# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

### VOL. XLIV

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&c., &c.

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CHAPTER I-Introductory, Pat O'Brien tells of his purpose in writing the story of his adventures. lleve it is possible. Another plan that seemed half-way CHAPTER II-Tells of his emilstment the Royal Flying corps, his training Canada and his transfer to France for tive duty. reasonable was to build a pair of stills about twelve or fourteen feet high and walk over the barriers one by one. As

CHAPTER III-Describes fights in which he brought down two German airplanes and his final fight in which he was brought down wounded within the Ger-man lines and was made a prisoner of war. a youngster I had acquired conside CHAPTER IV-Discovers that German hospital staff barbarously neglected the fatally wounded and devoted their ener-gies to restoring those who might be returned to the firing lines. Witnesses death in fight of his best chum, Lieut. Paul Rainey.

CHAPTER V-He is taken to the of-ficers' prison camp at Courtral. There he began planning his escape. By great sac-rifice he manages to save and hide away two daily rations of bread. CHAPTER VI-He confiscates a map of Germany and just half an hour later is put on a train bound for a prison camp in Germany. He leaps through a window while the train is traveling at a rele of 30 miles an hour.

CHAPTER VII-For nine days he orawis through Germany, hiding during the day, traveling at night, guided by the stars and subsisting on raw vegetables. He covers 75 miles before reaching Lau-emburg.

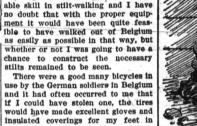
CHAPTER VIII-For nine days more he struggies on in a weakened condition through Luxemburg in the direction of Belgium.

CHAPTER IX-He endures terrib hardships, swims rivers while delirf, from hunger, living like a hunted anir and on the eighteenth day after jump from the train he crosses into Belgium CHAPTER X-When well on his way through belgium he is befriended one night by a Fiemiah peasant, who feeds him and directs him to a man in a Bel-gian city who will help him to get a pass-port.

CHAPTER XI-By mingling with Bel-gian peasants he manages to clude Ger-man soldiers and reaches the Belgian city where he finds the home of the man from whom he expects help.

CHAPTER XVI.

seemed to feel.



case it was necessary for me to attempt to climb over the electric fence bodily. But as I had never been able to steal a bicycle this avenue of es to climb over the electric fence able

cape was closed to me. I decided to wait until I arrived at the barrier and then make up my mind

how to proceed. To find a decent place to sleep that anglet, I crawled under a barbed wire fence, thinking it led into some field. As I passed under, one of the barbs caught in my contr-sad in trying to pull myself from it I shook the fence for several yards.

Instantly there came out of the night he nerve-racking ommand: "Halt!" Again I feared I was done for. I rouched close down on the ground in the nerv the darkness, not knowing whether to take to my legs and trust to the Hun's missing me in the darkness if he fired, or stay where I was. It was foggy as well as dark, and although I knew

CHAPTER XII-Huyliger forges a pass-port for O'Brien and promises to assist im in gretting into Holland. Later Huy-liger and his associates demand an ex-orbitant sum for their services and O'Brien breaks with them. the sentry was only a few feet away from me I decided to stand, or rather lie, pat. I think my heart made almost as much noise as the rattling of the wire in the first place, and it was a

CHAPTER XIII-He spends five days and nights in an unoccupied house with-out food except for the scraps he picks up in night forays. It hard the German say a few words to himself, but didn't understand them, of course, and then he mide a sound as if to call a dog, and I realized that his theory of the noise he had heard

CHAPTER XIV-To gain confidence for the adventures to come in his attempt to get into Holland, he ventures one night into a moving picture theater patronized by German soldiers. his theory of the noise he had heard his theory of the holes he had made its way through the fence. For perfarps five minutes T didn't stir, and then figuring that the German had probably continued on his best I crept quietly under the wire again. CHAPTER XV-Some observations Belgian city.

