ENGLAND AWAKE TO ARMY'S NEED

Recruits Now Flocking to Colors at Rate of 9,000 Each Day.

LLOYD-GEORGE APPEALS

Kitchener Has 2,000,000 Men Enrolled—Officer Back from Front Surprised at Number of Soldiers.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, July 17.—A most wonderful change has come over London or rather over all England during the last month. An easy going, phlegmatic, self-confident nation, used to seeing its battles fought for it by its professional soldiers, has suddenly been awakened and aroused into unheard activity by the earnest appeals of the minister of munitions, Lloyd-George, whose speeches have rung out from one end of the country to the other setting into vibration responsive chords in the hearts of high and low alike, and the irresistible eloquence of Ben Tillett, the labor leader who came back from the trenches, his great heart filled with wonder and admiration of what he had seen.

The whole English nation is at last "doing its bit" and the change that has come apparent even to those who live in the very midst of things, is of course even more noticeable to a visitor who returns after an interval of months. A high military officer, member of the general staff of one of the Scandinavian countries, who had spent some two weeks here as the guest of a British general, said to me today:

Officer Is Amazed.

"I am greatly impressed with what I have seen here this time. When I was here in November last I was amazed at the general apathy shown by the public and it was my honest conviction that nothing but general conscription and military dictatorship could make this country turn out the armies and munitions which France was counting on. When reading in the papers at home of strikes and petty squabbles of all kinds among the people here, my convinction was strengthened. Now as if by magic, I find everything changed.

"Every opportunity has been given me by the military authorities to form my own opinion and I am willing to assert before any one that the English army today is well above the 2,000,000 mark, and not only this, it is equipped as no army I ever saw was equipped. What has been accomplished here during the seven months since I was here last, could not be done in any other country in the world.

"The way the ordinary young Englishman absorbs the principles of military training is marvelous and is undoubtedly due to the fact, that no matter what has been his position in everyday life, he has undergone a training in some form of team sport. He becomes a real soldier in as many weeks as it takes months to make soldiers on the Continent. I shall never forget the work I have seen done at Aldershot by men who a couple of months ago had never worn a military uniform.

"And the recruits are all in perfect physical condition, healthy and robust, able to stand the severest strain of enforced marching and trench work. And what splendid material for officers I have seen unearthed everywhere! Kitchener's new armies in my opinion are of the equal of any military body in the world and I have seen soldiers in practically every country.

"There are no shirkers in England any more and this means that we are approaching a great turning point in the war, for with a constantly increasing output here and in France and Russia as well, and American and Canadian arms factories in full swing there will be no hitch anywhere and Nemesis will overtake Germany in spite of her forty-four years of ceaseless preparations for this war."

So much for the opinion of an expert, but even to the inexperienced the awakening of England is apparent. Recruits are flocking to the colors at the rate of eight or nine thousand a day. Women have taken the places of men in all kinds of work. Young, physically-fit men are no longer seen loafing about everywhere.

OLD CLOTHES FOR NEW ACTORS IS THEIR PLAN

Elisabeth Marbury announces that Maurice and Florence Walton are to found a clothes bureau for actors and actresses by lending out the dresses and costumes which they no longer need in their profession. This is the official communique on the subject:

"Miss Florence Walton, together with her husband M. Maurice, have arranged with Miss Elisabeth Marbury that her office be the headquarters for a novel Stage Costume Club. Miss Walton and M. Maurice will contribute all costumes that they can spare and persuade their friends to do the same. These costumes in turn will be given to those young actresses and actors that the deprivation of which would withhold from a theatrical engagement, that only to prove by three substantial references their inability at the time of application to purchase said costumes, everything will be in absolute confidence, the only stipulation being that with his or her first available $2 the young actor or actress will pay in their annual membership dues to the Actors' Fund of America."

Miss Walton's amiable purpose will not be of the least disadvantage to her, especially if she donates to the new enterprises all the dresses she wore before Lucile began to dress her. The frocks which she wears at present impart to her a smartness and chic which she never possessed before, and she need never think for a minute of the kind she used to wear in her pre-Lucile days.

