

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1917.—Copyright, 1917, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association.

GERMANS REPAIRED "WIRES" OF BRITISH

When Their Task Was Done Smiling Tommies Took Them All Prisoners.

WAS MIXUP IN THE DARK

Night Work of Sappers on the Somme Results in Mystifying Scene.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

LONDON, Jan. 11.—Barbed wire was once looked upon as an invention of the devil by attackers out at the firing line in France. That time has passed. German great preparations for wire defense have proved more troublesome to themselves than to the British forces in many cases and in one instance provided a little party that is one of the great jokes of the Somme. The story was told this week to THE SUN correspondent by officers home on leave.

Hailed as a Blessing.

When the new stakes made their appearance they were heralded as a blessing by the 150th Field Company of Royal Engineers under command of Lieut. Billie R. He led his section through the communication trenches and after reporting to the infantry officer in charge propped his way out through a sap to no man's land, where he was to repair whatever damaged entanglements he found.

Attacks His Comrade.

A German wire party blundering along attracted Billie's attention and he turned to see a wounded British private bump into Armstrong and attempt to climb the sergeant, taking him for a German. The British patrol was going north while the German patrol, followed by a wire party, was creeping south and the two had become mixed up.

Crave Back to Work.

Armstrong blew two very low notes on his whistle and out of the mist in the trench the sappers gathered around and the section wormed its way back to work. A few yards and every man halted his crawl, for ahead came the unmistakable sounds of men working.

Communication Trench Near.

"If we are all right," said Billie, "for the communication trench we came through isn't thirty yards off."

Inspection of Prisoners Ends

American Embassy Staff of Forty Has Not Been Recalled Yet.

Mrs. Fenfield Stops Work.

Clothes Shop in Vienna, Where She Made Bandages for 30 Months.

Mrs. Fenfield Stops Work.

Those who recall as yet the embassy in Berlin. When a party of men is sent out and is never seen again it slightly unnerves its successors.

AMERICAN MULE NOW PRIDE OF BATTLE TORN FLANDERS

Product of Southern U. S. A. Stock Farms a "Magnificent Creature," Says British Brigadier—Faithful Worker and Hard to Kill—Sleep Beside Roaring Guns.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, Jan. 30 (By mail).—Two years ago a half of the grimest war in history has wrought the triumph of at least one American institution—the army mule.

Frederick, Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Texas and other stock farms in the South he has journeyed to the war and come into his own. The much maligned, supposedly stumpy, bawky and generally peevish mule has won a place in the heart of the British army from which he can never be dislodged.

"A most magnificent creature," replied a British Brigadier when asked for an opinion of the lowly American mule. "And he has a much better character than generally is given to him. He is something like a camel in that respect. Most people cry down and berate the poor old animal, but once you get to know him he is much to be admired. It is just the same with the mule. He has some ways with him which the British would never appreciate at first, but now that they are better acquainted and have formed a sort of entente cordiale the two have utmost respect for each other and 'carry on' at the front with complete understanding and effectiveness."

One Mule Equals Six Horses.

The mule had his supreme test on this front in the battles of the Somme. There were days and nights of unceasing labor, short rations and little or no attention. A mule's ration was a single mule, an exact ratio to the number employed, six horses subsisted where a single mule gazed.

MANY ODD TRADES IN EXEMPT LISTS

British Military Tribunals Seeking Men Uncover Unusual Occupation.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—The reports of the military tribunals, which are still at work reading out men for the army, show that there are many ways of earning a living which are not known to the ordinary public.

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WAR OBJECTORS PROBLEM SOLVED

Gen. B. E. W. Childs Builds Up Organization for Testing Pleas in England.

QUAKERS REAL PATRIOTS

1,200 Out of 1,938 Who Opposed Fighting Now Working to Assist Government.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

LONDON, Jan. 30.—The problem of how to handle conscientious objectors has ceased to trouble England. Of the 1,938 men who appeared before the central tribunal as objectors up to November 18, 1916, more than 1,200 are now doing work of national importance and the others are being put through a series of detentions to determine just what part of their objection to military service is based upon conscience and what part upon pure contumacy.

They're Generally Civil, Too.

Visiting a veterinary hospital where there were hundreds of horses under medical repair, it was striking to notice that a solitary mule among them. Some one suggested this was strange, because the army had found the mule such a fine animal he had been imported by the tens of thousands.

Sentenced to Ten Years.

"That was the first inkling we had that there were men who objected to doing any work whatever," the general declared. "It is a pity we had not the idea that members of the non-combatant corps would object to road making or work in the medical corps. They were court-martialed and sentenced to ten years imprisonment, being sent back to England. The impression prevails that these men were sentenced to death; but we spirit away some of them for some purpose of inflicting the death penalty. That of course is wholly untrue."