CHAPTER XVI-He leaves the city in the daytime and after some hair-raising adventures reaches the frontier of Hol-

this time being mighty careful to hug the ground so close that I wouldn't touch the wire, and made off in a different direction. Evidently the barbed I Leave for the Frontler. vire fence had been thrown around an To get out of the city, it would be necessary to pass two guards. This I had learned in the course of my walks ammunition depot or something of the kind, and it was not a field at all that I had tried to get into. I figured that other sentries were

at night, having frequently traveled to the city limits with the idea of probably in the neighborhood and I

to the city mints with the idea of finding out just what conditions I would have to meet when the time came for me to leave. proceeded very gingerly. After I had got about a mile away from this spot I came to an humble Belgian house and I knocked at the soor and applied for food in my usual A German soldier's uniform, how ever, no longer worried me as it had at first. I had mingled with the Huns so much in the city that I began to feel that I was really a Belgian, and I way, pointing to my mouth to indi-cate I was hungry and to my ears and mouth to imply that I was deaf and-dumb. The Belgian woman who lived in the house brought me a piece of bread and two cold pointoes and as I assumed the indifference that they I decided, therefore, to walk out of

the city in the daytime, when the sen-tries would be less apt to be on the watch. It worked fine. I was not held up a moment, the sentries evi-dently taking me for a Belgian peas-ter the tries would be less apt to be on the watch. It worked fine. I was not dently taking me for a Belgian peas-ter the tries would be less apt to be on the tries would be less apt to be on the warch. It worked fine. I was not dently taking me for a Belgian peas-ter the tries would be less apt to be on the tries would be less apt to be on the tries would be less apt to be on the warch. It worked fine. I was not held up a moment, the sentries evi-ter the tries would be less apt to be on the tries to be tries t

C., THURSDAY, SEPIEMBER 19, 1918 GRAHAM,

least fourteen feet wide, with the certain knowledge that to touch the elec-trically charged fence meant instant death. There would be no second chance if you came a cropper the first alized wit a task it must have been for there to support themselves with-our due to support themselves with-our gives the man a mark and then indicated that I wanted some-thing to eat. They were just about to out, themselves anonements and they time. The stilt idea was also impractica-ble because of the lack of suitable timber and tools with which to con-struct the stilts. thing to eat. They were just about to eat, themselves, apparently, and they let me partake of their meal, which consisted of a huge bowl of some kind of soup which I was unable to iden-tify and which they served in ordinary wash basins. I don't know that they ever used the basins to wash in as well, but whether they did or not did not worky me some much. The sour It seemed to me that the best thing to do was travel up and down the line a bit in the hope that some spot might be discovered where conditions were more favorable, although I don't know just what I expected along .those

not worry me very much. The soup was good and I enjoyed it. All the time I was there I could see the father and the eldest son, a boy

Again I Feared I Was Done For.

about seventeen, were extremely nerv

was deaf and dumb, but if they be-lieved me it didn't seem to make them

I lingered at the house for about an

hour after the meal and during that

hour after the meal and during that time a young man came to call on the eldest daughter, a young woman of perhaps eighteen. The caller eved me very suspicionsly, although I must have resembled anything but a British officer. They spoke Flemish and I did not understand a word they ind. The I think they were discussing my prob-able identity. During their conversa-tion, I had a chance to look around the room. There were three alto-

the room. There were three alto-gether, two fairly large and one somewhat smaller, about fourteen feet long and six deep. In this smaller

bug and all deep. In this shall be deep to deep the second second

At that time, and I suppose it i

people in Belgium were wearing wooden shoes. Among the peasants I don't believe I ever saw any other kind of footwear and they are more

common there than they are in Hol

land. The Dutch wear them more of

account of a lack of leather. I was told that during the coming year prac-tically all the peasants and poore

people in Germany, too, will adopt wooden shoes for farm work, as that

is one direction in which wood can be

substituted for leather without much

true today, about 94 per cent of th

main a mystery to me.

any more comfortable.

