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THE EXPLOITS OF

Lieut.-Col. "Klondike" Boyle

BY DOUGLAS WATSON.

IV.

After a period of modified calm, punctuated by trying moments, he kept at the work until the Russians signed an armistice. As no one wanted to do any further work after that, Boyle went to Petrograd, and was among those present when the Bolsheviks seized the wheel and started their joy-ride.

To a man with a natural love for moulding chaos, the Bolsheviks offered an enticing prospect for further adventure. There was street-fighting for six days in Moscow, resulting in a freight blockade and a threat of general starvation. The Northern Army was starting for home, amusing itself by destroying estates, burning villages, and, to celebrate the new freedom, massacring peasants en route.

Realising that the plot of their drama was becoming somewhat obscured by the enthusiasm of the actors, the Bolsheviks did a wise thing. They took General Maniekouski, Minister of War, from the prison where they had incarcerated him, and, with an aplomb one is forced to admire, replaced him in the War Ministry and told him to feed the army.

"Tschk!" said the general. "Send for Colonel Boyle."

The general, being a soldier, knew that the military art consists in shoving responsibility on the other people's shoulders. He asked Boyle to go to Moscow and untie the knot; and Boyle, not being a pucka soldier, promptly agreed to do so.

Nothing daunted by the news from that city, he entered its bullet-harassed streets. In forty-eight hours freight was moving out of Moscow; and in a week things were running fairly smoothly.

How did he do it? It is difficult to state, but presumably even a Bolshevik stands aside for a man who knows where he is going. What a pity the Allies at large did not realise that elemental bit of psychology!

In case time hung heavy on his hands, Boyle was then placed in charge of the protocol between Russia and Roumania for both food and clothing. Up to that time Russia had delivered only promises. The Wizard of the Klondike waved his wand, and in eight weeks more than two-thirds of the promised goods were delivered. Some idea of the magnitude of this achievement may be gathered when it is realised that the protocol covered equipment for 350,000 men.

Having performed this herculan task, Boyle was just taking a breather, and wondering whose stables would have to be cleaned out next, when he was visited by the much-perturbed Roumanian Consul-General at Moscow. That official had received orders that he was to send to Roumania the archives of the Foreign Office, which had been deposited in Moscow when the evacuation of Roumania was contemplated; and also he was to send all the Roumanian paper money that was being printed there.

The proposition was a difficult one, as the load weighed twenty tons, and it was necessary to pass through the lines of the Bolsheviks and the Ukranians, who were fighting. It was at this stage that Boyle's admiration of Roumania took definite and permanent form. As an ex-manager of a heavy-weight prize-fighter, he had felt for a long time that Roumania was a game little bantam, trying to hold her own in a ring crowded with heavy-weights. From what he could gather, she was getting the worst of it from friend and foe alike, so he decided to lend our little Ally a helping hand.

Having almost absolute authority on the railroads, he took charge of the archives and a vast sum of money, and after twice passing through the lines where the Bolsheviks and the Ukranians were at war, he reached Jassy in safety. After that he returned to Russia, and continued his work as chairman of the All Russian Food Board, which had been formed in November, 1917.

It was during this period that Boyle paid a visit to Antonof, the leader of the Bolsheviks against the Cossacks, to ascertain the exact state of mind of that evil-reputationed general in case the Germans advanced. To the Canadian's surprise, he found the Russian an excellent leader and decidedly anti-German. Boyle and he had a most amiable meeting, and on parting swore eternal hatred of Germany. And history records that as long as his men held together Antonof never went back on his oath of war on the Hun.

Armed with Antonof's authority, Boyle then proceeded to Sebastonol. As his train arrived it was surrounded by a Bolshevik leader named Speiro and a committee of sailors.

"What does this mean?" demanded Colonel Boyle.

Speiro explained that a local newspaper had just announced that Britain had made peace with Turkey; the British Fleet had entered Constantinople, and was about to invade the Black Sea for the purpose of crushing the Black Sea Fleet, as a punishment for the Bolsheviks making war on Roumania. Therefore a resolution had been passed to arrest all Allied subjects, so that for every sailor of theirs killed they might execute ten Allied prisoners. They implied that Boyle would make a pleasant addition to their list.

Summoning his interpreter, Boyle addressed them in a very few words, but with plenty of emphasis. He explained that the whole thing was untrue, that the newspaper was owned by German propagandists, and he called for volunteers to go and demolish the said newspaper.

