

LIKE HIS IMPERIAL MASTER

Von Buelow, Under the Wings of the German Eagle, Typical as of Ill-Omen to Mankind.

From Brand Whitlock's story of German oppression in Belgium in Everybody's Magazine, we take the following account of a single incident that occurred in May, 1914, just before the war. Mr. Whitlock, with other diplomats, was the dinner guest of Mr. Von Buelow, the German minister to Belgium.

"We were standing by a table in the corner of the room, and from among the objets d'art, the various trinkets, the signed photographs in silver frames, with which it was loaded, he drew forward a silver bowl that he used as a cendrier. As I dropped the ash of my cigar into it, I noticed that it was pierced on one side near the rim by a perfectly round hole, the jagged edges of which were thrust inward; plainly a bullet hole; doubtless it had a history. I asked him.

"Yes, a bullet hole," he said. "In China it stood on my desk, and one day during the riots a bullet came through the window and went right through it."

"Several of the guests pressed up to see; such a bowl with its jagged bullet hole and a history was an excellent subject for conversation; the German minister had to recount the circumstances several times.

"I have never had a post," he said, "where there has not been trouble; in Turkey it was the revolution; in China it was the Boxers. I am a bird of ill-omen."

MAKE LIGHT OF ALL RISKS

British Aviators Think Little of Danger When There is a Chance to Hurt the Enemy.

The daringly low flights of English airmen at the front are shown in the official notes to awards of the military cross:

Lieut. Richard Aveline Maybery, Lancasters and R. F. C., after attacking two airdromes in succession at very low altitudes and inflicting considerable damage, attacked and dispersed a number of mounted men and then attacked a freight train. He next attacked and shot down a hostile machine at 500 feet, and before returning attacked a passenger train.

Second Lieut. Wallenke A. Pitt, R. F. C., in attacking a hostile airdrome dropped bombs from a very low altitude and attacked and destroyed two enemy machines almost as soon as they had left the ground. A machine gun then opened upon him in the airdrome, which he bravely attacked. Both on his outward and homeward journey he was under very heavy fire. On the latter he attacked a motor car and shot one of the occupants from about fifty feet, afterward attacking infantry on the march and inflicting severe casualties upon them.

Second Lieut. Alexander A. N. Pentland, R. F. C., descended to within twenty feet of the ground and fired into eight hostile machines. On his return journey he attacked a train with considerable effect from low altitude. He has always shown fearlessness and devotion to duty in attacking enemy balloons and troops on the ground.

Finland's New Flag.

The Russian revolution will probably result in lengthening the list of the world's flags by several additions. Finland, which, since March, has ceased to be a grand duchy and has declared her independence and status as a republic, has now decided on her national colors. She will have three different standards: the national flag, the flag of the merchant service, and that of the pilot and customs services. The national colors are those which were acclaimed at the time of the revolution, the yellow lion of Finland surrounded by nine white roses on a red ground. The flag of the merchant service will have a yellow perpendicular cross on a red ground and in the top right-hand corner, nine white roses set symmetrically in three rows. The pilot and customs services flag will be the same, except that it will carry the yellow of Finland instead of the white roses.

Fought With Owl.

An employee of the Helena Land and Lumber company near Perkins, a short distance north of Escanaba, Mich., had a desperate encounter with a huge owl while walking through the woods late at night.

His first warning of the attack was when he was struck on the head and his fur cap pulled off. The great claws of the bird next were fastened to his skull and his face.

After a desperate fight in the dark the man succeeded in securing a good hold on the owl and killed it by dashing its head against a tree. The owl is on exhibition at the camp and is said to be the largest ever killed in that vicinity.

\$500,000 for Muskrat Skins.

The annual January fur auction closed at St. Louis with sales totalling approximately \$3,350,000.

A lot of 710,000 muskrats brought \$500,000. Many of the skins brought \$1.50 each, an average price for good pelts being 75 cents. A few years ago muskrat skins sold on the market at as low as five cents each. A collection of beaver brought \$25 per skin and the small lot of martin from Alaska set a record price of \$57 each.

Extraordinarily high prices paid this year were said to be due to the high quality of the furs.

More than 350 buyers from all parts of the world attended the sale.

THE SPITE FENCE

By GLADYS E. SALTER.