lines. It was mighty disheartening to real-ize that only a few feet away lay cer-tain liberty and that the only things preventing me from reaching it were three confounded fences. I thought of my machine and wished that some my machine and wished that some kind fairy would set it in front of me for just one minute. I spent the night in a clump of bushes and kept in hiding most of the next day, only going abroad for an hour or two in the middle of the day to intercept some Belgian peasant and beg for food. The Belgians in this

section were naturally very much afraid of the Germans and I fared adly. In nearly every house Ge soldiers were quartered and it was out of the question for me to apply for food in that direction. The proximity of the border made everyone eve each other with more or less sus eye each other with more or less sus-picton and I soon came to the conclu-sion that the safest thing I could do was to live on raw vegetables which I could steal from the fields at night as That night I made another survey of the barrier in that vicinity, but it

looked just as hopeless as it had the night before and I concluded that I

only wasted my time there. I spent the night wandering north, guided by the North Star which had served me so faithfully in all my trav eling. Every mile or two I would make ing way carefully to the barrier to see if conditions were any better, but it seemed to be the same all along. I felt like a wild animal in a cage, with about as much chance of getting out. The section of the country in which I was now wandering was very heavily wooded and there was really no very great difficulty in keeping myself con-cealed, which I did all day long, striving all the time to think of some way

un which I could circumvent that cursed barrier. The idea of a huge stepladder occurred to me, but I searched hour after there is the searched hour after there is vain for lumber or fallen trees bor it which I could construct one. If I would only obtain something which would make to reach a point about nine feet in the air it would be a comparatively simple matter to jump from that point over the electric

Then I thought that perhaps I could construct a simple ladder and lean it against one of the posts upon which the electric wires were strung, climb to the top and then leap over, getting over the barbed wire fences in the

From the kitchen you could walk directly into the cow-barn, where two cows were kept, and this, as I have same way. This seemed to be the most likely plan and all night long I sat construct pointed out before, is the usual con struction of the poorer Belgian houses I could not make out why the calle

seemed to be so antagonistic to me and yet Lam sure he was arguing with the family against me. Perhaps the fact that I wash wearing wooden shoes—I doubt whether I could have had convinced him that I was not really a Belgian, because there was could. nothing about me otherwise which could have given him that idea.

pose. I kept the ladder in the woods all

that ladder concealed at once he wound ee it even though, fortunately for me It was an unusually dark night. I pulled the ladder out of his path I pulled the ladder out of his path and lay down flat on the ground not seven feet away from his feet. He passed so close that I could have pushed the ladder out and tripped bin up

Justice the inder dit in tripped him up. It occurred to me that I could have climbed back under the barbed wire fence and waited for the sentry to re-turn and then felled him with a blow on the head, as he had no idea, of course, that there was anyone in the vicinity. I wouldn't have hesitated to take life, because my only thought was to get into Holland, but I thought was to get into Holland, but I thought that as long as he didn't bother me perhaps the safest thing to do was not to bother him, but to continue my ef-forts during his periodic absence. His beat at this point was apparent-ly fairly long and allowed me more time to work than I had hoped for.

My mishap with the ladder had con-vinced me that my escape in that way was not feasible. The shock that I had received had unnerved me and I was afraid to risk it again, particu-larly as I realized that I had fared more fortunately than I could hope to again if I met with a similar mishap. There was no way of making that ladder hold and I gave up the idea of using it.

I was now right in front of this electric barrier and as I studied it I saw another way of getting by. If I

inches from the lowest electric wire

ic came to an underground wire. I knew enough about electricity to real-ize that this wire could not be charged as it was in contact with the grou

and even if I had had something to

hammer with, the noise would have made the method impracticable. I went on digging. When the total distance between the live wire and the tied organizations, select a city in which to hold a reunion, if they have bottom of the hole I had dug was thirty inches, I took hold of the ground sever met in that city before, desire for information concerning the new wire and pulled on it with all my strength. It wouldn't budge. It was stretched meeting place is widespread through

out the southern states. The Co tederates last year in Washington city selected Tulsa, Okla., as the place taut across the narrow ditch I had dug-about fourteen inches wideand all the tugging didn't serve to for the reunion of 1918. It was th

first time an Oklahoma city had been selected as a reunion city, and the interest already mentioned attaches to Tulsa first, to Oklahoma second. I was just about to the up in de-The first and most important on

