

TELLS OF A TRIP THROUGH DESOLATED AND DEVASTATED VILLAGES OF FRANCE

Edward B. Clark Gives a Simple and Uncolored Story of Conditions As He Found Them—Responsibility for the Destruction of Many Fair Places of France One of the Things to Be Considered When Final Day of Reckoning Comes.

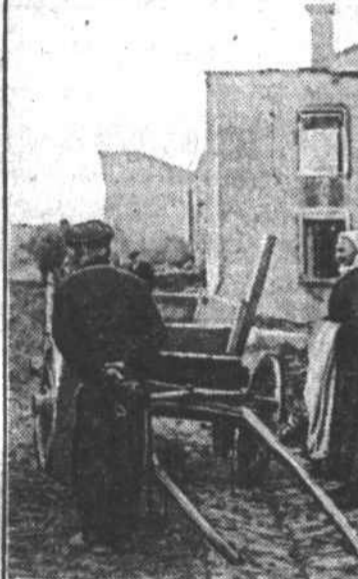
By EDWARD B. CLARK. (Staff Correspondent Western Newspaper Union.)

Sommeliers, France.—As I make a few notes in this place which once was a village...

a village, or at least the remnants of a village which already has had not a rain but a deluge of fire.

There is little chance that any gun will be elevated, for the cannons are too much occupied with the multitude of human targets...

To this place I have come after a trip of two days' duration in a high-powered military motor...



Devastated by War.

villages of France which lay in the line of advance and of retreat of a great army. In the days to come, when there is a final reckoning to fix responsibility for the destruction of these fair places of France...

Was Fired by Incendiaries. From Vitry-le-Francois, where I left the train and took a military motor, I went first to Hurion, or rather to the place where Hurion once stood.

POKES HIS OAR INTO WHALE. New York Tourist Has Surprise and Barely Escapes Death at Santa Barbara.

Santa Barbara, Cal.—When Frank Hamer, New York tourist, poked his oar on to what he thought was a slimy black rock protruding above the waves in the channel, he turned loose a geyser, and rowed for his life to escape from what for a time looked to him like certain death.

hold that the absence of shell holes in the walls and the roofs of houses standing aloof, and whose interiors are scorched and blackened ruins, proves beyond cavil that the fires were set by hand.

This village was proud of its Gothic Catholic church of St. Martin, which has stood here for centuries. The church is not beyond repair, but today it is literally riddled with shot and shell.

Not far from Hurion stands the village of Glennes, or, again let me say, what once was Glennes. This village was destroyed utterly by shell fire, except in the cases of a few of the larger buildings.

There is nothing but a great graveyard. Soldiers' sepulchers are everywhere. Single graves are the exception. German soldiers' sepulchers are everywhere.

After leaving Glennes, the country is nothing but a great graveyard. Soldiers' sepulchers are everywhere. Single graves are the exception.

At Vaubecourt such walls as still rear themselves from the ruins are shaken daily and nightly by the thunder of pounding guns. At least one-half of the Vaubecourt villagers have returned to their blasted dwellings ready again to take up life where their forefathers lived for centuries.

Were Shot as Spies. The cure of Vaubecourt, a priest who stayed loyally at his post, told me that the French soldiers were in uniform and in advance of the enemy's lines and that therefore they could not have been spies.

The priest of Vaubecourt has gathered a part of his flock together once more. He is l'Abbe Perrenot. He was sentenced to be shot by the order of the commanding officer of the invading army.

Much more has been heard in America of the destruction of the villages of Belgium than of those of France. I had no conception of the ruin that had been wrought by artillery and by fire in this part of the French republic which lies under the shadow of the Argonne forest and not only within sound but within range of some of the heavy guns as they play hourly today along the banks of the Aisne, the Meuse and the Orne.

It is only a few miles from Cour-de-Manges to Frignicourt, but the journey is from Desolation to Desolation. All the way between the villages, however, there is a land of beauty.

Bossy Has Twins. Hibbing, Minn.—M. Garber, cattle buyer here, who is the owner of the Hibbing cow which set a new record by giving birth to a 135-pound calf, announced that one of his cows gave birth to twin calves.

So many imitation affairs are coming in style; jewelry, engagements and matrimonial happiness.

be found among ruined homes, but confessedly there is momentary forgetfulness of the stricken villages when one looks on the beauty of the fields which lie between the houses of desolation.

Frignicourt has been swept from its place on the plains. Not one stone rests upon another here. Was there justification for this laying waste or was it sheer wantonness? Time perhaps will disclose the truth.

Faremont is not far from Frignicourt, and it was destroyed only in part by artillery fire. A fine highway runs through the heart of the village, and it was along this highway that the invading army passed.

The old church of the village of Faremont is still standing. There is a shell hole in its tower, and more breaches in the wall below.

From Faremont I passed through Favresses, Bleame and Maurupt-le-Montoy. There is little left of any one of these places to give it the right to be called a village.

