

U. S. AIRPLANES ACTIVE IN TOUL

Pursuit Squadron, Engages in Number of Clashes.

MORE VICTORIES ARE SCORED

Tennessee Aviator Achieves Success in Unequal Combat—Brings Down One Hun and Evades Three—Enemy Planes When His Machine Gun Became Jammed—Auto Racer Scores Another.

An American aerial pursuit squadron is operating over the American sector northwest of Toul. It is permitted to announce. All the pilots whose air exploits have been recorded up to this time belong to this squadron, which has a special instructor. The squadron is flying in support of chasing machines.

The first victories in which the American squadron brought down two German machines were gained the day after they took up flying on this sector. The occupants of the German machines were made prisoners.

Other machines, aside from those in this squadron, also are flying on the Toul front. The fact that an American squadron was there could not be mentioned previously because it was not desired that the Germans should know of the fact.

But after there have been so many fights at close range and two American machines have fallen it is believed certain the enemy knows an American squadron is operating on this front.

There is also the fact that Capt. James Norman Hall has fallen behind the German lines and been made a prisoner.

Downs German Airplane.

Lieut. Edward Buford, Jr. of Nashville, Tenn., was officially credited with shooting down a German airplane over St. Mihiel on May 22.

Buford while patrolling encountered two German pursuit planes. The fight continued only a few minutes. Lieut. Buford attacking one of the German planes, which tried to lead him into the fire from the other. Suddenly Lieutenant Buford looked overhead and saw two more Germans coming this way.

He took a dive, all of the Germans dived at the same time, and when he came up he had one of the enemy planes in front of him. Buford began firing with his machine gun, causing his adversary to disappear in a nose-dive. Although he was sure he had hit the German, it was not until later that the victory was confirmed.

A few minutes later Lieutenant Buford by maneuvering managed to get behind two of the remaining three machines and opened fire, but his machine gun jammed. As he was unable to use his weapon he started in a series of skilful dives and turns and was successful in shaking off the three enemy planes.

Lieut. Edward Rickenbacher, the former automobile racer, has added another aerial victory to his record. An announcement was made that it had been confirmed that the lieutenant shot down a German biplane in the neighborhood of Thiaucourt on May 22. The fight took place 5,500 meters in the air.

Gets on Enemy's Tail.

With another pilot Lieutenant Rickenbacher engaged in a long fight with two enemy machines. Rickenbacher finally got on the tail of one machine and fired more than a score of shots in a short range. The enemy machine went into a spinning nose-dive, but it was uncertain whether it hit the ground, so the lieutenant was not credited with a victory at the time. Positive confirmation that the machine crashed to the ground has since been obtained.

No confirmation is obtainable concerning the German report that three American airplanes have been shot down in the Tys region.

FAMILY IN SIX WARS

Some Member Has Served the United States in Each One.

When F. Levi Dees, aged fifty, enlisted recently in the engineering corps in St. Louis, a record of 140 years was perfected, a member of the Dees family having served in every one of the six wars in which the United States has participated.

His great-grandfather served in the Revolution, furnishing his own rifle, clothing, etc. His father, Justice J. H. Dees of Edwardsville, enlisted for the Civil war at the age of fourteen.

Levi Dees is an expert engineer, and his age, which in other branches would be considered a drawback, was regarded as an asset. After passing the examination he was sent to Wilmington, Del.

COAL ALLOWANCE REDUCED

To Fuel for Heating Being Sold in Paris.

The allowance of coal in Paris is being reduced in view of the smaller requirements of the summer. Coal will be sold during the summer months which permit use and the coupons which permit one to purchase a certain quantity for the heating of living rooms will not be available.

CATTLE INDUSTRY IS FLOURISHING ON CANAL

Large Areas of Forest Cleared and 100,000 Head Soon Will Be Grazing.

The policy of raising cattle for the use of the employees of the Panama Canal and the military and naval forces there has transformed the appearance of the canal zone.

Large areas of forest and jungle along the railway and the canal have been cleared off and planted in guinea grass, and the big herds of cattle may be seen browsing in the valleys or on the slopes of the many hills. Many thousands of acres have been cleared already, and the work is still going on. A big dairy is also operated and from there all the beef milk and cheese needed on the isthmus may be produced there.

