

RECORD OF LAFAYETTE ESCADRILLE ONE FOR AMERICANS TO REMEMBER

Famous Group of Airmen, Recently Transferred From Service Under the French Flag to the Stars and Stripes, Renders Invaluable Aid to the Allies on the Western Front—Deeds Will Live Long.

New York.—The transfer of the Lafayette Escadrille from service under the French flag to the Stars and Stripes recalls the record of the famous group of American airmen on the western front.

From an humble beginning the Escadrille has fought its way up to a point where it is recognized as rendering invaluable assistance to the efforts of the allies to defeat Germany. It started, to all purposes, shortly after the outbreak of war, when William Thaw II of Pittsburgh was in France for aviation purposes.

Thaw immediately volunteered his services to the French government and as a private in the infantry waded in the mud of the trenches for six months until the French authorities, realizing the importance of aviation as a war move, called for volunteers.

Thaw applied. He had already had considerable experience in aviation, having amazed society at Palm Beach and Newport with his mastery over airplanes, and his services were therefore accepted.

His lead was followed by others, until quite a number of American men of courage were enrolled in the French aviation section. The formation of the Lafayette Escadrille followed shortly after.

Young Thaw, for he had but reached his majority when the war broke out, was commissioned a lieutenant, and with his comrades quickly made the Escadrille a thing to be feared by the Hun airmen.

Gets Baptism of Fire.

On May 17, 1916, the American flotilla of the air took part in an expedition over the German lines for the first time as a unit. Bullets were spattered at them by the thousand from the German anti-aircraft guns, striking the tail piece and propeller of Lieutenant Thaw's machine. Corporal Victor Chapman's plane was also hit, but both managed to return behind the French lines in safety.

The second expedition took place two weeks later and while the American squadron was reconnoitering five of the American machines attacked 14 German aircraft, hoping to drive them behind the German lines. The Germans opened fire with machine guns and the Americans responded. The explosive bullets used by the Germans did great damage and soon two American machines were forced to the ground, one with a ripped gasoline tank and the other with a broken gun. Then two German machines were forced down by the fire of remaining American pilots. Corporal McConnell, who had two machine guns on his swift machine, did great execution with them, but finally after nine bullets had struck his machine he was forced to descend.

Such was the baptism of fire encountered by those Americans who risked expatriation because of their desire to fight. "Expatriation" is correct, inasmuch as when Thaw desired to visit his folks after a year at the front he traveled home on a French passport. The status of these men is as yet undecided, incidentally.

Exploits Attract Attention.

It was not long after the formation of the Escadrille that its members started to battle their way to a niche of recognition. One after another, they lived up to the ideals of America and "winged" Boche airmen and con-

ducted successful expeditions back of the German trenches.

Nor was it long before the exploits of the American airmen attracted such attention that renders of American papers became accustomed to know what the name meant in the headlines and began to realize that, whatever the home authorities might be doing, some Americans were fighting alongside the French and British in a manner that brought naught but credit to the United States.

Thaw was the first to gain widespread attention. During the first of the raids of the Escadrille he was wounded in the arm, while attacking three German planes near Verdun. He had been out with the squadron for several hours and was waiting to learn by telephone that Germans had been signaled as coming toward France when the telephone operator got a report that three machines of the enemy were in sight.

Immediately four American airmen hurried to their machines with Thaw the first off. His plane quickly outdistanced the others and soon after he sighted a Fokker headed his way and not very far behind it two German machines. He was over German territory when he climbed up to attack, thinking it impossible for the enemy to aim at him without going into a steep dive. This advantage worked out to such purpose that he was able to get close to the German.

"I was so close," said Thaw at the time, "that I felt like calling to him to get out of the way before I pulled the trigger of the quick-firer. The fact that the gun jammed after a few shots did not prevent enough bullets from hitting him to send him below. I was so much interested in my combat that I forgot my comrades, but when I was sure the Fokker was done for I looked around for them."

Thaw Is Wounded.

Thaw's fellow-airmen weren't there, but two airplanes of the enemy were. "My quick-firer had stuck and as I had no other arms I got a little out of the enemy's way preparatory to arranging the gun. Unfortunately, I did not get far enough and when I was reaching for the quick-firer I got a bullet through my arm. I turned toward our lines and the bullets hit my little Nieuport in several places. When one of the missiles struck my gasoline tank, tearing the bottom open, I shut off the motor and dived for the French trenches."

