

GERMANS DECLARE ENEMY IS CRUSHED

British Offensive in Flanders, Berlin Announcement Says, Has Proved Failure.

TEUTONS HELD VICTORIOUS

London Reports Recovery of Part of Ground Won Recently by Huns on Ypres Front—Enemy Artillery Again Active.

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—An official communication from general headquarters making reference to the front of Crown Prince Rupprecht in Flanders, says:

"For over four weeks the British have discontinued their attacks in Flanders. Their violent offensive which had for its objective possession of the Flanders coast and destruction of our submarine bases, may therefore be considered closed for the present."

"Nearly the whole English army, reinforced by the French, has for over three months struggled with our army in Flanders to obtain a decision. Here also German leadership and German troops have been victorious, while at other points we have crushed the enemy by mighty blows. The failure of the English army in Flanders has been accentuated by the heavy defeat which it suffered at Cambrai."

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The British have regained part of the ground won by the Germans on the Ypres front yesterday, the War Office reports. The statement follows:

Part of French Recovered. "Local fighting was recommenced yesterday evening in the neighborhood of Polderhoek chateau, in which our troops regained a considerable part of territory which the enemy had penetrated during the morning. "The hostile artillery was active during the night east of Messines and northeast of Ypres."

(By the Associated Press.)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Friday, Dec. 15.—A story of how German officers are surrendering is told by an American officer just returned from the British front, where he had been undergoing instruction.

"One night recently a German officer crawled across No Man's Land to the British wire, raised his hands and cried "Comrade!"

British soldiers covered him with rifles, whereupon the German said: "Excuse me if I lower my hands, I've got a package here."

Hun Brought His Laundry. The surprised Britishers granted the request and the German dropped into the trench. In his hands he had a package of laundry. He said he had decided to surrender a week before, but had waited until his laundry came back.

The organization has been announced as a branch of the Army whose sole duty is to arrange for the proper burial of our soldiers who die in France and of the care of their graves.

The new organization is known as the Graves Registration Service. It is under the direction of a regular Army major and is division of the office of the chief quartermaster, and through that office is directly responsible to General Pershing. The service chief also is superintendent of all American cemeteries in Europe and as such is responsible for their proper care and maintenance.

A unit of two officers and 50 men is provided for each Army division. They are to arrange for proper burials, in their respective divisions, and also to take care of the divisional cemetery.

There also is a headquarters detachment, in command of a Colonel, and reserve battalions to be available for detachment with immediate assignment where needed.

The American expeditionary force has been assigned to land by the French authorities for use as semipermanent or temporary cemeteries, and officers have just returned from a trip through the country locating cemeteries which may be used wholly or partly for American dead. Already two large burial pits have been fenced in and posted and a number of small ones arranged near the front as temporary resting places for the bodies of Americans who may be killed in action.

Graves to Be Marked.

Each grave in the main cemeteries will have a cross at the head and an iron marker. Temporary graves will be marked by a cross or other headstone. On each also there will be an identification tag and a card giving the soldiers' rank, the organization to which he belonged and the circumstances of his death, which information also will be forwarded immediately to the record office, where the records will contain the location and a picture of the grave for the benefit of relatives.

There will be a continual inspection of all cemeteries to make sure that they are properly kept.

CHILDREN PAY DIVIDENDS

Tacoma School Principal Makes Public Interesting Investigating.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Children are the strong dividend makers for moving picture shows. O. C. Whitney, principal of the Bryant School, Tacoma, has compiled figures on the money spent by the students of his grades to see Mary Pickford look forlorn or Charlie Chaplin dash headlong into a custard pie.

The 425 children above the primer grades at the Bryant spent approximately \$2000 on the movies during the last four months, despite the fact that they saved \$600 for war work.

"We found by observation and inquiry that 45 children do not attend the movies and 287 go habitually," said Mr. Whitney.

FREE SILVER NOT DESIGN

Proposed Government Purchases Intended to Stabilize Market.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Reports that the government was considering unlimited coinage of silver or revival of the bi-metallic issue were officially denied today. Ray T. Baker, director of the mint, issued a statement explaining that the proposed government acquisition of the country's silver output is only to stimulate production and stabilize the market and it was officially explained that the administration is not supporting Senator Shafroth's resolution providing for creation of a commission to study international silver monetary questions.

Referring to the government's silver negotiations, Director Baker said: "I desire to state emphatically that

the sole purpose of the government is to insure an adequate supply of silver at a price which will be fair to the small producer as well as to the large producer, which will stimulate the production of silver and gold and other metals yielding silver as a by-product which will stabilize the American silver market and which will render foreign exchange more stable. The negotiations afford no opening for a revival of economic issue and should be regarded purely as an effort to secure an adequate supply and to place American silver production on a more satisfactory and scientific basis."

TARIFF FIGHT NOT SETTLED

Apple Growers Keep on Gathering Data Despite Postponement.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—While the hearing of the Interstate Commerce Commission of the arguments of apple-shipping concerns and representatives of growers against the petition of railway companies for a 15 per cent increase in fruit freight rates has been postponed from next Monday to some indefinite time, A. W. Stone, general manager of the Apple Growers' Association here, who was appointed as a delegate to represent the growers of Oregon, says that full and adequate data are being prepared for presentation to the Commission when growers are called to appear.

Frank Reeves, of Wenatchee, was appointed to attend the hearing as a representative of Washington apple growers.

VANCOUVER MARRIAGES 23

Record-Breaking Matrimonial Business Being Conducted.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Cupid did a record-breaking business in Vancouver today, leading 23 couples to the matrimonial altar. Only once has this number been exceeded in a single day. Nearly half of the bridegrooms were men in uniform. During the first two weeks of December more marriage licenses have been issued than during an average month, and the high record set last month seems sure to fall as a result of Cupid's war-time activity.