The guinea grass originally was an African plant, but has been established in the West Indies and parts of the continent for a long time. It is a heavy rank grass, often reaching a height of ten feet, standing freely and rooting deeply. It is particularly valuable, as it destroys almost any other vegetation, a quality of great utility in the tropics. It propagates both from seed and roots and spreads quite rapidly.

The guinea grass is grown in a limited extent also in low and wet soils. It is not as desirable as the grasses mentioned by both cattle and horses. Para grass is the great prevailing plant of the lower Amazon valley, and it is not injured by the periodic inundations.

The cattle industry in the canal zone is especially favored by the fact that Gatun lake supplies plenty of water during the dry season, its branches ramifying through the many hills and mountains and making fresh water available in all the pastures. The zone may support a herd of 100,000 head of cattle, without trenching upon the areas used for agricultural and horticultural purposes.

PIG CLUBS FOR PORK

Boys and Girls in One State Will Produce 10,000 Pounds This Year.

The Ohio war board says: Boys and girls' pig clubs throughout the country are expected to produce at least 10,000 pounds of dressed pork this year.

To stimulate interest in these clubs and increase pork production in Ohio, the Ohio state fair will this year offer a number of prizes and give demonstrations in mixing of feeds, raising of self-feeders, making hog houses and other subjects of interest to pig raisers.

These pig club members have been termed "Junior soldiers of the war." It is expected that every boy who can do so will raise one or more pigs for Uncle Sam this year and help furnish the meat supply for the soldiers.

RED CROSS TO GET TIPS

Society's Workers May Take Place of Cloak-Room Bandits.

A new method of raising hundreds of thousands of dollars annually for the Red Cross and other worthy war causes has been advanced in Cleveland. It is suggested that Red Cross girls be placed in charge of hat and coat checking rooms at hotels and other places where such privileges net thousands of dollars annually. It is pointed out that the continual seeking of tips and charges in such places is annoying, but that no one would feel that way about a Red Cross representative and would be more than apt to give generously. Whether the suggestion will be followed up is not yet known, but influential persons here said to be strongly in favor of the plan.

AGED EGGS STALE

Were Laid Many Years Ago and Are Now Seized.

Eggs is eggs, but fifty year old eggs, although still eggs are not the proper kind of hen treat for Philadelphia, in the opinion of Mr. Summers. The whole proceeding ran in offices. There are 50 cases of eggs, they were fifty years old, and it took Summers just about 50 seconds to take them.

The consignment was packed in air-tight cans and was to have been put in cold storage at the Reading terminal plant until bakers needed them for cake. They were "canned" all right.

FOE PERSECUTES AMERICANS

Indiana Girl Tells of Treatment by Germans After Wilson's Speech.

Americans in Germany have been subjected to bitter persecution since President Wilson's Baltimore speech was published in German papers, according to Miss Bonaventura Spinik of Indianapolis, who returned on a Danish liner after six years' residence in Berlin. She sang there with an opera company. Miss Spinik declared that children are starving so that food may be provided for soldiers.

Amish Prove Patriotism.

The Amishmen have at last decided not to allow their religious scruples to interfere in assisting to win the war. Members of the sect in Pennsylvania are endeavoring to raise a bumper crop, and nearly \$5,000 of Liberty bonds were sold among the leaders.

BULLETIN SAVES MUCH TIME

Government's Official Newspaper, Answering Questions, Oblivates Loss of Time of Correspondents.

Owing to the enormous increase of government work the government departments at Washington are being flooded with letters of inquiry on every conceivable subject concerning the war, and it has been found a physical impossibility for the clerks, though they number an army in themselves, now, to give many of these letters proper attention and reply. There is published daily at Washington under the name of the "Bulletin of the President," a government newspaper, the official Bulletin. This paper prints every day all of the important rulings, decisions, regulations, proclamations, orders, etc., as they are promulgated by the different departments and the many special committees and agencies now in operation at the national capital. This official journal is posted each day in every post office in the United States, more than 50,000 in number and may also be found on file at all libraries, boards of trade, chambers of commerce and the offices of mayors, governors and federal officials.

