

IN A FRENCH RED CROSS TRAIN



First photograph showing the interior of a French Red Cross train in which wounded soldiers are being hastily conveyed to the nearest hospital.

Woman Saves Town

"Boss" of Soissons Greatest Heroine of War.

Mme. Jeanne Watteau Macherez, in absence of Civil Authority, Meets Germans and Convinces Them City Cannot Pay Indemnity.

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS. (United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Paris.—In Soissons, while shells from opposing French and German batteries criss-crossed over the rooftops, whistling singularly like the air brakes of a train, I got an interview with Mme. Jeanne Watteau Macherez, the greatest heroine of the war.

Mme. Macherez is president of the Dames Francaises, an organization something like our own Colonial Dames. It was she who, in the absence of all civil authority in Soissons, went out to meet the Germans and outdid them in an attempt to levy a tribute on the city. When others left the stricken place on the eve of German occupation she took charge; she took over the civil business of the city; she ran the hospitals; she superintended the city's sanitation, the city's safety, the city's street cleaning and everything.

The circumstances of my interview with her were of the strangest. A military aviator whom we had seen flying over the city before, dodging behind patches of clouds at an altitude of some 4,000 feet to escape a rain of shells hurled by German batteries planted in rock quarries north of the city, had reported a large force of Germans marching against Soissons at a distance of not more than a mile. The French had gone to meet them. As we talked the rapid-fire guns were making a noise something like a threshing machine in the distance, and an intermittent cackle of rifles could be heard less than a mile off.

We stood in the street in front of the city hall. Fifty feet away, in a tiny public park which had but recently smiled with bright flowers, half a dozen men were burying the carcasses of seven horses killed an hour before by a German shell.

"If the Germans get back into the city this time," I asked, "are you going to stay?"

"I shall be all the more needed if they come back," Mme. Macherez replied simply.

"When they came the first time how did they behave?"

"They wanted an indemnity from us, but I induced their commander to accompany me about the city to prove to him that he was asking too much. I convinced him that we could give no more than we had."

This was Mme. Macherez's modest way of putting it. Before seeing her I had been told how by infinite tact she had resisted the demand for tons of foodstuffs, tobacco and great quantities of wines, and had finally secured better terms from the Germans. She had bargained like a veteran, tenaciously and at great length, and when at last the Germans were driven back they held her in profound respect.

In all I talked with the woman "boss" of Soissons some fifteen minutes. They tell me that this was the longest time she had stood in one spot since the shelling of Soissons had begun. At that she was constantly giving orders and directions, stopping strangers and otherwise carrying on her duties just as though the street were her office.

"And who's going to win?" I asked as she started away.

"We are, of course," she said with conviction. "The hearts of the women of France are in the fight no less than are the hearts of the men. Then, too, we have the English with us here

in France and the Russians on the other side of Berlin."

"And what are you getting out of all this?" I almost shouted, for she was making its noisy flight overhead.

"Just what every true French woman is getting," she smiled. "A heart full of satisfaction."

TEA TAKES WINE'S PLACE

Champagne's Vintages Exhausted, French Soldier Writes—Slaughter by Bombs.

Paris.—The Temps has received the following letter, written in pencil, from the front:

"I have been running across fields from one destroyed village to another in the midst of the odor of corpses which persists, owing to the fact that the graves of those killed in battle were not dug sufficiently deep.

"Yesterday we took three villages with the bayonet.

"The German companies now average only 95, notwithstanding the reinforcements which they have received. They are dying of hunger. Twenty bombs fall on them daily. On an average four persons are killed by each bomb. Where our 75 millimeter shells are well placed they are estimated to account for 30 dead per shell.

"All the wine in Champagne has been drunk and we are now reduced to tea. I sleep here and there, wherever I am, and would find it disagreeable to sleep in bed. We eat well and the food is excellent. We are all in the best of spirits."

ARMY HAS ITS POST OFFICE

Flood of Mail Passed by Censor Now Being Received by Soldiers at Front.