Included in today's weddings were several young people who had to have the consent of their parents. One bridegroom, Jay Jasper, of Portland, was only 15 years of age, while one of the brides, Eva Dodge, was only 16 years of age.

RED CROSS WINS PRAISE

Hood River Chapter Complimented on Its Equipment.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Lester Turner, auditor of the Northwestern department of the American Red Cross, here today, paid a high compliment to the local chapter.

"In all Oregon and Washington," said Mr. Turner, "I have found no chapter with a better equipped work-room. You deserve great credit for what you are doing."

Captain Ralph Fenton, Medical Reserve Corps, who was here from Portland, said that he had visited most of the Red Cross chapters of the state and that the local headquarters were equipped better than any he had seen outside Portland.

WHITMAN BOYS IN TRAINING

Two Years' Compulsory Course Being Outlined by Officer.

WHITMAN COLLEGE, Walla Walla, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—A unit of the senior division of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps has been established in Whitman College with Captain Theophilus B. Steele, U. S. A., retired, as professor of military science and tactics.

Captain Steele plans to establish a course which will enable those who have completed it to take the examination for a Second Lieutenant's commission. A two years' compulsory course of three hours a week of military instruction, together with a five hours' optional course during the remainder of the student's course, is being outlined.

GENERAL LECKIE IS GUEST

British Visitor at Camp Lewis Has Distinguished Military Record.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Major-General R. G. Edward Leckie, C. M. G., commanding the Canadian military district which comprises British Columbia, was the guest today of Brigadier-General J. A. Irons at the military banquet at Camp Lewis.

Major-General Leckie fought through the Boer war with the Canadian mounted rifles and helped to suppress the Mad Mullah in Somaliland in 1903. At the outbreak of the present war he organized and commanded the 73d regiment, Seaforth Highlanders of Canada at Vancouver, and was at the head of the Canadian Scottish during the heaviest fighting of the war. He was wounded in the Spring of 1916.

Hood River Officer Goes to Camp

HOOD RIVER, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—First Lieutenant L. A. Henderson, Engineers' Reserve Corps, City Treasurer, who recently returned from Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where he underwent a six weeks' training, left yesterday for Camp Lewis, Wash., where he has been detailed for active duty. Lieutenant Henderson, a graduate of the University of Oregon, where he was prominent in student affairs, saw service as a civilian engineer attached to military operations in Mindanao, Philippine Islands, just after the Spanish-American War.

Whitman Club to Give Play

WHITMAN COLLEGE, Walla Walla, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—The Dramatic Club of Whitman College will present Sheridan's "The Scheming Lieutenant" Tuesday evening. The cast is enthusiastic over its presentation and promises to make it highly successful. Next Spring the Dramatic Club hopes to present "You Never Can Tell," by Bernard Shaw.

Whitman Debaters Named.

WHITMAN COLLEGE, Walla Walla, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—The debating team which is to represent Whitman College against the University of Washington is as follows: R. Butsch, of Ritzville; Garver, of Walla Walla; R. Hurd and R. Porterfield, of Spokane. Douglas, of Yakima, is alternate. This debate will be held in January.

Clarke Questionnaires Sent Out.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Clarke County registered men will receive their questionnaires promptly, the first 35 having been mailed out today. Several extra volunteer clerks from the ranks of the school teachers and other patriotic women are assisting Mrs. May R. Hock, secretary of the local board, and everything in connection with the re-

PEOPLES

THE THEATER WITH THE QUALITY SHOWS

Starts Today



JEWEL PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

THE CO-RESPONDENT

with ELAINE HAMMERSTEIN

Abounding with heart-throbs, romance, simplicity, tense moments and magnificent scenes, "The Co-respondent" ranks as one of the greatest photoplays in the history of motion pictures. Teardrops follow exclamations of delight and the final scenes clinch a great morale.

CURRENT EVENTS

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COVE MAN RECEIVES CALL

Henry Hartgerink Neglects Naturalization; Is Conscripted.

COVE, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Henry Hartgerink, of High Valley, five miles out of Cove, aged 25, got into unexpected trouble last week by being too absorbed in his farm work to realize that war conditions include even him.

Students Red Cross Workers.

WHITMAN COLLEGE, Walla Walla, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—The Whitman students' membership campaign for the Red Cross will take place next week. Committees appointed from each of the fraternal organizations of the

New Houston Hotel

Sixth and Everett Streets. Four blocks from Union Depot. Near business center. Fireproof and Modern. Rates 75c to \$2.00. Chas. G. Hopkins, Manager.

Big Cut in Price of Tungsten Lamps

10 to 40 - Watt 25c Same lamp others sell for 27c.

H. W. Manning Lighting & Supply Co. 42-43, 45 St. Phone Broadway 3311.

Phone your want ads to The Oregonian, Main 7070, A 6095.

Campbell Hotel

Twenty-Third and Hoyt Streets. Phone Marshall 881. Dinner Served 4:30 to 6:30 P. M.

65c—SUNDAY DINNER—65c December 16th, 1917.

Fruit Cocktail.

Head Lettuce. Queen Olives.

Cream of Oyster Soup.

Roast Turkey with Dressing.

Fried Spring Chicken with Country Gravy.

Top Sirloin Steak.

Mashed Potatoes or Candied Sweet Potatoes.

Cauliflower in Cream.

Fruit Sticks. Home-made Jelly.

Chocolate Pie with Whipped Cream.

Butterscotch Ice Cream and Cake.

Crackers. Cheese. Coffee.

Campbell Hill Hotel 741 Washington Street. Phone Main 7384. Dinner Served 5 to 7 P. M. WEEKDAY DINNER. 50c



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