

BELGIUM INNOCENT BYSTANDERS AMONG WARRING NATIONS

NEWS FROM COUNTRY CORRESPONDENTS

ASHLAND AND VICINITY

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 23.—Perhaps no other organization in the United States is keeping in such close touch with the geography of the European war as the National Geographic Society of Washington. While it is furnishing geographical data daily to the press, it is itself receiving a wealth of geographic material with reference to the countries at war, their peoples, their customs, their industries and their geographic history. In a communication on "Belgium," the "Innocent Bystander," William Joseph Showalter tells the more than 300,000 members of the society:

"The Belgium of today has an area less than one-fourth as great as Mississippi, yet at the outbreak of the present war its population was four times as large as that of Mississippi. Twenty-two and a half countries like Belgium could be tucked away in a state like Texas, and their aggregate population would be more than that of the United States and Germany together."

Seven Millions of Residents

Within Belgium's 11,573 square miles of territory, smaller than Massachusetts and Connecticut, with a population of 7,573,000, there lived at the outbreak of the war nearly 3,000,000 French-speaking Walloons who cannot talk with a like number of their compatriot Flemish-speaking Flemings. In their habits of mind and methods of gaining a livelihood they differ as widely as the English and the French, but the bond of religion has bound them together for generations, with never a fratricidal war in their modern history.

The Belgian constitution, framed in 1830 by a convention of Belgians, guarantees freedom of conscience, of education and of press, and the right of peaceful assembly. The kingship is filled by succession. There is a cabinet, a senate and a house of representatives. A senator's pay, remarkable as it may seem, is a free pass on the railroads without a dollar of actual salary. A representative gets a free pass and \$800 a year.

Suffrage Laws Interesting

The suffrage laws are interesting. A Belgian gets one vote when he reaches the age of 25. If, at the age of 35 he pays \$1 in taxes and is married or a widower with legitimate children, he gets a second vote. If he pays a certain amount of taxes or holds a university diploma he is entitled to two additional votes—except that in no case may a man cast more than three votes. In selecting representatives, parties and not men are voted for, and each party gets a representation in proportion to its voting strength.

The Belgians are fine farmers. They grew last year 37 bushels of wheat to the acre where we grow 15; 50 bushels of barley to our 24; 312 bushels of potatoes to our 90.

Belgium has been a land of low wages and cheap living. Many of the people who fashion our exquisite Belgian lace get only \$5 a week, and the average wage-earner's income is only about \$165 a year. But with all that, the Belgian housewife, an artist in making a little go a long way, has fed her family well and clothed them comfortably.

No Milkmen in Belgium

There were no milkmen in Belgium, for the women drove the dog carts that constituted the nation's milk wagons. Every milk can had to shine, every dog had to have harness to fit him a bowl for his drinking water and a carpet or bag to lie down on when tired. No dog in Belgium, except those of the rich, escaped bearing his share of the family burdens.

The people of Belgium were the world's greatest beer drinkers before the outbreak of the present war, with 48.8 gallons per capita per year, as compared with the German consumption of 26.3 gallons. On the other hand the Belgian used only one gallon of wine as compared with the Frenchman's thirty-four gallons.

Railway fares were very low. A double daily journey of 20 miles cost 37½ cents a week; of 44 miles, 50 cents a week. Every person entering a railroad station had to pay 1 cent for that privilege, and the revenue therefrom amounted to \$30,000 a year.

Belgium's foreign business was large. Those wonderful little engines that did such good work at Panama were Liege-made, and an example of Belgian's exports. The country's foreign trade was greater than that of all South America together. If the United States imported as much per capita as Belgium, its imports would total twelve billion dollars a year; if we exported as much per capita our export business would amount to ten billion dollars a year.

State Game Warden Finley was here for a brief time Sunday in consultation with Game Warden Hubbard. Mr. Finley was on his return to Portland from an eastern trip, which embraced a good portion of the Atlantic seaboard, extending way up into New England territory. At Washington he attended the National Association of Game Wardens, also the American Fishing society, and consulted with the federal biological survey concerning co-operative work with the Oregon board along similar lines. He also attended a conservation meeting at New Orleans. Throughout his extensive trip he exhibited a series of moving pictures relating mainly to the game conservation movement, which innovations were commented upon most favorably by the eastern champions of sports afiel.

EAGLE POINT EAGLETS

By A. C. Howlett.

I omitted to state in my last that Mr. and Mrs. W. F. De Witt of Ashland were here with his cousin and family, Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Walker, and their daughter, Miss Sarah Emma Walker, of Redding, Cal., and Uncle John McAlister of Lake Creek, last Monday. Mr. Walker and family came up to visit Mr. De Witt of Ashland and started to motor up to Mr. McAlister's on the north fork of Little Butte, but found that the road just about Brownsboro had been recently gravelled, so phoned to him to meet them at Brownsboro, and thus they all met and took dinner together at the Sunnyside. The visitors were delighted with the Rogue River valley.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Carpenter of Medford came out Tuesday and were at the depot by W. H. Crandall, and motored out to his home farm, where they spent a few days very pleasantly with Mr. C. and his sisters. G. W. McAlister of Butte Falls came out on the P. & E. and was met at the depot by Dr. W. W. P. Holtz and George Herriott went to Grants Pass and purchased a new player piano for the socialist hall which is now completed.

Mr. Nelson of Williams creek has been hauling grain from the O'Brien ranch.

A collection of \$5 was taken up

Friday among the school children for the purpose of getting a volley ball.

