

ON THE FRANCO-GERMAN FRONTIER

Spying on Either Side Is an Extremely Dangerous Undertaking.

Not a month passes but some spy is taken, French or German, on the Franco-German frontier. The case of the latest unfortunate man is typical. Alfred Pinchon, 26 years old, left the French army with the grade of adjutant. Well to do, he had no need to go spying. Love of adventure and a patriotic ardor led him to it. His father being in the leather business, Pinchon made his special knowledge of the trade his traveling excuse. Making Nancy—where his father set him up a branch establishment—his center, the young adventurer made frequent "business trips" into Alsace-Lorraine and Germany. Indeed, he was even on the point of concluding a contract with the German army when his mistress, a girl of German sympathies, betrayed him. It is true nowadays that spies are not shot in time of peace, and Pinchon is not likely to get more than five years' imprisonment. But even this is a dear price to pay for patriotic effort. The French president has just pardoned General Garitta, condemned for the same offense. Such clemency, however, is exceptional. Spies—patriotic or merely mercenary—take their own risks.

The ordinary spy work on this most jealous of all frontiers is peculiarly systematic. A month or two in advance the French Etal Major communicates a programme to the spy, with maps prepared by the German government which have arrived in France through traitorous channels. If work has already been done in the region full details of it are communicated to the spy. During this preparatory time his work must be to study up the region from these documents in such a way that he will know them all by heart. A spy must not be caught with maps or papers on him.

When he is perfect, officers of the famous Second Bureau put him through a rigorous examination. Several addresses, both in France and Germany, to which he must send his correspondence, are given to him, and he is recommended to change them to avoid suspicion. German gold and notes are given to him. Then they say, "God save you, for we cannot." And so he departs, well knowing that if caught his government will do nothing for him. Indeed, it will deny him. It will say, "We do not know this man. He must be a mercenary volunteer adventurer, hunting information to sell to us. Treat him as he deserves."

On the other hand, they leave the spy free to choose his own means to execute the work assigned to him. He takes orders from no one. He makes no account of his expenses. He must

to be used in cashing postal orders and satisfying hotel-keepers. The moment the police demands his papers he must burn his passport. Nowadays, when passports are demanded so seldom of mere tourists, the spy will content himself with a few letters that have come through the mail to him. He will have had these letters sent on to a prearranged German address a few months before. A life insurance policy taken out under the assumed name is also valuable.

The spy reaches Germany and he stops in the large town nearest to his field of operations. There his first care is to consult the doctors as to a good air cure, or a bath, or springs. Suppose his business is to report on the roads, bridges and resources of a mountainous district. He will need the air cure. Eliminating one by one the uninteresting districts, he at last causes the physician to indicate the spot he has chosen. The good physician, always anxious for his commission, gladly recommends him to a proper pension. There, wandering about the hills, his story is: "I came to X—in search of a tranquil mountain village for the air cure. Dr. Y recommended me to come here. If the climate suits me I shall stay a month."

From the first moment the spy begins to make acquaintance with the people whose trade causes them to go upon the roads—mule drivers, carters, country doctors, priests and forest keepers. Under the pretext of needing exercise, he walks with them and talks with them and treats them to good beer and cheese, as every tourist does. Seen in such company he is less likely to be looked on with suspicion. For note

then remember. A crooked line and a few words traced hastily on a cigarette paper must recall the outline of an earthworks. Hills, footpaths, springs, rich-looking farmhouses, bridges, must be seen at a glance and indicated on the little piece of flimsy paper. He must indicate the crops of the neighborhood; the characteristics of small villages; the lodging capacity of churches and other public buildings; the number of bakers, butchers and grain dealers; the situation of blacksmith shops and the condition of roads. It is easy to understand, for instance, the interest attaching to a bridge. The enemy in retreating would not hesitate how long a time it would take to repair it.

His day finished, the spy must set



FRENCH SPIES TAKEN BY PRUSSIAN SOLDIERS.

cretly, in his bedroom, write his report and post it to one of the seemingly interesting addresses furnished him by the Etal Major—"Mlle. Lucie Vasseur, 45 Rue Breda," this may be his lady love; or "Schmidt & Hecke, wine merchants, Bercy," this may be a business letter; or "Dr. George Pinchon, 67 Rue Lafitte," this may be to his family physician. The letter mailed and every scrap of paper burned, the spy may sleep in peace—one night.

