...ALIAN HEIGHT

...e Asolone and Near-...ositions Won—2000 ...risoners Taken

... SHAKES UP STAFF

... Commander Makes ...ges in Preparation for Foe's Blow

BERLIN, Dec. 19.

...re than 2000 Italians were ... prisoners by Teutonic forces ... stormed Monte Asolone and ...e northwest and northeast of ... height, today's official state... asserted.

LONDON, Dec. 19.

...portant changes in the headquarters ... are being made by Field Marshal ..., according to the Times.

...e recent reverse on the Cambrai ... is believed to be responsible for ... shake-up.

...increased activity by the Germans is ...orted along both the British and ...ch fronts, but thus far they have ...n no thrust that indicates they are ... ready to attempt the big offensive ...ch the Allies are expecting.

A dispatch from Amsterdam says Ger... troops and material are uninter...ptedly coming from the east front. ...ny battalions already have arrived ... the Waes country (East Flanders), ... the neighborhood of St. Nicholas, for ...ample, while other columns are going ...rther west. This results in terrible ...dships for the people, whose homes ...e requisitioned for military quarters.

All schools, convents and even churches ...ve been converted into hospitals. The ...dition of the people is pitiable, every ...quisite of life being appropriated by ... Germans, entailing increasing mor...ity among children, young women and ... persons. The Germans take every...ing—milch cows, eggs, medicines, bed ...ms and mattresses. A protest against ... murder of the Belgian people must ...ow throughout the whole world, the ...respondents say.

German officers encourage disappoint...d soldiers with the prospect of an of...nsive against the British with enor...ous forces. The Germans universally ...lieve the war will end in three months.

The ceaseless military movements re...lt in a large number of requisitions ... universal forced labor for the laying ... tramlines. There are many other ...gns supporting the assertion that im...rtant events are imminent.

...AISER'S BEST TROOPS NOW ON WEST FRONT

By W. S. FORREST

...ITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN THE ...IELD, Dec. 19.

Germany has withdrawn all her best ...ldiers from the Russian front and ...placed them by her poorest troops.

From numerous documents taken in ...ds and from prisoners themselves, ...nch headquarters learned today that ... German troops between 20 and 35 ...e moved from the eastern to the ...stern theatre of war.

Apparently Germany began the shift ... instant negotiations with Russia ... an armistice were begun. Appar...ly the change has now been accom...ished, so that the provisions in the ...mistice as now made effective for no ...ew transfers do not give Germany ... concern.

...ONGRESS WILL PROBE EPIDEMICS IN CAMPS

...urgeon General Gorgas Exposes Conditions Affecting Health of Troops

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.

...hocked by Surgeon General Gorgas's ...cent disclosures of health conditions ... American camps, Congress proposes to ...den its inquiries to find why such con...itions have been permitted to continue.

...artly they are the natural outgrowth ... transition from an unprepared peace ... a state of war; others are manifestly ... to mismanagement.

All the facts for congressional probing ... be promptly available, for Gorgas's ...partment, spurred by the Committee ... Public Information, long since adopt... the policy of absolute frankness. His ... revelations covered conditions at ...eumonia-stricken Camp Wheeler, Ma..., Ga.

Now, after a personal inspection, he ... revealed that serious disease epi...mics — mainly pneumonia and men...itis — in Camps Funston, Kansas; ...eighan, Oklahoma; Bowie, Texas, and ...vier, South Carolina, are traceable ...inly to lack of warm clothing, insuffi...nt hospital accommodations, over...rding and improper camp selection. ...ack of proper clothing has been the ... common and persistent cause of ...ble. Men in the "Sunny South" have ... a large part been equipped with sum... clothing, apparently on the assump... that the climate would permit this. ...eas, in fact, the weather has been ... too rigorous.

Camp Funston's death rate has been ...ven times normal. The difficulty there, ...gas reveals, may in part be attrib...d to the insanitary location, but he ...s that fact was well known in ad...nce.

KING EIGHT

Owner Designed

The King Eight is designed from the owners' standpoint, in an effort to establish its pre-eminence as the most desirable car built.

...Motor Sales Co.
...R. Broad St.

... GET SHARE OF CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Even in War-Worn France Holiday Brings Joyous Message

By J. W. PEGLER

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Dec. 19.

Even here in war-torn France, America has brought the spirit of the Prince of Peace with her stalwart sons training to fight.

