

RUSSIA IS LAND OF PROMISE, WORD OF MAJOR NICHOLSON

Interesting Facts About Siberian Campaigns Are Told by Portland Man on His Return Home

AMERICANS MAKE FRIENDS

Czecho-Slovaks, He Says, Are Superior Race; Money Situation in Siberia Proving Desperate.

Interesting stories of the American expeditionary forces in Siberia rolled out of the well censored sleeve of Major Wheeler Nicholson, son of Mrs. A. W. Nicholson of this city, on his return to Portland after being stationed in Siberia for six months.

The Americans enjoyed not a little amusement at the deep suspicion with which the Russian peasants regarded the new troops on their arrival. The excellent equipment of the Americans excited great admiration on the part of the allies, including Czecho-Slovaks, Chinese, Japanese, Cossacks, Italians, French, English and Russians, all under Japanese command. The Americans found fine brick barracks well equipped to house their troops in the extreme cold of the winter months and, incidentally, their first painful duty was to oust the hundreds of Russian refugees, mostly women and children in great need, who had installed themselves in these barracks and who had to be turned over to the Red Cross.

Czecho-Slovaks Praised

Major Nicholson speaks in highest terms of praise of the Czecho-Slovaks, the most important ally there, and whose numbers are made up of a superior type of men. He adds, "The Americans for their backing during the last months of chaos know no bounds. They have all the qualities of German efficiency without the attendant characteristics of merciless cruelty. During the bitter warfare carried on by the Bolsheviks, whose Hun officers showed them no quarter, the Czecho-Slovaks showed themselves to be men of unlimited courage."

Major Nicholson relates the story of a small Czecho-Slovak force which was overtaken and surrounded in a marsh near Spaskoi by a large number of former German and Russian prisoners who had joined the Bolsheviks. They knew that if they were captured by the enemy they would be tortured, and they fought nobly until all were killed or wounded but one man, who still controlled a machine gun.

Survivors Plead for Death

When his wounded comrades saw his plight they cried to him: "Please, little brother, turn the machine on us before you die, then we may not be captured." The Czech complied before taking his own life.

The chaotic state of Russian finances was a great source of inconvenience to the Americans in Siberia. Much money had been counterfeited by the Huns and, as there is no coin in circulation, the country is flooded with spurious currency, which caused difficulties in commercial establishments and banks. It has a fluctuating value and is not really a medium of exchange, as most of it is good only in doing business with the concerns issuing it. Each town issues its own currency and the peas-

ants will not exchange their products for the valueless paper any more, choosing rather to receive old clothing and like things of value to them.

Land of Promise Is Seen

When the peasants found that the American soldier would offer them money bearing the official stamp of a verified coin, they were glad to give their goods and never shamed the Americans with gifts, which, however, were not accepted except when paid for. After the Bolsheviks robbed the post offices and banks of all their real money and disappeared, old postage stamps, cigarette coupons and anything that could be used to bear an official seal were accepted.

Major Nicholson predicts a wonderful field of commercial opportunity opening up in Siberia as soon as law and order have been restored. The advent of the allies has been an eye opener to the Russian peasants and the country, with its untouched resources, its undeveloped opportunities for agricultural work, is in a fair way to be the coming land of promise.

FRANCE IN SORRY PLIGHT

San Francisco Earthquake a "Shiner" Beside Devastation of War.

"Have been giving them hell the last six weeks and am now all in but will be after them in a few days," wrote Private Malcolm Van Ogleve, with the 32d Infantry, 91st division, to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Ogleve, recently. "Sorry I could not write more often, but it rains all the time and I did write there would be no one to censor my letters and they would not be sent."

The towns around here are all torn down and burned up. The "Frisco quake was a little shiver beside what has happened here. It almost makes me cry when I see the people moving back from the towns; the old men walking, leading a horse sometimes and the mother and the kids riding, and I know they are thinking of their home. And I know that when they get back they will find only a pile of rocks, but save the fortune of war."

"The land around here is much better than what I have seen before. I saw four hopards of five acres each, but the barb wire entanglements run right through them everywhere, and most of it is built in such a way that it can't be torn up; it is put on a kind of four-legged wheel and when a shell bursts near it, it just rolls along the ground and doesn't stop for I got tangled up in some while under heavy fire and the good Lord was with me and I was still there."

