

LOCAL TROOPS LEAVE MEDFORD SUNDAY MORNING

Company Seven to Entrain at 9 o'clock Tomorrow for Fort Columbia—Entire City Expected to Turn Out and Give Boys a Farewell Sendoff—Ashland Troops Go.

To the People of Medford: Tomorrow, Sunday, at 9 a. m., the Seventh company leaves Medford for Fort Columbia. I am sure that every man, woman and child in Medford appreciates why they are going and what they are sacrificing to go to war at this time. The least we can do is to show our appreciation of these, our boys, by giving them an enthusiastic and grand farewell. I therefore request that every man, woman, boy and girl in Medford go to the train tomorrow morning and bid our boys a fond good-bye. (Signed) C. E. GATES, Mayor.

The Seventh company will leave Medford tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock on a special military train for Fort Columbia, where it will be mustered into the federal service. These orders, received this noon by Captain A. J. Vance, was welcome news to the soldiers and their relatives and friends, as it ended all anxiety and guesswork as to the exact time of departure.

All Medford and vicinity is expected to turn out at the Southern Pacific depot Sunday morning to bid the soldiers Godspeed and give them a fitting farewell demonstration. While no formal program has been prepared, the farewell reception is expected to be a great one, and one calculated to warm the hearts of the soldiers.

Ashland Company Also.

The special military train will leave Ashland at 8:20 a. m. and will take on board there the Ashland company of the artillery corps. The Seventh company will march to the depot here about 8:30 o'clock in order to give plenty of time for farewell visits between the soldiers and their relatives and friends.

Early this forenoon the Seventh company had all its state and federal equipment either stored or shipped in accordance with instructions and was ready to entrain on an hour's notice. The orders to depart at 9 a. m. Sunday were received by Captain Vance from Colonel W. E. Ellis, in charge of the coast defense of the Columbia river.

Some of the members of the company got their first taste of discipline in the federal service this morning. Five who were absent from the morning roll call today were assigned to kitchen police duty for one week. Another soldier was ordered to kitchen police duty for three days for talking in the ranks. A corporal who lives out of town was reduced to the ranks for being mixed up in a disturbance Friday evening. Private Island B. Noe was promoted to the vacant corporalship.

Large Library Donated.

The Seventh company will enter the war with a magnificent large library, as citizens responded generously to the request for books for the library. The farewell reception given by the Medford Elks last night at their club house to the members of the Seventh company was a most enjoyable event and the soldiers will ever have a warm spot in their hearts for the Elks because of the courtesy and good will extended.

From 8:30 o'clock until midnight the big club house was crowded with the soldiers and their ladies and Elks and their ladies. Probably the most popular place was the large ballroom, where there was dancing all evening to music by an orchestra. A fine luncheon was also served in the basement through the reception hours for the guests. There was no formal program or speeches, much to the delight of all. However, there was one big entertainment feature of which the crowd could not get enough. It was furnished by Robert Allbright, who is famed in the amusement world as Oklahoma Bob, high-class singer and entertainer, well known on the big time vaudeville circuits. Mr. Allbright, who is the guest of his brother-in-law, B. G. Worthington, entertained with songs and stories and responded to numerous encores.

COCCHI ADMITS KILLING GIRL WITH A STICK

Italian Murderer of Ruth Cruger Gives Details of Crime in Confession—Brutal Attack Followed by Blow—Girl Died Fighting for Her Honor—Wants to Be Killed.

BOLOGNA, Italy, July 28.—The text of the statements made by Alfredo Cocchi during various interrogations of the prisoner by Judge Zucconi was received by Cocchi's counsel, Attorney Venturini, today. There were eight of these interrogations between June 15 and July 20, and the record of them covers nine typewritten pages.

