

SECOND LETTER OF COLONEL E. HOFER

Went Thousand Miles to Learn to Fry Trout in Rockies' Snowbanks

(By Col. Hofer, Editor The Lariat.)

Great Falls was the last lap of our journey of over a thousand miles into the northwest and back. These states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana are all large. Montana is nearly twice as large as Oregon or Washington. Idaho is nearly a thousand miles from the Canadian boundary to the southernmost point. Motoring it takes a week to get in to Montana and out again. We took a day from Butte to Helena. Here is the great American smelter owned by the Guggenheims or A. and R. company, that has smelters at Tacoma, Denver, Salt Lake City and El Paso. Helena is a clean and beautiful city with fine hotels, a capitol, and theaters, on the line with Butte, where a range of mountains is called the continental divide. The Placer hotel was built to meet the days of Helena as a mining center and the needs of Montana bonanza legislative sessions.

Learns to Fry Trout

I went nearly a thousand miles on this trip to learn to fry trout. I had the best mountain trout I ever ate in my life at the Placer hotel, Helena, April 26. Talked with the chef in the kitchen. He was an Austrian, and here is the recipe: Rub with salt and pepper, roll in flour, fry in quarter inch deep butter slowly until a light golden brown; eat skins and all but the backbone.

Going Through Snow

The winter road to Helena is by the Yellowstone trail to Whitehall, the short cut via the Basin canyon, or pass, to Pass route, via Big Basin mine and Boulder. This canyon was still locked in snow and ice. We were to learn about the short cut a week later, returning from Great Falls to Butte. Three light cars tried the pass from Basin and had to return. A bigger car tried it and went through. The old roadmaster looked over our Packard and said: "That car will go through all right. Put on your chains and take a shovel." We did it and it did. There was twenty miles of canyon of melting snow drifts. Ice was hanging in the rivers and in places pools were still frozen over. The swift mountain current in places flowed level with the roadbed.

Hard on Nerves

One place tried our nerves. A rock as big as a piano box had dropped from the canyon wall and left room for the car to pass and six inches to spare between us and the foaming waters. Providentially, the sandy soil right here was not made slippery with snow water, and we crept by the rock under high nervous tension. We waded through ten miles of snowbanks and dropped into the world's greatest mining camp through a pass at an elevation of 6500 feet with snow mountains thousands of feet above.

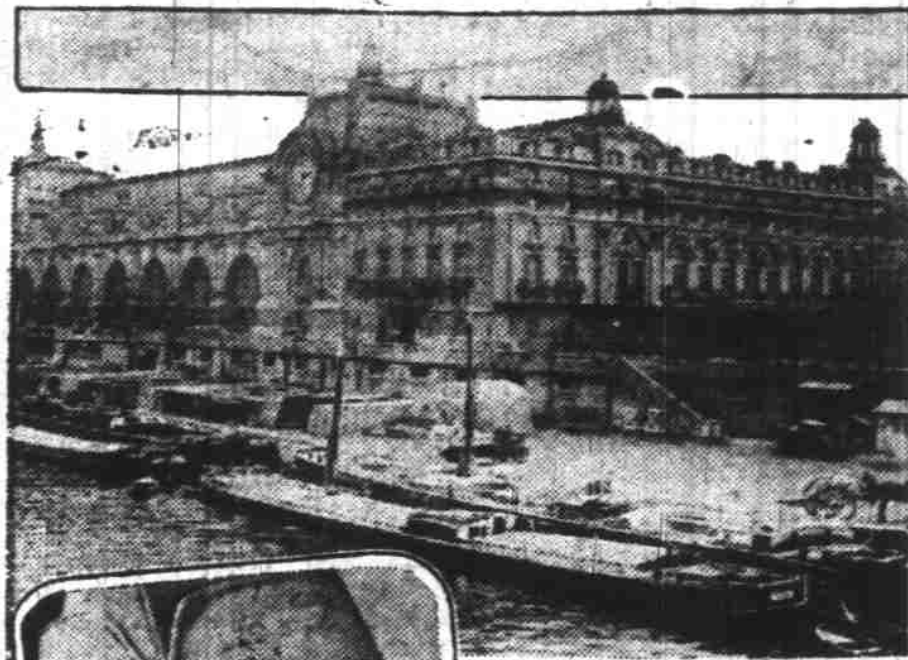
April 27. Left Great Falls for Helena and Butte. Very light rain where we crossed Missouri river. Above the Falls the Missouri is a rainbow trout stream and same with Sun river. On the latter is good deer and elk hunting in season. Anaconda Copper company has a great copper wire plant here; Great Northern railway has division offices, and Montana Power company has the beautiful half-million dollar Rainbow hotel, summer tourist entrance to Glacier National Park 150 miles north by fine highway.

