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### THE FRENCH MADE BIG SACRIFICE IN ATTEMPT TO AVOID HOSTILITIES.

Paris, Feb. 1.—On July 30, 1914, the French government ordered its troops to retire eight or 10 kilometres from the frontier, having heard the German troops were moving toward it, Rene Viviani, former premier, declared in the chamber of deputies last night in the course of disclosures concerning the origin of the war, which never before have been made public. M. Viviani was premier when the war broke out.

"It was on July 30," he said, that the government of which was the chief, decided that the French troops should retire eight or 10 kilometres from the frontier. On the same day I requested Paul Cambon (French ambassador in London) by wire to inform Sir Edward Grey of the measure taken.

"England," I said, "will realize that if France is firm, it is not she who is taking measures of aggression. Although Germany has moved her troops up on her battle line the government of the French republic intends to demonstrate that France as well as Russia bears no responsibility for the attack."

These reminiscences of the momentous days of the last of July, 1914, caused the deputies to arise and cheer the former premier.

M. Viviani continued: "Could we risk a murderous war upon the chance meeting of patrols? We desired to proclaim high before the world that if France were forced to fight she would do so for right and justice and not take advantage of any equivocation."

"The withdrawal was carried out without meeting any obstacle either technical or military. Had we met with an observation from General Joffre to the effect the measure might enlarge the rate of the country, we had not hesitated, but had kept watch on the frontier. No objection came from the general."

M. Viviani's speech was in reply to questions by Deputy Fernand Engerand who sharply criticised the abandonment of the 10-kilometre zone. He claimed that it was a technical mistake because the mineral valley of Briey was within range of the French guns and had it been bombarded intensively for three or four days the German iron deposits and factories would have been destroyed and Germany placed in an inferior position regarding minerals.

This, the deputy thought, would have brought about an end of the war in six months.

Deputy Engerand added that the abandonment of the French sources of minerals and iron without a fight created a situation which caused the first battle of the Marne to become a pyrrhic victory instead of the absolute defeat of the enemy.

Former Premier Viviani replied that the abandonment of the Vriey valley in the event of war had been decided upon by the general staff in January, 1914. A withdrawal to a depth of 25 kilometres was first considered, said M. Viviani, who then read a telegram from General Joffre, dated July 30, reading as follows:

"For diplomatic reasons it is indispensable that no incident occur at the frontier. No unit and no patrol shall advance east of the line fixed."

M. Viviani then read a message from Adolph E. Messimy, the minister of war at that time, as follows:

"In order to assure English collaboration, it is indispensable that French troops do not cross the general line decided upon unless a regular attack is made upon them."

On August 2, General Joffre, learning that 17 violations of the French frontier had been committed, telegraphed to Premier Viviani as follows:

"The interdiction against crossing the line indicated is lifted, but for national reasons of diplomatic and moral order, it is indispensable to leave to the Germans the entire responsibility for hostilities. Conse-

### CHEROKEE OUTLAW IS BROUGHT TO ASHEVILLE

Asheville, Feb. 1.—Jim Rose, leader of the Cherokee county band of outlaws, the alleged murderer, was brought to Asheville last night, and placed in the Buncombe county jail for safe keeping.

Accompanied by officers from Murphy, Rose arrived here on the Southern railroad at 6:30 o'clock. He was taken immediately to the county jail.

Rose who was severely wounded during a battle between members of his gang and a posse led by Agent Young, is recovering from his wounds and physicians who have attended the outlaw express the opinion that he will recover.

The outlaw was taken before the United States commissioner at Murphy and was placed under \$10,000 bond, on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon, and under \$1,000 bond on a charge of failure to register for military duty.

Rose, however, is already under indictment on a charge of murder, returned by the Cherokee county grand jury several months ago. He was indicted for killing Robert Wilson, a farmer. Rose was never arrested on this indictment as county officials of Cherokee county did not have the temerity to attempt the apprehension of the bandit at his home in the mountain fastness near Unaka.

Agent Young stated today that it was the intention of government officials to give the state authorities first chance to try Rose on the murder charge. It is said that Mrs. Wilson, widow of the murdered mountaineer, will testify absolutely that Rose murdered her husband in cold blood.

Wilson was shot down on the porch in front of his home, while he was washing his hands. Rose, from a point on a mountain, is accused of having fired a shot from his army rifle that penetrated Wilson's heart. Rose is said to have walked down the mountain and spoke to Mrs. Wilson immediately after the murder. The assassination of Wilson followed a feud resulting from the death of Rose's brother, officers say. During a fight, Rose's brother shot Wilson's son in the leg. The latter fired back at Rose's brother, killing him. For this Rose is said to have murdered Wilson.

