

FRANCIS AMONG FRENCH ZOUAVES IMPOSING IN PICTURESQUE UNIFORM

Britain Employs Few of Its Vast Alien Populations. Matabele Warfare Described as Terrifying. "Sailors" in Khaki Win Trench

By ELLEN ADAIR

LONDON, Jan. 21.—One hears but little of the present war of the dunes by the black races. Yet the French army, particularly among the Zouaves, is made up of many negroes, and tremendously imposing figures they are, too, in their picturesque uniforms.



ELLEN ADAIR

Why on earth don't the British employ some of the millions of their African subjects as fighters? I have often been asked such a question by neutrals and others.

"British troops have a reputation as excellent soldiers." And this calculation does not include the East African soldiers who are already fighting in their own territory.

If Britain were really hard pressed by Germany she could summon great numbers of Africans to her assistance.

MATABELE STRATEGY But in the meantime, except in East Africa, she is content to use those natives merely as scavengers of wood and drawers of water along the western front. What she may do in the future is an entirely different matter.

The Matabele method of fighting is purely a matter of walking and cunning maneuvers, every member being a sniper, yet all acting in unison.

"A Matabele army will approach as invisibly as snakes," says a British officer who for long has lived in the wilds of Africa. "It crawls forward watching the movements of its intended victims. Then the Matabele rise like a wild black cloud of destruction. Hissing and shrieking their battle-cry, they bound and leap like the antelope from rock to rock and deliver a fearful precision the death-dealing blow of the assegai; and ever and anon shouting their terrible cry of triumph."

As soldiers, the native Africans vary exceedingly, some of them being as docile denizens of earth.

A magnificent type of British soldier is the "sailor in khaki"—the man of the Royal Naval Division.

"I'm expecting big things of you today,"

boys," said the colonel of a certain naval brigade on the wet dawn of a cold, gray day. "When our heavy guns stop for a moment we'll make the advance. Just follow me close when I give the signal and there will be big songs sung about our successes."

An able seaman tells the tale. When the "heavies" stopped their dull booming, "Stand by, lads!" yelled the colonel. "Stand by!"

Then a second later, "Over the parapets! Over you go and shake 'em up!"

SAILORS IN KHAKI

The "sailors in khaki" clambered over the slippery mud with loud cheers.

The colonel was hit by a bullet straight away, but staggering, floundering and slipping, he managed to lead his men on and on.

"When we got to the German trenches, believe me, there was some scrap," said a B. R. smiling reminiscently, "the bayonetting came hard and fast, and within twenty minutes we had trench clear and the prisoners on the way to the rear."

"Just as we entered the trench a German machine-gun bullet hit our colonel for the second time, but he stuck in a bandage and 'carried on' as though he hadn't been hit twice."

Then came a magnificent charge up a steep hillside and the storming of heights held by the German forces. The British naval brigade were "falling like wheat in harvest time" under the terrific fire of the enemy guns, but led by their wounded colonel, they kept on.

"We were greatly outnumbered," said the khaki sailor, "but, running in extended formation, we came crash among the first German defenders. They engaged us in hand-to-hand fighting, quite in the old chivalry style, and never was such a mingling of German and British naths heard in the grim little French village. The language was awful, as it generally is when one uses the steel!"

"Steadily, the Naval Brigade" yelled the colonel, "and on we went."

"German waves after wave came up in counter attack, but we were firm, and met each rush with the point. Soon we could have built breastworks of the German dead, and indeed we used many enemy bodies as load-covers, the firing which took place between the bayonet encounters."

"All the same we were completely outnumbered. And thankful we were when some German pushed up the lid of a machine gun emplacement and waved a white flag in token of surrender."

"We captured that lot, and, as we could spare no guards, set them off toward our lines without escort, trusting that our cavalry would sight them, and take them to their proper place."

"Then we met a fresh German counter-attack with the bayonet. They were about a thousand strong, and suddenly threw up their arms and shouted 'Kamerad!' Behold, they had sighted three of our 'tanks' come waddling like big ducks over the crest of the hill."