Were Invited Guests

We were invited guests of mine host Frank G. Hofer, manager, descendant from Andreas Hofer, the world famous Tyrolean innkeeper and cattle buyer who was made a member of the Austrian nobility for distinguished military services. He was himself an arch-democrat and governed his own county as big as Switzerland up to 1809, for many years at 800 florins a year in our money, a little over \$300 a year at that time. Mr. and Mrs. Glover asked us to dinner at the Great Falls country club and golf links. Mr. Glover was from Portland, but for many years has been a member of the legal department of the Great Northern railway. Mrs. Glover was of the Hamilton family, Willamette valley pioneers, a social leader in this very beautiful and prosperous city. The country club is kept up in a highly creditable manner. The Rainbow hotel was finished in marble and regardless of expense, and as a landlord Frank Hofer has made it very popular at home and abroad, showing his breeding and descent from a race and family proud of hotel-keeping stock. It easily ranks next to the Davenport at Spokane in the great northwest for menus and room service. He also is gaining a reputation for happy anticipations of wants of guests, whether it is meeting a reporter for an interview or wanting to remain incognito.

(Col. Hofer has promised a

WHERE "40 AND 8" WILL MEET



"Forty and Eight," fun-making and honor organization of the American Legion will have headquarters in the Hotel Palais d'Orsay, in the midst of a typical French section in Paris, during the ninth annual convention Sept. 19-23, under arrangements announced by Bowman Elder of Indianapolis, national chairman of the French Convention Committee. Photo above shows the Palais d'Orsay to the right and Palais d'Orsay railroad station to the left, as seen from the Pont Solferino, bridge over the Seine. To the left, below, Charles A. Mills, of Miami, Fla., chef-de-chemin-de-fer, national commander of the "40 and 8." To the right, Bowman Elder.

third letter for The Statesman, telling of the wonderful things he saw on his return trip.—(Ed.)

GOOD WILL FLIGHT ENDED AT CAPITAL

Major Dargue and Companions Bring Messages to President Coolidge

WASHINGTON, May 2.—(AP.) Twenty thousand miles of airways opened to them as messengers of good will in Pan-America lay behind Major Herbert A. Dargue and his seven companions of the army air corps when they dropped gracefully to earth at Bolling field late today, to report in person to President Coolidge that the task he had assigned them was completed. "Mr. President," Dargue said, as he faced his commander-in-chief, "you gave us a mission of good will to perform. I hope we have done it to your satisfaction. "We carried messages from you to the countries we visited, and we bring back physical evidence of the pleasure with which they were received."

As he spoke, Dargue, still in flying suit, goggles and helmet, and with the seven bronzed comrades of the long flight at his shoulder, handed the president the written replies of the chiefs of the states to the south. "I thank you, Major Dargue," the president said, and that was the only official exchange of the greeting that ended daring air pilgrimage that has brought new luster to American skill not in flying alone, but also in building airships to binding nations into closer understanding. The four mighty air liners swept out of the south to Bolling field on time almost to the tick of a watch. With them came a half dozen speedy ships from Langley field, Va., their last stop and another half dozen guided by enthusiastic comrades rose here to join the honorary escort. The

ous duties while wives and friends and crowding fellow officers waited impatiently to extend their own informal greetings.

