

STARTED AS PRIVATE RETURNS A GENERAL

Brig.-Gen. Cole Welcomed by Bride and Delegation From Boston.

LED IN BIG OFFENSIVES

Man Who Ran Against McCall for Governor Won Great Honors in France.

To have entered the army as a private after serving as Adjutant-General of Massachusetts and resigned that office to run for Governor of the State, to have won the command of an infantry brigade and lead that brigade through the three great American offensives in France—the second Marne, St. Mihiel and the Meuse-Argonne and finally to have returned home as the head of the advance party of what he says is the greatest division in the whole A. E. F. and to be met at the pier by his wife who married a few days before he went overseas—these are but a few of the things that made Brig.-Gen. Charles H. Cole of Boston, when on the front lines, newspapermen, friends and Boston political leaders who surrounded him three deep at the Hotel Knickerbocker all yesterday afternoon.

After serving as Commissioner and Police Commissioner of Boston he was appointed Adjutant-General of Massachusetts by Gov. McCall in spite of his different political faith, and after serving one term he resigned and made an unsuccessful race against McCall for the Governorship. In April, 1917, he enlisted as a private in the Ninth Massachusetts Infantry, and when the National Guard was federalized he was appointed Adjutant of the 101st Infantry with the rank of Captain. A month later the Twenty-sixth Division was organized from the National Guard of the New England States, and Capt. Cole was appointed a Brigadier-General and placed in command of the Fifty-second Infantry Brigade.

Restored to Command by Pershing.

He held this post until within a few days of the signing of the armistice, when he was relieved of his command by Brig.-Gen. Bransford, who had succeeded Major-Gen. Edwards in command of the division. Inquiry into the matter at headquarters resulted in Gen. Cole being restored to his command at the order of Gen. Pershing. He arrived in New York yesterday on the Aquitania and will go to Boston this morning to begin the arrangements for the reception of the Yankee Division at that port some time next month.

Shortly before his division was ordered overseas in the fall of 1917 Gen. Cole married Miss Grace Blanchard of Brookline. She was at the pier to greet him yesterday, as were his brother, George A. Cole, the latter's wife and daughter and the general's cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Lawley and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Reddon, and a party of friends.

Gen. Cole wears the Croix de Guerre with palm, but every time any one suggested that he tell some particulars about the exploit which won him the decoration he remembered another bit of water on the part of some of his men along the Marne or in the Argonne.

The battle of the Marne, the second battle of the Marne, that is—was the greatest battle in history, Gen. Cole said yesterday, because when it was ended the Hun was beaten. "We didn't know just how long it would take to finish the job," he said, "but it was like getting a burglar in the civil that—that the enemy had failed and that the end was only a question of time."

Went Over the Top Laughing.

"A battalion from my brigade captured the first town taken by the Americans after the Marne offensive began. Major Southern of Bangor, Me., led his men forward, calmly smoking a pipe, and the beginning of the action he discovered that the barrage was behind him, so he ordered his men forward and in thirty-five minutes they had captured the village of Courcy in spite of heavy rifle and machine gun fire.

"They are the people who are entitled to the credit in this war," he went on, "the men and the junior officers who were with them. At St. Mihiel our men went over the top laughing and smoking cigarettes, our artillery prepared thousands of prisoners in their dugouts before they knew our advance had commenced."

Gen. Cole paid enthusiastic tribute to the French, both the army and the civilian population. He declared that the French staff work was beyond praise. "I said that in my services under four French staff commanders he had never found anything but enthusiastic, intelligent and energetic cooperation. The French officers served as liaison officers on his staff were extraordinarily capable. Gen. Cole said, and he never issued an order without consulting them. He praised the French army supply system, too, and related several instances when he had secured supplies from them when they could not be obtained in time from the American authorities.

French Good Instructors.

Much of the credit for the success of the division, he said, was due to the training which they had undergone at the hands of the French. "At the 'ateau," he said, "when we were about to begin our training we were addressed by Gen. Castelnau of the French army, and he told us that all their experience in four years of war was at our disposal. 'We are not such good teachers as the Boche,' the General told us, 'but the lessons he gives are very expensive. You will lose many thousands of brave men in learning from him what we can teach you here.'"