Deputy Sheriff McClure, who was wounded in the battle about the Jones home, near Unaka, last Friday morning is in a hospital at Knoxville, where it is believed he cannot recover. His right shoulder was shattered by a bullet, and it was found necessary to amputate the arm at the shoulder.

Recently, our troops will merely hold the enemy back and throw him upon the frontier without pursuing him beyond."

M. Viviani, amid tense silence, continued:

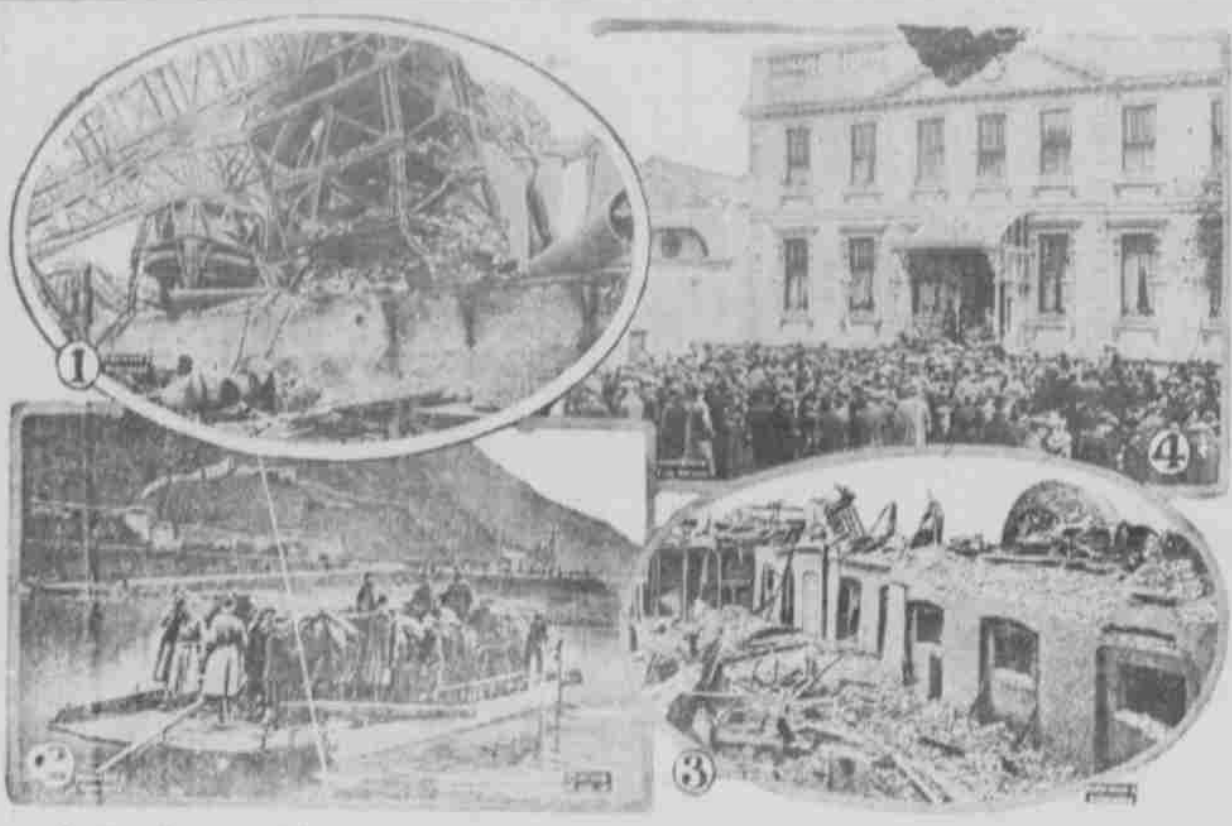
"Then war was declared. The president of the republic wrote a letter to King George which was published in the press at that time, but the reply of the king is still unpublished. It reads:

"I admire the limitation which France willingly imposed upon herself and which so vitally concerns her military defense."

The former premier was laboring under great emotion and his voice was at high pitch as he concluded:

"It is essential that the world know that in order to assure the peace of the world we were making such a sublime sacrifice in uncovering our frontier in order to affirm our right. Do you think that great and noble America would have remained indifferent to such a striking demonstration of our good faith and that it had no influence upon her final decision?"