I was just about to the up in de-spair when a staple give way in the nearest post. This tendbed has to pull the wire through the ground of field and I renewed my efforts. After the moment or two of pulling as I had never pulled in my life before, a staple on the next post gave way, and my work became easier. I had more leeway now and pulled and-pulled again until in all eight staples had given way. Every time a staple gave way, it sounded in my ears like the report of a gun, although I suppose it didn' really make very much noise. Never-theless, each time I would put my ear to the ground to listen for the guard. leration among the very large nu bideration among the very large num-ber of people interested in reunions, is the matter of ability of a reunion city to finance the meeting. It is well known that, to properly entertain a Confederate reunion, from \$75,000 to \$100,000 is necessary. The question, therefore, in the minds of the people of the south is, "Can Tulsa furnish the money?"

the money?' more money, population considered, than Tulsa. Few of them have as to the ground to listen for the guard If I heard him I would stop working and lie perfectly still in the dark till and lie perfectly still in the dark till he had gone by. By pulling on the wire, I was now

much, with no consideration as to the population. A brief statement of Tul-sa's financial strength should dispel any doubt that may have arisen of this score. In fact, the fund for en able to drag it through the ground enough to place it back from the fence and go on digging. The deeper I went the harder bethis scole, in fact, the fund for en-tertaining the reunion is already sub-scribed and assured. One hundred thousand dollars, if necessary, will be expended to entertain the reunion. came the work, because by this time A consolidated bank statement re-veals the strength of the community in money. Under the comptroller's call for bank statements of the date my finger nails were broken and I was nervous—afraid every moment that I would touch the charged wire.

I kept at it. however, with my mind constantly on the hole I was digging and the liberty which was almost withof May 10, 1918, the banks of Tulsa showed the following wealth Total capital and surplus, \$3,080,000.

cising a little care I figured I could GRAHAM CHURCH DIRE Graham Baptist Chur Weston, Pastor

claims a little care f ingured I could get it easily enough. When I came to the spot at which I had made my way under the barbed wire, I put my ear to the ground and listened for the sentry. I heard him coming and lay prone on the ground till he had passed. The fact that he might observe the hole in the ground or the ladder occurred to me as I lay there, and it seemed like an age be-fore he finally marched out of ear-shot. Then I went under the barbed wire again, retrieved the lace and once again made my way to Dutch terri-Preaching every first an undays at 11.00 a. m. and Sunday School every St 9.45 a. m, W. I. Ward, S

ory.

Prayer meeting every Tu 7.30 p. m. Graham Christian Church-N. Ma Street-Rev. F. C. Lester,

Preaching services overy Secagain made my way to Dutch ter

NO. 32

It does not take long to describe the events just referred to, but the incl dents themselves consumed severa Sunday School every Sun 10.00 a. M.-W. R. Harden, lents themselves consumed seve New Providence Christian C -North Main Street, near De Rev. F. C. Lester, Pastor. Pr ing every Second and Fourth day nights at 8.00 o'clock.

have taken me more than two hours and I had to stop frequently to hid while the sentry passed. Many times indeed, I thought I heard him coming indeed, I thought I neard him coming and stopped my work and then dis-covered that it was only my imagina-tion. I certainly suffered enough that night to last me a lifetime. With a German guard on one side, death from electrocution on the other, and starva-tion staring me in the face, my plight was anything but a comfortable one. Sunday School every Sunday at 9.45 a. m.-J. A. Bayliff, Superin-

just seventy-two days had elapsed since I escaped from the Huns. If I live to be as old as Methusaleh, I neven

To be continued.

