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BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA, FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 14, 1917.

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PROBE WELCOME, SAYS PRESIDENT ANENT INQUIRIES INTO MILITARY

House of Congress Follows the Senate and Goes After Naval Affairs.

CROZIER UNDER GRILLING FIRE OF SHARP QUESTIONS

Says Delays Are Due to Secretary of War Baker; People Going to Know.

(By United Press) Washington, Dec. 14.—President Wilson says he welcomes the congressional investigation into his war program, now being held. He says he thinks the war investigation very democratic and gives the people an insight into the war.

Congress Gets Busy. Washington, Dec. 14.—The Senate inquisition into the conduct of the war spread to the house of congress when the naval committee today voted for a sweeping investigation of the navy.

Crozier is Quizzed. Washington, Dec. 14.—Members of the senate military committee yesterday subjected Major General Crozier, chief of ordnance, to three hours of sharp cross-examination, seeking explanation of delays in providing the war army with weapons. Today in executive session they will press questions which the general objected to answering in the open hearing.

Throughout the examination General Crozier insisted that there had been and would be no delay in equipping soldiers sent abroad. He admitted that because of a shortage of machine guns the American troops in France were supplied with weapons of French make, and that there was a lack of both machine guns and rifles in the training cantonments, but declared that the training of troops would not be seriously retarded.

Put Up to Baker. Responsibility for the machine gun situation was placed by the general squarely upon Secretary Baker, who, he said had taken a personal interest in the matter and ordered an investigation which resulted in the adoption in June of a new gun known as the Browning type. This statement came when Chairman Chamberlain said he was not satisfied with the explanation that the delay had been caused by investigations.

"Neither was I satisfied," responded the witness, "but I am not personally responsible." Nearly every member of the committee joined in the examination and questions were fired across the table as rapidly as the general could answer. Chairman Chamberlain took exceptions to conclusions drawn from General Crozier's testimony the day before that Congress by failing to make prompt appropriations and labor troubles, were largely responsible for the delay. General Crozier said he had not intended such an interpretation and that millions of dollars appropriated had not been expended.

FORMER RESIDENT DIES

Bemidji friends have received word announcing the death of Mrs. Christ Markusen, formerly of this city, and well known here. She died in Denver, Colo., December 11, after a lingering illness. Her husband took her west last fall, hoping she might recover from her illness. The body has been shipped to Kenyon, Minn., her old home, where the funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon at 1 o'clock.

BUSINESS RESUMED IN THE TWIN CITIES

(By United Press) St. Paul, Dec. 14.—Business was resumed in the Twin Cities as usual this morning, following the return to work of the strikers. The men are back pending federal mediation.

R. R. FIREMAN FINDS EXPLOSIVE IN COAL

(By United Press) Jackson, Miss., Dec. 14.—An Illinois Central railroad passenger train fireman found a ten-pound cap of nitrate powder on his shovel while he was preparing to fire his engine this forenoon. It is believed to be a plot.

PICTURES OF U. S. HEROES PUBLISHED IN LONDON PAPERS

(By United Press) London, Dec. 14.—Newspapers in London print photographs of Sergeant McConnell and Private McDonald, American engineers, captured at Cambrai by the Germans, escaped and returned to their unit.

GERMAN "PILL BOX" TURNED INTO A DRESSING STATION



This captured German "pill box" in a muddy, torn-up section of the west front, has been converted into a dressing station. These dressing stations, being close to the fighting lines, are the means of saving many lives by quick attention to the wounded.

PROUD OF BEMIDJI

Recruiting Officer Foucault today received a letter from the Duluth recruiting headquarters, in which Bemidji received a high compliment. It was: "Bemidji sure did her share and we are proud of you." The letter was signed by Corporal Berlie, assigned to the recruiting station in Duluth.

"STREET CAR SERVICE" FOR BEMIDJI; TWELFTH STREET TO FIFTH WARD

"Street car service" for Bemidji is the next step forward in transportation, R. W. Kiehl starting the innovation today with a new Ford passenger bus with a capacity of eight.

The bus will have a schedule between Bemidji and the Fifth ward, the terminals of the trips being at Twelfth street in Bemidji, and the center of the business district in the Fifth ward. Passengers will be picked up along the route and stops will be made upon signal.

The trips will be run as close to schedule as possible. The bus will leave Twelfth street and Belmont avenue on the half hour, and on the hour at the Fifth ward terminal.

A fare of five cents will be charged which, it is believed, will pay in the large patronage expected. If the bus pays, others will be added on the routes, giving good transportation through the principal parts of Bemidji and to outlying districts. The venture is an experiment and if patronage warrants will be maintained.

BELGIUM'S HEROIC RULER



New photograph of King Albert of Belgium, showing him in his field uniform.