Thaw's first "big league" experience, so to speak, is cited simply as an indication of what the Americans forced themselves to do from the very first. They shirked no responsibility nor danger and battled their way to the thickest of the clashes between the German and French air forces, which became more and more frequent as the importance of aerial warfare increased.

Side by side with Thaw was Raoul Lufbery, who was the first American mentioned for bringing down five hostile planes. His case was rather unique, in that his parents died when very young and he was brought up by a family at Bourges. At thirteen he ran away from home, his tours finally bringing him in contact with the aviator, Maro Pourpe, who trained him to be his assistant.

Lufbery was of French nationality, but when he desired to enlist in the French army at the start of the war he was turned down because it was

discovered he was an American. After many appeals he was allowed to go with Pourpe as his mechanic.

Lufbery Swears Vengeance.

Pourpe was killed soon afterward and Lufbery swore to avenge him. He importuned his superiors to allow him to train as a pilot, and his request was finally granted and shortly after he received his pilot's certificate he was transferred to the American flying corps.

The fact that he was not talking idly when he swore to avenge his friend's death is shown by the fact that he is the premier "ace" of the Lafayette Escadrille. Now "winging" a machine behind the German lines means nothing, or rather not as much as bringing them down behind the French lines, because the latter is a much more difficult feat. To bring down five German planes in back of the French lines is the necessary requisite to be termed an "ace." Lufbery, who comes from New Haven, was the first American aviator to turn the trick.

So month by month as the Escadrille grew, with more and more Americans attracted to it by its exploits, the number of German planes destroyed by the American airmen grew in number. Very few weeks passed but what the Lafayette Escadrille was mentioned in the official French communiqués, and there are so many ordinary feats of bravery performed every day on the firing line that it requires something above the ordinary to break into official reports.

Thaw and then Lufbery were given medals of honor and several times cited for bravery. Others followed, the last being Sergeant Andrew Campbell, to whom official recognition came but last week, and who could safely be called a superman from his deeds of the past month or two.

Death Toll Heavy.

Naturally, the death toll was comparatively heavy. Among those who were rated as good fighters and who gave their life for France were Victor, Chapman, Norman Prince, James McConnell, Renald Hesker, Kenneth Rockwell and Edward Genet. Others, however, took their places, it being only a month or so ago that eight young Americans of prominent families left for the front for service. They were selected from one hundred applicants for the service.

Such is the brief record of the Lafayette Escadrille, an organization that has fought as Americans should. Its record will not be sunk in its transfer to General Pershing's forces, for sentiment on the part of both American and French army chiefs favor the retention of the distinctive name.

At present plans call for the commissioning of Lieutenant Thaw as a major, with present members of the squadron being named as captains and lieutenants, to take charge of American aviators who will shortly join Pershing's troops in France.

SOUTH RALLIES AND RAISES BIG CROPS

Jackson, Miss.—The campaign conducted in the South last spring for food and feed crops has been successful. The corn yield of Mississippi will be the greatest ever known. In some sections, 100 bushels will be gathered to the acre. Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee will also produce big yields. More acres were planted to corn than ever in the history of the South, according to unofficial reports.

Walks to Enlist.

McAlester, Okla.—Just because he mistrusted the Missouri, Oklahoma and Gulf railroad, John F. Dunham walked 35 miles to reach the Rock Island lines on his journey to enlist. When Dunham reached here he was sockless and coatless. He made the journey in three days.

78 DRAFTED OUT OF 120

Wisconsin Village Furnishes Largest Quota in Accordance With Its Population. Cumberland, Wis.—In accordance with population this village probably will furnish the largest quota for the new national army of any single community in the state, if not the nation. Out of a total population of 2,000, 120 were registered, of which 78 were among the first to be drawn in the great human lottery.

necting link between the people and their fighting men. Some, if not all, these officers will be given the opportunity to follow the soldiers to Europe, though no one in the volunteering is required to pledge himself to go abroad.

In calling for volunteers to serve in this capacity without pay, Col. J. R. Kean, U. S. A. Medical corps, said:

"The Red Cross realizes that men of the desired caliber cannot be hired, but must be attracted to the service by entirely unselfish motives, and a desire to help their country in this time of national emergency."

MAY NOW GET HIS \$50,000

Overthrow of Czar May Enable American to Collect Legacy Left by Aunt.

