

WEST FRONT SITUATION IS GRAVE

LOYD GEORGE'S SPEECH IS REGARDED AS CALLING U. S. COUNTRY TO ARMS

BRITISH SET BACK NULLIFIES HAIG'S ADVANCE

British Offensive Is Regarded As Ended For Some Time—Initiative Apparently the British Army Realizes Crisis Is Near.

By Ed. L. Keen
(Copyrighted 1917, by United Press)

LONDON, Dec. 15.—There is no use trying to camouflage the gravity of the situation on the west front. This is the only war theatre which really counts in the last analysis. The Lloyd George speech is regarded here as a call to arms in this crisis.

The British setback at Cambrai not only nullified Haig's and Byng's advance but admittedly marked the end of the British offensive for some time.

The initiative is passing to Hindenburg. Experts predict only the greatest efforts will prevent the German fulfillment of their boast to break the allies' line before the Americans can equalize the reinforcements from the Russian front.

The report to the effect that the power of the enemy's war is waning has been proven absurd.

Apparently the British army became so confident it got careless. The public is awakening to the realization that a crisis is near.

ATTORNEY FOR I. W. W. ARRESTED IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—George Van De River, Seattle, chief counsel for the I. W. W., was arrested in the federal building as 160 leading industrialists were being arraigned. A big revolver was found in his pocket. Technically he was charged with carrying concealed weapon. He was released. All industrialists pleaded not guilty. Van De River told the judge an appeal would be made through the organization for 60 industrialists still sought to surrender. Troops patrolled the court room and street.

CLAUS SPRECKELS SAYS HOOVER AIDS SUGAR TRUST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Claus Spreckels charges an attempt of the sugar trust to saddle high prices on Americans for years, through the Hoover committee. He said the committee was a "mere adjunct of the trust," seeking to bind referees to allow it to contract future Cuban crops at its own price.

COAL SHORTAGE CAUSES MUCH SUFFERING IN OHIO

CLEVELAND, Dec. 15.—Over one hundred factories are closed, owing to a coal shortage. One hundred thousand men and women are idle, 20,000 families are suffering for coal here and elsewhere in the state.

Demands a New Investigation

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The House agreed to take a final prohibition vote Monday afternoon. The House navy expenditures committee began an investigation of departmental expenditures. Thomas W. Lawson demanded the House investigate "contractors, committeemen and other amateur officials running the war." He also alleged enormous war profits.

Funeral of Frank Bay Is Tomorrow

The remains of Frank W. Bay will be taken from the Bohnenkamp chapel to the Elks Home at 11 o'clock Sunday morning, where they will lie in state until 1 o'clock. Members of the volunteer fire department will act as an escort. The casket will not be opened at the services.

What Have You Got For Me SANTA CLAUS?



GENERAL HAIG REPORTS HQ, LOCAL FIGHT

CONSIDERABLE PART OF THOSE TRENCHES PENETRATED BY GERMANS REGAINED

LONDON, Dec. 15.—General Haig reports the British, in hot local fighting, have regained a considerable part of the trenches near Polderhoek which the Germans had penetrated earlier. Artillery occurred east of Messines and northeast of Ypres.

Surber Klein Writes Letter From France

HOSPITAL BOYS IN FINE PLACE, EVERYONE WELL

Boys Have Two Club Rooms—They Are Running Hospital—Farming Methods in France Antique.

"Somewhere in France," November 18, 1917.

Mr. Harry Patterson,

Dear Friend Harry—It is Sunday, 10:30 a. m., so will write to you before dinner. Well, Harry, as far as we know, we are situated probably for the winter. I sure do hope so, instead of moving around. We are in a fine place and everyone is getting along dandy.

I am writing in our club rooms, we have two rooms, and Fritz Lottis and I sleep here and take care of them. All of us are kept pretty busy now, for we have taken over the hospital here and there is considerable work connected with it; but the boys all like the work and get along fine, so all of us are satisfied.

I suppose you are having pretty cold weather by now; but here, outside of a little rain, it has not been very cold yet. I have thought about the Thanksgiving and Christmas rushes you will soon have there and sure would like to help you out.

I wish you could see some of the sights we have seen since our arrival here—horsepower threshing machines, wooden shoes, buildings, and even threshing by the flail. I sure can tell you lots when I see you.

Well, Harry, I had better close and will write to you again soon. Hello to Bert and Herb and all the customers. Also my regards to your mother.

