

"OVER THERE"

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killed six times tonight. Suppose it'll be eight times tomorrow night."

One man insisted that he had discovered in one of our aerial photographs a German burying money, and he carefully examined each new picture, so that he could be sure of finding the dough and digging it up. The grave and serious manner of our officers, however, the exhaustive care with which we were drilled and, more than all, the approach of the time when we were to "go over the top" drove all sport out of our minds, and I can say for myself that the very thought of the undertaking as the fatal night drew near sent shivers up and down my spine.

A bombing raid, something originated in warfare by the Canadians, is not intended for the purpose of holding ground, but to gain information, to do as much damage as possible and to keep the enemy in a state of nervousness. In this particular raid the chief object was to gain information. Our high command wanted to know what troops were opposite us and what troops had been there. We were expected to get this information from prisoners and from buttons, and papers off of the Germans we might kill. It was believed that troops were being



We Rehearsed That Raid as Carefully as a Company of Star Actors.

relieved from the big tent show up at the Somme and sent to our side show in Belgium for rest. Also it was suspected that artillery was being withdrawn for the Somme. Especially we were anxious to bring back prisoners.

In civilized war a prisoner can be compelled to tell only his name, rank and religion. But this is not a civilized war, and there are ways of making prisoners talk. One of the most effective ways—quite humane—is to tie a prisoner fast, head and foot, and then tickle his bare feet with a feather. More severe punishments have frequently been used—the water cure, for instance—but I'm bound to say that nearly all the German prisoners I saw

were quite loquacious and willing to talk, and the accuracy of their information was surprising. From discipline which turns them into mere children in the presence of their officers seemed to make them subservient and obedient to the officers who commanded us. I mean, of course, the privates. In this way the system worked against the fatherland. Captured German officers, especially Prussians, were a nasty lot. We never tried to get information from them, for we knew they would happily and very intelligently—well instructed in the art.

At last came the night when we were to go "over the top," across No Man's Land, and have a frolic with Fritz in his own happy home. I am endeavoring to be as accurate and truthful as possible in these stories of my soldiering, and I am therefore compelled to say that there wasn't a man in the sixty who didn't show the strain in his pallor and nervousness. Under orders, we discarded our trench helmets and substituted knitted skullcaps or empty mess tins. "Then we blackened our hands and faces with ashes from a camp fire so as to avoid being seen as long as possible. After this they loaded us into motor trucks and took us up to "Shrapnel Corner," from which point we went in on foot. Just before we left a staff captain came along and gave us a little talk.

"This is the first time you men have been tested," he said. "You're Canadians. I needn't say anything more to you. They're going to be popping them off at a great rate while you're on your way across. Remember that you'd better not stand up straight, because our shells will be going over just six and a half feet from the ground where it's level. If you stand up straight you're likely to be hit in the head, but don't let that worry you, because if you do get hit in the head you won't know it. So why in h— worry about it?" That was his farewell. He jumped on his horse and rode off.

The Bomb Raid.

The point we were to attack had been selected long before by our scouts. It was not, as you might suppose, the weakest point in the German line. It was, on the contrary, the strongest. It was considered that the usual effect of cleaning up a weak point would be comparatively small, whereas to break in at the strongest point would be something really worth while. And if we were to take a chance it really wouldn't pay to hesitate about degrees. The section we were to raid had a frontage of 150 yards and a depth of 200 yards. It had been explained to us that we were to be supported by a "box barrage" or curtain fire, from our artillery to last exactly twenty-six minutes—that is, for twenty-six minutes from the time when we started "over the top" our artillery, several miles back, would drop a curtain of shells over the German positions. We were to

have fifteen minutes in which to do our work. Any man not out at the end of that fifteen minutes would necessarily be caught in our own fire, as our artillery would then change from a "box" to pour a straight curtain fire covering all of the spot of our operation.

Our officers set their watches very carefully with those of the artillery officers before we went forward to the front trenches. We reached the front at 11 p. m., and not until our arrival there were we informed of the "zero hour"—the time when the attack was to be made. The hour of 12:10 had been selected. The waiting from 11 o'clock until that time was simply an agony. Some of our men sat stupid and inert. Others kept talking constantly about the most inconsequential matters. One man undertook to tell a funny story. No one listened to it, and the laugh at the end was emaciated and ghastly. The inaction was driving us all into a state of funk. I could actually feel my nerve oozing out at my finger tips, and if we had had to wait fifteen minutes longer I wouldn't have been able to climb out of the trench.

About half an hour before we were to go over every man had his eye up the trench, for we knew "the rummies" were coming that way. The rum gang serves out a stiff shot of Jamaica just before an attack, and it would be a real test of temperance to see a man refuse. There were no prohibitionists in our set. Whether or not we got our full ration depended on whether the sergeant in charge was drunk or sober. After the shot began to work one man next me pounded my leg and hollered in my ear:

"I say, why all this red tape? Let's go over now."

That joggin' of rum is a life saver. When the hour approached for us to start the artillery fire was so heavy that orders had to be shouted into ears from man to man. The bombardment was, of course, along a couple of miles of front so that the Germans would not know where to expect us. At 12 o'clock exactly they began pulling down a section of the parapet so that we wouldn't have to climb over it and we were off.

There are six articles in this remarkable series by Sergeant McClintock. Two have already been printed, and the third will appear soon. It is the most interesting one of the series thus far, and is entitled:

"Over the Top and Give 'em Hell!"

The English Tommy's battle cry as he went from his trench. The bomb raid and what happened to a sergeant that started forty-six killed to return because the Germans had prepared a surprise for them. Graphic description of Sergeant McClintock's terrible experience.

Handy Literature.