On the first day, the record shows, Cocchi denied the crime, claiming that the reason he left New York was because of his wife's jealousy and the quarrels to which that led, although he admitted that he had sharpened a pair of skates for Ruth Cruger. On the second day he began by declaring that the girl came to his shop in company with two Italians who were not known to him and who ordered him to leave, he doing so and they remaining in the room. Under cross-questioning by Judge Zucconi, however, Cocchi began to weep, and holding his head in his hands, declared:

Story of Murder.

"It is true, I killed her. For a week I had been constantly quarreling with my wife. This day, the 13th, when I ate my midday meal at home I drank five glasses of wine to make me forget my family troubles. In a nervous condition I went to my shop about 1:20 o'clock, when there I found the girl; she was very beautiful, and I lost my head. When she went to the rear of the shop to get her skates, without seeing me, I barred the street door with a block of wood, so that no one could open it from the outside. Then I started to embrace the girl, but she was very strong and threw me backwards. I tried again and succeeded, despite her resistance.

"I picked her up and dropped her into the repair room below through a square door, feet first, holding her by the head and shoulders. All the while she was screaming 'Police! Police!' She fell about twelve feet below, striking a motorcycle side car on her side, but was not hurt. I jumped after her, she being again on her feet, fighting and resisting with all her power. I remember that before dropping her below I said to her: 'Please say nothing, as I have two boys,' but she continued shrieking for the police, although I do not believe any one heard her.

Killed With Stick.

"When I joined her in the lower room my head was gone. I tried again to embrace and kiss her, but again did not succeed, she was so strong. I remember she was of dark complexion and stout of body, also that her hat fell off when I first attempted to embrace her. "Finally, exasperated by her resistance, I grabbed in my left hand a stick of heavy wood a yard long and struck her twice or three times across the back of the neck, holding her with my right hand. She groaned and sank down, her head bathed in blood. "Horribly frightened and sorry, I would have killed myself had I had a revolver. Expecting to be discovered at any moment, I took the yet warm body and dragged it into a box in the left hand corner of the room."

Cocchi declares he killed Ruth Cruger with a stick. He wants to join the Italian army and be killed in battle.

MOTHER OF DEFORMED INFANT SUCCUMBS

CHICAGO, July 28.—The death of Baby Bollinger, the hopelessly deformed infant whose life a physician refused to save in November 1915, is believed to have been responsible for the death yesterday of Mrs. Anna Bollinger, the baby's mother. "After the baby's death," said Allen Bollinger, "my wife fell into a settled melancholy and wasted away. If ever a woman died of a broken heart, she did."

SOLDIER BOYS FROM AMERICA MAKING GOOD

Hard Training Brings Out a Marked Degree of Efficiency in Young Officers—Feeling in France That New Officers Should Not Be Held in United States.

Associated Press Dispatch.

WITH THE AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE, July 28.—The hard training which the American troops are now undergoing is bringing out a marked degree of efficiency in young officers who recently joined the army, having undergone training at Plattsburg or at other camps. Regular army officers are particularly struck by the enthusiasm with which these men have plunged into their work. They declare that the quality of these men sets at rest any doubt as to the high standard of leadership in America's vast new army.

The colonel of one of the old-line American regiments, standing today watching the work of one of his battalions in which many reserve officers are serving, exclaimed: "They are simply splendid! I cannot say enough about them. I have never seen a finer class of young officers anywhere. With very little preliminary guidance they have shown themselves capable of taking over entire direction of the battalion. They have brought to their work not only much of the technique of professional soldiers, but the high morale and enthusiasm of men who have been attracted to military service by natural inclination."

Needed in France Now.

The colonel further expressed what seems to be the opinion of most officers already here, that as many of these officers from the training camps as can possibly be spared should be sent to France at the earliest possible date to undergo intensive training in the actual war zone; also to have experience in the trenches so that they will be fitted to act as instructors to the American troops as they are landed. There is a feeling that the young officers should not be held in America until the regiments to which it is proposed to assign them are actually formed, but should come in advance of their regiments so that they can direct the final training of their men here.

