

BAKER WANTS TO STATE HIS SIDE OF CASE

SECRETARY OF WAR WRITES CHAMBERLAIN FOR PERMISSION TO APPEAR

ASKS SENATE COMMITTEE TO HEAR HIS STATEMENT

Says He Will Summarize War Work, Holding People of Nation Are Entitled to Full Statement.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Secretary of War Baker wrote Senator Chamberlain asking permission to make a statement before the Senate military committee and summarize the war work, holding justice demands a statement in view of the sacrifice and spirit of the army officers and business men to aid the nation. He suggested the people of the nation were entitled to a full statement.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25. (Special.)—In his speech yesterday Senator Chamberlain said:

"I openly charge that the hundreds and thousands of deaths in the training camps are due to inefficiency in the War Department.

"I fear neither God, man nor the devil when it comes to telling the truth.

"President Wilson doesn't know the truth about the War Department; I do.

"Practically no cantonment in the country has trench mortars, machine guns, howitzers or large-caliber cannon.

"America stands today unprepared as far as an ordnance is concerned.

"It is not a question between the President and myself; it is a question of America.

The Secretary of War tells us we have nine of these (machine) guns. Nine guns to go up against the millions of Germany!

"Germany knows more about what America is doing today than anyone connected with our departments. America would be better off if she came out in the spotlight.

"I assume responsibility for the speech (his address in New York last Saturday) as printed.

"God grant every man will write home and tell of conditions as they are; not to stay patriotism, but to stimulate it in the right direction."

Last Card Received From Bert Andrews

BOY NOW DEAD TOLD OF BEING IN HOSPITAL WITH COLD

Chaplain Burnett of the Hospital Writes and Tells of the Game Fight the Young Man Made for Life.

The family of the late Bert Andrews of the Hospital Unit today received the following letter from Francis B. Burnett, telling of their son's death on December 27. A card received from Bert Andrews himself was dated December 21. The letter and the card follow:

Base Hospital No. 15, A. E. F. January 3, 1918.

My Dear Mr. Andrews:

I wanted to write just a line to you about the death of your son Bert, who died in our hospital December 27, 1917.

We buried him in the little cemetery here on the second of January.

Everything possible was done for him. The best medical and nursing skill was at his disposal and he made the gamest sort of a fight and wanted you to know it.

He has indeed "done his bit" and has his reward.

May God comfort and strengthen your hours of sorrow.

FRANCIS B. BURNETT, Chaplain.

Card received from Bert Andrews: December 21, 1917.

Dear Folks:

Just received your first letter yesterday and was sure glad to hear from you.

Am in the Roosevelt Base Hospital now with a cold, but expect to be out soon.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I am your son,

BERT.

Armenian Fund Rapidly Growing

At noon business houses that have turned in funds are almost entirely 100 per cent perfect. Those who haven't reported are urged to do so today. Among those reporting strong was the Observer staff.

BOLSHEVIKI RECOGNITION BY U. S. RUMOR

OFFICERS IN PETROGRAD ARE SILENT REGARDING THE REPORT

LANDING OF JAPANESE AND CHINESE TO BE RESISTED

Officers at Vladivostok and Harbin Are Instructed—Rumania Desires to Adjust Dispute.

(United Press.) LONDON, Jan. 25.—Petrograd reports the Bolsheviki and Rumanians are hotly fighting.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 25.—A rumor is circulating here that the United States will recognize the Bolsheviki. Officials are silent.

The People's commissaries wired Vladivostok and Harbin Soviets to firmly resist the landing of the Japanese and Chinese troops from war-craft.

A British army officer from Jassy reports Rumania desires to adjust the dispute with the Bolsheviki.

Blue Mountain Grange Holds Its Meeting

Nine Members Initiated—Tobacco for Soldiers in Trenches Approved.

Blue Mountain Grange held their regular meeting January 19th with 54 present. After the regular business meeting dinner was served by section No. 1. After dinner four new members were received. The roll call was "In What Way Can We Improve Our Grange?" The question discussed was "Shall the Press Tell the Truth About the War?" Although the Grange as an organization is opposed to the use of tobacco in form we decided that if it was any comfort to the boys in the trenches they should have it and five dollars was contributed. A committee of three was appointed to collect for the Armenian fund. Several of the ladies were busy with their knitting while listening to the program. Miss Murphy from La Grande was present and gave a very interesting talk on the food question. After a reading by Mrs. Edith Gekeler and the singing of "America" by the members, Grange closed to meet again February 6th.

In Portland. PORTLAND, Jan. 25.—(Special.)—H. A. Bodine, of La Grande, registered at the Imperial hotel yesterday.

BOTH SISTER AND BROTHER SERVING



Lady Phyllis Windsor-Clive

Lady Windsor-Clive and her brother, the heir to the Earldom of Plymouth, are both serving Great Britain. Lady Phyllis is a nurse at a London base hospital, and the brother, Viscount Windsor, is at the front.

