

DARING FLYERS AVENGE LONDON

For Every Bomb Dropped in England 999 Are Sent Down in Germany.

SILENCE MANY BATTERIES

Feature of the Air Combat is the Continuous Gallantry and Audacity of the Pilots—Difference in Strategy.

London.—Captain M., one of the British Flying corps, ambled watchfully behind a great bank of rolling clouds, spied in a rift below a German patrol of six machines. The combat was short, sharp and unequal. Immediately his gun barked off. A German dived headlong for the earth. His leader swept out of formation to meet the daring Britisher and followed suit. Enraged, the four others dashed for our man simultaneously, firing as they came. For the latter only one course was optional. Sweeping low from the sky until he almost skimmed the treetops and the roofs of the houses he reached home in safety.

Which is to relate a recent by-the-way air raid incident in that thrilling and most audacious factor of up-to-date warfare, aerial activity. When the day is clear and bright or when the hunter's moon illuminates the night the pilots and observers of the Royal Flying corps work overtime, and then some. From dawn to dawn, without intermission, until the rain clouds gather or the fresh wind grows too unruly, they are hard at it, fighting high up among the clouds or bombing railways, ammunition dumps, aerodromes and billets in back villages.

Nine Hundred and Ninety-Nine for One

For every bomb on London in a German raid there have been 999 dropped by our men on points and posts behind their lines. In this new warfare of give and take while the Boches are busy over England the English are busier over Boche-land. In a single day as the result of aerial observation 127 hostile batteries were silenced, 25 gun pits were destroyed, 80 men were bombed and over 60 explosions were caused in ammunition dumps.

In two short months 12,999 bombs, aggregating a weight of 238 tons, were placed at the disposal of troops, in-trenchments and batteries in the enemy lines. The R. F. C. in the period from Saturday, February 16, to Wednesday, February 20, accounted for 70 German airplanes with a loss of 12. The naval airmen bagged a further eight without loss and the French were responsible for 29.

The German airmen are not lacking in courage, but the policy of their commanders appears to be to maneuver them in large formations, 15 and 20 at a time. Six is a common party. The "tip and run" strategy of their bombers is only of advantage at night. From a great altitude they "lay their eggs" indiscriminately and then make off at a breakneck speed for their base. The larger types of machines, such as the triplane, are greatly favored. And more than anything they are lacking

in that code of traditions fostered by the British navy and so admirably developed by the airmen.

The outstanding feature of the air combat is the continuous gallantry and audacity of the British pilots. One youthful veteran, attacked by a fighting formation of Boches, fired into one machine, which turned over on its back and spun down out of control. Then he turned his attention to another and fired 200 rounds into it. Suddenly it went into a spin and crashed.

Out with a battle flight of our own the following day he added another German to his bag. Then, to make full measure that day, he spun lower and fired an observation balloon. In the afternoon he finished the aggregate of four enemy airplanes and a balloon in three days.

Two British machines photography-bound ran up against half a dozen of the enemy's. Strictly speaking, theirs was a non-combatant craft, but, annoyed at the interruption, they laid about the enemy with their machine gun to such effect that in a short time they had knocked out two of their attackers. The rest then flew away and the Britons returned in peace to their picture making.

Recently our bombers achieved a direct hit on a German army cinema with results which, according to a prisoner's story, were disastrous. Immediately the Germans retaliated by bombing our hospitals and stretcher bearers behind the lines.

MAIL TO SOLDIERS IS OVERBURDENED

Parcel Post Is Loaded Down With Unnecessary Articles for Army Men.

PRIVILEGE MAY BE CURTAILED

Postoffice Department Asserts That Large Number of Articles So Carried Can Be Purchased at Canteens.

Washington.—That the parcel post mails to soldiers in France are greatly burdened by reason of so many unnecessary articles being mailed, and that there may arise a necessity for curtailing the parcel post privilege to soldiers are shown in the following statement given out by the Post Office department:

Recently a government transport reached France carrying to the soldiers at the front 715,980 letters and 335,840 pieces of parcel post and newspapers. The letters weighed 84 tons and the parcels and papers in excess of 113 tons. By reason of the bulkiness of the mail, this shipment took up in excess of 12,000 cubic feet of space on the transport. This means a slice of the ship's cargo space 100 feet long, 10 feet high, and 12 feet wide. The 715,980 letters went into 346 sacks but

AMERICAN'S WAR TROPHY



The helmet of a German underofficer captured by Sergt. Major Charles H. Smith of Brooklyn who has just returned from Europe after serving three years with the British army in France, Gallipoli, Salonica and on the Macedonian front. Sergeant Smith, a naturalized American of English birth heard the call of his mother land when fifty years old. He spent his fifty-third birthday on the ship bound for home after his discharge from the British army for physical disability. He is now lecturing on his experiences in the trenches.

