

Nobility Shrouds New York Valley

Once Home of Refugee
Who Feared Napoleon.

quired or cultivated this isolated territory.

When Muller departed for France after the downfall of Napoleon he left his central New York property in the hands of an agent who proved untrustworthy, and two years later, in 1816, he returned to find his house stripped of its rich furniture, his garden covered with weeds and his village forsaken.

After viewing the wreck, he sold the land to Abijah Western, a New York city merchant, for the sum of \$10,500, and then went back to France, where no doubt he reclaimed a prouder name than plain Louis Anathe Muller, and calmly wiped the American chapter off the slate of his life with never a qualm for the throes of curiosity which were bound to torture posterity when it encountered the mystery of Muller Hill.

Built Imposing Chateau.

The story had its beginnings in 1808, when a Frenchman who called himself plain Louis Anathe Muller, and who never ventured forth without an armed bodyguard, purchased 2,700 acres of land in this isolated region near Slab City, now Georgetown, and employed 150 men, whom he paid in gold and silver, to construct a palatial, bullet-proof chateau on the summit of the highest hill on his estate.

Beside a stream a mile southeast of his homestead, in the valley of Bronder's Hollow, named after John Passon Bronder, one of the men who had accompanied him to this country the Frenchman who called himself Muller established a village which contained two stores, a mill and a storehouse, as well as numerous dwellings.

During the half dozen years that he lived in this forest mansion, Muller's reticence and eccentric conduct greatly stirred the curiosity of his neighbors and gave rise to many a wild rumor as to his identity. But never by an idle word did he betray his real story, and when after hearing of the collapse of Napoleon's fortunes he departed jubilantly for France, he left in his wake a mystery which never has been explained to the full satisfaction of his central New York acquaintances or their descendants.

Home Destroyed by Fire.

The modern visitor to the site of the old Muller house, which was leveled by fire in 1907, must stretch his imagination to believe that this once was the estate of a French nobleman, says the writer. If he drives along the narrow country road that winds across the hills toward Bronder's Hollow he will pass densely wooded stretches that look as if they never had known the pioneer's ax.

A few bleak, gray farmhouses with desolation staring through their paneless windows, decrepit barns with doors that creak on rusty hinges and the shapeless frames of occasional abandoned automobiles along the way are the only evidence that man ever con-

Lincoln Land Patent Filed in Nebraska

Nebraska City, Neb.—An original United States patent on Oteo county land, signed on December 5, 1861, by President Abraham Lincoln, is on file with the register of deeds here.

The patent is for 120 acres of land southwest of Nebraska City, now owned by Edward Baitensperger. The patent conveyed the land to Lydia Stoddard, widow of Daniel Stoddard, a veteran of the War of 1812. Mrs. Stoddard's claim was assigned to Nancy Shields, in whose favor the patent was issued.

FLESH GRAFTED TO SAVE CRUSHED ARM

Remarkable Plastic Surgery
Feat Rescues Limb.

Campbell, Calif.—Medical science has built a new and living arm for Robert Helstrom, superintendent of the Pacific coast rock-crushing plant here, who last March had his arm torn away in an accident at the plant.

While attempting to remove a rock from a roller, Helstrom's arm was pinned under a belt revolving at a high rate of speed. His screams were drowned by the roar of machinery and he was held, helpless, while the heavy leather wore away the flesh of his arm until it laid bare the bone. Only the arrival of closing hour saved the man's life.

He was rushed to a San Francisco hospital and a remarkable experiment in plastic surgery was undertaken to save his arm. Tendons were patched up and tied together and blood vessels closed temporarily so that they would permit the flow of blood later. Then incisions were made in the man's abdomen, three inches long. The strip of flesh, remaining fastened at both ends to his body, was rolled into a rope. Later it was cut at one end and, still attached to the abdomen at the other, grafted onto the bone of the arm.

When the skin had grown firmly to the arm so that the blood was circulating to that member, the rope was cut loose from the abdomen and the manufacture of the arm was nearly complete.