It's a long, long way back home and here in France Noel is different from plain American Christmas, but the Sammees are going to make their part of France as near like a homy Christmas as they can.

The soldiers' presents have arrived. Exigencies of the weather have made it desirable to distribute some of them. One whole company of a certain regiment of infantry, for instance, gratefully bundled up today in new sweaters and helmets and wristlets knitted by a girls' club of Berkley, Cal. They came at an opportune moment. It has been cold and frosty for soldiering during the last few days.

Many other Christmas presents arriving ahead of time found the soldiers to whom they were addressed too eager—just like small kiddies back home—to let them stay unopened until Christmas day. As a result there were thousands of Sammees today smoking real, honest-to-goodness American cigarettes and pipes filled with home brands of tobacco. There were other thousands who munched chocolate candy or crunched nuts and raisins.

More packages are arriving daily and from the looks of things the Christmas spirit will be a continuous performance for the next six days.

Only one thing bothers a good many of the soldiers. That is, they won't be able to send thanks or Christmas greetings to loved folks back home.

"You tell every back there," said one spokesman to the United Press correspondent today, "that we're awfully sorry, but we can't cable them. The authorities have stopped our cables because they were afraid they'd clutter up the wires. Those of us who tried to send cables had our money returned."

Sammy isn't enjoying Christmas all to himself. His Christmas spirit is big enough to cover everybody with whom he comes in contact. A dozen husky orderlies from the Roosevelt Hospital unit went out today and hewed down a giant Christmas tree. They brought it into a certain big building, propped it up and turned it over to the nurses. On its great branches will be hung hundreds of knitted sweaters and baby caps for the poverty-stricken war orphans of their neighbors.

The nurses themselves have agreed to give one franc apiece each month as long as the war lasts for education of one bright two-year-old French boy, whose father—decorated with the war bravery—is now helplessly maimed by his wounds.

FIRST CAMP CHRISTMAS TO BE JOYOUS AFFAIR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.

The draft Sammees' first camp Christmas will be a grand and glorious celebration. Plans afoot today prove it. There will be no work. Little white notices posted about the cantonments will be Uncle Sam's bond for that. A mere handful of unfortunates will plug away at guard and police duty. As for the others they will be dined, danced, gifted, gamed, feted, fatted and theatred within an inch of their lives.

Opening of many of the camp theatres Christmas night will be perhaps the biggest feature of all the great good time being prepared in the thirty-two war cities under direction of the Red Cross, community committees, Knights of Columbus, Masons, Elks, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., churches and others.

In 16 of the camps half of the $500,000 worth of playhouses for the warrior boys are completed and will be opened with such Broadway hits as "Turn to the Right," "Here Comes the Bride" and "Cheating Cheaters," all under direction of Marc K. Klaw. Admissions run from five to twenty-five cents for the best. One hundred thousand dollars worth of books of tickets already have been sold.

In the other camps there will be movies, Chautauqua attractions, lectures by men from the French trenches and home talent plays. Regular plays will appear as fast as the other theatres are ready.

No general Christmas plan will be followed in all the camps. All celebrations will be peculiarly local.

Finds Brother-in-Law's Body

CHESTER, Pa., Dec. 19. — With the throat slashed with a razor, the body of William J. Mullen was found two squares from his home by his brother-in-law, Edward Paul. Ill health is believed to have caused Mullen to take his life. He is survived by a widow and two sons.

PROTEST LIGHTLESS DAYS

Strict Enforcement Would Damage Business, Say Vaudeville Men

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Protest against Fuel Administrator Garfield's lightless Sunday and Thursday decree was filed today by the Vaudeville Managers' Protective Association. Strict enforcement of the order, they said, would seriously handicap their business. They cited their patriotic services in allowing the use of their stages to be used by speakers and bond sellers as reasons for their exemption from the operation of the order.

"Although appreciating your services," said Doctor Garfield, "we cannot permit exceptions in your favor. War demands for coal are largely in excess of increased production. It would be unfair to the public to allow display advertising. We rely upon you to induce your members to comply loyally with our ruling."

SHIP BOARD READY TO FACE INQUISITION

Officials Confident Record of Work Accomplished Will Bear Scrutiny

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The shipping board, soon to be made the target of congressional inquiry, along with other war bureaus, today prepared to meet the attack by laying before Congress a full history of the board's work since it was created. Officials of the board courted the most searching investigation, apparently feeling secure in the belief that when the complete record of the board's accomplishments are rehearsed, skeptics will be disarmed.

