

AMERICANS FOUGHT WAY FORWARD ON MAN-MADE DESERT

WITH THE AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE, Nov. 15.—(Correspondence of Associated Press.)—The country over which the American forces fought their way northwest from Verdun presents a picture of ruin, destruction and desolation.

Torn by mines causing huge craters, gashed by bombardments which made hundreds of thousands of shell-holes and strewn with broken and abandoned guns, wagons and heaps of ammunition, helmets and all other debris of four years of desperate fighting the whole route betrays the awful effects of war.

Harb Wire Everywhere Everywhere, in every direction and protecting each slightest angle and nook, across the roads until torn away by shell or human hands, are countless strands of barbed wire, most of it rusted by the rains crazily topsyturvy on its supporting stakes that have fallen to right and left.

Take, for instance, the trip from ruined, desolate Avocourt northward to Malancourt and Montfaucou, the scene of some of the bitterest fighting of the entire war. Avocourt was in ruins before even the American offensive started.

For a solid mile northward the road winds across foothills that once were covered with green trees but now are stony and bare. Gigantic mines have torn the road in twain and gouged out holes fifty and more feet deep, a hundred and more feet across, to get around or across which engineers have had to exercise their ingenuity and the surrounding country, stripped of its woods, has furnished the roots.

To either side of the road are the remains of what were once livable, comfortable dug-outs and buildings, blown into thousands of pieces by discharges of explosives when the enemy retreated. Farther afield and as far as the eye can see across the low hills are hundreds and thousands of shell holes, their craters overlapping, big and little holes from missiles of every character, that have torn and scattered the earth almost beyond the hope of redemption.

Everywhere is the debris of the battle-field, guns, helmets, articles of clothing, piles and heaps of ammunition, broken-down and splintered wagons, caissons and trucks. And, if one goes over the scene soon enough, bodies awaiting burial.

The comparison between Malancourt and Avocourt is striking—because the former has suffered so much more. Buildings no longer have even a semblance of their former state. Where in Avocourt walls at least stand here and there in Malancourt everything has been razed as though with dynamite, and the crumbling remnants are seized upon to rebuild the shattered roads and make them passable for the instable armies ahead that must have more and even more ammunition, and food and supplies.

No Population Left Neither Malancourt nor Montfaucou nor any one of the score of towns within in the sector where the Americans operated has a single living inhabitant left. In every direction is a waste of craters and up-torn earth.

The once beautiful wooded slopes and hills are now torn and gashed. Great artillery bombardments have stripped the hillsides of all but the stumps of the trees which towered pathetically against the sky without branches or foliage, mere crippled relics of their former selves. Many of them have been shattered by shell as by lightning, others cut off as though by blinding wood choppers unable to fell a tree cleanly.

The reconstruction of Europe is admittedly going to be a long, hard task, far longer than the war that made it necessary. In time to come the roads and valleys between Avocourt and Malancourt will be green again, the trees of the Argonne forest will grow up as they did before 1914. But as they all look now it seems very, very far in the future before the ruin, the utter destruction, can be made good and the former status of this portion of France restored.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—Secretary McAdoo's recommendation for downward revision of the revenue bill to about \$6,000,000,000 was formally adopted today by the state finance committee. Only two or three members, Chairman Simmons stated, favored a higher tax levy.

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 16.—Queen Maria Theresa of Bavaria died on Friday, according to the Tezeblatt of Munich.

Influenza—La Grippe The present influenza is now known to be our old familiar la grippe. Feby's Honey and Tar is just what every sufferer from influenza or la grippe needs now. It covers the rough inflamed throat with a soothing healing coating, clears away the mucus, stops the tickling and coughing, eases the tightness and heavy breathing. Day and night, keep Feby's Honey and Tar handy. It gives ease, warmth and comfort from the very first dose. Buy it now. For sale by Medford Pharmacy.