The nerves are the only thing that are causing anxiety, Helstrom says, but it is thought that they will build up and the brand new arm will be as useful as the old.

The attending doctors were Dr. R. E. Graun of Los Gatos and Drs. G. W. Pierce and G. B. O'Connor, San Francisco.

Italy Builds Huge Dry Docks for Ocean Ships

Rome.—It is predicted that within five years the port of Naples will have the biggest dry dock on the continent, with accommodation not only for the largest ships now afloat, but also for those of even greater dimensions that are planned or in course of construction. The dock, on which work has already begun, will be over 1,100 feet long and it is noted that the biggest Italian ships, which must at present dock in England for repairs and overhaul, will no longer be dependent on a foreign port when the new dock is completed. The dock will accommodate two ships.

The total most has been estimated at 50,000,000 lire (over \$4,000,000), a large sum in view of the unsatisfactory state of Italian finances; but it is pointed out that many thousand workmen will be employed directly or indirectly, both on the work itself and afterward, and the moment chosen is regarded as opportune because of "an undeniable world tendency toward a revival of maritime traffic," and also because nearly all countries are renewing their naval armaments.

Radio Burglar Alarm to Brighten Intruders

London.—A woman has just paid \$250 for a radiophone—to play one record only.

When it is played, a dog's bark is heard, followed by a man's cry of "Who's there?"

The purchaser is a widow, living with an elderly maid in a district which has had epidemics of burglaries.

With her new radiophone loudspeakers will be installed in every room, the radiophone will be connected with "invisible light" alarms across each window, and any would-be thief will get the shock of his life if he tries to enter.

SEEN and HEARD around the National Capital

By CARTER FIELD

Washington.—Members of the State department and embassy circles nervous over the possibility of war in Europe growing out of the assassination of King Alexander of Yugoslavia, became even more tense when bulletins with respect to anti-Italian feeling in Serbia, where the mobs blamed an "Italian plot," were published. However, their fears were waved away by an old historian.

"It's the wrong time of the year," the historian smiled.

"If they start fighting, it will be the wrong time, all right," one ambassador retorted. "It's always the wrong time of the year for war."

"That depends," said the historian. "But if you will look up your history and refresh your mind about dates, you will find that of the last twenty-four important wars, all but one started in July, and that one in August."

"What's the answer?" asked the astonished diplomat.

"People do not fight until they get their crops in," replied the historian. "In Europe they have their crops in pretty well by July, and there still remains some good weather for fighting before winter."

"Down in my part of the world," interrupted the minister of one of the Central American countries, who was waiting in the State department ante-room with the ambassador and the historian, "we do not fight during the rainy season. When that comes on, we suspend the war until it is over."

Fears European War

But the ambassador was interested in Europe, not in the vagaries of Central American revolutions.

"I would not be at all surprised if this assassination resulted in a war which would involve first Italy and Yugoslavia, and later most of Europe," he said, "in spite of your theory it is the wrong time of the year."

"Why, even the assassination was at the wrong time of the year to cause a war," said the historian. "Again I ask you to search your history and notice the dates. Dates seem unimportant to most of us. We are interested in the things that happened—in the story, as it were."

"But there is a pattern to it if you go all the way through. Always the particular outrage or event which has led to the war has happened in the late spring. In the case of the World war it was in June. But the war did not come for six weeks. Until the proper time for a war."

"That may have been logical enough once," retorted the ambassador. "But the reasons for it have become archaic. Anyway, there is no logic in most wars. They just happen. I know there are exceptions, where one nation seeking some great advantage deliberately planned a war. But normally war comes because no one is wise enough, or big enough, or has prestige enough combined with the other qualities, to stop it. It used to be that wars were almost suspended in winter. But in the World war we fought straight through."

"It may be," said the historian slowly, "that through the centuries men's minds have been grooved by the necessities until they were not in a state which leads to war except at the time which for thousands of years has been normal. I don't know. But I will lay you any odds in reason that we do not have war this time, and I am just betting on my theory."