London.—Thousands of letters and cards postmarked "Army Base Post Office" and bearing a circular mark in red, which means approved by censor, are now being received daily. The promptness of the delivery is in striking contrast to the slow moving of commercial mail and a tribute to the completeness and efficiency of the British army equipment.

Every command in the battle line has its field post office tent containing collapsible sorting racks, folding table, letter box, mail bags and other necessary paraphernalia, with an attachment of the army post office corps in charge.

The army post office corps is made up of the London post office employees enrolled in the territorial or militia. In the Egyptian campaign of 1882 the corps first saw service, consisting then of 109 men and two officers. During the South African war the force was increased to 648 officers and men, of whom several were killed in action, while 50 died of disease. Its record work at the time was the distributing of 313,416 letters and 19,019 parcels and the dispatching of 108,150 letters and packets.

MAKE THE BUTCHER HUMANE

Old Horses Are to Be Converted Into Food by More Merciful Methods.

London.—The shipping of worn-out horses to the slaughter houses in Holland and Belgium, which created a scandal, has been stopped, perhaps permanently, by the war. To prevent its revival, a commercial company has been formed with the approval and assistance of the Royal society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the purpose of converting worthless horses into salable products. But unlike in the slaughter houses of the continent, whose revolting methods shocked all England and caused parliament to pass a law regulating the traffic, the animals will have humane treatment until they receive a painless death.

NO COUNT OF DEAD

Germany Ready to Sacrifice Best for Fatherland.

Teuton Writes That Victories Over Allies Have Stimulated Business—Capital of Empire Resumes Almost Normal Life.

Chicago.—Claims of victories over the allies have greatly stimulated business in Germany, according to a letter received by Jacob A. Rosenfeld, a manufacturer, from his cousin, E. C. Frank, who is in Constance, Germany.

"Business is picking up," says Mr. Frank. "We do about half the usual amount and manage to keep afloat. We still eat three meals a day. There are some branches of industry, especially those catering to foreign trade, that do suffer, but the government takes care of the unemployed and of the women and children whose providers are in the field. The crops help us wonderfully.

"Germany is the only country involved in the war which is getting along without a moratorium. We pay as much as we can, and so do our customers. Today it is considered in the business world a patriotic duty to fulfill a financial obligation.

"One wonderful thing I have noticed—the perfect disappearance of different classes. I speak of those left behind who were kept apart all their lives through political opinion, religion, fortune or other things. Today you find neither poor nor rich, neither employer or employed, neither Jew nor Gentile; they are all united, welded together, to do what they can to save their Vaterland.

"And now about our dead. The best and the noblest ones have already fallen; even in our little town scores of them in the prime of life. If you pick up newspapers all over the land your eye sees announcements like this:

"On the 15th of this month fell on the field of honor my only son

(Name.) (Signed.)

"No more, no less.

"Condolences are out of order, and there is no desperate mourning. The nation is ready to sacrifice the best they have to defend their home against a barbarian enemy. Germany today does not count its dead."

A correspondent of the Chicago Daily News, writing from Berlin says: "Life in Berlin is growing more nearly normal every day. It is beginning to be realized by those who were confident of a quick and crushing defeat of the allies that the fighting must progress by inches against a hard-necked foe. This has long been realized by the army, but people far from the front and as yet not faced by the frightful cost of war had to see the city filled with the pitifully wounded and had to wait for weeks without inspiring news before realizing the bitterness of the conflict.

"Though the enthusiasm may be less noisy, there is no lack of confidence in the final victory. General von Hindenburg remains the hero of the hour and it frequently is said that the conqueror of the Russians will be made a prince after the war.

"The socialist newspaper, Vorwarts, recently published the striking statement that after taking a census of socialist trade unions at the front it was found that up to September 7 the number was 590,000."

HOW TWO FOUGHT A DOZEN

Stirring Incident in Which Irish Dragon Guards Tackle Superior Force.

London.—How two men, one of them wounded, fought a dozen uhlans is described by a trooper of the Royal Irish dragoon guards.

"There was a man of ours," he states, "who carried a chum to a farmhouse under fire, and when the retreat came got left behind. The German patrol called and found them. There were only the two, one wounded, against a dozen uhlans. Behind a barrier of furniture they kept the Germans at bay, wounding or killing half of them.

