

WAR'S END MAY BE WITHIN TWO YEARS

H. W. Patton, Back From Front, Optimist.

CONSENSUS OF OPINION FIXED

Great Things Expected by Time U. S. Is Ready.

INFORMATION FIRST-HAND

Editor of Hoquiam Washingtonian Enlarges on Details of Trip Taken by Congressmen Recently to Get Knowledge.

The Oregonian prints herewith the first of several articles from the pen of Major H. W. Patton, editor of the Hoquiam Washingtonian, describing his observations on a recent trip to England and France. He was a member of a party sent to the battle-front under Congressional auspices. He had exceptional opportunities for investigation of facts and conditions. They will be found an exceedingly valuable contribution to current wartime discussion.

BY H. W. PATTON.
Lined up along the rail of a most grotesquely camouflaged vessel, with evil-smelling life belts on, we steamed out of the harbor of an Atlantic port on October 15 last, bound for the stricken battlefields of France. A terse warning went forth that any person caught smoking a match or smoking a cigar on deck after dark would be put in frons.

Injunctions also were given to keep our life belts handy at all times, and to sleep with one eye open. These instructions had a somewhat disquieting effect upon certain members of the party, and visions of death-dealing submarines arose before our eyes. As for myself, I had seen aboard this steamship some very large and formidable looking guns, manned by naval gunners, and I felt that they were amply able to cope with any German U-boat which might poke its periscopic nose above the waves.

The rest of the party had provided themselves with highly recommended rubber suits guaranteed to keep them warm and dry in the water for months. These suits were provided with waterproof pockets, in which food, writing material, etc., might be carried; all at the small cost of \$60 each. I declined to invest, and put my reliance upon the life preserver, which I did not have occasion to use.

While leaning over the rail watching the loading of our ship I saw a happening which gave me considerable concern. Guarding the gangplank was a short, stockily built young soldier. A big man, who looked mightily like a German to me, walked up behind the soldier and deliberately struck him in the neck. The soldier turned and punched the man in the butt of his gun, knocking him back some feet.

Women Lead Fellow Away.
The fellow stormed a little and two friends dragged him away. No arrest. The young soldier then loaded his rifle, which was no sooner done than another man began to abuse him and started for him. The soldier presented his bayonet at the breast of the fellow, and a couple of women led him away, protesting. No arrest and no movement in the vast crowd assembled on the dock in favor of the soldier.

I said to myself that the above incidents presaged serious trouble and the situation could not be allowed to go unchecked. The day I got back to New York I read that the Government had declared the New York and New Jersey water fronts and dock entrances prohibited zones, had ordered all alien enemies out of the territory and had placed 5000 soldiers on guard to enforce its orders. Good work!

It was through the courtesy and kindness of our distinguished Representative in Congress, Albert Johnson, that I was enabled to accompany the unofficial party of ten Congressmen which visited England and the battle front in France.

These Congressmen went abroad to

350 WORKERS EMPLOYED BY DOERNBECHER MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

Activity in shipbuilding and spruce production has attracted to those employments labor from other industries locally, with the result that some manufacturing concerns are handicapped by a shortage of help.

Reporting more business of a kind than ever before, the Doernbecher Manufacturing Company, despite this shortage of labor, during the last year has increased its force of operatives from 300 to 350 and is today disbursing approximately \$23,000 in wages every month.

Last August this company substituted an eight-hour work day for the ten-hour schedule formerly observed and maintained the same scale of wages. Since then the scale of wages in some of the departments has been increased. The shorter day plan for the same pay is working out in an eminently satisfactory manner.

BRITISH BOMBARD CITY OF MANNHEIM

TON OF BOMBS DROPPED AND SEVERAL FIRES STARTED.

Five Enemy Machines Brought to Earth Sunday and Only One English Raider Is Lost.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The city of Mannheim, in Germany on the Rhine, was bombarded by a British air squadron early Monday, says an official statement covering the operations of Army aviators during Sunday and in Monday's early hours. A ton of bombs was dropped and several fires were started. All but one of the British machines returned.

The text of the statement reads: "The enemy's machines were very active on Sunday. Five were brought down in air fighting, three falling in our lines. Two other machines were brought down in our lines by anti-aircraft gunfire. One of the latter was a large twin-engined machine with three occupants, who were made prisoners. Our night flying machines bombed several enemy aerodromes with good effect."