If he imagines he is followed or suspected, he must stop work instantly and even leave the country. In such case he returns to Paris, where he finds at the Etal Major, carefully gathered together, all the letters he has addressed to his fictitious correspondents. Aided by maps and the work of his predecessors in the field, it is his business to compose an up-to-date report on the region he has visited. Each little counts. Each month the minister of war is just a little better informed on details that—when the great scientific European war breaks out—may win or lose a battle a campaign, a people's destiny.

Such work may seem easier than it is in fact. Along the country roads, alone, with not a man in sight, the fear of being watched makes the most innocent note-taking a courageous exploit. Not to speak of country

police, gamekeepers, foresters and patrol—whose chance appearance may cause him to destroy a morning's work—each simple passer-by becomes an

object of suspicion. The surveillance around all fortified places is so severe as to render going near them a real peril. Men have been shot inside forbidden ground at dusk without an opportunity to say what they were doing.

No legend is more popular in Europe than that of the aristocratic German or French officer, who, in disguise, obtains work as a mason or a carpenter inside the fort he wishes to observe. Yet few think of the practical impossibility of such a feat. How shall such men know the trades, the slang, the social customs and prejudices of foreign artisans? How can they talk of their relatives, their home village, and the place they worked last? Most of this talk is romance, pure and simple. For such intimate description every European government depends on money! The spy makes acquaintance with some non-commissioned officer who seems to be going wrong. He tempts the latter to make drawings of

ALL OVER THE STATE

A Nebraskan Sandbagged.
DEADWOOD, S. D., Aug. 26.—A young man named Ralph Glazier, who arrived in this city from Edgar, Neb., was sandbagged last night by two men and robbed of \$45 and his watch. He will recover.

Eloper Under Arrest.
VALPARAISO, Neb., Aug. 26.—Leslie M. Cheever, who eloped with his wife's sister, was arrested at Stromsburg Tuesday. The girl arrived at home Tuesday noon by railroad. Cheever was placed in jail at Osceola, Neb., and brought to Valparaiso later.

Railway Sued for Damages.
PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Aug. 26.—Suits have been brought in district court by Attorneys Beeson & Son for George Hurlbut of Greenwood against the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad company for \$5,000 damages for injuries received.

Pleads Guilty to Assault.
PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Aug. 26.—John R. Logan, who has been selling blackboards in this city, was arrested by Chief of Police Slater charged with assault upon Mrs. Soennichsen at her home. In the police court he pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$5 and costs, which he paid.

Second Lieutenant John R. Waugh.
PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Aug. 26.—John R. Waugh, son of S. Waugh, cashier of the First National bank of this city, has been appointed second lieutenant. He has been employed in the signal service in San Juan, Porto Rico, for some time, but returned to the United States last week.

Plans Accepted.
LINCOLN, Neb., Aug. 26.—The board of public lands and buildings accepted the plans submitted by City Engineer Munn of Nebraska City for the gymnasium of the home for the blind of that place. The appropriation for the construction of this building and repairs was \$5,000, but only a little over \$4,000 is available for the building.

Boy Injured With an Air Gun.
PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Aug. 26.—While playing with an airgun Mark Melvin, son of W. T. Melvin of this city, accidentally discharged it, the bullet striking his left eyeball below the pupil. He was at once taken to Dr. E. W. Cook, who dressed the wound, which is very painful, and fears are entertained that he may lose the sight of the eye.

York Plans a Monster Welcome.
YORK, Neb., Aug. 26.—York is now ready to welcome its Manila soldiers in a style that will put all former demonstrations to the blush. On October 6 the formal reception takes place, and the program arranged will consume exactly twenty-four hours. Expensive quantities of modern fireworks have been procured by the committee and in addition to this every house in town has stores of noise-making materials enough to last through a dozen Fourth of July celebrations.

Estate of Bishop Newman.
OMAHA, Aug. 26.—The will of the late Bishop John P. Newman as filed at Saratoga, New York, shows that he left an estate worth \$50,000, which, aside from two or three nominal bequests, is left to the life use of the widow, after which it goes to the Drew Theological seminary, Madison, N. J. Of the property listed as belonging to the estate there are eight lots in block 98, Dundee Place addition to the city of Omaha. The records at the court house disclose the fact that Bishop Newman purchased these lots early in 1890.