COMING TO KEITH'S

With next week's bill, the B. F. Keith Theater enters upon the last month before the beginning of the regular season, August 30, and Manager Robbins is delighted by the high level of average attendance which has made high-class vaudeville's first all-summer campaign a complete success to date. The bill is another sterling "standard" offering headed by Homer B. Mason and Marguerite Keeler in Poerter Emerson Brown's "Married," rated as the cleverest, funniest, best acted sketch in vaudeville, and headlining all the Keith summer bills. Other attractions will be Harry Cooper from "Hanky Panky," assisted by Charles Henderson in "The Mail Carrier;" Frankie Heath and George Perry in a vaudeville aperatif; Ethel and Emma Hopkins in a sparkling duo; Pearl and Irene Sans in "Twelve Minutes Out of a Fashion Book;" the Lunette sisters as "The Whirling Geisha Girls;" Charles Olcott in "A Comic Opera in Ten Minutes;" the Arnaut brothers; the pipe organ recitals and the Pathe news pictorial.

EVERY LITTLE GIRL LOVES A BRITISH TOMMY

CONVALESCENT "TOMMIES" IN LEICESTER SQUARE

This picture shows British Tommies, wounded in the fighting on the British front in France, out for an airing in Leicester Square, London. The little girls of the neighborhood evidently look upon the wounded heroes with much admiration and accompany them on their little walks through the park.

Railroad Now Being Constructed Will Release Fabulous Wealth of Alaska

Will Render Accessible the Matanuska and Nenana Coal Fields—Secretary of the Interior Lane Interested in Hastening Development of Land Through Elimination of Much of Existing Governmental Red Tape.

By RALPH W. BENTON.

"Open Sesame" is being said over Alaska. The magic wand of science is being waved over the country. Within a few years it is expected there will be a marvelous response. The locks will spring open. The doors will be thrown wide. The fabulous wealth of the land will be released.

Engineers are at work on the mighty task of unlocking the enormous stored-up wealth of this country, North America's richest treasure house.

For many years scientists have been cognizant of the extensive veins of mineral resources and of the latent possibilities of the country, but there has been a sad lack of facilities for reaching the rich deposits and carrying them off. The country remains much of a wilderness. There are but few roads and trails. The railway mileage is negligible.

It long had been realized that what Alaska needed were arteries for the drainage of her riches. She has lain inert for centuries for sheer lack of facilities for circulation. What she needed was a great railroad to drive right to the heart of her wealth and furnish a means for the extraction of the valuable minerals.

So, many talked of a great railroad. But the years went by and nothing was done. When Franklin K. Lane was made Secretary of the Interior he entered office with the determination to open up Alaska. It has constantly been his hobby—his principal hobby. He had talked Alaska and preached Alaska incessantly. He has made those at the head of the nation's government listen to him. He urged the building of a great Alaskan railroad. He asked the President and Congress for their support. He received it. Provision was made for the construction of a road. Engineers now are at work on the project so pregnant with promise.

The building of this railroad will be to Alaska like the utterance of "Open Sesame" by some powerful magician. It will throw her open to the world. It will unlock her vast treasure house. It will make her wealth accessible to all. It will mark the beginning of a remarkable period of rapid development for the country.

The new Alaskan railroad will be built entirely by the Federal government. The route has been approved by President Wilson. It is known as the Susitna route and extends from Seward, on Resurrection Bay, a coast town, to Fairbanks, on the Tanana River, a distance of 471 miles inland. This route will open up a territory not now served by any railroad line. It will render accessible two of the great coal fields of Alaska—the Matanuska field, which contains high-grade bituminous coal acceptable to the navy, and second, the Nenana field, near the Tanana River, which is a great vein of high-grade lignite. This line will run through the very heart of Alaska, furnishing free access to her wealthy interior.

The route includes the existing Alaska Northern Railroad, which runs from Seward through the Kenai Peninsula for a distance of seventy-one miles to Turnagain Arm. This railroad is being bought from its present owners by the government for $1,150,000.

From Turnagain Arm the route is to be extended through the Susitna Valley and across Broad Pass to the Tanana River, and from thence on to Fairbanks. It is to be a standard guage road. A side line is to run from Matanuska Junction into the Matanuska coal field, a distance of thirty-eight miles.

The road is being built with its present base at Ship Creek, now known as Anchorage, on Cook's Inlet. From this point it is expected the Matanuska coal will be shipped during the greater portion of the year. The grade from the Matanuska field to Anchorage is four-tenths of one per cent.

