

"SAMMEE" GETS NEWS, DESPITE CENSORSHIP

Behind the Lines and in the Trenches the Tripod Culls Live Happenings

APPEARS SEMI-WEEKLY

Provides Variety and Interesting Reading for American Soldiers in France

By HENRI BAZIN

Chief Correspondent Evening Public Ledger with the American Army in France

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY, Dec. 23.—"The Tripod stands itself on its two front legs and one rear leg, being the right leg and smartly propped its right eyebrow, fingers extended, and salutes. So it announces itself in its initial number, for it knows the Tripod is the "only" and original French newspaper published in the American army. I wish I could say which outfit among these Sammee boys is responsible, but the ever-present censor looms up with a great big red, or a great big blue pencil, or a merciless pair of shears—what's the use?

But he it knows that the Tripod is some newspaper, not handwritten if you please, but regularly printed on a regular press, in sixteen pages, each 12 by 8 inches; that its unknown editor is some editor with a knowledge of the game, who announces a semi-weekly appearance of his sheet as published by and for the members of the 1st Machine Gun Battalion and troops adjacent to Novermindwhere, France; that it is entered at the postoffice at Novermindwhere, France, as "back" or second class matter, and that its circulation of 20,000 copies a minute has been deleted by the censor. In small, isolated and therefore inconspicuous type upon the first page, a conspicuous thumb: "First copy, yet will note, gentle reader, is issued just after pay day."

The French paper is as old as the war or almost. In the French army there are between 300 and 300, but none among them like the Tripod, that stands alone upon its three legs, steady as the gun its metal confederate holds. That first issue was sold out in P. D. Q. and it would take more than the fifty-cent rate sale price to buy a copy in this camp today.

Its varied news is varied indeed. It deals with politics, whether the club who said France was sunny was a joker or not, contains an editorial upon the "horse-clapper ballet" prevalent among Sammees, a list of Americans among the khaki-clad, including Morarity, Witselstein, Pshiguffelski, Vonderaigen, Francat, Smith and a few others, proving conclusively every man Jack came before the Mayflower was launched (in the form of ancestor, of course) and gleefully points out "that a guy wearing shoulder straps, named Colonel, is not an American Jew, but a naturalized Irish Episcopalian."

NUMEROUS SPECIAL FEATURES. It has a heart-poured article upon vin rouge and vin blanc, and asks why they are both called vin ordinary, and it bewails the absence of real lager beer, which, come to think of it, is not in France during these days of war. The editor or contributor, I don't know which, of this article, after a column of literature asking why, when and how, breaks into poetry, thus:

"If ever I get back to what is known as God's own region, I'll hit me to a quenchery and order schooners legion. Or Mr. Busch's amber brew or Mr. Schlitz's kind. And put that awful French beer drink forever from my mind.

"And when we down the Kaiser—as in Heaven's name, I wouldn't vote to feed the bloke a prussic-acid pill; I'd holler for indemnity and have him pay each year One hundred trillion nickels in the form of German beer."

Its best article (and I have a reason for so considering) is entitled "What if your girl, too, had her letters censored?" In part, it reads:

"Dearest — Back home here it's awfully lonesome without you. Last week the ———— "Gib gave its annual class and there ———— were on furlough from Camp ———— and ———— had just been accepted in the ———— Aviation Corps. I had ———— numbers on my program to sit out, and in one case ———— by mistake had put themselves down for the same dance and there were ———— arguments about it. It's only the ———— I have gone to a dance without you and I know you won't care. Last week as I was walking home from ———— I met George ———— who told me ———— isn't it dreadful? I tried to make a ———— of ———— the other night, and a some man, had boy stole it after I had placed it on the window sill to cool. You know how I like ———— don't you, dearie? What's it awful? ———— must close her at ———— I have to go down to ———— and natch some ———— for ———— Then I am going to see Charlie ———— in his furniture ———— ever. The ———— of I am awfully lonely without you. I wish you were here to go along, for I know you would enjoy it terribly. I send you a million ———— and lots of ————

"P. S. I think it horrid not to know your street address, and I am sending this care General Pershing marked 'please forward to ————'

IT'S ALWAYS GOOD DAY IN FRANCE. The last two pages are devoted to French lessons, of which I select just one:

The French phrase for "Good-day" is Bonjour. Literally it means "Howdy," but exactly good day, when it is a good day or not, which it generally isn't. Whenever a native says thusly to you, answer back just the same. Don't disagree with him or her, for what's the use, you can't tell her or him why, and, anyhow, it makes nothing dif, because, don't you see, do you get me, he or she may not agree on when a day is good or not, since some like rain in at any diet form, and think it good, while others remember the sun and think that's better than good; anyhow, what's the use arguing?"

The local office of the Tripod is Y. M. C. A. Hut No. 1, Noneofyourbusiness avenue, Novermindwhere, France. And the Editor reserves the right to reject any manuscript not available for publication, and proposes to eject any Sammee from the Hut who comes in asking why.

