambuco, after a fine run of 25 days.

Bargt. Lake Simcoe is loading codfish from Baine Johnston and Co. for Brazil.

S.S. Durango is now 10 days out from Queenstown where she was obliged to put in for repairs during the run from Liverpool.

Fractured Knee Cap

Saturday night, Williams Evans, blacksmith, passing along by Bowman's grocery store, New Gower St., slipped on the ice, and fell breaking one of his legs and fractured the knee cap.

He was taken into Bowman's and a doctor summoned, who ordered the patient to the hospital.

Three Naval Reservists from Fortune and a Volunteer from Hr. Breton arrived by the Portia.




AT HOME.

The Governor and Lady Davidson will be "At Home" on New Year's Day from 3 to 6 p.m.

By Order, ALAN GOODRIDGE, dec28,41 Capt. A.D.C.

SOROSIS SHOES

The name SOROSIS on a pair of Shoes is a Guarantee of Quality, Style and Fit. As a wear-resister, and a shape-retainer the Sorosis has a high reputation with particular women.



Buttomed

Dongola, with Self Tip.
Dongola Vamp, Gray Cloth Top.
Tan Vamp, Brown Cloth Top.
Tan Vamp, Fancy Fawn Top.
Pat. Leather, Black & White Top

Laced

Dongola, Patent Tjp.
Dongola, Self Tip.
Gun Metal.

Ayre & Sons

LIMITED

CONTRADICTORY STORIES TOLD ABOUT KAISER

Some Represent Him as Older—Others as Younger—Some Talk of Him as Almost a Madman—Others Say He's More Capable Than Ever

New York, Dec. 20.—A London cable to The New York Herald says: "The descriptions that different correspondents have given of the Kaiser have aroused an interest—one might almost say curiosity—in the present condition of the man who is reported to have been seriously ill.

"He has been described as a broken old man. His hair has grown white with anxiety. He has dyed it; he has been too agitated to dye it; both versions are current. His aspect is haggard, almost maniacal. His eyes are those of an insomniac. A crowning touch—he is even reported to have shaved off his terrible moustachios. Earlier reports, however, represented him as bearded, but found too little credence to persevere. This may be described as the Triple Entente view of the German Emperor.

A very different Kaiser is pictured by German and Austrian and even Italian writers. Baron von Skoda—a name made almost as famous as the Krupp by the efficient Austrian motor howitzers—recently made a trip to the German headquarters and dined with the Emperor.

"He communicated his impressions to the Neu Frei Presse, of Vienna. He said he found the Kaiser in the best of health and looking extremely fit. The rumors of his ill-health and of his hair having turned gray he dismissed as idle inventions. Every day the Kaiser was occupied with exhausting work, and he executed it with surprising elasticity and energy.

"An Italian journalist bore similar witness in the Giornale d'Italia. He saw the Kaiser several times after the start of the war. He wrote: "Each time I was struck by the hard, flinty, tragic look on his face, in which not a nerve quivered even at the most enthusiastic ovation, and which did not evince a shadow of a smile. It was the Kaiser of former years. The Kaiser whom the French and British papers describe as an elderly, broken-down man, makes, on the contrary, the impression of having grown ten years younger."

There is another splendid sheet of ice at Bowring Park.

Hon. R. K. Bishop left by the Stephano, Thursday, on a short business trip to Canada and the States.

STEBAURMAN'S OINTMENT

I can highly recommend Stebaurman's Ointment as a complete cure for Eczema. I was troubled with Eczema for a long time, and after using a few boxes of Stebaurman's Ointment I became completely cured.

G. A. HUTCHINGS, 41 Scott St., St. John's, N.F.

Stebaurman's Ointment, 20 cents per box or 6 boxes for \$1.00—oct23,2w Cash Must be Sent With Order. P. O. Box 651, or 15 Brazil's Square.

NOTICE.

BUSINESS CHANGE

The partnership heretofore existing between Mr. R. W. Jeans and myself under the name of the "UNIVERSAL AGENCIES" has this day been dissolved by mutual consent.

All amounts due "The Universal Agencies" to this date are payable to me, and all amounts owed by "The Universal Agencies" to this date will be paid by me, provided accounts of same are rendered to me in writing not later than January 15th, 1915.

My business for the future will be conducted in my own name, and I will be responsible from this date only for accounts contracted in my own name.

I will retain many excellent agencies, notably, amongst others, those of the De Reszke Cigarettes, Canadian Casualty and Boiler Insurance Co.; Acadia Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.; Patterson's Candy; Peerless Carbon and Ribbon Manufg. Co., and the Thomas D. Murphy Calendar Co.

I respectfully ask the trade for a continuance of the kind patronage accorded me in the past.

P. F. OUTERBRIDGE, 137 Water Street, Telephone 60, dec26,41

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE. oct19,12w,d w

The Bear's Onward March

In the eastern theatre of war, the success of the Russian Bear seems assured. Winter is coming on—the Russians are prepared. They are a hardy race and cold does not affect them. We in Newfoundland consider ourselves hardy, but nevertheless we must also prepare ourselves to withstand the elements. To be comfortable during winter, dry feet are essential. You can have them from Monroe & Co. (have you seen the bear in their window?) W. R. Gooble, Nicholle, Inkpen & Chase, Steer Bros., Jesse Whitehead and J. M. Devine.—decl

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Good Morning! We are Introducing

American Silk
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They have stood the test. Give real foot comfort. No seams to rip. Never become loose or baggy. The shape is knit in—not pressed in.

GUARANTEED for fitness, style superiority of material and workmanship. Absolutely stainless. Will wear 6 months without holes, or new ones free.

OUR SPECIAL OFFER to every one sending us \$1.00 in currency or postal note, to cover advertising and shipping charges, we will send post-paid, with written guarantee backed by a five million dollar company, either:

- 3 Pairs of our 75c. value American Silk Hosiery
- or 4 Pairs of our 50c. value Am. Cashmere Hosiery
- or 4 Pairs of our 50c. value Am. Cotton-Lisle Hosiery
- or 6 Pairs Children's Hosiery.

Give the color, size, and whether Ladies' or Gent's hosiery is desired.

DON'T DELAY—Offer expires when a dealer in your locality is selected.

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