

CAMP UPTON'S EXCELLENT BASE HOSPITAL



Camp Upton, New York, has a million-dollar base hospital, a view of which is here given. It is under the supervision of some of the most eminent physicians and surgeons in the country. Inset is a portrait of Maj. J. B. Whitlam, commanding the base hospital.

TRAINING FOR THE AVIATION CORPS IS MOST THOROUGH

Drilling and Study Occupy About 16 Hours of Every Day.

GET ESSENTIALS IN 8 WEEKS

Eight "Ground" Schools Located at Leading Universities Where Candidates Are Given Intensive Course of Training—More Men Are Needed in the Service.

By a Lieutenant of the Aviation Section.

Washington.—A group of 30 well-set-up young Americans, the summer's tan just fading from their faces, are closely studying a battlefield. Within six feet of them is the rapid flash of shells bursting in quick succession—not real shells, but as close an imitation as desirable in a lecture hall—and the men are behaving with the sureness and precision which, as future officers and pilots of America's great aerial battle fleet, they are expected to display.

After each explosion, or, rather, flash, is heard the buzz of the wireless as the men take or send a message from "somewhere"—in California, or Massachusetts, or Illinois, as the case may be.

A second group of pilots, looking down upon the others, are seated in cockpits high above the miniature battle field. They hear the imaginary roar of Pershing's guns, and there is another succession of lightning flashes on various squares of the military map below them.

Directs Artillery.

"BUZZ-Z-Z, BUZZ-Z-Z-Z" goes the wireless, as in actual warfare, where artillery fire is directed by the "eyes of the army"; the pilots from the top of the scaffold observe the location of "hits" by the artillery and signal the range to the gunners—in this case instructors—below.

"W-29D-7-9" is the message to the artilleryman—cryptic, of course, to those who do not understand the squared map and pin-point system in use by aerial observers on the western front. Perhaps it is a prearranged shoot, in which case the clock code is handy for signaling how close the "hits" come to the dugouts of Kaiser Wilhelm's privates, or trench crossings filled with huddled groups of the same, or whatever else the target may be. "W-4, B-6," sings the buzzer. And the United States artillery officer corrects the range of his big gun to suit; at least, he will do so a short time hence, when our young pilots now in training get the first real opportunity of showing their mettle to the enemy across the Rhine.

At the Ground Schools.

The foregoing is a few minutes' work in what is a part—a very small part—of the program of one of the United States schools of military aeronautics, more commonly known as "ground" schools. The man in the street has a fair knowledge of what our flyers are doing. By sight and hearsay he is beginning to know of the work at our many flying fields. As for war, conditions, the average citizen carries a vague picture of swooping bird men, loops and spiral dives, rapid-fire duels high above the clouds, etc. But the man in the street knows nothing of the eight weeks' milling that these lads go through before even stepping into a fuselage and proudly calling "contact"—to set the motor revolving for their first ascent. In other words, he knows nothing of our ground schools for the fundamental training of aviators.

The American schools are located at the following colleges: University of California, Cornell, Georgia School of Technology, Princeton university, University of Illinois, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Ohio State university, and University of Texas. Although they have taken over a large part of the technical apparatus and some of the instructors of the universities on whose grounds they are situated, it is to be noted that they are in no sense a part of the university or of the ordinary university course. They

are army posts administered and supplied by the schools section, air division of the United States Signal corps.

No Time Is Wasted.

The course of training is necessarily intensive. Within the comparatively short space of eight weeks there is crammed into the ground-school cadet the heaviest diet of military fundamentals, scientific and technical essentials of flying that he can possibly digest—and a little more. Colonel Bingham's theory (a successful one, judging by the quality of flyers) is that the man who can assimilate within a given time an overdose of the above kind of work is also the man who can keep his mental and physical poise under the strain of battle flying in modern warfare. Ground-school candidates are, therefore, discouraged from studying subjects ahead of time with the particular purpose of passing examinations the more easily. Nevertheless, the curriculum presupposes a certain amount of previous knowledge and a sound intelligence, for the instructor cannot stop to teach a candidate the ABC's. The instructors are rushed. The men are rushed. And the war won't wait.