The men of the expeditionary forces have settled down into the routine of the new training very quickly and are progressing as rapidly as their officers expected. They are up at 5 o'clock in the morning and reach the training grounds not later than 7:45, drilling and digging without interruption until 11:30. After half an hour for lunch and another hour for rest, they drill again from 1 until 4:30 o'clock. The men lunch in the field, having sandwiches and other cold rations prepared for them before they leave camp each morning. The French soldiers who are training the Americans rest from 11 to 2 o'clock. They have field kitchens and eat a hot midday meal.

Skill in Bomb-Throwing.

As was to be expected, American soldiers have taken naturally to bomb-throwing. They like that part of the daily program better than any other. When they are not hurling dummy metal missiles they may be seen practicing with heavy stones, dummy shell holes having been constructed as targets. The Americans are wonderfully accurate and the French instructors are amazed at their skill, so easily acquired. This, of course, is due largely to baseball training, although bombs are thrown with a straight arm swing quite different from the elbow motion of the baseball pitcher.

Word was received from headquarters today that the expeditionary force field bakery will be in operation within the next few days, supplying the soldiers with "home made" American bread. They have been living thus far on the regulation French war bread.

Representatives of the Salvation army arrived at headquarters today and will soon make arrangements to hold meetings in the various billeting areas.

VISIT OF AMERICAN FLEET PLEASES BUENOS AIRES

BUENOS AIRES, July 28.—The chamber of deputies unanimously adopted a resolution to inform the United States congress of its satisfaction at the visit of the American squadron, saying it manifested at the same time the solidarity of the two countries.

THIRD YEAR OF GREAT WORLD WAR CLOSES WITH RESULTS OF CONFLICT IN FAVOR OF THE ENTENTE ALLIES

(Continued from Page One.)

which aroused world-wide indignation. The British claimed capture of nearly 5000 prisoners in the three months of this German retirement for a depth of from five to 15 miles along a front of about 46 miles.

British Offensive.

In April the British transferred their offensive northeast of Arras, forcing Von Hindenburg to redistribute his forces along a 15-mile front. Canadians played a historic part in this fighting. Monchy-le-Preux was taken; and Vimy Ridge was captured after one of the world's bloodiest battles. Canadians held the ridge against desperate counter-attacks. This success east of Arras turned Hindenburg's northern pivot, and British critics regarded it as the greatest in the history of British arms in the present war. This offensive, continued, placed the British astride the Hindenburg line, and the Germans retired to positions a mile or two west of the Drocourt-Queant line. These they held as the third year closed.

Meanwhile the battles of Champagne and the Aisne had been carried on by the French, who in April captured Auberive. In the first days of Champagne offensive, one of the greatest struggles of the war, the Germans sustained an estimated loss of 100,000 killed, wounded and taken prisoners thru their desperate defensive operations. Fighting in these regions continues after three months, during which the French have advanced from one to five miles along a 50-mile front. The present French line runs from northwest of Soissons, thru Rheims to Auberive.

300,000 Casualties.

In June, 1917, the British began an attack on Messines and Wyschaete in an effort to straighten out the Ypres salient. Again British flyers dominated the air. The British had spent an entire year mining the earth for this offensive, which was begun with an explosion so terrific that it was heard in London. Beyond Messines, for two miles east and northeast, the British won and consolidated ground, captured more than 7400 prisoners and great stores of artillery. Gaining every objective, they placed themselves astride the Ypres Comines canal, having advanced three miles on an eight-mile front. Portuguese and Belgian troops aided in this offensive. In recent days the fighting there had been confined to raiding operations. It is estimated that during April, May and June the Germans suffered 350,000 casualties on the western front.

The Russians, having in June of 1916 begun an offensive from the Pripe marshes to the Rumanian frontier, speedily captured Cernowita and the rest of Bukowina, together with Brody in Galicia, and in August they entered Stanislaw for the third time in the war. These operations forced the Austro-Germans to relinquish lines they had held thruout the winter of 1915-1916.

