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TRENCH LIFE IS DESCRIBED AT LUNCHEON

LIEUTENANT PELOUSE GIVES AN INTERESTING TALK OF HIS WORK IN FRANCE

GERMAN CRUELTY IS DESCRIBED

Chamber of Commerce Luncheon Has Large Attendance to Receive Message From Trenches

This was a red letter day in the history of the Chamber of Commerce when Lieutenant Robert F. Pelouse addressed those gathered at the noonday luncheon and described his life at the front in France, where he has been serving as an ambulance driver.

Lieutenant Pelouse does not claim to be a public speaker, but, as he described his experiences back of Verdun, everybody forgot that he was not an orator in their deep interest in the scenes portrayed.

He described the French soldier as a perfect fighting machine devoted to the cause of his country and told of the work being done by the women and old men, together with those who were in the trenches and came back crippled but, anxious to do their all for France. Women conductors, women in the fields and factories, women everywhere taking the places of men who have been called to the front and nearly all of them dressed in black because of the loss of husbands and fathers and sons.

He told of General Pershing's troops marching through the streets of Paris on the Fourth of July, the first foreign troops ever to march there before and how the French clung to them with tears flowing down their cheeks, tears of gratitude, and by every human emotion showed their great gratitude to this country for its help. Of all people he said, the French are certainly the most grateful.

Then, too, he told of his first experience with German atrocities. At a small village he met two little children, one seven and the other eight years of age, who hands had been cut off by the Germans. He exhibited the sharp instruments that German aviators have been dropping over French villages as the schools are being dismissed, the points of which were treated with deadly poison, so that if a child is touched it will die of the effects.

He described an air battle wherein three French and two German machines were engaged, all of which were injured and all came to earth within French territory.

Yes, and he told of 450,000 Frenchmen going over the top at 2 o'clock in the morning at Verdun, of the terrible barrage, of the work of the Red Cross under fire, and of many other things, so many things that they cannot be mentioned here. It is unfortunate that everybody in Grants Pass could not hear what he had to say.

SCIENTISTS STUDY DYE MANUFACTURE

Chicago, Jan. 7.—Frustration of Germany's plans for control of the dyestuff market after the war is the object of an industrial fellowship established at the University of Chicago for the scientific study of methods of making dyes. Industrial concerns are meeting the expenses of the fellowship.

Prof. Julius Sliegitz of the chemistry department, who advocated the establishment of the fellowship, characterizes the move as a step toward the "chemical independence" of the United States.

PORTLAND AHEAD NAVAL RECRUITS

New York District With Over Five Million Population Has to Take Second Place

Portland, Jan. 7.—Portland has stepped to the front again. Astonishing figures from the official navy bulletin show Portland to head the list for navy recruits during the final two weeks' rush of recruiting. New York district with a population of 5,982,489, had to take second place with 479 enlistments for the week ending December 15. Portland district with its population of 993,429, which is 4,989,060 people less than in New York leads all districts in the United States with an enlistment of 714 men. Compiled figures for the total enlistments from December 3 to 15, show Portland still in the lead with 1,350 volunteers signed up, and New York second with 1,112.

Portland, as far as population goes, is one of the smallest districts. Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis, Atlanta, and several other districts have a population of more than 3,000,000, while almost all have from 1,000,000 to 2,000,000.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Pacific Coast States—Fair except occasional rains over north portion second half of week; moderate temperatures.

AMERICAN AVIATORS FLY OVER GERMANY

With the American Army in France, Jan. 7.—United States aviators have flown over the German battle lines and dropped bombs, in conjunction with British and French pilots. The flight of the Americans virtually was a reprisal for the killing of two American woodcutters during a German bombing expedition a week ago.

Through the courtesy of the British and French flying authorities, the American aviators also have taken part in observation and photographic work.

BRITISH PATROLS HAVE CROSSED THE PIAVE

Rome, Jan. 7.—British patrols have crossed the Piave and forced a passage at various points, causing alarm in the enemy lines.

SNOW AT CRATER LAKE IS UNUSUALLY LIGHT

Klamath Falls, Jan. 7.—Dr. and Mrs. R. R. Hamilton and Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Momyer returned last night from a short auto-trip to Crater Lake park. They were able to get a mile or more inside the park limits with the automobile.

Mr. Momyer and Frank Burns of Fort Klamath then went on with snowshoes to the camp at headquarters. They report that there is only about two feet of snow at that point now.

