

HAWAII SENDS CABLE TO U. S. ASKING LIBERTY Island Legislature's Message Received at War Department—Other Claims. OTHER ISLANDS IN PLEA Porto Rico and Philippines Also Want Self Government Grant.

BOHEMIAN GIRL BY D.C. PLAYERS Community Opera Company to Appear at Central High School.

The Untold Agony of the War

Continued from page one. blast of machine gun fire. Some of the white smoke fell and did not rise from the mantle of snow in which they lay still. But like Arctic wolves the Gordons reached the Butte, roved around the entrance of dug-outs and tunnels in which a company of Germans were living. They refused to come out—all except a dozen, who came up scared almost out of their wits. The Nightgowns The others stayed below and were thrown to the ground. Their fumes appeared from the mouths of these pits and flames shed a red glare over No. 3's Land. In the dug-outs of the Butte of Warlencourt a whole company of Germans were being burnt alive, and when the Gordons came back the laughter had gone out of their white smocks. In individual acts of heroic folly there were thousands of instances, such as when single men of ours went forward to German machine gun nests and routed their gun teams by the passion of their lone attack. In the battles of Flanders when a company of Somerset Light Infantry had surrounded a German "pill box" or concrete block house and turned their trench-mortars upon it without smashing its strong thick walls, a young officer ran forward and banged with his bare hands in the steel doors, shouting: "Come out, you blighters. Come out!" One machine gun bullet would have ended this heroic folly forever. But one of the steel doors opened and a crowd of Germans, twenty-two of them, fled with their hands up in surrender. That was the spirit of the individual, and that was the spirit of the British armies—and sometimes some of us were not so, because of the needless loss of men. For the individual it was splendid, but it wasn't the best quality of generalship. Looking back now upon the long agony of our men it seems to many of us that it was nothing but heroic folly which made us cling on for years to the old Ypres salient after the first and last Battle of Ypres. We should have fallen back further and avoided that hideous bulge or salient between Ypres and Arrmentieres where from their outposts they could fire upon our men from three sides and even shoot them in the back. It is impossible to say what numbers of lives were sacrificed by holding this position, from sheer pride and sentiment, but all our English, Irish, Scottish, Welsh and Canadian divisions took their turn in that Salient of Death year after year, and suffered enormous losses being slashed to pieces as they marched up the roads, by being buried in the ruins of Ypres, and in their dug-outs along the canal bank at Hooge, and Zillebeke, and by being blown to pieces in the holes along the canal bank. Tommy Another of our heroic follies was the lack of strong defensive positions behind our first and second trench systems. The British soldier was a great fighter, but a bad digger, and neither our dug-outs nor our trenches could compare in safety with those of the enemy beyond. Tommy preferred the risk of death to the labor of earth-works. And it was up to his commanding officer to keep him busy by strict discipline, at this point of the job. But our generals were bewitched with the idea, from the very early days, that elaborate defensive systems, deep and complicated tunnelling and shell-proof dug-outs were hardly necessary, because the British armies were going to move forward and turn the enemy out of Belgium and France. They did, but for two years the lines were almost stationary, and afterwards they moved backwards, now and then, as well as forward. Neglect of reserve lines and absence of head-quarter multiples, the sacrifice of British youth, due to the undying optimism of the British spirit and character which was our weakness as well as our strength. This optimism was shown many times by the attempted use of cavalry in front of trench systems which were impossible ground for mounted troops. The night before the first of the battle of the Somme, in July, 1916, a cavalry unit was concentrated behind our lines near Fricourt, and I well remember passing our Indian cavalry that night at a place called the Moulin Vivier. They sat in their saddles with their lances raised above their steel casques, like statues carved out of bronze in the darkness which was illumined by little points of light where our infantry soldiers marching up to the battle ground on which so many of them fell at dawn, smoked cigarettes or lighted them. It was a wonderful optimism to believe that our victory would be so great that next day we should have smashed the enemy back through a maze of trenches, twenty miles deep, and that we should go rounding up prisoners beyond the barbed wire and the machine gun dug-outs and that broad belt of earth-works. Finishing that complete break-through it would have been a heroic, but a damnable, folly for cavalry to ride against the enemy, and that by eleventh-hour direction was not attempted. But time and time again before battles within trench systems like a secret of underground fortresses the cavalry was brought up before attack with the same optimism of leadership and the same hope of "a ride into the blue," only to lead to the crowding of the roads needed for marching troops and transport, and the gloomy tramping back of all those mounted men when there was no flicker of a chance of a cavalry ride. Casualties During the battle of Gallant Arras in April of 1917, they were actually used in an attack upon Monchy Hill, where, as I have described in another article, they were slashed with shrapnel, and lost most of their horses in the ruined village and had heavy casualties. They were used again, with better chances, in the first battle of Cambrai at the end of 1917. The whole of that battle might be described as an heroic folly or at best as a gallant adventure, daring in its schemes and of most rash undertaking. It was launched at the end of a year when in the battles of Flanders the British armies had lost enormous numbers of men in the bogs and swamps so that they were dreadfully weakened, and Sir Douglas Haig had no great reserves in hand for new enterprise. The attack round the Cambrai salient was made by divisions who had been badly hammered in the Flanders fighting so that they were tired and nerve-racked and it was reported by artillery officers and men who had been firing their guns for months from the foul swamps of those fields in Flanders under increasing fire. It was clear that what ground was taken must be held for the most part by the men who took it, without hope of relief, and without heavy reserves behind them in case of heavy German counter-attacks. It was a battle to test the value of the tanks in gaining a sudden and overwhelming surprise by doing away with the preliminary bombardment which had been necessary until the arrival of the tanks in large numbers for the smashing of German trenches and wire and the obstruction of machine gun redoubts. The tanks were to break a way through one part of the Hindenburg line, the infantry was to follow to clear the ground beyond and the cavalry was then to go into the gap and sweep round the salient, which had been the plan succeeded remarkably. The tanks, surrounded by gallant young pilots and crews, came out of their hiding places at dawn on November 18, 1917, and were met by a barbed wire, crossed the broad trenches of the Hindenburg line and cruised off towards Bourlon Wood and the villages of Fontaine, Notre Dame, Anserre, and Maroilles. Their only check came from a German major of artillery who served one of his guns from Fiesquiere village and obtained direct hits on tank after tank. It was not so, because of the needless loss of men. For the individual it was splendid, but it wasn't the best quality of generalship. Looking back now upon the long agony of our men it seems to many of us that it was nothing but heroic folly which made us cling on for years to the old Ypres salient after the first and last Battle of Ypres. We should have fallen back further and avoided that hideous bulge or salient between Ypres and Arrmentieres where from their outposts they could fire upon our men from three sides and even shoot them in the back. 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REQUESTS LAW FOR TEACHERS District and Maryland Federation Asks Public Schools Legislation. Resolutions calling for the enactment by Congress of legislation providing a living wage for public school teachers of Maryland and the District of Columbia and protecting them against injustice from school boards, were adopted at the fifteenth annual convention of the District of Columbia and Maryland Federation of Labor held at Lonsconing, Md., last week. "Place our teachers upon a proper economic basis," the resolution demands. Election of school boards by the people is urged and the recognition followed him day by day, taking thousands of prisoners and smashing his rear-guard defenses one by one. Our Men The most deplorable battle of the British Americans, front in the "come-back" after our day of retreat was when with the gallant help of American troops our men of the English Highlands, the Fortieth Division, and others, broke the main Hindenburg line along St. Quentin canal. That canal was sixty feet wide with steep cliffs rising sheer to a wonderful system of German machine gun redoubts and tunnelled defenses, between the villages of Bellcourt and Bellinghe. It seemed to me an impossible place for assault and capture. If the enemy could not hold that line they could hold nothing. In a dense fog on Sunday morning, September 20, our men, with the Americans and Australians in support, went down to the canal bank, waded across where the water was shallow, swam across in life belts, where it was deep, or got across somehow and anyhow, under blasts of machine gun fire, by rafts and plank bridges. A few hours after the beginning of the battle they were far out beyond the German side of the canal with masses of prisoners in their hands. The Americans on the left of the attack where the canal goes below ground, showed superb and reckless gallantry, and that evening I met their escorts with droves of captured Germans. They had broken the best defensive system of the enemy opposite the British front, and after that our troops fought through open country on the way to victory.

