

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS READY FOR DEATH

Russia's Feminine Fighters Sworn to Suicide Rather Than Be Prisoners

FOUNDED INTERVIEWED

Poignant Girl Thrusts Teuton Through With Bayonet, Shooting Him at Same Time

By WILLIAM G. SHEPHERD

PETROGRAD, July 30.—Russia's women soldiers have pledged themselves to take their own lives rather than become German war prisoners. Each woman soldier carries a ration of cyanide of potassium, to be swallowed in event of capture. The members of the women regiment, now constantly increasing, agreed that death was to be preferred to the fate they would probably meet at the hands of the Germans.

The Legion of Death fighters are "good girls." I learned this today when I talked with five of them, now in a hospital near here, suffering from shell shock. From a German man's lips I heard how she had run a German through with her bayonet, firing a rifle at the same time. From others I heard how these women and girls, fresh from comfortable homes and universities, went through the horrors of the front, and the charge with enemy shells bursting about them.

But these harrowing experiences of the women fighters have steeled them and hundreds of other girls to a new determination as it through. Girl soldiers drilling in the streets are now a common sight in Petrograd. Huge crowds gather daily about the engineers' school, where 5000 girls are drilling and practicing. They are now being trained, while Kiev and Odessa have smaller bands. Premier Kerensky has also authorized the formation of women marine detachments and has authorized the formation of women command units. Their heads are shaved and they wear the regulation uniform, including the heavy, ugly army boots.

PARALYZED BY SHELL SHOCK

The five women fighters I visited at the hospital were partially paralyzed by shell shock. One of them, a peasant girl, smiled happily as she pointed to a German helmet on the bed beside her. It was the first war trophy of a Russian woman.

"I saw a German in front of me as I ran toward the others in the charge," she said. "It was his life or mine. I raised my rifle. I plunged with all my strength. I stabbed him. The bayonet went deep into his body. At the same moment I fired the trigger. He dropped—dead. Then I took his hat as a souvenir."

The girl soldier smiled with delight. "What was the battle like?" I asked another of the legionaries.

"I was very nervous just before the charge," she replied. "We knew the order was coming and naturally we were just a little scared. But as soon as the orders to go forward came we forgot everything else in the advance."

"I could hear our girls yelling and shouting throughout the march forward. They were afraid once we got started. We were in the midst of a great fusillade of shots. Then terrific big shells began breaking all around us."

JUMPED OVER CORPSES

"We were again frightened a little when we first saw dead men about. But before long we were jumping over bloody corpses and quickly forgot all about them."

"We couldn't tell what was going on anywhere," said a third girl in describing the last stages of the battle.

Commander Bochkoreva was everywhere here, urging us to fight and die like real Russian soldiers."

Then the girl told how the Legion took its first prisoners.

"As we ran forward we suddenly came upon a bunch of Germans immediately ahead of us. It was only a second until they were right in our midst or, rather, until we were all around them. They saw they were caught and they threw their rifles, holding up their hands. They were terribly frightened."

"Good God, women!" they exclaimed. "We saw wounded soldiers raising their hands and shouting. We just expected another wounded girl. 'We just forgot ourselves entirely. We were simply Russia fighting for her life.'"

"The loss of Lena, the most popular member of our company, was keenly felt by all of us," she added soberly. "During the battle Lena heard that Commander Bochkoreva had been killed. She hurried forward into the shell and fire, saying she was going to find her. We saw her go through the space literally strewn with the exploding shells. Then, through the smoke and flames, we saw her blown to fragments."

"Lena was also lost before we had a chance to see her," she said. "She was a musician with the Romanoff concert organization. She was killed by machine gun fire."

Petrograd has not yet seen the full casualty list of the Legion of Death. None has been published. From what the girls say, however, it appears that at least a dozen girls perhaps twelve girls and wounding twice as many more.

Five of the German prisoners the girls captured were women, wearing the German soldier's uniform.

The number of women in all armies on the eastern front is believed to be growing steadily.

Mrs. Pankhurst, the British suffragist, thinks it only natural that this should occur.