FACTS ABOUT TULSA

FINANCIAL STRENGTH

Tulsa, Okla., August-

EQUAL TO ANY UNDER-

TAKING

x-Confederate soldiers, and their al

Christian Endeavor Prayer Meeting every Thursday night at 7.40 o'clock. it was anything but a comfortable one. It was on the 19th of Novembe 1917, when I got through the wire. had made my leap from the train o September 9th. Altogether, therefor Friends-North of Graham c School, Rev. John M. Pe

Pastor. Preaching 1st, 2nd and 3rd days at 11.00 a. m. and 7.00 p.

Sunday School every Sunday at 9.45 a. m.-Belle Zachary, Superin-tendent. Prayer meeting every Thursday, evening at 7.30 o'clock.

expect to live through another sev enty-two days so crammed full of in cident and hazard and lucky escape Methodist Episcopal, South-co Main and Maple Streets, Rev. 1 E. Ernhart, Pastor.

Preaching every Sunday at 11.00 a. m. and at 7.30 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday s 9.45 a. m.-W. B. Green, Supt.

M. P. Church-N. Main Street Rev. R. S. Troxler, Pastor.

AND BIG REUNION Preaching first and third Su ays at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Sunday School every Surday Sunday School every Sunday 9.45 a. m.-J. L. Amick, Supt. -15

Presbyterian-Wst Eim Street Rev. T. M. McConnell, paster, Sunday School every Sunday 4.45 a.m.-Lynn B. Williamson, S perintendent.

BANK STATISTIC SHOW WEALT

Presbyterian (Travora Chapel)-W. Clegg, pastor. Preaching every Becond and Yourth Sundays at 7.30 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 1.30 p. m.-J. Harvey White, Su-perintendent. Ready to Entertain Old Confe September 24-27 Inclusive-A Solid Week of Pleasure.

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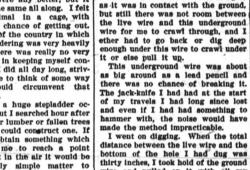
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DIGECTIONE

GRAHAM. N. C.

and I just want to. I

Attorney and Counselor-at-La PONES-Office 65J ---- Residence



pinn and all might long I sat constructs ing a ladder for this purpose. I was fortunate enough to find a number of failen pine trees from ten 'to twenty feet long. I selected two of them which seemed sufficiently strong

and broke off all the branches, which I used as rungs, twog them to the poles with grass and strips from my handkerchef and shirt as best I

It was not a very workmanlike looking ladder, when I finally got through with it. I leaned it against a tree to test it and it wobbled considerably. It was more like a rope lad der than a wooden one, but I strength-ened it here and there and decided that it would probably serve the pur-

I kept the indeer in the woods an day and could hardly wait until dark to make the supreme test. If it proved successful my troubles were over; within a few hours I would be in a neutral country out of all danger. If I failed—I dismissed the idea summarily. There was no use worrying about failure; the thing to do was to

few hours that were to p

saw another way of getting by. If I couldn't get over 1t, what was the matter with getting under it? The bottom wire was only two inches from the ground and, of course, I couldn't touch it, but my plan was to dig underneath it and then crawl through the hole in the ground. I had only my hands to dig with, but I went at it with a will and foru-nately the ground was not very hard. When I had dug about six inches, making a distance in all of eight inches from the lowest electric wire.

English Spavin Linimnet re moves Hard, Soft and Calloused Lumps and Blemishes from horses also Blood Spavins, Curbs, Splints, Sweeney, Ring Bone, Stifles, Sprains, Swollen Throats, Coughs, etc. Save \$50 by use of one bot. tle. A wonderful Blemish Cure. Sold by Graham Drug Company adv

Lord Lansdowne came very close to giving aid and comfort to the enemy.

In the meantime the British keep on fighting and not saying much about it.

