RHINE CROSSED BY THE BRITISH

Cologne Quietly Watches Troops Occupy Last Defense Line

SEES GOVERNOR ARRIVE

No Word of Bitterness to Show Emotion People Must Have Felt

By PHILIP GIBBS

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger
Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

Cologne, Dec. 14 (delayed).

This morning at 10 o'clock British cavalry passed through the streets of Cologne, crossed the Hohenzollern bridge and went beyond the Rhine to take possession of the bridgeheads.

For some days not many British soldiers had been seen in the city of Cologne, the troops being camped in the outskirts, and it was only yesterday afternoon that the British Governor made his entry and established his headquarters in one of the hotels which had been taken over for the present. Crowds of German people gathered to see the man who will control their way of life during the British occupation, and were kept back in a hollow square by their own police, when the Governor's motorcar drove in with an escort of lancers, while a band of Scottish pipers played a greeting.

This morning the passing of the cavalry over the Rhine was an impressive sight for all the people of Cologne, and for the British was another historical episode on the long journey of this war, which has led at least to this river flowing now behind the British lines. To the German people the Rhine is the very river of their life, and down its tide come drifting all the ghost memories of their race and its water is sacred to them as the fount from which their national legends, their folk songs and the sentiments that lie deep in their hearts have come forth in abundance.

Rhine Last Line of Defense

In military history the Rhine has been their last line of defense, the moat around the keep of German strength; so today when British troops rode across the bridge and passed beyond the Rhine to further outposts, it was the supreme sign of victory for them and of German defeat.

They are a proud people, and they did not show by any word of rage or cry of bitterness the emotion they must have felt when the British men went over the bridge. There were not large crowds about. Many of the people of Cologne did not come out to see the actual crossing, though they were in the streets through which the cavalry rode, but there were lines of people on each side of the way and groups of them at each end of the Hohenzollern bridge.

The Hohenzollern bridge is a massive structure of the German character, with castellated towers at each end like those outside a medieval fortress. At the city end on pedestals below the towers are enormous equestrian figures of William I, of Prussia, and his son, of the house of Hohenzollern, which has now fallen with a crash that has shaken off the crowns of the other German Kings.

Below one of these statues on the southern side of the bridge, General Sir Herbert Plumer, commanding the Second Army of the British armies in the field army of Flanders, which has fought so many battles since the first battle of Ypres, stood in the midst of the generals and staff officers of his corps and divisions and brigades and received the salute of the cavalry as they rode behind the Rhine.

Honor to Every Man

Hardly once during two hours did this gallant old general give his arm any rest as he stood there rigid, with his hand to his cap. It was an ordeal for any man; but Plumer, who has known the sacrifice of his men through bloody years, saluted each of them today, colonel or corporal, or trooper, horse gunner, bugler or signaler, with all the honor he could give them on this last ride to their journey's end. It was a picture which belongs to history.

A guard of honor of lancers, with red and white pennons at their lance tips, was on one side of the bridge below the statue of William I, sitting there motionless, as though also made of bronze, like that great horseman, except when their beautiful animals pawed the ground and tossed their heads. A band was close to the army commander's place and when he came it played the old tune of "Rule, Britannia," and then when the cavalry passed led the song of "The Long, Long Trail."

There were lancers in the first escort squadron, and the officers rode with drawn swords, and as they came near to the saluting base turned in their saddles and shouted in the high, long-drawn voice of the cavalry command: "Carry swords!" and then to the escort squadron, "Eyes right!" and every trooper turned his head sideways, so that there was a gleam of steel helmets down the lines with that fine, stern look of men which gives a thrill to one's spine.

Lancers and Dragoon guards and Hussars, with their horse artillery, in which each gun was polished as a pretty toy for pageantry, and not for death, they passed in a steady stream which took two hours to flow across that bridge.

Down below the quay side was another procession which I happened to see when I looked over the bridge. It was headed by two German officers in full uniform, with a white flag on the front of their motorcar, and behind them came a long line of other cars with the German eagle painted on the panels. They had come into Cologne under a flag of truce to deliver up the cars, according to the terms of the armistice.

Cologne Is Orderly

Cologne is orderly and submissive to the regulations under British authority. The people go about their way with as little notice as possible of the foreign troops in their midst, though in the cafes and restaurants one sees them stealing glances at the British officers and men who come in to listen to the music of the orchestras, which play on gayly, as though no tragic thing had come to Germany.

The kilt of the Scottish officer breaks down their mask of indifference, and they cannot hide their smiles at its strangeness to them and now and again the breezy way of the young Tommies or Jocks and their good-natured humor softens the looks of people who naturally are not inclined to beam at the British. Here and there English-speaking Germans who were soldiers until a week or so ago acted as guides to the British who lost their way in the maze of streets, and I have heard them exchanging reminiscences of battles in which they fought against each other. But there is no fraternization. There are the commander-in-chief's orders against it.

