

ENGLISH SOLDIERS USING MINE GRENADES

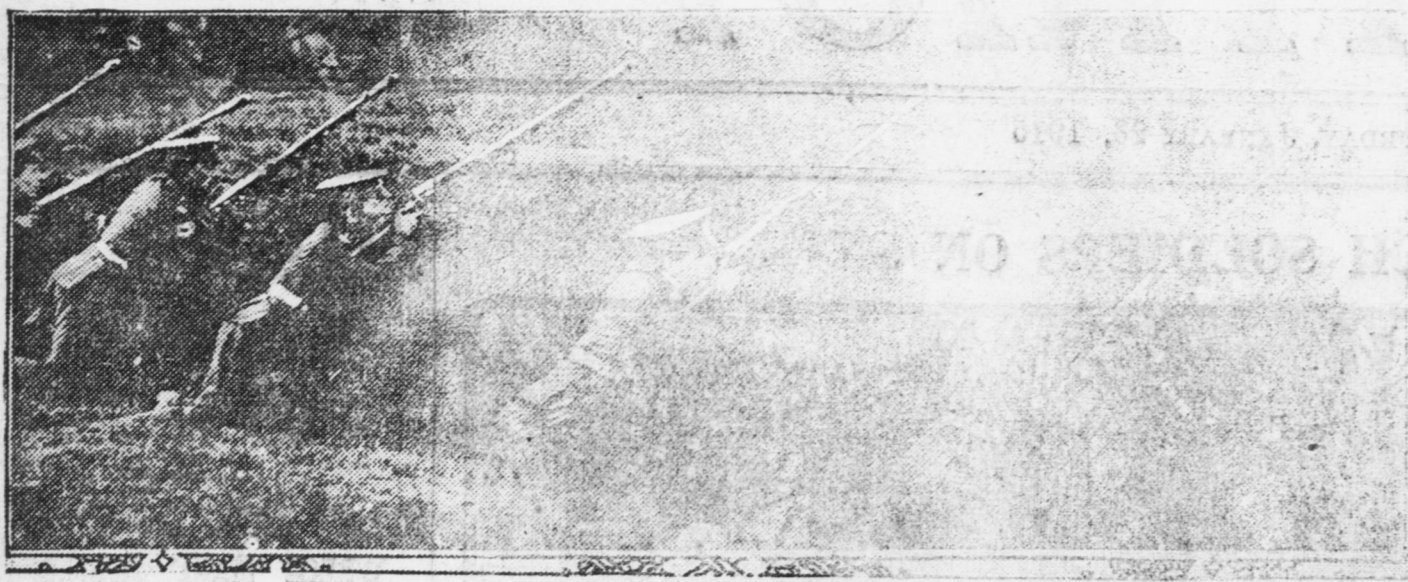


Photo by American Press Association.

DACIA WILL BE STOPPED

English Government Notifies Washington of Its Intentions.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Notice of Great Britain's refusal to grant a request of the United States government that the former German steamer Dacia be permitted to carry a cargo of cotton for Germany to Rotterdam without molestation was received at the state department.

The British government declared it could not consent to waive any of its rights in the case of the Dacia and assigned as one of the reasons for its position the fact that such action might constitute a precedent which might be invoked to the prejudice of the British position in regard to enemy ships transferred to neutral registry.

While the officials of the state department are disappointed at the British refusal, it was said it is not the intention of the department to take any further action in the case.

200 Men Blown Into Bits by Mine.
Cape Town, Jan. 20.—Two hundred of the South African soldiers who captured Swakpund last Thursday were blown into bits by mines exploded by the Germans as they retreated. The water station and electric lighting and telegraph plants were destroyed.

Roumania Buys \$9,650,000 Supplies.
London, Jan. 20.—According to a dispatch from Copenhagen the Berlin Tageblatt states that Roumania has purchased in the United States \$9,650,000 worth of war supplies.

Seeking Information.

Little Wife—How do you like mesaline and brocade satin with chiffon over velvet? **Hubby**—What are you talking about—clothes or the platform of the woman's party?—Chicago News.

Musical Note.

"Say, Hiram, what do they mean by a Stradevar'us?"
"Oh, a Stradevar'us is the Latin name for a fiddle."—Musical Courier.