"Don't worry about me; I'm all right and hope to be home to eat Christmas dinner with you. This war can't last much longer."

First Lieutenant Oscar L. Chenoweth of Dallas, writing to his wife, inclosed a copy of a recommendation of the commanding officer of the Ninth Infantry, recommending his promotion to a captain "on account of the excellent qualities displayed at St. Mihiel, offensive and at the battle of Medaua farm."

Mr. Chenoweth, who was formerly principal training instructor of the Dallas high school, went overseas a year ago as first Lieutenant of Company L, 162d infantry, the Dallas company of the old Third Oregon. Last August he was transferred with the same rank to Company M, Ninth infantry, a regular regiment.

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DEMOBILIZATION OF S. A. T. C. ORDERED

U. of O. Will Resume Peace Time Status With Opening of Second Term.

Eugene, Nov. 27.—The University of Oregon will resume its normal peace time status as an educational institution with the opening of the second term, January 1.

The announcement made by President P. L. Campbell followed receipt of orders from the war department this morning to the effect that demobilization of the university's military training corps in the colleges of the country would commence December 4. At the university it is expected that all of the students will have been mustered out of the service by December 21.

What the effect of the demobilization order on the number of men enrolled in the university next term will be is not definitely known, but Karl Onthahn, secretary to President Campbell, stated this afternoon that no noticeable slump is expected. There are but few men now in the university, he pointed out, dependent upon the pay and sustenance provided now in the army. To defray the expenses of their education and the demand for student labor during spare hours will provide a substitute for the \$30 a month these men have been receiving from the government.

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With this smallest, simplest and most perfect of hearing devices, you, too, can hear sermons, lectures and general conversation. Come in and let our factory expert advise one to your personal requirements.

FREE Demonstration

THREE DAYS Friday, Nov. 29 Saturday, Nov. 30 Monday, Dec. 2

WOODARD, CLARKE & CO.
WOOD-LARK BLDG.
ALDER AT WEST PARK

Cuticura Soap Best for Baby

Soap 25c, Ointment 25c & 50c. Talcum 50c. Sample each mailed free by "Cuticura, Dept. E, Boston."

Germans Expecting Wilson Copenhagen, Nov. 28.—(U. P.)—The Lokal Anziger today says it is probable President Wilson will visit Germany.

The friends of Victor O. Hess, former Jefferson high school and Oregon Agricultural college student, who enlisted with the marine corps in August, will be glad to learn that he was recently awarded the silver medal as "expert rifleman." He has been promoted to corporal and is at present stationed with Company G at Mare Island, as instructor.

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Players Leave for America; Football Game Called Off

London, Nov. 28.—(U. P.)—The football game between the army and navy teams which was to have featured the Thanksgiving day sport program in England was canceled because most of the players have departed.

Several special dinners were given, the highlight of which was the annual Thanksgiving dinner at Washington State College S. A. T. C. On December 2, the demobilization will be completed.

Pullman, Wash., Nov. 28.—(U. P.)—Instructions have been received to begin mustering out the vocational training men at Washington State College S. A. T. C. On December 2, the demobilization will be completed.

Telegraphic appeal to President Wilson, Secretary of Labor Wilson, and Charles Schwab of the Emergency Fleet corporation was adopted by the Portland Ad club at its meeting in the Benson hotel Wednesday afternoon, asking the president to send a message to the shipyards.

F. C. Knappe, president of the Wood Shipbuilders association, declared that it is not a matter of profit to save the industry but to prevent an unemploy-

ment emergency and keep the red flag of Bolshevism from the Northwest and America.

The plan for the removal of Swan Island was explained by City Attorney W. P. LaRoche. Robert H. Strong announced that as a member of the port commission he will appoint a trade investigation committee which will employ an engineer to ascertain trade opportunities of this district.

Avoid Danger and Keep Yards Busy, Advice of Ad Club

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No definite program for the international food, shipping and economic situation. No definite program for the conference has yet been mapped out, but acceptance of President Wilson's 14 original points by the allied nations has assured them a basis to start on.

Hoover Talks With House

Paris, Nov. 28.—Herbert Hoover, Edwin Hurley and Norman Davis, special representatives of the treasury department, in a long session at Colonial House's quarters, opened up the way for America's part in meeting the international food, shipping and economic situation.

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Hungarians Accuse Emperor Charles

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Muster Out at W. S. C. Begins Dec. 2

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