

S. O. S. Is Uncle Sam's Liquidating Agent

S. O. S. HAS NOW BECOME GIGANTIC SELLING AGENCY

Organization Which Kept the Front Supplied During Battle Days Now Liquidating Force.

VALUE OF PROPERTY HUGE

As Army in France Dwindles It Is Itself Narrowing Area Under Control and Closing Up Shop.

(The following story of General Harbord's "S. O. S." work in France is of particular interest to Oregon readers of The Journal because Captain Hamilton P. Corbett of Portland has been serving as aide to General Harbord since the signing of the armistice and the cessation of fighting in France. Captain Corbett, who was wounded in battle last summer, relinquished his opportunity to return to America with his division in order to be of service in the important work of the "S. O. S." Since the ending of this article General Harbord has been made chief of staff of the A. E. F. and Captain Corbett is expected to return to the United States in July or August.)

By Julius B. Wood
Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.
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Tours, France.—Receiver for the American expeditionary forces, "is a title aptly describing the chief function of Major General James G. Harbord, commanding the Service of Supplies these days. The expedition is like a vast commercial establishment suddenly gone out of business.

When one considers that it is sending home a couple of million men, disposing of billions of dollars worth of property and making the final disposition of the bodies of thousands of soldiers buried in the soil of France and other countries the American army appears in the new light of a business organization.

While in the days of fighting the attention of the public was centered on the activity at the front, the efficiency of the Service of Supplies stands forth today as a monumental accomplishment.

A. E. F. Strength Dwindling
The strength of the A. E. F. today, according to the report of Colonel James C. Rhea, of the S. O. S., is 559,204 men, of whom 472,557 are in the advance section of the S. O. S., 190,979 in the intermediate section and practically all of the rest in the army of occupation. The total since November 11 have been 1,124,909. The reports of Brigadier General Ewing E. Booth show that more men embarked in a single day in May than during the entire month of November. So much for getting the men home.

Under the authority of the liquidation commission appointed by President Wilson the army has \$1,570,000,000 worth of movable property and \$175,000,000 of immovable property to dispose of in France. The movable property consists of food, locomotives, cars and automobiles; the immovable property includes machine shops, warehouses, docks and barracks. The installations are being turned over to the French now while the movable property is being assembled at certain spots and guards are being placed over it awaiting transfer to the French when the price is agreed upon.

FRENCH PAY FAIR PRICES
In the negotiations for the sale of property the French have a great advantage regarding the installations, which it is impossible to move. On the other hand practically none of this property is needed in America. The movable property is needed by the French and the government is paying fair prices for the installations.

When the armistice was signed the army had about 160,000 horses and

RECEIVER FOR THE A. E. F.



Major General James G. Harbord, who made a splendid record as commander of the service of supplies in France.

mules. Half of these have already been sold at an average price per head of 1800 francs (\$360). Prices are going up instead of decreasing as the remainder are being put on the market.

Except for the comparatively small amount scheduled for return to the United States the property is being liquidated at the best possible price. Most of the returning property is classified under the heading of ordnance, of which there are about 450,000 tons, including 300,000 tons of articles of historical interest, such as captured cannon, weapons and souvenirs. The rest consists of tanks, American artillery and American made ammunition. Though this will eventually reach home troops are given precedence now, no ships being held in order to load cargo. Yesterday's report shows that 2038 tons were loaded on homebound boats though 10,677 tons remained unloaded. A large proportion of this is coal.

S. O. S. Being Cut Down
In anticipation of the expedition bidding France goodbye on July 21 an order has been given slicing off the gigantic S. O. S., or Service of Supplies, like a tree from the top downwards. Everything north of a line drawn east and west through Verdun was closed May 10, and everything north of a similar line through Neufchateau was closed May 20. The rest of the advanced section except isolated stations will be closed May 31. The exceptions are Beaume, which runs until the university there closes on July 15; Langres, which continues as the printing plant point of the expedition; Bourges, which remains as the motor transport concentration base; Colombe-les-Belles, at which all the aviation service property is assembled, and Montier-chaume, which is the assembly point for medical supplies.

OBJECTIONS OF SMALL COUNTRIES ARE OVERRULED

Wilson Tells Their Representatives That Powers Will Be Responsible to Preserve Peace.

LARGE NATIONS ON GUARD

Upon Them Falls Obligation of Supplying Men and Money Necessary to Prevent War.

(Continued From Page One)

noon, the financial, reparations and military terms will be held in reserve.

ALLIED REPLIES NEXT WEEK
With their military and economic machines in readiness to force acceptance of the peace terms, the allies are expected to make known their replies to the German counter proposals early next week.

The Germans will be given five days or a week in which to decide finally whether or not to sign the treaty. It is understood, by certain minor concessions which will not materially affect the terms, but will permit Chancellor Scheidemann to point to the fact that his peace delegates obtained "modification" of the provisions. It is regarded as significant that some of the counter proposals followed closely the lines of suggestions made by the less radical allied delegates.