Robert Lane took a dislike to his new neighbor, Burton Price, within a week after the latter had moved from another part of the town next to the Lane home. Price was a quiet, unassuming man with a large family, his children happened to break one of Mr. Lane's windows in playing ball, their dog rooted up some of the garden stuff Mr. Lane had carefully planted and that was the start of Mr. Lane's ill feeling.

It is true that Mr. Price stepped over to his neighbor's house, insisted on paying for the window and having the garden damage repaired. That mollified Mr. Lane somewhat, but the next evening Mr. Lane stepped over to the Price home and returned, his brow like a thunder cloud.

"What is the trouble, Robert?" inquired his wife.

"That Price! I'm through with him. Netta," to his eighteen-year-old daughter, "I hear that you let that Price cub walk with you to the seminary. Cut it out! As to the smaller children, I look to you, Martha, to see that they don't associate with that brood next door."

"Why, Robert!" echoed Mrs. Lane, "whatever has crossed you?"

"Price has, and I'll see that he regrets it. I stepped over in a kind of neighborly way to ask him to vote for Waller for sheriff. Price informed me calmly that Waller was not the kind of a man he could recommend."

"Well—could he?" challenged Mrs. Lane, significantly. "You know Waller associates with the worst class in town."

"Never mind. I'm going to try for mayor this fall, ain't I?" demanded Lane. "By catering a bit to Waller in the spring county election, he'll return the compliment and help me win out in the fall, won't he?"

So within a week there was a set condition of feud between the two families.

"I'll fence those vandals in," he vociferated, and hired a carpenter to build a fence twelve feet high.

Mr. Price continued to bow courteously to Lane, although the latter rebuffed him with a scowl. It nettled the latter to the point of distraction when he discovered that the spite fence made an excellent surface for the Price children to play handball. He nearly collapsed one evening when he came upon Netta, receiving through a knothole in the spite fence a rose poked through by her ardent lover, young Dudley Price.

"We won't have to stand that factious brood much longer!" he remarked to his wife. "Soon as I'm elected to the mayoralty I'm going to move to a better part of the town."

One evening Lane arose to face a decidedly unpleasant incident. During the night some nimble burglar had scaled the spite fence, climbed into the upper room and made off with a lot of jewelry and money.

"If it had not been for the fence," began Mrs. Lane, and then thought it wiser not to further disturb her disgruntled husband.

A week after that Lane came home to view wreck and ruin. There had been a furious windstorm about noon, and fully 50 feet of the fence had been blown down.

"If it hadn't been for the fence," began Mrs. Lane again, but again subsided, for Lane was boiling over with ill humor as he began to realize that his unneighborly tactics were bearing bitter fruit.

The fall election neared and the town was split up between the two main political parties and an independent group, comprising the workers in the plant at the other end of town, where Mr. Price was employed. One day the manager in charge of the Lane campaign came to him with a rather anxious face.

"Tell you, Lane," he said. "It's going to be a close shave."

"Why, how can that be when we represent the usual majority party?"

"Well, to be plain with you, there's a defection. A good many are shying away from you."

"What for?"

"That spite fence business hasn't made a very good impression with the conservative class. It's true your opponent will lose a good many votes because he has antagonized the mill people, but their independent votes count up in the hundreds."

As the days went on Lane began to realize that his manager was a pretty shrewd analyst. Lane became gloomy over the prospect. The night before election he came home restless and pessimistic. It was a foregone conclusion that he had lost weight in his own party. About eight o'clock someone called him up on the phone.

"Mr. Lane? Yes? I am about to address the Independents at the mill," a voice spoke. "I want to ask you a question."

"All right," replied Lane, wondering who his interlocutor might be.

"Are you in favor of putting through the new road for the convenience and property benefit of the workers?"

"Decidedly. Who is this?"

"I'm your neighbor, Price. On your pledge, Mr. Lane, we'll see that you are elected."

And he was, and Robert Lane learned his lesson. If he winced when he compared the kindly impulses of his neighbor with his own soured nature, he felt he was on his way to reform as he removed the last vestige of the spite fence, and was not adverse to having Dudley Price call at the house twice a week.