WOMAN DEFIES PERILS

Schoolma'am Walks 30 Miles in Storm to Examination.

TOLEDO, Or., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Lincoln County, has many plucky schoolma'ams. Deserving of special mention, however, is Mrs. Archie Stevens, of near Taft, this county. In order to be present at the teachers' examination held at Toledo last Wednesday she left her home on Monday, the 17th inst., in company of her husband, also a teacher, and walked to Newport, a distance of 30 miles, in 16 hours, arriving in time for the opening hour of the examination.

NEWLANDS FUNERAL SET

Governor Boyle Expected to Appoint Democrat to Fill Vacancy.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The funeral of Senator Francis G. Newlands, who died suddenly last night, probably will be held here Thursday and burial will be in the Congressional Cemetery.

A meeting of the Interstate Commerce Commission, of which the Senator was chairman, which was to have been held tomorrow to plan the forthcoming investigation of the railway situation, was today postponed.

Senator Newlands' Senatorial term would have expired in 1921, but no regular election will be held in Nevada until the Fall of 1918. Governor Boyle has been in Washington several weeks, but left last night for the West. He is expected to appoint a Democrat to fill the vacancy until a successor has been selected.

PERSHING RENEWS PLEDGE

General in France in Message Home Sends Christmas Greetings.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Renewed pledges of devotion to the cause of democracy from all ranks of the American expeditionary forces in France were given in a Christmas message from General Pershing. The cablegram, made public tonight by the War Department, said:

"Please extend to the President and the Secretary of War holiday greetings and best wishes for success of our arms during the coming year and convey to them from all ranks of the American expeditionary forces in France, renewed pledges of devotion to our sacred cause.

"Likewise express our greetings to our comrades at home, coupled with full confidence in the patriotism, courage and devotion to the flag."

CAPTIVES TO BE TRADED

Prisoners of 40 Held by French and Germans to Be Repatriated.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—An official note today announces the reaching of an agreement between the French and German governments for the exchange of prisoners by which non-commissioned officers and men of 40 years of age or more who have been in captivity more than 18 months will be repatriated. Officers in the same category will be interned in Switzerland.

MARSHFIELD LAD DROWNS

Roy Clark, Aged 10, Dies in Waters of Coos Bay When Boat Tips.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Roy Clark, aged 10, was drowned and his brother, Melville Clark, aged 7, narrowly escaped death this evening when a rowboat in which they were riding on the bay capsized.

W. A. Reid jumped in the water in an effort to save the older boy, but was not in time. Efforts of physicians to resuscitate him were without avail. The smaller boy got close to shore and was rescued. The father is B. G. Clark, an engineer.

WORLD-WIDE I. W. W. PLOT IS SUSPECTED

Arms Found on Shilka Arouse Suspicion.

SOCIAL REVOLT IS INDICATED

Irish Agitators Said to Be in League With German-Slavs.

TANGIBLE CLEWS OBTAINED

Government Not Contemplating Curtailment of Free Speech Privilege, but Giving of Aid to Enemy Will Not Be Tolerated.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Evidence has been uncovered by Government agents indicating that American Industrial Workers of the World, Russian Bolsheviks, Irish agitators and revolutionists in various countries at war with Germany may be seeking to lay the foundation of an elaborate world-wide plan to overthrow existing social orders.

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MEXICAN RAIDERS KILL STAGE DRIVER

BORDER TOWN OF CANDELARIA ATTACKED AND MAIL LOOTED.

"Mickey" Welch's Throat Cut and He Is Hanged and Two Mexican Passengers Reported Shot.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 25.—An American mail stage driver was hanged and his throat cut early today by Mexican raiders, who crossed the line, raided the little border town of Candelaria and held up the mail stage, killing the driver and looting the mail sacks.

The body of "Mickey" Welch, the American stage driver, was brought to Valentine tonight, according to a telegram received here tonight. The looted mail sacks were also brought from near Candelaria, where the stage was held up.

OFFICERS HURT IN MISHAP

Military Motor Overturns, Pinning Men Underneath.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Dec. 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—Two commissioned officers and two sergeants of the American forces were badly hurt tonight in an automobile accident. A high power military motor of the aviation section left the road and plunged over an embankment, turning turtle and pinning them underneath.