The British soldier has not established a lingua franca such as he used in France. The German language beats him altogether, and he finds only one blessed word in it which helps him at all. It is the word bier. But the shops speak to him through their lighted windows, and he stares into them like a child outside a toy shop, wondering at the richness of them.

The German shops are displaying their Christmas goods and the war has made no outward difference to the spirit of that day, soon coming, which is kept in Germany as a feast of home life, with as much sentiment, or more, as in England.

There are thousands of Christmas trees in the shops, lighted when darkness falls with little bulbs and all sparkling with colored bulbs and cotton wool snow. Girls with their hair in pigtails and small boys in soldier caps stand with their noses glued to the window panes staring at the blue-eyed dolls and gnomes and hobgoblins and mechanical toys. They are the children I met in the Rheingasse and market and narrow alleys with not too much to eat and the wolf at the door.

The great shop of Tietz, the biggest store in Cologne, there is floor upon floor richly laden with the accessories and adornments of German home life, fine porcelain ware, beautiful glass, embroideries and things that women love in their drawing rooms, and Christmas trees, greener than those that grow in the forest of Euphen, taper high above the counters with Santa Claus as their guardian angel.

The German Christmas is coming and the German people are preparing to celebrate for their children's sake in the old spirit of their national traditions, but it will be a tragic Christmas for Germany, and there will be more tears than laughter round the green trees with their colored lights.

LUMBER SALESMAN WANTED

Well-established Wholesale Firm in Philadelphia. Must be thoroughly competent and experienced with the trade in Philadelphia and vicinity, principally hardwoods. Splendid opportunity and future.
All correspondence confidential.
Address Box G 241, Ledger Central.

Founded 1865

THE

Provident

Life and Trust Company of Philadelphia

Our resources, both financial and legal, are such as to insure the prompt settlement of your estate in accordance with your wishes.

Fourth and Chestnut Streets

Member of Federal Reserve System

Resinol

does wonders for sick skins

A skin that is rough, reddened, disfigured by eczema, sore spots needs attention.

Let Resinol Ointment help you to get rid of these annoying, unsightly affections of the skin.

Resinol Ointment contains medicinal agents that act directly upon the skin, heal its hurts and help it to keep healthy and attractive.

Resinol Soap aids and quickens the action of Resinol Ointment.

At all dealers.

BURLESON CUTS PHONE CHARGES

Long Distance Basic Charge of 6¼ Mills a Mile Adopted

NIGHT RATES CHEAPER

Some Monthly Toll Bills May Really Be Increased by New Schedule

What City Will Pay Under New Phone Rates

From Phila. to	Approximate air-line mileage from Phila.	Present rate	Proposed new day rate	From midnight to 4.30 a. m.
San Francisco	2470	$18.00	$15.45	$2.80
Seattle	2400	17.75	15.00	3.75
Minneapolis	900	7.00	6.00	1.50
New Orleans	1085	7.50	6.75	1.70
St. Louis	780	5.75	4.90	1.22
Detroit	690	4.90	4.35	1.08
Palm Beach	970	7.00	6.00	1.51
Chicago	725	5.00	4.55	1.14
Cleveland	360	2.75	2.25	.56
Pittsburgh	240	1.75	1.50	.38
Newport	240	1.50	1.50	.38
Baltimore	87	.50	.54	.14
New York	90	.60	.56	.14
Washington	110	.90	.70	.18
Harrisburg	90	.70	.56	.14
Boston	300	1.75	1.88	.47

Washington, Dec. 16.

Postmaster General Burleson announced last night that, effective January 21, a uniform system of long-distance telephone rates would be established throughout the United States, designed to do away with "injustices and preferences," which exist in many places. According to the Postoffice Department, the new rates will provide reductions in 70 per cent of the rates now in force, with slight increases in the remaining 30 per cent. The new schedule also provides for a flat decrease in the rate for night long-distance calls. As set forth by the Postoffice Department's committee on unification of rates, the change provides:

The placing of all calls on a station-to-station basis at the rate of five cents for each six miles up to twenty-four miles and five cents for each eight miles over twenty-four miles on each toll call.

Establishes a new basic rate of approximately six and one-quarter mills a mile, airline mileage, on long-distance calls, with one-half the day rate from 8:30 o'clock p. m. to midnight and one-quarter of the day rate from 12 to 4:30 o'clock a. m.

Puts an initial charge of 25 per cent on the particular person call.

It is the last point which is making many dubious of the reduction to the public of the phone costs announced in the Postoffice Department's statement.

CABLE COMPANY MAKES CARLTON CO-DEFENDANT

New York, Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—The Commercial Cable Company today filed papers in the Federal Court here, making Newcomb Carlton, president of the Western Union Telegraph Company, a party defendant with Postmaster General Burleson in the Commercial Company's suit against the Cabinet official to have set aside his action in taking over control of the submarine cables on behalf of the Government.

