

GERMAN WOUNDED IN KARLSRUHE HOSPITAL.

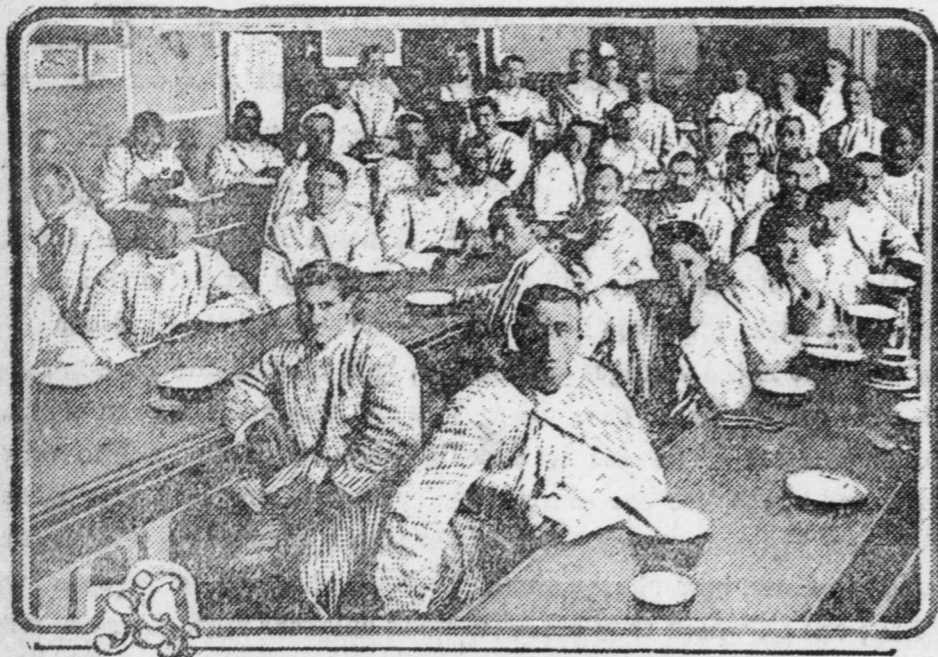


Photo by American Press Association.

Rhode Island's Capitals.

Rhode Island adopted a constitution in 1842, which named five capitals for the state, designating Newport, South Kingston, Bristol, East Greenwich and Providence as the places for successive honor. In 1854 an amendment restricted the meeting places of the general assembly or legislature to two places—Newport and Providence. In 1900 Providence became the only seat of the legislature.

The Boy's Idea.

"Pa?"
"Yep."
"I don't see why the men who wrote the rules of grammar didn't make 'I done' and 'has went' proper. It's easier to say it that way." — Detroit Free Press.

Soldering Aluminium.

When holes appear in aluminium utensils it is not necessary to discard the dishes as no longer useful, for by a simple method they can be made to take solder. Insert a brass or copper rivet in the hole, flatten both ends and then solder over both the inside and the outside surfaces in the usual manner. If you wish to solder a piece of a sound part of the utensil use a saw to punch holes for holding spots of copper or brass. If the aluminium is very thick cut the holes with a small drill held in a carpenter's bit brace.

Fort Sumter.

For four years Fort Sumter, in Charleston harbor, resisted every attempt at its capture. For 230 days the fort was actually under fire. "The duration of the three principal and eight minor bombardments was altogether 157 days and 116 nights. The total weight of metal thrown against the fort from land and sea aggregated 3,500 tons, and of this great mass the fort was actually struck by 2,400 tons. The number of projectiles fired against the fort was 46,058."—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Summer of Haze.

Europe and Asia were covered by fog during the summer of 1783. Says Gilbert White (letter 109): "The summer of the year 1783 was an amazing and a portentous one, * * * besides the alarming meteors and tremendous thunderstorms, * * * the peculiar haze or smoky fog that prevailed for many weeks in this island (England) and in every part of Europe and even beyond its limits was the most extraordinary appearance. The heat was intense. Calabria and part of the Isle of Sicily were torn and convulsed with earthquakes." Cowper also refers to this phenomenon in speaking of "misture, with a dim and sickly eye."

Capitals and Armies.

Twice the United States has lost its capital to a foreign foe, but neither time did it produce much effect upon the war. The first time was when Howe's redcoats swept into Philadelphia after the battle of Brandywine. The other occasion was when another British army seized and burned Washington. What Howe needed to end the war in 1777 was not Philadelphia, but Washington's army, and that he didn't get. A country's army is worth a dozen capitals. The British captured America's three largest cities, Boston, New York and Philadelphia, but that availed them little in the long run.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Seem to Like It.

The more trouble some people have the more they want to borrow.—Philadelphia Record.

GERMAN SOLDIERS IN CAMP NEAR VERDUN.

