

LUMBERJACKS IN FRANCE HAVE BIG CAMPAIGN AHEAD

Timber Will Be Cut According to Most Modern Rules Covering Conservation of Forests.

FRANCE IS SURPRISE TO MEN

Value of Resources Realized Long Ago; Government Took Steps to Save Them for Future.

C. S. Chapman, former manager of the Oregon Forest Fire association, with headquarters at Portland, is now a major in the "Lumberjack regiment," known as the Tenth engineers.

James A. Woodruff is the colonel. The regiment is recruited almost entirely from forest officials and from men who use as home life the woods.

Of the 1200 men in the regiment, but two have had previous military experience. Colonel Woodruff is a West Point graduate and was an engineer officer with a rank of major prior to the war. One of the majors, R. E. Benedict, an American, was called from his work as administrator of British Columbia forests. The other major is Mr. Chapman.

Lumber is essential to the success of the submergins, and the shortage of ships, it would be absolutely impossible to transport sufficient lumber for use on the battlefield of Europe. Not only is lumber essential for use in the trenches, but railroad ties, bridge timbers and building material are needed badly. The solution of the matter was the raising of a regiment of expert woodsmen to get out the needed timbers on the ground in France. The job of raising the needed regiment was turned over to the forest service.

From the summit of many a lofty mountain top where the forestry officials maintain lookout stations, the world was photographed or telegraphed, and the response was immediate. Probably no finer party of woodsmen and outdoor men have ever been assembled than this lumberjack regiment of the Philadelphia Public Ledger says:

"There are private among them who are graduates of Harvard and Yale and Michigan. There is Jack Hansen and Parker Anderson, who played, respectively, center and halfback on the football team of the University of Minnesota. There is a superintendent of a great sawmill who did not hear of the regiment in time to get a commission, and enlisted as a private. The sales manager of a New York lumber company who had worked up from the woods did likewise. There is a Belgian, a graduate of Rugby and a scientific forester, who is a sergeant in the regiment. A second lieutenant was forester for the Pennsylvania railroad, and has since been in such organizations throughout the country.

"The men in forestry schools throughout the country presented themselves almost en masse, and many with actual experience were accepted. From all points of the compass the call to foresters got the cream of the calling. "Billy" Merphson, whose father owns the timber that covers two counties up Michigan way, is a sergeant; Frank McNally, of a well known New York lumber firm, is a buck private. Upstanding, two-listed chaps they are, who know how to get the care of themselves and how to get the timber.

"The timber lands of France were something of a novelty to them. It is a surprise, for instance, to learn that France is one of the best-wooded countries of the world. More than 25 per cent of the area of that country is covered with productive forests. All the forests of France are productive. Forests there are as carefully tended as are grain lands or orchards. Wherever there is an acre of land that is not capable of raising other crops it is put to growing timber. Every steep hillside, broken mountain stretch, rock promontory, is laid down in trees. Useful varieties are selected for planting. The undesirable are eliminated. Where trees do not come naturally they are planted. The woodlands are not allowed to become too densely forested or too thinly covered.

"For 200 years France has been giving her forests this thoughtful care. In this way she has been controlling the tendency of her rivers to flood. Generations before Gifford Pinchot began his campaign to arouse the United States to the advantages of proper reforestation, France had been practicing all the lessons that he taught. He learned much of scientific reforestation in France.

Government Owns Much. "Much of this land is owned by the government. There are few large estates in France, and almost none like those in England, where much land is used by a few men of the upper class, who have an opportunity for seasonal shooting. Therefore the cutting of trees

WITH ENGINEERS IN FRANCE



Hugh Ritchie (left), James D. Ritchie (right), Portland boys with Tenth Engineers.

Two popular Portland boys who are with the engineers, "somewhere in France" are James D. Ritchie and Hugh Ritchie Jr., the only sons of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Ritchie of 461 Lombard street. Hugh joined the Eighteenth engineer company E. as private, and was stationed at American Lake prior to his removal east. Ward of his ar-

ival in France was received some time in October. James joined the Oregon Engineers, Camp A, and after preliminary training at Charlotte, N. C., was sent to France.

James Ritchie was identified with the O-W. R. & N., while his brother, Hugh, was connected with the telephone company. Both boys are members of the Portland Rowing club.

is either on the government lands or on small and privately owned tracts that, in the United States, would be classed as wood lots.

"It is into this sort of timber that the Tenth engineers (forestry) has some. These French timberlands are to be fully utilized, but as growing forests they are not to be injured. This means that the principles of scientific forestry are to be applied to all that is done. The trees that are of a size for usefulness are to be cut. This is timber that has attained a diameter of from six to 18 inches.