"The Russian women," she said today, "are stepping into the breach as women alphas do when men need them."

"Russia's women are taking the menace of what remains of civilization," declared Professor Ross, of the University of Wisconsin.

As I returned from the hospital where I saw the paralyzed girls, I saw a new group of women marching briskly through the street. They were ready for the firing line, ready to give their lives in battle and to risk their little ration of cyanide, ready to take their own lives to avoid worse than death at the hands of the enemy.



CHICKEN IN TRENCHES, YOUNG AVIATOR WRITES

Abiel J. Groves, Former Central High Boy, Says Ice Cream Is Ferved, Too

A desire to follow in the footsteps of his relatives who fought for the United States is responsible for the enlistment of Abiel J. Groves, Jr., a former student of the Central High School, in the United States marine aviation corps. Groves, whose home is in Easton, Pa., is now in France. He is said to be the youngest member of the fleet of American aviators now on French soil.

The parents of young Groves knew nothing of his enlistment until they received a brief note from him. The note stated that his grandfather and great-uncle had both fought in the Civil War, and that he felt it was his duty to offer his services to the United States.

Since Groves arrived in France his parents, who feel very proud of him, have been writing to him every day, although he has received only a postal card so far on account of the censors.

A letter from Groves to his relatives states that he and other members of the aviation corps have been supplied with a ditty bag, sent to France by New York society women.

Touching upon the meal, Groves writes that the menu often consists of "chicken, ice cream and other dainties."

Groves enlisted in the marine corps April 22, 1917, and was immediately sent to the Philadelphia Navy Yard as a recruit in Company C, and within a few weeks was promoted to the rank of acting corporal. Later he was sent away for rifle practice. Immediately upon his return in June he was transferred to the Fifth Regiment of the Aviation Service of the United States Marine Corps.

Groves is a Philadelphia boy. His father is connected with the firm of Taylor, Wharton & Co., and is stationed in the office of that concern in Easton, Pa.



LIES IN FRANCE FOR UNCLE SAM

This young soldier, Abiel J. Groves, Jr., is said to be the youngest American aviator on French soil. He is a former central high student and before enlisting lived in Easton, Pa.

MUSICIANS' STRIKE SETTLED

Will Return to Work at Theatres Under Agreement Today

Philadelphia union musicians, who have been on a strike for several weeks, will return to their posts today, they say. An agreement between theatre owners and musicians has been put into effect which calls for a revision of the scale of wages.

Theatre owners have had to call upon nonunion musicians from this and other cities to fill the places of those on strike. In that way performances were not interfered with.

PENROSE CROWD BACKS SPROUL FOR GOVERNOR

Meeting of Chieftains at Shore Sets Campaign in Motion for Chester Man

ATLANTIC CITY, July 30.—A preliminary lining up of Penrose men for Senator William C. Sproul, of Chester, for the Republican nomination for Governor in Pennsylvania next spring was one of the results of a foregathering of the party chieftains here.

Senator Penrose, who has not visited the shore in months, was absent, but many of his followers were in town. Also here were Congressman Vane, Mayor Smith, City Solicitor Connelly, Receiver of Taxes Frederick Kendrick, Auditor General Snyder, Senator McNichol and lesser lights.

Auditor General Snyder, who came down from Pottsville Saturday, eliminated himself permanently from the growing list of gubernatorial possibilities and set the Sproul boom in motion. He said:

"I'm not in the race and I have not been at any stage of the game. There isn't any chance in Pennsylvania under the conditions for any man who hasn't got a barrel of money and the support of the leaders."

There isn't any likelihood that anything definite will be done in the way of selecting a candidate until after the November election, but when the time comes Penrose will name the man. There is one man who can have the nomination if he wants it. He is Senator Sproul. He has money and personality and I believe he has the good will of Penrose. I believe Sproul can win the nomination hands down, and if he does he will be elected without the slightest question.

I haven't anything to say against Congressman Watson. I did not know he was being talked about. He has some of the requisite qualifications. One of them is wealth. I don't know whether he could command the support of the factions alone, but I'm pretty sure he could if Penrose should say that he is the man.