"And when the strange monsters had reached the village it was already ours."

Paris Crowds Cheer U. S. at American Embassy

PARIS, Feb. 5. TODAY and yesterday cheering crowds gathered in front of the United States Embassy building shouting "Vive Etas Unis" (Long live the United States) and "Vive President Wilson." Whether the United States joins in actual hostilities or not it is felt that its action in severing diplomatic relations with Germany will play an important part in shortening the war. The Matin calls the action of the United States "a history-making event."

GERMAN CONSUL HERE MERELY WAITS ORDERS

Stobbe Says He Has Nothing to Say Regarding Future Action

Dr. George Stobbe, German consul in Philadelphia, is a very busy man since diplomatic relations between this country and his were broken.

Pressed today for a statement of his intentions, he replied: "What can I say? There is nothing to say. I can only tell you I am awaiting orders."

There is no sign about the consulate, however, that war is expected. It is quite as calm and peaceful there as it has been for months past, and whatever excitement and mystery one wants to find one must read into the situation.

Thus, for example, a taxi cab drove up to the consulate address and a very important individual went in and engaged in a long conference with Doctor Stobbe. He looked as if he had a great mission to discuss, and it may have been very important and exciting. But the chauffeur didn't know his fare or the mission and those who did know him wouldn't tell what the visit was about.

German nationals resident in this city are coming into the consulate pretty steadily to find out what they should do, but they are sent away quite happy with the impression that they need do nothing and fear nothing unless war comes, and they are advised that war is improbable.

Doctor Stobbe has many personal callers and has little time to himself, but the rooms of the consulate are not much different in atmosphere from what they were before the relations between the United States and Germany were severed.

N. Y. SHIPBUILDING CO. READY TO SPEED UP

Camden Firm Prepared for Cooperation With Government in Case of Hostilities

The New York Shipbuilding Company, in Camden, will co-operate fully with the United States Government in the matter of rapid-fire battleship building in the event of actual warfare with Germany, according to a statement issued today by H. A. Magoun, vice president of the company.

Ordinarily it takes thirty-nine months to construct a dreadnought, but Mr. Magoun said that his company could probably construct a battleship of the dreadnought type in a year's time if provided with sufficient labor and material.

Under the present labor and material market the New York Shipbuilding Company can keep construction work going on four battleships, and has the ways for laying the keels of four or five additional ships.

At present nine ships are under construction at the yards, including the battleship Idaho, which is about two-thirds completed.

The company is also under Government contract to build the superdreadnoughts Washington and Colorado.

"During the last year," said Mr. Magoun, "we have turned down many contracts because of the scarcity of labor and material. This condition would have to be remedied in order to insure the rapid-fire building of battleships."

"If we have war the United States would do well to turn its attention to the construction of supply ships and transports. In naval warfare these types of ships are indispensable, and I understand there is a great shortage of such vessels."

"In case of war Congress would have the power to commandeer our plant, and in such an event the plant would probably be conducted under the present management and Congress would decide the ratio of profit to accrue to the company. We are ready to co-operate with the Government in any way."

Asked if the New York Shipbuilding Company could undertake the construction of submarines, Mr. Magoun replied: "We have never considered building submarines, but the New York Shipbuilding is equipped to construct any type of craft afloat."

WALL STREET 'SPILLED THE BEANS' ON NOTE

Chicago "Tipped Off" New York and Leak Followed, According to Evidence

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—La Salle street in Chicago first knew of President Wilson's peace note. It tipped off Wall street and Wall street proceeded to "spill the beans," thereby bringing on the present investigation.

This evidence was laid before the House Rules Committee today in the shape of numerous telegrams which Hutton & Co., New York, and Clement, Curtis & Co., Chicago, sent to the partners of Hutton's identified the wires on the witness stand today.

Ellis spent an uncomfortable day on the witness stand. Counsel Whipple established, by a line of questions, that if the Hutton firm had cared to profit themselves by the advance knowledge of the President's note, it could have cleaned up more than \$2,000,000.

