

U. S. TROOPS SING BEFORE BATTLES

True Stuff in Average American Appears When He Goes Into Action.

CLEAN HEART AND MOTIVES

Yankee Drops All Foolishness and Horseplay Before He Goes Into Battle—Courage and Determination in Every Face.

With the American Army in France, the true stuff that is in the average American soldier comes to the surface just before he goes into battle.

The hour comes when he suddenly quits all foolishness and horseplay with his fellows and settles down to a lot of sober thinking.

Far from being the rough, careless fellow that his life back of the lines might often indicate, he stands out as a young man with clean heart and motives, fully alive to the dangers he is going into, but possessing a high patriotism and courage and a determination to see the thing through regardless of the cost to himself.

America's interests will always be safe in the hands of such young men.

No Faltering Displayed.

They have felt, before the command to go forward was given, that their names would likely figure in the casualty lists within a very few days.

But there was no faltering. Never in my life have I seen such nobility of countenance. On every face there appeared the light of an iron resolve, writes C. C. Lyon in the Chicago Post. A soldier can be judged by the songs he sings.

The Y. M. C. A. has done a most valuable work, through its musicians and entertainers, in breaking the terrible tension that must necessarily hang over the army just before a big engagement.

Every evening Y. M. C. A. song leaders went from battalion to battalion, assembling the boys and having them join in songs.

I went out several evenings with a young fellow named Mee, who in civil life is a professional song director.

Nearly every soldier had been provided with one of the Y. M. C. A.'s "soldiers' song sheets," containing some 65 soldier songs. In the list were "Cuddle Up a Little Closer," "I Wish I Had a Girl," "Oh, You Beautiful Doll," "Oh, My Darling Clementine," "Polly-Wolly-Doody" and others of similar mushiness.

But not once did I hear a soldier call for one of these songs. They were popular stuff in the care-free, rollicking days back in the rest camps, but the boys had no heart for them as they waited, within earshot of the big guns to go into action.

When Director Mee would say: "What'll we sing, fellows? Name it," calls would go up on all sides for "Keep the Home Fires Burning," "Silver Threads Among the Gold," "There's a Long, Long Trail," "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean," "Little

Gray Home in the West" and "My Old Kentucky Home."

Fighting for Home.

"Boys whose thoughts go back, thousands of miles across the ocean to their mothers and their sweethearts, can generally be depended upon in a pinch," a colonel said to me one evening, as he stood on the outskirts of the crowd listening to the singing.

"These boys think they have to show a rough exterior to one another in the army, but at rock bottom, they're pure gold," he added.

Letter-writing increased three-fold among the boys after they reached the threshold of the big battle. The boys have no illusions as to what they're getting into. They're determined that it shall be said of them, if they die, that they gave a good account of themselves.

FLIES TWO HOURS; PILOTS ARE DEAD

British Crew Slain in Fight, but Machine Goes on in Wide Circle.

AMAZING TALE OF THE AIR

Bristol Machine Disposes of Enemy, Then Continues Flight With Both Occupants Dead, Until Petrol Gives Out.

London.—An amazing flight of a British airplane for two hours with its two occupants dead was briefly referred to in a dispatch from the fighting front the other day. Now fuller details are supplied by a well-known flying officer who has returned to London from Arras.

"The incident referred to," he said, "is quite authentic and was a common topic of conversation a few days ago. Of course, there is absolutely no reason why a machine should not, under average conditions, fly itself so long as its petrol holds out. This is not an exceptional incident of the kind, and certainly there have been cases where German machines have been captured with their pilots dead.

The Known Facts. "So far as I know the facts are that this Bristol fighter, which, of course, is a two-seater with guns fore and aft, took off about 1:30 p. m. The wind conditions were almost negligible, making it very good flying weather. There was a great deal of miscellaneous craft widely scattered over "No Man's Land."

"The British airmen, at an estimated altitude of 3,500 feet, when they would be running at eighty miles or thereabouts, encountered a German albatross. They at once attacked. A lot of maneuvering followed and three

other machines, two of them German, came into action.

"The Bristol machine hung on its quarry and eventually got it well under the nose, the German crashing down.

"Immediately our machine gave a sweep south. It had lost height in maneuvering and was rocking badly as if out of control, but it kept steadily on until it was lost to view.

"At a little before four o'clock the machine, which was, of course, easily identified, fell crashing to earth nearly twenty miles to the west of Arras. On examination both its occupants were found to be dead, obviously from bullet wounds, which had struck them from the back and which must at once have proved fatal.

Petrol Tank Empty. Their injuries on coming down certainly did not cause their death. The petrol tank of their machine was found to be empty.

"There is no doubt the two men were shot immediately the German albatross fell. The Bristol machine, which is the best and most perfectly controlled fighting machine known, of its own volition swept on a fairly even keel to a distance of possibly ten miles below the point where the battle took place.

