

WAR DEPARTMENT IS CONDEMNED IN ADDRESS BY T. R.

Navy Department and Shipping Board Win High Praise and Constructive Criticism.

CHAMBERLAIN IS SUPPORTED

National Press Club Told That Investigators Have Done Big Service for Nation.

Washington, Jan. 25.—(I. N. S.)—Praise for the navy department, praise and constructive criticism for the shipping board, and utter condemnation for the war department featured Colonel Theodore Roosevelt's address to the members of the National Press club Thursday night on the conduct of the war.

Interwoven with the three was a strong argument in behalf of Senator George E. Chamberlain's fight for a stronger, more centralized handling of war department affairs.

"The prime need now is the need of unity," said the colonel, "and secondly to it, is the need for team work. We have had too many star players here in Washington and too little team work."

Colonel Hammons Points Home. And with this as his text, Colonel Roosevelt hammered for an hour to get his points home.

"Our duty is to support every official, high or low, as long as he efficiently does his duty," asserted Colonel Roosevelt, "but it is no less our duty to expose the inefficiency of any official in speeding up the war, no matter who or where he is."

Colonel Roosevelt then turned to the action of congress in its war work and censured the "utter disregard of partisan politics."

Strongest praise was reserved for the investigating committees that have brought out the truth in regard to executive department activities. He noted "the then Professor Woodrow Wilson," as follows: "Unless it (congress) have and use every means of acquainting itself with the activities of the executive departments, the country must be helpless to learn how it is being served. The informing function of congress should be especially preferred to its legislative function."

Chamberlain Committee Indorsed. "That is the principle on which I shall support the best of my ability Senator Chamberlain and his associates in investigating the administration and the maladministration of the war department. I know the president who rendered the highest service to the country."

These were virtually Roosevelt's only references to President Wilson. He named the president only once, and he did not name Secretary of War Baker in any form.

Colonel Roosevelt had a good word for the navy, which, after the first six months of the war, has shown "a remarkable change and on the whole has done its work well."

During the first six months, Colonel Roosevelt said, the navy was not up to the mark, "owing to a lack of decision."

Colonel Roosevelt said in part: "The worst offense that can be committed is untruthfulness to assail an efficient public servant. Next in evil doing comes the offense of the man who untruthfully defends an inefficient public servant from having his insufficiency exposed."

Politics is Taboo in War. "I don't care a snap of my finger for the politics of the man who is doing good work at this time. If for that very reason that he has supported and shall continue to support, to the very best of my ability, Senator Chamberlain and his associates in conducting the investigation into the administration or the maladministration of the war department, I do not believe that any of its members on any side have been influenced in the smallest degree by partisanship."

"Hitherto there has been no division in the committee along party lines and every possible proof has been given by the individuals composing that committee that they are actuated by a sincere and single-minded purpose to serve the country in this war by finding out and telling the truth, not with the object of hurting any man, even any man responsible for grave abuses, save to the extent that was necessary in order to correct these abuses for the future."

Attitude of Hurley Praised. "As for the worth of those investigators I want to read an extract from the official minutes of the committee on the house of representatives, at a hearing before the committee in reference to an investigation proposed into the operations of the shipping board. Mr. Hurley, the chairman of the shipping board, asked to have the investigation deferred for the moment. Then he used this language: 'I think the senate investigations have been very helpful. I think they have brought out a number of things that have not only helped to speed up the public work of this, but have helped me and helped the staff. If the house committee should hold a hearing and we should profit as much by the house hearing as we have by the senate hearing, it might be a good thing.'"