Arouses Criticism

"Pass Prosperity Around," the slogan of the Bull Moose cheering for Theodore Roosevelt back in 1912, should be the text of the Franklin Roosevelt administration, according to enthusiastic insiders. Except that, of course, it would have to include "when we get it."

The two moves—to pass it around and to get it—have been proceeding simultaneously in the plans of the government. Hence there has been much criticism from those who insist that we have to cook the cake before we can cut it. Or that we should bring prosperity back before we attempt to pass it around.

But the new dealers contend that we have to pass it around, in the modern sense of economics, before we can even have it.

Hence NRA, with its attempts to raise wages and cut hours, and AAA, with its attempt to boost farm prices and pay the farmers for not growing too much, and public works expenditures to provide pay rolls which mean purchasing power, not to mention Citizens Conservation camps and other relief agencies, most of which provide a little buying power in addition to mere feeding and clothing of the hungry and cold.

Remove Speculation

But the "leveling off" process, applying to salaries and earnings, is to go further. The President intends to work out some system which will prevent violent fluctuations in prices of all commodities. Some think he is flirting with the commodity dollar. Certainly controlled currency has a part in the program.

He admitted, for instance, that gold would certainly be "a factor," with emphasis on the "a."

Whereas some of his more radical lieutenants, heartily approving his policies, believe that they will wreck the capitalistic system, and bring about a form of living much more to their liking. And many smart reactionaries, opposing the policies just as strongly as the radicals endorse them, agree.

This criticism simmers down to this—that the President, in his calculations with respect to profits for private initiative, has drawn the line so fine, and thinks of profits so small, that there will be no reserve to carry the corporations or business men through the lean years.

The answer of the small group of insiders who agree that the President's policies will preserve and not destroy the capitalistic system is that, under the New Deal, there will not be any lean years. No conservatives agree with this.

But in his effort to work out a system which will run along, year in and year out, with all private capital making a small profit, no one getting rich, and no one going absolutely broke, this new idea of holding prices on an even keel is most interesting. In another way, it is a part of the President's personal antagonism to anything resembling speculative profits. He would take every possible ounce of speculation out of business.

Buys Much Silver

A government profit on silver at least equal to that made on gold is the confident prediction of certain insiders who, it just happens, have not been wrong on any currency question since the Roosevelt administration came into power.

Already the government has bought a tremendous amount of silver, some acquired at the rough price of 62½ cents an ounce paid for newly mined, and considerably more acquired in the open market, together with that obtained at 50 cents by the nationalization process.

The average price paid by the government, though not officially computed or admitted, is well under 60 cents an ounce.

Actually the government has bought a great deal more silver than the price indicates. The entire world has been fooled on this silver policy of the United States, just as it was fooled on the government's intentions about marking up the price of gold.

Wall Street, for example, cackled over the absurdity of the government's paying such a high price for gold in London and Paris, figuring the gold would have to be sold later on at a lower price. Even the shrewd financiers and speculators did not take cognizance of one important element in the equation—that the government was buying the gold with paper dollars, which it had the power to devalue.

That phase is all over the dam. Nobody talks now about the purchases of gold having been foolish. The dollar has been marked down to 50 cents, and no one supposes that it will ever be marked up again, any more than that the French franc will ever again be marked up to 20 cents gold, from four cents, or the Italian lire from five cents gold to 20 cents. The profit on gold, so to speak, is in the bag.

Still Skeptical

The speculators of Europe, Asia and Wall Street are just as skeptical now about silver as they were about gold. Some of the smarter ones are beginning to wonder, especially the Chinese, as told in the recent dispatches about the visit to Washington of Lee Ming and his prompt cable to his government, which apparently resulted in the Chinese and Indian governments' buying silver.

It would take a tremendous boost in the price of silver to put the government profit on the white metal up to that made on gold, for the gold profit was in excess of \$2,000,000,000. But when a few figures are considered it becomes simpler.