Common Course.

Hi—What course is Sarah studying at that boarding school? **Si**—I can't remember, but I think it's cosmetics.—Stamford Chaparral.

The only failure a man ought to fear is failure in cleaving to the purpose he sees to be best.—George Elliot.

Sporting Note.

Speaking of mollycoddle games, how would you like to play cricket on the hearth?—Judge.

THE MALTESE DERBY.

Its Curious Race Course With Go as You Please Rules.

Horse racing is a favorite sport the world over, but it is doubtful whether any nation can boast of such a curious race course or claim more remarkable ideas of the sport than the Maltese.

Once a year the road skirting Silema harbor is reserved as a race course, and the people turn out in thousands. There is no regulation of the course. The crowd simply clears out of the way as the horses come along.

The jockeys ride without bridles or saddles, and each carries a whip in either hand—one for his own mount, the other to keep back any horse which may try to overtake him. We saw one of the spectators deliberately trip a horse up by putting his leg out, at grave risk to himself.

These things, however incredible as they seem to sportsmen in this country, are taken as quite a matter of course, and consequently hardly a year goes by without a fatality of some kind. All things considered, it is not likely that the "go as you please" rules of this Maltese derby are likely to commend themselves to other turf authorities.—Wide World Magazine.

Quicksilver.

The ore from which quicksilver is obtained is a brilliant red rock known as cinnabar. When of high purity it is actually vermilion in color. Cinnabar is the original source of the pigment known commercially as vermilion. It is a compound of sulphur and quicksilver, and in order to separate the latter from the sulphur the rock is roasted. Passing off in the form of a gas, the mercury is afterward condensed and flows out in a fine stream, like a continuous pencil of molten silver. Like gold and silver, mercury is occasionally found in a native or pure state. Sometimes the miner's pick penetrates a cavity that contains a cupful or more of the elusive and beautiful fluid. Miners suffer much from the poisonous effects of the quicksilver fumes. Extreme cleanliness is the best safeguard for workers in this dangerous occupation.

USE YOUR STRENGTH.

In the assurance of strength there is strength, and they are the weakest, however strong, who have no faith in themselves or their powers.—Lord Bacon.

MILLIONS OF SHOES FOR ALLIES' HORSES.

Factories Pressed to Fill Single Order Worth \$25,000,000.

American manufacturers of horse shoes are not lying awake nights in worry about the duration of the war in Europe. Instead they are employing both their nights and days turning out their wares to keep up with the foreign and home demand.

One of their welcome burdens is the filling of an order from the warring nations for 6,000,000 kegs of shoes. The factories at Providence, Poughkeepsie, Pittsburgh and Troy are going at high pressure to make the output at the order.

The normal yearly exports of horse shoes, a maker told me, amount to about 10,000,000 kegs. There are no factories in Europe comparable with those in the United States, he said, and hence no particular reason why the manufacturers of this particular product in this country should stamp their shoes with the "Made in U. S. A." trade mark.

When demand is well distributed throughout the year, he said, there is little difficulty in meeting it, but a single order for 6,000,000 kegs necessitates abnormal activity by the makers. Some of the shoes have been delivered, others are on the way, and the rest are being turned out with the greatest possible speed. It is understood that the big order came from a single firm in London and that the shoes are consigned to Holland as the distributing country.

Extravagance.

Extravagance in thought is as bad as extravagance in living expenses.—E. W. Howe's Monthly.

Their Novelty Wearing Off.

Elderly Sister—So Mr. Hembridge said I had teeth like pearls? And what did you say? **Young Brother**—Oh, nothing; except that you were gradually getting used to them.—London Standard.

Rather Too Light.

The landlady who had not a reputation for overfeeding her boarders asked her solitary boarder as he looked dolefully at his supper, "Shall I light the gas?"

The boarder gazed at the scanty meal and replied, "Well, no, it isn't necessary; the supper is light enough!"—London Telegraph.

