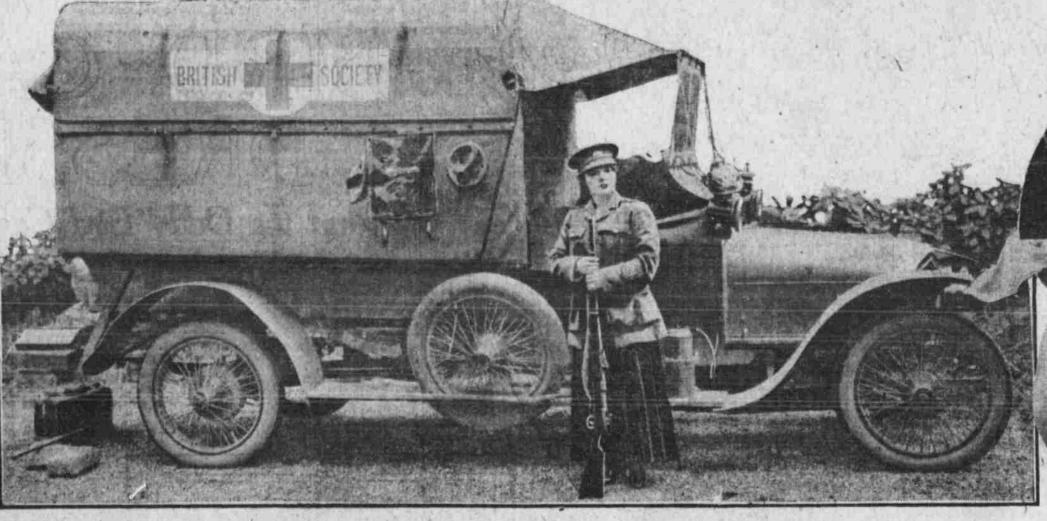
THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE MAGAZINE PAGE

Europes Highest Paid Stage Favorites Entertaining Her Fighting Soldiers

How They Devote **Themselves** Nursing the Wounded and Amusing the Men in the **Trenches**

IOU-PIOU," as the French con mon soldier is called, and Tomm; Atkins, as the English private half frozen in the trenches of the allies -and frequently food for German powder nevertheless are having in one way a very enjoyable and unusual time. These on soldiers of the French and English armies find themselves being nursed and entertained by the most famous and highest - paid actresses,

singers, dancers and beauties of Europe. Noble duchesses visit gifts of pipes, cigarettes



The Photograph Below Shows Ida Rubenstein, the Idol of the Parisian Stage, Entertaining in her Nurse's. Dress a Wounded Turco. The Poet D'Annunzio Threatened Sulcide Because Mile. Rubenstein Would Not Smile Upon Him Half so Charmingly as She Is Smilingfor the Poor Soldier. On the left Is Seen Mile. Rubenstein in One of the Very Different DressesShe Wore Before the War.

An Unusual Photograph from France Showing Anna Held, the Well-Known Musical Comedy Star, About to Start for the Trenches in Her Ambulance. Miss Held Is in Her Service Uniform. Her Gun, However, Is Only to Be Used for Defense. German Helmets Decorate the Car's Front, and on the Right Is Anna Held in One of the Frivolous Dresses She Wore Before the War Sobered Her.



And when they are wounded and sent to the hospital they have the joy of being nursed by grand opera prima donnas, ladies of the celebrated Russian ballet and prize

beauties of the Paris stage. Literally "Plou-Plou" and Tommy have turned the tables on fortune's darlings of the opposite sex. Those pipes and clgarettes and tobacco, and warm socks knitted by fair hands, and songs heard in the trenches which they never would have heard otherwise, and tender nursing in the hospital, exalt them in the same way that applause in the theatre and offerings of flowers, jewels, pet dogs of pedigree and limousines former's exalted the givers. "Plou-Plou" and Tommy have been transformed into prima demans, and great sing-

baye a market value of a dollar or so apiece are the first to do them honor.