DUGOUTS HOMES FOR YANK ARMY ON BATTLE LINE

WITH THE AMERICAN TROOPS IN FRANCE, Nov. 16.—(Correspondence of Associated Press.)—Dugouts are popular as homes for the staffs of American army corps and divisions as their occupancy enables the officers directing operations to be in close communication with their regiments in action.

The staff of the second American division which assisted the French to drive the Germans out of Rheims had its headquarters in Sulpice for a time but when the "push" moved forward and the Germans were forced out of Souain it became difficult to maintain close liaison between the American troops and staff officers.

Souain was constantly under fire, so the Americans chose the alternative of a dugout. They went almost to Souain, and in the very midst of the desolation and destruction they borrowed underneath the shell craters and gaped mine holes and built themselves a tiny little underground house. The rooms were so small that a dozen people would fill any one to suffocation, but the house was safe—shell and bomb proof. Immediately the situation improved, for from the general commanding the division to the orderly and dispatch runner who hourly risked his life by going up to the front, all were safe as long as inside.

The corps dugout, of necessity a large and fairly pretentious affair, is a rarity of rarities, and, with its electricity, its running water, its heating arrangements and the like, it is distinctly an American affair. The divisional dugouts on the other hand is an institution which all armies avail themselves of when convenient.

Sometimes the real, genuine dugout is used as was this one in the shell-torn field of the Champagne where personal safety is virtually the only factor involved. In other cases, especially in the Argonne forest and to a lesser extent in the Vosges mountains, both the French and Americans, and the Germans, go in when possible for architectural effects and house themselves snugly in chalet-like cottages and bungalows which either meet the supply of houses that do not exist, or substitute for those that are inhabitable or nearly so.

FORMER MAYOR VAN WYCK OF NEW YORK DEAD

PARIS, Nov. 15.—Robert A. Van Wyck, former mayor of New York, is dead here.

TODAY'S MARKETS

Livestock PORTLAND, Nov. 16.—Cattle, steady; receipts none. Steers, prime, \$12.25-12.75; good to choice, \$11.00-12.00; medium to good, \$10.00-11.00; fat to medium, \$8.50-9.50; common to fair, \$8.00-8.50; cows and heifers, choice, \$8.00-8.50; medium to good, \$6.50-7.50; fair to medium, \$5.50-6.50; calves, \$7.00-12.00; bulls, \$5.00-7.50; calves, \$9.00-12.00; stockers and feeders, \$6.00-8.00.

Hogs, steady; receipts 107; prime mixed, \$17.00-17.25; medium mixed, \$16.75-17.00; rough heavies, \$15.00-16.00; sows, \$14.00-15.00; hulk, \$17.00.

Sheep, steady; receipts none. Prime lambs, \$11.50-12.50; fair to medium, \$8.50-10.50; yearlings, \$10.00-11.00; wethers, \$9.00-10.00; ewes, \$6.50-8.50.

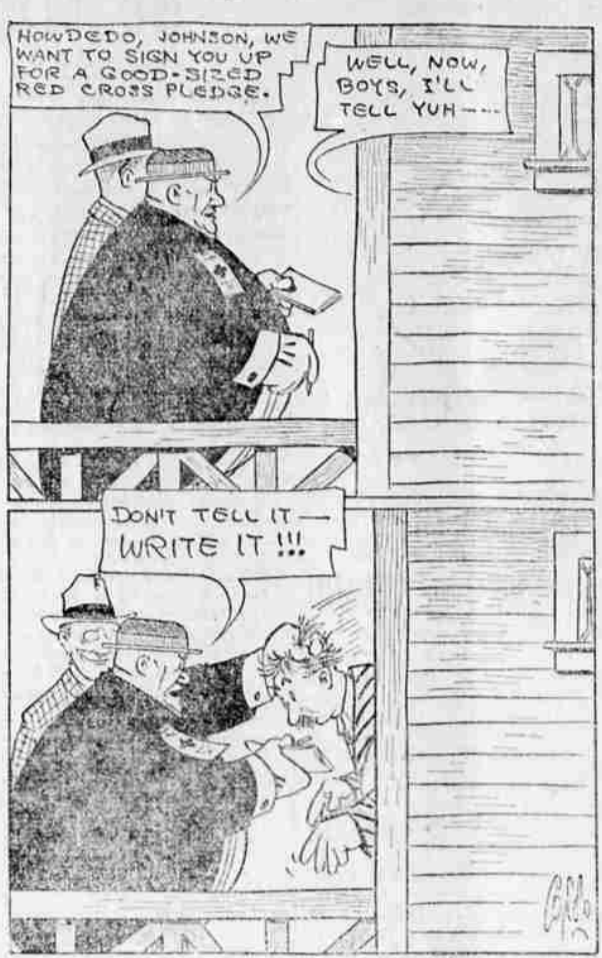
Butter PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 16.—Butter, firm. City creamery prints, extra, box lots, 63c; half boxes, half cent more; less than half boxes, 62c more. Baving price butter fat, Portland, 67c; cube extras, 66c.