The government now has about \$8,000,000,000 gold. It has promised to make silver one-quarter of all the metal reserves behind currency. If one assumes that \$2,000,000,000 of this gold will be used to purchase silver, this figure being taken solely because it makes the computation easy, as there is no official announcement, there would then be \$6,000,000,000 gold, and \$2,000,000,000 silver. If the silver were acquired at a price not averaging so far is well below that figure, and the price of silver should be pushed up to \$1.20, then the profit would be \$2,000,000,000.

"How ridiculous!" the skeptics exclaim. But consider a moment. The "official" value of silver is \$1.29 an ounce. This was the value before the devaluation of gold. Assuming, as most experts here agree, that the dollar is to be devalued sooner or later to the full extent of the authorization in the present law, or to 50 cents gold, the "official" value of silver would be \$2.58 an ounce!

And you will find plenty of people who are not dumb about currency matters, and who know what is going on inside the administration, who will tell you positively that there is no prospect of a let-up on the push for silver until it passes the two-dollar mark.

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American Memorial on Hill Near Chateau-Thierry.

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

WITH the approach of Armistice day the patriotic American's thoughts turn back to that day in 1918, when the World war ceased, and to the men who gave up life for world peace.

Today 30,880 heroes sleep in beautiful cemeteries in the shadows of handsome memorials near the scenes of their war engagements.

In order that the gallant achievements and noble sacrifices of American troops might be suitably commemorated, the American Battle Monuments commission was created by an act of congress approved March 4, 1923. Gen. John J. Pershing is its chairman.

Eight memorial chapels of singular beauty and dignity now stand in the eight American military cemeteries in France, Belgium and England. Eleven monuments rise on the principal American battlefields and at certain chief bases of our operations. Two of these, one at Brest and the other at Gibraltar, have been built in tribute to the achievements of our navy's World war forces.

In size and design the battlefield monuments range from the towering Doric shaft, topped by a statue, on the dominating hill of Montfaucon, to the simple, effective monument near the town of Ypres, with its low lines blending with the plains of Belgium.

The imposing monument on Hill 204, near Chateau-Thierry; the majestic circular colonnade on Montsec, in the St. Mihiel region, and the other memorials in their size are proportionally representative of the strategic importance and greatness of the operations conducted in those areas by American military forces.

Beautiful Chapels.

The chapels in the military cemeteries likewise vary widely in design. Each is a gem of architectural beauty and an enduring shrine consecrated to the memory of those who fell in battle. On their walls are carved the names of the 1,289 men whose final resting places are unknown and of all those whose marble headstones bear the inscription, "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God." This inscription, prepared by the commission, was afterward engraved on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National cemetery.

At each of the cemeteries beautiful and comfortable reception rooms have been established near to or in connection with the caretaker's offices for the convenience of visitors and those desiring information regarding the soldier dead.

All of the memorials were designed by carefully selected American architects of note, whose work has more than justified the confidence that the commission reposed in them.

The general locations of the major battlefield memorials are enduring reminders of the three historic localities on the western front where American forces in large numbers engaged in active combat. These are known as the Aisne-Marne, the Meuse-Argonne, and the St. Mihiel battlefields. Only the last named of these areas was in Lorraine, that part of eastern France set aside in the summer of 1917 as the concentration area for the American army.

The British army had been established in the northern part of the long battle lines, near the Channel ports, thus protecting its direct line of communication with the British Isles. The French army protected Paris, the most vital locality in France.

Yankees to the Rescue.

The American army was assembled well to the east of Paris, where it could be supplied by the railways leading from the comparatively unused South Atlantic ports of France, thus avoiding the congested area around Paris.

Early in 1918, while the American army was being built up in this section, the Germans commenced their series of major offensives. Available American troops were immediately turned over to the allied commander in chief to use as he saw fit. To help stop the enemy drive of May 27, which started north of the Aisne river, American divisions were hurried into line in the vicinity of Chateau-Thierry, directly across the German line of advance toward Paris.