"Upon the responsibilities for the war, history may discuss, but France by her withdrawal 10 kilometres away from her frontier has given the world proof of her earnest desire for peace."



1—Examples of the way in which the raiding Germans willfully destroyed the coal mine workings in northern France. 2—Heavy Field Artillery of the American army of occupation having a boat ride on the Rhine. 3—The Madison House, building where the Sinn Fein Irish parliament meets. 4—The Madison House, building where the Sinn Fein Irish parliament meets.

### GAS REGIMENT OFFICER TELLS GRIPPING STORY.

New York, Feb. 2.—The White Star liner Celtic arrived here today from Brest, bringing 3,114 American officers and men from overseas. On board the Celtic was the entire personnel of the first gas regiment, the only offensive gas troops employed by the American expeditionary forces. The remainder of the passenger list was made up of casualties from all parts of the country.

Maj. John B. Carlock, of San Francisco, commander of the gas regiment, told a first-hand, gripping story of the organizations activities, from the time it went into action with British forces in January, 1918, until the war ended. The regiment, he said, fought successively on every American front, suffered casualties of half its enlisted strength of 1,500 men and returned with 80 of its members wearing the croix de guerre, 25 wearing the distinguished service cross and 12 of its officers recommended for distinguished service medals.

The gas troops, Major Carlock said, did their bitterest fighting at Chateau Thierry, St. Mihiel and in Argonne forest, working continuously for 49 days at the battle of the Argonne.

"It is not generally known away from the firing line," he said, "that gas regiments, leading, as they did, every offensive, were subject to perhaps greater danger than any other troops. This is borne out by the fact that 50 per cent. of our regiment, both officers and men, are casualties."

### CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL AWARDED TO 43 YANKS.

Washington Feb. 1.—The congressional medal of honor, the only one of its kind provided before the present war broke out, has been awarded by the President, in the name of Congress, to 47 men. It is considered the highest mark of distinction. Others may be given.

In this roll of honor appears the name of Robert L. Blackwell, son of James B. Blackwell, R. F. D. 2, Hardies mill, Person county, North Carolina, who fought with the French at Saint Houple, where he won his honors October 12. He is a member of the Thirtieth division, Company K, 119th infantry.

The following names South Carolinians, all of the Thirtieth division, were so honored: First Lieutenant James C. Dozier, of Rock Hill, and Sergeant Galy E. Foster, of Inman, both of 118th infantry, distinguished themselves near Mont Brehain, October 8. Dozier belongs to Company G and Foster to Company M.

Sergeant Richmond H. Hilton, of Westville, Company M, 118th infantry, won his honors at Brancourt, October 11; Corporal James D. Heriot, Providence, Company I, 118th infantry, at Vaux; Corporal John C. Villepique, of Camden, Company M, 118th infantry, at Vauxandigny, October 15. All of these medals have not been announced yet.

### GERMAN WASHERWOMEN WIN FIRST SKIRMISH.

Coblenz, Jan. 1.—(Correspondence of A. P.)—The German washerwomen of Coblenz have won a victory in their first skirmish with officers of the American Army of Occupation. Lack of soap caused the complication.

In Germany soap is in greater demand than chocolate or tobacco. The poorer classes virtually have been without it for years, managing to get along some how by the use of inferior mineral substitutes. Many of the pre-war days had gone out of business—until the Americans came.

When the travel soiled Americans arrived in Coblenz by the thousands naturally there was a grand rush to send out bundles of washing. The women were perfectly willing to do the work, but they demanded a cake of soap with each consignment of clothing. The Americans scoffed at the suggestion.

The laundries had all they could do to attend to their old customers and a limited number of new ones, and bundle after bundle sent out by generals and colonels and privates too were returned in a hurry. And back again to the washerwoman went the bundles, and the women returned them to the officers with the simple explanation "No soap."

All the pleadings of the German speaking orderlies had absolutely no effect. Even the terms of the armistice were considered, but there was no reference to the shortage of soap, and so the situation became worse day after day. Just when it appeared that the Army of Occupation would be compelled to get into the laundry business a United States sales commissary opened in Coblenz and an officer discovered plenty of soap for a few cents a cake.

Then the bundles began going to the washerwomen again in great numbers and wrapped in the center of each was a nice little white piece of soap. And when the bundles came back all the clothing was clean and the washerwomen of Coblenz are now doing the greatest business in their history—with the Americans furnishing the soap.

