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FIRST AMERICAN OFFICER TO GO "OVER THE TOP." Distinction is Claimed by Lieutenant Walter B. Schafer.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Lieutenant Walter B. Schafer, former back on the University of Chicago football team, claims to have been the first American officer to go over the top into "No Man's Land" under the barrage of French snipers, according to a letter exhibited today by Schafer's fraternity brothers at the Midway school.

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FULTON LOSES FIGHT ON FOUL

Heavyweight Title Claimant Ruled Against by Referee in Bout With Harry Tate at Little Rock—Foul Committed in First Round—Crowd Refused to Listen to Fulton.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 26.—Harry (Texas) Tate was fouled by Fred Fulton of Rochester, Minn., in the first round of a scheduled ten round bout here today.

FANS DISSATISFIED WITH RECENT DEAL

St. Louis Rooters Warn Branch Rickey—Philly Followers Threaten to Boycott Teams. The methods of frenzied finance which are being adopted by club owners in the major leagues are already causing much unrest among baseball fans which will have a serious effect on the game next summer.

FOOTBALL CLAIMS 13

Nine of Victims Came from High School Eleven—No College Players on List. High school students led other victims in football casualties, 9 of the 13 victims of the great college game for 1917 being high school youths.

Providence, R. I., Dec. 25.—After repeated fouling tactics and a caution from Referee Gardner, Walter Mohr of Brookline was disqualified in the second round of his twelve round bout with Soldier Bartfield here this afternoon. The fight was fairly even for four rounds, Bartfield's better condition finally asserting itself.

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SPORTING NOTES

From St. Louis yesterday came the announcement that Huggins has been in a conference with Business Manager Quince of the Browns on that subject of Derrell Pratt. Quinn said after the conference that Huggins has made a tentative offer for Pratt but that the player Huggins offered in exchange was not the player the St. Louis club was after.

SPORTING NOTES

Law McCarty is still suffering from the kink in his shoulder, which he injured during the game, and by many lamented, world's series.

SPORTING NOTES

According to recent figures Trinity ranks second among college colleges of the country in respect to the percentage of her student body who have enlisted. Yale is first.

SPORTING NOTES

Rabbit Maraville of the Boston Braves has been appointed coach of the Boston navy yard basketball team. He is also on the five along with other baseball stars.

SPORTING NOTES

Clark Griffith isn't going to take any chances with his Washington players. He's looking around for a number of minor league players to protect himself and his club if the draft starts to get busy with his outfit.

SPORTING NOTES

Baltimore is elated with its prospects for having a genuine big league team represent it. Chances are that the national commission will favor the idea too, and then next summer will see Baltimore mentioned in the daily sport sheets.

SPORTING NOTES

We can't help wonder, though, whether the Baltimore fans purchasing going to charge the players as much for accommodations as they did those unfortunate individuals who were committed to the national democratic convention.

SPORTING NOTES

On Oct. 13 he passed his 39th birthday, and he stands forth as a living legend. Who did Willard ever beat out of a man. Although it has been 24 years since he has engaged in a boxing bout, he is still active. He is still spry and has more energy than many men who are much younger.

SPORTING NOTES

Food regulation is to become a regular feature of the winter purchasing schedule, according to Miller Huggins. The Yankee manager is convinced that ball players as a rule eat too much.

SPORTING NOTES

The athletic authorities of Crosby High school in Waterbury have their troubles. The latest is the demand of the rifle team for the right to wear the school letter. At that, it's no worse than at Bartlett in Webster, where the letter is awarded the dramatic club and the manager's stenographer.

SPORTING NOTES

It's up to Grover Cleveland Alexander to play his hand now. He has insisted right along that he must have \$10,000 more popularity than John L. Sullivan. In the '30s and early '40s Alexander was the idol of all. There is a saying in sport that a man's popularity dies when he retires from active participation—that he is soon forgotten by Alexander. In the '30s and early '40s Alexander was the idol of all.

SPORTING NOTES

Plans for a series of exhibition baseball games between the Boston Nationals and the New York Americans to be played on their way home from their winter training camps in April, have been announced by Walter Huggins, business manager of the Boston club. The Boston team will play at Miami, Fla., and the New York team at Macon, Ga.



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LATEST CASUALTY LIST FROM GENERAL PERSHING

Two Infantries Killed in Action and a Third Fatally Wounded. Washington, Dec. 25.—First Lieutenant James D. Paul, aviation section, died December 20 as the result of an airplane accident. General Pershing today advised the war department, Lieutenant Paul's father, Joseph Paul, lives in Pittsburgh.