"The Germans made off, and brought a machine gun to the house and threatened to destroy it. The two soldiers were not unmindful of the kindness shown them by the owners of the farm, and, rather than bring loss on them or the village, they made a rush out, with some mad ideas of taking the gun. Just over the threshold of the door they fell dead.

"People may call them pigheaded for not surrendering, but that sort of wrong-headedness is worth a lot as inspiration to others."

CALLS BELGIAN DOGS HEROES

They Do Good Work in Drawing Quick Firers Into Action, Says Soldier.

Paris.—A Belgian soldier, speaking of the operations at the front, makes special mention of the useful work being done by the Belgian dogs. He says they not only are used in searching for the wounded, but that they play an important role in dragging carts on which are mounted quick-firers.

He assured the correspondent that the greatest din of the cannon never seemed to affect these animals in the slightest degree.

Excuses For Not Becoming A Christian

By REV. HOWARD POPE, Superintendent of Men, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.

TEXT.—They all with one consent began to make excuse.—Luke 14:18.



Quite often we meet this excuse, "I did something once which gave me a bad record."

I. Very likely. But remember that all who have ever been saved had made a bad record of some kind. Peter had good qualities, but he also had bad habits which called forth sharp rebuke from the Master, and which doubtless cost Peter many a sleepless night. He was rash and impulsive, always saying the wrong thing. Even after he had been with the Master for three whole years, he was guilty of falsehood and profanity. Yet Peter, by the grace of God, overcame his bad record, and so gained the victory over his besetting sins that later his testimony is "Kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation."

There was Mark, the backslider, who, not discouraged by his signal failure, made a fresh start and became so steadfast and reliable that the Holy Spirit selected him to write a history of the Master's life. Today millions of people are prayerfully studying the Gospel of Mark, and are thanking God for it. Little did he expect such a career after deserting Paul and Barnabas at Pamphylia, but God knows how to use even a backslider to his glory.

II. Remember that Christ did not come to select here and there a perfect man and thus make up a church; he came to seek and to save the lost. He is not looking for righteous men at all, but for sinners. He came expressly to lead such to repentance, and the encouragement which he offers is that he bore the penalty of their sins on the cross and whatsoever will may be saved. The strange thing about the Gospel is that it reveals God's love for those who have made a bad record, and his desire to blot it out and give them a chance to make a new record.

Notice the great variety of ways in which God describes the putting away of the believer's sins. In Isaiah 38:17 we read, "Thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back." "But," someone says, "God might turn around and all my sins would be in full sight." Sure enough. And so we read in Micah 7:19, "Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." That is better, but they might wash ashore? Very true, and so God says in Psalm 103:12, "As far as the east is from the west so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

Now, why should you so persistently remember what God so graciously forgets? Why should you keep in the foreground what God is willing to put behind his back? Just throw that bad record in with the rest of your sins and have them all disposed of at once, and then you can have the sweet consciousness that though you may remember your sins, God has entirely forgotten them. Remember also that the longer you wait the worse your record will be.

III. While your bad record will hinder you somewhat, it also will help you. It will tend to keep you humble for one thing, and that will be no small gain. It will enable you to sympathize with others who have made a bad record, and to encourage them to hope for better things. Indeed, your bad record in one sense will become your strongest weapon of warfare.

IV. Consider also that if you have a particularly bad record your conversion will be a greater triumph of grace than if you were only an ordinary sinner. Jesus Christ claims that he can save the worst of sinners, and so change them by the power of his grace that he will actually be proud of them in heaven. He is searching the world for hard cases on which to demonstrate his power.