G'WAN, SMILE!



GOV'T WILL BUY 30 PERCENT OF WHEAT FLOUR

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 25.—The food administration has announced the government will take over 30 per cent of all wheat flour manufactured in Minnesota. This is to secure a sufficient supply for the allies. The mills at the direction of the government are increasing facilities for grinding corn, barley and rye.

WAR SAVINGS STAMPS CAMPAIGN IS ORGANIZED

At a meeting last night the executive committee of the War Savings Stamps campaign was organized. Mr. Fred L. Meyers has been appointed county chairman. Postmaster Brazz and County School Superintendent Ivanhoe are ex-officio members. Fred B. Curry was appointed to have charge of the educational work, W. H. Bolnenkamp to have charge of the commercial work; the industrial chairman is to be appointed later; and H. E. Dixon is to have charge of the work among civic and fraternal organizations.

Four Americans Killed at Front

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—General Pershing cables that the Americans were in action on the French front on several occasions early this week. Four were killed Monday. On Tuesday no details of the fighting were received.

APOSTLE SMITH DIES

Prominent Member of the Mormon Church Passes Away.

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 25.—Hyrum M. Smith, apostle of the Mormon Church and son of Joseph P. Smith, president of the church, died Wednesday night. He was 45 years old.

Apostle Smith was born in Salt Lake City. He graduated from the Latter Day Saints College of this city in 1894. On the day following his marriage to Miss Idaho Bowman, of Ogden, in 1895, he left on a mission for the Mormon church to Great Britain. He presided over the Newcastle conference, England, in 1896. In the latter year he returned here working for the Zion Co-operative Mercantile institution. He was ordained a member of the quorum of 12 apostles of the church by his father in 1901.

Canadian Officers Speak Here Tonight

PUBLIC ADDRESSES WILL BE GIVEN AT THE L. D. S. TABERNACLE

Tonight the three Canadian officers, Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Macmillan, Major F. B. Edwards and Captain E. J. Gook will address a public meeting at the L. D. S. Tabernacle.

They have been detailed by the Canadian government to tour the state and to give a picture of warfare in the trenches in France and Belgium and of the daily life of the soldiers at the front. They will speak here under the auspices of the County Patriotic Service League.

It is expected that the Tabernacle will be crowded as the meeting is free; there will be no collection or dunning for funds, and there will be a very enjoyable musical program arranged by Mrs. J. J. Carr, consisting of numbers by the L. D. S. Choir, Mrs. T. J. Scroggin and Mrs. Purcell.

The military escort, consisting of the Elks' band, the Home Guards and the Cadets, will form at the Y. M. C. A. at 7 p. m. and escort the guests to the Auditorium. The arrival at the Auditorium is scheduled for 8 o'clock. The program tonight follows: Presiding Officer, T. J. Scroggin; Chairman Union County Patriotic League, Anthem, "Marseillaise"; L. D. S. Choir; "Rouget de Lisle"; L. D. S. Choir; Address, Capt. E. J. Gook; Vocal Solo, "We'll Never Let the Old Flag Fall"; M. S. Kelly; Mrs. T. J. Scroggin; Address, Major F. B. Edwards; Vocal Solo, "Lullie in Khaki"; Mrs. James W. Purcell; Address, Lieut. Col. J. M. Macmillan; Anthem, "God Save the King"; Anon; L. D. S. Choir.

Note—The choir will sing one verse of Britain's national anthem, after which the congregation will sing "America."

Big Time at Joseph

JOSEPH, Jan. 25. (Special.)—A great patriotic demonstration greeted the Canadian officers who visited Joseph yesterday afternoon. The whole town turned out and listened with great interest and interest to the message the officers brought from the front. They left after the speeches and reception for Enterprise. The people of Joseph are well pleased with the meeting.

Fine Reception at Enterprise

ENTERPRISE, Jan. 25. (Special.)—A big reception was given the visiting Canadian officers here last night. The speeches of the visitors were listened to with great interest. The officers left this morning for La Grande.

Albany grants Bell Telephone company new franchise. miles south, to be developed.

SEVERE RIOTS REPORTED IN BERLIN

AMSTERDAM RECEIVES NEWS THAT MOBS ARE DEMANDING PEACE

(By United Press.) AMSTERDAM, Jan. 25.—It is reported severe rioting occurred in Berlin Wednesday and yesterday. Mobs are marching the streets demanding peace. The fact that yesterday's Berlin papers have not arrived is significant.

MRS HANNAH ROGERS, BELOVED PIONEER, DEAD

In the death of Mrs. Hannah Williamson Rogers, La Grande lost one of her beloved pioneers. She had been ill and bedfast for some time with dropsy and passed away January 23.