CIVIL WAR IN SIBERIA

Bolshevik Destroy Locomotive Shed and Workshops Near Irkutsk.

PEKIN, Dec. 25.—The Trans-Siberian Railway has been severed near Irkutsk in Eastern Siberia, where the Bolsheviks have destroyed the locomotive sheds and workshops.

Heavy fighting between Bolshevik forces and supporters of the original revolutionary party is occurring in many places in Siberia.

RED CROSS DRIVE TO CONTINUE UNTIL QUOTA IS REACHED.

Confident that full Red Cross membership quotas of Portland and Oregon will be attained by Saturday night, Rufus C. Holman, campaign manager for this city, decreed yesterday that the committees would remain in the field until the last name is listed.

Oregon now has a trifle less than 69,000 members to enroll, of which number Portland must enlist 40,000, before the state's full quota of 240,000 is reached. Portland's share of the entire quota is 100,000.

"We are nearer the goal than it may appear," declared Mr. Holman last night, "and there will be no turning back until that goal is reached."

PORTLAND HONORS SONS IN SERVICE

Olive Drab Is Favorite Christmas Tone.

THOUGHTS OF OTHERS FIRST

Day Made Happy for Dependents and Prisoners.

PROSPERITY NOTED IN CITY

Big Affair for Soldiers and Sailors Is at Auditorium, but at Scores of Homes Hero of Family Is Honor Guest.

Christmas greens were eclipsed by khaki throughout Portland yesterday.

It was the first war Christmas for many years and into the holiday entered the spirit of sacrifice. The high service for humanity into which the country has entered lent a sentiment more exalted than that of mere exchanges of gifts and in the heart of everyone was thought for making it in truth a merry Christmas for the soldiers and sailors who were the city's guests.

GUESTS HAVE FINE TIME.

The best expression of this feeling was given at the Auditorium, where a special entertainment had been planned for the boys in khaki and navy blue. From noon to midnight there was music and dancing. Refreshments were served at intervals and the boys declared they had the best possible Christmas.

Innumerable Portland homes had for their most honored guests yesterday members of the family or friends who wore the service uniforms. By other fireplaces there were vacant chairs, but the thoughts of all followed across the continent and ocean to where these Oregon heroes are serving their country in trench or camp to bring to pass the finest of all Christian wishes: "Peace on earth; good will to men."

PROSPERITY IS APPARENT.

Collectively, all Portland was on its toes yesterday morning to see what old Santa Claus had brought for the holiday. For war and sacrifice bring thoughts of others and perhaps not in recent years has there been such a generous distribution of gifts. The fortunate dearth of unemployment helped its part in making it a real Christmas for everyone.

So Christmas stockings were crammed with all good things and happiness was everywhere. Gloomy weather only made the home firesides brighter, and it was a happy day generally. The churches of the Catholic and Episcopal faith held early morning services that were well attended. The story of the first Christmas was told again and special music and de-

(Concluded on Page 7, Column 2.)

HUNS CUT THROAT OF AMERICAN BOY

MUTILATION OF LONE SENTRY OFFICIALLY TOLD.

Savagery of Philippine Campaign Is Recalled to Veterans by Acts of German Soldiers.

(By the Associated Press.)
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Dec. 25.—Information concerning German savagery has reached the troops in one of a series of bulletins read to them by the unit commanders and posted on the bulletin boards. Here is what they heard:

"After a raid by the Germans on trenches held by American troops a lone sentry of — infantry was found with his throat cut from ear to ear. He had been surprised by an overwhelming force of Germans, and must have been so killed after capture.

"Such brutality is familiar to old soldiers who served against savages in the Philippine campaign."

Another bulletin told the men how the Germans in occupied sections of France and Belgium are turning women and children out of their homes into the snows, the buildings being then given over to soldiers, horses and material.

SNOW FALLS AT REDMOND

First Wintery Touch Finds Abundance of Cattle Feed.

REDMOND, Or., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Snow fell Monday night to a depth of one and a half inches following a day of showers.

The winter so far has been the mildest in years and stockmen are rejoicing because of the saving in feed. The hay market is showing a downward tendency as a result.

On account of a shortage of labor to clear timber from cleared tracts into fuel, Prineville is having to pay \$10 a cord for wood, while ranchers only a few miles out are pulling and burning much juniper on land being cleared.