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dentity taking me for a Belgian peas ant on his way to work. Traveling faster than I had ever done before since my escape, I was soon out in the open country, and the the open country, and the the open country and the first Belgian I came to I approached gians who lived near the line. for food. He gave me half of his lunch and we sat down on the side of the road to eat it. Of course, he tried to talk to me; but I used the old russ firmed a moment latter, when, as I

of pretending I was deaf and dumb made ready to go, she touched me on and he was quite convinced that it was so. He made various efforts to talk to me in pantomime, but I could not and brought out two pieces of fancy to me in pantomime, but I could not make out what he was getting at, and Belgian lace which she insisted upon think he must have concluded that I was not only haif starved, deaf and lumb, but "looney" in the bargain. When night came I looked around safety razor, but I was touched with I think he must have concluded that I for a place to rest. I had decided to her thoughtfulness and pressed her hand to show my gratitude. She would not accept the money I offered her. I carried the lace through my subtravel in the daytime as well as night, because I understood that it was only a few miles from the frontier, and l

was naturally anxious to get there at the earliest possible moment, although I realized that there I would encounter sequent experiences, feeling that it would be a fine souvenir for my mother, although as a matter of fact if I had known that it was going to dethe most hazardous part of my whole adventure. To get through the heavily lay my final escape for even a single guarded barbed wire and electrically noment, as it did, I am quite sure charged barrier was a problem that I hated to think of even, although the she would rather I had not seen it. On one piece of lace was the Flem-ish word "Charite" and on the other

hours I spent endeavoring to devise some way of outwitting the Huns the word "Esperage." At the time I

took these words to mean "Charity" and "Experience" and all I hoped was that I would get as much of the one It had occurred to me, for instance, that it would not be such a difficult matter to vault over the electric fence, which was only nine feet high. In col-lege, I knew a ten-foot vault is considas I was getting of the other before I finally got through. I learned subsequently that what the words really stood for were "Charity" and "Hope," and then I was sure that my kind Belered a high-school boy's accomplish ment, but there were two great difficulties in the way of this solution. In the first place it would be no easy gian friend had indeed realized my olight and that her thoughtful souvenir was intended to encourage me in the trials she must have known were

matter to get a pole of the right dength, weight and strength to serve before me.

the purpose. More particularly, how-ever, the pole-vault idea seemed to me I didn't let the old Belgian lady know, because I did not want to alarm her unnecessarily, but that night I to be out of the question because of the fact that on either side of the elecslept in her backyard, leaving early in the morning before it became light. Later in the day I applied at an-other horse for food. It was occupied by a father and mother and ten chil-dren. I hesitated to ask them for food tric fence, six feet from it, was a sixfoot barbed wire barrier. To vault safely over a nine-foot electrically charged fence was one thing, but to combine with it a twelve-foot broad

When the young man left, I left shortly afterwards, as I was not at all comfortable about what his inten-tions were regarding me. For all I knew he might have gone to notify the German authorities that there wa a strange man in the vicinity-mot protect his friends from aspicion of having aided me than to injure me.

At any rate, I was not going to take any chances and I got out of that neighborhood as rapidly as I could. That night found me right on th frontier of Holland.

CHAPTER XVII.

Getting Through the Lines. Waiting until it was quite dark, 1 made my way carefully through a field and eventually came to the much dreaded barrier. It was all that I had heard about it.

Every foot of the border line between Belgium and Holland is protected in Belgium and Holland is protected in precisely the same manner. It is there to serve three purposes: first, to pre-vent the Belgians from escaping into Holland; second to keep enemies, like myself, from making their way to free-dom; and third, to prevent descritons dom; and third, to prevent desertions on the part of Germans themselves. One look was enough to convince any one that it probably accomplished al three objects about as well as any con trivance could, and one look was all got of it that night, for while I ian on my stomach gazing at the forbid-ding structure I heard the measured stride of a German sentry advancin

towards me and I crawled away as fast as I possibly could, determined to spend the night somewhere in the fields and make another and mor careful survey the following night. The view I had obtained, howeve was sufficient to convince me that the pole-vault idea was out of the que tion even if I had a pole and was a proficient pole-vaulter. The three for even in a hard a port of the way of the proficient pole-valiter. The three fences covered a span of at least twelve feet and to clear the last barbed wire fence it would be necessary to vault not only at least ten feet high, but at before night came on seemed endless but I utilized them<sup>-</sup>to re-enforce my ladder, tying the rungs more securely with long grass which I picked in the

woods. At last night came, and with my ladder in hand I made for the barrier In front of it there was a clearer ce of about one hundred yards which had been prepared to make the work of the mards easier in watch ing it.

