

The Dead Soldiers

Mrs. Angela de Bere from Chicago said in Paris, that if she had known that the authorities in Paris would take good care of the remains of the American soldiers and buried them there, she would not have tried to bring her son's body back to America.

Her son's remains were in a wooden casket clothed in a coat and buried. Only the bones of the soldier were in it. The casket was rotten. The officers of the registration office for burial said that the Americans made a big mistake when they sent dozens of morticians to Paris in order to prepare the bodies of the fallen soldiers for shipment to America.

90% of the bodies only consisted of bones said one man who helped with the digging up of the corpses.

These remains were wrapped into blankets and buried. Once a year ago when these bodies were dug up and brought to a cemetery nothing was left but the skeletons. Most of these bodies were lying in the open air for a week during the battle at the Argonne before one remembered to prepare them for burial. These bodies were mostly wasted.

Relatives should only expect to receive bones and rotten clothing. The responsible officer reminded everybody not to open the caskets upon arrival in America.