### DEMENTED SOLDIER AT LARGE IN SALISBURY.

Salisbury, Feb. 1.—John J. Flutter, a demented soldier suffering from shell shock, is at large in Salisbury or vicinity, having escaped today while members of the Red Cross had him out for a walk. Flutter left a train at Spencer several days ago while being taken to a camp in western North Carolina and after frightening citizens there he was sent as far as Lexington on his way to Pennsylvania, where he said he lived. When he was missed from the train a search was instituted and he was found at Lexington and brought here today. Not wishing to see him kept in jail, Red Cross members secured permission to take him out for a walk, and it was then that he made his second escape.

### NEXT WAR MOST DEADLY OF ALL.

Washington, Feb. 1.—If the peace conference doesn't sound the everlasting death knell on wars, the next conflict will make all preceding ones seem like child's play.

The next war—if there be a next—will be the most horrible, the most cruel of all wars which have been waged on the earth's surface since the beginning of time.

For it will be a war of poisonous gases, a conflict in which the scientific ingenuity of chemical corps will be pitted against each other.

### Aerial Torpedoes will Cause Deaths by Thousands.

Wholesale death will come to hundreds of thousands, armies, civilians, man and animal, wherever the life-taking fumes are let loose. Machines will fire these "rainers of poisonous gases" into enemy ranks. Most of them will be dropped by aerial chemical corps, and their bombardments will not wreck cities or camps, only the living will perish, and when the conquerors come into the vanquished area, they'll find bodies of human and beast, but not a scar on building or street.

There'll be no rebuilding of devastated cities after that war!

These are the thoughts uppermost in the minds of the men in the United States chemical warfare service, newest of the services in the United States war department, which had just got into good "gassing" shape when the armistice was signed.

### United States Has Thousands Tons of Gas on Hand

The war ended with thousands of tons of the most poisonous gases ever made, loaded in containers and shells, stored along the Atlantic seaboard, awaiting shipment for "over there."

"On November 11 plants for the manufacture of the standard gases were in operation, with a manufacturing capacity greater than that of England, France and Germany combined, which capacity could have been trebled in the case of certain gases before the beginning of this year," asserted Major General W. L. Sibert, director of the service.

When the Hun threw up his hands in unconditional surrender there was stored in one American poison arsenal 10 tons of "Mustard" gas to every one in all Germany.

At the present moment we have more war toxics than any other country. There's enough in one American arsenal to kill millions of human beings, and no one knew that better than Germany's secret service when she quit fighting.

But these thousands of tons of poison gases will not be stored away for the "next war." For, maybe, there'll be no "next." So something will have to be done with this arsenal of concentrated death. The war department is thinking of hauling the U. S. A. antidote for fiendish scientific ingenuity of the Hun away out into the ocean and dropping it overboard. It is virtually useless commercially.

### LIEUT. ROBT. O. LINDSAY OF MADISON IN AN ACE.

Madison, Feb. 1.—First Lieut. R. O. Lindsay, of Madison, Rockingham county, premier fighting aviator of North Carolina, is a son of W. R. and N. H. Lindsay; was born December 25, 1896; graduate of A. and E. college, Raleigh, 1916; volunteered for service and applied for admission of officers' training camp, Oplethorpe, Ga., was turned down on account of appendicitis, underwent a successful operation in Greensboro, made a trip to Washington, where he was accepted in one officers' training corps for aviators, and stationed at Champaign, Ill. Completing the theoretical course he got his practical experience near Philadelphia and at Mineola field No. 2, Long Island. He was later transferred to San Antonio, Texas, as an instructor, but was called away at once to help protect the American lines, which was exposed to German aviators. Having taken intensive training in aerobatic flying in a French aviation field and under French instruction, he went into battle in the St. Mihiel drive—was officially accredited with two German planes during this battle. When the American drive started in the Argonne forest and along the Meuse he was shifted to that field where he shot down four more Huns.

In all, Lieut. Robert O. Lindsay participated in 20 air battles, fell four miles twice—once his plane being crippled by Roche bullets. His most noticeable feat is described by the Washington Post as being the most daring mission ever witnessed on the western front—his attacking a German plane, which beat a retreat home. Having followed the plane, he shot it down in the German airdome and returned safe.

The following is very gratifying to Lieutenant Lindsay's relatives and friends in this section—it speaks for itself:

"Office of the Chief of Air Service.

"24 December, 1918.

"From Chief of Air Service, American E. F.