"There speaks the public servant who is to have the work of his branch of the government investigated, and who frankly says that the senate investigating committee has not only helped from the public standpoint, but has helped him and his fellows in doing their work. Investigators Do High Service. 'I believe—no, I am going to alter that statement; I am going to put it as it should be put—I know that the senate investigating committee under Senator Chamberlain has rendered the highest service to this country. I do not believe it is any more than a gentlemanly right to ask that any man who speaks to you about a duty in the present, should have by his actions in the past helped the public to have himself in performing that duty. 'When I point out that our men abroad and at home have to a large extent been shoddy, I say it because I speak of the shortage of shoes now just as I spoke in 1915 as to the shortage of proper clothing for the men, because it is true and because an unpleasant truth is not told it will not be remedied. 'Outbreaks of Disease Are True. 'I spoke of the utter disorganization of the field hospitals, of their complete breakdown. I spoke of it at the time in an official report in connection with the army in Cuba. I said it to not hurt anyone, but because it was true, and in the same way I speak of the conditions that have led to the outbreaks of spinal meningitis and the outbreaks of pneumonia of which the most distinguished victim has been former Congressman Gus Gardner. 'I speak of that now because it is true. I spoke the truth in 1915 in order to remedy conditions. I speak the truth now in order to remedy the conditions and for no other purpose. 'One of your fraternity, Casper Whitney, has published a statement as to conditions in France and that article is worth your while reading when you are encountered with the statement that there are shortcomings in our camps here because everything has been sent to France. It may have been sent. It did not get there. It has not been distributed. 'Efficient Men Are Necessary. 'In standing by the Chamberlain committee, I, of course, mean that I most earnestly hope that we will adopt legislation they have demanded and enacted into law the propositions for a war board and a head of the munitions department. I am well aware that no change in scheme of government can accomplish anything unless the right men are put in it, after having a war board, incompetent men are put in, or their powers are narrowly or loosely defined, and there is a conflict among them. Trouble will come in the future just as trouble has come in the past. But the proposal means that at least a proper scheme of administration will be adopted by the government. At least we will get a proper scheme of administration. At least we will recognize certain vital facts."

Here's Kind of a "Nut" Story That Is, If an Acorn Is a Nut

University of Oregon, Eugene, Or., Jan. 25.—Acorns from the oak tree in which King Charles the Second hid from the Cromwellians after the battle of Marston, are being planted this week on the campus of the University of Oregon.

The Boscobol oak, as it is known in English history, saved the Stuart dynasty. The king's pursuers heard a noise which they believed might be his majesty in concealment, but just then an owl flew out and their suspicions were lulled. To this day certain English regiments bear oak insignia.

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San Francisco, Jan. 25.—(I. N. S.)—State Railroad Commissioner Edwin O. Morgan, expressed the opinion that the railroads of the country will never be returned to private ownership.

"The main reason," said the commissioner, "that they failed in doing the transportation job and so had to be taken over by the government is that the job will grow greater, and it will be utterly impossible for them to do the work if turned back to private ownership."

Armentrout on Job Again. Albany, Or., Jan. 25.—Lester Armentrout, Albany's tire-shooting, ex-speed oop, brought himself into the limelight Thursday afternoon at a meeting in the Commercial club rooms Thursday afternoon at which Louis J. Simpson of North Bend, chairman of the War Savings Stamp campaign for the First congressional district was the speaker, P. A. Young was elected to head the work in Linn county. Mr. Young handed the Y. M. C. A. drive successfully and has been active in all patriotic work during the war.

On the committee with Mr. Young were name Postmaster C. H. Stewart, City School Superintendent C. W. Boettcher, Fred Dawson, county school superintendent; Mrs. Ida M. Cummings, C. E. Sox, George Taylor and Charles H. Burggraf. The committeemen for towns outside of Albany are Postmaster D. S. McWilliams, Halsey; Postmaster H. Y. Kirkpatrick, Lebanon; Professor Nash, Harrisburg; C. E. Stannard, Brownsville, and Postmistress Daley Buckner, Scio. Linn county's quota is \$512,530.

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WHITLOCK WILL TELL HOW BELGIUM HELPED SAVE CITY OF PARIS

United States Minister Will Describe Graphic Story in Sunday Journal.

Belgium's sacrifice is one of the greatest recorded in history. Had that little kingdom bowed to the inevitable and allowed the use of her territory as a highway to facilitate the passage to France of the fast-moving Germans, the fall of Paris at the very outset of the war is highly probable.

But Belgium didn't bow. For three weeks she harried the invader and checked his advance. To that extent was time allowed the French armies to prepare for the crucial action that came at the Marne when the Teuton hordes were rolled backward.