Hannah Williamson was born in Philadelphia, October 29, 1848, and removed with her parents to Missoula in 1857 and came to the Grande Ronde Valley in 1862. She was married to Roland J. Rogers, April 28, 1868. Mr. Rogers was a farmer and held the office of sheriff in this county from 1889 to 1894. The family homestead was the present Williamson's addition to La Grande. Mrs. Rogers died January 23, 1918. She is survived by two brothers, J. T. and S. B. Williamson, and a son, Adna Rogers.

Mrs. Rogers was lovingly known as Aunt Hannah. She was a prominent member of the Methodist church and has many friends who will mourn her loss. She was noted for her acts of charity and benevolence.

The funeral will be held Sunday afternoon at the Methodist church, at 3:00 o'clock.

General Bliss Named

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—General Tasker H. Bliss has arrived in Paris to represent America on the Supreme War Council.

Platinum Price Put at 800 Ounce

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—A tentative price of \$90 an ounce has been set by the Government for the purchase of 21,000 ounces of platinum recently imported from Russia.

Named After Counties

PORTLAND, Jan. 25.—(Special.)—The first two steamers to be launched by the Supple-Ballin shipyards will be christened the Harney and Wallowa.

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA ANSWER PRES. WILSON

His Program May Form Basis for Peace Negotiations, Say Chancellor Hertling and Premier Czernin.

COMMENT IS THAT TONE IS SATISFACTORY BUT NEW PROPOSALS ARE DEMANDED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The Teutons are angling for further discussions with the United States and the Allies, but are not yet ready to go far enough to bring peace now, is the way the experts consider Hertling's and Czernin's statements.

HAGUE, Jan. 25.—President Wilson's program contains many points apt to form the basis of peace negotiations, Chancellor Hertling told the main committee of the Reichstag yesterday in a long expected speech.

He insisted, "concretely President Wilson's outlines are unsatisfactory."

He demanded the allied leaders set forth new proposals.

He held Lloyd George's terms showed an alteration of tone, but said they were unacceptable.

President Wilson's tone is different than in replying to the pope. He no longer suggests autocratic suppression of the German people by the German government, and does not attack the Hohenzollerns."

He comments on President Wilson's war aims and shows agreement is easy on first four; there is difficulty with the sixth concerns only Russia. The Teuton is discussible by France, Germany; however, we talk cession of Alsace Germany is solidly with Austria on the ninth.

"Germany will be ready when all of are settled to discuss a peace league.

Chancellor Hertling concluded by saying: "A durable general peace is impossible so long as the lasting integrity of the German empire and the security of its vital interests are not assured."

"There are no differences between us and President Wilson," said the Chancellor, "regarding the freedom of the seas, but it is most important for the future freedom of navigation that England relinquish strongly fortified points on important sailing routes like Gibraltar, Malta, Aden, Hong Kong and Falklands"

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 25.—"Austria-Hungary and the United States practically agree not only on the great principles of the new arrangements after the war, but our views approach on several concrete points," Foreign Minister Czernin declared in a speech here. "President Wilson's address is a frank and open invitation for discussion of differences with a view to settlement. An exchange of views between us might form the start of negotiations between all belligerents. The differences are insufficient to prevent clearing matters up."

La Grande Boys Defeated 45 to 21

PORTLAND, Jan. 25.—The score of the Oregon freshman basketball game with the La Grande high school was Oregon freshman, 45, La Grande High School, 21. It was a fast, clean, hard fought game. La Grande plays the Corvallis Freshmen tonight. There was no game Wednesday.

DIRECTOR OF ALL PURCHASES IS NAMED

E. R. STETTINIUS WILL BE PRATICALLY MINISTER OF MUNITIONS FOR ARMY

(United Press.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—E. R. Stettinius, a partner of J. P. Morgan, was appointed surveyor general of all army purchases and placed in charge of the production and procurement of all supplies by all army bureaus. He is well fitted, because he has had charge of allied purchases in America since the outbreak of the war, and was instrumental in war material production increases. His appointment practically makes him munitions director, but Senator Chamberlain says he'll continue his fight for the munitions director bill.

PRINCESS PAT MAJOR GOING BACK TO FRONT



Major Hugh Niven, one of the few surviving officers of the original Princess Pat regiment, which was practically wiped out in the early days of the war, is going back to the front to fight the Boches again as soon as he completes his tour of the eastern states in behalf of the British and Canadian Recruiting Mission. Major Niven was awarded the D. S. O. medal for his actions in the engagement in which 985 of the Princess Pat regiment perished.

JEROME, Idaho, Jan. 24.—(Special.)—Mrs. Angus Stewart received two left from their son, Unit 1, has been just 1 hour. He is in the hospital with him, being sick with colds, but E states that he thinks he at the rest will be O. K. now.

COLIN STEWART, ILL IN FRANCE, BETTER

UNITED PRESS. WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—(Special.)—Mrs. Angus Stewart received two left from their son, Unit 1, has been just 1 hour. He is in the hospital with him, being sick with colds, but E states that he thinks he at the rest will be O. K. now.