There were many happy tears when the loved ones who had waited so long at last claimed the heroes of the hour, and a tumult of good wishes and handslaps from brother officers that all but smothered them.

GAS MASKS FOR WOMEN
MOSCOW.—Detachments of housewives, servants, and other members of the "unorganized population" soon will be formed by the Soviet society of chemical warfare to resist gas attacks by enemy armies.

Insurance companies licensed in Oregon have \$102,731,559 invested in the state.

SLAYING OF ACTOR CHARGED TO FIVE

Blanket Indictment Returned When Varying Stories of Death Told

LOS ANGELES, May 2.—(AP.)—Indictments, charging murder, were returned by the county grand jury here late today against Sarah Kerrick, Anita Davis, Iris Burns, Joe Hunt and Henry Isabella, in connection with the slaying of Tom Kerrick, film cowboy, several days ago.

The blanket indictments were said to have been returned be-

cause all of the five, who were members of the Hollywood drinking party, which climaxed in the killing of Kerrick, appeared before the grand jury with conflicting versions of the shooting.

The witnesses were reported as certain only that large quantities of liquor were imbibed at the party, prior to the slaying of Kerrick. Some of them said Mrs. Kerrick had a pistol in her hand at the shooting. She reportedly had told the police that she was holding a pistol belonging to Hunt, when it was fired during a scuffle with her husband and some other members of the party. She collapsed several times while relating her story to the grand jury.

A table about which the participants in the drinking party were gathered at the time of the shooting also was examined by

the grand jury and attempts were made to trace the source of the bullet by the positions of the six persons. The five indicated are being held in the county jail without bail.

As the grand jury was voting the indictments, Mrs. Kerrick was praying beside the coffin of her husband that "the truth come out." She had been taken under guard to the chapel where the film cowboy's funeral was held this afternoon.

"I didn't kill him," she sobbed to her escort of two detectives. After kneeling beside Kerrick's coffin, praying, she swooned and was carried back to her cell in the county jail, where she learned of the indictments.

Cottage Grove—New \$25,000 city hall completed.