Now Thoroughly in Hand.

"I have never feared the conscientious objectors," said the general. "What I did fear was that if the door were opened too wide it would lead to bad results. If the path of the conscientious objector were made too easy and if one did not insist upon the most rigorous application as to the nature of his convictions, then one opens the door to a very great influx of men who never possessed conscience."

Privation in Holland.

Hunger and Intense Cold Cause Great Suffering—Shops Stormed.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the London Times.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—The Amsterdam correspondent of the Times writes as follows: "Very great nervousness prevails throughout Holland, and the distress due to the war has been increased by the intense cold now prevailing. Many poor families are suffering from privation and hunger."

French Wheat Crop Large.

Exceeds Expectations Due to Large Acresage.

U. S. Russia Mail Service Planned.

Moscow, via London, Feb. 10.—The Moscow Chamber of Commerce is taking steps looking to a mail service with the United States by way of Vladivostok. The Russian and American Governments are to be approached on the project.

WAR MENACE STILL OVER NETHERLANDS

Hollanders Won't Disband a Single Regiment Until Peace Is Chiftched.

ARMY HAS 100,000 MORE

Bills Prolonging Term of Men With the Colors Is Unanimously Passed.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

THE HAGUE, Netherlands, Jan. 30 (By mail).—The peace outlook constitutes the one absorbing topic in the Netherlands and more than adequate explanation of the Hollanders' intense interest in the latest turn of events can be gained by a glance at the burdens, problems and anxieties which the past twelve months have drawn into the Netherlands and its rulers.

Army Is Greatly Increased.

However, in the two and a half years of mobilization the trained army of the Netherlands has been increased by over 100,000 men, and eleven of the sixteen levies under arms in August, 1914, have now been reduced to a few hundred men and sent home on indefinite leave. The munition supplies have been correspondingly increased. Notwithstanding what has been achieved, however, there is sharp criticism of the bills prolonging the term of the men with the colors.

Perment Along the Frontier.

As to the state of affairs in the country itself, there is still considerable ferment in the frontier regions. Despite the continual seizures of goods and the frequent shooting fatalities, large bands of men continue to engage in smuggling; even soldiers are caught at it from time to time. Another regular feature in the border lands is the considerable influx of escaped prisoners of war and deserters, whose ranks have recently been reinforced by numbers of fleeing Belgian and Polish civilians.

Conserving Supply of Beef.

In order to save the stock of beef, mutton is being issued to the army once a week. This is a revolution in Holland, where mutton has hitherto been almost unknown as an article of popular diet, albeit the war and the article's comparative cheapness is bringing it more into vogue. There has been no export of cattle for some time. The Allies appear to be permitting a freer import of grain, presumably in consequence of the arrangements made for the export of large quantities of agricultural produce to Britain.

Paper Kopeks in Russia.

Petrograd, Jan. 15.—Paper money in denominations as low as one kopek has been issued in Russia since the beginning of the war. At the present rate of exchange one kopek note is worth about a quarter of a cent.

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Our welcome to Brooklyn men tomorrow will be as cordial as we can make it.

LINCOLN DAY SALES IN BRIEF

- On the Main Floor Clearance of Men's Suits, \$14.50 and \$17.50; Were \$18 to \$30. Men's Overcoats, \$12.50, \$14.50 and \$17.50; Were \$15 to \$30. Men's \$1, \$1.50 and \$2 Silk Neckwear at 79c. Men's \$1 Negligee Shirts at 79c. Men's Underwear at 59c., 69c. and \$1.19; Values 85c. to \$1.50. Men's Socks, Special at 10c., 3 Pairs for 50c., 25c. and 50c. Fountain Pens at 98c.; List Price \$3.50; Our Former Price \$2.75. Other Values in Fountain Pens at 75c., \$1.49, \$1.75 to \$3.25. Men's & Women's India Umbrellas, \$5 Values at \$3. Women's \$6.50 Shoes, Incomplete Size Range, at \$4.90. Boys' Overcoats and Mackinaws, \$5 and \$7.50; Values to \$10. Boys' \$9 and \$10 Norfolk Suits at \$7.50. Boys' Wash Suits at \$1.25 and \$1.65; Values \$2 to \$4. Useful Lengths of Pretty Laces at 5c. to 98c. Yard. \$5 Gold Drop Earrings at \$3. \$2.75 Gold Drop Earrings at \$1.50. Silver Plated Knives, Forks and Spoons at Low Prices. Women's 25c. to \$1.75 Stockings at 19c. to \$1.35. Children's Stockings at 19c.; Values to 25c. Embroideries, 5c. to 49c. Yard; Usual 10c. to \$1.29 Kinds. None sent C. O. D.



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