The Halicz bridgehead fell in September, but the subsequent advance on Lemberg was not prosecuted because the plight of Rumania demanded the transfer of Russian troops to aid their Balkan ally.

Russian Offensive.

After the Russian revolution, the Russians made a feint to advance on Pinsk, to cover the actual operations resumed in July against Lemberg. This latter front extended 18 1/2 miles. Known as "Regiments July First," these troops, reinvigorated by the consciousness of political liberty, confounded German military prophets by the magnitude and extent of their offensive.

Led by Alexander Kerensky, minister of war, and observed by American army officers, the "Regiments July First" forced the Teutons to evacuate Brestany, and they captured many important positions, including terrain west and south of Halicz town and strongly defended positions northwest of Stanislaw. On July 11 Halicz was taken, thus smashing the Austro-German front between Brestany and the Carpathians.

This Russian operation broadened by mid-July, so that it extended from the Gulf of Riga to the Rumanian front, a distance of 800 miles. The Germans were reported to be rushing troops from the Italian and French fronts. Widespread enthusiasm was created thruout Russia, and the moral effect on the other entente powers was tremendous.

Russian Collapse.

Before the third year closed, however, Russia's offensive collapsed. German spies, anarchists, peace fanatics and other agitators succeeded in destroying the morale of some of the Russian troops in Galicia, where a retreat became necessary when unit after unit refused to obey orders.

Brzezany, Halicz, Tarnopol, Stanislaw and Kalouza were lost, together with all the remaining ground gained during the offensive. The Russians surrendered many prisoners, heavy guns and an abundance of supplies and ammunition.

The death penalty was invoked as a check to further insubordination and the provisional government introduced a policy of "blood and iron" in an effort to avert disaster.

South of the Carpathians and in the Vienna region there was little disaffection among the Russian troops.

Italy's Offensive.

Italy, declaring war against Germany on August 28, began a more vigorous prosecution of her earlier offensive against Austria. With dramatic swiftness the third army, under the duke of Aosta, stormed and captured Gorizia, hitherto considered impregnable. By January 1 the Italians had captured 1200 square miles.

After a winter of artillery duels, Italy resumed her offensive on the Carso front in the campaign toward Trieste. Within a month the Austrian lines were broken from Castagnavizza to the sea. Italy inflicted losses of 85,000 on the Austrians and lost heavily herself. Austria hurried reinforcements from the Russian front.

In the Trentino the Italians took the offensive in June, and after terrific fighting captured the Austrian positions on Monte Ortigara and Arzello Pass. These they were forced to relinquish, however, in the face of Austrian counter-attacks.

In the Balkans.

In the Balkans the year's military development saw the occupation of Rumania by the Teutons—a gain of great economic value because of the oil and grain fields. The Rumanian army, reformed, is co-operating with the Russians, and are now engaged in a heavy offensive against the central powers and their allies. Bulgaria won successes of moderate importance, including the capture of the Grecian port of Kavala.

The newly equipped Serbian army arrived at Saloniki in August and began an offensive which won Ostrovo, on the road to Mgnastir. This offensive, resumed in the spring with the co-operation of entente and Venizelist troops, won Monastir and Cerna.

In Greece the military moves of the entente forces included a blockade of Greece and temporary French occupation of Athens.

A brilliant British campaign in Mesopotamia accomplished the capture of Kut-el-Amara, in February; and of Bagdad, terminus of the Berlin-to-Bagdad railway, in March. The capture of Bagdad had a deep moral effect in the Orient, particularly in Arabia, where many natives revolted from Turkish rule.

Russians operating in Persia took Hamadan; and further north, in Turkish Armenia, Russians captured Van.

Naval Operations Quiet.