It is taken for granted by the United States air service, as it is in other countries, that the work requires, first of all, men of the best possible officer material—athletic, quick of thought and action, and trained in discipline and military elements—but, above and beyond all that, it requires men suited for the particular job of military aviation. The first three weeks of the ground-school course—known as the junior wing—is devoted to military studies.

Day Is Full of Work.

The men rise at 5:30, and callsthenics occupy their time, with a recess for mess, until eight o'clock, when school opens. After a brief stop at noon they are hard at it again, drilling until school, at four o'clock. Evening finds no let up, for school and study occupy the hours until taps, at 9:30, by which time they are thankful to get between the sheets.

The senior wing subjects start in the fourth week, from which time on the

following outline is typical: By the time a student has absorbed during this week the theory of flight, engines, telegraphic signaling, and the use of intricate aerial instruments (such as compasses, air-speed indicators, inclinometers), he decides that he has become a master of air subjects. Classes in rigging, repair of machines, and types of machines are scheduled for the fifth week, while the study of telegraphic signaling, engine, laboratory, and machine guns is still continued. During the sixth and seventh weeks are given lectures on radio-telegraphy, fighting in the air, map reading, meteorology, bombs, and aerial photography.

The close of the eighth week brings the examination in gunnery. Artillery observation is also on the program, and it is in connection with this work that we find the candidate at the beginning of the article engaged on the fascinating miniature target.

About two o'clock on Saturday afternoon the candidate usually learns his fate. Perhaps only 16 or 17 of the original class of 25 who entered eight weeks before remain to graduate. But those who do have mastered the basic principles of military aeronautics, which, as army men are learning more thoroughly every day, is a vital prerequisite to any training in the air.

Commissioned as Officers.

All these ground-school candidates are enlisted in the Signal corps or the Signal Enlisted Reserve corps, where their status is that of "flying cadets." As soon as they are fortunate enough to pass the test for reserve military aviators they receive an officer's commission, with the regular pay therefor, and officers receive what is known as commutation of quarters at all places where no public quarters are available.

Beyond this, in the case of foreign duty, is a ten per cent extra allowance provided for by law to officers serving beyond the limits of the United States and territories contiguous thereto, with the exception of the Canal Zone, Panama, Porto Rico, or Hawaii. In addition to the above, aviation officers who are on duty requiring them to participate regularly and frequently in aerial flights will receive a 25 per cent increase in the pay of their grade.

The foregoing is a brief sketch of the working methods of the aviation section of the Signal corps of the United States army. The ground schools are still in their infancy, although their growth has been abnormal. From day to day aerial tactics and instructional methods are changing, and will continue to change in accordance with new conditions. The ground schools form the preliminary step in the great task of sending across the German trenches aviators mentally, morally and physically equipped for their work.

Sent Into Service Abroad.

Every week our flyers are fast graduating from ground schools to the training schools and from the training schools to service overseas. And more and more men are needed to fill the gaps. It is reported that many young men shy from aviation because fearing they lack the proper physical qualifications. No peculiar attainments are necessary; the service is not limited to trapeze performers or Ju Jitsu experts. As the war department stencil says: "It must be remembered that the flying officer is not 'an aerial chauffeur' or 'exhibition flyer.' He has been more correctly defined as a twentieth century cavalry officer mounted on Pegasus."

Physically speaking, what is most of all desired is a sound, strong body, with particular attention paid to eyes, nerves, and ears. Perfect eyesight is a sine qua non. Provided they are otherwise acceptable, candidates of light build and more youthful appearance than desirable for line officers will be given a chance. They should be at least nineteen and preferably not over thirty, "although in exceptional cases," to quote the official announcement, "older men of pronounced athletic attainments who have spent most of their lives out of doors, in the saddle, ranching, playing polo, mountain climbing, or in actual flying, may be accepted if they can satisfy the examining board of their physical fitness."