This action today brings the suit within the jurisdiction of the United States District Court in New York. Mr. Carlton has twenty days within which to answer, after which the case may go to trial.

POPE MAY ASK WILSON'S AID

Rome Reports Vatican Would Have Him Mediate Trouble

Rome, Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Pope Benedict may request President Wilson to consent to act as mediator in an effort to reach a reciprocal pact which will solve the dissent which has existed between the Quirinal and the Vatican, according to the Popolo Romano.

This question, the paper states, will in no case be brought before the peace conference.

430 MARINES COMMISSIONED

Men From 38 States, District of Columbia and Panama in List

Quantico, Va., Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Secretary Daniels today awarded commissions to 430 marines who have completed the sixteen weeks' course at the third marine officers' training camp here.

Men from thirty-eight States and the District of Columbia and Panama received commissions.

9000 MEN BACK ON LEVIATHAN

Heroes in Blue and Khaki Enthusiastically Welcomed Home

BARNETT'S HIGH PRAISE

Commander of Marines Proud of Record Made by His Fighters

By the Associated Press

New York, Dec. 16.

Her decks swarming with nearly 9000 blue and khaki-clad veterans of America's overseas service, the liner Leviathan, which foiled five submarine attacks while transporting troops to France, docked today.

The vessel's speed saved her from torpedoes, according to officers who told for the first time of the former Vaterland's encounters with U-boats. None of the projectiles came dangerously near, they said, and the big ship was at close quarters with the foe only once.

The former German liner came up the bay amid a din, surpassing in volume any previous welcome to a returning troopship. Of her sick and wounded—fourteen officers and 1421 men—the majority were on deck, some with crutches and canes, while her rails were lined with almost 5000 naval officers and men, veterans of the submarines defense patrol off the French and British coasts, and 2500 soldiers, with some of their commanders, heroes of the bitter fighting in the final weeks of the war.

The naval contingent, largest of any which has returned home since the signing of the armistice, included men both from fleet and aviation units which had fought U-boats and convoyed merchant ships in and out of Allied ports.

Major General Barnett, head of the marine corps, returned from two and a half months spent in Paris and at the front, enthusiastic over the record of his fighters from Chateau-Thierry to the end of the war. He said the marines were "wonderful," and the only complaints were those of the wounded denied a chance to get back to the front.

"It's like this, said the general. "If a man loses an arm he says, 'it might have been a leg' and if he loses a leg he philosophizes, 'it might have been both,' and if he loses an eye he reasons 'it might have been my head.' Most of them, I find, are worrying for fear they will be of no further use to their country and I am going to put forth every effort to find places for these wounded marines in the service if they desire."

The steamship Stockholm of the Swedish-American line which was forced to anchor off the Statue of Liberty last night on account of the fog, brought home a number of American refugees who were badly treated by the Bolsheviki in Petrograd.

Among the army men aboard were 486 officers and men and a number of wounded from the second antiaircraft battalion, which was in action on the Toul front when hostilities ceased. They are from California, in command of Major James W. Riley. Other aerial units were taken on at Liverpool.

Many Wear Decorations

Many of the returned Americans wore decorations for bravery. Among them were Lieutenant C. Valing, of Dunkirk, N. Y., and Lieutenant Leslie I. Faber, of Indianapolis, each of whom had brought down thirteen enemy airplanes, for which they were awarded the insignia of the French Legion of Honor. Another soldier who had been honored was Sergeant Carter M. Smith, of Detroit, Mich., a member of the 131st Infantry of the Thirty-third Division, who wore the ribbons of Belgian and French orders.

Sergeant Smith went into the Somme fighting on August 8, he said. The next day a German high explosive shell took off his left leg.

Homer Weeks, of Epworth, Ga., 17th Infantry, came home with a wound received in the attack of the Thirtieth Division on the Hindenburg line near St. Quentin.

"Showed Boche Something New"

"There never was a bunch of men who could fight like the Thirtieth," he said. "The only kick we had was our officers would not let us go ahead as fast as we wanted to. The boche is some scrapper, but we showed him something new in that game. Home by Christmas is all we are asking for now."

John L. Jackson, of Bridgeport, Ala., of the same regiment, had his leg still in splints from a shrapnel in the Somme battle. "Well, it was some fight, and we all sure did go after them," he said. "This little old wound of mine is nothing to what some of the boys got, and the only thing I feel sorry about was that my wound stopped me just when the going was getting good."

Sergeant Wilbur Simcoe, 108th Infantry, of Elmira, N. Y., said that after his company of 250 men had engaged in the fighting on September 29 there were only ten left alive and unwounded. Private Robert M. Taylor, of Fir, Wash., Thirty-eighth Infantry, wounded at Chateau-Thierry, arrived with his right leg in a bandage.