BONUS GIVEN TO EMPLOYEES

H. W. Johns-Manville Company Surprises Force of Local Branch.

Employees of the H. W. Johns-Manville Company of New York, which has a branch office in Portland and 55 other cities of the country, presented its employees as a Christmas gift a bonus of 20 per cent of their last year's salary. The bonus will be paid 10 per cent January 1, and 5 per cent on two dates soon thereafter.

In announcing the Christmas surprise the head office notified its employees by card, saying the bonus was in appreciation of efficiency and because of the increased cost of living.

2 SACRIFICE DOLL HEADS

Toledo Youngsters, Saving Pennies for Toys, Give to Red Cross.

TOLEDO, Or., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Two little girls in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Barbara, of near Toledo, had saved up one dollar in pennies to buy doll heads for Christmas. Hearing their parents talk of the use to which the Red Cross money was put, they voluntarily asked to have the money given to the county Red Cross fund, which was done. The Red Cross people hearing of the sacrifice by the little tots, saw that the patriotic little misses did not lack for the coveted doll heads.

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RIVER-FRONT PLOT REPORTED IN CITY

Police Guards Hastily Sent to Flour Mills.

SOLDIER DETAILS EXPECTED

Officials Refuse to Discuss Emergency Situation.

FOOD SUPPLY PROTECTED

Movement Revived for Transfer of Coast Artillerymen From Fort Stevens, Where Conditions Are Reported Bad.

Secret information, received by Chief of Police Johnson from Washington, D. C., at an early hour yesterday morning resulted in that official making a hurried trip to police headquarters from his home to arrange for details of men to guard the 10 flour mills in Portland, all of which were said to be in danger from some source, the nature of which has not been disclosed.

As a result of this information, whatever it may be, the waterfront, it is said, will receive considerable more attention from the military authorities in the future, beginning just as soon as details of soldiers can be arranged.

ARRANGEMENTS KEPT SECRET.

All of the activity of the Army officers in charge of the situation, as well as the police, are extremely secretive concerning any movements looking toward strengthening of harbor patrols, but it was learned yesterday that, since Chief Johnson took action, the flour mills have been closely guarded day and night by police, assisted during the day by some soldiers who belong to a Company of the Oregon Coast Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Stretcher, with headquarters in Portland, sent here to patrol certain docks at the request of the Food Administration.

The first men assigned to guard flour mills along the river were assembled from Captain Inskeep's relief of police, working out of headquarters; Captain Circle's shift relieved them in turn and yesterday Captain Moore had squads from the day relief scattered about the plants.

Soldiers Expected Soon.
The same situation prevailed last night and will continue until such time as the military authorities displace them with soldiers, as it is understood they will be able to do in a day or so.

Meanwhile, Portland has been extremely short of policemen and at headquarters the opinion prevails that it would have been an excellent opportunity for the War Department to exercise its functions and take advantage of the necessity for additional military protection by transferring companies of the Oregon Coast Artillery, stationed at Fort Stevens, as had been suggested and requested by the war auxiliaries of 21 units in Portland at a recent meeting when resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Transfer of Soldiers Urged.
At Fort Stevens conditions have been and still are bad for the men stationed there, many of them having to live in this wet, cold weather in floorless tents and wet clothing, as was explained at the auxiliaries' meeting. The resolutions adopted at that time called upon Governor Withycombe and Mayor Baker to ask the Secretary of War to transfer some of the companies to Portland for

(Concluded on Page 4, Column 1.)

FUTURE OF PORTLAND AS A GREAT SEAPORT IS SECURE

Portland's physical obstacles to shipping have been removed. Today the minimum depth of the channel at the entrance to the Columbia River is nearly 41 feet, for a width of more than 1000 feet. The uniform depth of the channel between Portland and the sea is in excess of 30 feet. These facts are of stupendous importance to Portland, as they mean that the biggest ocean carriers now can have easy ingress and egress to and from this port. This great channel development, obtained at the expenditure of millions of dollars, means that Portland has within its immediate grasp a tremendous opportunity for maritime trade. That great opportunity will be capitalized and Portland will make its destiny as a world port as secure as the great hinterland that will continue to pour its wealth and products to this city in ever-increasing volume.

The story of "Putting the Port in Portland" will be told in the annual edition of The Oregonian, which will be issued January 1, 1918.