Want Negro Soldiers Withdrawn

WACO, Tex., July 30.—Withdrawal of negro soldiers from guard duty at Camp McArthur was demanded by Waco citizens today following riots last night in which several white men were injured and William Jones, negro private in the Twenty-fourth United States Infantry, was shot dead.

MILK TRAIN SCHEDULE BAD; CHANGE SOUGHT

Schuykill Valley Shippers Take Complaint to Public Service Commission

READING, Pa., July 30.—Some features of the dairy business will be brought out in this city next Thursday when the Public Service Commission holds a hearing on the complaint of the Schuykill Valley Milk Shippers' Association against the Reading Railway Company.

The association complains that the company has made an unreasonable change in its milk train between Reading, Pottsville and other points further north whereby complainants are required to load their products one hour and thirty-five minutes earlier than under the previous schedule, thereby necessitating them to prepare their milk for shipment at 3 o'clock instead of 4 o'clock in the morning, to their great inconvenience.

The complaint of the Schuykill Valley Milk Producers' Association against the railway company August 2 was filed by Calvin R. Bagenstose, of Mohrsville, secretary of the association. The petition says:

"This change of time necessitates our preparing our milk at 3:30 o'clock a. m. for those living three or four miles from the shipping station and 4 a. m. for those living closer to the station; and, on account of a great many of the hired servants threatening to leave the farm rather than begin their day's work at such an unreasonably early hour, we have a just cause for complaint."

As is well known, it has always been a man's job to keep our farm boys and girls from leaving the farms for the city, due to long hours and little time for recreation; they now feel that they have a just cause for complaint and are appealing to their parents to quit the farms rather than submit to this injustice.

Many of the members of this association have been planting extra acres trying to "do their bit" toward preparation, and have, in consequence, been forced to work extra hours. They feel that they are entitled to an extra hour's rest in the morning, and, therefore, most respectfully petition your honorable body for relief by requiring the above-named train, No. 12, to leave Reading at or about 6:30 a. m., instead of 5:30, the present schedule.

Carlisle Doctors Raise Fees

CARLISLE, Pa., July 30.—Carlisle physicians have decided on a 25 per cent increase in fees. High cost of drugs and supplies, with their own higher personal expenses, are given by the local physicians as the cause for the increase.

SURPRISE SPRUNG ON GRETNA CAMP

U. S. Army Officers Make Sudden Visit to Rifle Range

600 IN CAMP INOCULATED

MOUNT GRETNA, Pa., July 30.—Significance is attached to the visit made here yesterday by General Kennedy and a party of United States army officers, who, unannounced, made the trip by automobile from the Gettysburg camp and spent some time in an inspection of the Pennsylvania State rifle range reservation.

The visitors were silent as to the purpose of their visit. It is surmised, however, that it means at least some of the United States army recruits being gathered at Gettysburg will be sent here for rifle practice. As the result of the continued activities of Lieutenant Colonel L. V. Rausch, of the State Quartermaster's Department, the range, including its camp reservation, is fit for immediate use.

Although this was to all intents and purposes a holiday for the soldiers comprising the State auxiliary camp here, it was an extremely busy one for Major Hazlett and his corps of medical assistants, Lieutenants Douglas, Cushman and Kerr. Six hundred men, representing the six companies of the motor supply train, under command of Major J. B. Wheeler, and four companies of the ammunition train, Lieutenant Colonel H. S. Williamson, bared their arms to the vaccine points to guard against smallpox. Five hours were occupied in the undertaking. It was announced that beginning tomorrow with the hospital unit a second typhoid prophylaxis treatment will be given the soldiers.

Rain throughout the morning, including an hour's steady downpour, had the effect of keeping the visitors to camp to 5000, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh visitors were few because of the unfavorable weather conditions of the early morning, but central Pennsylvania cities, notably Harrisburg, Lancaster, Reading, Allentown and Lebanon, were largely represented. Many came by automobile, but the majority made the trip by train.

