

VON KLUCK A VANDAL, SAYS BARONESS HUARD

French Woman, Born Here, Tells How Germans Wrecked Her Home

PUT JAM IN HER PIANO

Staff Officers Thought It Funny to Wear Her Lingerie and Carted Away Valuables

By M'LISS

They put jam into her beloved piano and they conceived it to be excruciatingly funny to wear a lady's intimate lingerie, did General Alexander von Kluck and his staff, but these are not the most heinous atrocities that the Baroness Charles Huard holds against the Hun leaders who made her historic chateau their headquarters in the unsuccessful drive against Paris.

VON KLUCK A VANDAL

It might have been entitled "Von Kluck and His Aides at Play." To those of us who have seen the newspaper pictures of the general whose horses were beaten back at the Marne, he seems a regular Prussian, with beetling brows and uncompromising mustache, a general smothered in gold lace and military decorations.

To the Baroness, he is a vandal and a beast of decadent humor, who befouled her beautiful home at Villiers.

"We heard that the Germans were really coming," she recounted her flight and her dark eyes blazed fire at the recollection, "but we didn't believe it until the refugees were pouring in. Even then I was reluctant to believe that I heard their stories, I prepared for flight—my husband was then in the army."

The Germans were but two hours away—herds of them. I fled South, walking 150 miles. I left everything behind.

Nine days later, the Germans were driven back and I returned. My chateau had been made the staff headquarters for Von Kluck. The destruction that they had wreaked on my beautiful home is indescribable. They poured jam into the piano, shot into costly mirrors. They wore my intimate lingerie and what they couldn't get into they used to wipe the pots and pans with.

"When they were repulsed they sacked the stables and ended by requisitioning the town horses on which they carried away my art treasures and everything of monetary value. On the top of the horse they put the town's most notorious woman, and that was how they departed. That is German humor in its worst form."

The Baroness is a beautiful woman, with a Spanish cast of countenance. Her dark hair, which matches her eyes in color, is straight and lustrous and is combed back from her face with a severe simplicity that manages to enhance her loveliness.

INTERPRETER FOR BRITISH

At the end of her flight when, weary and footsore, she expected to rest, she was commended by a British regiment, the officers of which could speak no French or German and was taken along with the regiment as an official interpreter. Later she converted her deserted home into a Red Cross hospital, but was forced to remove the symbol of humanity from it, because that happened to be one of the particular targets the German airmen were interested in aiming at.

The Baron, who was incapacitated in the war, has been sent to America to take charge of the official war relics of France. He is an artist of distinction.

"It is going to be a very long war," he said, when the Baroness referred his question to him, "and I am afraid you Americans do not quite realize that even yet, but you will."

"We are very fond of you Americans and your President Wilson is simply adored in Paris. Your President's last message to your Congress—that will be cheered in France. It was a great message, a great piece of idealism, and it was just what we needed at this time—a statement of war aims."

"But you ought to ask my maid," the Baroness interjected, "what she thinks about 'peace without victory.' She has lost a husband, two brothers and five nephews in the war. When I explained to her about 'peace without victory' she said very quietly, 'But, madame, then why did they die?'"

The Baroness spoke at the Academy of Music last night under the auspices of the National League for Woman's Service.

MEANS FIGHTING TO CONVINCE JURY

Accused Directs Most of Rambling Story at Juror

CONCORD, N. C., Dec. 7

Gaston H. Means is still telling the story of his life in an effort to convince the jury trying him for the murder of Mrs. Maude A. King of his innocence. For more than five hours yesterday the defendant was on the stand and told of his marvelous accomplishments as a financial wizard and a "confidential investigator."

His unctuous manner did not win favor with the courtroom audience and it is doubtful whether it went across with the jury. By the middle of the afternoon the courtroom, which up to this time has been packed and jammed, was almost empty, only a few rows being occupied.

Counsel for Means attempted to cut him off several times, but still he rambled on. In fact, counsel for the defense and the defendant did not get along at all well. Once E. T. Candler, the examining attorney, referred to his client as "Gaston Means" and the defendant leaped over and said, "Mr. Candler, please call me by my name."

