

MANY OREGONIANS RECALL PERSHING AT NEBRASKA 'U'

The Now Famous General Then Began His Military Career as Commandant of Cadets.

John J. Pershing's first military command was at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, where, as commandant of cadets, his function was to train young men in the rudiments of warfare. Many Portland men were students at that Middle West university when Pershing was stationed there. Hundreds more in Oregon remember Pershing from their college days, either as students during his regime or in the traditions that are still handed about the campus of Nebraska's premier school of learning.

When he took charge, the college military organization included but four companies, including about 150 men, which were formed into a battalion. It has since increased to regimental proportions.

DISCIPLINE IS STRICT

Tradition, accentuated by reference to the "Senior Annual" of 1893, tells of the order Pershing brought out of chaos that had prevailed in the military organization before his arrival. The band was one of his chief "nets." James I. Sayer, who was a Nebraska student and who played in the cadet band for three years, tells with gusto of the enforced discipline the commander put upon the musical organization.

PERSHING RIFLES FORMED

So eager did some of the students become for more military training than the three hours a week required by the university, that they organized the "Pershing rifles," an independent military company that is still in existence in Lincoln. "Lieutenant" Pershing commanded this personally in the early days of its organization, but later it was commanded by officers elected by the company membership. This company was formerly commanded by Jacob Kandler, judge of the court of domestic relations in Portland, who had won several medals for proficiency in military drill.

Among other members of the rifles now living in Portland are Fred C. Cooley, Lewis P. Hewitt, Theodore Hewitt and Ira L. Riggs. These will all occupy a Nebraska table at tonight's banquet. Several other former University of Nebraska men are also expected at the feast.

HAD MILITARY LEADERSHIP

With the small beginning of military leadership, Pershing's career was fairly well launched when the Spanish-American war broke out and he was sent to the Philippines. Pershing was succeeded at the university by one or two officers immediately prior to the war and then by Captain Stotsenburg, who later resigned his commission in the regular army to become a colonel in the First Nebraska volunteers. Colonel Stotsenburg was one of the first victims of

PERSHING'S FIRST MILITARY COMMAND



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Above—University of Nebraska cadet battalion, commanded by Pershing in 1893. Below—Pershing as a second lieutenant of cavalry when he was at university at Lincoln.

Weisendanger Will Tell Boys How to Halt Forest Fires

How Boy Scouts can aid in preventing forest fires will be explained to the boys of the Brooklyn district by Forest Ranger Albert Weisendanger of the United States forest service at the Brooklyn school Monday night. Weisendanger will illustrate his talk, using a hundred lantern slides.

Medford Legion to Seek Pershing Visit

Medford, Jan. 17.—Emissaries of the Medford post of the American Legion will urge upon General Pershing at Portland Sunday that he consent, while en route from Portland to San Francisco Thursday, to leave the train at Medford, make a few minutes' address to the service men of Jackson county and then be hurried in an auto by post to Ashland in time again to board the train.

PERSHING FIGHT FOR SOLDIERS WHO WAGED WAR FOR US

General Wins Allied Command to Plea to Allow American Boys to Fight With Own Officers.

By Ed C. Lapping
A soldier and a man—that's John Pershing, commander in chief of America's greatest expeditionary force, who comes to Portland today.

Perhaps the people on the sidelines, so far from war activity in 1917 and 1918, have never heard the remarkable story of Pershing's fight for American independence in the German war campaign. And, perhaps, too, they have not realized the nature of the automatic soldier, bound by an accumulation of war department red tape.

The war department early in 1917 put Pershing on the transport headed for France. To him was given the task of directing the millions of Yanks yet to come.

LEFT TO PERSHING

Does America know that when Pershing left America for France the war department had no fixed idea of what a division should consist? To Pershing was left the question of how much infantry, how much artillery and how much of the many other branches of service should be required to compose the most efficient large fighting unit.

And the decision was made on the transport! Before Pershing and his small staff departed they had planned the division so well that never during the many succeeding months was it necessary to greatly alter the structure.

NOT MERE CHANCE

It was not accident that the Americans pinched off the St. Mihiel salient and thereby won the first battle. It was not accident that the marines and the infantry repulsed the German attack at Chateau-Thierry. Nor did the Meuse-Argonne campaign "just happen." All these campaigns were made possible because Johnny Pershing, Yankee, told the British and the French that America's sons came to fight under their own commanders, and not to fill in the colored ranks of the Tommies and the Poles.