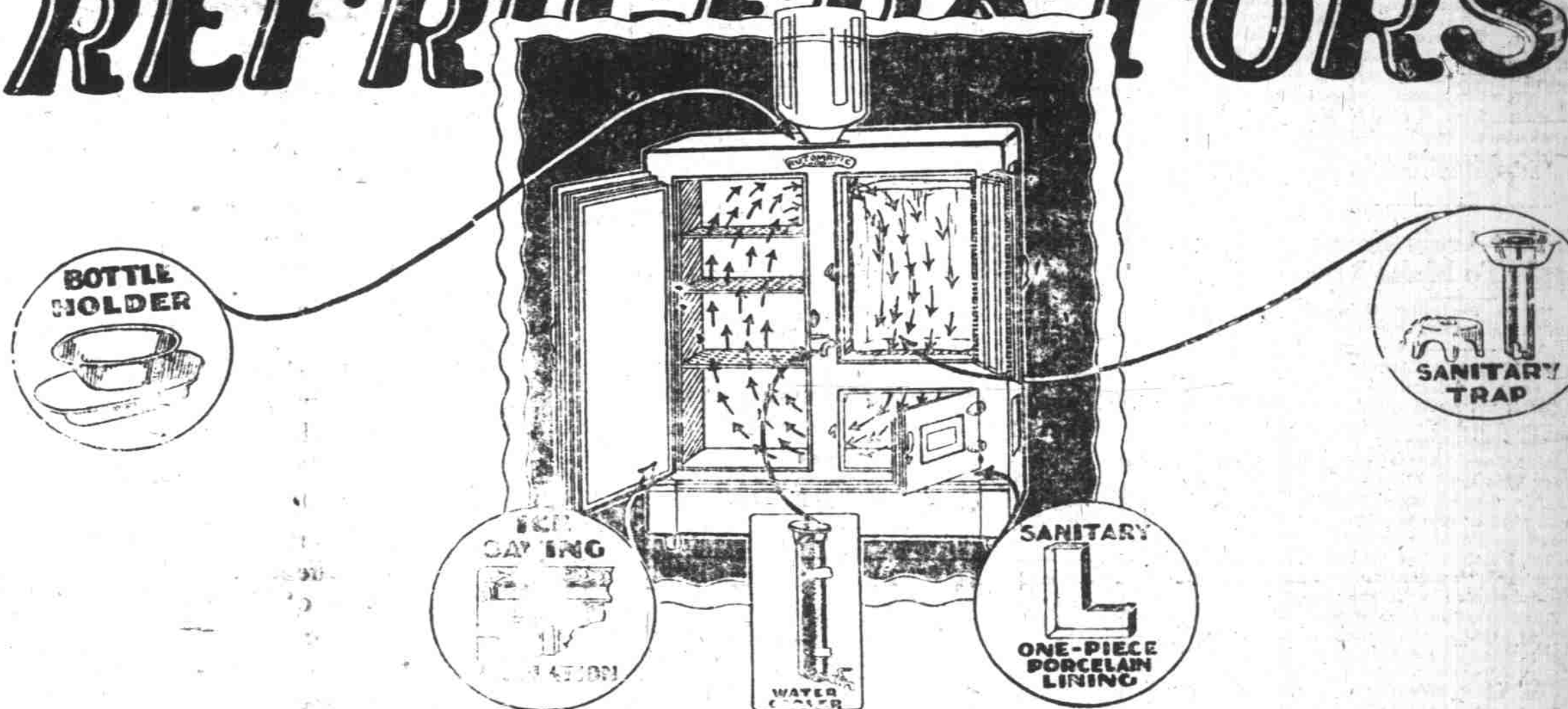
14,000 REFUGEES ADDED

People Fleeing New Floods Pour into Concentration Camps

MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 2.—(AP.)—More than 14,000 refugees fleeing the newly flooded areas in northern and central Louisiana, have poured into five concentration camps within the last 24 hours, the Red Cross announced here tonight. Five thousand are in the village of Delhi, La., where the population normally is about 700 and relief workers were taxed to care for them.

SPEAKS FOUR LANGUAGES
SACO, Me.—Katherine Civik, five-year-old resident of Saco, speaks Rumanian, German, French and English. Her parents came from Rumania.

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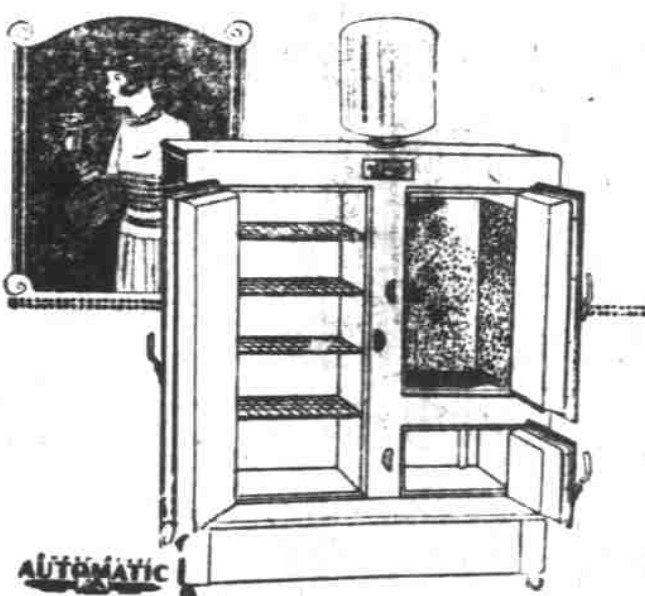
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