Albany.—The overthrow of the czar and the revolution in Russia may mean the collection of a \$50,000 legacy to Simon Sanders of Albany. Twenty years ago Mrs. Dora Sanders, a wealthy aunt, died in Kief, Russia,

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Mr. Woodlawn, in behalf of the Armenian relief work, made an address at Madras Sunday afternoon, at the close of which a collection of \$250 was taken. On the same evening about \$150 was collected at Gateway.

Captain J. H. Peltz, who has been in charge of the Astoria inspection district for the government since last October, has received orders to report to headquarters for other work in the department. Captain Peltz will leave at once to assume his new duties.

The new spruce logging camp of the McDonald & Vaughan company, at Tashel Point, will be delivering logs to the mills within the next two weeks. The loggers already have a large quantity of fallen spruce ready for the transportation end of the camp.

Five and one-half feet of snow at headquarters camp in Crater Lake National Park and between seven and eight feet at the rim of the lake, is reported by Assistant Superintendent R. E. Momyer, who is in Klamath Falls for a few days from his camp at headquarters.

Mrs. Eugene Moshberger, Mrs. T. C. Poorman and Mrs. H. M. Austin, a committee which planned and carried "over the top" an all-day Saturday benefit for Company I Auxiliary of the Third Oregon, realized \$150, the biggest amount of any entertainment in Woodburn for a like cause.

Carl McClain, of Cleveland, O., has been elected superintendent of the municipal electric and water plants at Eugene, to succeed Charles W. Geller, whose resignation becomes effective June 1. Mr. McClain was graduated from the University of Oregon. He later attended Cornell University.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Grossong, of Mount Angel, married each other a third time in Salem Thursday. After their first marriage they were divorced. Six months' separation proved sufficient. They were remarried, but that marriage proved illegal, and the third time the tie is bound firmly.

The second freight wreck within three days, in which three Southern Pacific engines have been piled across the track as a result of derailment, occurred Wednesday in the Cow Creek canyon, between Wolf creek and Leland. Another southbound train was similarly wrecked on Rice Hill, near Oakland, Sunday.

Dr. E. L. Zimmerman and Dr. B. F. Schaefe, well known physicians of Eugene, have received commissions in the United States army. Dr. Zimmerman, who will have the rank of first lieutenant, has been ordered to report at Fort Riley, Kan. Dr. Schaefe, commissioned as captain, expects to be called within the next few days.

The deep sea fishing is advancing in profitability for the several individuals and companies who are sending out boats to fish in the grounds between Marshfield and Cape Blanco on the south, and Heceta Head on the north. The halibut banks have commenced giving up their denizens earlier than usual, and several boats have brought in good catches of that variety, while ling cod and red and black snapper are seen in market almost daily.

Senator Eddy, of Roseburg, was in Salem Friday and reported that the State Highway commission will arranged to assist the farmers of Douglas county during the haying season. Senator Eddy some time ago requested that work be suspended on the Pacific Highway in that county, so that teams could be released for the use of farmers. The commission's action, Mr. Eddy says, was a little too late for spring farm work. However, plans have been made to give what help can be given at harvest time.

The Coos County military board has named 30 men for the two new drafts. The board has listed 39 eligibles, believing the extra number will provide for exemptions and for those who are now in service.

Junction City citizens, who have been besieged during the past week by undesirable visitors, recently rounded up a tramp who came to the city in a filthy condition, gave him a shower bath in the city hall and took him to the city limits, where he was told to move on.

Coos Bay cities, particularly Marshfield, almost begged for men of means to build homes to house the families of workmen who went there to swell the forces at the shipyards and sawmills, but the call fell on deaf or indifferent ears for five months before houses were secured.

Arrangements have been completed by a group of cranberry growers for the erection of a cranberry warehouse at Alhendale, 11 miles south of Astoria. The warehouse at Astoria was operated to capacity last season, and a much larger yield is expected from the bogs of this district this year.

STATE TO AID ROADS

Bridges and Highways Damaged by Floods to Be Restored by Joint Act of County and State.

Yakima, Wash.—The state highway department will join with the county commissioners with the improvement of the McClellan Pass road. State funds will be applied to the building of a concrete bridge over the Naches river at Carmack's and perhaps to the building of a heavy timber bridge on the Bumping river. Both these bridges were carried out by the freshet last winter. In addition to building the two bridges the state and county will join in making repairs on the highway at places where the high water impaired the grade.