"This would be regarded as mighty small timber in the United States, but the European standards are different from those in America, with her forests that are as yet stranger to the ax.

"Must Save Forest. "Whenever a tree is cut it must be done in such a way that in falling it will do no damage to the growing crop of timber. A tree that has used up 10 years in getting half grown must not be broken down. The logging must be done carefully, that the forest be not injured. Then there is the problem of utilization. In France there is no waste of any part of the tree. The body of it is made into lumber or trench timbers or railroad ties. The smaller limbs serve lesser purposes in building or are used for wood to be burned.

"The charcoal industry in France is great, and any valuable wood is utilized in its manufacture. The twigs and branches of each tree are cut up and bound together as fagots for fuel for the peasants. Finally the leaves are gathered and used for bedding for stock from which service they find their way to the fields, where they serve as manure.

"The Sand Dunes. "Generations ago France came to appreciate the menace of the sand dunes along her coast. For miles inland there was a useless stretch of shifting sand, and observations showed that it moved a little way inland each year, eating into the fertile lands of the farmer people. The farmers were powerless to stop the onward march of the sand dunes. Then France, after much experimentation, determined to stop these sands from shifting by planting them in trees.

"The result is a great stretch of pine lands of the very best varieties on what were formerly sand dunes. It is from these pine trees that the French turpentine comes. The sands no longer shift and the encroachments on the farm lands long ago ceased. Captain Eldridge has long known the lesson, and has sought to introduce the methods into Florida. Likewise he has urged that the shifting sand dune country of New Jersey be planted into these pine trees.

"The rearmet in its service in France is broken into fragments. It is organized into crews to serve the specific purposes of marking, logging, skidding, sawing the timber. Each crew is highly skilled in its specialty and sticks to its task. Most of the timber to be cut is hardwood—oak, beech, hornbeam and the like. Even the underbrush is carefully cut and utilized.

Heavy Yield From One Acre. Santa Rosa, Dec. 8.—On seven eighth of an acre near Sacko, E. H. Omsney has raised 236 bags of potatoes which he has sold at \$2 a sack, thus realizing \$470. He did not use fertilizer. He planted the seed a foot and a half apart, and when he came to dig the potatoes were in the space between each hill was filled with potatoes. He was amazed. So were his neighbors.

Civil War Threatens. Here and in Toronto it was reported the Bolsheviks, if they find the constituent assembly will not support them, will attempt to disband that body. If they attempt to carry out such a plan, civil war will follow.

OLD HOME FOLKS HUGGING STOVES IN MIDDLE WEST. (Continued From Page One)

shifting cargo caused the steamer suddenly to capsize. Six survivors were rescued by men after they had clung to protruding bit of one hull for more than an hour.

Snow Is Reported. A foot of snow was reported in southern Indiana, northern Kentucky and the Ohio river valley. A precipitation only slightly less occurred in Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, northern Arkansas, Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle. Central and southern Illinois also reported heavy snowfalls.

Railroad and interurban traffic has been impeded by the snow and low temperatures.

New York, Dec. 8.—(U. P.)—The east tonight was in the grip of its first storm of the winter.

Railroad already congested, were further crippled by a mixture of rain, hail and snow that deluged the principal routes from St. Louis, Chicago and other distributing points to the east.

The barrel of a new concrete mixer, which can be belted to an automobile engine for power, can be tilted at various angles and continues to revolve while being dumped.

Unique Feast Ends Hotel Men's Meet

War service dishes tickled the palates of the members of the State Hotel Men's association at the dinner held at the Multnomah hotel last night. The banquet, which was a most unique and successful affair, marked the close of the annual convention of hotel men in Portland.

Beef soup, soy bean salad, Kentucky braided bread, oatmeal war bread and cran loaf, were a few of the nutritious and appetizing dishes served.

Mrs. Caroline King, food conservationist of Philadelphia, was in charge of the preparation of the menu. Miss King explained how to prepare the dishes. Addresses were also made by Phil Metchan Jr., who spoke on "The Hotel in Portland," Fred Wait, of the Fry Hotel, Seattle, who discussed "Cooperation," Richard W. Childs, who spoke on "Hotel Courtesy," Mark Woodruff, of the Hotel Astor, who discussed an independent bureau to boost for Portland as a tourist center, and Mrs. Dan J. Moore.

Richard W. Childs was re-elected president and F. E. Beach secretary.

