

WAR-TORN FRANCE CAUSE FOR PITY

Women Forced to Do Menial Tasks, With All Able-Bodied Men Gone.

CROPS ARE PLANTED

Fields Cultivated Within Sound of Big Guns Behind Lines.

By United Press

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN THE FIELD, May 27 (by mail).—If America could know France today most likely young men would flock to her aid by hundreds on every trans-Atlantic boat. The pity of those scores of villages behind the lines entirely stripped of able men, with many of the women in deep mourning as they carry on the work of departed soldiers, would appeal more strongly to the pure American than miles of recruiting posters. Hop into a military auto and go for a tour behind the fighting lines, over the ridges from which the wide landscape unrolls itself in its spring splendor. The ride will convince you that the young men of the United States have before them a duty that can't be shirked without dishonor. The car draws up at a railroad barrier, where stands an elderly soldier of France, disabled in the war and now on light duty. He passes the car and you roll into the main street. Here are women driving farm wagons, women herding sheep, women carrying burdens that would cause a strike of the moving man's union back home.

Children may be seen through the cottage doors, assuming the burdens of housework. Women and children, no men, except the disabled. It is the war. Beyond the village your car mounts a ridge. Miles of field are under cultivation. Women are following the plow or walking down the ridges with one arm swinging as they scatter seed from a bag. Women pass by on the road, leading farm horses. That is a sample and typical of what is to be seen. The French are stoic, but they do need American help to whale the Boche. Their disillusionment if America should fail would be hard to picture. Their faith is so great in America, the sister Republic which honors LaFayette. This is the district behind the lines. Up forward, where the war took to trenches after the Boche retreat, there are scarcely any villages left. Civilian inhabitants are rare. One scene of peace has been found before a French city by the Germans. The British expect to take the place by the pressure of indirect movements, thus sparing the town from bombardment. If it is destroyed, then Tommy will have another score to settle with the Boche dynamiting squad. Before the town is a flat field of more than a mile. Underfoot are patches of dandelions. It is quiet and peaceful as a May day in Iowa. Overhead an aeroplane drones like a lazy bee in its patrol along the sky. Suddenly a battery wakes up at a vague spot and the shells make dark spots against the haze on the German horizon. The Boche bestirs himself, evidently trying to find a British gun. His gun thumps far away, there is an interval and then the shuttle is heard gradually growing louder.

"Here comes one," says a Tommy. The shell drops a quarter of a mile away. "Dud," says Tommy. "Boche throws lots of duds."

Notre Dame de Lorette has come out green again after the terrific fighting there. Beyond is Vimy Ridge, which the French fought so hard to take before the Canadians succeeded. Vimy looks down on the Boche lines and far into the German occupied land. The clay soil of the ridge is churned unimaginably. The British are beyond the ridge nowadays and engineers are perfecting organizations behind the relentless advance. In a huge crater on the crest there remained a few dead who had been overlooked. They lay in their death postures amid their rusting equipment and nearby were a few French tin hats, mementoes of the fight that France made here.

The site of the chapel of Notre Dame de Lorette is peaceful now, though the chapel itself is obliterated. In the old German trench that ran through the church the French soldier has put up a little plaster of Paris group of the Holy Family, inscribed in words of immortal faith: "Groupe de la Sainte Famille de la Sancta Casa de Lorette. Page de Gloire et de Protection Pour Nos Vaillants Soldats."

Columbia Man Injured at Hallsville.
J. S. Stevinson of Columbia suffered a broken leg Wednesday morning while he was clearing the wreckage of the tornado at Hallsville. A piece of timber fell on him.

ONE OF THE COBURNS



Charles Donville Coburn of the Coburn Players, who will play here June 29-30.

FARMERS LIKE EXCHANGE PLAN

J. W. Connaway Shows Advantage of New System.

Missouri farmers as a rule are interested in an exchange system. This is the opinion of nearly all of the representatives of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture who have returned to Columbia. There are numerous instances in almost every community in which an exchange system among the farmers would affect a saving of time and money. In speaking to one organization in Crawford County, Dr. J. W. Connaway of the College of Agriculture suggested that there was no reason why a farmer who had hogs and no feed should ship his feeders to St. Louis to be bought there by another man in a different part of the community who had corn but no hogs to consume it.

Of course Dr. Connaway's illustration was merely theoretical but that such instances occur is shown by reports from other counties. A member of a farmers' club at Bowman, Dade County, said that he paid \$4 a bushel for flax seed that his neighbor had sold for \$2.25. He had bought his seed in Springfield and one of his neighbors had sold seed of the same variety to dealers in Springfield. At Job, in Oregon County, one farmer, who had been selling corn all winter and hauling twenty miles to market at Thayer, learned during the organization meeting that one of his neighbors had been buying corn in Thayer and hauling it twenty miles to his farm. An exchange system would have saved money in both instances.