4 DEAD, 11 INJURED IN SUNDAY DISASTERS

Two Are Drowned, While Fights and Smash-Ups Account for Other Victims

Two Philadelphians were drowned, two were killed and eleven injured as the result of accidents, automobile smash-ups or assault and battery cases in this city and neighborhood yesterday.

Those drowned were James Claire, thirty-eight, of 2000 East Madison street, and Raymond Jasinski, thirteen, of 4601 Stiles street. Claire lost his life in the surf at Atlantic City while his wife watched him from the beach. She had pleaded with him to leave the water, as he had been in for several hours. Jasinski was drowned in the Delaware.

A soda tank which exploded at a store at 2335 South American street resulted in the death of Michael Kendall, the proprietor, and the wounding of William Kendall, seventeen; David Sosnosky, 346 McKean street, and Harry Weiner, 218 Ritner street. They were treated at the Mount Siani Hospital. More than \$500 property damage was caused by the explosion.

Edward Moore, of 1205 Grove street, is in a serious condition at the Jefferson Hospital with a fractured skull after being thrown from a motortruck in which he and a dozen companions were joy riding, according to the police. Five of his companions were arrested, accused of stealing the truck.

Mrs. Maria Testa, fifty, of 808 Carpenter street, is dead as the result of injuries received when an automobile struck her as she was sitting on her doorstep. The machine ran wild when the steering gear broke, the police say. It was driven by Louis Crastela, 118 Herlin street.

Mrs. Anna Brodenbaugh, of Merchantville, was thrown from a carriage and injured when it was struck by an electric train in Camden last night. She is in the Cooper Hospital. The horse had to be shot.

Mary Kozakienk, sixteen, of 1723 Fillmore street, Camden, was knocked down by an automobile driven by Sol Rubin, of 1835 South Sixth street, Camden. She is in the Cooper Hospital.

Joseph Mosey, of 1704 Hunting Park avenue, member of the Second Artillery, was stabbed in the stomach in a fight at Germantown avenue and Staub streets.

Joseph Wallace, of Tenth street and Fairmount avenue, is in a critical condition in the Roosevelt Hospital. His jugular vein was cut in a fight near his home. Anthony Murphy, fifty-three years old, of the same address, has been held without bail accused of slaying Wallace.

In an argument over the war at the Kaighn avenue ferry in Camden, Casper Sawyrenski, of 1205 Liberty street, Camden, broke his right hand when he struck a man on the jaw.

William Anstott, of 1207 South Sixty-first street, had his skull split with a hatchet in a fight at Tenth street and Fairmount avenue. He is in a critical condition at the Roosevelt Hospital. Clifton Dixon, a negro, has been arrested, accused of the assault.

WAR WEDDING AT ALLENTOWN

Bucknell Professor, Going to France, Is Married to Bridgeton, N. J., Girl

ALLENTOWN, Pa., July 30.—This morning at 8 o'clock in the First Baptist Church, Miss Winifred Miller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Warren Miller, of Bridgeton, N. J., was united in marriage to Prof. Gardner Woods Earle, instructor in Latin and Greek at Bucknell University, who is now a member of the Bucknell unit at the camp of the United States ambulance corps here. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. N. Earle, of Lewisburg, Pa., father of the bridegroom.

The couple became engaged while the bridegroom was teaching at Bucknell, and when the unit of which he is a member received orders on Saturday to make preparations for departure to France, he arranged the wedding. His communications brought Mr. and Mrs. Miller and Miss Mary Miller here immediately, where they were met by the Rev. and Mrs. J. N. Earle and Ralph G. Earle, parents and brother of the bridegroom.

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IMAGINARY SWEETHEART GETS PROWLER FIVE DAYS

Man Found in Germantown Home Said He Was Looking for Girl

Sweethearts are of all kinds and classes, and one has an imaginary one, according to the police.

He is Joseph Burk, twenty-eight years of age, of Chester, who was arrested while prowling about the home of Dr. Carl Wilbur Scholtz, House 1 and Greene streets. For years has been the Walter Camp of University of Pennsylvania football.

