

LAW OF THE AIR IN WAR TIME

Rules that Should Govern the Conduct of Belligerent Aviators.

FLYING MEN ARE NOT SPIES

Forbidden to Bombard Unfortified Towns, but Otherwise Unrestricted in Their Hostile Activities.

Battles in the air, the destruction of the mightiest fortifications by veritable clouds of explosives and the spinning out of military works or manœuvres from the deadly vantage point of the aviator, are all ideas which have appealed strongly to fiction writers. It is in the present European conflict that the fleets of the air will be given their first real test, and possibly their last one, for many authorities believe that they will add intolerable horrors to war, and that as fighting machines at least they will be banished by international agreement before another conflict takes place.

International law is a complex and slowly growing body of rules which has been built up by the association of the nations of the world with each other. The science of aeronautics has grown so rapidly that it has outstripped the ponderous machinery of international conferences. As a result the greatest wars in now in progress, with little or no agreement between the contending powers as to what constitutes a proper use of the air space by the state.

General Principles Involved. Dr. Hazeltine first discusses the general principles concerning the control of the air space by the state. He states that the time during which this has been a matter of any importance has been very limited. Many authorities on international law hold that the air is free to all, and that any device for navigating it has the same right to travel through any part of it that a vessel has to voyage anywhere on the high seas.

Balloons Not Spies. The conference decided that balloons are not spies if they are sent to deliver dispatches or to generally maintain communication between the various parts of an army or territory. This ruling falls to provide for the treatment of aviators who may be captured in the act of gaining information, but such activity seems to be provided for in a definition of a spy which was adopted at the same time.

Powers Willing to Take Chances. The subject was given brief consideration and the law adopted for a period of five years, which expired on September 4, 1905. Eight years later it appeared that the action of the tribunal was not prompted so much by humanitarian feelings as by the belief that air craft were not destined to play an important part in any war in the near future.

England and Austria-Hungary were of the party in favor of the limitation of armaments, and accordingly favored restriction of the use of aeroplanes. Lord Reay, the British delegate, argued that it would be most unfortunate to add a third expensive army to the fighting force of nations already overburdened with the cost of their naval and military operations.

which are not defended is forbidden. This was supplemented by the words "by any means whatever."

Except for the restriction concerning unfortified places it can be said that there is no law governing the use of aeroplanes and dirigibles in the present war. Anything which can be done to harass the enemy is permissible, and it seems highly probable that sooner or later the great air fleets of the warring powers will be heard from. It is noticeable, however, that up to the present aviators have had practically no part in the hostilities.

In the matter of wireless telegraphy some international rules have also been adopted, but they are not of much importance in this war, and it is hard to see how they could be enforced. The chief objection is that several countries may order belligerent countries to cease from sending wireless messages across its territory. It is very unlikely that such a course would be taken, because it would in all probability be disregarded.

NOTED OUTLAW BERRY PICKER

Frank James at Seventy Is Industrious Enough to Earn His Own Living.

"There has been much in my life that I don't want to think of—would to God I could forget it. Years before I quit the old life I was as tired of it as the other people."

The speaker was Frank James, modern Robin Hood, brother of Jesse James, the outlaw, and at present a berry picker at Edgewood, Wash. The place was G. W. Glassbrook, a grocery store in Tacoma, the time this week.

"We got into it, and it was our lives against money," said James. "Suffer! We have been hungry with our pockets full of money. We have been hunted like the wolves of the prairie. I couldn't write the history of my life in five years. I have only a short time to live, anyhow, and money is no more to me than dust under my feet. I am going to live a quiet life."

"I asked him how he got started in this work. He said it was the abhorrence he had received at the hands of the men who had killed his father—all through suspicion they were harboring southern soldiers. He said he and Jesse 'got' twenty-one of them and that God Almighty got the other."

"After six detectives, as James calls them, had thrown a bomb into their house, killing his younger brother and wounding his mother, the James boys dressed as cowboys and overtook the men. They asked them what they would do if they met the James boys."

"We would stick them on the end of our guns," the men replied. "You are talking to Jesse James right now and that is my brother, Frank, standing there," said Jesse. They pleaded for their lives but the James boys told them they had shown no mercy to their brother or their mother."