In spite of the optimism over Germany's acceptance, apparently every precaution has been taken in the event this optimism is unfounded. Reports are in circulation that the French already have received orders to advance 50 miles further into Germany immediately upon receipt of information that the Germans have refused to sign, while the British are said to have been instructed to occupy the Ruhr industrial district.

President Wilson conferred with other members of the American delegation today regarding American occupation of the Rhine district. Ambassador Davis was summoned from London to attend the meeting.

Provisional recognition by the allies of Admiral Kolchak, dictator of the Omsk government, together with the advance of the Estonian and Finnish armies on Petrograd has entirely changed the complexion of the Russian situation this week. Every indication points toward disintegration of the bolsheviks' power, both in the east and the north.

While the Adriatic question is understood to have been virtually settled through establishment of Fiume's independence, with commensurate concessions to both the Italians and the Yugoslavs, the Italian press and people continue to rail at the "compromise."

The Jug-Slavs, according to unofficial reports, are now experiencing internal difficulties. Belgrade is said to be in a state of siege as the result of socialist agitations. Several clashes are said to have occurred between the radicals and government troops.

88th Division Men At Newport News

Newport News, Va., May 31.—The transport Mercury, bringing a total of 3416 men, most of them attached to the 351st Infantry of the 88th division, from the states of Minnesota, Ohio, western Illinois and Indiana, arrived here at 5 o'clock this evening from St. Nazaire, whence she sailed May 20. Brigadier General William D. Bach came in command of the 178th infantry brigade with four officers and 17 men of his staff.

French Air Hero Is Divorce Defendant

San Francisco, May 31.—A French aviator, decorated with many medals during the war, was sued for divorce here today on the grounds of nonsupport. Countess Marguerite de Mailly-Chalon, granddaughter of the late Adolph Sutro, former mayor of San Francisco, sued Count Anselme de Mailly-Chalon, citing no other grounds.

Grape Growers Get Biggest Price Ever

Visalia, Cal., May 31.—(U. P.)—With prohibition threatening the wine grape industry, growers of these grapes are now getting the highest price ever paid for their grapes—\$40 per ton.

The "Own Your Home" campaign was begun at Powers'—years ago. We are glad to advise the prospective homeowner, and to help him furnish the home by POWERS' EASY CREDIT, No Interest purchasing plan

OWN YOUR HOME

The Home-owner-to-Be Will Delight in This

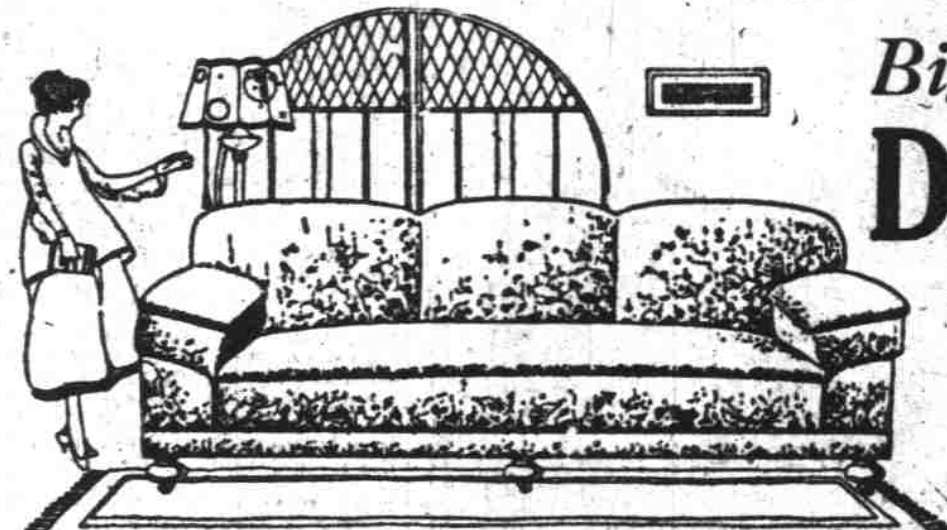
Big, Luxurious, Overstuffed

Davenport \$161.50

For Only

A Special Value Hard to Beat.

Spring arm, covered in a pretty pattern of tapestry and, what is most unusual, the outside of the back covered in the same material. It is not often that you get a chance to purchase such a fine piece of furniture at a price like this; ordinarily you would have to pay a great deal more. You have a choice of two styles.



Many Other Davenports in Handsome Styles, at

\$69.75, \$89.50, \$97.50, \$137, \$141, \$155 and Up

For Summer Days, This Ivory

Finished

Rocker

\$27.25 Value for

\$23.50

So comfortably cool and pretty for porch, living-room, or sun parlor. It has a loose cushion spring seat, and pad back, both covered with cretonne in dainty patterns.



This Gate End Table

\$12.90

Is Specially Underpriced For June Brides

One of those little extra pieces that come in so handy for apartment use. This gate end table is convenient too for serving afternoon tea or a bit of lunch out on the porch. Mahogany finish. Open, measures 26x30; shut, is 26 inches long.



