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467 COURT STREET

SALEM, OREGON

GREAT DEMAND FOR SOLDIERS' CLOTHING IS CAUSE OF SHORTAGE

Quartermaster Sharpe Tells Committee Over 2,000,000 Overcoats Delivered

Washington, Dec. 21.—In the face of a startling lack of clothing supplies, thousands of men will be called to the colors by December 31, Quartermaster General Sharpe admitted to the senate military committee probe this afternoon. He refers to the 25 per cent of the last increment of the first draft not yet called out.

At present Sharpe declared there isn't enough clothing for the men in training, and American troops sent to France are going over in uniforms 27 per cent lighter than those worn by the French and British troops.

He advised the English system of a "purveyor general of supplies" to order ordnance, food and clothing for the army.

Sharpe said one uniform each had been issued to 1,640,500 men now, although a small part of these uniforms were cotton.

Switching to the subject of overcoats committee members began grilling Sharpe on complaints of overcoat shortages that had been coming in from camps. A table submitted by the general showed 2,000,000 overcoats had been completed by December 15 last.

"How does it come then," asked Senator Hitchcock, "that with only approximately 1,500,000 men to equip and with over two million overcoats made, the men had been without coats?"

"The bulk of these overcoat deliveries came late in November and December," Sharpe replied. "Prior to that time we didn't have the coats for all the men."

Major L. Hardeman of the quartermasters' department, testifying for General Sharpe, said there were sufficient overcoats but the sizes were wrong.

"How did that come?" he was asked.

"Because in most draft contingents the men are larger physically than those in the regular army and in the guard," said Hardeman.

"Has every man in the army an overcoat today?" Senator McKeller asked.

"As far as requisitions have been made," Hardeman replied.

Sharpe read a long memorandum detailing how the time the army and the national guard were mobilized for Mexican border service his department had bought clothing, practically exhausting its funds.

When demobilization of the national guard was halted, Sharpe said he got Secretary Baker's approval to an order for clothing for 500,000 additional men, that being approximately the number of the national guard and the army at war strength. In April, this year, he was authorized by Baker to order for 500,000 more men and in June for a third 500,000.

"What did these orders include for each man?" asked Senator Weeks.

"They were equipment C, or clothing and tents to last three months," replied General Sharpe.

"You know you now haven't got enough clothing for your men, don't you?" asked Senator McKeller.

"Yes," said Sharpe. "That's due to the way the men have been called out."

"It's because of the methods of purchasing through the Council of National Defense, isn't it?" demanded McKeller.

"No," said Sharpe. "We've got to have some system like that. If we did switch to the English plan we would be even better off. They have a purveyor general of supplies, through whom orders for ordnance, food and clothing come from the heads of the three divisions."

"How much clothing is General Pershing buying in England?" asked Senator Hitchcock.

"I don't know," said Sharpe. "He asked permission to buy and did not state the amount."

Sharpe said that the British embargo on Australian wool has been removed as far as this country is concerned and that American manufacturers are now working Australian wool into cloth for uniforms.

Sharpe said he hoped there would not be another draft call soon as his department had been flooded with 700,000 new enlistments in the regular army which had upset his program. Sharpe said he hoped they would be ready for a new call some time in January.

Asking if there had not been some trouble as to shoes, Senator Wadsworth said he had heard that at Camp Custer, half of an infantry detachment was marched out to target practice and then returned, giving their shoes to the other half so these men could practice.

Sharpe admitted such a condition exists.

Senator Weeks declared that a Massachusetts shoe manufacturer who examined the shoes issued to 20,000 men reported that about eighty per cent of the men were wearing shoes too short for them.

"This condition has been brought to the attention of Secretary Baker and of the medical department," said Weeks.

"The medical department concurred in the view of the shoe man that the wearing of these short shoes would not endanger the foot-health of the men," General Sharpe said that as a result of the report to Baker the system of fitting shoes had been changed and added:

"General Pershing has asked us to omit some narrower widths because his men are wearing heavy woolen socks."

Sharpe placed the blame for improper fitting of shoes on company commanders and medical officers.

He criticized the department red tape that sends telegrams, contracts and authorizations for action through a half dozen officials before action is had. He advocated adoption of "business methods."

"Did you ever suggest a change?" asked Senator Weeks.

"Yes, to the secretary of war."

"Who is responsible?"

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TELEGRAPHIC TABLOIDS

Corvallis.—Even a head coach's job has its advantages. Joe Pipal was the only man admitted at the inter-class track meet of the Oregon Agricultural College co-eds.