"Then, for some reason which never will be known, the controls were shifted and a circle was made. In view of the fact that the total distance covered must have been much under 100 miles, it appears certain the machine lost speed and height gradually, possibly due to some minor but not vital injury to the engine.

"For upward of two hours the two dead men were in the air before the final crash to earth."

Cannot Speak English, but Buys Liberty Bond

Altoona, Pa.—Mrs. Mary Hazenstau, one hundred years old next January, a native of Bavaria, Germany, also wants to see the kaiser stopped. She cannot speak English, but she bought a \$100 Liberty bond.

TEAR OUT KAISER'S PICTURE

Teacher Smiles at Technical Violation of Law by School Boys in Kansas.

Leavenworth, Kan.—A Leavenworth teacher who has a fourth grade class is the idol of the boys of the town. The other day, during her geography class, a picture of the kaiser was found in the book.

The boys openly tore out the offending page with the picture of Kaiser Wilhelm. The girls, more timid, pasted paper over his face. The teacher smiled and let it go.

There is a state law in Kansas about destroying public school books.

German Folk Buy Bonds.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—The last \$100 in the treasury of the Germania Verein, former German society of this city, has been spent in the purchase of Liberty bonds, the officers announce. The society invested \$400 in the first loan, also.

JEWISH GIRLS GOING TO PALESTINE



The girls in this group are soon going to Palestine to serve as nurses with the British forces that are wresting the Holy Land from the Turk. They will be attached to the Jewish battalions that are now being recruited in the United States, and instead of the usual Red Cross emblem will wear the traditional Hebrew six-pointed Star of David on their caps. The girls pictured here are but the first of many from all over the United States who will be recruited for service in Palestine.

PADDED CELL MAKER EXEMPT

Britain Releases 'Specialist' in Providing for Lunatics From War Service.

London.—The military tribunals have granted exemption from military service to William Fuller, who is described in the official report as a "specialist in the construction of padded cells."

His firm is the only firm in England engaged in the manufacture of padded cells for lunatic asylums, police institutions and hospitals, and the tribunal found that "there is not a man in Great Britain who can take the place of this applicant."

A model of a padded cell, showing the intricacies of its construction, was brought before the tribunal, together with a list of the "urgent orders" awaiting the attention of the applicant.

The inventor of a three-legged ladder contends that it is safer to use on uneven surfaces than if it had four legs.

New York has abolished 33 Gary schools as a measure of economy.

Taffeta Coats, and Others



No matter what else in the way of wraps is offered for midsummer, we are always sure of the taffeta coat. It is so practical and so pretty that it cannot be banished entirely—it comes along as inevitably as the Fourth of July or the bathing suit. Here it is as interpreted for this summer in taffeta, with bandings of velvet. It is as graceful and easy as the popular cape and at least as little trouble to manage.

In colors these silk coats are best in dark shades—deep blue, brown and green proving full of style. There is always black, of course, depending upon smartness of the design to rescue it from being commonplace. The luster of taffeta makes it a wonderful medium for colors.

Very much less familiar are new summer coats of wool velours and silk jersey and of silk jersey with big sat-

in collars. In the combinations of silk and wool the body of the coat—that portion about the shoulder and sleeve—is of the silk, often extended below the waist, forming a long waist effect. Collars—which are ample—are of the velours and cuffs to match them. Those who are looking for something new might consider the silk jersey or wool and jersey combinations.

Pongee, like taffeta, we have always with us in aristocratic coats. They are among those present this year. Very handsome models are entirely of pongee and others of pongee and black satin, the satin used in collars and cuffs and in wide borders at the bottom of the garment. Very handsome long capes of black satin lined with colored satin have scored a success, and some very dressy capes are in light colors finished with deep silk fringes.

Lovely Extravagances of Wedding Pageants



June weddings make a bright parenthesis in the grave story of war times. Just as many lovely brides grace just as many beautiful bridal processions this June as in June gone by—and the joy they radiate is more than ever welcome. No one expects the bride to curtail any of her privileges on her great day. It comes but once in a lifetime and she is entitled to make the most of it. The pomp and circumstance of war is not to be compared to it.

Society countenances the pretty extravagances of the wedding pageant and styles play into the hands of those who plan them. Malines and georgette make the more than ever picturesque hats for bridesmaids. Some of these have veils of malines extended into scarfs that swathe the throat and partly cover the face. Special thought has been bestowed on the matron of honor—the most dignified millinery featuring her position. In a procession where there were two flower girls, small soft hats of narrow, val lace, trimmed with little rose buds were allowed them. In this company the matron of honor wore a wide-brimmed hat of sand-colored malines and pale-gold lace, with a full short mantle of malines to match with collar of gold lace. The bridesmaids rejoiced in wide hats of pink georgette crepe with big, soft poppies made of the same material, set about the crown.