Wishing all of you a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year, I am

Your Friend,
PRIVATE SURBER L. KLEIN,
Field Hospital No. 167,
Sanitary Train No. 117,
American Expeditionary Forces.

CHAMPION WELTER WEIGHT TO WRESTLE

WALTER MILLER WILL DEFEND HIS TITLE HERE AGAINST CHRIS. GESEK

Walter Miller of San Francisco, world's champion welter and middle-weight wrestler, will defend his title against Chris Gesek of Tacoma in a finish match at the Arcade, December 27. Miller will make 148 pounds, and the contest will be for the welter-weight title.

Gesek is recognized by sport authorities to be the best contender for Miller's title in America. Those familiar with his record would not be at all surprised to see the title change hands on December 27.

The two men recently wrestled two hours and thirty minutes to a draw at Spokane.

The match between Miller and Thye will be taken to Bellingham, where better inducements were offered the wrestlers to stage the contest.

Russian Minister of Education Resigns

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15.—The Bolshevik attitude toward a constituent assembly has caused the minister of education to resign from the cabinet, declaring he could not support Lenin in measures representing a Congress chosen by the Russian people.

It is believed that many Maximilianist leaders support him. Lenin and Trotsky insist the assembly is illegal if it opposes their aims and threatens to depose it.

Eastern Oregon Commandery Elects

Knights Templar Choose Howard Davis Eminent Commander; Services Will Be Held Christmas.

At a regular convocation of Eastern Oregon Commandery No. 6, Knights Templar, held Tuesday evening the following officers were elected for the ensuing term: Howard Davis, Eminent Commander; L. M. Hoyt, Generalissimo; L. L. Snodgrass, Captain General; L. H. Russell, Recorder; C. T. Bacon, Treasurer; C. M. Humphreys, Prelate; G. W. Zimmerman, Senior Warden; C. K. McCormick, Junior Warden; F. M. Jackson, Warder; Peter Biever, Standard Bearer; David Fitzgerald, Sword Bearer; O. E. Berger, Sentinel.

MANY RUSH TO ENLIST IN U. S. ARMY

REGULAR ARMY ENLISTMENTS SINCE APRIL TOTAL 337,347

ORDER IS ISSUED PERMITTING LATER ENLISTMENTS

Applications of Those Delayed by the Eleventh Hour Rush Will Be Received and Medical Examinations Will Come Later.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Regular army enlistments since April total 337,347. An eleventh-hour order permitting the receiving of registered men's applications for enlistment until noon, with examination later, will cause big increases in recruiting everywhere, as many men were unable to file applications owing to the swarms awaiting examination.

Monday Morning the Red Cross Drive Starts

EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

County Chairman Kiddle Addresses Meeting at Cove—This Afternoon He Spoke at La Grande.

Monday morning a group of uncountable workers will rally forth in these United States of ours to raise the membership of the Red Cross for 1918 to three times its present standing. In Union county the work will be carried forth just as diligently as anywhere else in the country. Last evening County Chairman E. E. Kiddle addressed an overflow meeting in Cove after undergoing severe hardships, and that vicinity is primed to go at top speed. Speaking of hardships, Mr. Kiddle refers to that with capital H. He lost some essential part of his automobile while on his way to Cove last night and had to walk three miles through ankle-deep mud for assistance. His car stayed there all night. But he found an overflow meeting present and he went at it with his mud-covered face and clothes as they were. This afternoon he addressed forty workers who will go out to work in La Grande Monday morning. Mrs. Cochran, local campaign manager, reports today that there is fine willingness of spirit to help and says that if possible the campaign here will be cleaned up the first two or three days.

Leave Dollars at Home
"Men, be sure that your wives are provided with the necessary cash for them to buy memberships, commencing Monday morning" is the final words of appeal to La Grande folks by the chairman.

Knowing that the high cost of living will grow higher and last longer the longer the war lasts, citizens should remember that every membership to the Red Cross helps bring the war a dollar's worth nearer conclusion.

It is unnecessary waste of time and effort to enlarge or argue for the Red Cross—that is too apparent for further discussion. All that is before us now is to recognize that every family in Union county should have at least one and preferably two members in it.

Headquarters Selected
While the general headquarters will be at the Y. M. C. A., Chairman Cochran will post herself at the Patterson grocery store, where downtown headquarters will be maintained. Memberships can be taken there, and necessary blanks will be obtainable there.