PIGEON, WITH WOUND GOES TO HOSPITAL Breast Scarred, Visitor Treated as Distinguished Patient. New York, April 19.—A carrier pigeon which apparently should wear a gold wound strip, for its breast was scarred as if grazed by a bullet, snatched to the roof of Bellevue Hospital garage today and appeared grateful at being captured and fed. The bird bore the designation A. J-17-H-3027 and officials at the hospital concluded it was an army carrier which had been used to bear messages in France. The pigeon was greatly fatigued, as if from a long flight and made no mistake in selecting the hospital as a haven, for it is being treated as a distinguished patient while awaiting a claimant. Health insurance for wage workers now is being considered by state laws.

STATE BODIES PLAN MERGER District Societies Will Form National Council to Co-Ordinate Work. To co-ordinate the work of all state societies in the District, a meeting of the officers of the various organizations will be held next Sunday afternoon in the music room of Central High School, which is a National Council of State Societies will be formed. The amalgamation is also intended to bring out the features identified with each of the States in the National Council of State Societies will be formed. The amalgamation is also intended to bring out the features identified with each of the States in the National Council of State Societies will be formed.

SPANISH WAR VETS TO BE HONOR GUARD Will Participate in Ceremony at Water Reed Hospital. Gen. Nelson A. Miles Camp, No. 1, Spanish War Veterans, will furnish the guard of honor for the presentation of the colors at the Patriotic Day Celebration at Walter Reed Hospital tomorrow. Captain S. S. Close, officer of the camp, has been detailed to lead the guard. The ceremony will be held at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning.

ENGLAND HAS EPIDEMIC OF RABIES. London, April 19.—An epidemic of rabies has broken out in London and Southeastern England. Shortage of nurses has prevented carrying out muzzling order. The disease was reported today to have resulted from smuggling dogs into this country from France, many of which were said to have been brought in by airplanes.

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