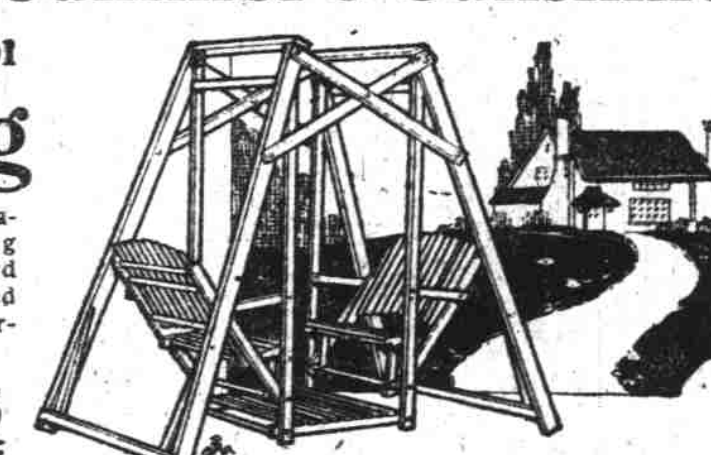
Enjoy Summer's Sunshine

An Outdoor

Swing

Powers has many varieties. The swing illustrated is of hard wood, finished red or natural. Four-passenger—

\$13.95



Folding Porch Settees

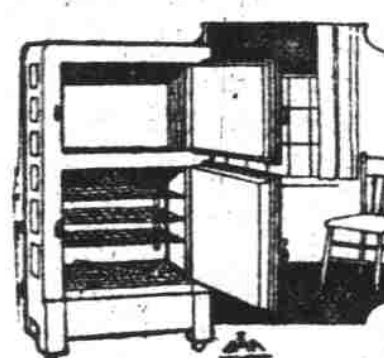
A convenient, space-saving piece of furniture is a folding porch settee, finished red or natural, special 4-ft. Porch Settee \$6.50 4-ft. Rocker Settee, special \$7.25

The Modern Housewife Approves the

Leonard Cleanable Refrigerator

SO CLEAN, SO SANITARY

One piece porcelain lining. Practical protection for vegetables, milk, butter, meat, etc.



Choose a Baby Carriage From Powers' Fine Selection

Sulkies, Go-Baskets, Ortoles, etc. Use the credit you can obtain so easily at this store.



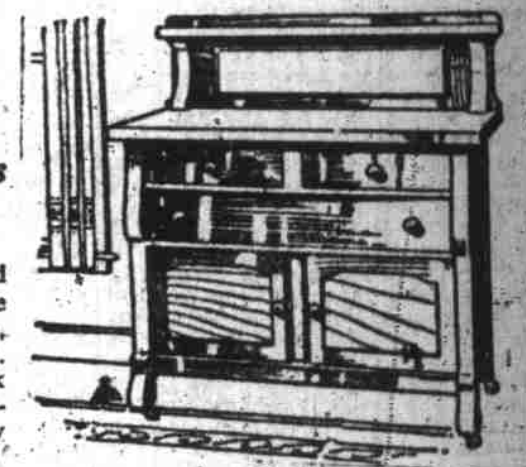
Strongly Built and Extra Value

Colonial Buffet

\$35.85

Remember Powers Charges No Interest

Good simple lines and strong construction are two points in this big, roomy Colonial buffet. Frame is selected oak stock. Excellent drawer arrangement. Heavy plate glass mirror.



Tea Wagons Specially Priced \$12.90

Those we feature today are finished in either mahogany or walnut, and fitted with removable trays. Large rubber-tired wheels. Very special at \$12.90

Another Shipment of Powers'

Rugs: Many Extra Values

Rugs—For the Most Particular

Powers would like to show this new shipment of rugs to every housekeeper who is refurnishing her home, or who even needs a new rug in any one room. These are all sizes, and a wide selection of colors and patterns.

9x12 Tapestry Brussels Rugs, choice \$25.65 line of patterns
27x54 Axminster Rugs \$4.85
Grass rugs for porch or bedroom in great variety.

Printed and Inlaid LINOLEUM

In Many Beautiful Patterns.

Ivory Finished Dressers

—A Clearance—

A \$24.75 Ivory Dresser for \$19.30
A \$36.75 Ivory Dresser for \$29.25
A \$39.75 Ivory Dresser for \$31.15
A \$49.75 Ivory Dresser for \$38.75
A \$59.75 Ivory Dresser for \$47.80
A \$90.00 Ivory Dresser for \$69.50



Buy Your Vacation Luggage Now

Pay on Easy Credit Terms

Make Use of Your Credit—Get a Columbia Bicycle Tomorrow
Easy riding, strongly built. The Powers' line includes all styles.

CLOTHES for men who are concerned with more important things



THESE are busy days. The man who buys clothes ready for service, buys them quickly, relying upon the name of the maker or upon the integrity of the seller.

Men's Suits Twenty-Five Dollars to Sixty

My label is my bond. You will find it sewed on every suit you buy from me. Its good faith never has been questioned. It is a guaranty that endures.



Ben Selling LEADING CLOTHIER Morrison Street at Fourth