Catholic Clergymen And Laymen to Meet

Catholics, both clergymen and laymen, of this diocese will assemble at the Cathedral hall, Seventeenth and Couch streets, at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, in the first meeting of the Society of the Holy Name.

Nine delegates are called from each of the 27 Catholic parishes and will be in attendance, and members of both clergy and laity.

Addresses will be made by Rev. W. J. Cartwright, Rev. Francis W. Black, Rev. John Consky and Rev. Edward O'Hara, representing Archbishop Christie.

The head of the society in Portland is Thomas Kindred, and John D. Mann is secretary.

Bolsheviki Misrule Is Losing Out in Russia

(Continued From Page One)

The Kerensky regime have been transferred to Kronstadt, it was declared, in order to prevent possible attacks.

All the information here set forth was brought to Haparanda by arrivals from Petrograd Friday night.

The pendulum of public opinion in Russia is swinging back from ultra-radicalism to conservatism. Some delegates actually pledged to a renewal of the monarchy have been elected to the constituent assembly.

Cossacks Ready to Attack. General Kalodine and his Cossacks await only the assembly's order to attack the Bolsheviks, and the Trotsky-Lenin ring apparently will agree to quit or join with a coalition government just as soon as their peace objectives are accomplished, according to reports here today.

Every word tells an increasingly vivid story of the Bolshevik incapacity for government. It first hand proof is needed, one only has to cross from Haparanda to Tornea, Russia's gateway city to the north. The Bolshevik administration of Tornea is fantastic. It would be laughable, were it not for the cruel turning back from the gateway into the supposed new land, the deplorable promise of the sick and infirm and aged—the turning back in the bitter semi-Arctic cold of this region.

Orders All Contradictory. There are a dozen different contradictory orders. On just one point do they all agree. That is to turn back from Russia every man, woman and child.

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Hoosier Girl Made Marshal of Town

Yeedersburg, Ind., Dec. 8.—Miss Anna Ansberry, a comely girl of 37, has been made marshal of this town. She figures how to shoot and can wield a club with powerful effect. She has served notice to all law violators that she will uphold the law and will see that the city is properly policed.

MORE GAINS NEAR CAMBRAI MADE BY GERMANS, SAID

(Continued From Page One)

Every inch of ground is demanding a bloody sacrifice. Today's official cables described the increased use of asphyxiating gases and overpowering artillery all along the Asiago front. Already the entire arch forming the first line Italian defenses has been eliminated.

Monte Sisonet Cleared. Berlin, via London, Dec. 8.—(U. P.)—The Italian defenders were completely cleared from prepared positions at Monte Sisonet, today's official statement declared.

Prisoners Number 16,000. Vienna, via London, Dec. 8.—(U. P.)—Prisoners taken in the great renewed Italian drive today reached a total of 16,000, the war office announced.

To the east of Asiago, the statement said, strong points at Sionde were captured.

Massed Trenches Shelled. Rome, Dec. 8.—(U. P.)—Austro-Italian troops, concentrating apparently for an attack between Asiago and the Frenosa valley, were shelled in a heavily concentrated Italian artillery fire, today's official statement declared.

Paris, Dec. 8.—(U. P.)—An ambitiously conceived surprise attack threw against French lines in the Beaumont region, with violent ferocity, was repulsed by General Petain's troops, tonight's official statement declared.

A number of German prisoners were taken. Fighting for a time was exceedingly bitter.

Playing the Part. From the Washington Star. "I can't quite make up my mind whether young Weems is trying to be a desperado or a mollycoddle."

"Neither. He is conscientiously endeavoring to resemble the hero of the novel his best girl is reading."

Combination Bread Price Frowned On

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—(U. P.)—The federal food administration will frown upon the combination price of bread fixed by the Retail Grocers' association, Ralph P. Merritt, California food commissioner, announced tonight. Merritt also declared that his office was vested with the authority to proceed against wholesale bakers, under license, whose prices might be deemed unjust or unreasonable, and that retailers who charged too great a margin of profit would have their supplies cut off.

The new prices, which become effective Monday, coincidentally with the operation of the new license upon bakers, using in excess of 10 barrels of flour a month, are to be the subject of severe scrutiny at the hands of government agents.

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COLUMBIA
Sixth and Washington TRY TO GET IN

AMERICA'S IDOL OF THE SCREEN AND STAGE

BILLIE BURKE

IN
The Land of Promise

Starting Today

CAN YOU SING?
"WON BY A FOWL"
A Grouch Robbery Keystone