CENTRAL WANTS HALF MILLION

Curators of Fayette College Begin Campaign for Funds.

The board of curators of Central College at Fayette has appointed a committee composed of President Paul H. Linn, Bishop E. R. Hendrix, Judge John A. Rich, Perry Rader and B. D. Sipple, to make plans for the beginning of a campaign to raise an additional fund of \$500,000 for Central College. It is understood that the Rockefeller Foundation will give a third of the amount as in the campaign three years ago.

Cupples Hall, which has been a boys' dormitory since its erection eight years ago, will be converted into a girls' dormitory next year to accommodate a large number of junior college girls who are expected.

PROF. ROSS HOME IN JULY

M. U. Teacher and Family Will Sail From Australia Soon.

Mrs. Charles G. Ross, wife of Professor Ross of the School of Journalism, writes from Caulfield, Victoria, Australia:

"Our visit to the land of the kangaroo and emu is about over. We leave Melbourne in six weeks for Sydney, spend a few days there, and then sail for Vancouver via New Zealand, Fiji, and will arrive at Honolulu July 5." Mrs. Ross's letter was dated May 21, 1917. Mr. Ross, a professor in the School of Journalism, has been, during his year's leave of absence from the University of Missouri, on the staff of the Melbourne Herald.

WIRE, CRATER, GRENADES DO NOT HINDER TANKS

PARIS, June 1 (By mail).—How does it feel and sound in the "innards" of a British tank in action? Bullets clattering against the steel covered sides of the newly invented war machine sound like myriads of hailstones against the window of a moving train. A direct hit by a shell shakes the monster from stem to stern and rattles your teeth but in tanks like this it merely tickles their ribs and they wallow on.

A first hand description of a tank fighting was given here today by one of the crew of H. M. Landship "Ichthyosaurus." He speaks from inside information.

"You need your sea legs to ride a tank," the land seaman said, describing the slow rolling ride towards an enemy machine gun "nest" somewhere on the Somme. The tank approaches the German wire—brown rusty entanglements in multitudinous rows. It slides down an old mine crater and waddles up the other side. It cuts through the forest of wire with scratchy, crunching sounds and just ahead is the "nest", piles of white sand bags with little loopholes here and there. "We fire without ceasing

hand on gun and eye glued to the loophole pierced in the steel with sweat pouring down our forearms.

"A thud: a powerful panting, a last and almost imperceptible stop. The nose of our tank scatters sand and cement bags throwing them right and left as if it were ploughing up a field. Then comes another violent shock, and heavy blow and a crashing. We are going straight through a wall and are pulverizing machine guns. Grenades burst upon the tank's armor. We are in the midst of the "nest". All at once enemy heads with terror on their faces appear on both sides of us. Now is our turn. Our machine guns crackle; our bullets whistle into the German trenches which we are enflaming and we throw lead into the underground passages leading from the "nest" to the rear. The Germans are in the greatest disorder. They throw themselves on their stomachs, they raise their arms to heaven and some of them try to run away.

"A whistle sounds in the tank and we stop. Then wild cheers come faintly to our ears. The Tommies are just behind us. They take possession of the "nest" and gather up everything living which remains."

PROGRESS ON OLD TRAILS ROAD

Judge Lowe Tells of Work Done in Last Four Years.

When Judge J. M. Lowe of Kansas City retired recently from the presidency of the National Old Trails Association because of ill health, he issued a statement showing the amount of permanent road building accomplished on the road in the last five years. He says:

"The aspiration of this organization was to build permanent highways from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from Washington, D. C. to Los Angeles. This plan has been practically completed from Baltimore and Washington through Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and Indiana. In Illinois its building has been assured by the legislature. In Missouri the legislature has permitted the state to pay one-half and the country through which the road will pass it to pay the other half. Kansas has not taken any official steps but the people are successfully trying to get it. California has built about half and Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado will finish their roads within the year 1918.

"All the states through which the highway runs have adopted it as a part of the state highway system. This organization had no money to start with and not a mile of good roads existed when it was organized. This is an independent organization and has received during the last five years from all sources an average of \$5,516.41 annually, and has brought about the expenditure of \$10,000,000 in permanent construction."

DEFENSE COUNCIL TO MEET

Dean Mumford Will Attend Session Called by Governor.

Dean F. B. Mumford of the College of Agriculture will attend a meeting of the Missouri Council of Defense, of which he is the chairman, to be held in the governor's office in Jefferson City at 12:30 o'clock next Friday.

Governor Gardner issued a call yesterday for a meeting of this council. "The matters to be considered are of vital importance and of such a character that they cannot be made public at this time," the Governor said, in announcing the call for the meeting of this council.