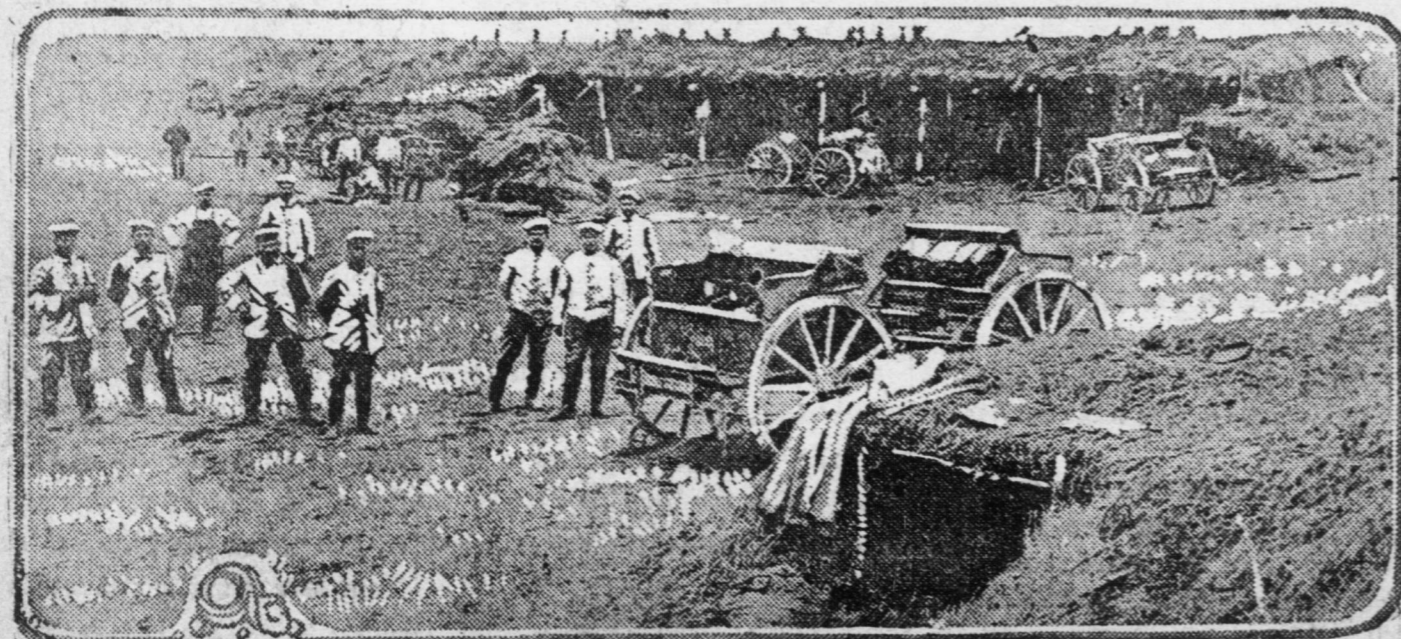


Photo by American Press Association.

The Periscope.

Permit me to introduce myself to the public generally. Modest and retiring both by nature and occupation, I have hitherto refrained from occupying myself upon the attention of a multitude.

My name is Periscope. My primary object in life is to rise to every necessary occasion. When this demand my more or less immediate presence occupy myself by holding up the mirror, not to nature, but to the eye. Like an occasional idea which renders superfluous old systems of philosophy, I have come to render superfluous the entire cycle of inventions. I am the last triumph of mind over matter, reflect, and a thousand men go down to their fate. Within the blue zone of my horizon, subject to my orders, is the angel of death.

I am the naval eye that put the naught in Dreadnought. Life.

Fires in the Philippines.

The fighting of fires in the dry season is a grave problem in the cities and pueblos of the Philippine Islands. House construction is light, the roof being made from nipa palm leaves, the framework of bamboo and the sides either nipa or sawali—a woven product of certain species of bamboo. When this material has been exposed continuously to the sun for several months it becomes as inflammable as tinder. Fires that break out in the nipa districts always gain great headway before any kind of an alarm can be sent in even where there is a fire department. Fires in such districts spread with great rapidity. In thickly populated areas it is not uncommon for fire to burn several hundred houses before it is stopped.

An Old Larch Tree.

Italy can boast of a larch tree the age of which is estimated to be 2,000 years. It is situated on the northern flank of Mont Cetip in the direction of the huts of Pian Veni, above Courmayeur, a few steps from the footpath that skirts the limits of the meadowland. Due allowance being made for the extreme slowness with which the larch grows, for the altitude above sea level (1,650 meters) at which it is rooted and for its northerly exposure in the near neighborhood of the glacier, where the cycle of its development is barely five months every year, this venerable larch, untouched alike by woodman's ax and thunderbolt, cannot be less than 2,000 years old.—Scotsman.

Curious Laws in India.

Some of the old laws of Nepal, India, were curious. Killing cows ranked with murder as a capital offense, for instance. Every girl at birth was married with great ceremony to a betel fruit, which was then cast into a sacred stream. As the fate of the fruit was uncertain, the girl was supposed never to become a widow. To obtain divorce from a husband a wife had only to place a betel nut under his pillow and depart. In Nepal the day is considered to begin when it is light enough to count the tiles on the roof or distinguish the hairs on a man's hand against the sky.—Exchange.

