

NEBRASKA BASE HOSPITAL HAS NARROW ESCAPE

Major A. C. Stokes Writes of Attack of Submarine While Crossing the English Channel.

Nebraska Base hospital units narrow escape from a German submarine while crossing the English channel is described in a letter from Maj. A. C. Stokes to Frank W. Judson, state Red Cross director.

"We were within 100 yards of the hospital ship Warilda when it was sunk by a German submarine the night of August 1. We were all called on deck and could plainly see the flashes of the guns and supposed they were firing at us. We did not know what had happened until the next morning," wrote Major Stokes.

Shelled in Paris. "We reached Paris August 6, the last day the Germans shelled Paris. Every half hour shells broke in the city, one of them also within 100 yards of us. Several people were killed.

"By August 10, we were all in Alerey ready for work. Our hospital was built, but the equipment was not here, so it was up to us to get the equipment installed and arranged. At this we all worked hard, filling the wards with beds and mattresses, the laboratory and operating rooms with all the material we could get.

Nebraska base hospital is generally regarded in this sector to have the best equipped operating room and the most attentive and conscientious staff of workers. Much of our success has been due to the support and money received from home and from the state Red Cross. Many sad things have happened during the course of our existence in France and we have passed through many trials and tribulations. The saddest thing of all was the death of one of our nurses from meningitis which occurred soon after her arrival. Many of the nurses have been ill on account of improper quarters and lack of heat. One man and his work deserves particular mention. This is the work of our chaplain, Dean Hancock. He is beloved by the entire unit and his counsel and advice has been invaluable.

The consulting service of the ear, nose and throat of the entire center is controlled by Base 49, as are also the neurological consulting service, the X-ray consulting service and the neuro-surgical consulting service.

Increase Capacity. "Large Markee tents furnishes us the increased capacity from 1,000 to 2,000 patients. On the 1st of October the patients from the Argonne drive began to come. This constant flow of patients continued from the 1st of October to about the 15th or 18th of November, almost up to the present time. Our capacity was taxed to its utmost.

The surgical side, of which Major Stokes is now in charge, at one time reached the enormous number of 1,300 patients. The medical service, in charge of Major Bridges, at the same time numbered 700.

"We feel that the state of Nebraska and the University of Nebraska and the Red Cross can be proud of the record of Base Hospital No. 49, Unit No. 26 in the Rochester, Minn., unit and we have been in competition with them since our arrival and we can justly say that we have not been compared to our detriment."

Widow of Photographer Sues Insurance Company

Mae C. Noel, widow of J. W. Noel, photographer who figured in the sensational Kelly ax-murder case in Montgomery county, Ia., has brought an action in the district court for \$1,250 against the Mercantile Insurance company of America.

The claim is made in connection with an automobile policy held by Mr. Noel, whose car was stolen. Noel was found dead in the Albia, Ia., railroad yards about a year ago.

Reported Illness of Head of Street Railway Unconfirmed

Gordon W. Waffles was well enough to be "up and around" Monday after a cold, which kept him in bed Saturday and Sunday. A rumor was current Sunday night that he was dangerously ill with pneumonia. Members of his family say he had no sign or symptom of pneumonia.

The Abandoned Room

By Wadsworth Camp

CHAPTER XXXV. Another Mysterious Wound. Bobby forced himself to speak calmly, deliberately, steadily.

"To go for the night alone to the old room as Howells did." Robinson whistled. "Didn't believe you had that much nerve. Two men have tried that. What good would it do?"

"If the answer's anywhere," Bobby said, "it must be hidden in that room, Howells felt it. I was sure of it when I was prevented from taking the evidence. You've believed it, I think."

"There is something strange and unhealthy about the room," Robinson agreed. "Certainly the secret of the locked doors lies there. But we've had sufficient warning. I'm not ashamed to say I wouldn't take such a chance. I don't know that I ought to let you."