PROCLAMATION By President



President Wilson has issued a proclamation in which he urges every one not already a member to join the Red Cross during the membership campaign starting next Sunday and continuing until Christmas eve. With the slogan, "Make it a Red Cross Christmas," an effort will be made to add ten million new members to the five million now in the organization. Only one week has been allotted to the intensive drive, but it is expected that this will be enough. This is the first organized effort the Red Cross has made to enroll new members since the war started.

The president's appeal is as follows:

"To the People of the United States: Ten million Americans are invited to join the American Red Cross during the week ending with Christmas eve. The times require that every branch of our great national effort shall loyally be upheld, and it is peculiarly fitting that at Christmas season the Red Cross should be the branch through

which your willingness to help is expressed.

"You should join the American Red Cross because it alone can carry the pledges of Christmas good will to those that are bearing for the real burdens of the war, both in the army and in the navy, and in the nations upon whose territory the issues of the world war are being fought out. Your evidence of faith in this work is necessary for their heartening and cheer.

"You should join the Red Cross because this aim of the national service is steadfastly and efficiently maintaining the overseas relief in every suffering land, administering our millions wisely and well and awakening the gratitude of every people. Our conscience will not let us enjoy the Christmas season if this pledge of support to our cause and the world's weal is left unfulfilled. Red Cross membership is the Christmas spirit in terms of action.

"WOODROW WILSON, President of the Red Cross."

WHO HAS TRIMMINGS OF CHRISTMAS TREE?

Last year, after the exercises, the community Christmas tree was taken down in a hurry, as a storm was threatening and there was danger of the tree falling and injuring someone. The decorations were all taken off but just who had charge of the tree being cut down or where the trimmings have gone to is a mystery to the Queen Esthers. There were many dollars worth of trimmings and the same could be used this year, adding some new tinsel, etc.

Anyone knowing about the disappearance of this will kindly notify Miss Elsie Schmitt, president of the Queen Esthers, or Mayor Charles W. Vandersluis.

It is not a case of "button, button, who's got the button?" but trimmings, trimmings, who got the trimmings?

TWO MORE RECRUITS LEAVE BEMIDJI TODAY

Two more recruits were sent to Duluth today by Recruiting Officer Foucault, Stanley R. Shatto going to the engineer corps as railroad switchman. He will be sent to France to the American contingent operating the railroads for the Americans at the front.

Burdette J. Hammond has been enlisted in the forestry engineers and will join the Twentieth regiment, soon to go overseas.

FIRST AIR FLIGHT FATAL TO AMERICAN IN FRANCE

(By United Press) Paris, Dec. 14.—Lieut. Benjamin Walcott of Washington, D. C., fell in his first air flight and is believed to have been killed.

Felled His Enemy. Washington, Dec. 14.—Lieutenant Walcott was 21 years old and the son of Secretary Charles Walcott of the Smithsonian institution. He felled his Germany adversary before being downed.

A nationwide campaign to complete the enrollment of our forces in conservation of our food supply, is a duty of necessity, humanity and honor. As a free people we have elected to discharge this duty, not under autocratic decree, but without other restraint than the guidance of individual conscience.

—HERBERT HOOVER.

BEMIDJI SPEAKERS FOR CLEARWATER CO.

Clearwater county has planned a number of loyalty meetings and has sent out a call for speakers from Bemidji. Chairman R. L. Given of the Speakers' Bureau is co-operating with E. H. Reff of Bagley, who is in charge of arranging meetings for that county. Clearbrook, Gonvick and Leonard are scheduled for meetings next week.

GERMANY DENIES LAW'S STATEMENT

(By United Press) Amsterdam, Dec. 14.—An official German statement issued today and received here, says Great Britain and not Germany started peace feelers last September and that the British feeler was tentative and never carried through. The statement is issued in denying Bonar Law's assertion in the House of Commons that Germany started the feelers.

12 MEN FOR COAST ARTILLERY ASKED FROM BELTRAMI, LEAVING TUESDAY

APPEAL FOR CANDY FOR CHRISTMAS TREE; EVERYTHING ELSE

All arrangements have been made for the Municipal Christmas tree festival, to be held Christmas afternoon under the auspices of the Queen Esthers, with the exception of the candy for the children, and this is a matter for immediate attention.

The tree has been secured, the lighting will be complimentary but the problem of candy must be met.

The city council has made an appropriation for the use of the Associated Charities and the municipal tree and there will be about \$35 available from the fund for the tree festival. About \$30 is needed as the price of candy has gone up, and for that sum and what has been provided about 700 bags of candy may be distributed.

Last year, there were 1,000 bags of candy provided, of which 300 were given to the Salvation Army. This time 700 bags will be used to provide each child.