AID FOR PIG CLUB MEMBERS

Increased Membership Will Be Great Help in Increasing Production of Needed Pork.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

One of the most potent ways of increasing the number of hogs is by encouraging more boys and girls to join pig clubs. In the past these clubs have been markedly successful. They have been the means of introducing purebred hogs into many communities and raising the standard of hogs as well as improving the conditions under which they are kept and the care given them. The number of pig clubs in the Northern states on June 30, 1917, totaled 1,037; in the South the number of community clubs is between 2,000 and 2,500, and in almost every club are found members of pig clubs. Although the number is large, it is possible to increase it greatly by forming more clubs in counties where there are agents to direct properly the efforts of the young people. In order to stimulate these activities, the department during the past year has added to its force several pig club specialists, and a number of the agricultural colleges have done likewise. In this work, it is of first importance that proper instructions be given to the members in regard to all phases of swine husbandry so that clubs will be successful in bringing to market a large percentage of the pigs under their care. Clubs should not be organized unless there is ample assurance that sufficient feed will be available to bring the pigs to maturity.

Swine breeders' associations have been active for a number of years in assisting pig club members to secure purebred hogs at reduced prices. This has made it possible for members to obtain good stock with which to lay the foundation for a herd of purebred swine. The result has been the introduction into many communities of desirable breeding stock and the stimulation of more widespread interest in good quality hogs. Swine breeders' associations doubtless will be willing to continue in the future the assistance given to club members in the past.

Bankers in many states have realized the value of pig clubs as a means of materially improving rural conditions and at the same time increasing



Enthusiastic Pig Club Member With His Prize Pig.

the production of meat and teaching the members good business methods. Not a few bankers have made it possible for worthy club members to secure pigs on their personal notes. In this way a well-bred pig is obtained through the efforts of a county agent or pig club leader or specialist and a banker. The member is given the opportunity to pay for it from the proceeds of the pig as a meat animal or from the sale of offspring in case of a breeding animal. Often the member enters into a business agreement (with the parents' consent) with the banker and thus secures a pig when otherwise it would have been impossible for the child to have joined the club.

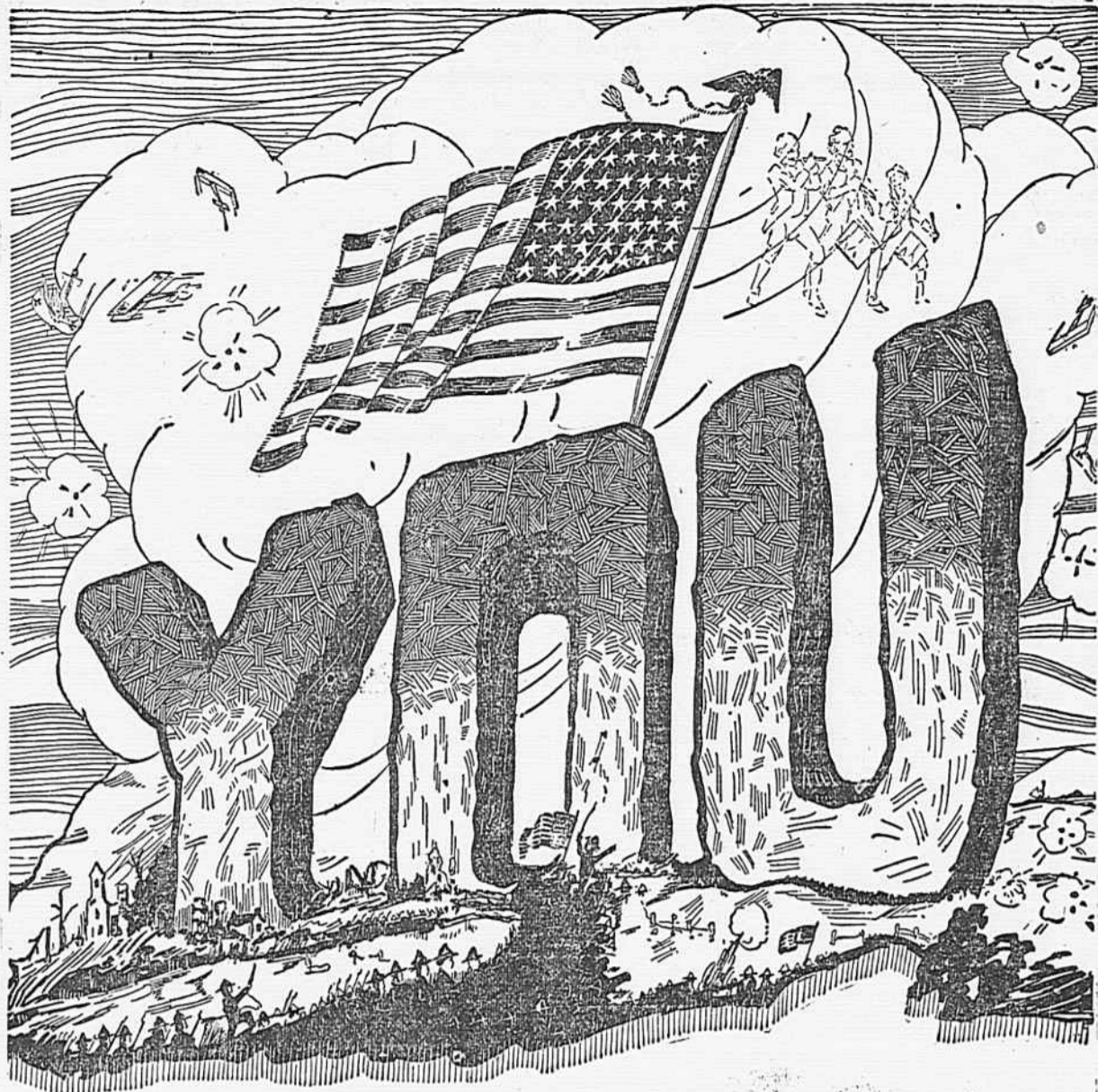
In other instances the bankers have bought bred gilts to be bred and given them to club members with the understanding that two pigs were to be returned for the original gilt loaned. These pigs in turn are lent to other children. This plan is the so-called endless chain contract. Either plan has resulted in increasing interest in pig clubs with its accompanying expansion in the supply of pork products and the instruction in swine husbandry which is a part of the club work. The banker thus helps to lay a foundation for the prosperity which will be lasting. The money received from the sale of hogs will be expended in further developing the county. Every merchant in the county will profit, the banks will get more deposits, and the farmers will have more money with which further to develop their farms.