The Alaska Northern has been purchased for a price less than its physical valuation, as estimated by the Alaskan engineering commission and by the engineers of the Interstate Commerce Commission. It is to be put into operative condition and will be used as a base for extending the line along Turnagain Arm. The road is being taken over free from all debt or obligation of any kind. The estimated cost of construction of the entire line from Seward to Fairbanks, including the Matanuska branch, is $26,500,000.

The work of constructing the railroad is in the hands of the Alaskan engineering commission, which has charge of preparing and adopting plans for construction, the employment of the necessary force, and the making of contracts for the purchase of supplies. William C. Edes is chairman of the commission, having been appointed by Secretary Lane. He has charge of the assignment of duties to the heads of departments, who report to him.

The other members of the commission are Lieut. Frederic Mears, former superintendent of the Panama Railroad, and Thomas Riggs, jr., of this city. The members of the commission left in April for Alaska. The chairman has established headquarters at Seward. Lieut. Mears is at Anchorage and Mr. Riggs is conducting surveys in the Broad Pass region.

The first step toward the construction of the road is the building of a wharf at Anchorage and the dredging of an adequate channel. From this point the railroad will be constructed northward to the Matanuska field. The probability is that not more than forty miles of road will be constructed this year, owing to the fact that the appropriation is only $2,000,000. The balance of approximately $500,000 remaining from the $1,000,000 authorized last year is being used as the first payment on the Alaskan Northern road.

The work is to be done in large part by station men, who will make direct contracts with the commission for building distinct units of the road. This method has been recommended by some of the most prominent railroad constructors and is adopted very generally in railroad construction in the West. At the end of this season the work done in this way will form the basis from which it may be determined whether it is wise to have the road constructed as a whole or in parts by contract. The commission is employing a comparatively small force, chiefly composed of engineers, to supervise the construction.

"The President has directed that the few appointments necessary shall be based exclusively on merit and experience," says Secretary Lane. "I have received word of a threatened stampede to Alaska this summer. The work to be undertaken by the government does not justify any such rush. The government itself will employ but few men and those of high order of railroad engineering experience. I desire to advise those contemplating going to Alaska that there is little opportunity for employment in that country at this time and they must be prepared in advance for their return in the fall. We have withdrawn town sites along the route at Anchorage, at Matanuska Junction, in Sustina Valley, in the vicinity of Broad Pass, and in the Nenana River."

Dock Built on Ship Creek.

The preliminary base of operations is at Ship Creek, or Anchorage, on Cook's Inlet. Lieut. Mears arrived there April 26 with a force of engineers and assistants and immediately commenced the work of landing materials and supplies for the project. He took with him a complete pile-driving outfit. A dock already has been practically completed on the right bank of Ship Creek near the mouth. This dock is equipped with a fifteen-ton stiff log derrick operated by hoisting engine, which takes the loads out of the scows and places them on the dock, or in flat cars.

Lieut. Mears took with him a 1,000-ton barge, three smaller scows, and one 200-ton scow. This equipment gives Lieut. Mears a floating dock enabling a ship to discharge its cargo and also a fleet of lighters with which to transfer the cargo from the ship to the shore. Late in May a steamer sailed into the harbor with 912,000 feet of lumber which was removed in three days.

"We have contracted with about 400 stationmen and are employing about 100 men handling the terminal work and constructing wagon roads," reads a recent report from Lieut. Mears. "I expect rapidly to increase this force to 1,500 or 2,000 men as fast as material and supplies can be shipped in here to accommodate that number. By utilizing water transportation along the east side of Knik Arm we are able to attack the line at various points. We already have an active construction camp at Eagle River, a point twelve miles up the coast, and another has been started at Peters Creek, a point about ten miles farther north. We expect to continue this system of establishing camps along the tidewater, close to the line, as fast as the final location is completed and the necessary construction arrangements made.

Constructs Field Hospital.

"I have noted the wishes of President Wilson regarding the care of the sick and injured employes, and, realizing the importance of providing necessary facilities to care for our injured men as soon as possible, I purchased a partially constructed log building since I arrived here and started carpenters to work putting it in shape so that it could be utilized as a field hospital. This is a pretty healthy country and we have had practically no sickness, but there are bound to be some few cases of injury from time to time on work of this character.