Whipple pointed out that Hutton himself had made \$22,000, and that Barrett, another member of the firm, had messaged Chicago that he was "selling stocks again." What his partners made, Ellis said he did not know.

The committee today took steps to obtain a record of all the long-distance phone calls made from the White House from brokerage firms and from newspaper offices on December 29—the day that President Wilson's note leaked. A subpoena was issued for D. S. Porter, manager of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, requiring him to appear with his records.

GRIBBEL GUEST OF HONOR John Gribbel, president of the Union League, will be the guest of honor at the annual banquet of the Wesleyan Alumni Association of Philadelphia in the Art Club tonight. Mr. Gribbel, who is vice president of the board of trustees, recently gave the university a \$10,000 organ.

Governor Brumbaugh is expected to attend. The other guests will include Colonel Louis J. Korb, Cyrus H. Curtis, John B. Williams and W. S. Pilling. Among the alumni elected from other cities are Martin A. Knapp, chair-man of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and John C. Clark, Supreme Court Justice of the State of New York.

250,000 VIEW RUINS OF GIMBEL WAREHOUSE

Police Kept Busy Moving Huge Crowds. Injured Firemen Leave Hospitals

Ruins of the burned Gimbel Brothers' warehouse, at Twentieth and Market streets, were viewed by more than a quarter million persons yesterday. Police had a hard time keeping back the crowds, as ropes proved unsatisfactory. Bluecoats were finally stationed every few feet to keep the crowd moving.

The curious came from every section of the city by trolley and automobile. In the morning firemen were still working on the ruins with their hoses, so that the early spectators had a chance to see actual work. The cause of the fire has not as yet been ascertained. All the firemen injured or over-worked have been discharged from hospitals with one exception. Fireman Robert Ash, who is still in the Jefferson Hospital.

DEMOCRATS TO SPONSOR PLEDGE TO PRESIDENT

Resolution of Confidence Will Have Unanimous Support of Both Parties in House at Harrisburg

HARRISBURG, Feb. 5.—E. Lowry Humes will preside this afternoon at a meeting of the Democratic legislative advisory committee at which a resolution on the subject of pledging the support of Pennsylvania to President Wilson in the present crisis with Germany.

The Republican majority will have no objection to this resolution being introduced by one of the minority and it will go through with a unanimous vote. It is likely that Charles A. Shaffer, of Columbia, a veteran Democrat of the House, will stand sponsor for the resolution.

WIND-FANNED FLAMES NEARLY SWEEP WELDON

Citizens and Fire Crews Save Abington Township Village After \$6500 Loss

The little village of Weldon, in Abington township, was threatened with extinction today when fire destroyed the stable and garage of John Mooney there, entailing a loss of \$6500.

A thirty-mile gale swept sparks to the roofs of a score or more of buildings in the vicinity. Three buildings, including the general store of Krewson Brothers, caught fire, but the flames were extinguished before they gained headway. Citizens aided fire crews from Jenkintown, Abington and Glenside. Mooney's house caught fire three times, but the flames were put out by a bucket brigade stationed on the roof. Two automobiles, valued at \$3100 were destroyed in the garage and two dogs perished.

