

AMERICAN TROOPS FINISH RATE HERE

St. Mihiel Valley Presents Finished Appearance.

GERMAN SIGNS REMAIN

France's Enemies Take Life Easily, Even in War Time, Until Yanks Arrive.

(Continued From First Page.)

here; and they were expelled or captured in precisely 27 hours. Not only that, but the Americans "mopped up" after the Boche in such a finished way that one sees far less of the desolation and debris of war than on the British front. Except for the ugly intrusion of occasional trenches and wire entanglements and leveled homes, the St. Mihiel Valley is a placid vale, with green fields (not cultivated), many stretches of wood (the French call them forests) and rolling hills. It is all very peaceful and very lovely.

Yet there are signs of the German stay. In a little wood somewhere about Nonnart the editorial party has once more how the German took life easily, even in war. There was a group of some five or six small rustic dwellings, encompassed around with shade, tastefully and even elegantly built, and artistically arranged. The houses were shingled, and on the inside there were wallpaper and pictures and mirrors and basins and all the comforts of a home. There were walks with railings from one cottage to another, and there was a particularly wide and well-marked lane pointing the way to a large hole in the ground with cement walls and a handy ladder, and top of earth, strongly barricaded, to which the prudent Boche might quickly retreat in case of an air raid or artillery fire.

There was a separate building for dining-room and kitchen, and here the occupants doubtless assembled for their square meals a day. It was all most domestic and quiet. It must have given the German a pang of regret when he had to leave without so comfortable for the discomforts of trench life, or wherever he had to go. Or perhaps, when the Americans came, he was glad to get away from this life, so long as he had a whole skin. When the American excursionists arrived, it was to find a party of officers rifling the place for American booty.

About this time there was the sound of distant firing with the occasional thunder of a shell. But it was all most desultory. It seemed somewhat like practice on a target range, with an occasional interruption by a more aggressive and convincing roll of the heavy artillery. The party was told that they were not within reach of the Boche, and not in sight of the advancing Americans, and nobody need have any worry about a chance shell coming his way—not at present, at least. But later we should go to the top of an observation hill, at Hattonchattel, overlooking the entire center of the salient and easily reached from the German lines. It might be well to have steel helmets and the gas masks at hand, and perhaps a little practice in getting them in place quickly, for the eyes of the Boche lookout. He had a nasty way, however, of paying his respects to Hattonchattel, and he might take a chance at any time, even when he couldn't tell just what he was likely to hit. Notwithstanding such distinct discouragements, the party made its fearless way to the crest of the hill.

Chapel Torn to Pieces. Here was an ancient chapel pretty thoroughly torn to pieces, and here was a small village which had suffered somewhat severely from enemy fire. By the way, the practice of the Boche in attacking and among them, down the hillside, was a fine lookout station, made up here, and here, and here, to acquire a feeling of comparative security. Once there was a loud bang from the surrounding atmosphere, and an American officer ventured the observation that a 12-inch shell had headed our way, but he changed his mind and said it was the explosion of a mine.

There was a big redoubt, too, among the experts as to whether it was machine guns or 75 or anti-aircraft weapons that were making most of the considerable noise. The firing line. Happily every body in the redoubt zone was too busy with his immediate concerns to give any thought to the question of whether it was a machine gun or anti-aircraft. The firing line was a fine line, with a light rain. Down to the right was a railroad track, with a puffing engine, carrying supplies to the front. There were a few moving soldiers on the tracks. There were many little things, too, in the line that had been taken up after Fritz had lost the St. Mihiel salient, but were again the Germans were being driven back toward Metz.

German System in Cemetery. The journey was, after an hour of futile attempt to get the war into more distinct perspective—Metz was only 20 miles away—resumed, with the city of St. Mihiel as the first objective. It had been under German rule for four years and had not yet forgotten the joyous fact of its deliverance. There was, on the way, a series of German plots that were graveyards and on one commanding hill was the image of a great winged lion, with one paw raised as if to strike. It was the central figure in a group of German graves and it was an astonishing spectacle, after the thousands of modest and orderly squares where the German dead had been buried, each grave surrounded by a simple wooden cross, with the name and age of the occupant. But if the lion in its setting of marble headstones was a novelty, there was more in store to excite wonderment as to the German way of disposing of their dead.