QUEEN LLUOKALINI'S WILL TO BE CONTESTED

Honolulu, T. H., Jan. 7.—Delegate J. K. Kalaniana'ole to congress and heir under the will of 1907 to the estate of the late Queen Lluokalani, will fight both the will executed in 1909 and the alleged will of 1917, he announced today.

STEAMER IS VICTIM OF RUTHLESSNESS

New York, Jan. 7.—The American steamship Harry Luckenbach has been torpedoed and sunk. It carried a crew of 30, not including the naval guard, eight of whom are missing.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE ROUGH SAILING

Bolsheviki Government Strengthening Front—Will Send Home All Who Do Not Wish to Fight For Russian Ideals

London, Jan. 7.—Petrograd advices state that the Bolsheviki government is definitely strengthening the front.

M. Radek, a Russian delegate who took a prominent part in the peace negotiations told the Daily News correspondent that the Bolsheviki intended to send home all who did not wish to fight, so as to have an army willing to fight for ideals. He said: "We do not desire help of the allies. Our strength lies in our weakness. We stand for a democratic peace. So do the German working classes and if Germany attacks us, it will display itself to our own people in its true light."

London, Jan. 7.—Russian efforts to have Germany acquiesce in transferring negotiations from Brest-Litovsk to Stockholm, have apparently failed. A report from German sources says it is feared there would

be intrigue in Stockholm, on the part of entente interests that would endanger the work of the plenipotentiaries. This is not confirmed from Petrograd, however.

Foreign Minister Trotsky went to Brest-Litovsk in a vain effort to persuade the Germans to go to Stockholm.

In Germany the political situation is much disturbed over the attitude of the liberal parties concerning the government's stand on the proposed transfer. The socialists appear to be the stumbling block. There is danger that they may desert the reichstag majority, making it necessary for the government to reform party alignments.

It is denied from Berlin that General von Ludendorff, first quartermaster general, has resigned. Ludendorff was also the general in command of the recent German drive into northern Italy.

RAILROAD FINANCES BEING CONSIDERED

Washington, Jan. 7.—As a first step in government assistance of railroad financing, railroad presidents have been requested to telegraph to the interstate commerce commission immediately, the amount of capital required for this year and also for the first six months.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS FEATURED BY HUNS

Amsterdam, Jan. 7.—A handful of captured American soldiers under cross-questioning by German officers before a crowd of grinning Teutons was featured in the latest issue of "World in Pictures," an illustrated weekly printed in ten languages and distributed throughout the world by the German government's propaganda department. Another picture shows the prisoners riding in a motor lorry under heavy guard. This is entitled "American prisoners arriving in the German lines," giving the impression that the 12 are only a small section of a large number.

NEXT WEEK TO BE "FREIGHT CLEARANCE"

Washington, Jan. 7.—Director of Railroads McAdoo has designated next week as "freight clearance week," and will conduct a campaign to induce shippers to unload cars quickly.

FOOD ALLOWANCE IN FRANCE IS REDUCED

Washington, Jan. 7.—Only the very poor and men and women doing the hardest kind of manual labor may have more than seven ounces of war bread a day in France from now on, the food administration has been advised by the French government. The entire French wheat crop has been requisitioned by the government.

This sacrifice has been accepted by the French people uncomplainingly on the government's explanation that only by such restriction can American reinforcements be transported in ships that otherwise would carry grain for their bread and that, in addition, this grain for French bread can come from America only by virtue of the actual saving of this grain by reduced consumption of bread by American people.

PORTLAND STREET CARS TO CHARGE SIX CENTS

Portland, Jan. 7.—The long drawn out fight of the Portland street car system for an increase of fare from five to six cents has finally culminated in a decision by the public service commission, approving it. The increase will become operative January 15.

TACOMA POST OFFICE ROBBER IS CAPTURED

Tacoma, Jan. 7.—John Johnson, who was captured at Kelso, has confessed to robbing Cleelum post office Christmas eve. He implicated two others.

NOT APPRECIATED



CHICAGO HIT BY FIERCE BLIZZARD

Temperature Nineteen Below Zero and a Sixty Mile Gale Paralyzes All Traffic

Chicago, Jan. 7.—The city is digging itself out of drifts after one of the worst blizzards in history. The temperature is 19 degrees below zero, with the wind blowing 60 miles an hour. Traffic is paralyzed, there are many collisions and as a result many persons have been injured.

