

LOUD-SPEAKING MONK AIDS FINNS IN BATTLE

Father Marcus Braves Gunfire to Bid Russians Give Up

By Telephone to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

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—With a loudspeaker instead of a gun across his shoulder, Father Marcus does his duty like any other Finnish soldier, a special correspondent of the Swedish Telegraph Agency reports in a dispatch from Helsinki.

Father Marcus is a monk from the famous Valamo Monastery, which before the former Finnish-Russian war was situated on an island in Lake Ladoga. After last year's peace, the Valamo Monastery was annexed by the Russians and Father Marcus, with his 117 comrades, moved to a new abode at Kannonkoski, in Northern Finland.

Now, like all other men of his age, he has been mobilized, but instead of shooting at the Russians with a rifle he covers them with a flood of propaganda through his portable loudspeaker. He crawls as near to the Russian positions as possible and his booming voice, trying to persuade the Red Army men to give themselves up, is heard for miles around.

His work is considered by other soldiers even more dangerous than theirs because his voice makes him easy to locate and at any time a well-directed Russian salvo could finish his career.

He belongs to the newly-organized Finnish "information companies," which, like their models, send articles to their home newspapers and spread propaganda. The only regret of Father Marcus seems to be that to become even a "loud-speaking" soldier he had to clip off his hair, which formerly reached to his shoulders. He is rapidly becoming one of the most popular figures in the Finnish Army.