Several years later, disguised as a cowboy, he met Bob Ford in a Kansas City dance hall. He offered to treat the crowd and stepped up to the bar. Ten dollars was laid down on the counter. Ford returned \$25. Frank James told him who he was. What followed is a matter of history.

James told me that when he was in Tacoma two years ago some men asked him to take charge of blowing the safe of the National Bank of Commerce and the Bank of Tacoma. He said, "I told them," said James, "that I did not want to have anything to do with the work; that I had never been in it for money, and that I had given all that up years ago."

James always speaks of his adventures as "being on the trail." He says that instead of using marks they had a dark stain. After the job was over they removed the stain with a chanel cloth, often joining in the pursuit of the bandits. They never robbed or abused women, children or the poor, James says, while many a piece of stray jewelry or money has been found fastened to the doornob of some house. They confined their attentions mainly to train and bank robberies after the war was over.

CAN'T MAKE WARS HUMANE

One Popular Belief that Has Been Thoroughly Discredited.

DEVICES FOR DESTRUCTION

Slight Wounds Heal Readily, but the Really Severe Wounds Made by Modern Weapons Are More Dangerous Than Ever.

A pleasant fiction widely credited is that men have been studying for years to make war more humane—as if war could be humane. For example, one of these "humane" devices is the small bullet at high velocity. Stories are told of men who, after being shot through the chest or head with a modern bullet, about the diameter of a small lead pencil, have walked long distances to the field hospital and have then recovered in a miraculously short time.

This is not true, and that military surgeons who have seen actual service know that really slight wounds made by modern bullets heal more quickly and thoroughly than those made by the old round leaden bullets. But severe wounds are no less severe, and are much more frequent.

The Germans use a steel-jacketed bullet with a core of lead hardened with antimony. The steel jacket often comes off in jagged fragments which horribly lacerates the flesh.

The French bullet, a mixture of copper and zinc, is not jacketed, but is longer and sharper than the German bullet. Bent by ricocheting, it often enters the body as a hook; sometimes it "tumbles" and enters broadside on, making a long, gaping wound.

These "humane" bullets have three general effects: Up to a range of 200 yards they have an explosive effect, splintering the bone so thoroughly as to explain the frequent accusation that explosive bullets have been used; at ranges of 500 to 1,000 yards the effect is terrible, grinding the bone to powder, and often carrying with it into the wound fragments of soiled clothing, thus causing infection.

The third effect is contusive. A modern bullet fired into an empty metal vessel enters and leaves by a small hole. Fill the vessel with water and the bullet will enter by a small hole, but will make a large, jagged hole in leaving. The bullet has exactly the same effect on the body or the head. In any case the bullet strikes a heavy blow as with a club.

Modern warfare is less "humane," however, in the care that is taken to save the armies from disease. In former times the real enemy of the army in the field was not the man with the gun in hand under the opening flag, but disease which mowed down troops on both sides impartially.

It has taken the world a long time to grasp so obvious a fact, but the lesson has been thoroughly learned at last, and it has been applied in all civilized armies. Sick soldiers of an earlier day received no attention whatever. If the wounded received any care it was from a comrade

increased to 176 per thousand, and in the Balkan war of 1912 the proportion was 264 per thousand.

The Russians in Manchuria called shrapnel "the devil's watering pot." When they burst they scatter hundreds of round bullets as well as fragments of the shell itself. They are most deadly within a radius of ten to thirty yards, but even at 100 yards the "dewdrops" are lively enough to penetrate six inches of pine.

The common shell is still more terrible. The fragments, heated to a very high temperature by the explosion, burn the flesh so as to compel cries of agony that only morphine can quiet.

The large shells of the navy not only cut like razors, but amputate, amputate portions of the body, and crush. Altogether the military surgeon is not unduly impressed with the "humane" aspects of war.

Disease Has Been Lessened. Modern warfare is less "humane," however, in the care that is taken to save the armies from disease. In former times the real enemy of the army in the field was not the man with the gun in hand under the opening flag, but disease which mowed down troops on both sides impartially.