Note the inscription on the front of the helmet: "Mit Gott Für Keonig und Vaterland." "With God for King and Fatherland."

WASHINGTON CITY SIDELIGHTS

Capital to Have Automatic Telephone Service

WASHINGTON.—Washington will have an automatic telephone system within the next 18 months. The work of installing this system, which will involve millions of dollars, will begin in the business section of the capital within a few weeks, probably within the next ten days. It will be in full operation in the business section before the summer is over, according to statements made by the telephone company.

Nine out of every ten telephone girls now employed will lose their jobs, is the prediction of T. P. Sylvan, assistant to the president of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone company, when the new system is in full operation here. Mr. Sylvan is asked how long it would take to install the system here. He said it depended upon the labor conditions. "Unfortunately," continued Mr. Sylvan, "the company's present buildings are all filled to the doors with the now heavily worked apparatus, and unless the service being rendered is to be completely suspended, it is, of course, utterly impossible to install automatic equipment without first providing new buildings."

"On account of the weight of such apparatus and the necessity of protecting it from fire hazards, the buildings must be of substantial construction. To expedite the early completion of the automatic installation, the company must count on some immediate relief in the form of an order from the utility commission. Unless as a war measure the commission asks the people to eliminate unnecessary calling, the company will be compelled to continue expending large sums on installation of temporary equipment to care for such calls."

"As President Wilson said in his letter to the secretary of the treasury: 'It is essential that these utilities should be maintained at their maximum efficiency, and that everything reasonably possible should be done with that end in view.'"

The new system will be operated by a dial. By turning numbers on this dial to correspond to the number you desire and pushing a signal the connection will be made automatically. It will save considerable time in making connections, said Mr. Sylvan.

Washingtonians Have No Doubt About Spring

THE chief thing that makes one sure spring is here is the appearance on our streets, although in a mild form, of a certain sport—namely: Tops. Once tops appear on the streets, flung from the hands of small boys, there is no escaping the fact that spring is somewhere in the vicinity. Her eyes may appear frostbitten, and she may seem clothed in such flimsy garments as our artists commonly clothe her with, but you may be sure she is somewhere in the vicinity, that fair divinity.

I talked with an elderly man in a high hat and gold-rimmed spectacles the other afternoon, as we stood and watched a group of small boys spinning tops. "They don't seem to do it with the old spirit, the old—er—pep," he said, pleased with his familiarity with the latter word. "Why, now, when I was a boy, we spun—er—spun—er—spun—er—spun tops like a house afire. These little fellows seem to be afraid of denting the sidewalk."

"When I spun—er—spun—er—spun tops, now," I replied, "I whipped 'em for a block. Whipping tops was regarded a greater feat than knocking them out of the ring."

"We named our favorite tops in those days. My favorite was a three-cent top, green, with a peculiarly fat body, and was named after a certain school-teacher, then a great favorite in the grade school I attended. Another top was named after a teacher whom all we kids detested. Playing 'ring' we took great delight in knocking this latter top out of the ring."

"Your reminiscences are interesting," replied the old gentleman, "but listen to what I used to do. Now—"

But just then my street car came along.

Matter of Social Affairs Bothers Correspondent

THE question of going out evenings to social affairs has become acute between Helen and myself, writes a correspondent. It is one of the mysteries of creation why in women the social instinct should be developed so much more highly than in men. Helen advances no arguments, but merely says that men would sink to the brute level if women did not sacrifice themselves and make them go out now and then. To which I reply, asking whether "now and then" means four times a week. Whereupon it transpires, to my surprise, that it was really I who wanted to go to the Liberian minister's reception, and the musicale given by the wife of the chairman of the pelagra commission, and the benefit instituted by the mother of the chief of the bureau for the pensioning of superannuated boatswains.

"Well," she asks, "didn't you have a good time?" "Fortunately," I answered, "the head of the cottage cheese division happened to be at the benefit, and while that Italian tenor was showing how inferior he could be to a second-rate phonograph record, I got some very valuable information about lactical fermentations from the division head."

"Nonsense!" retorts Helen. "I watched you talking at least half the evening with that very giddy young blonde person, with the very fresh-looking complexion."

"My dear, she is the head of the cottage cheese division. She's to be tonight at the first assistant's to the director of the bureau for the investigation of blistered ships. We are going, aren't we?"