By consulting these files most questions will be found readily answered; there will be little necessity for letter writing, the unnecessary congestion of the mails will be appreciably relieved; the railroads will be enabled upon to move fewer correspondence packages; the mass of business that is piling up in the government departments will be checked considerably. Hundreds of clerks now answering correspondence will be enabled to give their time to essentially important war work, and a fundamentally patriotic service will have been performed by the public.

HOW TO MAKE POTATO BUTTER

British Ministry of Food Gives Time to Studying Out Plans to Conserve the Supply.

The ministry of food states that in view of the shortage of butter they have been carrying out experiments in order to find suitable and economical ways of making out the available butter and margarine supplies by mixing in other food substances and so producing cheap and palatable substitutes, says the London Times. These experiments have shown that an excellent "potato butter," costing only about 5d per pound for less if margarine is used) can easily be made in any household without special knowledge or apparatus in accordance with the following recipe:

Peel the potatoes and boil for (steaming) until they fall to pieces and become flowery. Rub through a fine sieve into a large lino bag. Squeeze out as much water as possible. To every 14 ounces of mashed potatoes add 10 ounces of butter or margarine and one teaspoonful of salt. Stir thoroughly with the back of a wooden spoon until the whole is quite smooth. The butter may then be made up into pounds or half pounds and kept in food cans.

The potato butter may be improved in appearance by the addition of a few drops of butter coloring, and if it is to be kept for more than a few days, preservative of which there are several forms on the market, should be used. The amount should be in accord with the printed instructions on the packet for use in butter. Both the coloring and the preservative should be well mixed into the potato at the same time as the butter and salt. If these directions are carefully followed potato butter will keep for a considerable time.

Siam Adopts New Flag.

Siam's white elephant flag is to be abandoned for the red, white and blue colors of the United States. Commenting on this, the Department of State Monitor says:

In spite of the fine feeling of enthusiasm for the allied cause which it has long been a matter but is sorry that Siam should have decided to discard her own splendidly original flag showing a white elephant on a red field for a tricolor resembling that of the great eastern power of the west. Siam used to be red, white and blue, and the flag colors which throughout the world stand for freedom, justice, peace and progress. It is quite interesting to find the red, white and blue do as a matter of fact figure in the national flags of Britain, France, the United States, Russia, Spain, Cuba, Panama, Italy, Greece, Portugal and Liberia. And now Siam must be added if it is really quite true that the white elephant is abandoned.

German Geologists in the War.

In his residential address to the Viceroy, Dr. A. Strahlen F. R. S. stated that the Germans began three years ago to make geologists a part of their army organization, says the Scientific American. A geological staff was created under the direction of a professor of the University of Griefswald and put to work on the western front, where its advice was utilized in connection with the laying of field railways, the water supply of the army, the examination of marsh lands, the building of road metal, and protection against landmines due to gunfire. It is said that much more extensive use was made of geological maps than has thus far been disclosed, and that the Germans, with an eye to possible future wars, have been making a very thorough geological study of the occupied territory in neighboring countries.

The Drawback.

She—His wife made a man of him. He—Yes, but anybody that looks at you can tell it is a home-made job.

ANZAC HERO'S SIGHT RESTORED

Australian Soldier, "Blinded for Life," Can See Again.

STORY READS LIKE FICTION

Two Years of Darkness Ended Abruptly When Washington Specialist Discovers That Dislocated Vertebrae Caused Trouble—Now Anxious to Rejoin His Anzac Comrades in the Trenches.

The gas cloud, the bayonet thrust and the bullet would have caused many a repetition in the war of the familiar story of the "Light that Failed." But, among the thousands of combatants whose blindness will ever through their lives prove a poignant sacrifice is one who almost miraculously has recovered his sight. And, as an inspiring sequel to the story of his physical rehabilitation, the victim has announced his intention of going back to the trenches.

It was in the fierce fighting before Gallipoli in 1915 that Thomas Skehill, a member of the Anzac forces, was instantly blinded by the blast of an exploding shell. Months of seclusion had given Skehill a deep insight into the motives that had induced his comrades to sacrifice gladly their lives. Incapacitated for further fighting, he sought to preach the gospel of the all-abled effort from the lecture platform and through the press. Although barely over his majority—he had enlisted at the age of nineteen—he soon became known as a powerfully effective lecturer.