Charts and other data bringing up to date the conditions in all American yards now working on cargo ships contracted for by the board were ready for submission to the Senate Committee which will conduct the probe. One of the most important documents which will be submitted by Chairman Edward N. Hurley will be Lloyds' latest survey of American yards, which is considered by officials as "most favorable" when compared with previous estimates of the board as to the amount of tonnage that American yards will be able to turn out in 1918. Chairman Hurley declared that he would withhold the Lloyds report until it is submitted to the Senate committee.

Chairman Hurley seemed fully cognizant of the purpose of Congress to go to the bottom of the "rows" which from time to time have disrupted the board, but he was ready to defend the dual system of management governing shipping projects now under way and contemplated. He said under the scheme of reorganization now being effected there will be no impediment to prosecution of the program to turn out 11,000,000 tons of shipping, both wood and steel, during 1918 and 1919. Two-thirds of this amount is now building or under contract, he stated.

Reports to Mr. Hurley indicated that Pacific coast and Great Lakes yards are speeding up by placing their plants upon a double-shift basis. The labor shortage in many yards, which loomed up as a serious factor some weeks ago, has been successfully dealt with and thousands of skilled mechanics are being recruited in interior industrial cities. New draft regulations making ship labor exempt from military service has caused a flood of applications for work in yards on both coasts.

RUSSIANS FREE AMERICAN

Wig of Former Vice Consul at Liege Considered Suspicious

PETROGRAD, Dec. 19.—The Bolshevik Government has liberated Victor Hugo Duras, of Nebraska, former American vice consul at Liege, who was arrested in August, 1916, at the Finnish frontier on suspicion that he was a German spy. So far he has been unable to leave Russia.

A pass through the German lines and also a letter purporting to bear the signature of Charles J. Vopicka, the American minister to Rumania, attesting the inviolability of all his documents, it was said, were found on him.

The American embassy sent notes to the Russian Foreign Office and finally demanded an explanation. The Government answered that they considered him a spy.

An embassy representative was told by the prosecutor that the Russians deemed Mr. Duras an imposter, citing the fact that he wore a wig.

NAMES NEW DOCKS CHIEF

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19. — President Wilson has nominated Charles W. Parks, civil engineer in the navy, to be chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks for a four-year term, with the rank of rear admiral.

Mr. Parks will succeed Rear Admiral Frederick R. Harris, detached from that position to become general manager of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, a position which he has resigned. What disposition is now to be made of Admiral Harris was not announced.

LA BATTAGLIA INFURIA SUL MONTE SOLAROLO

I Teutoni Continuano i Violenti Attacchi ad Ovest del Brenta

ROMA, 19 dicembre.

Dalle notizie giunte dalla fronte di battaglia si apprende che le forze austro-tedesche continuano i loro vigorosi attacchi sulla fronte italiana ad occidente del fiume Brenta. Le perdite dei teutoni sono immensa.

Tali notizie sono confermate da un comunicato ufficiale pubblicato ieri dal Ministero della Guerra in Roma dal quale si rileva che i teutoni concentrano i loro sforzi sulle posizioni situate nel saliente di Monte Solarolo.

In merito alla furiosa lotta che si sta svolgendo nel predetto settore il comando italiano ha annunziato che i vigorosi attacchi delle trupe austro-tedesche, contro le posizioni del saliente di Monte Solarolo, sono stati tutti respinti e che il nemico non ha potuto conseguire alcun successo. D'altra parte il comando tedesco, come da un comunicato pubblicato ieri in Berlino, annunzia che nei combattimenti sulle montagne ad occidente del fiume Brenta le truppe austro-ungheresi hanno catturato piu' di mille prigionieri italiani e che gli attachi delle forze italiane sul Monte Solarolo sono stati respinti.

Con un altro comunicato, pubblicato nel pomeriggio, Berlino annunzio' che una violenta attivita' da parte delle artiglierie si verifica sulle linee tra il Brenta ed il Piave e che ad est di Monte Solarolo le truppe teutoniche erano riuscite ad occupare alcune posizioni italiane.

I comunicati di Berlino non devono impressionare poiche' si e' avuto spesso campo di poter constattare che non corrispondono alla verita' dei fatti e quindi conviene attenersi a quanto il Comando Supremo Italiano annunzia nei suoi bollettini.