MAN, TAKEN WITH 14-YEAR-OLD GIRL, UNDER BAIL

Youthful Companion Also Detained on Request of Connecticut Authorities

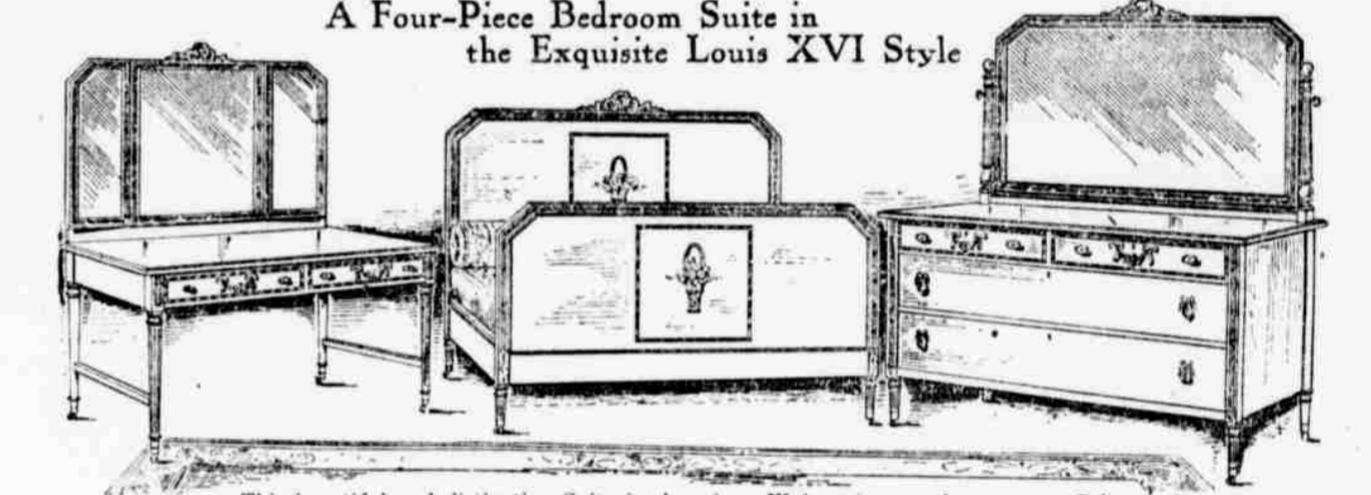
Joseph Buchler, twenty-one years old, of 1 Derby avenue, Derby, Conn., who was arrested in Broad Street Station last night with Mary Fernind, fourteen years old, of 31 Gilbert street, Derby, Conn., on suspicion of having eloped with the girl, was held in \$500 bail for a further hearing by Magistrate Beaton, at the Central Station today, pending the action of the Connecticut authorities.

Detective McDermott, who appeared against the defendant, said the prisoner had a loaded revolver in his possession when arrested. He said the defendant admitted that he is in love with the girl and wants to marry her and came to this city for the purpose.



The Van Sciver February Sale Offers a Showing of Furniture Unequaled for Variety and Beauty

NATURALLY, the public looks to the Van Sciver Store for the best of everything in furniture; for the most complete and varied stock, for the greatest values, for the authoritative presentation of novel conceptions and the faithful preservation of the incomparable designs that have come down to us from former generations. How well we have executed our trust is attested by the steady growth of this business for over three decades—by the fact that today the children, yes, and the grandchildren of Van



A Four-Piece Bedroom Suite in the Exquisite Louis XVI Style

This beautiful and distinctive Suite in American Walnut is one of our many Sale Specials. The artistic French detail work of the Louis XVI Period is faithfully followed as may be noted in the illustration and the Suite comprises a Full-size Bed, Large Bureau, Triplicate Mirror Dressing Table, and a Swinging Mirror, 6-drawer Chiffonier (not illustrated). Sale Price, 4 pcs complete, \$198.00

A Few Examples of Van Sciver Sale Values

- We have a remarkable collection of Dining Room and Bedroom Suites, as well as odd pieces in both, for this February Sale. Mahogany, Jacobean and Fumed Oak predominate in the former, while White and Ivory Enamel are very popular in the latter. American Walnut, too, is still growing in public favor.
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|---|---|
| <b>Dining Suites</b>                                | <b>Bedroom Suites</b>                                     |
| \$595 (10 pieces) Jacobean Oak (Jacobean).....\$350 | \$580 (5 pieces, twin beds) Mahogany (Chas. II).....\$390 |
| \$355 (3 pieces) Chinese Chippendale.....\$275      | \$475 (5 pieces, twin beds) Mahog. (Chippendale) \$275    |
| \$280 (4 pieces) Mahogany (Louis XVI).....\$198     | \$270 (4 pieces) American Walnut (Queen Anne) \$192       |
| \$235 (10 pieces) Jacobean Oak (Jacobean).....\$155 | \$225 (5 pieces, twin beds) Ivory Enamel (Adam) \$185     |

February Sale Specials in Rugs & Carpets

Reductions in all sizes from a 18x36 in. Mat to a 11.3x15 ft. room-size Rug

Reductions range from 10% to 33% and even these figures do not indicate the savings involved, for they have been made on our former prices, those in effect before the heavy advance in cost of fabrics, dyes and labor.