For brides who decide against the conventional white satin and long veil, pretty hats of white malines and small white flowers have been provided with

long ends of malines falling from the back to be wrapped about the neck and shoulders. For these simpler wedding organdie dresses and organdie hats give the bridesmaids every chance for lovely color and quaint design in their frocks and millinery. Organdie and net, or organdie and lace combined make fascinating wedding gowns.

There are many ways of draping the veil. One very good way is to gather the tulle into a band of silver lace to form a close-fitting cap; another is arranged in a larger cap with double frill about the face—as shown in the picture, and a third presents the veil falling from a coronet of fine lace, wired to hold it in position.

Julia Bottomley

Shades Are Interesting.

It is interesting to note the different effects materials have in the various shades. Brilliant, clear colors are good looking for dull materials. By a dull material is meant one which does not show up in the high lights. Reds and bright blues look well, for instance, in crepe or homespun, and have a totally different effect when matched exactly in the same shade of satin or velvet. Quite the reverse is the case with browns or blacks, for satin or velvet is almost a necessity to keep these colors from looking dull and somber.

Why We Believe the Bible

By REV. W. W. KETCHUM
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It may be helpful to some who are wondering if the Bible is the Word of God, if we state some reasons why Christian men and women believe the Bible.

It is not a mark of learning, as some would have us think, to disbelieve the Bible. Mr. Gladstone, England's greatest statesman, said, "It has been my privilege to know intimately sixty great men and all but six of them were earnest acknowledged Christians."

Belief in the Bible is not a leap in the dark. It is not attempting to believe it when we have no evidence whether it is true or not. Belief in the Bible rests upon evidence which to those who believe in the Bible is sufficient for them to accept it as the Word of God or man.

I. One evidence upon which our belief in the Bible rests, is its own testimony. Believing it is unfair to judge it without hearing what it may have to say for itself we listen to its own testimony.

One does not read far in the Bible before he comes to such statements as these: "Thus said the Lord," or "The Lord said." These phrases, or like ones, occur over five hundred times in the first five books of the Bible, and over twelve hundred times in the prophetic books. In addition to this we find that the men who wrote the Old and New Testaments claim their utterances to be divinely inspired. And the New Testament tells us that "holy men of old spake as they were moved by the Spirit of God," and that "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God," that is, God-breathed.

Besides this, the book assumes to speak authoritatively from God to man. Now with this testimony before us, we are shut up to one of two conclusions; either it is what it claims to be, or it is a fraud. Having examined, studied and tested the book with the acid test of experience, we are persuaded that its lofty claim is established.

II. Another evidence which has led us to this conclusion and upon which we rest our belief is the unity.

While it is a library of sixty-six books, it is nevertheless one single book and while it was written by about forty different writers, it has a singleness of plan and purpose. This in the face of the fact that its authors wrote over a period of something like fifteen hundred years. There is only one way to account for this unity and that is by believing that there was a great architectural mind that designed and executed his plan.

III. Again an evidence upon which we rest our belief in the Bible is its teaching.

It is the one book that tells us about God; who he is and what he is; that tells us about man, whence he came, what he is, and whither he is going. It reveals the love of God in the plan and purpose of redemption through Christ. Without the Bible, we should by searching try to find out God and by guessing to discover ourselves. By it, we have come to know God, whom to know aright is life everlasting, and to know ourselves.

What was said of our Lord can be said of the Bible: No book ever spoke like this book. It is, indeed, a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path and shows us the way to that city whose builder and maker is God.

IV. A fourth evidence upon which our belief rests is fulfilled prophecy.

Take for instance the prophecies concerning Christ of which there are three hundred and thirty-three in the Old Testament. All the prophecies concerning his first advent have minutely been fulfilled. These prophecies stand the severest tests, so that we know that we are not deceived as to their fulfillment so there was no possible way for the prophet to have known how they were coming out. But they came out as predicted. This is only one of many lines of prophecy which we would examine. Those concerning the Jews which led a court preacher, when asked by his sovereign to prove the Scriptures, in one word to answer: "The Jews, your majesty, the Jews." And the prophecies concerning the great political systems of the world; such as Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome.

Let anyone, who is in doubt about the Scriptures study the evidence of prophecy and he will find ground for faith in the Bible.

V. Then finally, the evidence of what the Bible does is ground for our belief in it. By its fruits it can be judged. It has civilized nations, transformed the lives of millions, given hope to the hopeless, cheer to the downhearted, comfort to the sorrowing, consolation to the dying and taken hell out of life and put heaven in. What the Bible does gives us ground to believe it must be of God.

Road to Heaven.

No man ever went to heaven without learning humility on this side of the grave.—Rev. H. P. Liddon, D. D.