In the Holy Land the British opened a new era in the history of the east. Their advance has carried them nearly to Gaza. Their objective is Jerusalem, which the Turks were reported in June to have partly evacuated.

Except for submarine operations, naval writers have found little to engage their attention during the past year.

Germany continued to rely on U-boats. This policy led to unrestricted warfare which drew the United States into the conflict.

U-boats destroyed an estimated gross tonnage of more than 4,000,000 during the year. This included 2,000,000 flying the British flag sunk from February 25 to July 1.

America's destroyer flotilla arrived in British waters in May. Without the loss of a ship or a man, American warships convoyed the first American troops to France. Two submarine attacks were made on the transports. At least one U-boat was sunk. American warships took over from British and French vessels the patrol of American coasts. Brazil added her navy to ours in South American waters.

Cities from Bagdad to London have been subjected to raids, notable attacks being those by German Zeppelins and airplanes on London. In four attacks on England in May, June and July, 287 persons were killed and 837 injured.

FRENCH REGARD WAR SITUATION MUCH IMPROVED

Wherever German Lines Have Changed It Has Been Toward Germany—German Losses for Year 1,200,000—Wastage During Three Months 150,000 Each Month.

PARIS, July 28.—The military situation of the entente allies on the western front at the end of the third year of the war is regarded by competent authorities here as actually better than it was a year ago and enormously better prospectively by reason of the intervention of the United States.

The big change in the relative position of the allies was brought about by the evacuation of a part of France by the Germans. This retirement which was announced in Germany as a strategic retirement, made with the object of attaining a superior fighting position, has turned out to have been simply a retreat so that the German lines might be shortened and held by fewer divisions.

Move Toward Germany.

Wherever the lines have moved on the west they have moved toward Germany. The allies measure their success not by the ground gained but by the fact that the Germans have had to endure shock after shock and in doing so have lost.

The German reserves in the belief of French authorities, have diminished during the year by about 1,200,000 or at an average rate of 100,000 a month. The German wastage during

April, May and June is placed at upward of 150,000 a month, the casualties rising during May, according to German admissions, to 170,000 not counting those slightly wounded who may be able to return to service.

Russian Causes Worry.

The situation on the Russian front is a cause of deep concern, but it is not regarded here as possible for Germany to spare many more troops from the eastern front for action on the western front than already have been brought up; hence it is believed here that under the worst possible circumstances the fighting power of Germany cannot be greatly increased on this front.

France and Great Britain count upon the American army to be in operation under more favorable circumstances than in any spring since the war began. The British army in France is delivering powerful flows which can be maintained indefinitely.

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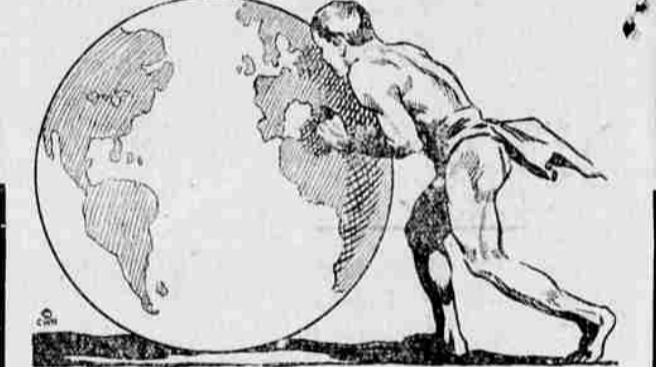
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SAN FRANCISCO
A stop in this city is always a pleasure. The cool summer climate, the air of Bohemianism, the fine hotels, restaurants, parks and boulevards, all contribute to the enjoyment of the visitor.

CALIFORNIA BEACHES
Along the "Road of a Thousand Wonders," from San Francisco are many delightful beach resorts. Some of the most enjoyable are Santa Cruz, Del Monte, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Santa Barbara, Long Beach and Venice, where the carefree throng bask in the California sunshine.

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