The first Americans across were put under British command. Then the French received some, for "instruction purposes."

HIS PLEA WINS

The theory was that a trench filled alternately with Yanks and Frenchmen, or British and Yanks, would give twofold benefits. First, the French and British morale would be stimulated by increasing numbers of new men; second, the Americans would gain valuable lessons in fighting from their comrades.

As months went by, the Germans seemed to grow stronger. The allies became fagged. Their back was to the wall.

Pershing saw his chance. "Give the American command of their own men," he said.

The allies were not so inclined. But Pershing went here and there with his plea. Finally he won.

YANKS SHOWED 'EM

An so to the summer of 1918, the Americans were guided by their own officers. The supreme command transmitted orders to Pershing, and he transmitted them to his subordinates.

The first American stroke was not made for strategic reasons. It was done for psychological reasons. It was staked to show the allies that the Yanks could and would fight.

Cambrai cost many American lives. But it saved many more. For it showed the British and the French that the Americans were brave, that they could stand alone.

GO TO SEE FIGHT

And when the St. Mihiel offensive arrived, so astonished at American prowess were the French that they rushed truckloads of their officers and soldiers to see the Yanks fight.

For Pershing had won. He had shown the supreme command that Americans under American direction would fight fiercely and constantly.

The French sent officers and men to the St. Mihiel sector to prove to their men that trench-could be taken, that barbed wire entanglements could be surmounted, without a 10 months' heavy artillery preparation. Gen. V. Hausser, chief of the division of operations, declared.

AT LAST RECOGNIZED

After that, Pershing was recognized as more or less of a military genius. The French and the British admired him, for he knew the American soldier, and he was man enough to fight for American recognition and American command.

He sent an automatic soldier, this man whom many call the most military appearing of all allied generals. He's an executive. He's a fighter. He's a soldier and a man.

GENERAL WHO WILL DELIVER A BRIEF MESSAGE TO THOSE ASSEMBLED

The east door of the building will be used for entrance and will be open at 12:15 o'clock. Musical selections will be provided by the Oregon Marine band "through courtesy" of Eric V. Hauser, until the arrival of the official party which will occupy the east gallery.

At the conclusion of the address at the Armory, Pershing will go directly to his headquarters at the Multnomah hotel, probably about 2:30 to rest until 6 o'clock. The desire has been expressed by several local organizations for reservation of special allotments of the general's time during the afternoon.

Colonel Hammond, Spanish-American and world war veteran, will preside at the meeting at the Armory and will introduce Pershing.

BANQUET AT 6 O'CLOCK

Most pretensions of all the features of the entertainment of General Pershing in Portland will be the banquet which will be served in his honor in the main dining hall of the Chamber of Commerce beginning at 6 o'clock.

Reservations had been made for all but 50 of the 450 covers to be laid, and a special secretary will be placed on the seventh floor of the Oregon building at 10 o'clock this morning to arrange reservations for additional guests.

Special decorations and special music will feature the chamber's banquet. The dining hall has been transformed and special caterers have been engaged to serve an elaborate menu.

H. B. Van Duzer, president of the chamber, will preside at the banquet and introduce Pershing for a brief address. A special table has been arranged for the Portlanders who were former students of the University of Nebraska and members of the cadet corps, when Pershing was commandant of the drill squads.

The chamber banquet will be for a mixed attendance. Arrangements have

ROSES FOR DADDY'S CHIEF



Jean Abercrombie, daughter of Captain Charles H. Abercrombie who fell in battle, and the cluster of new roses, "Columbia," she will present to General Pershing tonight.

For a moment tonight at The Auditorium a 6-year-old girl will hold the center of the stage and command the undivided attention of General John J. Pershing.

Little Jean Abercrombie will present to the man who commanded American army in France a Portland rose, in fact she will present a whole cluster of Portland roses tied with a ribbon of silk, which the famous soldier will want to keep because of what is written on it.

The tiny girl has won the unusual distinction because she is the daughter of a Portland man who gave his life fighting for world freedom in France. Her father was Captain Charles H. Abercrombie, whose death resulted from high explosive shell wounds received during the second day of the battle of the Argonne.