Anyone who will aid this worthy cause should notify Miss Elsie Schmitt, president of the Queen Esthers, by Monday. Checks should be mailed to her and all contributions should be sent or delivered to her as soon as possible. Whatever anyone wishes to give will be gladly accepted and appreciated.

POST ORDER REVOKING CAMP DODGE PASSES FOR XMAS LEAVES

(By United Press) Camp Dodge, Iowa, Dec. 14.—The order revoking all passes and furloughs, already issued and announcing that none will be issued during the Christmas holidays, has been posted. The only soldiers permitted to go home Christmas are those whose travel does not involve the use of steam roads. Many soldiers from Minnesota, Illinois and North Dakota will be unable to spend Christmas day at home. For Christmas, some are planning to use autos. Indications are that the last increment of the first draft will assemble here during the holidays.

SCRAPBOOKS FOR BEMIDJI H. S. BOYS IN SERVICE

The freshman class of the high school has named a committee of three to supervise the making of scrap books for the students of the high school who have enlisted in the service. The committee consists of Willard McGregor, chairman; Miss Verna Barker and John Koors.

The class has also decided to give an entertainment after Christmas vacation, the proceeds to go toward the debt of the athletic association. The class will also hold a hard time Valentine party the third week after the Christmas holidays.

CANADA'S SMALLEST SOLDIER



This photograph shows the "littlest boy" or rather the smallest man with the Canadian forces in Europe. His age is fifteen, and he enlisted in November, 1914, at Vancouver. Before the war he was a bugler. He takes his chances with the grown-up soldiers, with one of whom he is seen chatting.

Drafted men, here's your chance! The coast artillery wants twelve men from Bemidji and vicinity for the coast artillery, the men to be sent to San Francisco, leaving on a special train next Tuesday morning. These men are to come from the quota of the next draft call.

The applicants should make their desire known immediately to Thomas Swinson, chief clerk of the draft board, office in the court house, and be ready to leave Tuesday on a special train carrying more men for the coast artillery.

Sheriff Johnson returned from St. Paul this morning where he had a long interview with the adjutant general, who advised him of this opening in the coast defense. Mr. Johnson is head of the county draft board.

Desirable Branch. The coast artillery is one of the most desirable branches of the military service. The men are stationed at the sites of the coast artillery, the big guns being manned at vulnerable points of the coast as defenses of the United States. The men are of a superior class and given a course of study valuable to them in many ways.

The men who go will spend the winter in California where it is delightful. Here is the opportunity to get in on the ground floor.

Already four have enlisted to go next Tuesday. They are Fred Breen, Max Manders, Joe Shirk and Stanley Johnson. That leaves only eight more to be accepted.

MOOSEHEART LEGION LADIES PLAN HARD TIMES PARTY

The Women of Mooseheart Legion, an auxiliary to the Loyal Order of Moose, are planning a hard times party to be held in the Moose hall next Thursday evening, Dec. 20, and Tuset's orchestra will play for dancing.

All who attend are warned not to "fuss up" before-going. "Botted" shirts will be taboo and the ladies are also warned not to "top up." Any one caught with jewelry or any dispensable articles of adornment or attire will be fined. The ladies will serve lunch and it will be a war time feed. They promise a great time for all who attend and indications are there will be a big crowd present.

PATRIOTIC MEETING FIFTH WARD TONIGHT

Nymore held a patriotic meeting recently, but its citizens are disappointed with the attendance at that time and have asked R. L. Given, chairman of the Speakers' Bureau, to arrange for another rally, at which time they promise to turn out by the hundreds.

The meeting will be held there this evening. The place is Christianson's hall. The speakers are A. P. Ritchie and Col. Henry Funkley. The hour is 8 o'clock. Several musical numbers will be given by pupils of the Bemidji school.

GERMAN ASSAULT PRELUDE TO PEACE

(By United Press) London, Dec. 14.—Germany's much advertised forthcoming west front drive is the first preliminary to another peace offensive. Germany hopes to achieve a dent somewhere in the allied line before the Americans arrive and wants to claim the invincibility of the German military forces to the German people to steel them to overwhelming sacrifices with the French armies in Italy.

Italy will defend Venice to the last drop of her blood and preparations are being made for a tremendous defense of the city.

SANATORIUM UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Dr. Walter L. Mattick has been engaged as superintendent of the Lake Julia Sanatorium and will assume his duties the last of this week.

Dr. Mattick comes highly recommended by the state board. He is a young man, married and has an extensive and valuable experience in work that has fitted him for his new position. He is a graduate of Cornell, Ithaca, N. Y., and has two degrees. He has been attached to the famous Bellevue hospital in New York and his experience in hospital work and management should make with his services valuable to the sanatorium.