"To: First Lieutenant O. Lindsay, 139th Aero Squadron, No. 1845.

"Subject: Award of Distinguished Service Cross.

"1. The commander in chief of the American expeditionary forces, in the name of the President, has awarded you the distinguished service cross for extraordinary heroism in action, the official citation being as follows:

"For extraordinary heroism in action near Bantheville, France, 27th October, 1918. In company with two other planes, Lieutenant Lindsay attacked three enemy planes (fokker type) at an altitude of 3,000 meters and after a sharp fight drove down to earth one of them. While engaged with the two remaining machines eight more planes (fokker type) came at him from straight ahead. He flew straight through their formation, gained an advantageous position and brought down another plane before he withdrew from the contest."

"2. I take great pleasure in handing you this decoration, so well deserved, and wish to add my own sincere thanks for the magnificent work you have done and my heart felt congratulations on the record you have made.

"By direction: H. C. Whitehead, Colonel, A. S., Chief of Staff."

### SOLDIER AND HIS WIFE CHARGED WITH LARCENY

Statesville, Feb. 1.—A man and woman giving their names as Mr. and Mrs. Erb Moore, were arrested in Lexington yesterday and brought to Statesville today and they will be ereptoseimti and placed in jail until Monday when they will be given a hearing before Mayor Bristol on a charge of larceny. About a week ago Moore and his wife came to Statesville and inquired for a boarding place. They were directed to the home of Mrs. P. F. Loughenour, where board was secured. They only

### RECONQUERED PARTS OF ITALY ARE DESOLATED.

Rome, Headquarters of the Italian Army, Dec. 31.—The distressing effects of the war and of Austrian occupation still are evident in the reconquered provinces north and east of the Piave. The country in the vicinity of Oderzo, a small village about six miles from the lower course of the Piave, is a scene of utmost desolation. It was here that the Duke of Aosta's army advanced so swiftly and deeply into the Austrian lines as to threaten the communications of the Austrian army occupying Conegliano, thus forcing the Austrians to retreat. So intense was the bombardment that very little is left standing in the country all around Oderzo. Many of the houses are merely heaps of debris.

The village of Oderzo itself was not so seriously damaged as were the outlying houses, as the Italian artillery-men tried to spare it, but it bears unmistakable signs of Austrian occupation. The villagers declare that the Austrians took away not only their church bells but their clothes and even the panes of glass from windows, the doors, kitchen utensils and in fact literally everything that could be removed. The parish priest saved some of his household utensils and several barrels of wine by hiding them in a barn behind a heap of coffins.

Owing to the fact that the population was greatly weakened by lack of food, the influenza claimed a high percentage of victims. In Oderzo, 209 small children were buried in one year of Austrian occupation out of a population of 2,400. The condition of the people still is desperate as about half of them are ill with influenza while clothing and food are almost unobtainable.

When the Associated Press correspondent visited Oderzo recently there were 50 patients in the civil hospital lying on straw on the floor, without blankets while the building had neither windows nor doors. The single physician who, with the aid of a few nuns was attending them had no drugs and his only surgical instruments was his pocket knife.

This situation is said to prevail in nearly all the reconquered Italian districts. The people it is declared, have virtually nothing and need everything.

### A LOADED TROOP SHIP STRIKES HIDDEN ROCKS.

Southampton, Feb. 1.—(By Associated Press.)—In the early hours of the morning in a calm sea, but a blinding snowstorm, the American steamer Naragansett ran on submerged rocks off the east end of the Isle of Wight, which have claimed many victims in the past.

The crew was American, and the ship carried 2,000 soldiers, of whom 60 were Americans.

Most of the men were in their bunks when the crash came. Bugles called them to deck. All were ordered to stand and to put on lifebelts. Tugs attempted to draw the ship off the rocks but failed. Then destroyers took the troops off without loss. They were brought to Southampton.

The Narragansett was so badly damaged salvage officers think she will be a total wreck. All speak in the highest terms of the conduct of the captain and crew.

remained there a couple of days when they disappeared and along with them a wedding dress valued at \$75, belonging to one of Mrs. Loughenour's daughters a \$25 silk scarf, one of a pair of bracelets valued at \$50 and several other more or less valuable trinkets. They were traced to Lexington and arrested, the officers finding that the dress and scarf had been disposed of, but finding the bracelet in their possession, the same being identified by Mrs. Loughenour as one belonging to her. Moore has recently been discharged from the army and still wears his uniform.