Un telegramma da Parigi reca che cola' e' giunto George H. Tinkham del Massachusetts, membro della Camera Rappresentativa degli Stati Uniti, il quale riportò serie lesioni in seguito ad un accidente capitato all'automobile che lo trasportava durante una visita alla fronte italiana. Mr. Tinkham, come ben si ricorda, fu colui che, invitato da un colonnello comandante di un settore nel basso Piave, sparo' un colpo di cannone contro le posizioni austriache.

Mr. Tinkham lascio' Parigi ieri per imbarcarsi alla volta degli Stati Uniti. A chi lo interrogava circa la situazione alla fronte italiana dichiaro' di essere convinto che per questo inverno l'avanzata degli austriaci era stata definitivamente arrestata.

"Le armi italiane—egli disse—combattono con gran coraggio, e l'alto comando opera con meravigliosa strategia. Se qualsiasi disturbo dovesse sollevarsi in Italia, esso dovrebbe provenire dalla situazione economica, non da quella politica. Le provviste di grano sono sufficienti per altri tre mesi e la nazione spera che tutto sara' accomodato dagli Stati Uniti."

Il Vaticano ha precisamente smentito le voci poste in giro che il Papa si preparerebbe a lanciare un altro appello per la pace.

Un telegramma da Londra annunzia che gli aviatori tedeschi hanno compiuto un'altra incursione aerea sulle costa dell'Inghilterra. Alcune bombe caddero sopra Londra. Sembra che non si abbiano a deplorare danni ne' perdite di vite.

DAI CAMPI MILITARI

Da Camp Meade (Admiral, Md.) giunge notizia che gli uomini appartenenti alla riserva navale, accantonati nelle baracche di Wissahickon ed Sewells Point, molto probabilmente avranno un permesso speciale per poter passare le feste natalizie presso le loro famiglie. Il permesso sara' da sabato mattina fino a mercoledi' sera.

Simili permessi verranno anche accordati ai soldati di altre unita' e per coloro che dovranno rimanere al campo i membri della Y. M. C. A. hanno preso opportune disposizioni per far loro passare allegramente i giorni di festa.

Intanto ha recato ottima impressione la notizia che un apposito comitato in Philadelphia sta lavorando alacremente per raccogliere fondi allo scopo di provvedere ai doni che dovranno essere distribuiti, pel giorno di Natale, tra i 3200 soldati del 315-mo. Fanteria, il quale e' composto di tutti giovani filadelfiani.

L'altra sera al Curtis Building, alla sesta strada e Walnut street, ha avuto luogo una pubblica riunione allo scopo di cui sopra, e fu presieduta dal giudice Norris S. Barratt. Il comitato esecutivo e' composto di spiccate personalita' del campo finanziario e senza dubbio il suo operato dovra', essere coronato da uno splendido successo.

Da Camp Dix (Wrightstown, N. J.) scrivono che fervono cola' i preparativi per un grande festivale che avra' luogo il giorno di Natale in quel campo. Parecchie bande musicali sono state gia' requisite per l'occasione.

Un grandioso albero di pino sara' eretto presso l'accampamento. L'albero e' alto quaranta piedi e sara' illuminato da 250 lampadine elettriche.

Le decorazioni per detto albero sono state fornite dalla sezione della Y. M. C. A. di Trenton.

GL'ITALIANI PRO CROCE ROSSA AMERICANA

Lunedi' sera nelle sale del Circolo Italiano, 1145 South Broad street, ebbe luogo una importante riunione allo scopo di formare un comitato e prendere gli opportuni accordi circa la campagna da condursi nella colonia italiana a pro delle Croce Rossa Americana.

Come e' gia' a tutti noto, una campagna intesa a raccogliere altri 500,000 membri, in Philadelphia e dintorni, per la Croce Rossa Americana, e' stata iniziata da spiccate personalita' le quali, in una riunione tenutasi al Ritz-Carlton, venerdi' scorso, nominarono l'artista sig. Nicola D'Ascenzo chairman per la sezione italiana.

La riunione al Circolo Italiano fu presieduta dal Sig. D'Ascenzo e vi intervennero Mr. Edward T. Stotesbury ed il Dottor Charles D. Hart i quali pronunziarono un lungo ed applaudito discorso durante il quale ebbero parole veramente lusinghiere a favore degli italiani dai quali sono certi di attendersi un valevole appoggio per la campagna intrapresa.