More Display Ads Wanted
Not a cent of Red Cross money is being spent anywhere for advertising space. Instead, merchants and private citizens being urged to devote their usual space to the Red Cross cause. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday especially, merchants should set aside a part of their regular space for this cause, and individuals are urged to buy space and donate it to the Red Cross publicity work. Rates and copy on application to the chairman of the publicity committee or the county chairman.

"Will Union county go over the top in this gigantic campaign?"

Chicken Suppliants Turkey.
PORTLAND, Dec. 15.—Chicken and roasts will supplant turkey on many a family table in the Northwest Christmas and New Years unless there is a decided increase in the receipts of turkeys here. As Portland is the chief center for clearing the Northwest's holiday birds, the market is showing an strong tone toward the close as it did during the Thanksgiving buying period.

Lucky indeed is the turkey raiser who still has birds of good quality. Since the Thanksgiving rush the condition of offerings has been from mediocre to poor.

Christmas FUN

Logical.
"Boy?"
"Mum?"
"Stop that noise with your Christmas drum! Do you want to deafen us?"
"Yes'm; then you won't mind the noise."—Life.

Risky.
"I'd like to give my wife \$50 for Christmas."
"Well, why not?"
"I ain't certain I could coax it away from her again."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Sign of Age.
"Just when does a woman grow old?"
"When she ceases to regard the hanging of the mistletoe as an event."—Buffalo Express.

All He Remembered.
The Preacher—And did you remember the poor on Christmas?
Little Albert—No. I didn't remember nothing much, except about pa catchin' me with my hand in the box where ma had the raisins hid.

Up to Date Xmas Maxims.
Never took a Christmas gift in the price tag.
There is nothing so rare as a present you wanted.
A ton of coal is rather to be chosen than gaudy jewels.
Beware of mistletoe; it grows on the border of matrimonial jungles.
Better broken toy drums than broken carriages.
Christmas spirit seldom infatuates, but it generally bankrupts.
Christmas bells manage to ring in quite a few gifts.
Just now the most popular book seems to be the pocketbook.
Never put a gift cigar in the mouth.
Christmas gifts are somewhat like babies—you can't always get what you want, but always be contented with what came.—New York American.

Good Old Soul.
"Why haven't you gone," they asked him,
"To your snowy mountain ranges?"
"I'm waiting," said Santa Claus, "to make
The regular exchanges."

Christmas Anticipation.
"I don't believe the approach of Christmas brings you a single joyous anticipation," said the sweet young thing.
"Don't, eh?" replied the savage bachelor.
"Listen to my secret. That youngster on the third floor is sure to get a tin trumpet for a present."
"Yes."
"Then he will get careless and leave it on the hall floor. And then I shall step on it with both feet. Don't you call that a joyous anticipation?"

A Long List.
Parke—Have you decided what to give your wife for Christmas?
Lane—Not yet. There are so many things I can't afford.—Judge.

The Canny Scot at Yule.
A commercial traveler had taken a large order in Scotland for a consignment of hardware and endeavored to press upon the canny Scottish manager who had given the order a Christmas gift of a box of Havana cigars.
"Naw," he replied. "Don't try to bribe a man. I cudna tak them, and I am a member of the kirk."
"But will you not accept them as a Christmas present?"
"I cudna," said the Scot.
"Well, then," said the traveler, "suppose I sell you the cigars for a merely nominal sum—say, sixpence?"
"Weel, in that case," replied the Scot, "since you press me, and not liking to refuse an offer so well meant, I think I'll be taking two boxes."

Great Military Review At Camp Lewis

THOUSANDS OF VISITORS ARRIVE ON SPECIAL TRAIN

Forty-five Thousand Men Pass in Review Before Major General H. A. Greene and Governors of Western States.

CAMP LEWIS, Tacoma, Dec. 15.—With thousands of visitors arriving from all parts of the Northwest on special trains, and the quarters of every company and battery in faultless shape, the military forces being transformed into fighting units here today began the greatest military review ever held in the West.

The 45,000 men who came here as civilians a few weeks ago, moved in review before Major General H. A. Greene, camp commander, and the governors of the western states as real soldiers, acquainted thoroughly with the tactics of their particular arm, and imbued with an esprit de corps that gives the lie to any rumors that these men did not take any too kindly to military life.

In startling contrast to the youths who sped northward from their peace-time pursuits, these men presented an imposing spectacle in today's big review. In various mass formations, they swung by the reviewing stand with the smartness only real soldiers can acquire, their bodies showing the splendid effects of the physical and military drills they have undergone, and the results of eating plain food and getting sufficient sleep.