That the men of the Twenty-sixth Division are in splendid physical condition, Gen. Cole declared, was proved when Gen. Pershing inspected the entire organization before their departure toward the embarkation points. "The inspection, which lasted several hours, was held in a pouring rain, he said, and there was no increase in the sick list next day as refused to discuss politics, national or local. For one thing, he said, he had been away too long to know anything about the situation. 'I'm still in the army,' he added with a smile. 'I'm still in the army.' His first thought, he said, was to get to Boston and give what help he could toward the plan for welcoming the Yankee Division, which is to come to the New England States, and the Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth and Rainbow all rolled into one, are to New York."

What do the boys want?

"What do the boys want?" he said in reply to a question. "Well, what will please them most is just to be allowed to get a job and get back to their work. Of course the parades and the welcome signs and all that are fine things and the boys appreciate them, but what they want most is that job and a chance to make something of themselves again."

To Canoeists Joan of Arc April 6.

Rome, March 30.—Pope Benedict has set April 6 as the definite date for the canonization of Joan of Arc.

HEAVY FALLING OFF IN COAL PRODUCTION

Fuel Administration Trying to Encourage Buying.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Figures compiled by the Geological Survey show a heavy slump in coal production for the week ending March 22. Since the armistice was signed the production of both bituminous and anthracite, which had been making new records for the present coal year, has steadily declined. This decline was accelerated by the mild winter and the shutting down to some extent of industry.

The slump is beginning to reach alarming proportions, in the opinion of officials and men in the coal industry. The Government, through the Fuel Administration, is directing a broad public propaganda to encourage the purchase of coal for next season and is doing everything to stimulate buying orders to save a further drop in production.

There seems to be a disposition on the part of the buying public to wait and see if war prices will continue to maintain in the face of this situation. Fuel Administration price regulations are off, but there has been no general announcement of lower prices of either anthracite or bituminous for April.

Bituminous production for the week ended March 22 was but 7,477,000 net tons. Last year the output for the corresponding week was 11,112,000 net tons. The loss from full time production because of "no market" during the week ended March 15 was 42.8 per cent., compared with 41.9 per cent. for the week preceding, lost from the same cause. Total losses from full time during the week ended March 15 amounted to 43 per cent.

Anthracite production during the week ended March 22 is estimated at 1,174,000 net tons, as against 1,506,000 net tons the previous week and 1,507,000 net tons for the corresponding week last year.

LANE REVISES PLAN TO GIVE VETS LAND

Half of 80 Acre Farms to Be Cleared—House and Barn to Be Built on Each.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—The plan of Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, for furnishing land to returned soldiers and aiding them in its development has been altered, following a preliminary survey of the situation throughout the whole nation. When Congress is called together a bill embodying the revised plan will be drafted by experts of the Department of the Interior and submitted to Congress for action. The plan has been related in detail to Representative Scott (Mich.) by F. W. Hanna, Chief Engineer of the Reclamation Service.

The original plan called for 100,000,000 to be spent on drainage of swamp land, irrigation of arid land and clearing forested land for the benefit of soldiers who wish to take up this form of civilian work. The new plan, it was learned today, will call for an appropriation of \$75,000,000.

It has been found advisable to divide the United States into three general divisions in which widely differing kinds of land will be found. The Western division will be bounded on the east by the Dakotas and Nebraska and will include Texas on account of the large tracts there requiring irrigation.

The Southern division will embrace the Southern States generally where swamp lands occur and will include Virginia, the northern boundary of this division running south of Ohio and due west from there.

Large Areas Are Available. The third division will be the northern division and technically will embrace all of the rest of the country, although in only four of the Northern States will the Government seek lands—Maine, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. In those States cut over land occurs in large areas, and it is this sort of land which will be sought in the North.