The roses which she will place in the hands of General Pershing possess their own distinction. By happy coincidence the judges of the international contest at the Portland rose test gardens chose today as the time to announce the world champion rose. It is the "Columbia," and exquisite flower, and through the cooperation of J. A. Curry and Clarke Brothers of the Portland Rose society, General Pershing will receive a bouquet which cannot be excelled in beauty in all the world.

Red Cross Donates To Quake Victims

Washington, Jan. 17.—(I. N. S.)—The sum of \$10,000 today was appropriated by the American Red Cross from its relief fund for the immediate relief of the victims of the recent Mexican earthquake.

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- Do spots or specks dance before the eyes?
- Do you see more clearly some days than others?
- Do you see better sidewise than straight forward?
- Do you see better in the evening or just after sundown than at midday?
- Does a candle or street lamp seem expanded into large flame?
- Does a lamp or electric light seem to have a halo about it?
- Do luminous objects, like the moon, seem multiplied?

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SINCE 1908

Life Story of America's Army Commander, Who Is Portland Visitor Today

GENERAL JOHN JOSEPH PERSHING, who is Portland's honored guest today, was born in Linn county Missouri, September 13, 1860. While preparing at Kirksville (Mo.) Normal school to become a teacher, he was attracted by the announcement of an examination for entrance to the United States Military academy. He took the examination, and after graduating from the normal school with an A. B. degree, entered West Point. He was graduated from the academy in 1886 at the age of 26, on receiving his commission he was assigned to the Sixth cavalry, which was engaged in a campaign against the Apache Indians. The knowledge of Indian fighting which Pershing gained while serving under General Nelson A. Miles, who commanded the expedition, caused him to be sent to the Dakotas to command the Sioux scouts in the campaign to quell the Sioux Indians. His next assignment was military instructor at the University of Nebraska, and while there, October 20, 1892, he received his commission as first lieutenant. At the University of Nebraska Pershing continued his law work and received the degree of LL. B. in 1893.

IN CUBA AND PHILIPPINES

He was on duty at the military academy when the war with Spain broke out. Pershing was on duty with the headquarters of the army in the campaign against Santiago. On his return to the United States he was made major of ordnance in the volunteers. He reverted to his rank in the regular service June 30, 1901. His next detail was to the Philippines in 1899, where he was destined to spend eight years of his life and make a record which brought him fame in later years.

February 2, 1910, he received his captain's commission, and as Captain Pershing he participated in many military operations against the Moros in Central Mindanao. On his return to

THE RECEPTION COMMITTEE

The main reception committee will meet at the Oregon building at 11 o'clock, secure official reception committee badges and automobile assignments and proceed directly to the Union station. Upon the official committee are the following named men:

Mayor Baker, H. B. Van Duzer, president of the Chamber of Commerce; Major J. F. Morrison, commander in chief of Camp Lewis; Colonel Koester and Dowd, commanders respectively of Vancouver Barracks and Fort Stevens; Captain William S. Gilbert of Astoria; Colonel Creed Hammond and C. E. Dentler of the National Guard; Adjutant General Conrad Staffin, Judge C. H. Carey, chairman of the entertainment committee; Cassius R. Peck, president of the American Legion in Oregon; heads of various patriotic organizations and former friends and colleagues.

CITY IS READY WITH PERSHING'S WELCOME

(Continued From Page One)

O'Neill, traveling passenger agent of the O-W, who met the general and his party at Huntington, and William McMurray, general passenger agent, who is meeting the train at The Dalles.

With a minimum of formality an escort—or parade—will form on Sixth street about 12:45 o'clock. A company of veteran policemen will lead the column, which will march south on Sixth street to Washington, to Third, to Morrison, to Broadway, to Washington, to Eleventh and to the Armory, and then to the Armory.

Following the police company will be the Red Cross band and a battalion of the Oregon national guard under command of J. Francis Drake.

The general's automobile and personal foot guard of non-commissioned officers from the army, navy and marine corps will be next in line and he will be followed by a dozen more automobiles containing the general's retinue, guests of honor and the reception committee.

GOES TO THE ARMORY

At the end of the march at the Armory the companies will form at attention as the general passes. The southeast door of the building will be used as the entrance to the general's retinue, guests of honor and the members of the reception committee.

Only veterans of former wars will be admitted to the Armory. This meeting was arranged at the special request of