V. And may it not be that in heaven those who have been the greatest sinners will be the loudest praisers of the Redeemer's name? When the Pharisee criticized Jesus for allowing the outcast woman to weep at his feet the master said, "Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. A certain man had two debtors, the one owed five hundred pence and the other fifty. When they could not pay he forgave them both. Which of them therefore will love him most?" Simon answered, "He, I suppose, to whom he forgave the most." Jesus replied, "Thou hast rightly judged," and then he drew a contrast between the proud, self-righteous host and the sinful, sorrowing woman who was weeping over her penitence and bathing his feet with her tears. Even so our theme in heaven will not be the good deeds we have wrought on earth, but the matchless grace that redeemed us, and the greater the sins from which we have been redeemed, the greater triumph of grace shall we have to proclaim.

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT

REAL VALUE OF HARD ROADS

Illinois Man Gives Interesting Facts and Figures Comparing Worth of Brick and Earth.

W. T. Blackburn of Paris, Edgar county, Illinois, has studied the question of hard roads as to their value in dollars and cents to the farmer, and here is what he says about it:

"I recently observed the revenue from two separate farms of 320 acres each located in the corn belt of Illinois, one at the end of a four-mile brick paved road; the other at the end of a four-mile mud road. These farms should produce under the ordinary rotation of crops annually 268 tons of corn, 80 tons of oats and 120 tons of hay, or 480 tons in the aggregate to be delivered over four miles of roadway. On the brick road there has been delivered 11 tons of grain in one trip by one team, using five wagons, while on the earth road two tons were all that could be delivered by a similar team.

"The haul being four miles in both cases, and as they could make three trips a day, 24 miles team travel, the team on the earth road could deliver six tons per day at a cost for team and wagon of \$4.50, thus making a cost of 75 cents per ton for the four-mile haul. On the brick road the delivery was 33 tons per day at a cost of 19.7 cents per ton on a four-mile haul. A difference of 55 cents per ton in the cost of delivery in favor of the brick road, or a difference of \$264 on the 480 tons delivered.

"This is only a small percentage of the actual loss to the farmer living on the earth road, as he has had to sell his grain at a time when the roads were in condition that it could be delivered without regard to the price of his product.

"From actual experience it has been demonstrated that this would represent a loss of \$1.50 per ton on corn, \$2.50 per ton on oats, and \$5 per ton on his hay, making a loss in the aggregate of \$920 on account of not being able to deliver at the best market price.

"This, with the loss in cost of delivery, makes \$1,184, or 10 per cent on an investment of \$11,840, an increase in value of 33 per cent on his 320-acre farm.

"This represents the investment in a nine-foot brick highway that has cost the taxpayers of the township \$10,000 per mile, or if all of the principal highways of the township could be improved, would only represent a tax on all of the property, or 10 per acre.

"These brick roads are not a liability, they are an asset. They don't cost you money—they make you money. It isn't a question of whether you can afford brick roads—the question is, how you can get money enough together to do without them. Bad roads cost like the mischief. The most expensive road is the one you cannot use.

ROAD TAX PLAN IN FRANCE

Larger Part of Fund Levied on Rubber-Tired Traffic Goes for Expense of Administration.

Road taxes, as assessed in France, go to the road building and repair fund, but not all wheel taxes are expended on roads; the larger part of the fund of 15,000,000 francs a year levied on rubber-tired traffic goes for the expenses of administration.

There are four direct taxes which every Frenchman pays (besides unnumbered indirect taxes, as on salt matches, advertisement posters, theater tickets, railway tickets, checks, and what not); the tax on landed property, the tax on personal house property, the tax on doors and windows and the tax on industrial and commercial enterprises. In addition there are five centimes added for the benefit of the road fund and an additional three centimes levied by the municipalities for the upkeep of city streets. These diminutives, five centimes being but one cent and three centimes being but little more than half a cent, are added to every franc (20 cents) of tax. In the aggregate they furnish the millions which are spent on roads of France annually. More than \$20,000,000 are spent each year to maintain approximately 400,000 miles of national, departmental and communal highways throughout the country.

Furnish Fresh Air.

Don't shut the coops up when the cold nights come, but leave them open in front so that they will not be drafty, but will be cool and airy and prevent sweating when the growing chicks crowd in at night.

Green Feed for Fowls.

Spade up a part of the poultry yard and sow it to some quick-growing legume, confining the fowls in the other part. When the crop is well started, change the fowls over to it and plow up the other side. Do it now.