Only where the land can be purchased in lots of thousands of acres does the Government contemplate purchasing it. Land costing from about \$5 to \$15 an acre is sought, and it is to this and the more expensive land that a large part of the \$75,000,000 fund asked for is to be devoted.

The revised plan will provide also that a house and barn be built on each prospective farm, the Government to bear the initial cost. The soldier farms are to be each eighty acres in extent. There will be no lottery in the division of the tracts of land to the discharged soldiers. Each man interested is to be made thoroughly acquainted with the plan and then to be given a choice of his first, second, third, fourth choice up to his ninth or tenth preference. If it is possible to give a soldier the first choice of a site for his farm he will get it. If not his next choice will then be considered, and so on down to the tenth choice if that proves necessary.

Half of Each Farm to Be Cleared. Each farm, according to the plan of Secretary Lane, will be taken over by the soldier with twenty of its acres cleared, irrigated or drained as the case may be and fit for pasture land, but not for seeding. An additional twenty acres will be prepared by the Government before the land is turned over to the soldier so that it is ready for planting. The balance of the farm must be put into proper shape by the soldier himself.

The requirement the Government will insist upon that soldiers may gain full title to the land is that they shall spend at least five months of each year on their farms for five years and at the end of that time must have repaid to the Government the cost of the house and the barn put up by the Government.

The land itself the Government will pay for in buying from its present owners and will assume the expense and the expense of partly preparing it for farming operations as its own obligation, requiring only payment of the money due in building house and barn on the farms.

No official estimate of the number of acres of land which will be reclaimed from present uselessness and made profitable has yet been made, but it is expected to prove to be a great many millions of acres.

HANDS BETRAY ARCHDUKE.

Manufactured Nails Cause Arrest of Joseph Francis at Border.

GENEVA, March 30.—Two persons dressed as peasants who were trying to cross the Hungarian frontier into Germany were betrayed by their hands, which were not in keeping with the costumes they wore. Their finger nails were manufactured and showed no signs of hard work.

The Socialist commandant, Herr Keasthler, sent the arrested men to Budapest, where they were identified as the former Archduke Joseph Francis and a millionaire named Julius Ormeloch. Keasthler, the Foreign Minister, ordered both men imprisoned.

RAINEY NOW HEADS ANTI-CLARK BATTLE

Urges Selection of Minority Leader Who Will Defend Administration.

AGAINST G. O. P. ATTACKS

He Advises That Steering Committee Should Guide Democrats in House.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—The two dozen Democrats trying to displace Champ Clark as a minority floor leader of the House in the next Congress went off on a new tack to-night. They asserted that a different sort of leadership was necessary if the Administration was to be defended in the Republican investigations of the laxness, extravagance and inefficiency of the Wilson Administration. Representative Rainey (Ill.), who ranks next to Representative Kitchin (N. C.) among the Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee, has been induced to lead the fight against Mr. Clark after the insurgents had failed to force their banner into the hands of Mr. Kitchin, Mr. Gallivan (Mass.) and Mr. Ferris (Ohio). Accordingly Mr. Rainey at the instance of the "Democratic reorganization committee" issued this statement attacking Mr. Clark:

"The way to escape the kind of leadership which has been having in the past is to submit the control of the Democratic minority in the next House to a steering committee. It is a well known fact that throughout the last session the Democrats were not in sympathy with the Administration and there was no attempt on their part to conceal their hostility to the Administration and the Administration plans for organization of the army and carrying to a successful conclusion our participation in the great war."

"It would be particularly unfortunate at the present time to place the Democratic Administration between two fires. We can expect all sorts of investigations to be inaugurated by the Republican majority in the House. We ought to at least have a Democratic organization and a minority leader who will defend the Administration when it ought to be defended.

"A militant minority leader properly elected by the steering committee, which should be said to be sectional in character, acting in harmony with the Democratic Administration, may retrieve the losses of last November. The Democratic party is not sectional. There are more Democrats in Illinois, a Northern State, than there are in several Southern States.