"What are you doing in here?" a policeman asked Burk as he pounced upon the prowler.

"I'm looking all around to find my sweetheart," was the prisoner's reply.

"That's to the marines," the copper-nosed magistrate Pennock gave Burk five days when he was arraigned today.

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Offers Today the Most Magnificent Assortment of the Newest and Most Beautiful Furniture of the Standard Van Sciver Quality, at Prices That May Not be Duplicated for Years

Our long experience as manufacturers, importers and retailers leads us to believe that the opportunities of this August Sale may not be equalled for years to come. Foreign lumber is daily becoming harder to obtain, with practically no more coming in, and artisans have left the workshops for the battlefield. American labor is scarce and costly and American lumber is being more and more directed to Government purposes in the prosecution of the war. And all these conditions are daily growing more acute.

Owing to our commanding position in the furniture field and deeper knowledge of market conditions it entails, we were able, long ago, to foresee and prepare against these increasing difficulties. Anticipating a rising market and declining production, we made our contracts far in advance, in addition to keeping our own factory going at top speed.

With the result that today we have the most extensive, varied and beautiful stock of furniture ever shown on our floors, and the largest reserve stock in our huge warehouses. The sale prices are, in many cases, substantially below the wholesale cost today. Visit as many stores as you will, or as you can, for we welcome comparisons, but here in America's great furniture house you will find the most complete assortment, the widest price-range, the most satisfying service and the greatest savings. Let us have the pleasure of welcoming you today.

Ten to Fifty Per Cent. Reductions on Every Standard, High-Grade Make of Floor Covering

Practically the same conditions exist here as in the furniture line—rising cost of materials and labor, and the same foresight and forehandedness were exercised on behalf of our patrons. Twice a year, August and February, we dispose of discontinued patterns and incomplete lines—not "job lots," but standard goods of choice quality and designs. The tendency among manufacturers to economize by reducing the number of patterns gives us a larger stock than ever this season, of goods that may not be duplicated again for years, many of the beautiful designs being exclusive to the Van Sciver Store. Reductions average from 10% to 50% below our regular, lower-than-the-average prices. We quote a few typical values:

\$78 Hartford Saxony, 9x12.....	\$56.00	\$45 Steuben & Kirman Axminster, 9x12.....	\$32.50
\$60 Royal Wilton, 9x12.....	\$42.50	\$36 Dobson & Hartford Body Brussels, 9x12.....	\$24.50
\$54 Royal Wilton, 8.3x10.6.....	\$39.75	\$32 Bromley Best Axminster, 9x12.....	\$24.50
\$52 Smith Best Wilton Velvet, 9x12.....	\$39.75	\$27.50 Best Tapestry Brussels, 9x12.....	\$21.50
\$45 Sanford Beauvals, 9x12.....	\$32.50	\$24.50 Seamless Tapestry Brussels, 9x12.....	\$19.85
\$41 Whittall & Bigelow Best Body Brus., 9x12.....	\$28.50	\$18.50 Tapestry Brussels, 9x12.....	\$13.75

Reductions shown are based on 9x12 sizes, but other sizes, from an 18x36 inch mat to an 11x315 foot rug, are proportionately reduced.

Extraordinary Reductions on Carpets

Discontinued patterns and incomplete rolls marked considerably lower than the minimum wholesale prices of today, for quick clearance.

\$3.00 Smith Best Wilton Velvet.....	\$1.95 yd.	\$2.60 Whittall & Bigelow Best Body Brus.....	\$1.25 yd.
Good selection; full rolls of many patterns.		Broken rolls; sixteen to thirty yards of a pattern.	
\$2.75 Bigelow Lowell Axminster.....	\$1.45 yd.	\$2.00 Bigelow & Smith Axminster.....	.95c yd.
Good selection; full rolls of many patterns.		Broken rolls; 12 to 20 yards of patterns; bring room sizes.	

Take advantage of these two last "Inspection Days" and make your selection before the rush of the Sale, which opens officially Wednesday morning.

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