"I've been enough of a coward," he said, "and, Robinson, I've got to know. I shan't go near the bed. I'll watch the bed from a corner. If the danger's in the bed, as we suspect, it probably won't be able to reach me, but just the same it may expose itself. And Rawlins or you can be outside the broken door in the corridor waiting to enter at the first alarm."

"Howells had no chance to give an alarm," Robinson muttered. "We'll see later."

But Bobby understood that he would agree, and he forced his new courage to face the prospect. "Maybe something will turn up," Robinson added. "The case can't grow more mysterious indefinitely."

But his tone held no assurance. He seemed to foresee new and difficult complications.

When they returned to the hall Bobby shrank from the picture of his grandfather still crouched by the fire, his shoulders twitching, his fingers about the black brier pipe shaking. Groom alone had remained with him. Bobby opened the

front door. There was no one in the court. "Parades," he said, closing the door, "has gone out of the court. Where's Katherine, doctor?"

"She went to the kitchen," the doctor rumbled, "I'm sure I don't know what for this time of night."

After a little Graham and Rawlins came down the stairs. Graham's face was scarred by fresh trouble. Rawlins drew the district attorney to one side.

"What have you two been doing up there?" Bobby asked Graham. "Rawlins is hard headed," Graham answered in a low, worried tone.

He wouldn't meet Bobby's eyes. He seemed to seek an escape. "Where's Katherine?" he asked.

"Doctor Groom says she went to the back part of the house. Why don't you tell me what you were doing?"

"Only trying to keep Rawlins from making more mischief," Graham answered.

"Aren't there enough riddles in this house?" Doctor Groom asked with frank disapproval.

Rawlins and Robinson joined them, sparing Graham a further defense. The district attorney had an air of fresh resolution. He was about to speak when the front door opened quietly, framing the blackness of the court. They started forward, seeing no one.

Silas Blackburn made a slow, shrinking movement, crying out: "They've opened the door! Don't let them in! Don't let them come near me again!"

Although they knew Parades had been in the court the spell of the Cedars was so heavy upon them that for a moment they didn't know what to expect. They hesitated with a little of the abnormal apprehension Silas Blackburn exposed. Then Rawlins sprang forward and Bobby called:

"Carlos!"

Parades stepped from one side. He lingered against the black background of the doorway. It was

plain enough something was wrong with him. In the first place, although he had opened the door, he had been unwilling to enter. "Shut the door," Silas Blackburn moaned.

Parades, with a quick gesture of surrender, stepped in and obeyed. His face was white. He had lost his immaculate appearance. His clothing showed stains of snow and mould. He held his left hand behind his back.

"What's the matter with you?" Robinson demanded.

The Panamanian's laugh lacked its usual indifference. "When I said the Cedars was full of ghosts, I should have heeded my own warning. I might better have staid comfortably locked up in Smithtown."

Silas Blackburn spoke in a hoarse whisper: "What did you see out there?"

"Are they coming?" "I saw very little," Parades answered. "It was too dark."

"You saw something," Dr. Groom rumbled.

Parades nodded. He looked at the floor. "A woman in black."

"By the lake?" Bobby cried. "Not as far as the lake. It was near the empty grave."

Silas Blackburn commenced to shake again. The doctor's little eyes were wider.

"It was a woman—a flesh and blood woman?" Robinson asked.

"If it was a ghost, it had the power of attack; but that, as you'll recall, is by no means unusual here. That's why I've come in rather against my will. It seems strange, but I, too, have been struck by a sharp and slender object, and I thought, perhaps, the doctor had better look at the result."

With a motion of repugnance, he moved his left hand from behind his back and stretched it to the light. The coat below the elbow was torn. The slender hand was crimson. He tried to smile.

"Luckily, it wasn't at the back of my head."

"Sit down," Doctor Groom said, waving Robinson and Rawlins away. "Let me see how badly he's hurt. There'll be plenty of time for questions afterward."

(To Be Continued Tomorrow.)

BUSINESS MEN BOOSTING FOR BIG MEET HERE

Committee Goes to Chicago to Arrange for Meeting of Readjustment Congress in Omaha.