In America to Aid the Red Cross.

Recently he left Australia, where his name had become a household word, to come to America for a series of lectures in the interests of the Red Cross. His first addresses at San Francisco were heard by more than 150,000 people. He met with similar successes in Reno, Salt Lake City, Denver and finally in the national capital.

Although suffering from his physical disabilities, Skehill announced his intention of inaugurating an individual



Thomas Skehill.

drive with the object of raising a million dollars for the Red Cross. He had been afflicted with violent headaches for more than a month. In San Francisco he had been obliged to go to a hospital in Reno he had had nearly to death with hemorrhages, and in Washington he suffered greatly from pains in his neck.

When His Sight Returned.

A Washington specialist found that the vertebrae at the base of Skehill's neck had been dislocated in three places, presumably by the shock that had blinded him. A simple operation was undertaken, and as the vertebrae were snapped back into position the sight returned to the soldier's eyes.

As the realization came to Skehill that the darkness that had hung over him for more than two years had been dispelled, he became seized with an ecstatic joy that nearly unbalanced his mind. His mind became a blank concerning the years that had elapsed since his injury, and he imagined himself back in the bayonet charge in which he had been wounded. His condition became so acute that he was removed to a hospital, but after a night's sleep he regained his mental poise.

BAN ON FOREIGN SIGNS.

Ohio Town Rules All Must Be in English Language.

A ban on foreign signs has been placed by the city council of Martens Ferry, O. At a meeting of that body members declared there were several places about the city where signs appeared in foreign languages and an ordinance was passed making it unlawful to put up signs in any other than the American language.

HER PRAYER WAS ANSWERED

Little Girl's Appeal for Automobile Ride Proved That Her Argument Was a Good One.

The six-year-old daughter of an attorney has been taught from infancy to have implicit faith in prayer. So strongly has this been impressed on her mind that practically all of her desires and childish wishes sooner or later find expression in prayerful appeal.

The child is a motor enthusiast, and on the first warm day after the severe winter months she asked her father to take her out for a ride. He explained that their machine was put away for the winter, and that it could not be used at that time. The child then sought her mother and asked her to pray for somebody to come around and take them out for a ride. The mother tried to explain that such a prayer would be unavailing, but, undaunted in her firm belief, the child went to her room and prayed that she might have an auto ride. An hour or so passed, and the little girl waited expectantly and anxiously for the automobile to arrive.

Seeking to allay the child's disappointment the mother started to explain more fully, when the shriek of an automobile horn was heard outside. The mother rushed to the door, and to the amazement of the mother, a neighbor asked the girl whether she desired to take a ride.

"Will you have room for mother, too?" the girl asked.

"No, we just have room for one little girl," replied the man at the wheel. The child hurriedly put on her coat and cap, and as she left the doorway she turned to her mother and said: "See, mother, if you had prayed with me you could have gone, too."

MARINE CORPS' NEW INSIGNIA

Green Instead of Blue Uniforms Not Recognized by Those Who Are Not Up to Minute.

Surprisingly few civilians even after their country has been in the world war for nearly a year can readily identify the various uniforms of the United States service. Especially is this true in regard to the United States marine corps. The change of the marine corps' uniforms from blue to forest green has added greatly to the bewilderment of the layman who likes to recognize a military man by his uniform or insignia.

The small boy, however, is not so easily fooled; he is shown by an incident which occurred a few days ago. One of the sergeants from a marine recruiting station was walking along the street when he came on a group of small boys and girls playing on the sidewalk. As he approached them one little girl asked:

"What is that man in uniform?"

"I guess he's a French officer," said another girl.

One of the boys eyed him closely for a moment, and then, planted himself squarely in front of the sergeant, and holding him by the coat with two chubby little hands, said: "I want to see watchin' got on yer cap."

The lad knew that the device embracing the globe, eagle and anchor means "marine," whether the wearer be clothed in blue, forestry green or khaki. "Oh, you're a marine, ain'tcha," he exclaimed jubilantly. "An' he's a sergeant and a sharpshooter, too," he told his playmates, with a knowing little nod.