These points were settled in detail at a conference held here, when James Allen, state highway commissioner, and Charles T. Jordan, highway engineer, were in consultation with the county commissioners. The program agreed on by these officials will be presented to the state board of highway commissioners at a meeting to be held Monday, and if the plan goes through the state will superintend the construction of the Naches bridge and the county the construction at Bumping. About \$50,000 will be spent.

YANKEE APPETITES GREAT

American Soldiers Consume Average of 4.5 Pounds Daily.

Washington, D. C.—The American soldier consumes four and one-half pounds of foodstuffs daily, according to a statement made public by the quartermaster's department of the army.

To feed a million and a half men it is necessary to obtain 1,500,000 pounds of beef, 225,000 pounds of bacon, 210,000 pounds of ham, 135,000 cans of tomatoes, 225,000 cans of jam and 3000 bottles of tomato catsup, aggregating some 6,750,000 pounds.

Every pound passed for consumption of the nation's fighting men, the statement said, is subjected to the most rigid inspection.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORT

Wheat—Bulk basis for No. 1 grade: Hard white, \$2.05. Soft white, \$2.03. White club, \$2.01. Red Walla, \$1.98. No. 2 grade, 3c less; No. 3 grade, 6c less. Other grades handled by sample.

Flour—Patents, \$10 per barrel; whole wheat, \$9.60; graham, \$9.20; barley flour, \$14.50@15.00; rye flour, \$10.75@12.75; corn meal, white, \$6.50; yellow, \$6.25 per barrel.

Millfeed—Net mill prices, car lots: Bran, \$30.00 per ton; shorts, \$32; middlings, \$39; mixed cars and less than carloads, 50c more; rolled barley, \$75@76; rolled oats, \$73.

Corn—Whole, \$77 per ton; cracked, \$78.

Hay—Buying prices, delivered: Eastern Oregon timothy, \$29@30 per ton; valley timothy, \$25@26; alfalfa, \$24@24.50; valley grain hay, \$22; clover, \$19@20.00; straw, \$9.00@10.

Butter—Cubes, extras, 37c; prime firsts, 37c; prints, extras, 42c; cartons, 1c extra; butterfat, No. 1, 41c delivered.

Eggs—Ranch, current receipts, 34c; candled, 35c; selects, 36c per dozen.

Poultry—Hens, 27c; broilers, 40c; ducks, 32c; geese, 20c; turkeys, live, 26@27c; dressed, 37c per pound.

Veal—Fancy, 18½@19c.

Pork—Fancy, 23@23½c per pound.

Sack Vegetables—Carrots, \$1.15 per sack; turnips, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.25; beets, \$2.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 75c@ \$1 per hundred; new California, 10c per pound; sweet potatoes, 10c per pound.

Onions—Jobbing prices, 1@1½c per pound.

Cattle—April 29, 1918. Med. to choice steers, \$14.00@15.00. Good to med. steers, 13.00@14.00. Com. to good steers, 11.00@12.00. Choice cows and heifers, 13.00@14.00. Com. to good cows and hf, 7.25@10.75. Canners, 5.00@7.00. Bulls, 7.00@12.00. Calves, 8.75@13.00. Stockers and feeders, 6.50@9.50. Hogs—Prime mixed, \$17.75@18.00. Medium mixed, 17.50@17.75. Rough heavies, 16.50@16.75. Pigs, 15.50@16.75. Bulk, 17.85. Sheep—Prime spring lambs, \$20.00. Heavy lambs, 16.50@18.00. Yearlings, 15.00@15.50. Wethers, 13.00@13.50. Ewes, 12.00@12.50.

THEIRS IS WORK OF LOVE

Red Cross Men in Charge of Supplies at Base Hospitals Serve Without Pay.

Chicago.—The American Red Cross is placing men with United States army commissions in charge of Red Cross supplies at every base hospital, and at every training camp, cantonment, mobilization camp and other place where soldiers or sailors are assembled.

These men are chosen from volunteers who are more than thirty-one years of age—the draft limit—and much more mature men are given the preference so that no one may be put at civilian work who might better serve with the army. They draw no pay, but are given quarters and subsistence in accord with their rank.

At each such station there will be at least two Red Cross representatives, one of whom will be commissioned captain, and the others lieutenants. They will have charge of all shipments of Red Cross supplies to such military station, and will be the con-