"All of our work is being done by stationmen on a unit basis. Numerous gangs of stationmen have moved into Ship Creek seeking work on the railroad. We have had no difficulty whatsoever in securing all of the stationmen that are required. In fact, they have been coming in much faster than we could place them."

Mr. Riggs, of this city, left Seattle with his party May 6 and arrived at Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, May 11. As river navigation from Whitehorse is not open until June he transported the party overland, a distance of 135 miles, sending out the first wagon the day after he arrived. He reached Nenana May 25, just nineteen days from Seattle, which was record time for the period of the year. The following day one of the party started up the Nenana River and two days later the full party was in the field surveying.

Mr. Riggs reports the discovery of some new fields tributary to the proposed railroad line. One is at the Tolovana River, about sixty-five miles north of Nenana, where a definite pay streak has been located for a distance of four miles. Another is the Kantishna District, where several quartz claims have been taken up.

Would Eliminate Red Tape.

Having initiated his great project for the opening up of Alaska, Secretary Lane now is interested in hastening the development of the land through the elimination of much of the governmental red tape that now exists. The present system of government in Alaska is characterized by the Department of the Interior as heterologous. Instead of one government in Alaska, there are many—interlocked, overlapped, cumbersome and confusing. There is a government of the forests, another of the fisheries, one of the reindeer and natives, another of the cables and telegraphs. There is a government for certain public lands and forests, another for other lands and forests. Each of these governments is intent upon its own particular business, jealous of its own success and prerogatives, and all are more or less unrelated and independent in their operation.

Secretary Lane is convinced that efficient administration is best secured by centralizing responsibility and authority in the hands of a small number of men, who can be held to strict accountability for the results of their actions. Consequently he is urging the establishment of a development board for Alaska—a board which would unify governmental activities in the country and greatly expediate affairs.

The red tape in administration is frequently ludicrous in its complexity. The bare fact that this isolated land of the far northwestern corner of the continent is governed almost entirely and exclusively from Washington, the capital of the nation, a city more than 4,000 miles distant, reveals something of the ridiculousness of the situation. The delay caused by the unscientific arrangement is enormous and involves considerable waste of time, money and patience.

Proceedures Are Numerous.

There is one procedure for making homestead, mineral, and other land entries within the national forests. There is another procedure for making such entries in lands outside the forest reserves. A citizen who wanted to lease an island for fox farming carried on a correspondence with three different departments for several months in an effort to learn which had jurisdiction and authority to make the lease. It was finally decided that none of them possessed this authority. It has taken as long as three years for patent to issue in uncontested land claims in Alaska, after final certificate was issued, merely because of the lengthy procedure involved in securing the proper filling out of papers.

The game laws are badly mixed. An amusing and to some extent troublesome conflict of authority has been occasioned by the law making the brown bear a game animal, under the control of the Department of Agriculture, while the black bear is recognized by law as a fur-bearing animal coming under the jurisdiction of the Department of Commerce. The question has more than once come up for judicial consideration whether every brown bear is a game animal, even if its parents are black. The law was intended to afford protection to the great brown, or Kadiak, bear and did not take cognizance of the fact that in a litter of black bears one cub may be black and another brown.

"While this patchwork system of administrative machinery has answered well enough while the government's policy has been merely to keep the door shut and discourage development, it will not answer under the new policy," says a pamphlet on "Red Tape In the Government of Alaska," issued recently by the Department of the Interior.

Number of Unrelated Agents.

"If the work needed in the future were to be purely and solely administrative it must still be efficient and under responsible and readily responsive supervision. Alaska's remoteness alone makes anything like supervision by bureaus located in Washington more or less perfunctory and superficial. What we now have in Alaska is little more than a number of independent and unrelated agents, acting largely upon their own initiative, each attending only to some special branch of police work, and no branch adequately organized to cope with its problems, without even attempting to co-ordinate its work with that of the other branches."

As a solution of the matter, Secretary Lane is urging the establishment of a development board composed of members appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. This board would have its headquarters in Alaska and its members would live in the territory. It would have authority to appoint its own agents and supervise their work. The board would make its reports and be directly responsible to the Secretary of the Interior.

The board would do the work now being performed in Alaska by the General Land Office, the Forest Service, the road commission, the Bureau of Mines, the Bureau of Education and the Secretary of the Interior. It would take over a part of the work and authority of the Bureau of Fisheries. All of these activities are closely related and form a part of the one big Alaskan problem. All activities of a national rather than of a purely local character would be left entirely to the various executive departments of the Federal government.