I waited in the neighborhood until heard the sentry pass the spot where I was in hiding and then I hurried across the clearing, shoved my ladder

under the barbed wire and endeay ored to follow it. My clothing caugh in the wire, but I wrenched myself clear and crawled to the electric barrier.

rier. My plan was to place the ladder against one of the posts, elimb up to the top and then jump. There would be a fall of nine or ten feet, and l might possibly sprain an ankle of break my leg, but if that was all that

stood between me and freedom wasn't going to stop to consider it. I put my ear to the ground to listen for the coming of the sentry. There was not a sound. Esgerly but care-fully I placed the ladder against the post and started up. Only a few feet separated me from liberty, and my heart beat fast. I had climbed perhaps three rungs

of my ladder when I became award of an unlooked for difficulty.

The ladder was slipping. Just as I took the next rung, the ladder slipped, came in contact with the live wire, and the current passed through the wet sticks and into my body. There was a blue flash, my hold on the ladder relaxed and I fell heavily to the ground unconscious. Of course, I had not received the full force of the current or I would not now be here. I must have re-mained unconscions for a few mo-ments, but I came to just in time to ments, but I came to just in time to hear the German guard coming, and the thought came to me if I didn't get to leave the lace there, and by errors

Finally I figured that I had enough space to crawl through and still leave couple of inches between my back

and the live wire. Before I went under that wire I no arings. In the mot ticed that the lace which the Belgian need that the lace which the Bergian woman had given me as a souvenir made my pocket bulge, and lest it might be the innocent means of elec-trocuting me by touching the live wire, I took it out, rolled it up and threw i over the barrier first.

De poession, or this statement is under, rather than above, the figures for the year, because the clearings are increasing every month. It safe to estimate the total bank clear ings for 1918 at six hundred millions Then I lay down on my stomach and trawled or rather writhed under the wire like a snake, with my feet first, The clearings in June, 1918, were 60.8 per cent above those of the same month of 1917. nd there wasn't any question of my hugging mother earth as closely as possible because I realized that even to touch the wire above me with my back meant instant death.

Anxious as I was to get on the other side, I didn't hurry this operation. I feared that there might be some little detail that I had overlooked and I exercised the greatest possible care in going under, taking nothing for granted.

When I finally got through and straightened up, there were still sev-eral feet of Belgium between me and which separated the electric barrier from the last barbed wire fence, but from the has barbed wife tence, our before I went another step I went down on my knees and thanked God for my long series of escapes and es-pecially for this last achievement, which seemed to me to be about all

that was necessary to bring me free

that strength that these figures in-dicate, can finance any undertaking it may invite. Tuiss invited the Confederates to come here with their 1918 reunion, fully understanding what it would cost. And Tuiss will pay the reunion bill. Then I crawled under the barbed Wro fence and breathed the free air of Holland. I had no clear idea just where I was and I didn't care much. I was out of the power of the Germans and that was encough. I had walked perhaps a hundred yards, when I re-membersd the lace I had thrown over Tulsa will not only pay the reunies bill, but she will pay it ungrudgingly. She will also extend the glad hand the barrier, and dangerous as I real-ized the undertaking to be, I deter-mined to walk back and get it. This

Total undivided fite. \$490.159.21 Total deposits, \$52,536,215.57. Total resources, \$59,682,974.02.

No Confederate reunion city ha

Examine now the table of ath of Ju 1918 the total clearings, as shown by the report of the clearinghouse as ion were \$47,082,045.17. Taking thes from were \$\$1,05,05,17. Taking these figures as a monthly average for the year, the total clearings for 1918 will be \$564,984,540. This statement is

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to all reunion visitors. The dates of the reunion visitors. The dates of the railways have granted a rate of ione cent a mile each way, tickets 60 igo on sale September 18, good for yeturning home as late as October \$1.

A community that enjoys the finan

al strength that these figures in-