

FORTY-FIFTH YEAR

BRANTFORD, CANADA, SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1916

SECOND PART

THE CHAPLAIN IN THIS WAR GOOD SAMARITAN TO THE SICK AND DYING

Many Heroic Deeds Performed by the Men Who Administer Spiritual Need to Soldiers--In the Dardanelles Campaign, Especially, Spirit of Self-Sacrifice Often Manifested.

The war chaplain is a worthy example of the spirit and self-sacrifice of the Son of Man. He acts as a Good Samaritan to the sick, the wounded and the dying. He ministers to the hunger of the soldier's heart when life is ebbing away to the beyond, and his thoughts and prayers are for some loved wife or mother at home. The chaplain is his last and best friend.

The soldier's deathbed is sometimes in the gully of a Turkish battlefield, sometimes in the darkness of the night, stretched out on a blood-stained mound of earth, some times amidst the agonizing groans of the dying in a base hospital. The record of unselfish deeds in this war shows that the chaplain is among the foremost in bravery and self-sacrifice, and it has fallen to a Canadian journalist, who for many years has occupied a big place among his fellows in the Great Metropolis, Mr. F. A. Mackenzie to portray the work of that servant of God, King and country.

The burial of the dead which would not think our enemies would at least respect till the ceremony is completed, has sometimes to be performed under a sort of siege.

Describing the advance of the Anzacs at Gallipoli on that fatal morning of April 5, 1915, the writer says that Chaplain Luxford, with the New Zealand contingent, landed with a field ambulance in a place among his time plenty of harrowing work to carry out. While fighting was proceeding ahead, men were bringing the wounded in--some being carried on donkeys, on the backs of their fellows, and on improvised stretchers, bearing the mangled bodies through the gorges and down the cliffs as best they could.

The chaplain was here, there, and everywhere doing his best--aiding the Red Cross one moment, raising a cheering word to a soldier in pain, and the next moment, with a prayer over one who showed signs of being speedily released from his physical agony.

BURIAL SERVICE IN A GRAVE. Then graves had to be dug, for in the tropical climate of Suva Bay a decomposed corpse was a sure disease-spreader. But as soon as the chaplain and his confederates in this mission of loving respect began, the Turkish snipers, secreted all along the line of the British troops, opened fire upon them and they had prepared cover in the grave they had prepared for their country's heroes.

Chaplain Luxford and another clergyman jumped into the grave, and there finished their sacred task while guns roared and bullets whizzed overhead. Was ever such partnership, as head.

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Miss Violet Morgan Dean of Toronto is a pretty young Canadian who took an active part in the anti-vice campaign in New Jersey last September and October. She was given entire charge of different districts in the State and organized meetings, speaking several times a day, she took out her license as a chauffeur and drove her own car. She is shorter to be heard in this city.

Diary of a Trooper Who Sailed to India in Transport

Singing Not Allowed on Board in the Mediterranean--Water Scarce at Port Said--Through Suez Canal Troops Could be Seen Encamped on Shore.

Cyclist B. J. Cox, of the 25th London Corps, sends to a relative in Canada a chatty account of his training in Hants, England, and the more soldiers in the "Cerenic" for Bombay, where they all detoured for service in parts that must not be stated.

This voyage was remarkable for the fact that the liner with its enormous human cargo, was provided with no escort while crossing the Bay of Biscay, or even in the "Mediterranean Sea. The explanation for this unique fact redounds to the navigating skill of the officer. After having done several voyages without mishap he persisted in this voyage--the most responsible of all that he navigated--doing it again without any destroyer convoy. His theory was that he knew how to outmanoeuvre the submarine, and the escort was needed, no doubt, elsewhere. The following extracts from Private Cox's epistle will convey some idea of the detail of the life on board a troopship in these war times:

NO SINGING. "Sunday, 15th Feb. 1916. Another Sunday on board--the second one. Slept last night over the propeller, and slept perfectly. It was glorious when I turned in. Next morning it was again glorious, no doubt, else where. The following extracts from Private Cox's epistle will convey some idea of the detail of the life on board a troopship in these war times:

"A GLORIOUS FAILURE." The Anzacs started from Suva Bay, attacking with the utmost gallantry the Turks on Sari Bair and Chunuk Bair. The ground was one vast labyrinth of trenches, saps and traverses. Barbed wire entanglements were erected at every spot, shells were bursting, bombs exploding and innumerable machine guns were planted where they would do most damage to the attacking troops. How the Anzacs landed on April 25, how they cleared point after point, and then how victory was at the last moment taken from Suva Bay, is now a matter of history. Their failure was one of the most glorious failures this world has known.

STRUCK WHILE TIRED OUT Three of the chaplains accompanied the New Zealand troops who took part in the first landing. Others came later. They all endured the misery of their comrades from heat and flies. They went out into the gullies, seeking their wounded and helping them when found. Mr. Luxford was one of the early three. Hour after hour he kept on. After one especially trying experience he sat down for a moment on a stone, tired out. As he paused a Turkish bullet struck his leg, severing the femoral artery, deflected and travelled around the leg, inflicting a terrible wound which, in spite of every endeavor, made it necessary to amputate his leg.

And it is thus that our ministers of the Gospel of Peace fall in war times--doing their best to succour the wounded and bring hope and consolation to the dying, and as we see here die and suffer themselves.

France has declined to modify the embargo against the Canadian lobster.

THOUSANDS OF GERMANS IN RUSS PRISONS

Three Near Omsk Has 10,000 Warriors in Each.