Mme. Calve, the idolized Carmen of New York Metropolitan Opera audiences, is a Red Cross nurse in the French hospitals

It is reported that Calve is an excellent nurse, shirking some of the disagreeable duties of that profession. Her greatest reward comes with "Plou-Plou's" ment and delight on learning that it is the great Calve herself who has just sung to him at his bedside the "Cigarette Song" from "Carmen." Calve enjoys it as much Plou-Plou's does. She writes about it

"I sing ditties to the wounded to soothe chem and full them to sleep when they are getting better—sweet songs of France that make them shed tears of joz, and war

songs for those who, after the healing of their wounds, are going back to defend poor France."

Ida Rubenstein, most famous of all Russian dancers, whom D'Annuncio loved, and for whom he wrote his drama "Saint Sebastien," presented to France in Paris a fully equipped hospital, including her own services as nurse. It is said that she devotes not less than sixteen hours out of twenty-four to these duties-Ida

Rubenstein, who up to the beginning of the war was probably the most luxurious, petted and spoiled stage beauty in Europe!

Mme. Lina Cavalieri, probably the most celebrated opera singer and beauty in the world, is devoting all her time to the care of wounded soldiers in French hospitals. uga not a robust woman, she performs all the duties of a nurse. And when her grateful charges are convalescent she de-lights in astonishing them with such singing as they never dreamed of hearing— and never would have been able to hear without first serving as a target for a Ger-

During holiday week Tommy Atkins, at the battle front in Flanders, enjoyed a per-fect riot of English plum pudding and Eng-lish music hail entertainment. Seymour Hicks and his London theatrical company, together with half a hundred vaudeville ar-tists, crossed the channel and motored to the firing line in Belgium. Their arrival threw a whole army corps of Tommies into spanns of lov.

Among stage people well known in tals country who are devoting themselves to making French and English soldiers con-

tented in the trenches is Anna Held. She frequently visits different points along the battle front with gifts for the soldiers. From Paris she sends the following account of some of her exciting experiences:

"I have always had to move about the roads warily when making these trips because of Joffre's veto on women, for if the wrong kind of officer meets you he sends you back to Paris. On this occasion I passed through the French lines without knowing it—this war is so unspectacular and almost before I was aware of what was happening my car was surrounded by a squad of Uhlans.

I explained to the Heutenant who I was and my mission, pointing to the heap of tobacco and cigarettes in the car, but he replied in perfect English; "'Oh, that's an old trick. It won't work

again. You are not the first woman spy we have caught. You must come and see There was nothing for it but to comply.

I was caught near Albert, and very soon I was in the German camp near Peronne. Terribly frightened I was, too; the Uhlans were so big and strong and stern. The major turned out to be a short, stout man with a grizzled gray mustache. I showed him my passport, but he didn't seem to un-

derstand and summoned a junior officer.
"A taE, slender young man with an ideal "A tak, slender young man with an ideal tango figure appeared, gianced at the document, and in perfect English with just a slight Yankee twang that made me thvill with hope, said: 'Why, yes, Herr Major, it's all right. This is Miss Held. Don't you know her? - the is of the theatrical world.' Copyright, 1915, by the Star Company. Great Britain Bights Reserved.

"After that all went well. I was treated with great courtesy and was cheered enthusiastically when I distributed my tobacco and cigarettes in one of the trenches In return I received several spiked helmets as souvenirs and was escorted safely out of the lines.

"All my women friends are asking me what is the chief impression I have received from my visits to the front. It is the extreme, unbelieveable contrast between the carnage and gayety in the trenches. Both the Germans and the allies have turned their trenches into veritable vaudeville halls, and often the troops spend the evening singing, dancing and reciting. "Sometimes the Germans sing to the Prench and vice-versa, each song being applauded. The trenches in places are so near one another that it is quite easy to hear. This gayety follows the grim busi-ness of death-dealing. Imagine men who spend the day backing one another with bayonets and pouring lead out by the ton, and then afterward singing songs to one another! It only shows that men can make the best of fighting, just as they can

of everything.
"Another impression I have is one of intense admiration for the women nurses, especially those at the base hospitals. No-body who has not seen the thing can imagine the horrors of a base hospital. It is there that you realize what a frightful thing, a wicked thing, a basely inhuman thing is war.

"I am no suffragette, but let me say here and now that the women are facing the or-



Lina Cavalieri, in the Costume in Which She Nurses and Sings to Wounded Soldiers.