Shorter Things in Plurals

Why begin with the plural of the plural is a case. But the plural of plural can be oxen, not asses. This case had a goose but two are called geese. Yet the plural of mouse should never be mice. You may find a mouse or a whole lot of mice. But the plural of house is houses, not mice. If the plural of man is always called men, why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen? The cow in the plural may be cows or kine. And a bow, if repeated, is never called line. And the plural of vow is vows, not vine; and if I speak of a foot and you show me your feet, and I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet? If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth. Why shouldn't the plural of tooth be called beeth? If the singular's this and the plural is these. Should the plural of kiss be nicknamed keese? Then one may be that and three would be those. Yet hat in the plural would never be hose. And the plural of cat is cats, not cose. We speak of a brother and also of brethren. But though we say mothers we never say motheren. The masculine pronouns are he, his and him. But imagine the feminine she, shis and shim. So the English, I think you all will agree, is the most wonderful language you ever did see.

—Springfield Republican.

Quite Enough.

Penman—Did you wade through that last book of mine?
Wright—Yes, I did.

"Were you much stuck on it?"
"Only a dollar twenty-five."—Yonkers Statesman.

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 Cetiop in the direction of the huts of Pian Veni, above Courmayeur, a few steps from the footpath that skirts the limits of the meadow land. 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.

Chrysanthemums of Japan.
Although the chrysanthemum reached its highest form of development in Japan, and is still revered as the imperial emblem, it was taken to Japan from China where it has been brought to its highest state of cultivation. At the imperial chrysanthemum party given by his majesty the emperor of Japan in November every year one sees the most marvelous blossoms known to the floriculturist. The number of blossoms from one root is amazing. In one case no less than 700 flowers were seen growing from one plant. The festival of the chrysanthemum dates back to the Heian era, when the great ones of the empire used to call at the imperial palace and drink to the health of the imperial house from sake cups in which floated petals of the beautiful flowers.

Old Time Coining.

In the fifteenth century a skilled coiner, of whom there were but few, might be able to turn out by hand fifty or sixty coins a day, a result totally inadequate to cope with the vast quantity of treasure, chiefly silver, that shortly began to arrive from America. To multiply coins was to multiply forgers, and thus the coining machine became a necessity of state. A laminating mill and screw coining press was invented in Italy 1547, Spain 1548, France 1553 and England 1561, reign of Elizabeth. After several trials and abandonments the mill and press were established permanently under Charles II, whose golden guineas, struck in 1662, were the first regular issues of machine coins made north of the channel.—Argonaut.

Why They Don't Hear.

Perhaps the limit of hymnic fatuity was reached by the writer of hymn 575 in the "Ancient and Modern" collection. Here is the fourth stanza: They do not hear when the great bell is ringing overhead; They cannot rise and come to church With us, for they are dead.

The list of things which "they" are unable to do might be indefinitely extended, and it seems a thing incredible that the author of the above verse should have written so beautiful and moving a hymn as "There is a green hill far away."—London Chronicle.

Canada's Size.

The area of the Dominion of Canada is 3,658,946 square miles. The area of continental United States is 3,025,000 square miles. Canada is as big as the United States with a territory to spare that is as large as three German empires and the state of New York.—New York American.

Woman Sentenced to Death by Germans and Will



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Considerable publicity was given recently to the case of William Lonsdale, an English soldier sentenced to death in Germany for assaulting the guard at the detention camp. Citizens of Leeds, Lonsdale's home city, asked the United States state department to intercede with the Germans on behalf of Lonsdale. The prisoner's sentence was later reduced to ten years' penal servitude.

RUSSIANS WIN ADVANTAGE

Three Times Victorious in Series of Actions Along Vistula.
London, Jan. 21.—An official Russian statement describes a series of actions along the Vistula, northwest of Warsaw, during Jan. 17 and 18. In three of these engagements, it is said, the Russians won the advantage.

MRS. CHARLES S. WHITMAN.



Photo by American Press Association.

The wife of the new governor of New York is shown here as she pours tea for a visitor.

TESTING CONCRETE.

Experiments to Show the Action of Sea Water and Frost.

One of the largest construction companies in this country is making experiments to determine what is the action of sea water and frost upon concrete. According to Science Conspicuous, the company made twenty-four concrete columns, each sixteen feet long and sixteen inches square, reinforced with iron bars near their corners, and in January, 1909, immersed them in the water at the Boston navy yard.