Throws Interesting Sidelights.

An interestingly naive letter from a resident of Alaska received about a year ago by the Geological Survey throws some picturesque sidelights on the undeveloped character of the vast country.

"Since I have been in this country," reads the letter, "there has been quite a number of people lost and never found, trying to get in here over the mountains and through the snow from the Yukon without any find marks or roads to travel on or guide them. My partner who came in here with me was lost a few years ago in company with another man, trying to get in here from the Yukon Valley. They have never been heard from.

"A man will start out either way, that is, to come in here or go out of this country, and he don't know half of the time where he is, and the snow is so deep that he often feels like getting down on his knees and praying for a hot blast from hell to help him out.

"They have to send officers from Fairbanks to serve a subpoena on a witness to attend court in Fairbanks. We had an election of delegates about a year and a half ago, but we did not get a chance to vote because we had no way of finding out that there

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX.

AMUSEMENTS.

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CALM REIGNS IN ALEXEIEFF CAMP

Military Appearance Lacking at Russian General's Quarters.

HAS QUIET PERSONALITY

Commander of Northern Armies of Czar Regarded as Officer of Unusual Ability.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

Warsaw, July 17.—Simplicity and lack of ostentation are the leading characteristics of everything Russian in this war, and particularly of the army. The two most simple men I have met are the Grand Duke Nicholas and Gen. Alexeieff, who has been appointed to the command of the Northern armies.

The theory in the Japanese army is that the brain of the army should be so far away from the actual scene of operations that he is absolutely detached from the atmosphere of war, and that between himself and the front there should be installed so many nervous shock-absorbers that the quarters of the great chief himself should be the realm of pure reason, with no noise and excitement and hurrying aides to impair his judgment.

I recall a conversation I once had with Maj. (now lieutenant general) Tanaka, Field Marshal Oyama's personal aid-de-camp.

"I should have liked to be with the general staff," I remarked to him, "during the battle of Mukden. It must have been an exciting time with you." My friend laughed and answered, "You would have had a great surprise, I imagine. There was no excitement at all. How do you suppose Field Marshal Oyama spent much of his time during the battle?"

One naturally imagined that it was spent scrutinizing maps and making plans, and I said this to Tanaka.

"Not at all," he replied, "when the battle began our work was largely finished. It was but necessary to make an occasional change in the line here and there, and this took but a few minutes. Most of the time the field marshal and Kodame (chief of the general staff) were playing croquet."

Atmosphere of Detachment.

Much the same atmosphere of detachment from the activities of the campaign may be seen today in the little Polish city, where Gen. Alexeieff has his headquarters, except that no one here has time for croquet. It is safe to say that beyond his own staff, there are not fifty soldiers in the place. In fact, it is less military in appearance than any city I have seen since I have been in Russia.

In front of his quarters are a couple of soldiers, and a small Russian flag hangs over the door. Nothing could lead one to believe that within is the individual in the palm of whose hand lie the fate and movements of hundreds upon hundreds of thousands of men, and at whose word a thousand guns will waken the echoes with their metal throats. In trenches miles away, stretching through forest and along hill-tops, numberless regiments and brigades await the short order from this building to launch themselves against the German lines.

The man himself is as quiet and unobtrusive as are his surroundings. Perhaps 58 or 59 years of age, with a very intellectual face and an almost shy manner, Gen. Alexeieff is currently reported to have the keenest brain in the Russian field armies. The staff consists of about 75 members. If their looks do not belie them they are about the most serious and hard-working men that one can find in a long journey.

While at Warsaw rumors are flying thick and fast as to German advances and Russian mishaps, at Gen. Alexeieff's headquarters everything is serene and calm. The general opinion of the staff is one of optimism, although for the moment the Russians are in the trough of the sea.

BAYONETED BY FORMER HOST.

Two Salvation Army Men Have Unique Encounter on Battlefield.

London, July 17.—"Salvationists" are fighting in the ranks of all the belligerents. In an engagement soon after the war began a wounded German said to the British soldier who had bayonetted him, "Don't you know me, brother?" "Brother" was the German's host in London during the great International Congress of last June. The story was told here today by a leading Salvation Army officer.

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