Among others of the Twenty-seventh and Thirtieth Divisions who came home bearing wounds of honor were Lieutenant R. W. Pinto, of Racine, Wis., and Private Adolph H. Leissner, also of Racine.

Many of the troops brought trophies of battle, and one soldier, Private James W. McDaniel, of Alabama, who served in the Rainbow Division, marched proudly down the gangplank wearing a "pickelhaube" helmet, which he had captured in the Argonne forest, and carrying a German rifle over his shoulder.

CHÉRI

Popular Prices for Particular People

TUESDAY
LUNCHEON SPECIAL
Chicken Pattie
35 cents
DINNER SPECIAL
Half Milk-Fed Broiled Chicken
with French Peas
and Hashed Creamed Potatoes
85 cents

Popular Prices for Particular People will prevail as the war-time economy of Chéri.

132 South 15th Street
124 South 13th Street

CHÉRI INC.
J. G. PATTON, President

ASCO. ASCO. **AMERICAN STORES CO.** ASCO. ASCO.

Still They Tumble

A further cut in the prices of some additional seasonable lines.
We are right on the market, giving you every advantage of every fluctuation. American Stores customers are reaping these benefits. Why not join the busy throngs that fill our stores from morning until night?

Armour's Bouillon Cubes 3 for 5c — Best Corn Meal lb 5c — Best Pearl Barley lb 5c — Fresh Made Noodles pkg 5c

Karo Syrup can 11c
Absolutely pure—everybody knows the quality of Karo—We make the price talk.

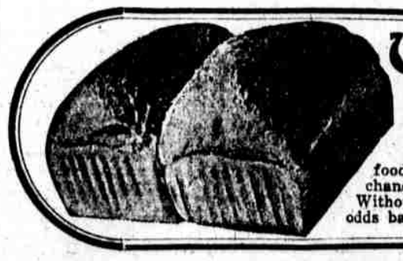
Campbell's Beans 12½c can — Choice Tomatoes 12½c med can — Seeded Raisins 14c pkg — Sugar Corn 15c can

Aunt Jemima **Pancake Flour** pkg 12c
Already prepared. Nothing to add but water. Delightful cakes in a few minutes.

Wheat Flour 12-lb bag 75c
Any mill brand in stock. All straight wheat flour and no substitutes required.

Best Granulated **Sugar** lb 10c
No further restrictions. You may now purchase your full requirements.

Pink or Red **Kidney Beans** 10c can
Cooked, ready to serve. A good size can, enough for a family of five. Sold everywhere at 18c to 15c.



Victor Bread 8c Loaf
Everyone agrees that bread is the best food for growing children. Why take any chances when "Victor" is within your reach. Without any question the best loaf by all odds baked in these United States today.

Christmas Day Needs Do Your Xmas Baking Now

Fancy Cranberries	lb. 12c
Plum Pudding	can 29c-55c
Best Mince Meat	lb. 18c
Asco Baking Powder	can 5c-9c
Fancy Mixed Nuts	lb. 33c
Fancy Lemon Peel	lb. 33c
Fancy Orange Peel	lb. 33c
Grace Citron	lb. 35c
Golden Pumpkin	can 12c
Fancy Cherries	can 23c
Sliced Peaches	can 19c
Fancy Apricots	can 17c
Choice Pears	can 20c
Seedless Raisins	pkg. 14c
Thyme, Sage and Basil	pkg. 5c
Sweet Marjoram	pkg. 8c
Evap. Apricots	lb. 27c
Pure Jelly	glass 13c
Ground Cinnamon	can 5c
Shredded Cocoanut	pkg. 5c
Crisco	1-lb can 30c
Asco Peas	can 19c
Calif. Asparagus	can 16c
Best Sugar Corn	can 20c
Choice Tomatoes	big can 18c

Sliced Dried Beef	pkg. 11c
Best Yellow Onions	lb. 2½c
Asco Rolled Oats	pkg. 9c
Purity Spaghetti	can 10c, 15c
Choice Peas	can 16c
Choice Apples	¼ pk. 15c
Uncle Jerry Pancake Flour	pkg. 12c
Big Juicy Lemons	doz. 15c
Juicy Grape Fruit	each 6c, 8c
Every Day Evap. Milk	can 7c, 14c
Mother's or Quaker Oats	pkg. 10c
Blended Maple and Cane Syrup	bot. 13c, 22c

Calif. Bonito can 19c
"All light meat"—looks and eats like Tuna Fish, but costs less. Absolutely no waste, every ounce eatable.
Serve as is or in croquettes. Better still, as a salad; served as a salad it is hard to distinguish from chicken.

EVERYWHERE IN PHILADELPHIA
And Throughout Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland

ASCO. ASCO. ASCO. ASCO. ASCO.