At high tide the water almost entirely covers them, but at low tide they are completely exposed. Thus in cold weather the columns are alternately thawed and frozen as the tide rises and falls. The columns are made with various qualities of concrete—mixed dry, plastic and very wet—and also with different qualities of cement. Experts are studying the effects of the addition of waterproofing materials. Clay and other substances are added from time to time, and the effect is observed.

Many years must elapse before it will be possible to tell with certainty what kind of concrete is most permanent. When last examined many of the columns were virtually unaffected, but others were badly eroded. The columns that contain the largest proportion of cement, mixed wet, have so far shown the least wear. Of two columns made with one part of cement to one of sand and two of stone the one mixed dry was badly eroded over its entire length, whereas the other, which was mixed very wet, was only slightly pitted.

The experiment, it is expected, will throw much light upon a problem that has long perplexed construction engineers.

EVANGELIST BILLY SUNDAY.



Photo by American Press Association. Former baseball player, conductor of a successful revival in Philadelphia, Pa.

DEMONSTRATION BY UNEMPLOYED.



Photo by American Press Association.

Several thousand men without work recently assembled in the streets of New York bearing banners expressing their objections to charity.

GIVING MEDALS TO SAILOR HEROES.

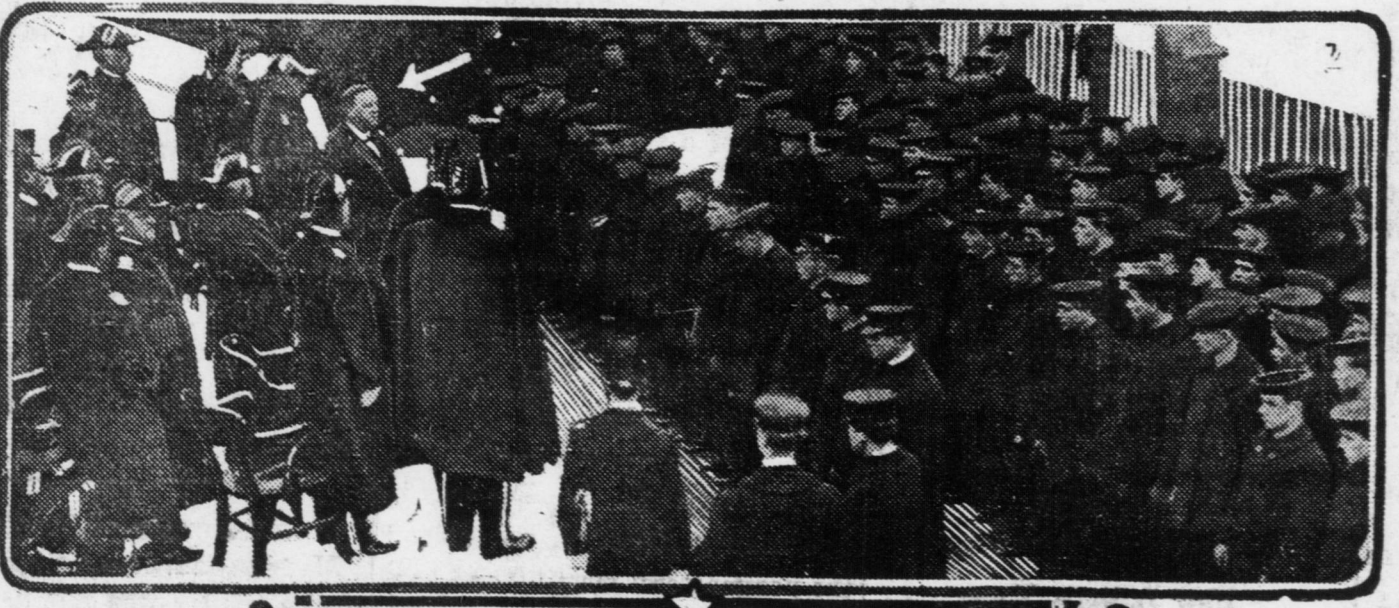


Photo by American Press Association.

The arrow designates Secretary of the Navy Daniels as he was giving medals to the sailors whose conduct at Vera Cruz caused them to be honored by congress. The presentation of the medals took place in the Brooklyn navy yard.