"A steering committee such as is proposed will offset the argument often used with so much effect that the Democratic party is merely a party of the South. I regard it as of the greatest importance that the Democratic minority in the next House act in harmony with the Administration, and my duty as I see it compels me to support the plan of the Democratic reorganization committee."

LONGWORTH RAKES HOUSE MACHINERY

Wants Steering Committee of Nine Members.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Representative Nicholas Longworth (Ohio) to-night again attacked the Republican organization of the next House, declaring that the steering committee provided under it should be enlarged from five to nine members.

He said that in his opinion Representative Mondell (Wyo.), the new floor leader, had a record on preparedness "comparable only" to that of Representative Kitchin (N. C.), retiring Democratic Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and Democratic floor leader in the last Congress and Representative Dent (Pa.), retiring Democratic Chairman of the House Military Committee, leaders in the fight against the selective service law.

"That the country is interested in the organization of the next Congress, particularly the House of Representatives, is apparent from the great number of letters and newspaper articles I have received from all parts of the country," said Mr. Longworth. "It is highly significant that at least 85 per cent. of these are written in commendation of the course pursued by some of us in criticism of and opposition to the program of the Mann-controlled and Mann-handled Committee on Committees and they completely justify our determination to carry our fight into the Republican caucus."

The steering committee was selected with a majority of the membership supporters of Mr. Mann. "This is an entirely new piece of legislative machinery, one unprecedented in the history of the Republican party when it was in power, and few people, I think, realize the importance of its duties or the vast powers it will wield in the coming Congress."

LEGISLATURE MAY PASS BI-PORT BILL

Republican Leaders at Albany Disposed to Jam Through Interstate Treaty.

CONFERENCE TO BE HELD

Feeling Rises Against Undue Delay by City Board of Estimate.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

ALBANY, March 30.—There is a growing feeling among Republican leaders in the Legislature that if the New York city Board of Estimate does not act within a few days on the proposed treaty between New York State and New Jersey to create a joint port authority to develop the port of New York the Legislature should go ahead and take affirmative action in the matter before adjournment. A conference of the Republicans is to be called early this week to consider this proposition.

The Republicans may take the same stand in regard to the treaty that they did in putting through the New Jersey vehicular tunnel bill—which was that the Senators opposing the plan held narrow views and feared to approve the proposition because some benefit might go to Jersey—and put the joint treaty proposal to a vote without waiting for the Board of Estimate, which they believe is not going at the problem with the speed and vigor that the situation calls for.

This promise to be a busy week in the Legislature. Democratic Leader James A. Foley of the Senate is expected back after several weeks' illness and after conferences with him the Republicans will introduce new public service legislation to meet the demands of Gov. Smith for a single headed New York city Public Service Commission and a single Rapid Transit Commissioner to complete the subway.

The four Senators and five Assemblymen who are to compose the Bolshevik investigating committee of the Legislature is expected. While this committee will not conduct hearings before the Legislature adjourns, preliminary plans for its work will be arranged by Chairman Clayton S. Lusk, who is to be in New York City, Buffalo, Syracuse, Watertown and other places where traces of activity in spreading Bolshevik propaganda have been noticed.

Gov. Smith will begin work to-morrow going over the annual appropriation bill, which makes appropriations totalling almost \$60,000,000. He will have a week from next Wednesday to act on thousands of items it contains. The measure is in budget form, however, and the Governor's budget clerk has been going over it for several weeks.

The Senate Finance Committee probably will act favorably this week on the nomination of Gen. Fredley S. Greene of Long Island to be State Highway Commissioner. The bills proposing to legalize Sunday baseball and Sunday movies after 2 o'clock in the afternoon and the Gibbs bill legalizing boxing will be acted on before Thursday.

Hearings will be scheduled for a week from Tuesday on the proposed 2 per cent. State income tax. The bill increasing automobile taxes to raise an additional \$10,000,000 is to be advanced and a new measure increasing the State inheritance taxes to raise about \$4,000,000 is to be proposed.

DENIES STORIES OF FRICTION AT PARIS

Bureau Chief Says French and Americans Agree.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

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