This appealed to the mob as an idea of considerable originality, so they adjourned to the newspaper-office, arrested nineteen members of the staff, and then wrecked the place.

At the invitation of the committee, Boyle waited until next day, when large meetings took place. Speiro referrd to Britain as Russia's best friend (this being received with wild applause). Later Boyle attended a meeting of all the committees of the Black Sea Fleet, and through an interpreter (Captain G. A. Hill of the 4th Manchester) he explained that Britain never forsook her friends, that she did not want to interfere with Russian politics, but merly wished to stop Russians from killing each other, so that they could devote their energies to the much nobler task of killing Germans.

"The Huns," he said, "are sure to advance into your country for the purpose of making you more their slaves than you have ever been before."

This caused a furore of appreciation, and the appearance of a British naval officer in uniform was a signal for wild applause.

The pisode is not lacking in humor, but it turned the whole Black Sea Fleet solidly pro-Ally at the very moment when it seemed to be assuming an attitude of friendship towards Germany.

V.

In the next and most important phase of Boyle's labors, it will be seen that, largely through him, peace was arranged between the Bolsheviks and Roumania. We have forgotten too soon how pluckily Roumania fought on when the Allies let disaster grip her by the throat. Tortured, robbed, betrayed, she believed in Britain, and her gallant army was ready to retire into Russia and fight on, even if the Germans occupied all Roumania. And then, to fill her cup, the spectre of Bolshevism raised its skeleton's grin on her borders, and the Russia she had always known as her friend became her enemy.

At the risk of his life, a Canadian from the Yukon braved the anger of Rackovski, the most powerful member of the Russian Supreme College. This man, who was himself a Roumanian, would not hear of peace with Roumania; but by deliberate intrigue Boyle turned the man's associates against him, and secured an offer of peace, which he took to Roumania, passing through the lines, and being fired at by Bolshevik gunners. In the subsequent negotiations Boyle had to act as intermediary; and on one occasion, while he was flying just above the Dniester in an aeroplane, a Roumanian battery fired at him, and death was missed by a matter of inches.

Eventually peace was signed, and Boyle's greatest achievement was completed.

(To be continued.)

Stumped!

"It's no use," sighed the nature wizard, "I may as well give up."

"What is bothering you?" asked his companion, sympathically.

"I started a few years ago on a whim of mine. I took a head of cabbage and crossed it with a white potato, and grew eyes on it; then I crossed them with a cornstalk and grew ears on it; then I crossed that with a celery and grew a neck on it; then I crossed that with a coco-nut and grew hair on it, but hanged if I can figure out what to do for a nose and mouth!"

Incubators should be ready. Clean and disinfect them without delay. Treat the brooder in the same way. The brooder should be ready and waiting for the chicks, with heat at proper temperature.

One ton of metal will furnish 10,000 gross of pen-nibs.

Minard's Liniment Relieves Neuralgia.

Woman's Sphere

Fighting Constipation.

"I really don't know what is the matter," Father Brown said with a shrug of his shoulders, "but this whole family seems to be headachy and grouchy and out of kilter! What's wrong?"

Mother Brown shook her head despairingly.

"I can't solve the problem," she said, "but everyone of us seems to be frightfully troubled with constipation, and that, too, in spite of coarse breads and molasses cookies and vegetables. Diet should regulate the condition but with us it doesn't seem to. I think I'll talk with the doctor this very day."

And that's how it came that Mrs. Brown was seated in Dr. Tripp's office on a sunny afternoon, explaining that she had come on the part of the whole family.

He questioned her closely and discovered that they rarely ate fruit for breakfast; that the older members of the family had tea or coffee, and the children a cup of cocoa or a glass of milk as a rule.

"It looks to me, Mrs. Brown," the doctor said, "as if the trouble really is with your diet, and I am going to recommend that each one of you drink a glass of water the first thing on arising in the morning. If you older people can take two glasses, sipped slowly, better yet. Then begin your breakfast with either fresh fruit in season or stewed fruit. Here are some which are especially laxative—rhubarb, figs, dates, prunes, oranges, plums, grapes, peaches and apples. Soak the dried fruits in water and cook in your fireless cooker over night. Give the children a glass of milk except with their noon meal, but always have water on the table too, that they may drink this when they wish.