Portland.—The fact that an alleged I. W. was convicted of distributing hand bills, preferred jail to paying his fine caused Circuit Judge Kavanaugh to state this convinced him of the man's guilt and beliefs.

Portland, Or.—With the city employment bureau unable to fill positions paying as high as \$6 a day, the police today began a round up of idle men, declaring there is no excuse for unemployment. Those refusing to work are to be vagged.

Chicago.—A maximum temperature of 70 degrees has been fixed for all buildings in Chicago as a coal conservation measure. It is believed 10 to 15 per cent of the present consumption will be saved.

Chicago.—The stork won another

race with a railroad train. A daughter was born to Mrs. E. R. Moore as the Panama limited was leaving Cairo, Ill. en route from New Orleans to Chicago.

San Antonio, Texas.—City officials today asked nearby farmers to cut and market mesquite to relieve the acute fuel shortage here.

Dallas, Texas.—"I want only a Red Cross button," a little Dallas girl wrote Santa Claus in care of the local Red Cross chapter.

Atlanta, Ga.—A pro-German named Beuterbaugh invaded Billy Sunday's pulpit and punched him when Billy roasted the kaiser. "The devil made me do it," he explained.

New York.—Agitation for "Christmas fish" instead of Christmas turkey was launched here today. Christmas falls on "meatless Tuesday" and turkey is 52 cents a pound.

New York.—Ralph Herz, comedian, had three wives. He is bankrupt. In his petition he says he owes \$25,000, and has no assets except his clothes.

Milwaukee.—Five minutes after Edwin Kaiser enlisted in the navy, Stone wall Jackson came along and took a job as mess attendant for the jacks.

"A SOLDIER OF RUSSIA."

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—"What is your age and occupation?" an immigration inspector asked of a frail looking Russian girl who had just arrived on a Dutch steamer from the Orient. "A soldier—a soldier of Russia," was the startlingly quick response. "My age is 15—old enough to fight for Russia." She was Riva Kopkin of the Russian Legion of Death and today, with Miss Eva Leiontz, her comrade in arms, was admitted to the United States. They bring stories of bloody scenes which preceded the Bolshevik overthrow of Kerensky.

Former Czar Nicholas and His Family May Seek Haven Abroad

Petrograd, Dec. 19.—Cia London, Dec. 21.—Former Czar Nicholas and his family are to be permitted to seek haven in some other country than Russia.

It was authoritatively stated today that a decree would be issued Thursday allowing members of the imperial family, including those at Tobolsk, to "go abroad" in compliance with their request. This action of the Bolsheviks is due to insistence of the Germans in the armistice negotiations.

The German negotiations, it was stated, had raised the question of disposition of the former members of royalty, at Brest-Litovsk. The Bolshevik leaders asked the opinion of the Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaevitch and Paul Alexandrovitch, who suggested that all members of the royal family be allowed to leave.

The newspaper Vetchemey Yremia asserted today that the kaiser had demanded from the Bolshevik plenipotentiaries release of the czar and his family from banishment and that the delegates had declared this matter was one for decision by the assembly.

Posses Search for Man Who Murdered Son

Mentrose, Colo., Dec. 21.—Several posses were organized and are scouring the country in the vicinity of Olathe, seeking John O. Bush, who murdered his 11 year old son Saturday and attempted to dispose of the body by burning it in a lye kettle. The search was begun when Mrs. Nancy Jane Bush, the 71 year old mother of John Bush, confessed to the sheriff that the story she told was invented by her and Bush to cover up the crime. The aged woman told a coroner's jury that she had killed Bush after he had murdered his son. She completely repudiated this story, and she told it in order to permit Bush to effect an escape. She declared the fugitive was en route to his former home in Iowa.

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Mack Sennett
Comedy
A Scream

A Famous Story--
A Famous Actress
A Great Production
Too Good to Miss

THE OREGON

"Well, this has been a matter of considerable controversy ever since the civil war," said Sharpe.

Senator Wadsworth asked why blue overalls were issued to men in cantonments. Sharpe said the overalls were given to protect uniforms from dirt in trench digging.

"I was informed," said Wadsworth "that one division commander bought the overalls because he had no regulation uniforms and later got your approval."

"I was informed General Giem at Chillicothe did that," said Sharpe.

German Professor Committed Suicide

Palo Alto, Cal., Dec. 21.—Professor Ernest W. Ponce, professor of mathematics at Stanford University, was found dead in the kitchen of his home today with a big gunshot wound in his breast. A showup, with which the wound was evidently inflicted, lay nearby.

The police believe Ponce committed suicide, although there were no notes or other indications of such an intention.

Professor Ponce was of German birth and before America entered the

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