Saunders found it very hard work selling books. The volume he had to offer, one of which he had to carry with him as a souvenir, were very heavy and nobody seemed to want them. But he was a persistent man and even the stubborn Mrs. Bowling could not stand him away unheeded. "We have all the books we can use," she said, and we really want nothing more reading matter. "Why, I haven't even opened the second volume of that Roman history you sold us last spring. Now, if you were selling one of those adjustable ironing boards—" "I've got just the thing," said Saunders cheerfully. "There are twelve books in this set, and you can use either one or two or three, and so on up to six. It'll fit your board any way you want to. And between whites when your iron is heating you have good literature to refresh your mind."

A Bonehead.

There are many things dropped to the subway ticket chopper by absent-minded riders besides the little piece of pasteboard which entitles them to a ride. An eccentric looking young man and his particularly eccentric looking wife hurried up to the door of a Broadway theater last night. The man reached into his pocket, handed the doorman some tickets and, assisting his wife before him, turned to receive the stubs. "These are subway tickets," said the doorman. At the rate of two pockets per second the young man searched himself. Then he clapped his hand on his forehead. "Good heavens, Annie," he gasped, "I put the seats in the subway!" And what Annie said about boneheads was only heard by herself. New York Cor. Pittsburgh Dispatch.

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The Juvenile Protective Association is doing a great work in this community and while but few people are aware of its existence or the high aims of the association the officers are going ahead day by day and giving their services free for the protection of the children.

It is easy enough for people who are sitting around on the sidewalks whittling sticks and chewing navy tobacco to whittle and spit and tell each other just how the government should be managed. But these same people are not putting their shoulders to the wheels of progress and are not paying any taxes and are not taking an active part in the building of the city or the county or the state.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP
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in many parts of the United States. There is an old story which tells of a committee consisting of civic dignitaries of some large city in Scotland where municipal ownership was in successful operation were invited to visit Chicago to pass judgment on the feasibility of installing a similar plant in that huge but not particularly well governed city.

Should the city receive such an offer it is to be hoped that the council will give it earnest consideration. The municipal ownership of the water supply in New York has proved satisfactory to a remarkable degree considering the Scotchmen's verdict on its chances in Chicago.

Fighting the Cigarette
 A new prohibition movement is under way in Kansas. Now it's the cigarette that has to go. Everybody is joining in the fight.

The W. C. T. U. and the parent-teachers association are sending out literature and "dialing" with the problem locally.

Kansas calls the cigarette the "chief enemy to the boy," the blight on health and character, the "infamous cigarette." And she seems to mean what she says.

INVESTIGATE THE TAXES
 Tax Commissioner Will Visit Every County in State

A rigid investigation into the tax assessments in every county in the state is the plan of the state tax commission, which has already started a probe in Duval county.

Hard Tails Drafted
 Atlanta, Ga., July 19.—There is going to be another military draft in Georgia sometime soon, but it will be for mules instead of men, and the patient southern jarhead is going to leave the cotton fields and take his place by thousands on the firing line in France, hauling artillery and ammunition wagons.

E. T. Woodruff as Host
 One of the most enjoyable affairs of the year was the banquet given by Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Woodruff to their friends at the Hotel Carnes Tuesday night.

After the repeat Toastmaster
 Woodruff announced the male quartette and they rendered several selections most pleasing to all.

Our Country, C. R. Walker;
 Greater Sanford, D. C. Marlowe; Funny Things in Printer's Ink, R. J. Holly; Brotherhood, F. P. Forster; Pastoral Pleasantries, Dr. Geo. Hyman; The Fair Sex, E. A. Douglass; Home and Fatherland, L. R. Philips.

Origin of Billiards.
 Many men believe that billiards was not an invention, says the Providence Journal, but a growth, while others maintain, most likely because of the name, that it was a French invention.

How Moving Signs Work.
 In a general way, the mechanism of a moving electric sign is like the old-time music box drum, filled with pins.

Worst Thing About Work.
 "Do hardest thing about work," said Uncle Eben. "Is de worry it puts you to when you try to dodge it."—Washington Star.

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EIGHT FOOT POTATO PENS GROWING 42 BUSHEL

New Discovery in Potato Growing by Means of Huge Potato Hills in Fenced Inclosures Saves Labor and Land

By W. M. GEORGE
 Former Editor of The American Homestead, a National Farm Monthly

Forty-two bushels of potatoes in the season of 1916 from a plot of ground only eight feet square, or an equivalent of more than 28,000 bushels to the acre of ground space used, was the astonishing feat of R. E. Hendricks, a resident of Kansas City, Mo.

Like all great discoveries, Mr. Hendrick's method of raising potatoes is founded on such simple elemental principles that one wonders why some one "didn't think of it before." He had often watched the potato pile in the cellar bin, which every spring sent out its shoots through every possible crack and crevice. Sometimes these sprouts would crawl out along the floor a distance of seven feet in order to reach the light. From this beginning he conceived the idea that if this pile was removed out into the open and given soil and fertilizer, with proper conditions of light and moisture, the potatoes would grow and reproduce their kind.

Three years ago he built what he called a "potato pen," which was nothing more nor less than a huge potato hill, the sides of which were supported by a loosely constructed inclosure, built after the fashion of an old rail fence.

The details of the construction and management of these potato pens, as described by Mr. Hendricks, outline a plan why which any one having access to a plot of ground no larger than a flower bed can raise all the potatoes needed for an average family for a whole year.

The potato pen as described is built 6 feet by 8 feet, inside measurement and is 6 feet high.

The pen is built as each layer is placed and planted. You can use one by six inch boards for the ends and sides, leaving 2 1/2 inch space between the boards for the potato sprouts to come through.

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