Following the meeting held by Omaha business men Saturday in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce to perfect plans for the holding of the Trans-Mississippi Readjustment congress in Omaha February 4, 5 and 6. Commissioner Manly, President C. C. George, John W. Gamble of the executive committee and Randall K. Brown of the war activities committee of the Chamber of Commerce, R. C. Howe, manager of Armour & Co., and a number of other Omaha business men went to Chicago Sunday night to attend a sectional meeting of the National Chamber of Commerce in that city, where more detail plans of the big meeting in Omaha in February are being perfected.

They will return to Omaha this morning, and it is expected that that time will have some interesting information to give out regarding the readjustment congress, to be held here.

Mail Carriers to Deliver Christmas Mail Wednesday

Christmas day business-route carriers at the main postoffice, Union station, South Side, and stock yards stations, will report at 8 a. m., and will make two trips. Residence route carriers to report at 8 a. m., and to make one trip. Carriers at suburban stations other than above mentioned will make one trip. Money order department and postal savings bank will not open. Other sections of the postoffice will be open until 10:30 a. m.

Scribner Mill Put Out of Business By Food Administration

The Monitor Milling company of Scribner, licensed and doing business as the Farmer's Co-operative Mercantile company has been put out of business so long as the food administration exercises control over the output of mills that make flour and other food stuffs.

At the office of the Nebraska food administration it is charged that the Monitor Milling company has been disobeying its orders in its business transactions with Uncle Sam. It is alleged that during the period from July 27 to November 30, this year, in 350 instances the company sold mill feed in excess of the maximum prices fixed by the food administration. These overcharges are said to have approximated \$1,500.

Last August charges were filed against the Monitor Milling company. It was accused of overcharging. The complaint was sustained and the mills ordered shut down for a period of 30 days. Later on other complaints were filed and a hearing had. The charges were sustained and now the finding has been approved by the national food administration, with a recommendation that the mills be closed for an indefinite period.

CHOOSE A Columbia for Christmas. Realize an enduring source of pleasure and inspiration, a solace in time of trouble, an added joy in happy days. Hear our latest records just received. **H. J. HORSTMAN** Columbus, Neb.

The Columbia Grafonola will bring happiness into your home on Christmas day and every day throughout the year. We are showing a complete line of Columbia Grafonolas, as well as records of the world's best music. **Opera House Pharmacy** Schuyler, Nebraska. VISIT OUR DAILY CONCERTS

Have a **Columbia** in Your Home. This Xmas and make everybody happy. A gift that is appreciated by all. People of western Nebraska are urged to try our service. We have a complete stock of Grafonolas as well as the latest records. Call or write for terms. **Robert Goodall** Jeweler Nebraska Ogallala

If In doubt give a Columbia Always Appropriate **THOMPSON BROS.** West Point, Neb.

NO GIFT LIKE A COLUMBIA Act today and select your Columbia Grafonola from our complete display. We have the latest records including many Swedish selections. **J. L. OLSON**, Stromsburg, Neb.

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Which Columbia Will You Buy? There remains the selection of the right Columbia model for your family for Christmas. You will get your full money's worth whatever Columbia you choose. We carry a complete stock of machines and records for your selection. **WOODWARD-THOMAS DRUG CO.** Aurora, Neb.

Railroads Report Christmas Travel the Best in Years

With the crest of the Christmas travel passed with the exception of short trips, railroad passenger men say that business has been the best in years. More people than usual have gone to California and the same has been true with reference to the movement south.

Baker Would Make Three Army Leaders Generals for Life

Washington, Dec. 23.—Bestow of the permanent rank of general John J. Pershing, commander of American forces in France; Peyton C. March, chief of staff, and Tasi H. Bliss, military representative of the supreme war council, and a permanent rank of lieutenant general on Hunter E. Hays and Robert Bullard, commanding the First and Second armies, was asked by Secretary Baker today in a letter Chairman Dent, of the house military committee.