Messenger Wears Tie.

War times and the unprecedented demand for ails for Uncle Sam have brought many quaint characters to Washington, notes a capital correspondent.

One of the quaintest guards is seen daily at the main door of the old Land Office building, now occupied by Post Marshal General Crowder and his staff. He is a gentleman of the old Southern school and while on duty wears a shining black silk hat of an oval shape, on the left lapel of his frock coat is the silver badge of authority, a squarely number as he bears a pair of the points of the hat.

The pay is estimated as a "messenger," and he is the only messenger in Washington who wears a silk hat.

U-Boats Have Ordered Thousands.

The United States has ordered thousands of U-boats, even with such a monstrous crime as unrestricted U-boat warfare should breed indifference to its enormity, says an exchange. Therefore, it is well to bear in mind that, except when the attack is made on fighting ships or transports carrying fighting men, the torpedoing of ships and sending men to their death far out at sea is simply murder, unprovoked by any extenuating circumstances whatsoever. Just how great a bill of indictment is being drawn up by the German admiralty against itself is seen in the statement given by the government leader in the house of commons, that up to February, 1918, the German U-boats had killed 14,120 noncombatant British men, women and children. This, he it noted, is exclusive of the murders done upon peoples of other nationalities.

GOOD REASON, TOO!

It happened at a Red Cross tea held at a country club. The fussy old gentleman of the white vest tapped the tweed-clad youngster on the shoulder. "My boy," he said, "why are you not in the army?"

"The boy smiled. "To be frank with you, sir," he said, "I don't like it. There's all this business of sleeping in the mud, and uncooked food, and rain all the time—dashed uncomfortable, you know."

"Uncomfortable?" The white vest-front leaved indignantly. "Are you not of age, in good health or physically fit?"

"Yes, sound as a drum. Just twenty-two, no dependents." The young man was still cheerful. "The inevitable group gather about them. "Disgusting! Have you no patriotism—no love of country? What is your reason for not being in the army? Confess, coward!"

"I can't be," said the cheerful youth. "I'm in the navy. Eighteen hours' leave and special permission to wear civies."

Cares for It.

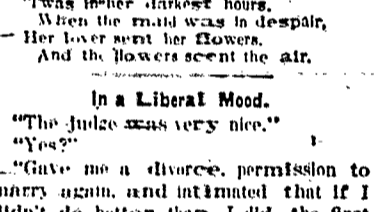
"And do you care for the theater, Mrs. Murphy?"

"Sure, I do not. My husband does that."

"Does what?"

"Cares for the theater! He's the janitor!"

RIGHT IN IT.



"Virginia is consistent in everything, isn't she?"

"What now?"

"Why, her new mermaid gown is to be made of watered silk."

Why Not?

"Wasn't her darkest hour, when the main was in despair, her lover went her flowers, and the flowers sent the air."

In a Liberal Mood.

"The judge was very nice."

"Yes?"

"Gave me a divorce, permission to marry again, and intimated that if I didn't do better than I did the first time he'd grant me another divorce."

Different.

Father—What was that racket last night when you came home?

Son—My coat fell down the stairs.

Father—A coat wouldn't make all that noise.

Son—Well, I was in the coat.

Absent Minded.

Grocer—That long-haired man who just went out must be a music crank. Customer—Why do you think so? Grocer—He insisted, that I only give him four beads in the measure.

His Choice.

"So you threw up your position because it was hard. Don't you know that no position is easy?"

"Yes, father; that's why I prefer no position."

Direct.

Jack—I cannot love my neighbor as myself.

Bess—But you can surely respect him a lot more if he's half way decent.

BUSINESS.

"Harper says that every husband should wash the dishes for his wife."

"And who is Harper?"

"He is in the china business."

The Test Kiss.

At first she kissed him just for love. As deep as a man may think. But now she kisses him at eye to see if he's had a drink.

Pleasing Hubby.

Butcher—What cut, m'innam? She—One from the lower part of the animal, please. Hubby says most of your cuts are too high.—Judge.