CANNED LUNCHEONS AID HOOVER CAMPAIGN

Indianapolis, Ind.—Mrs. Alice M. French entertained ten aids in the food conservation card campaign at a Hooverized luncheon. She served no meat and no wheat products. Sugar and butter were cut down to a minimum. This was the luncheon: Fruit cocktail, baked salmon, scalloped potatoes, green beans, corn bread, fried apples, beet salad and coffee. Dessert, preserved quinces and oatmeal cookies.

Although a society woman and wealthy, the canned goods served represented her own efforts.

FILIPINOS READY TO FIGHT

Soldiers and Populace Eager to Aid America Win War Against Germany.

San Francisco.—The Philippine Islands are ready to send two or more divisions to France to battle for democracy, according to a statement made here by Gen. Thomas L. Hartigan of the Philippine National Guard. General Hartigan is visiting this country to give the war department first-hand information regarding military conditions in the island.

"There are three infantry brigades, or 7,000 men, in the Philippine National Guard," General Hartigan said. "We have plenty of officers. The soldiers and populace are very desirous of showing their appreciation of the efforts of America in their behalf, and are holding themselves in readiness for any service they may be called upon to do."

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR YOU

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

British casualties reported in December reached a total of 79,527.

A dispatch to Reuter's Limited from British headquarters says the Germans are experiencing difficulty in maintaining efficiency in their air service on the western front.

One of the forts in Kronstadt, the naval base near Petrograd, has been blown up by an extremely violent explosion, according to a Petrograd dispatch to the London Times.

Coal producers supplying army cantonments and camps were notified Wednesday by the fuel administration that in no circumstances must they allow the posts to become short of fuel.

H. R. Gladback, of Fort Wayne, Ind., civilian aviation instructor, and Cadet R. A. Saguin, of Rouse's Point, N. Y., were killed when their machine fell 300 feet Wednesday afternoon at San Antonio, Texas.

In the Monte Tomba region on the Italian northern front the French have captured many positions between Osteradi Monferena and Marankine, the war office announces. They also captured about 1400 men and 60 machine guns and seven cannon.

Lighthouse service employees who have been transferred to the service of the War and Navy departments are to be regarded as part of the country's defense forces during the war and so are entitled to war risk insurance, according to a new ruling.

Earl Rogers, editor of the Nome, Alaska, Industrial Worker, and five members of the editorial board of the publication, which is owned by the Miners' unions, were arrested Tuesday for alleged seditious articles, which, it is charged, appeared in the Worker.

The British now have four strong positions interposed between the enemy and Jerusalem instead of the one that existed before the recent serious Turkish attempt, with German assistance, to retake the city, says Tuesday's London War office statement on the Palestine operations.

Five German airplanes were destroyed or put out of action Tuesday by the British, who lost none of theirs. "Two hostile machines were brought down in our lines," says an official statement. "A third was brought down in the enemy's lines. Two other hostile machines were driven down out of control. None of our airplanes is missing."

Permission has been given by the Paris municipal council for the holding of art exhibitions in the Petit Palais in the Champs Elysees. The Grande Palais, where the exhibitions usually are held, is occupied at present as a hospital. Both the old and new salons are likely to be held this season for the first time since the beginning of the war.

Traffic on American railroads passed the \$4,000,000,000 mark during the past year for the first time in history, according to figures compiled by the bureau of railway news and statistics, made public Wednesday. The figures are based on official returns to the Interstate Commerce commission for the first 10 months of the year and on estimates of the last two.

Minneapolis mills have begun grinding "war flour," under the new government regulations designed to save 16,000,000 bushels of wheat in the present crop year. Under these regulations, which provide for the use of 74 per cent of the wheat berry instead of but 50 per cent, two grades of flour will be eliminated and the output will be listed as war flour of first and second grades.

Cadet A. Davidson, an American aviator, was killed at Hicks Field, Fort Worth, Texas, Thursday, when he fell 700 feet while making his first attempt at a spiral descent.