PLAY YOUR Columbia Grafonola Electrically Christmas Morning

Our stock of this Beautiful Columbia Model is limited, so we advise early selection for Christmas delivery.

It is equipped with individual Record ejector, a feature found only in Columbia Grafonolas.

The Electric Motor is a marvel of accuracy and precision, driving the turn table with an evenness of speed that does not vary a hairbreadth in a thousand revolutions. No need of any attention from you, once the electric current is on, aside from changing records. While they last, only \$145.00

To start the instrument you simply bring the tone arm over to playing position, and, best of all, it can be purchased at before-war prices and on easy terms. Don't wait—Select your Christmas Records Now at

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1311-13 Farnam. **PIANO COMPANY** Phone Doug. 1023. Headquarters for Columbia Grafonolas and Records.

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with a Columbia Grafonola. New records received on the first, tenth and twentieth of each month. Come in and hear them. Sold on easy terms when desired. **Q STREET PHARMACY** FRANK J. HERMANSKY, Prop. 2725 Q Street. South Side Dealer.

MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS THE HAPPIEST

with a Columbia—the gift that the whole family can enjoy. We cordially invite you to call and see our complete display of Columbia machines and hear the latest records. **HARRIS DRUG STORE** DAVID CITY, NEB.

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from our complete stock, together with a good selection of Columbia records and you will have the most appropriate gift possible. Come in and hear the latest records. It is always a pleasure to demonstrate the wonders of the Columbia. **JOHNSON DRUG CO.** Ord, Neb.

THE IDEAL GIFT-

A Columbia Grafonola

Something that the entire family can enjoy on Xmas day and every day throughout the year. It is so easy to beguile the long evenings of winter if there is one of these delightful instruments in your home—you realize an enduring source of pleasure and always have the World's greatest music at your hand.

BRODEGAARD BROS. CO.

16th and Douglas Streets

"The Store with the Xmas Spirit"

WAR PUZZLES



SECRETARY DANIELS RECOMMENDED
An American Navy on a par with the most wonderful and called for \$1,500,000,000, three years ago today, December 24, 1915. Find a seaman.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER
Upside down nose at right shoulder.

An ideal Christmas gift—a Columbia Grafonola with a good selection of records of the latest song hits. We take pleasure in demonstrating our complete line of machines. Come in and hear the latest records. **Gaskill Music Co.,** Nebraska City, Neb.

KOUTSKY-PAVLIC CO. South Side. **COLUMBIA GRAFONOLA AND RECORD DEPARTMENT.** Come in and see our large display of Grafonolas for Xmas and hear the latest records. Sold on payments if desired.

New January Numbers of Columbia Records



Toscha Seidel Plays Wieniawski's "Romance"

The world's greatest musicians have paid tribute to the compelling artistry of this young genius of the violin. But it takes no more than simple love of music to appreciate the melodious beauty of this new Seidel Record. **49447—\$1.50**

Hulda Lashanska Sings "Songs My Mother Taught Me"

All the love and longing that Dvorak put into this most personal and appealing of his compositions, Lashanska has brought out in her exquisite interpretation. She has sung this record with a sympathetic heart as well as a beautiful voice. **77719—\$1.00**



Stracciarri Glorifies "O Sole Mio"

We all know this passionate Neapolitan melody, full of volcanic fire and fierce Italian sunshine. But until you have heard it glorified by Stracciarri's magnificent baritone—you have not truly heard "O Sole Mio." **78097—\$1.00**

The Lure of Music

The author puts the understanding of good music within the reach of all, dispensing with technical terms and bringing the human side of the art home to the reader. On sale at all Columbia Dealers.

There is no Christmas GIFT Quite so Welcome as a Columbia Grafonola

The most delightful gift in the world and pleases both old and young alike. We urge you to drop in and see our wonderful line of Grafonolas and hear the latest records. Remember that we carry one of the largest stocks of grafonolas and records west of Omaha.

Models and prices to suit every taste. Come in and talk it over with us—we know that you will be interested.

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