The great unification of Russia in war times is dwelt upon in an interesting letter from a young engineer employed in that country since the war began. The letter covers in a general way his observations from the commencement of hostilities until lately, and reads, in part, as follows:

PRISON CAMPS. "On my way out to Omsk I visited one of the large prison camps at Tumen and afterwards two more at Omsk. Each camp contains 10,000 prisoners of war. The first, the commandant-in-charge is a man by the name of Riabzoff, who up to the outbreak of war had been in our employ as one of our principal Russians at Spassk. He it was who obtained permission for me to visit and make a thorough inspection of the camp, which was most interesting. The prisoners have a large compound fenced in with a row of large butts each containing 500 men. Each hut is supplied with a large Russian stove, and kept thereby well warmed. In their stores they have large supplies of overcoats lined with cotton wool for each man together with a scarf, which I should call a shawl, besides large stocks of well-made boots, socks and underlinen.

"I told Riabzoff that I thought the Russian sympathy towards the Austrians and their hatred of the Germans had made the difference, but Riabzoff assured me on his word of honor, that he, having made the fullest investigations, found that the Germans behaved to the women of the villages, who were denuded of their men, in the most atrocious way, and save in sporadic cases this did not happen with the Austrians.

"Ammunition is coming in well now and there appear to be no fears in this respect for the future. The only fears are German influences at work, endeavoring to disorganize wherever they can make their subtle influence felt. The trouble with Russia is as she has so many thousands upon thousands of subjects of German extraction it is almost impossible to deal with this element.

"The spirit of the country is fine. The soldiers are magnificent. In the earlier parts of the war for want of bayonets and rifles they often went in the trenches with sticks only. What other soldiers in the world would do this? Unless at least supported by hand-grenades. The feeling in the country is that if every man in the country has to be sacrificed they will do it. The only centre where there is a feeling of pessimism is Petrograd itself, where German influences are great. But the whole nation outside Petrograd, as far as I can define, are in the same mood.

"The German methods of frightfulness have united the nation. I believe, and in no other way could it have been done. All these stories which the wounded and refugees are bringing home have permeated through every village in the country, into the depths of Siberia, and if you ask any villagers if they would like to see any Germans, so long as the Germans are likely to attack them again.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY

Delegates Will Gather in the Coliseum in Chicago and There the Man Will be Chosen to Carry the Presidential Banner in the November Election.

Chicago, June 3.--The Chicago Coliseum, where the Republican National Convention of 1916 will be held beginning June 7, has a history rich in political interest. More national political conventions have been held in it than any other building in the United States.

Three Republican National conventions have been held within its walls and it was there also that the progressive party, in 1912, held its first national convention and nominated Col. Theodore Roosevelt for president. The Republicans nominated their presidential ticket in the Chicago Coliseum in 1904, 1908 and 1912.

BUILT FOR CONVENTIONS The building was designed as a model convention hall but later adapted to broader uses. It was built by Charles F. Gunther and several business associates on the site of the old Libby Prison War Museum, at Wabash Avenue and Fifteenth Street, less than a mile from the hotel and retail shopping district.

The castellated walls of the old war prison were used for the Wabash Avenue side of the structure. It was built of stone, brick, steel and glass and was finished in 1900. The building is 403 feet long, 170 feet wide, and 110 feet high and cost nearly \$1,000,000. It has a wide balcony extending around three of the walls and is well lighted and ventilated.

TWO ADDITIONAL BALCONIES For this year's convention two additional balconies with seats for 723 persons have been built between the main floor and the regular balcony. This gives a total seating capacity of 12,400 of which 9,400 seats are on the main floor and 3,000 in the balconies. The crowds will enter through four main doors on the Wabash Avenue side. There are 22 exits. There will be 100 doorkeepers and 100 ushers in addition to a large special detail of police to handle the great crowds. The seating arrangements will follow the general plan of former conventions, although several changes have been made which it is believed will add to the comfort and convenience of the delegates and visitors.

SPECIAL SOUNDING BOARD The speaker's platform, twenty feet long and forty feet wide, is at the south end of the building. It will Convention Two. Saturday provide seats for the officers of the convention and members of the Republican National Committee. Suspended over the stand is a specially designed sounding board. It consists of an inverted concave pyramid built of wood with the apex over the head of the presiding officer. It is designed to throw the voice through the hall. Directly in the rear of the speaker's stand a raised platform with 7,000 seats for the use of presidential candidates and other distinguished guests. On either side of the speaker's platform, extending the entire width of the building is a press section, containing 538 seats for working newspaper men.

In front of the speaker's stand are the seats for 991 delegates and back of these is the space set aside for the seating of the alternates. The section reserved for delegates and alternates is enclosed with a heavy

THE DECORATIONS In the decoration of the convention hall the managers departed from the long established practice of practically relying exclusively on flags and bunting to obtain the desired artistic effect. This year the scheme of interior ornamentation is more elaborate and artistic than ever before, according to experts. The plan was designed by C. R. Hall, superintendent of the Coliseum and Julius Florento, an architect. White and gold dominate the color scheme while American flags, shields and bunting are used to complete the working out of the decorative plan.

THOUSANDS OF YARDS OF CLOTH Eight thousand yards of white cloth, 4,000 yards of gold cloth, 3,000 yards of red, white and blue bunting and 350 American flags and shields were used in the interior ornamentation of the convention hall. The bare brick walls and steel girders which support the roof are concealed by 25 panels of white cloth, each 25 feet long. Each panel is decorated with a deep luster of gold cloth, hanging from the roof in the center under the large glass ventilators are large bars of gold cloth which add to the artistic effect without obstructing light and air. The balconies are tastefully festooned with red, white and blue bunting, caught every 10 feet with bunches of small American flags and shields.

On the back wall of the speaker's stand is hung a large oil portrait of Abraham Lincoln, which has been in six Republican national conventions since it was painted in 1864. It was loaned to the convention by its owner, George Prince, of New York.



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