Shipyards in the San Francisco Bay region will construct a total of 600,000 tons of wood and steel vessels in 1918, according to a report sent to Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the United States Shipping board, by Attorney Gavin McNab, after a conference with shipbuilders.

The estimate that 500 men, women and children had become totally or partially blind as a result of the recent explosion and fire, in Halifax, N. S., is proving correct. At least 200 will be totally blind, the majority of them being young women and children.

Count Czerin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, at the session of the peace conference at Brest Litovsk Wednesday, read a statement to the effect that the Central Powers agreed to conclude immediately a general peace without forcible annexations and indemnities.

RIFLES PROMISED ALL

General Crozier States Complete Supplies Will Be On Hand Within Month—Blame Is Placed.

Washington, D. C.—Complete supplies of rifles within a month for all American forces under arms were promised Wednesday by Major General Crozier, chief of ordnance, testifying before the senate military committee. Springfield for every regular and National guardsman will be ready before February 1, he said, and the manufacture of remodeled Enfields for the First National army will be finished in a week.

As to machine guns, the General said, a full supply of American make should be ready by July 1, next. Rifles for the next draft, he declared, would be on hand before the men were in camp. In reply to assertions made recently by other witnesses that the allies had furnished heavy guns to the American expeditionary forces only because the Americans were worse off than they, the General submitted official documents to prove that England and France voluntarily offered to provide cannon, their output having developed to the point where a surplus was being produced.

General Crozier refused to shoulder responsibility for the failure to equip the army adequately with ordnance before the war. He said it belonged to the country and cited the refusal of the Secretary of War and congress in the past to appropriate for "modest" ordnance programs.

The General vigorously defended his course in regard to the Lewis machine gun. He gave the committee the record of the various tests to which the gun was put and reports of the army experts to show it had been demonstrated to be a satisfactory weapon until April, 1916, after which orders for them were given by the department.

RESOURCES EQUAL DEMANDS

Trade Balance Shows United States Has Plenty of Sinews.

Washington, D. C.—America's exports were estimated Tuesday at the Department of Commerce to have passed the \$6,000,000,000 mark in 1917, a new high record. Imports were less than \$3,000,000,000 and the trade balance in favor of the United States probably will be more than \$3,500,000,000.

The country's gold supply showed less increase than last year because of the substitution of credits for cash in handling allied purchases after the United States entered the war. Imports of gold in March amounted to \$139,000,000, but in November were less than \$3,000,000. The total for the year was estimated at \$537,000,000, compared with \$686,000,000 in 1915.

Exports of gold showed a heavy increase over the preceding 12 months, due chiefly to the large movement to Japan, Spain and South American countries. The total was estimated at \$374,000,000, compared with \$155,000,000 last year.

The trade balance of more than \$3,000,000,000 with the country at war was regarded by officials as the best evidence that this country has the economic resources necessary to defeat Germany.

WILSON AT SHIPPING BOARD

Plans for Speeding Up Construction Work Please President.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson Monday paid a personal visit to the offices of the Shipping Board and conferred for half an hour with Chairman Hurley. He left apparently well pleased with the way affairs are going.

Mr. Hurley outlined to the President the board's plans for speeding construction by putting into shipyards double and triple labor shifts and other measures for hurrying the work. The board has just arranged for installing electric lighting systems in all yards to make night work possible and is about to start its campaign for obtaining additional labor from other industries.

The board will use the services of the committee on information's four-minute men who, speaking in theaters in all industrial centers, will urge men to enter the shipyards to render patriotic service to the government.

A committee of six experts will be sent by the board to the Pacific Coast yards to study means of speeding construction.

Lutherans Show Loyalty.

Lincoln, Neb.—At a meeting held at Seward, Neb., the pastors and teachers of the German Lutheran church in Nebraska and of the Missouri Synod adopted resolutions of loyalty to the United States government and recommended the cessation of German language instruction in all parochial schools of the state for the duration of the war. One of the most prominent parochial schools of the state, located here, will drop German language instruction and it is expected that all parochial schools will adopt the policy.