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| \$70 Royal Wiltons, 9x12.....\$52.50            | \$36 Best Seamless Wool Velvets, 9x12.....\$28.50 |
| \$55 Wiltons, 9x12.....\$39.75                  | \$36 Best Seamless Tap Brussels, 9x12.....\$19.75 |
| \$45 Best Seamless Axminsters, 9x12.....\$36.50 | \$30 Axminsters, 9x12.....\$24.50                 |
| \$42 Seamless Wilton Velvets, 9x12.....\$32.50  | \$17.50 Tapestry Brussels, 9x12.....\$13.50       |
- \$1.50 Grade Inlaid Linoleum, 65c sq. yd.  
Straight-line Linoleum, perfect goods; remnants in sizes suitable for bathroom or small kitchen.
- \$65 Royal Wiltons, 9x12, \$46.50  
One of our most attractive specials in higher grade goods; a large selection of unusually handsome patterns.

In addition to exceptional values in Lace Curtains, Portieres, etc., our Drapery Department offers a Special Shade Service during the February Sale. Opaque, oil painted Shades up to 326 feet, mounted on Hartshorn Rollers and equipped with ring-pulls are hung complete for 85c each.

J. B. Van Sciver Co.

Store Closes Daily at 8.30 P. M. MARKET ST. FERRY, CAMDEN, N. J. Market St. Ferry Boat Land Opposite Store.

WIFE FINDS DENTIST DEAD IN GARAGE

Dr. J. P. Lane Believed Victim of Heart Disease, Coal Gas or Petromortis

Dr. James P. Lane, a dentist with offices in the Perry Building, was found dead in his garage, 4129 Viola street, early today by his wife. He was fifty-two years old.

Doctor Lane left his home, 1727 Memorial avenue, late last night, telling his wife that he was going to fix the fire in the garage. When he had not returned by 1 o'clock this morning Mrs. Lane was alarmed and went after him. Through a letter-slot in the door of the garage she saw her husband lying on the floor. Mrs. Lane called Policeman Nismer, of the Thirty-ninth street and Lancaster avenue station, who broke open the door. Doctor Lane was pronounced dead at the Presbyterian Hospital.

TEUTONS IN A RUSH FOR NATURALIZATION

Number of Applications from Germans and Austrians Greatly Increased

A rush for American citizenship by Germans and Austrians was recorded today at the Philadelphia branches of the naturalization bureaus.

Applications for naturalization papers from citizens of these countries suddenly trebled and quadrupled, with war against Germany hanging by a thread. At the United States Naturalization Bureau it was reported that eighteen Germans and twelve Austrians registered their intention of taking out citizenship papers, the daily average being about half a dozen. The registration at the State Naturalization Bureau, in City Hall, was very large.

"Now is the best time to do it," said a stout man of beaming Teutonic countenance. "America is to be my home. I am an American in spirit, and intend to become more so. Therefore, at such a time as this it would be foolish to delay. It is with regret that I break the ties, and with the same regret I see the ties broken between this country and my former home. But it cannot be otherwise."

It became known today that most of the Germans and Austrians forming the crews of the Hamburg-American liners Prinz Oskar and Bismarck and the motor-torpedo steamer Franconia, which were held at the Christian street pier at the outbreak of the European war, have taken out naturalization papers. The ships had full crews, totaling between 250 and 300 men, when the ships were marooned here by the war. Today scarcely sixty remain to man the three ships.