Gli oratori furono presentati dall'egregio Avvocato Autilio. Anche il Sig. D'Ascenzo pronunzio' un applaudito discorso facendo rilevare come incomba agli italiani il dovere di accorrere sotto la bandiera della grande istituzione americana che tanta opera benefica sta ora esplicando a pro dei fratelli sulla fronte di battaglia.

Una grande quantita' di libretti sono stati distribuiti tra i dottori italiani, farmacisti, negozianti, ecc. allo scopo di raccogliere i nomi di coloro che entreranno a far parte della Crose Rossa Americana. Disposizioni sono state anche prese per il lavoro da farsi nei dintorni di Philadelphia. E' anche in via di formazione un comitato di signorine italiane le quali dovranno girare la colonia per raccogliere la adesioni.

Dirt Wanted

63d St. & Passyunk Ave.

Hog Island Branch Penna. R. R.
25 cents per double team load paid for clean filling material. Apply on the work or to

T. F. REILLY
50th St. & City Ave.
60th St. & Elmwood Ave.

WAR PROBERS URGE MUNITIONS MINISTRY

Influential Congress Groups Insist on New Plan to Overcome Present Handicaps

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.

That the United States must have a ministry of munitions is the definite conclusion of congressional war probers.

Unless the Administration voluntarily acts, legislation will be introduced creating the new office. This will happen, regardless of the Senate Military Committee's report following its present probe.

There is a group in both houses which believes that in no other way will this Government overcome the handicap under which it is now working by reason of the delay in getting started on field artillery and other ordnance.

The newly created Supreme War Council will not answer the need, according to these legislators. Munitions production must be taken out of department red tape and put in the hands of the biggest industrial organizer available, they insist.

Independent of Representative Medill McCormick's plea for a ministry of munitions, a member of the Senate Military Committee said today:

"This investigation means we will have a minister of munitions. It may take some time to blow the top off this War Department situation, but it will be done and we'll have a munitions minister—a man who will have complete authority and responsibility."

McCormick also pointed to similar offices in England and France, with the ablest industrial organizer obtainable at the head of each. McCormick based his conclusion upon pleas of Allied military experts for guns from America. Without thousands of these guns, he said, the war may be lost.

McCormick's testimony that France cannot well spare the cannon it is giving the American expeditionary forces did not dove-tail with that of Major General Crozier, who gave the opposite impression.

PAY FOR BROKEN EGGS

Railroads Promise Relief to Shippers by Canceling Order

HARRISBURG, Dec. 19.—The State Bureau of Markets has received word from the Interstate Commerce Commission that the railroads had agreed to cancel the ruling that they would not pay for 5 per cent of broken eggs in a crate. The State poultry organization had appealed to the State for relief.

A total of $1125 has been pledged for premiums for the midwinter show to be held in this city in January under State auspices. It will include vegetables, corn, wool and dairy products.

Six Carlisle Indians Join Navy

CARLISLE, Pa., Dec. 19.—Enlistment of six more Carlisle Indians in the navy brings the number of students of the institution who have left since war was declared to nearly sixty, about 15 per cent of the boys of the school. The majority remaining range in age from sixteen to nineteen years. Only six were liable to draft.

JEWELRY FOR CHRISTMAS

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Gifts Appropriate for Christmas 1917

A warm glove, a general service glove and a dress glove—the set complete or a single pair makes a sensible attractive gift.

For Men
Tan Cape Warm Gloves, wool lined, full wrist with adjustable strap 4.00
Tan Cape Business Gloves, full P X M sewn spear backs 2.50
Gray Mocha Dress Gloves, pique sewn, light weight 2.75
Set of 3 9.25

For Women
Gray and Tan Cape Warm Gloves, Vicuna lined, extra long wrist with adjustable strap 4.00
Washable Cape Utility Gloves in buff and tan, pique sewn, with two-tone embroidery 2.50
French Kid Dress Gloves, full pique sewn, crocheted embroidery, in African brown, mahogany, navy, gunmetal and other fashionable shades 2.75
Set of 3 9.25

For Children
Khaki Wool Warm Gloves with extra long wrist and adjustable strap 1.25
Tan Cape Utility Gloves, wool lined, two-toned embroidery 2.00
Unlined Dress Gloves of buff Washable Cape, Tan Cape and White Lambskin 1.50
Set of 3 4.75

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