The first shots were fired on the Belgian frontier August 4, 1914. The next day German troops reached the forts of Liege. Liege held out until August 7, and General Lemann, one of the Belgian commanders, clung to two of the forts west of the Meuse for a week longer.

Brussels fell on August 20, the Belgian army retired to Antwerp, and the German army moved southward toward Paris. On August 30 the Belgians lost Namur.

It was not until early in October that the Germans again made a major attack on the Belgians, and on October 9 Antwerp fell after a 10 days' siege. The Belgian army escaped and took up a position along the Yser, where its stubborn resistance visited severe reverses on the enemy.

Thus the valiant fight put up by King Albert's men provided a time element for the allies when time was invaluable. This fight is told in detail by Brand Whitlock, United States minister to Belgium, in his story of Belgium which will be published serially in The Sunday Journal, beginning Sunday, February 17.

Washington, Jan. 25.—(I. N. S.)—Iron ore mined in the United States during 1917 totaled 75,324,000 gross tons, an increase of .03 per cent over the preceding year, the United States geological survey has announced. Shipments from the mines in 1917 are estimated at 75,649,000 gross tons, valued at \$286,178,000 as compared with 77,878,822 tons, valued at \$181,902,377 in 1916.

About 55 per cent of the ore mined in 1917 came as usual from the Lake Superior district. The northeastern states increased their production slightly.

Klamath Falls Has Balance on Hand. Klamath Falls, Or., Jan. 25.—The largest balance which has ever been on hand in the county treasury of Klamath county, is reported in the semi-annual report of the county treasurer just made public.

The total amounts to \$204,220.40 and while this amount will soon be reduced to about \$200,000 by outstanding warrants, the balance will still be unusually large.

The general road fund with this year's levy of \$80,000 will be brought up to over \$100,000 and the courthouse fund will have a total with the levy for next year of over \$120,000.

Brothers Accused of Murder. Chicago, Jan. 25.—(I. N. S.)—William Kelly and John and Edward Littlefield, brothers, are under arrest here today for the murder of George Brown, who died January 21 in a hospital from a gunshot wound in the neck.

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MRS. LOUISSON WILL LEAD WOMEN IN DRIVE FOR ARMENIAN FUND

Portland's Apportionment Has Been Placed at \$75,000; Committee to Meet.

Mrs. Julius L. Louissou has been selected colonel of the women's division of the drive for \$75,000, Portland's share in the \$30,000,000 winter fund which is being secured by the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian relief, the campaign in this city to open Monday, February 4. Mrs. Louissou met the committee at its luncheon today. John T. Dougal, colonel of the men's division, is already organizing his regiment and preliminary work for the campaign in progress under direction of General Wells Gilbert.

The executive committee for the drive includes: Mayor George L. Baker, honorary chairman; Wells Gilbert, chairman; Barclay Acheson, secretary; Ben Selling, treasurer; C. E. Adams, Everett Ames, Charles F. Berg, H. L. Cartozian, J. C. English, J. J. Handsaker, Frederick T. Hyskell, William M. Ladd, Henry T. Reed, H. H. Ward, William D. Wheelwright. The committee announces a preliminary meeting for next Tuesday evening. The final preliminary meeting will be a dinner in Hotel Portland, Monday evening, February 4, when the committee, officers and workers will assemble for final instructions.

Rev. M. B. Paroungian, a native Armenian, Sunday school missionary for the Oregon conference of the M. E. church, has been lent by that church to the committee for the period of the campaign in Oregon.

Any organization meeting next week, which will give five or ten minutes of its time to a speaker on the relief work for Armenia and Syria, will confer a favor on the committee by calling the secretary, Mr. Handsaker, Main 5023, who will be glad to furnish a speaker.

W. S. S. Organized in Linn County

P. A. Young, Albany, Selected as Chairman of Organization at Meeting Attended by Louis J. Simpson. Albany, Or., Jan. 25.—At a meeting in the Commercial club rooms Thursday afternoon at which Louis J. Simpson of North Bend, chairman of the War Savings Stamp campaign for the First congressional district was the speaker, P. A. Young was elected to head the work in Linn county. Mr. Young handed the Y. M. C. A. drive successfully and has been active in all patriotic work during the war.

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