Eggs SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 14.—Fresh extra eggs dropped to 79 1/2c in the wholesale market here today, recording a drop of 1 1/2c since Monday. Extra pullets wholesaled at 59 1/2c, a drop of 1 1/2c since the first of the week. Dealers forecast a further decline.

Portland Grain Oats, \$3.50 bid; corn, \$5.50 bid; mill stuffs—Mill run, 6c; h. mill; Carlots \$32.10; mixed cars \$32.60; less than carlots \$34.10-35.10; rolled barley \$25.50-29; rolled oats \$41-45; ground barley \$56-60; alfalfa meal \$49-54.

PHOENIX SCHOOL NOTES No school in Phoenix altho the Talent school bell rings out its come to school every day. Thursday Mr. Milan took his lumber assistants to the remote places of the district and finished up the war work. Money and pledges amounted to \$50—over the top and some. It is reported that Miss Vera Roundtree, the primary teacher, has the "flu". It is hoped that she will recover soon.

The Outbursts of Everett True By CONDO



METHODISTS TO IMPROVE NEGRO SOCIAL CONDITION

NEW YORK, Nov. 16.—In commemoration of the founding of the first American Methodist mission by John Stewart, a negro, who carried the gospel to the Wyandotte Indians, the Joint Centenary committee of the Methodist Episcopal church announced here today that \$2,000,000 of its proposed \$5,000,000 "Centenary Fund", which is to be raised by June 1, 1919, will be devoted to "the improvement of social, moral and religious conditions among the negroes of the United States."

There are 3189 negro Methodist churches in the south and for their betterment a budget of \$2,588,675 has been prepared. Part of the money will be used in educating negro pastors along the lines of modern church work and nearly \$150,000 will be devoted to building parsonages to illustrate model home conditions to the negroes of the various districts. Demonstration farms also will be established, similar to the one at Brookhaven, Miss., where colored farmers will be taught scientific agriculture. Thirty per cent of southern negroes are illiterate and schools and instructors will be employed to reach them.

Since the beginning of the war, it is estimated, more than 700,000 colored workers have migrated from the land of corn and cotton to southern farms and munition factories. Methodist, according to the statement, intends to provide for the welfare of these negroes, many of whom are members of that faith. The plans include the building of 33 new churches in the north, each of which will aid the negroes to find employment and obtain decent living quarters. Similar provisions will be made to take care of negro women and girls. Courses in cookery and housewifery for those who were formerly plantation laborers are also contemplated. St. Mark's M. E. church in Chicago, East University, M. E. church in Philadelphia and Park street M. E. church in Cincinnati, have already put some of the centenary program in operation and funds for starting similar work in all parts of the country will be raised during the "drive" next spring.