Other American divisions took

Where
Heroes
Lie

part in the great counter-offensive which began July 18, 1918, and within three weeks had driven the enemy to the north of the Vesle river. The American First, Second, Third, Fourth, Twenty-sixth, Twenty-eighth, Thirty-second, Forty-second, and Seventy-seventh divisions took part in the battles which raged in the vicinity. Of the 300,000 Americans participating in these operations, 64,000 became casualties.

Therefore, on historic Hill 204, rising just west of Chateau-Thierry, has been constructed an imposing memorial, with twin rows of majestic columns. The site of the monument commands a sweeping view of the Marne valley, in an area rich in fields of grain, sugar beets, and vineyards, flecked with quaint towns and quiet villages, crisscrossed by little streams.

Here devastation stalked with the progress of battle. Every town was a target for artillery. Farms were furrowed with myriads of trenches and subterranean shelters. Today most of the towns are restored, the refuse of the battlefield has been cleared away, and the countryside is as peaceful as it was when the famous native son of Chateau-Thierry, Jean de La Fontaine, according to tradition, sat under a shade tree on this very hill, now called "204," and wrote many of his immortal fables.

Two Great Cemeteries.

There would be little in this vicinity in years to come to remind American pilgrims of the heroic deeds of their countrymen who fought in the Aisne-Marne region were it not for the monument and the two American military cemeteries.

One is located on the northern side of the hill on which stands the famous Belleau Wood. The other is near Fere-en-Tardenois, just north of the Ourcq river. The Oise-Aisne, near Fere, is the second largest of the American cemeteries abroad, with 6,012 battle dead resting within its confines.

The first operation of a complete American army as an independent unit in the World war was the attack of September 12, 1918, in the St. Mihiel region, which lies southeast of Verdun, between the Meuse and Moselle rivers.

German attacks early in the war had driven a wedge between Verdun on the Meuse and Pont-a-Mousson on the Moselle. The apex of the wedge included St. Mihiel, about twenty miles south of Verdun. This sector, occupied by the Germans for about four years, was the St. Mihiel salient.

A study of a map will show how geography generally determines the strategy of war as well as the commerce of peace time. The environment of hills to the east and west dictated that the main attack should be delivered northward. The First, Second, Fourth, Fifth, Twenty-sixth, Forty-second, Seventy-eighth, Eighty-second, Eighty-ninth and Ninetieth divisions took part in the offensive, in which approximately 550,000 Americans were engaged.

The American Second army was organized in this region a month afterward, in October, 1918, and later the Seventh, Twenty-eighth, Thirty-third, and Ninety-second divisions undertook a general attack in the direction of Metz. The signing of the Armistice halted that battle.

Memorial on Montsec.

These operations, and the services of American units in the quiet sectors to the southeast and in the Vosges mountains, are commemorated by an imposing memorial on the isolated hill, Montsec, located a few miles east of St. Mihiel and lying close to the southern face of the salient, in the area liberated by the American offensive of September 12.

At Thiancourt is the third largest of the American military cemeteries with 4,152 headstones. The graves lie in a large rectangular area, cut by tree-bordered walks and beds of flowers. At one end stands a cross-shaped monument, on the front of which is a compelling statue depicting the typical helmet in hand and side arms and canteen slung on his waist and shoulder.

At the north end, beyond the eagle-shaped central sundial of stone, stands the chapel, an open, circular colonnade, or peristyle, flanked by a chapel room and a museum. The chapel interior contains richly colored mosaics, which include, above the carved altar, the Angel of Victory.

Two Royal Families That Are Soon to Be United



Members of the royal families of England and Greece photographed outside of Balmoral castle, Scotland, where they were on holiday after the arrival of Princess Marina of Greece and her fiancé, Prince George of Greece. Left to right are: Princess Nicholas of Greece, King George, Princess Marina, Prince George, Queen Mary and Prince Nicholas of Greece.