Thirteen-Year-Old Soldier.
FREMONT, Neb., Aug. 26.—Jesse Smith, a 13-year-old boy raised in Fremont, returned from the Philippines, and, perhaps, has the distinction of being one of the youngest Americans who has seen service in the war. The boy ran away from home a year ago from Omaha, where he had gone to live with his mother, having previously lived with his grandfather, Thomas McDonald, a farmer near Fremont.

Nothing was known of his whereabouts until a Fremont soldier who went to Manila ran across him there and reported the fact to his relatives. He went from San Francisco as a stow-away on a government transport and succeeded in getting to the Philippines.

Increase in Hog Packing.
SOUTH OMAHA, Aug. 26.—In the matter of packing hogs South Omaha now stands third in a list of a dozen packing house towns. Chicago, of course, leads, with Kansas City, South Omaha third and St. Louis fourth. Sioux City is eleventh in the list and St. Paul last. Since March 1 of the present year there has been packed at this point 1,100,000 hogs, which is an increase of 270,000 head as compared with the same period of last year. Both Chicago and Kansas City show a decrease in hog packing, while South Omaha and St. Louis exhibit an increase. South Omaha is rapidly forging to the front as one of the great hog markets, and as Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri are reported to be full of hogs the receipts for this year will be far ahead of all previous years. Up to the present time the increase in receipts, as compared with the same time a year ago, numbers 214,780 head.

Feeder Sheep Wanted.
SOUTH OMAHA, Aug. 26.—There is a big demand at the present time for feeder sheep; in fact, just now the demand is considerable in excess of the supply. Commission men doing business at the Live Stock Exchange have orders on their books now for about 50,000 head of feeder sheep. One firm alone has an order for 10,000 head to be purchased here and sent to the country to fatten. Owners of flocks throughout the west are being advised of the demand here, and it is thought that before long the sheep receipts will show a large increase.

Gasoline Engine Explodes.
TABLE ROCK, Neb., Aug. 25.—A gasoline engine exploded in the dry room of the Table Rock Clay company and set fire to the big continuous kiln which was entirely consumed, entailing a loss of \$1,500. No insurance.

Suicide Near Britt.
BRITT, Neb., Aug. 25.—Mrs. Fisher, wife of William Fisher, who lives northeast of Britt, committed suicide early yesterday morning. It is said that their domestic relations were not pleasant, and she took this method of ending her troubles. Strychnine was used.

Circus Charged With Robbery.
EXETER, Neb., Aug. 25.—Lemois Bros.' show was here. From outside appearances before the performances began, everyone thought it was a clean, respectable circus, but when on the inside, it is charged, there were all kinds of gambling devices to rope in people and rob them of their money.

Nebraska Steers for England.
HAMBURG, Neb., Aug. 25.—E. Finel, a heavy cattle feeder here, disposed of a drove of steers to a Chicago firm to be shipped to England direct. The price realized was 6 cents per pound at the farm net. Some of the steers weighed 1,600 pounds. This herd will net Mr. Finel in the neighborhood of \$150,000.

Has His Leg Amputated.
TABLE ROCK, Neb., Aug. 25.—J. W. Shaw, a veteran of the civil war, who has carried a bullet in his leg since the memorable battle of Shiloh, was carried to the train and taken to the hospital at Omaha, where his leg was amputated and a telegram states that he rallied, and is likely to get through all right, in spite of his 63 years.

Sam Pope Cannot Live.
FREMONT, Neb., Aug. 25.—Sam Pope, the man shot by Jerome, is worse and will not last long. Recently he was out of his head and anesthetics had no effect upon him. Now he is sleeping under the influence of powerful opiates and may never awake. Jerome has little to say about the apparently unfavorable condition of his victim.

Aged Man Dies of Injuries.
FAIRBURY, Neb., Aug. 25.—A. V. Crykendall, aged 76 years, died at the home of his son, John Crykendall, here from injuries he received some three weeks ago while breaking a fractious colt. The animal threw him from the cart to which it was hitched, breaking his collar bone. In his extreme age his strength was not sufficient to withstand the shock.