CHROME PRODUCTION OF CALIFORNIA INCREASING

San Francisco, Jan. 7.—From an annual output of 3,000 tons of chrome ore before the war, the state of California now is producing in excess of 50,000 tons each year according to estimates of the state mining bureau. The cost has advanced practically 100 per cent. Chrome ore is used in the treatment of steel and enters into the manufacture of all kinds of war munitions.

NO IMPORTANT ACTIONS ON THE BATTLEFRONTS

London, Jan. 7.—There are lively activities on the western and Italian front, but no operations in strength.

SELECTIVE SERVICE ACT CONSTITUTIONAL

Washington, Jan. 7.—The selective service act was today held by the supreme court to be constitutional. The government's contention that power be given congress to declare war, includes the power to compel citizens to render military service at home and abroad, was sustained. Chief Justice White delivered the opinion of the court, which was unanimous. The court concluded that most of the contentions were imaginary, and not real.

MINING INDUSTRY IS BECOMING IMPORTANT

Western mines, as much or more than any other industry have directed the eyes of the world this way. Our government and the allies to a large extent depend on these mines for their munitions of war. The public generally has little idea of the magnitude of the industry or the thousands of men it employs in mines and smelters. The average citizen thinks of a mine as an easy place to make money. As a matter of fact developing a mine takes more nerve, energy and money than any other line of business. Never before was the mining of copper, lead, iron, zinc, silver, gold and other metals of such paramount importance to our nation and never before was it so highly important to encourage these industries in every manner possible by just and equitable legislation.

COAL AND OIL LEASING BILL CONSIDERED TODAY

Washington, Jan. 7.—Under agreement to vote before the end of the day on the coal and oil leasing bill, the senate considered amendments.

\$20,000,000.00 FOR RIVERS AND HARBORS

Washington, Jan. 7.—An omnibus river and harbors bill is assured at this session. The measure will appropriate approximately \$20,000,000. Two hundred and fifty thousand for the Columbia river and the Willamette river below Portland will probably be included.

SPY IS TAKEN AT CAMP LEWIS BY OFFICIALS

HAS APPARENTLY BEEN ABLE TO CARRY ON HIS WORK FOR A LONG TIME

HAS SERVED IN GERMAN ARMY

His Father is a Quartermaster-general and His Brother a Soldier in Germany

Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 7.—Held in connection with the disappearance of important government documents and suspected of having divulged information of a military nature along other lines, Thomas Holmuth Ritter, sergeant-major to the division adjutant and holding the highest non-commissioned rank in the entire Ninety-first division, is in the county jail at Tacoma, awaiting telegraphic instructions from Washington, D. C.

Checking up Ritter's record since his arrest shows him to be 23 years of age, born and educated in Germany, and the son of a quartermaster-general of the German army, with a brother also in the service of the kaiser. His mother still lives in Germany.

Going to South Africa in 1911, he served in the German artillery organization there and in 1913 returned to his native land, coming to the United States in the spring of 1914 by way of France and Italy.

Spending one day in New York he hurried to Chicago and there took out his first citizenship papers before enlisting in the American army and being sent to the Philippines. While there he was known to have been on intimate terms with the consul general for Germany at Manila.

In 1915 from some unknown source he came into possession of a large sum of money and purchasing his discharge returned to the United States, first attracting attention in San Francisco. Spending money right and left and dressed in the latest fashion, he made many acquaintances to whom he stated that he was being "taken care of" by German Consul-General Franz Bopp. Shortly after he joined the 14th infantry, a regiment of regulars, and with that organization saw service on the border. He was exceedingly pro-German however, so much so that he was constantly getting into trouble with his companions and was intensely disliked by the men and officers of his own company.

So warm did things become for him that he deserted and for five weeks eluded all efforts at capture. Finally, captured at Bisbee, Ariz., he was taken back to Nogias for trial. In some manner he managed to get around the court-martial and was

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GERMANS HOLD THAT FOOD IS CONTRABAND

Amsterdam, Jan. 7.—Caught at Zevenaar by a special agent of the Hague police, while she was attempting to smuggle into Germany 11 large boxes said to contain underclothes, shoes, coffee, tea and other foodstuffs, Countess von Platen has been held at Arnhem court.

The countess had carefully prepared for her encounter with the custom authorities by a telephone message supposedly from the foreign office at the Hague, and a telegram from the local German consul asking for considerate treatment; but the special agent arrived in time to overrule these instructions and insisted on examining the countess' luggage where he found the contraband.