"We are not. Come along. There's the taxi now."

Willie Saw Himself as Possible Rival of Hens

SPRING is here. It may not look like it sometimes, but it is a fact. Under the direction of E. M. Conolly of the department of agriculture, detailed for garden work in the District, war garden clubs are springing up as radishes will do later in those very gardens.

Right in the heart of our big city exists a modest backyard that contains quite a number of hens.

There is a white-haired grandmother who is guardian angel to said hens, and there is a little boy with wide, wondering eyes, who sometimes acts as guardian angel for "grand-maw," as he calls her.

One day recently grand-maw came in from the backyard, bustling with excitement. "The hen's combs are so red, I think they are going to lay some eggs," she said, while little Willie listened intently. Several days after that, William came in from the backyard, where he had been playing, his cheeks aglow from exercise.

He sat on the edge of a chair to get his breath and it was there his grandmother noticed him.

"Why, Willie!" she exclaimed. "What makes your cheeks so red?"

Willie, from his perch on the chair, solemnly replied:

"Maybe I'm going to lay an egg."

WOMAN WORKS 15 HOURS A DAY

Marvelous Story of Woman's Change from Weakness to Strength by Taking Druggist's Advice.

Peru, Ind.—"I suffered from a displacement with backache and dragging down pains so badly that at times I could not be on my feet and it did not seem as though I could stand it. I tried different medicines without any benefit and several doctors told me nothing would do me any good. My druggist told me of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I took it with the result that I am now well and strong. I get up in the morning at four o'clock, do my housework, then go to a factory and work all day, come home and get supper and feel good. I don't know how many of my friends I have told who Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done for me."—Mrs. ANNA METTERIANO, 86 West 10th St., Peru, Ind.

Women who suffer from any such ailments should not fail to try this famous root and herb remedy, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

One of the most attractive booklets issued recently is the year book put out by Swift & Company, covering the activities of the big packing concern during the year 1917. Serving as an introduction is the address of the vice president, E. F. Swift, to the stockholders, in which he tells of the abnormally high prices paid for live stock in Chicago and of the prices obtained for meat; of the investigation by the federal trade commission, and the licensing by the government of food distributing agencies and the limiting of profits on slaughtering and meat packing to 9 per cent on money employed. Mr. Swift also told with pride of the 2,800 employees who had entered the various branches of the United States service, and concluded with the statement that Swift & Company would do their utmost to help win the war.

An interesting and illuminating section of the booklet is that devoted to statistics of live stock prices and production, and another is given up to telling "the packer's service to producer and consumer." Figures are given showing that the net profit of the company per head, 1912 to 1916, averaged \$1.22 for cattle, less than 15 cents for sheep and less than 58 cents for hogs. It is explained that the large aggregate profits are due to the immense volume of business done.

The booklet is handsomely illustrated with photographs and color prints and the cover illustration, made from a photograph of a corn farm in Ohio, is especially attractive.

When a man has pluck his friends are apt to drop the "p" and call it back.

Red-blooded men of courage are on the firing line—and there are many anemic, weak, discouraged men and women left at home.

At this time of the year most people suffer from a condition often called Spring Fever. They feel tired, worn out, before the day is half thru. They may have frequent headaches and sometimes "pimply" or pale skin.

Bloodless people, thin, anemic people, those with pale cheeks and lips, who have a poor appetite and feel that tired, worn or feverish condition in the springtime of the year, should try the refreshing tonic powers of a good alternative and blood purifier. Such a one is extracted from Blood root, Golden Seal and Stone root, Queen's root and Oregon Grape root, made up with chemically pure glycerine and without the use of alcohol. This can be obtained in ready-to-use tablet form in sixty-cent vials, as druggists have sold it for fifty years as Doctor Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It is a standard remedy that can be obtained in tablet or liquid form.

A good purge should be taken once a week even by persons who have a movement daily, in order to eliminate matter which may remain and cause a condition of auto-intoxication, poisoning the whole system. To clean the system at least once a week is to practice health measures. There is nothing so good for this purpose as tiny pills made up of the May-apple, leaves of aloe and jalap, and sold by almost all druggists in this country as Doctor Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, sugar-coated, easy to take.