Suitable Hay for Horses.

To make hay suitable for horses at hard work alfalfa must be allowed to become rather mature before cutting; in fact, the field should be in full bloom before the mower is started.

Pigs Get Better Start.

Pigs raised by a mature sow get a better start while young and give greater profits than the pigs from a young, immature sow.



"State Units Now Training Within Sound of Enemy Guns"

A cablegram from France, publication of which was recently authorized, contains the following information:

Part of the National Guard has arrived in France and is undergoing intensive training behind first line trenches within the sound of the guns at the front.

This Brings the War Home to YOU

In a short time these gallant young men, whose parents, brothers and sisters, wives and sweethearts are your own neighbors, will be IN the front line trenches, under the murderous fire of enemy artillery, and going "over the top" to meet the sweeping hail of the machine guns and the bayonets of the Huns.

If these soldier boys—YOUR soldier boys—were three miles away instead of three thousand, you would bend every energy, exhaust every resource, make every sacrifice, to make sure that they were fed, clothed, armed and equipped as no soldiers ever were before.

Is your duty any less imperative, any less sacred, because it is your neighbor's boy who is defending your country, your flag and your home from German frightfulness on the other side of the ocean?

Is it not a splendid privilege as well as a duty to deny yourself luxuries, to save food, save clothing, above all to save money, for our soldiers?

U. S. Thrift Stamps Save Lives and Shorten the War

There is one thing you can do, every day, to help the Government provide the guns, ammunition, food, clothing and other supplies which our soldiers and sailors MUST HAVE to win the war, win it quickly, and come safely home again.

Go today to any bank, any postoffice, or any store where you see the W. S. S. (War Savings Stamps) sign displayed.

For 25 cents you will receive a U. S. Thrift Stamp and a card to paste it on. The card has spaces for 16 stamps, costing you \$4. When it is full, exchange it—with a few cents additional in cash—for a War Savings Stamp, for which the Government will pay \$5 January 1, 1923.

These War Savings Stamps are as safe as U. S. Bonds. They are the safest investment in the world because they are backed by the entire resources of the country, and the profit you make on them amounts to four per cent interest, compounded quarterly, if held till January 1, 1923.

Buy a U. S. Thrift Stamp with every quarter you can possibly save. Every stamp helps to stamp out autocracy. Every stamp saves priceless American blood. Every stamp is a blow for Liberty. Every stamp will help bring peace to the world—a permanent peace, grounded in justice and righteousness.



Every Stamp Helps to Bring Those Soldiers and Sailors Home Again Alive and Victorious

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