The others—about 250 men—have settled in this country in the two and a half years intervening. Most of them have taken out citizenship papers, after having been passed regularly as immigrants by the immigration inspectors. Some of the sailors purchased farms in the country and others went into business in Philadelphia and other cities.

N. Y. Prisons to Make Munitions

ALBANY, Feb. 5.—James M. Carter, State Superintendent of Prisons, has taken preliminary steps toward turning the penal institutions under his control into munition factories. This action was agreed upon today after a conference with the heads of this department. This statement was made, public today by the State Prison Department.

AGED WOMAN KILLED BY FALL

Mrs. Sarah Humphries, sixty-three years old, an inmate of the Harrison Home, on the grounds of the Episcopal Hospital, Front street and Lehigh avenue, broke her neck by a fall downstairs this morning, and a few hours later in the hospital died.

FRIENDS URGE WILSON TO AVERT HOSTILITIES

Business Men Here Join in Urging Conference of Neutrals to Bring Peace

The belief that the American people will support any step to avert war was expressed in a communication to President Wilson from several prominent business men and numerous members of the Society of Friends who discussed the subject informally at the office of Harold Evans, an attorney, in the Reed-Eckley Trust Building.

It was pointed out in the communication that the interests of the neutral Powers were at stake in the proposed action of Germany, and that all desired peace based on justice and the rights of humanity.

The letter, which was signed by Asa S. Wing, president of the President Life and Trust Company; William I. Hull and Charles J. Rhoads, follows:

"In view of the reference in your address to Congress today to the community of interest of all neutral powers the undersigned representatives of a meeting called to consider the grave international situation, respectfully and urgently request that you ask the American republics to employ their representatives at Washington to act with the Government of the United States in the present crisis, so that any action taken with regard to Germany may be concerted and that all American speak with one voice and exert influence and use her power in unison."

"We also urge that coincidentally, if possible, the uniform and concerted action of European neutral powers may be sought in the same way. The interests of all the neutral powers are at stake in the proposed action of Germany. All are alike involved in the threatened freedom of the sea, and all desire the continuance of peace based on justice and the rights of humanity and not simply upon the interests of any one nation."

"Finally, we express to you our deepest solicitation that the other second thought and the moral sense of the American people will heartily support any step to avert war which you, after conference with the other neutral Powers, may decide upon."

"We respectfully express to you our deep sympathy and our hope that you may be divinely led through the present crisis."

READING FIRES COST \$25,000

Flames Attack Casting Company Plant and Lumber Yard

READING, Pa., Feb. 5.—Three fires within two or four hours did \$25,000 damage here and kept the fire department on the jump. The most serious one occurred early today at the plant of the Reading Casting Company. In the northeastern section of the city, and was caused by an effort to thaw frozen steam pipes.

The loss amounted to about \$15,000. The earlier fires were at the office building of Merritt Brothers' lumber yards, and on the second floor of a store building on Penn street above Sixth.

Rev. Dr. Spencer Honored at Luncheon

The Rev. Dr. David Spencer, the oldest former president of the Baptist Ministerial Conference, who recently celebrated his fifty-second anniversary in the ministry, was honored at a luncheon today in Gimbel Brothers' restaurant, given by the Baptist Union. The Rev. Dr. Thomas B. Halloway, moderator of the union and pastor of the Second Baptist Church, of Wilmington, Del., presided at the luncheon. Those who spoke in praise of Doctor Spencer were the Rev. Dr. John Gordon, the Rev. Dr. C. H. Woodson, the Rev. Dr. W. G. Russell, the Rev. Dr. J. W. Weddell and the Rev. O. P. Eads.

Delaware Upholds the President

DOVER, Del., Feb. 5.—The two branches of the Delaware General Assembly adopted resolutions today commending President Wilson for his action in severing diplomatic relations with Germany and pledging him the support of Delaware in any action that he may be called upon to take in the crisis now confronting this nation. The resolutions will be sent to the President and to Delaware's Representatives in Congress.