Every organization in the big camp participated in the review and will take a part in the demonstrations to follow. A special half mile arena has been prepared for the show, and a grandstand to hold 16,000 people was crowded long before today's program started with the rendition of "America" by eight regimental bands massed as one.

Cowboys who have won fame in the Pendleton round-up, the Walla Walla Frontier Days, the Dalles Rodeo and other wild west classics of the Northwest, are taking a prominent part in the big horsemanship show to be given both days by the remount depot, under Captain J. W. Jackson. The wickiast horses available have been secured for the occasion, and the rough riders of the remount depot will show the public all the thrills of transforming the outlaws into war horses.

All proceeds from the stupendous affair will be used for night schools, athletic welfare and other things to benefit the Ninety-first division of the army.

British and French officers detailed to the camp as instructors will appear in the line of parade, which will include every branch of the service and every unit of each branch, each doing its part to entertain the public and show what Americans under good officers can accomplish in a short period of training.

KAISER WILL MAKE NEW PEACE OFFER

BERLIN UNOFFICIALLY REPORTS THIS TO GENEVA

RAKER SAYS AMERICA MUST SPEED UP

Secretary of War Urges Elimination of Red Tape, Speeding Up By Labor, Speeding Ship Building, So as to Fill Russia's Gap.

GENEVA, Dec. 15.—Berlin unofficially reported that the Kaiser's Christmas message to his people would contain a final peace offer.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—America must speed up our war work, concentrate on essentials, and consecrate itself fully to the task of victory, made difficult by German strength through the Russian debacle, is the solemn warning of Secretary Baker and other government officials. They suggest eliminating red tape, that labor must come forward, ship work be speeded, so America will more than fill the Russian gap.

Elgin Boys Enlist, Band Gives Send Off

ELGIN, Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Orris Evers, John Yates, George Fox, Everett Cornelson and Leland Beem left Elgin last Friday evening to enlist in the army. The band accompanied the boys to the depot.

Miss Hazel Graham of Elgin went to La Grande last Tuesday evening, where she attended the dance.

The Augustan society will render a program tomorrow in the assembly room of the high school. Doctor E. G. Kirby will give the young people a talk on the value of a high-school education.

Merrill Henderson and Edwin Kitley gave an interesting account of the Older Boys' conference, which they attended last week. Both boys commented upon the interesting and valuable talks given by Rev. G. L. Clark. The fellowship supper served by the La Grande girls seemed to impress them very much.

The following boys are at San Diego in the Twenty-first infantry company: David Blumenstein, Fred Da Bois, Roscoe Austin, Earnest Graham, Guy Arnold, Harold Austin, Roy Cope, Alford Smith, Frank Mosher, Otto R. Barnes, Ely Tracy, Ira Keen, Albert L. Workman, James B. Tracey, Harold Hug, Clarence Bean, Delbert Holmes, Grimes, Martin E. Homme, John Brickell, Con Austin, Riley Chandler, Earnest Beckel, Clarence Vanderhook, John Kerr, Robert G. Blumenstein, Ellis Young, Oliver Young, Irvin Sloan, Norman Wise, Charles Wise, Paul Saddler, John Jones, Wm. Workman. Recently enlisted: Perry Tuttle, James Hallgarth, Guy Matthew Ambsberry, Jay Johns, Volney Dorcas Barnes, Leland Thomas Beam, Charles Orris Evers, Roy Ervin Townsend, Terence Theodore Mosher, John Bruce Yates, George Lawrence Fox, Everett Cornelson, — Zeamer, Chester Barnett, Glen W. Barnes.

FOREIGN BORN FISHERMEN WILL DEFEND THE UNION

SEATTLE, Dec. 15.—Three hundred foreign born fishermen, representing 3000 around the Sound, passed resolutions pledging their undivided allegiance to America, to aid foodstuffs conservation, and their willingness to defend the nation. The majority are Austrians.

QUESTIONNAIRES ARE MAILED

Questionnaires were mailed out to registered men under the army draft today by the local registration draft. They were mailed to those having numbers from 1 to 77. They must answer them and submit their claims for exemption or deferred classification within seven days. Failure to receive the notice is no excuse. Failure to answer is a misdemeanor and will result in immediate induction into military service and court martial.

7 more days to buy a Christmas Present for your best GIRL

The Weather
PORTLAND, Dec. 15.—The United States weather forecast: "Rain."