Weed Out the Drones.

As the young pullets grow up, weed out every single one that seems to be weak or in any way defective. Save only the brightest, the most lively and the best-shaped birds.

THE CHARM OF MOTHERHOOD

Enhanced By Perfect Physical Health.

The experience of Motherhood is a trying one to most women and marks distinctly an epoch in their lives. Not one woman in a hundred is prepared or understands how to properly care for herself. Of course nearly every woman nowadays has medical treatment at such times, but many approach the experience with an organism unfitted for the trial of strength, and when it is over her system has received a shock from which it is hard to recover. Following right upon this comes the nervous strain of caring for the child, and a distinct change in the mother results.

There is nothing more charming than a happy and healthy mother of children, and indeed child-birth under the right conditions need be no hazard to health or beauty. The unexplainable thing is that, with all the evidence of shattered nerves and broken health resulting from an unprepared condition, and with ample time in which to prepare, women will persist in going blindly to the trial.

Every woman at this time should rely upon Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, a most valuable tonic and invigorator of the female organism.

In many homes once childless there are now children because of the fact that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound makes women normal, healthy and strong.

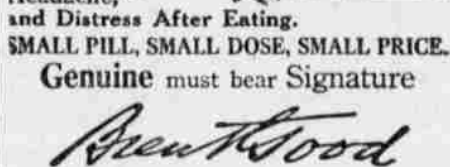


If you want special advice write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman and held in strict confidence.

Make the Liver Do its Duty

Nine times in ten when the liver is right the stomach and bowels are right.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS gently but firmly compel a lazy liver to do its duty. Cures Constipation, Indigestion, Sick Headache, and Distress After Eating. SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE. Genuine must bear Signature.



WHY NOT TRY POPHAM'S ASTHMA MEDICINE Gives Prompt and Positive Relief in Every Case. Sold by Druggists. Price \$1.00. Trial Package by Mail Free. WILLIAMS MFG. CO., Props., Cleveland, O.

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM A toilet preparation of merit. Helps eradicate dandruff. For Restoring Color and Beauty to Gray or Faded Hair. 50c and \$1.00 at Druggists.

Difference in War Declarations.

There was a great difference in the manner of commencing a war centuries ago to what there is now. Now the blow is frequently struck before the word, and there is no obligation to issue a formal declaration at all, the act of war constituting the declaration. But in medieval times no war ever began without a formal declaration by a herald, who, in a most leisurely manner, breathed defiance on the part of his royal master, exchanged innumerable bows with his enemies, and departed in as dignified a manner as he came.

Or His Heirs.

Alice—What is your favorite air? Betty—The millionaire.—Boston Transcript.

YOUR OWN DRUGGIST WILL TELL YOU Ery Murine Eye Remedy for Red, Weak, Watery Eyes and Granulated Eyelids. Guaranteed Best Eye Comfort. Write for Book of the Eye by mail Free. Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.

Dyspepsia and pessimism have a lot in common.

A Home-Made Poison

Uric acid, unknown in the days of a simple, natural, out-of-door life, is a modern poison created inside the human body by accumulation of meat-eating, overwork, worry and lack of rest. Backache or irregular urination is the first symptom of weak kidneys. When the kidneys fail blood in filtering out the excess uric acid, there is danger of gravel, dropsy or Bright's disease. Doan's Kidney Pills strengthen weak kidneys, but if the diet is reduced, exercise stopped, and fresh air, exercise and sleep increased, the medicine acts more quickly. Doan's Kidney Pills have a world-wide reputation as a reliable kidney tonic.

A Nebraska Case

"Every Picture Tells a Story" E. B. Wilson, Pierce, Neb., says: "I was in bad shape with a constant pain in the small of my back. Morning I was so lame I could hardly stoop and if I did manage to bend over, it was all I could do to straighten. I tried several times at night to pass the kidney secretion. I spent hundreds of dollars doctoring but found no relief until I took Doan's Kidney Pills. They restored me to the best of health and I have never had a sign of kidney trouble since. Doan's Kidney Pills are the best kidney medicine I know of."

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