Means worked upon the jury all day long. He directed most of his story to number twelve and it seemed to be effective. Number one was his nemesis, however, and at one stage of the game, talking directly to this juror, the witness offered four explanations to a question in quick succession and then seemed to fall in love with the juror.

It is expected that Means will be in the hands of the cross-examiners by afternoon. The State has made no objections and has given the defendant every opportunity to "hang himself."

Assistant District Attorney John T. Dooling is preparing to make the cross-examination and is in a fighting mood. Means has taken every opportunity to explain to the jury that Dooling has his papers and records and has inferred that Dooling has the papers illegally. Through clever legal fencing the defense has secured possession of some of the papers and Dooling is in no mood to be trifled with and a strenuous grilling is in prospect for the defendant.

The wife of the defendant will follow him on the stand, it is expected. Counsel for the defense is also seriously considering placing Mrs. May C. Melvin, sister of Mrs. King, on the stand also. The State hopes for the best. Building, Seventh and Chestnut streets, to 134 South Third street.

SUFFRAGIST PRISON PIN

This emblem will be worn by the seventy-seven suffragists who served sentences in the Government jail or workhouse for picketing the White House.

Mrs. William Kent, wife of former Representative Kent, of California, will present the pins at a mass meeting in Washington December 9 in honor of the released prisoners.

CHRISTMAS DRIVE IS ON IN SHOPPING DISTRICT

Stores Filled With Buyers, and Holiday Giving Will Be as Liberal as Ever

A Christmas drive is now on in the shopping district in 1917. The buyers are invading every nook and corner of the market. No one seems to have been misled by the contentions of false economists who said some time ago that all money should be under lock and key.

The tens of thousands of shoppers who have joined in the attack realize that money is only good for what it can buy, and they are buying in good old-fashioned style.

Incidentally, there are many changes in the Christmas market. It has been discovered that toys made in America are just as good and in many cases better than those made in Germany.

Although it is true that the Teutons gave more of their time in the past to inventions along this line than other nations, their long distance from cornering the market in this direction.

There is also an abundance of Christmas tree decorations of varied kinds to make one forget that these things were also invented in the country of militarism.

Saleswomen and others who come in contact with buyers say there will be just as much gift-giving as ever, and that buyers generally are spending more money than formerly. The pessimist who believes that gloom will pervade our Christmas season should try to get through one of the department stores after 10 in the morning. By this time he makes an exit he will be convinced that Christmas is in the air and that the old spirit is more alive than ever.

U. S. Employment Service Moves

The employment service of the United States Department of Labor has moved its office from the Eddy Building, Seventh and Chestnut streets, to 134 South Third street.

NEW WAR BREAD PRICE FIXED AT EIGHT CENTS

Bakers Agree on Seven Cents as Wholesale Figure—Chain Stores Sell for Less

A tentative agreement has been reached among the bakers of Philadelphia that the price of the new "Government loaf" shall be seven cents wholesale, eight cents retail, with a lowering of one cent from this price by the American Stores Company, by virtue of their vast number of loaves baked.

No promise for the future as to how long they may be able to hold this price is given by the bakers, however. "We hope to hold it as long as we can," said John Herrman, of the Bakers' Association, today. "But as we are now getting seven cents for a twelve-ounce loaf and the new Government-processed weight is sixteen ounces, it is plain to see that great sacrifice is called for."

"Seven cents for the present," is the statement given by John Engleson, vice president of the American Stores Company.

All loaves sold after next Monday must meet in every particular the Government specifications as to formula and weight twelve hours after weighing. The practical elimination of milk from the new formula is the largest item of economy involved, according to one prominent baker, who supplies hospitals and other institutions. And this is nothing new, after all, he insists.

"The substitution of water for milk has been practiced for months in my bakery whenever we want to assure a loaf that will not turn sour with keeping," he explained. "Bread containing water rather than milk never gets that sour odor and taste we all know so well. I believe the Philadelphia housewife will come to prefer the new 'watered' loaf and like it better than the old made with milk."

Schedule Army Surgeons Course

The third course for physicians in the United States Army Reserve Corps will open at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School January 7, 1918, according to announcement made today. Fifty-six surgeons and physicians will attend the course.

Bull Dog Bunting Service Flags

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