HOT WORK FOR TANK FIGHTERS IN YANK ADVANCE

WITH THE AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE, Oct. 16.—(Correspondence of Associated Press.)—American fighters in the French two-man tanks ran into some hot work in front of Romagne during the American army's advance along the west bank of the Meuse early in October and Sergeant James Avertt, of Birmingham, Alabama, with his "buddy," did their share in saving the Hun his due. Avertt's "buddy" was killed in the thick of the fight by a bullet that entered a peep hole in the side of the tank and struck him fair in the face.

It was during the American "push" in the Argonne sector. Avertt's tank went along with a lot of other "brother" tanks in line with the American infantrymen crowding them in the rear. Avertt was the machine gunner of his tank while his "buddy" ran the engine and steered the tank.

"I was so near a number of Germans encountered in a shallow trench that I could see the terror on their faces when my gun began to let fly bullets almost in their very faces," Sergeant Avertt said. "Those were the first Boches I ran into on this drive and I certainly let them have it as fast as my old machine could fire, and that was some fast, and I got kept going ahead and pounding away until every last one of them was stretched out on the ground."

"Passing beyond this hastily dug trench, I, in the meantime, watching my 'brothers' on my right and left and at the same time keeping tabs on the doughboys coming up, lost sight of a little bunch of Germans behind a hump in the hill along the roadway, or what had been a roadway before our heavy artillery opened up that morning. These were machine gunners, I soon learned, and bullets began to splash off the tank's sides particularly those which struck a plowshare blade.

"I ordered my tank 'buddy' at the wheel to keep after those gunners if he cost us all four wheels. He did, and we went up after them sort of sideways, and I got around on the side of that hump, and my 'brother' on the other side was doing the same and we wiped that bunch out in a jiffy—I believe it was by enfilading fire, as the officers would call it."

3,000 MERCHANTMEN BUILT BY AMERICA WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—Nearly 3,000 merchant vessels were built in huge yards between April 6, 1917, the date of the declaration of war, by the United States, and November 11, last, the date of the armistice. The actual number was 2,993 of 3,001,000 tons, of which 500 aggregating 2,000,514 gross tons were ocean-going steel steamers. Ocean-going wooden vessels numbered 493 of 763,156 gross tons, and non-ocean-going vessels numbered 2,010, with a gross tonnage of 281,725.

NATION DRY BY FEBRUARY 1, 1920 PRESENT OUTLOOK

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—National home dry prohibition is due in the United States on or about February 1, 1920. It will be out of the way before the next national conventions are held.

This prediction is based on the fact that 33 state legislatures will meet during the month of January, 1919, and most of them will make haste to ratify the dry amendment. Fourteen states already have ratified, and it is altogether probable that the necessary 36 will have ratified before the first of the new year is ended.

Law Will Be Proclaimed Shortly after that, upon receipt of official notice of the action of the required number of states, the secretary of state will proclaim the amendment as the law of the land, and under its provisions one year will be left for the remaining saloons, breweries, distilleries and wineries in the country to liquidate and go out of business.

The 14 states which have already ratified are Arizona, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, Mississippi, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas and Virginia.

Nineteen States to Ratify Legislatures will meet in January in the following dry states, where quick ratification is believed to be certain: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah, Washington and West Virginia, a total of 19 states.

This gives 33 states, three less than needed, but in the elections last held several of the wet states have chosen radical legislators, and favorable action is expected with little delay in California, Nevada, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Wyoming, with a probability that still others, including Ohio, Minnesota and New York will lose little time in closing the deal.

Florida is another state certain to ratify as soon as its legislature comes into action, but the legislative session will not begin in that state until April 1.

Fate of John Barleycorn Sealed The fate of John Barleycorn was sealed last summer when the wet states of Delaware, Maryland, Ken-

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tucky, Massachusetts and Louisiana passed resolutions of ratification which are beyond recall and made sure the triumph of prohibition. Politicians who have had complications at home because of the prohibition issue are already breathing sighs of relief that this issue will soon be out of politics, and that all evidence of the honor traffic will have disappeared by the time of the next presidential campaign.

The former Austrian emperor and empress probably will reside in a town on the Swiss shore of Lake Constance until peace has been signed.

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