More Than One Trafalgar Square.

The Scotland Yard examination which would be taxicab drivers have to undergo in the knowledge of London is no mere matter of form. "If," asked the inquisitor recently of a candidate, "a fare hails you in Trafalgar square and asks to be driven to Trafalgar square, what would you do?" "I should drive him around a bit and drop him on the other side of the square," replied the candidate. And he was turned down, for he did not know that London has three Trafalgar squares besides the finest site in Europe—one in Camberwell, another in Chelsea and still another one in Stepney.—London Chronicle.

Pretty Weary.

Weary (lying under apple tree)—Say, mister, kin I have one of dem apples? Farmer—Why, them apples won't be ripe for four months yet. Weary—Oh, dat's all right. I ain't in no hurry. I'll wait.—Life.

Bullet Wounds.

The entrance wound caused by the modern small arm bullet is not a grewsome spectacle. It is small, and its appearance has been compared to that produced by the bite of a certain parasite insect. Often there is but little external bleeding, but this is not to be taken as a danger signal, as might be popularly supposed.—London Telegraph.

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Got All He Asked For.
Another "meanest man" has been found. He lives in the city and conducts a thriving business. The other day a seedy individual approached him and said: "Say, mister, I'm hungry and would like to get a nickel to get a cup of coffee and a roll. I have four pennies and only need one more. Please give me a penny."
The man after searching himself said: "I haven't got a penny. All I have is a nickel. Give me your four cents in change, and I will give you the nickel."
The beggar requests that his name be not mentioned in connection with the item.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Quickly Relieved.
Little Hannah had been left in the library one morning and shortly after she came running to her mother.
"Mother," she asked, "that ink that father writes with isn't indelible ink, is it?"
"No, dear," was the reply.
"Oh, I'm so glad of that," cried the child.
"Why, dear?" queried the mother.
"Why," said Hannah, "I've spilt it all over the library rug."—Boston Herald.

The Egyptian Lotus.
The lotus figures to a very great extent in ancient Egyptian sculpture, though the flower is often crude and difficult to make out. The fruit of the Egyptian lotus was forbidden as food to disciples of Pythagoras. The lotus was dedicated to the goddess of fecundity, Isis, and buds are said to have been found in the tombs of ancient Egyptian kings. Egyptologists have decided that the lotus of Egypt was the common white water lily of the Nile and not the true sacred nelumbo of the far east.

The Women of Belgium.
No one can travel in Belgium without being struck by the extraordinary activity and prominence of the women. Over the doors of shops of all descriptions the name of the owner or owners is frequently followed by "Sisters" or "Widow." You find them proprietors of hotels and restaurants. They are often custodians of the churches. They are employed to tow the boats along the canal banks. They cut up the meat in the butchers' shops, and they are even to be noticed shoeing horses at the forge.—Liverpool Mercury.

A Great War "Scoop."
Days have changed for the war correspondent since Archibald Forbes was praised in the house of lords by Lord Salisbury and received by Queen Victoria at Buckingham palace in recognition of his exploits as a news gatherer during the Russo-Turkish war of 1877. Forbes' greatest exploit was his ride from Shipka pass to the nearest telegraph station at Bukharest and his reception en route by the czar, to whom he was the first to communicate news of the Russian victory, the former trooper of the Royals having outdistanced not only all rival correspondents, but the official messengers as well.—London Mail.

An Ungallant Rascal.
"I suppose," said the angular spinner, "that you never had a romance?"
"Dat's where youse is wrong," replied the unlauded hobo. "I wunst had a sweetheart wot wuz a dead ringer fer youse."
"And did she die?" asked the angular spinster as she helped him to another hunk of pie.
"No, ma'am," answered the hobo. "When leap year come round she asked me to marry her—an' I run away from home."—Chicago News.

Last Wish of a Poet.
I wish to lie on the north side of the churchyard about the middle of the ground, where the morning and evening sun can linger the longest on my grave. I wish to have a rough, unheaven stone, something in the form of a milestone, so that the playing boys may not break it in their heedless pastimes, with nothing more on it than this inscription: "Here rest the hopes and ashes of John Clare." I desire that no date be inscribed thereon, as I wish it to live or die with my poems and other writings, which, if they have merit, with posterity it will, and if they have not it is not worth preserving.—John Clare, 1864.

Wallack on the Ballet.
The late Lester Wallack once told a story of his still more famous father, James W., that as either an actor or a manager he could never tolerate the ballet.
One day there came to him a friend, a man about town, who said, "My dear Wallack, it is very curious that you do not see the beauties of imagination shown by the poses of the ballet." Going on in this strain, the visitor at last wore out the patience of the actor-manager, who replied:
"Look here, it is bad enough to stand these absurdities in an opera; but though I can comprehend people singing their joys, I am hanged if I can stand their dancing their griefs."

AFFLICTIONS.
Afflictions sent by Providence melt the constancy of the noble minded, but confirm the obduracy of the vile. The same furnace that hardens clay liquefies gold, and in the strong manifestations of Divine power Pharaoh found his punishment, but David his pardon.—Calton.