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The Palms
is the
Place to go after the show these hot evenings
You will find enjoyment in our refreshing drinks

"VALUABLE MAN" NOT EXEMPT

So Answers Court to Munition Importers Who Desired His Release.

LONDON, June 18.—Appearing before an army tribunal recently, a firm of munition importers claimed exemption for a man 28 years old because of indispensability. The importers asserted their business had been increased \$20,000,000 by the war, partially through the efforts of the man for whom they claimed exemption.

"How much do you pay this man?" asked the magistrate.

"We pay him \$1,250 annually," answered a member of the firm.

"The salary hardly corresponds to the profits," grumbled the magistrate. "If we grant this man an exemption and he asks for an increase in salary will you give it to him?"

"I really don't know," replied the employer.

"Well, suppose he should meet with an accident, what would you do?" queried the magistrate.

"That would be only temporary." "So is the war," fairly yelled the court, and ordered the man to join up.

WILL DRILL THIS SUMMER

30 Students to Take Military Work Each School Day—Start Today.

The University campus will continue to be a military drill ground this summer as during the regular school year. At a meeting held yesterday afternoon, more than thirty students in the Summer Session agreed to come out at 4:30 o'clock each regular school day during the summer for an hour's military drill.

The first drill was scheduled for this afternoon. The detail will be commanded by Roger Morton, who was a

Y. M. C. A. WORKERS CONFER

Five State Associations Included in Ozark Mountain Student Meeting.

The Ozark Mountain Student Conference for the Y. M. C. A.'s of Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma, began at Hollister, Mo., June 15 and will continue until June 25. This conference has heretofore been held at Lake Geneva, Wis., but has been reorganized and will now be an annual affair at Hollister.

The purpose of the conference is to train undergraduate men for Christian leadership in their college. The speakers and leaders are men of character and experience. Among these will be: H. M. Beardsley of Kansas City; Dr. R. E. Vinton, president of the University of Texas and George Irving, editor of the North American Student. The program will consist of Bible study, mission study and American problems, sectional conferences, platform addresses and personal interviews. Tennis courts, baseball diamonds, steel row boats and motor boats afford plenty of opportunity for recreation.

Nathan Scarritt, president of the University Y. M. C. A. is in charge of a delegation of students from here. J. S. Moore, secretary of the University Y. M. C. A., will go to Hollister tomorrow to stay through the remainder of the conference.

To Attend Student Conference.

The Ozark Mountain Student Conference is now in session at Hollister, Mo. About eight University men are attending. L. H. Capehart and Benjamin Yap will leave Wednesday morning for Hollister.

captain in the Cadet Corps during the regular school year. All students in the Summer Session who wish to get some military training and "are not afraid of work" are asked to report for drill.

At the Athens Hotel.
The following persons were registered at the Athens Hotel up to 10:30 this morning: Charles A. Miller, Moberly; E. M. Leonard, A. J. Snow, H. J. S. Beahm, A. H. Baum all from St. Louis; L. F. Wessberg, Houston, Texas.

Grocery Bargains
SUGAR
12 lbs. \$1.00

Flour, 25 lbs.	\$1.85
Flour, 50 lbs.	\$3.45
Dried Peaches, lb.	12c
7 Bars Soap	25c
50c Ripe Olives	30c
15c Nipped Herring	60c
15c Corn Flakes	10c
10c Raisins	81-3c
20c can Peaches	15c
3 lb. can Hominy	10c
10c Jello, 3 for	25c
25c Hershey Cocoa	20c
Gallon Apples	35c
Gallon Rhubarb	20c
50 lb. can of Lard, lb.	23c
10 lbs Lard	\$2.50
25c Saniflush	20c
6c Fels Naptha Soap	60c
7c Matches	60c

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Robinson & Boswell's
Fourth Anniversary Sale
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Ready To Wear
25% to 50% Reduction on all Spring Suits, Coats, Dresses, separate wool and Fancy Silk Shirts.

One Lot of Wash Dresses, regular price up to \$5.00, sale price	\$1.95
One Lot of Wash Dresses, regular price up to \$10.00, sale price	\$2.95
\$1.00 and \$1.25 House Dresses, sale price	79c
\$1.50 and \$2.00 House Dresses, sale price	\$1.49

GINGHAMS
All Gingham originally 15c to 25c yd. reduced to **12 1/2 c**

BARGAIN TABLES
Our sale last week made many remnants, all of which will be put on tables at special prices for quick selling.

10% Discount on Corsets, Gloves, Ribbons; Muslin and Knit Underwear; Curtain Goods and Scrims.

25% Discount on Fancy Parasols and Fancy Plaid and Stripe Silks.

We have hundreds of special bargains in this sale, in fact too many to mention. Just come to the store and make your selections.