Celebrate the Opening.
KEARNEY, Neb., Aug. 25.—A new separator station for the Fremont Creamery company was opened at Elk Creek. The occasion was celebrated by a basket picnic which was largely attended by farmers of the surrounding country and citizens of the town. This afternoon a local organization of the eighty stockholders was perfected. After this there were speeches by W. W. Marple of Lincoln and Ross L. Hammond of Fremont. The separator station received its first installment of milk from patrons in the morning. There is much enthusiasm among the farmers and the dairy business promises to become a very important one.

An Old Law Involved.
OMAHA, Aug. 25.—An unusual point in the laws of garnishment was brought up in Justice Baldwin's court yesterday and an old law that was enacted to meet conditions which have now almost ceased to exist was made to apply. Max Friedwald brought suit against William Downer and tried to garnish wages due him. Downer filed an affidavit of exemption, but in spite of this Friedwald still tried to collect the debt from his employers. There is a law in this state which provides that when a person attempts to garnish exempt wages he is liable not only criminally, but civilly also for the amount in controversy, the costs and attorney's fees. Downer sued under this law and the court, though reluctantly, was forced to render judgment in his favor. The amount of the debt over which the suits first arose was \$18.75 and the amount of the judgment against Friedwald was \$59.90.

Surplus Shipments.
LINCOLN, Neb., Aug. 25.—Reports have been received at the labor commissioner's office at the capitol from every county in the state, showing the shipments of surplus products during the year 1898. While these reports are incomplete and inaccurate in many cases, they nevertheless indicate pretty closely the volume of shipments by freight and express. Railroad and express companies are supposed to record every shipment of agricultural products to points outside of Nebraska, but many carloads of grain and other products slip through without being reported. The following figures show the shipments of grain and live stock from Nebraska during 1898, as compared with the previous year:

Articles.	1898.	1897.
Cattle	628,377	602,531
Swine	2,159,666	1,971,191
Horses and mules	19,873	13,317
Sheep	1,077,000	1,067,430
Wheat, bu.	27,548,999	15,466,065
Corn, bu.	65,627,274	77,721,862
Oats, bu.	16,049,761	14,823,697
Barley, bu.	594,596	459,087
Rye, bu.	2,953,577	2,870,412

Eloping Pair Arrested.
STROMSBURG, Neb., Aug. 25.—City Marshal Hubbard and Constable Jones arrested one L. M. Cheerner of Valparaiso. Mr. Cheerner and his wife's sister came to his place and put their team in the livery stable and they themselves lodged in the city bus, which was standing in the street. A telegram from Valparaiso requesting the arrest of the young couple was promptly responded to and the girl was sent home. The man is waiting company from Valparaiso and while here is boarding with the night watch.



CAUGHT OUTSIDE A FORTRESS.

even forge his own false papers. Some time in advance he has worked up a fictitious identity, and if his government gives him a passport it is only

taking he has nothing but a pencil and a packet of cigarette papers.

Certainly the first quality of a good spy is that of knowing how to see and

The Boy with the Horse.
The other evening as an open electric car was going south on Centre avenue it passed a small youngster engaged in sprinkling grass with a hose. Just as the car came opposite with him he whirled and innocently sent the stream with full force into the crowd of passengers. The instantaneous uproar which arose caused the driver to shut off power and put on brakes instantly, while the child stood, open-mouthed and stupefied, pouring the water into the car. The passengers

scrambled over each other to get out on the other side, as he seemed unable to change direction until the car conductor did it for him. At this point in the proceedings the boy seemed to recover his faculties suddenly and bowed loudly, while the car went on.—Chicago News.

The graffe was thought to be near extinction, but Maj. Maxse, a British explorer, has found great herds of them along the Sobat river, a tributary of the White Nile.

Two's Company.
Unless the Chicago Tribune is guilty of creating Dr. Fourthly out of whole cloth—not ministerial—he is the only absent-minded gentleman who has ever been able to suggest a remedy for his own ailment. "You are so preoccupied sometimes," said Mrs. Fourthly, "that I don't feel safe in letting you go out alone." "That is to say, my dear," replied the Rev. Dr. Fourthly, with a benevolent smile, "when my mind wanders, as it does occasionally somebody ought to go along with it."

Why They Are Nervous.
A correspondent says that those who dine with the queen are usually painfully nervous. Perhaps they are tortured with doubt of the propriety of praising the pie, not knowing whether her majesty or the cook made it.—Denver Post.

Whoever is out of patience is out of possession of his soul. Men must not turn bees and kill themselves in stinging others.