At Maurupt-le-Montoy the bombardment caused heavy damage to the village church and churchyard. In the latter, where the shells had fallen thick, there is a stone cross bearing upon its marble front a representation of Saint Veronica's handkerchief.

Frequently stress has been laid upon the escape from injury by shell fire of representations of the Saviour and the Virgin, his mother. I know, however, that these escapes are only accidental, and while it may be pleasant for the faithful to believe that immunity came to the things they hold sacred, it is only the part of truth to say that I have seen the same destruction visited upon crucifix and on shrine that fell upon other images and other sanctuaries of which Christians take less account.

At Vaubecourt such walls as still rear themselves from the ruins are shaken daily and nightly by the thunder of pounding guns. At least one-half of the Vaubecourt villagers have returned to their blasted dwellings ready again to take up life where their forefathers lived for centuries.

There was terrific fighting at Vaubecourt and in the country all about it and there is still terrific fighting near at hand. The village has been battered from its foundations by shell and shot.

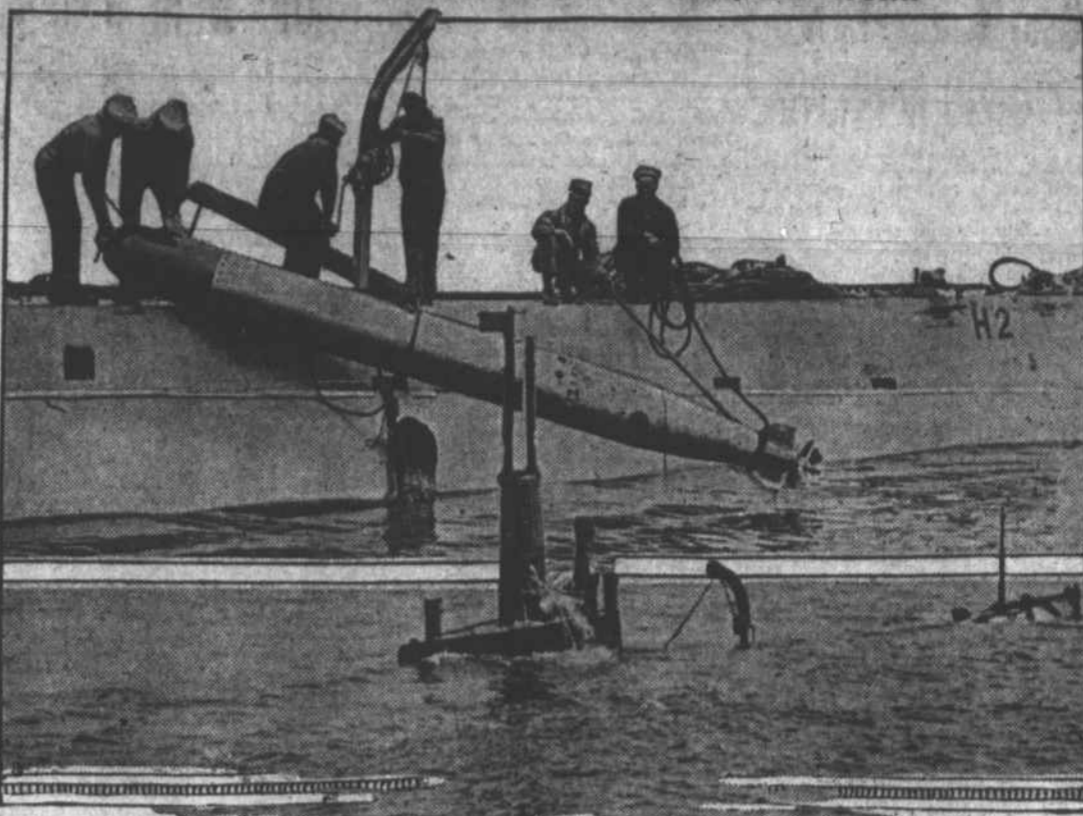
As things are, however, the village of Vaubecourt as a village of homes and houses is no more, but the people are coming back to find the May sun shining on the ruins and showing forth the ravages of a storm that has passed on a little way and which now vexes priest and villager only with its noise.

The cure of Vaubecourt, a priest who stayed loyally at his post, told me that the French soldiers were in uniform and in advance of the enemy's lines and that therefore they could not have been spies.

Magnetic Current is Used. French Professor Introduces Scientific Method of Extracting Shrapnel Fragments From Wounded.