The deaths of two privates in action and of a third from wounds received in action also were reported by General Pershing. The men were: Caney, A. Meaders, infantry, killed November 13, father J. L. Meaders, Krupp, Ky.

Harry Meyers, infantry, killed November 18, emergency address, Elijah Miles (friend) Indianapolis, Ind. Earl E. Aurand, died November 15 from wounds, mother, Mrs. Emma Aurand, Harrisburg, Pa.

Private Edward C. Kostbade, infantry, was killed December 22 by an explosion, and Private John B. White, ammunition train, died December 22 from gunshot wounds. Kostbade's father, William Kostbade, lives at Hopton, Ind., and White's father, Cornelius White, lives in New York.

These deaths from natural causes also were reported by General Pershing. Sergeant Charles E. Galavan, telegraph battalion signal corps, December 23, lobar pneumonia, mother, Mrs. Mary Galavan, Chicago.

Private William A. Elmisle, engineers, December 20, broncho pneumonia, father William Elmisle, Fort Bragg, Calif. Private Saint Clair Wilcox, infantry, December 23, pulmonary tuberculosis, father, J. F. Wilcox, Winter-see, Iowa.

Private Ernest E. Marsh, aero squadron, December 22, meningitis, father, John J. Marsh, Stroudsburg, Pa. Private John J. Du Blanc, supply train, December 21, pneumonia, mother, Mrs. Josephine Du Blanc, of Austin, Texas.

PRIVATE JERRY WARD DISMISSED FROM SERVICE. Negro Who Shot Carpenter at Camp in District of Columbia. Washington, Dec. 25.—Private Jerry Ward, attached to Company A, First Separate battalion of negro troops, of the district national guard, has been sentenced to dismissal from the service and three years at hard labor for killing Andrew J. Cooper, an aged carpenter, at the quartermaster training camp here last Oct. 12.

The verdict of the courtmartial was disapproved as inadequate by Brigadier General Eli D. Hoyle, commanding the eastern department, but the court refused to amend it, and Hoyle finally approved it, he said, only in order that the soldier should not "escape well deserved punishment."

Cooper is going to work at the camp, tried to enter by a short cut instead of through the main gate, and it was in evidence at the trial that he was on guard duty. He knocked him down an embankment and when he started up again shot and killed him. The court held the act was involuntary manslaughter under the articles of war.

VERY MILD WINTER IN NORTHERN ITALY

Teutonic Invaders Aided by Lack of Snow. Italian Army Headquarters in Northern Italy, Dec. 25.—(By The Associated Press.)—The entire mountain region, where heavy fighting has been going on in recent days, is having the unusual experience of a holiday season with green slopes and suns and little or no snow. One of the generals on the front said that every foot

of snow was worth divisions in obstructing the enemy. "This is one of the mildest winters we have ever had," said the major in charge of the weather branch of the high command, "and from a military standpoint the weather conditions are of the highest importance both for our troops, and particularly, in their effect on the enemy's transportation of supplies and troops."

The entire area of the present fighting in the Brenna valley is free from snow and the weather is very mild. This is the valley where the Austrian route brings supplies and troops from Trent to the Asiago and Brenna fronts. Between the Brenna and Piave rivers, which is the principal region of the fighting, Monte Grappa, which usually has four to six feet of snow, now has only from ten to twelve inches on the southern slopes. The temperature is from 5 to 12 degrees below zero Centigrade (23 to 10.4 degrees Fahrenheit).

Montes Anolone, Pertica and Solero, where the heaviest fighting has occurred in the last few days, have only a few inches, it varies from three to five inches and seldom lasts, owing to the mildness of the weather. There is no snow and the temperature is always above freezing. The reports show similar mild conditions in the Carso and the Julian ranges, to the east, through which the Austrians maintain their communications with the invaded regions of eastern Venetia. The mildness is so pronounced that the enemy is able to operate four distinct lines of communication leading to Gorizia, Udine and Venetia.

These unusual weather conditions are proving an important factor in the campaign, for while severe cold and heavy snows would hold the enemy in their grip, the present mild and almost snowless season permits operations to proceed.

The Thames National Bank Norwich, Conn., Dec. 22, 1917. The annual meeting of the Stockholders of this Bank, for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as may legally come before them, is hereby called to be held at their Banking House on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 1918, at 11 o'clock a. m. CHARLES W. GALE, Cashier.

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