With this addition of play ground equipment we will then have swings, teeter, athletic rings, horizontal bars and basket ball.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Stanley of Oak-

land, Cal., are visiting with relatives here.

Mr. Stroud has returned here from Grants Pass. He is expecting to

spend the next week hunting in the Steamboat district in company with Mr. Christian and Elmo Throckmorton. Mrs. Stroud will remain at the Rose house.

Mrs. Armistead of Forest creek

visited with friends and relatives here last week.

Steps have been taken to organize a boys and girls basketball team.

The socialist hall has been secured and it is hoped that a number of games can be arranged with the different schools during the winter months.

H. C. Barker of Brownsboro was

in town the first of the week, and while here gave me his subscription to the Daily Mail Tribune, and William Nusstrom was also here and renewed his mother's subscription to the Weekly Mail Tribune.

County School Superintendent J. P. Wells visited this school Thursday. While here he introduced a number of new games which made quite a hit with the pupils.

A. L. Bates of the Valley Pride

Creamery, is expected home Friday. Mr. Bates has been in Grants Pass for the last three weeks.

Henry Pernoll and a party of

friends from Grants Pass were hunting ducks on the river of this vicinity Tuesday. They had a fine lot of fruit this year and no irrigation.

Quite a number of the members of

the I. O. O. F. lodge here made a

visit to Jasper Hamm, who is on the sick list.

J. P. Feaster of Weed, Cal., was

here this week trying to organize a

class in penmanship.

Last Wednesday the Ladies' For-

ign Missionary society met at the

home of Mrs. Frank Nichols and had

one of those pleasant times that are

so common in Eagle Point. There

were fourteen of the members pres-

ent. The exercises were opened by

reading a Scripture lesson, singing

and prayer, and after a few preliminaries were gone through.

Mrs. George von der Hellen, our pri-

mary teacher, was introduced, and she

gave an account of her experience in

the Philippine islands as a teacher

among the natives and a short ac-

count of the missionary work in that

field. She said that they had to

travel for five days into the interior

and during the trip encountered some

of the most gruesome sights imagina-

ble, among which was a company of

head hunters that were in search of

their victims. She said that the

schools were divided and that the

pupils were taught as far as the

fourth grade in the primary depart-

ment and then they were turned over

to her department. She gave a brief

account of the work of the mission-

aries in that country, stating that the

most of them were of the Catholic

faith, but that they were doing good

work among them.

Light refreshments were served

and a charge of 10 cents was made,

the money going into the foreign mis-

sionary fund, which amounted to

\$1,000.

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Association of Game Wardens, also the American Fishing society, and consulted with the federal biological survey concerning co-operative work with the Oregon board along similar lines.

Thomas Vestal, foreman on the

Williley orchard, has been shipping

quite a lot of fine dressed turkeys to the Portland market.

APPLEGATE POSTERS

The Boys and Girls Industrial club has been busy the past week collecting vegetables, fruit and clothing for the Boys and Girls Aid society of Portland. Enough material was collected to fill three boxes and consisted of 18 quarts of canned fruit, one box of apples, 10 pounds of dry beans, four pounds of rice, 20 pounds of onions, 25 pounds of potatoes, 10 pounds of popcorn, besides squash and various articles of clothing. Mr.

and Mrs. Wheeler brought the boxes to Medford Friday night and the railroad company make no charge for carrying them to Portland.

The Parent-Teachers' circle has arranged an entertainment for Saturday night, December 5th, at the new socialist hall. Some excellent help has been secured including Miss Bertha Calkins of Ashland. The program will consist of dramatic readings, comic songs and recitations with costumes. It will be entirely for entertainment, those wishing instruction should not come. The hall management will give a dance after the program. Watch for further announcement.

Hog receipts continued both liberal

in quantity and strong in price. Tops advanced from \$7.49 Monday to \$7.55

Friday. Market closed in excellent

shape, prices higher than at some eastern markets.

Continued short receipts and strong

prices characterized the full weeks

sheep market. Lambs sold as high

as \$6.50; ewes \$4.50 and all other

lines on the same price level.

WILSON A PEDESTRIAN ON STREETS OF CAPITAL

WASHINGON, Nov. 23.—President Wilson walked abroad through the business section of the city today and, undisturbed by a very cold wind, left his automobile behind. He did some banking and other personal business and acknowledged frequent greetings from pedestrians by raising his hat.

Tie Game for U. of O.-O. A. C.

CORVALLIS, Ore., Nov. 23.—After

making a forward pass that netted

them 40 yards, Oregon scored a place

kick in the fourth period and tied the

score in the annual struggle with Oregon Agricultural college on the lat-

ter's field here. Final score 3 to 3.

FOR SALE—REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE—Cheap, 1365 acres ten

miles from Medford. Tracts and

terms to suit. W. J. Scott, sales

agent. 113

FOR SALE—By owner, 25 acres of

8-year-old pears, standard varie-

ties, with buildings, 3½ miles

southwest of Medford, at \$450 per

acre. Terms. M. I. Minear, Med-

ford. 213

FOR SALE—Garage or store room

\$2 per month. Inquire 246 So.

Riverside or phone 570-H.

FOR SALE—Real estate

FOR SALE—Furnished rooms

FOR RENT—Modern furnished

rooms. The Cottage, 604 W. 10th.

FOR RENT—House

FOR RENT—Six room modern

bungalow, east front, fine shade, range

connected. Phone 926-X.

FOR RENT—Six room furnished

house. Phone 926-R.

FOR RENT—Six room furnished

house. Phone 926-R.