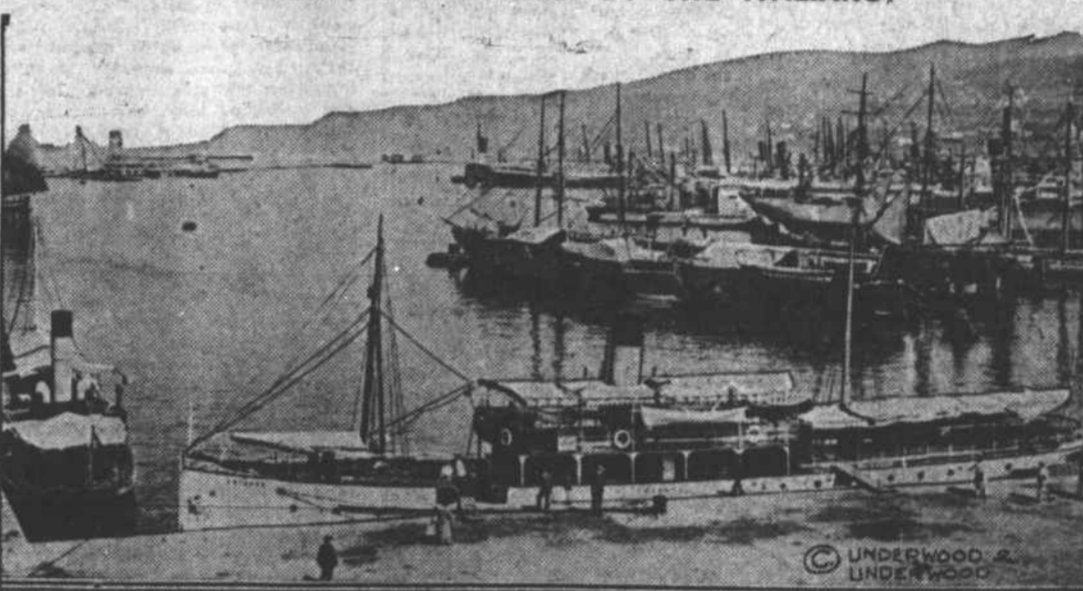
French science has again come to the aid of the wounded in the present war. Bullets and shrapnel fragments deeply imbedded in the flesh can now be extracted without the deep probing and incisions formerly necessary.

AMERICAN SUBMARINES IN PRACTICE WORK



Above, the crew of U. S. submarine H-2 hoisting aboard a spent practice torpedo during the maneuvers off San Pedro, Cal. Below is submarine H-3 rising to the surface after a dive.

TRIESTE BOMBARDED BY THE ITALIANS.



View of the harbor of Trieste, the capital of Istria, which the Italian artillery has begun to bombard from a point near the mouth of the Isonzo river.

NEAR STARVATION IN MEXICO



Here is a timely picture showing to what measures the civilian population of Mexico has to resort in order to keep itself from actual starvation. Poor Mexican women with empty market baskets are seen thronging about one of the army food supply depots, where they are given barely enough to keep body and soul together.

SOLDIERS' LAUNDRY AT ST. RAPHAEL



French colonial troops doing their own laundry work in the sea at St. Raphael.

WAR HOSPITAL DISINFECTOR



Device used for the disinfecting of bedding and clothing at the French of Westminster's hospital at Le Touquet, France.

Revenge in the Kitchen. "Waiter, I want to thank you for this soup. It is richer and thicker than any I ever had here before."

Lindens and Limes. Linde trees in Germany have this equivalent in the British lime.

MAGNETIC CURRENT IS USED

French Professor Introduces Scientific Method of Extracting Shrapnel Fragments From Wounded.

French science has again come to the aid of the wounded in the present war. Bullets and shrapnel fragments deeply imbedded in the flesh can now be extracted without the deep probing and incisions formerly necessary.

by means of electric magnets has been presented to the Academy of Medicine by Professor Bergonie, the discoverer.

Professor Bergonie simply applies to the outside of the wound a highly potential magnetic current. This suffices to dislodge the projectile from the flesh and bring it gradually towards the surface.

filled only a few seconds each day and the projectile is drawn so gradually toward the surface as to cause neither irritation nor pain.

The method is to be introduced at once in the military hospitals all through France.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. BELLERS, Acting Director of Sunday School Course of Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

LESSON FOR JUNE 20

PRAYER FOR THE TEMPTED.

LESSON TEXT—Psalm 141. GOLDEN TEXT—Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me.—Psalm 141.

The style of this psalm closely resembles the known psalms of David in the first part of the psalter. From its structure and character, it is to be credited to David.

Prayer. "My prayer directed" (vv. 1, 2). There is good reason for believing David wrote this while going through the experience recorded in I Samuel 24.

Practice. "Incline not my heart" (v. 4). Such prayer as here suggested demands a preparation of purity. As the "incense" was prepared with great care (Ex. 30:36) and its fragrance was brought out by fire (Rom. 8:26, 27; Eph. 6:18), so likewise there must be a continual practice of prayer and an absence of "wicked works."

Position. "Let him reprove me" (v. 7). "Faithful are the wounds of a friend." This seems to be the position David desired to occupy, one that would be "a kindness" to him.

Protection. "In thee do I put my trust" (R. V.). Though thus brought low David knew where to turn, and one to whom he could look. The church of Christ needs to look to God, to become like him. It needs the transforming, encouraging, energizing vision.