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**MANY THRILLING BATTLES ARE FOUGHT IN THE AIR****One British Airplane Beat Off Twenty German Machines--- Threw the Enemy Off His Track by Diving Into a Cloud--- How Another Airman Deceived the Huns**

(Chicago News)

London, England, Sept. 16--A British two seater machine engaged in infantry contact work recently observed a British field battery galloping forward to take up an advanced position. The airmen also spotted right in the patch of the advancing battery a German machine gun nest. Realizing the danger of the British battery the airmen dived low, signaling the battery to turn back, which it was able to do just as the German machine guns began to open fire.

Later the same two officers of the air service were attacked by seven German machines one of which the observer shot down in flames. At the same moment another German machine was seen to be on the tail of a British artillery observation plane working below. The pilot of the contact machine dived to the rescue and succeeded in driving off the attacking German. Then his ammunition exhausted, he managed to shake himself clear of his assailants and returned to his aerodrome.

**One Plane Defeats Twenty**

Returning from a bombing raid, a British aeroplane developed engine trouble and lost touch with the rest of the formation. A German patrol of twenty machines which had been following like jackals, fearful of attacking the British formation, swooped down on the partially disabled machine. Almost immediately the British pilot's elevator controls were disabled and thus further handicapped all he could do was to put the nose of his machine down and endeavor to batter through to his lines, firing from the fixed gun on any enemy on whom he could get it to bear.

The observer who was badly wounded stuck to the rear gun and succeeded in bringing down one German machine in flames. This one was swiftly followed to earth by another entirely out of control. The pursuing machines meanwhile were pouring a hail of bullets upon the British machine, piercing both the patrol tanks, perforating the planes so that they resembled sieves and smashing most of the instruments on the dashboard in front of the pilot, who, however escaped being hit. The observer's gun now jammed badly and he was again wounded in several places.

**Dives Into Cloud and Escapes**

Just then the pilot saw below him a large cloud, into which he dived for cover. This enabled him to throw the Germans off the track, and, on emerging he found that he was close to the British lines where he was able to land safely with his badly scarred machine.

Another British air pilot was attacked by several hostile machines and in order to avoid the enemy's fire and

break up the formation he put his machine into a spin. The Germans followed, diving after the British pilot who allowed his machine to fall several thousand feet. This apparently deceived the enemy, who with one exception, abandoned the pursuit, thinking that the British machine was vitally damaged.

The pilot noticing that he had achieved his object, suddenly pulled his machine out of the spin, flattened out and, banking steeply, turned on his assailant.

**Sends Down Foe in Flames**

The German unable to pull up with sufficient speed, crossed right in front of the pilot who poured in a burst of machine gun fire, which sent the German machine crashing to earth, where it burst into flames. On his way home the pilot, flying just above the hedges devoted his ammunition to scattering several bodies of hostile troops and transport by his machine gun fire.

The continual destruction of their observation balloons has made the Germans adopt extraordinary precautions. One sausage balloon apparently doing particularly important work, was guarded by a German patrol of eight scouts. A British pilot, noticing this determined to lure the scouts away in pursuit and so disappeared into a cloud followed by the Germans. Here, however they lost touch of him. The pilot having taken compass bearings, steered for the balloon. He emerged from the cloud right over it and promptly shot it down in flames before the protecting squadron found its way back to its post.

**Same Performance Repeated**

Presently the Germans put up another balloon and the pilot watching the proceedings from a distance, crossed the lines and again made himself conspicuous. The eight scouts were so enraged that they again swooped down on him and precisely the same performance was repeated, but this time without the help of a cloud. The pilot drew the gunners away from their charge and got near enough to the sausage to pump in a burst of machine gun fire which sent it down in flames. Then the pilot escaped unscathed to the British lines.

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St. John Telegraph: The public is only now discovering why the old government again and again refused to permit the whole truth concerning its potato business to be made public. The same public will recall that on many occasions members of the government in the House and elsewhere, defended the administration's handling of the potato purchase as an honest, straightforward and in every way admirable piece of work. And now, finally, when Mr. Daggett has been led up to the matter under oath, he takes off the lid on which the old government sat so long and so resolutely. What he has said serves as an interesting introduction to other statements which must be made by his former superiors and associates.

**BAD OUTBREAK OF LA GRIPPE**

St. John's Que, Sept. 25--The epidemic of Spanish grippe that has broken out in the barracks here where the Canadian Engineers training depot is located, already has 355 cases reported, according to Major General E. W. Wilson, among the 2,300 men stationed here. Two deaths have occurred and other patients are in serious condition. Today three hundred hospital cots were sent to St. John's with a number of medical men from the A. M. C. and nurses from various sources. The whole barracks are under quarantine and special hospital arrangements have been made to care for the men attacked.

German official war bulletins continue to boast of the Kaiser's troops' fine sprinting qualities.

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