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double the number slain by Boer bullets. The total death rate was 39 per 1,000 a year. Nearly 3 per cent of the total strength was continually sick.

In the Russian-Japanese war, which lasted twenty months, the number of Japanese slain in killed and deaths from wounds averaged 34 per 1,000 a year. Disease claimed 5,142, or 2 1/2 per 1,000 a year, a showing no better than that made by the Germans in the Franco-Prussian war.

In the last ten years the medical staff of every army has been completely reorganized and brought up to date. The soldier comes in contact with the medical staff even before he enlists, and he is ever afterward in touch with it as long as he is in service. If watched over his health in every way, he gets proper exercise, but not overworked, watches the food he eats and the water he drinks, vacinates him against typhoid and other diseases, advises about his clothing and even his shoes, prescribes rules for the sanitation of his camps and maintains the troops at the maximum of physical efficiency.—The World's Work.

Griggs' Wife. Two young Clevelanders met on the street Tuesday. One of them said: "Well, I understand that our old friend Griggs has gone and married a wife."

"What?" "Well, what did you hear about it?" "I understand that a widow has gone and married our friend Griggs."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

TWO HEARTS WITH BUT A SINGLE THOUGHT

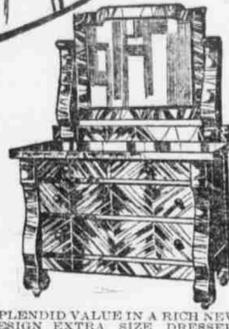
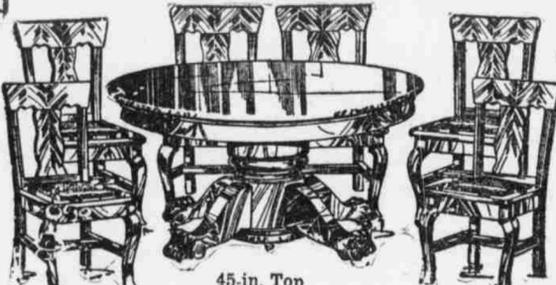
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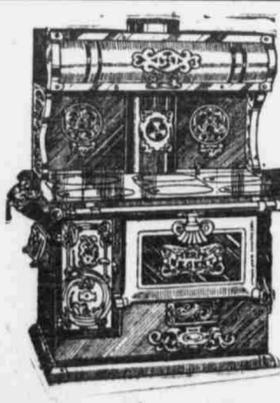


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2-inch Continuous Post Brass Bed. 5 Heavy Fillers. GUARANTEED ACID PROOF MASSIVE 2-INCH CONTINUOUS POST ALL BRASS BED. This splendid brass bed is strongly and massively made and is covered with the best leather. It has two 6-inch continuous posts and ten heavy fillers. Can be had in full size only and satin finish. The design is new and very attractive. Best bed value ever offered. \$13.95



Massive New Style Mission Rocker AN EXCEPTIONAL BARGAIN IN A STRONGLY CONSTRUCTED MISSION ROCKER. Frame is made entirely of solid oak, beautifully fumed. The back and seat are upholstered in guaranteed Imperial Spanish leather. Has large seat and broad back. A rocker that will grace any home. Specially priced for this week's selling—\$4.95

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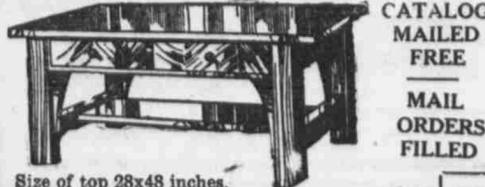


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ACID TEST PROVES A HOT JEST

Woman Hurt in Suicide Hoax to Win a Hat—Iodine Burns Her Face.

To frighten her husband into buying her a new hat, Mrs. Mary Towel, wife of Frank Towel, 412 Midland avenue, Yonkers, squirted iodine in her face yesterday to "make believe" suicide, as she put it. The joke proved more serious than she had expected. She did not know iodine would burn. Her skin was seared and Dr. Farr had her taken to St. John's hospital. She will recover.—New York Tribune.

A Provoking Person. The most provoking person in the world is the man whom we call a liar and who then proves his truthfulness by admitting the falseness of our accusation.—Indianapolis Star.