Italians Laud Red Cross.

Rome—Queen Helena Wednesday telegraphed to the Red Cross committee at Genoa in the name of the king as well as herself, an expression of appreciation of its work in opening a canteen there.

The message says all classes of the people are grateful to the Red Cross and that the desire has been expressed by many to send greetings for the New Year to their benefactors from the United States.

BOLSHSVIKI SPURN HUN PEACE TERMS

Negotiations Broken Off When Germany Shows Hand.

AUDACITY SURPRISES

Slav Delegation Returns to Petrograd and Positive Annexation Plans of Kaiser Made Plain.

Petrograd—The chances of a separate peace between Russia and the central powers being effected seem remote, because of what are regarded as Germany's unreasonable demands.

Leon Trotsky, the Bolsheviki foreign minister, and his associates, take the stand that the Baltic provinces are in reality under military pressure while they continue to be occupied by Germany, and that their votes with respect to peace must be ignored, as now these provinces are virtually German dependencies, the loyal Russians having fled.

The Russian delegation upon its return from Brest-Litovsk Tuesday laid before the council of commissioners at Petrograd Germany's demands, which caused amazement and the declaration that the council was not favorable to acceptance. An elaboration of the German position in letters and statements which followed the general statement of terms showed that the Germans hold that Poland, Lithuania, Courland, Livonia and Esthonia have already defined themselves nationally within the meaning of the peace terms proposed and insist that they shall not vote again.

The Germans also explained, through General Hoffman, that Germany cannot evacuate Riga, Libau and other occupied points until certain that all Russia sanctions peace; otherwise Germany's enemies might assist Ukraine or other disaffected sections in opposition to the central powers.

The Russian peace delegation returned to Petrograd Thursday and reported to a joint session of the central executive committee of soldiers and workmen's delegates and the Petrograd Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's Deputies the progress of the negotiations with the Austro-Germans at Brest-Litovsk.

M. Kameneff, a member of the Russian delegation, read the German terms, which he characterized as showing the positive annexation aims of the central powers, and he declared they were unacceptable in their present form. He stated that the terms had not been discussed.

"If after the resumption of negotiations," the delegate said, "the Germans insist upon these terms, Russia will conclude peace not with the German imperialists, but with the representatives of the people, the Socialists of Germany."

ORDNANCE BUREAU CHANGED

Business Men to Direct Important Divisions in Future.

Washington, D. C.—General reorganization of the ordnance bureau, with experienced business men at the head of important divisions under the chief of ordnance, was announced Wednesday night by the War department.

The new plan under which it is proposed to make the bureau a great working unit modeled somewhat after the British ministry of munitions was outlined to the senate military committee recently by Major General Crozier, chief of ordnance, while he was being sharply questioned concerning delays and deficiencies in supplying rifles and cannon. It now has been approved by Secretary of War Baker and put into effect.

General Crozier, whose renomination is pending in the senate, continues as chief, and no change is made in the assignment of Brigadier General Wheeler as acting chief, when Gen. Crozier serves on the war council. Colonel Samuel McRoberts, formerly executive manager of the National City Bank of New York, is named chief of the procurement division.

Germans Lose Aero Prey.

Paris—Lieutenant Raoul Lufbury, of Wallingford, Conn., member of the Lafayette Escadrille, had a narrow escape in a fight with four German battle machines last Saturday. The gasoline pipes on his airplane were punctured during the engagement, and although he had the advantage of a higher altitude, his machine became almost helpless through the stoppage of his motor. Lieutenant Lufbury seemed virtually at the mercy of the Germans, but by clever maneuvering he managed to escape unhurt.

German Editor Is Held.

St. Paul—On a charge of perjury based on allegations that the translations of articles in his paper, Die Freie Presse, were far from being accurate, Reinhold Kintzi was arrested by Joseph Buisson, United States deputy marshal, in Glencoe, Minn., Thursday. Officials in the U. S. district attorney's office declared that many articles, diffused materially from the sworn version filed by Kintzi, and contained matter of a seditious import.