SEED CORN

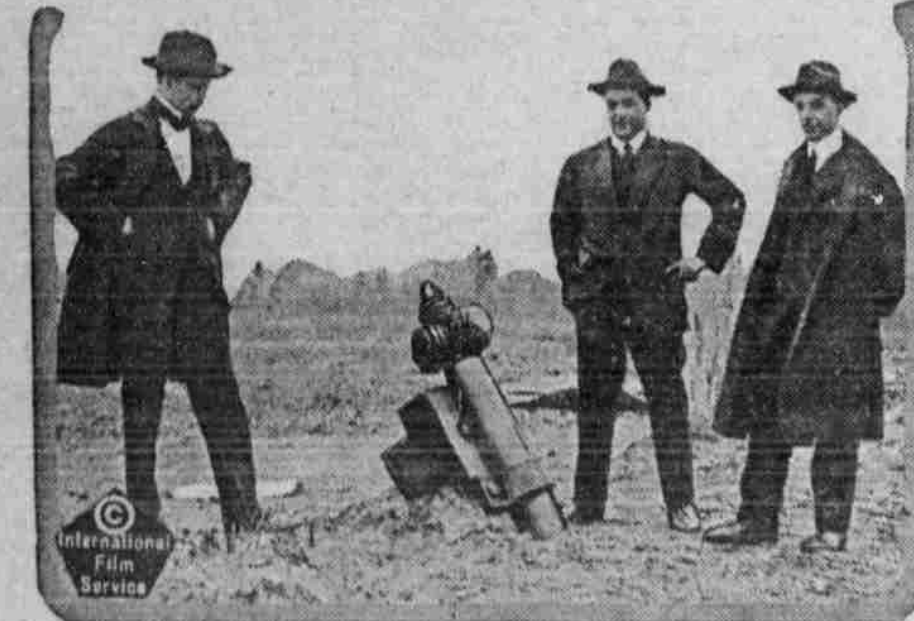
Germination 96% or better. Crop 1916. Guaranteed, tested and graded. Iowa Gold Mine, Iowa Silver Mine, Reid's Yellow Dent. Price, 1 bu. \$7.50; 5 or more bushels, at \$7.30. Sacks free. DE GEORGI BROTHERS, Council Bluffs, Ia.

Absolutely Nothing Better than Cuticura for Baby's Tender Skin

Soap 25c. Ointment 25 and 50c.

W. N. U., OMAHA, NO. 16-1918.

THIS MORTAR SHOTS BARBED WIRE



Here is a new kind of a mortar. Instead of throwing shells it throws barbed wire. It can throw five rolls of barbed wire into enemy trenches or in front of advancing troops without being recharged.

HOW BOYS CAN HELP

Can Play Big Part in Upholding American Ideals.

Secretary Houston Says They Can Aid in Home Gardening and Conserving Food.

Washington.—How every American boy, although separated by the Atlantic ocean from the actual theater of the war against autocracy, can play his part in upholding American ideals, is pointed out by Secretary of Agriculture Houston in a message addressed to the Boy Scouts of America. The secretary pledges to the boys the hearty co-operation of the federal and state agricultural agencies.

Secretary Houston's statement follows: "The splendid army of Boy Scouts of America can be of very great help to the nation in this time of world need. The war can be won only if we deliver the men, the ships, and the

food in sufficient number and quantities to make our war program effective. You as boy scouts can greatly aid by growing home vegetable gardens, raising pigs and poultry, conserving food by canning and drying for home use and in many other ways open to you.

"Will you not help your country again this year even in a bigger and a better way than you did during the summer of 1917? Your task will be to 'beat your own record' in food production and conservation. May your motto for 1918 be, 'Every scout to feed a soldier and one other.'"

"I desire to extend to you the hearty good will and co-operation of the officials of the United States department of agriculture, also that of the co-operative club leaders of boys' and girls' extension work at the agricultural colleges, who will be glad to assist you in your work."

From the speed at which earthquake waves travel through the earth an English scientist has evolved a theory that the world has a dense central core, which may be measured in time.

BOMB INVENTED BY STUDENT

New Missile Will Explode at Any Given Distance of "Drop," Claims Inventor.

Eugene, Ore.—A student in the University of Oregon battalion has invented a bomb that will explode at any given distance of "drop." The bomb can be hurled horizontally and will not explode, but when dropped it is so arranged that it will explode after any number of feet fall—the length of harmless fall being regulated by an attachment. If the bomb proves satisfactory under tests that are now being made it will be turned over to the war department for use by aviators.

No More Flour Paste.

Hutchinson, Kan.—No more will Hutchinson, or for that matter, Kansas, paper hangers use wheat flour in making their paste. Strict orders have been issued by State Food Administrator Walter P. Inis against using wheat flour in making paste. He recommends the use of commercial paste instead.