Just outside St. Mihiel on a hillside, with a beautiful prospect and in a lovely environment, was a great cemetery wherein reposed several thousand German soldiers. Every grave had its stone, except that in some instances there was an ornamental and very costly statue over a dozen or more members of some German regiment, with their names, and with a tribute to their deeds. A stately headpiece marked the last resting place of a Colonel and high up on the hill was

a mighty cross—an enlarged replica, perhaps, of the iron cross. Everything had been arranged in the most orderly and systematic style. No room was wasted. All the spaces were taken. Down in a corner were some French graves, surrounded by the inevitable tricolor and disclosing that it had been probably a French cemetery which had been taken over by the Germans.

The graveyard gave a curious insight into the German idea. It was French soil, but it had been selected for interment of their dead—not for the soldier of humble birth and station, but for Germans of consequence and wealth. Else how account for the vast expenditure in marble? Clearly, the men who used this strange violation of a French sanctuary had reason to believe that the German occupation was permanent, and that Germany intended to add French Lorraine to its territories. It is to be supposed that

OREGON LEGISLATORS—NO. 13.



John H. Nielsen, Senator, Hood River and Wasco. John H. Nielsen, elected as an independent for Joint Senator for Hood River and Wasco, was born on the Isle of Fohr, of the Northern Friesian group, after that territory was acquired by Germany. When 7 years old the Senator-elect arrived in the United States with his father and two years later moved to The Dalles and later to Hood River. As a youth he was employed in the machine shop and blacksmith business and owned a large implement store in Hood River until ten years ago, when he retired to his farm west of Hood River City. For 13 years he was City Recorder of Hood River and for four years he was Justice of the Peace. He has been chairman of the Good Roads Association of his county. Although Mr. Nielsen was elected as an independent, he has been chairman of the Republican county central committee. Captain George R. Wilbur, whom Mr. Nielsen succeeded, did not resign in time to permit of a party nomination.

Germany will be required to remove German lifeless tenants elsewhere, and it is to be supposed also that Germany will want to do it. St. Mihiel offered no special novelty and showed no marked signs of the Boche occupation. The next point of interest was Domremy, near Neufchateau, where Joan of Arc was born. It was reached about dark. The town is dedicated practically to commemorate the life, service and tragic death of the village's great daughter. There is a church or two, filled with relics of her time and with paintings of her deeds. There are shrines everywhere in the town. The home in which she was born is a museum. There are many other French country homes. The peasant lives about as he did then. The rooms are dark and cold, and forbidding. Two old women have charge, and they sell picture cards and small mementoes by candlelight. There was not much to see, except a heroic statue of Joan in the court. It was worth seeing. Back, then, to Neufchateau and then to Base Hospital 46 for the night, and to Chaumont by automobile and to Paris the next day and the trip to the American front was done.

UNIVERSITY ENROLLS 560

Total Registration for Second Semester Is Expected to Be 1000.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Registration for the winter term in the university began today. The enrollment was 560 at the close of this figure, Registrar A. M. Tiffany to estimate a probable enrollment of 1000 at the opening of the winter term, January 6. More than 150 students in the school of commerce did not register today. These, with students in other departments who did not sign up, are expected to bring the total past 900. The entrants from the high school make up the remainder of the expected total. The first day's enrollment is somewhat heavier than that of the second term of last year. The rule for the entrance of high school graduates provides that students who had 12 credits at the opening of the Fall term, and would have earned a total of 15 credits at the end of that semester in February, may enter the university at the beginning of the new term, January 6.

Bellingham Bans Meeting.

BELLINGHAM, Wash., Dec. 17.—By order of the City Board of Health this morning, all public assemblies will be prohibited after today for an indefinite period in the hope of stamping out the Spanish influenza epidemic. This is the second closing order promulgated this year.

Umatilla Districts Answer Call.

PENDLETON, Or., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—While in some of the country districts the influenza is interesting with the Red Cross rollcall, in Pendleton the work is progressing rapidly. Three precincts in the city have completed their work.

Advertisement for Walsh's Electrical, featuring various lighting fixtures and electrical services. Includes contact information for M. J. Walsh Electrical Co. at 106 Fourth St., Near Washington.