"You say that you give them coarse breads. Remember that all of the cereals require long, slow cooking—four hours at least for oatmeal. Hasty cooking of say a half an hour, makes a pasty mass which encourages constipation. In the same way, in making coarse breads, either soak or cook the cereals or else steam or bake the bread very slowly, using molasses or brown sugar as sweetening. Half-cooked cereal bread is difficult to digest. Among the laxative foods to use frequently are bran muffins, whole wheat crackers, gingerbread, honey, onions, spinach, oil-dressed salads, cream, pecan nuts, peanut butter, and vegetables properly prepared.

"It will do no harm for each to eat a couple of nice figs just before retiring, taking these with a glass of water. Then impress upon each the necessity of having a fixed time every day to attend to the body hygiene, so that regular habits may be established. If necessary, to get the system into good shape, take a tablespoonful of plain mineral oil every night for a while. None of this is digested. It simply acts as a body lubricant, and after a few days oils up the machinery so that the system functions properly."

"But oughtn't I to have a prescription?" Mrs. Brown asked.

"Yes. I'll tell it to you. You can easily remember it and it won't cost anything either. On the other hand, it will have you money. Here's the prescription:

"RX good common sense, oz. 16.

"Take a tablespoonful three times a day with plenty of water."

Your Child's Eyes.

Parents believe, and rightly, that home lessons are ruining their children's eyes. Yet, there is no real reason why a boy or girl should suffer any eye-strain if certain precautions are taken by parents and if attention is paid to the child's complaint of headache.

1. Never let your child sit in his own light when he is reading or writing. Do not let a girl do any sewing or knitting for long at a time.

2. It is a great mistake to allow the children to sit in twilight. They want to see things, and in endeavoring to distinguish them they strain their eyes.

3. Don't let children read by firelight. Each flicker means a fresh focus.

4. Have a lamp suspended from the ceiling. This is an obvious advantage where children are allowed to romp.

5. Lastly, you, seeing your child at night, may be able to observe signs of eye-weakness not noticed by the teacher. Inform the principal of the school at once. It will make a great difference to your child.

Are Girls Naturally More Refined Than Boys?

From early childhood boys are subjected to rough associations from which girls are protected. Boys are permitted to hear obscene language, which girls, speaking generally, never hear. Vulgar people try to restrain their coarseness when a girl is present, but they never think of doing so before a boy. Even in public performances, as in the theatre, obscenity is often indulged in if only men are present, whereas little if anything of the kind would occur before girls or women. Lewd actions are exhibited before boys and men; while girls are never admitted to places where such actions are permitted.

Thoughtless, though doubtless well-meaning people are constantly seeking to improve the environment of girls so as to keep their thoughts, feelings and conduct wholesome, sweet and refined, but they let boys grow up under debasing conditions and then lament over the fact that they are not naturally refined and scrupulous about their speech and manners. Many parents expend more time and money in getting nice clothes for a daughter than for a son and then they wonder why he is not so particular about his appearance.

The result of this general indifference to a boy's esthetic nature is, of course, that the boy, as a rule, is coarser in his thought, speech, and action than the girl. But is the difference due to sex or to the fact that we neglect the boy and permit him to look out for himself, with the result that he is often subjected to vicious suggestion? It is a wonder that, take boys as they go, they are not worse than they are.

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To match any material, have dealer show you "Diamond Dye" Color Card.

Making Daylight.

An apparatus which is said to produce artificial daylight was recently exhibited at a meeting of the Illuminating Engineering Society in London, England.

The apparatus which is said to pro-

The apparatus is surprisingly simple, and it is possible to obtain results with an electric lamp of 300 candle power. Below the bulb an opaque reflector is fitted in such a way that the rays are projected upwards against a screen of various colors arranged in small patches. The light which falls from the screen presents colored material in its daylight hue.

Chilled fish from Newfoundland is prepared in a cold storage plant, which can deal with 200,000 lbs. of fish a day.

Minard's Liniment for sale everywhere.

List of War Criminals Makes 200-Page Book.

The official list of those Germans whose extradition is demanded by the Allies was recently issued by the Foreign Office at London. The text of the original covering note and of the new note referring to Baron von Lersner's refusal to accept the list was not made public.

A paper bound book of more than 200 pages contains the names of the 890 persons or groups, with their rank and the accusations against them. In many cases where names are not known a general description of the duties of the accused is given.

Four pages are devoted to Field Marshal von Hindenburg and Gen. Ludendorff, the same accusations serving for both of them.

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A Swedish railroad has built a reinforced concrete bridge with an arched span nearly 300 feet long, designed to carry trains at a speed of 60 miles an hour.

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