MEXICAN RADIO HELD BY GERMANY'S SPIES

Wireless Stations Controlled During War.

ENTIRE SYSTEM FORMED

Vice-President of Marconi Wireless Company Is Witness Before Committee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—More than 25 wireless stations in Mexico were under German control during the war, Edward Nally, vice-president of the Marconi Wireless Company of America, told the House merchant marine committee today while testifying in opposition to the bill proposing Government monopoly of radio stations in the United States. "The Germans were in full control of the wireless stations in Mexico," said Mr. Nally, telling of an investigation made last year of the Mexican wireless situation by an agent of his company. "Although the Mexican government claims title to all the wireless stations," he said, "the apparatus is strictly German and there have been German operators in every one of the 26-odd stations. Moreover, there has sprung up government electrical shops with German superintendents and the whole system has been supervised by German radio experts, who were formerly employed at Sayville and Tuckerton and on the German liners which were interned in this country at the beginning of the war."

Mr. Nally argued that trans-oceanic and trans-continental stations should be operated by private interests. He conceded that ship-to-shore wireless could be best operated as a Government monopoly. "There is no reason why the Government cannot regulate rates and practices of wireless companies," Mr. Nally said. The Marconi sale of 53 shore stations and 300 ship sets to the Navy Department, "was not very voluntary," P. A. S. Franklin, until recently chairman of the Government ship control committee, in a telegram to the committee urged the passage of the bill. Mr. Nally, who also is president of the Pan-American Wireless Telegraph & Telephone Company, said that South America to arrange for wireless service between that continent and the United States. When he left, he declared his plan was endorsed by Government departments, including the Navy, but upon his return last April after getting a concession for building a station in Argentina he found Secretary Daniels then favored Government ownership.

Mr. Nally explained the German control of Mexican wireless by saying that the Mexican constitution of 1915 provided for government ownership, and he added: "Carranza had little money and less credit when he started to make improvements, and it was therefore the most natural thing in the world that the Carranza government should fall an easy victim to the wiles of the German Telefunken Company when it offered to repair the old stations without finance and man them with competent operators."

\$250,000 PORT BONDS SOLD

Authorized Expenditures for Improvement Total \$2,500,000.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—The Port of Astoria Commission today sold \$250,000 of its bonds to P. W. Chapman & Company, of Seattle, at \$99.17 per \$100. This money is to be used for work on several improvement projects, among which are an extension to the main warehouse on the Port lock, new administration quarters, a belt line railroad around Smith's Point to the McEachern shipyard and the Astoria Mill.

DOCUMENTS READ IN COURT

GOVERNMENT WINS POINT IN I. W. W. TRIAL.

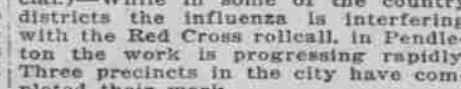
"Workers of the World" Would Take Possession of Earth and Abolish Wage System.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Dec. 17.—Right to introduce evidence, a mass of Government exhibits for the purpose of proving the existence of a revolutionary I. W. W. war-time plot, was won here today by the Government at the trial of 46 alleged I. W. W. The defendants are charged with conspiracy to combat and check the progress of the war. Immediate reading of documents, accepted temporarily by the court during the first few days of the trial, was begun, and, according to Robert Duncan, special attorney for the Department of Justice, will not be completed for at least two days. The defendants are charged with unlawfully circulating the pamphlets,

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Large advertisement for G. F. Johnson Piano Co. featuring six different styles of pianos (Sheraton, Hepplewhite, Georgian, etc.) and the slogan 'Like the Song of Birds'. Includes contact information for the company at 147-149 Sixth St., Bet. Alder and Morrison.

Advertisement for 'DOCUMENTS READ IN COURT' featuring news articles about the I. W. W. trial, university enrollment, and influenza measures. Includes a section for 'FINNS FAVOR PRO-ALLY' and 'Butte Lifts Influenza Ban'.

Advertisement for 'Why Not Give Books This Year?' featuring a list of books for sale, including 'The Reversible Santa Claus', 'The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse', and 'The Caravan Man'. Includes contact information for Gill's THE J. K. GILL CO. at 334 Washington St.