U. S. ENGINEERS BEGIN WORK OF REJUVENATING SIBERIAN RAILROAD

Pennsylvanian With the Russian Railway Service Corps Describes Voyage and Beginning of Gigantic Operations

A vivid account of the difficulties and dangers endured by American engineers now in Russia for the purpose of reconstructing and rehabilitating the famous Siberian Railroad and an interesting insight into political and industrial conditions in that revolution-torn country are contained in a letter received in Philadelphia from a Pennsylvanian attached to the Russian railway service corps, an experienced railroad man, who is a member of the corps. The letter, which the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER submitted to the Committee on Public Information for censoring, follows:

"The United States army transport arrived safely in harbor at Vladivostok, Russia. It carried the Russian railway service corps, an engineering contingent made up of first-class engineers and experienced railroad men. Colonel Emerson, who is in charge of the party, is the former general manager of the Great Northern Railroad and has the reputation of being able to make railroads operate, and operate successfully, under almost any conditions. His value is realized when we know that he left a \$25,000 job to undertake the rejuvenating of the Siberian Railroad.

"The corps is composed of two units, one made up of railroad men representing all the large railroads of the United States, and these men are under Colonel Emerson; the other unit is the Baldwin Locomotive Company's aggregation, under Lieutenant Colonel Jasperen. Colonel Jasperen was the consulting engineer for the Baldwin Locomotive Company and the engineer in charge of docks and wharves for the Reading Railway. Colonel Jasperen's party of specially selected men will remain in Vladivostok until they have erected approximately two thousand locomotives for the Russian Government. The work is expected to take about two years. Colonel Emerson's party will be scattered along the Siberian Railroad anywhere between Vladivostok and Petrograd.

INTERPRETERS CAUSE TROUBLE. "The transport, besides carrying the members of the contingent, had also on board forty-two Russian interpreters who had been selected by the Russian Commission from the vicinity of New York. These caused their first trouble at Honolulu. They split up into cliques, some favoring the Bolshevik government, others for Kerensky, and still others were worrying about what reports they should make to their labor unions upon arrival at Vladivostok.

"The situation came to a climax while in port at Honolulu. One of them made the statement among his colleagues that the boat would be sunk two days after leaving port. He was under the influence of liquor at the time, but was promptly arrested. Nothing further developed until two days later, November 29, Thanksgiving Day, and the day of leaving port. Then there was a meeting of the colonels, and in the meeting, after listening to the evidence of the United States Secret Service men, who, unknown to all except Colonel Emerson, had been with us since leaving San Francisco, it was decided to leave eight of the interpreters at Honolulu. The work of the United States Secret Service men proved some to be agitators, some Socialists with dangerous ideas, and one was a full-fledged German citizen. They were left bag and baggage at Honolulu under the wing of the United States army stationed there.

"Two days after leaving port bound for Vladivostok, further excitement was created when wireless news was received ordering the arrest of the head butcher as a German. At the hearing in Honolulu of the Russian cases one of the eratic interpreters, to save himself, had told of the butcher being a German. The result was that a very meek little man was hauled out of bed at 2 a. m. and put under guard. The charge was later proved unjustified and he was permitted to resume his duties.

"The contingent received a cold reception at Vladivostok in both senses of the word. The harbor was partly frozen over and a heavy snowstorm was going on. The transport was not allowed to dock and nobody was allowed to go ashore. The terrible cold got worse by morning and a sheet of ice surrounded the boat on all sides. Ice-cutting boats were steaming continuously back and forth, and it was only through their efforts that the harbor was kept open. The American consul advised against our landing, and it was only after a whole day's session with colonels and Russian authorities that it was decided to carry out the original intentions.

"The Russian authorities and better class of people of Vladivostok, welcomed and were glad of our arrival. But the working class were against our landing, and trouble from this source is being guarded against. Vladivostok, though far from European Russia, is rife with political feeling. German agents seem to overrun the city and have a tremendous influence in all that goes on. For the last two months Vladivostok has been averaging eight murders a day, and there seems little prospect for any immediate change for the better.

"The three locomotive-erecing shops, each 500 by 100 feet in size, have been completed and to a few days the work of putting the Baldwin locomotives together will be in full blast. Every one is anxious to work and each man is capable of doing his individual work. Accommodations are not of the best, but they are exceptionally good when we realize that it is absolutely impossible to get any kind of a room in any kind of a hotel. The American dollar will exchange for fifteen rubles, which means 60 per cent less for all of us who bought Russian currency back in the States.

Woman Struck by Trolley. Annie Mahoney, forty-four years old, 1712 Pearl street, a scrub woman employed in the Commonwealth Building was struck by a trolley car while crossing Market street at Juniper early today and suffered a broken right leg. She was taken to the Hahnemann Hospital by the patrol of the Sixth District.

Gimbel Red Cross Filmed Motion pictures of the Gimbel Red Cross, Adams Auxiliary No. 245, showing more than 800 of its members working, will be shown at the Stanley Theatre the first three days of next week.

The Kind of Service You Like

The friendly interest which we take in all our depositors, together with prompt and efficient service.

CONTINENTAL-EQUITABLE TITLE AND TRUST COMPANY

12th Street above Chestnut Philadelphia \$1,000,000 Capital \$1,000,000 Surplus

PURCHASING ORDERS ACCEPTED. Hirsch's 923 MARKET STREET. SHOP TOMORROW! STORE CLOSED ALL DAY MONDAY. STOCK REDUCING SALE OF Fur-Trimmed Plush and Cloth COATS \$15-\$19.75-\$25 Values Up to \$50.

Spring Dresses. New arrivals, fresh from their wrappings. Dainty styles in all materials and colors. \$10-\$15-\$19.75.

\$6 Georgette WAISTS \$3.98. \$5 Georgette & Crepe de Chine Waists \$2 & \$3. \$5 Black Georgette Waists \$3.

Your New SPRING HAT is here. Lierre and Caterpillar Straws, with Faillie Silk Crowns and Georgette brims in poke, mushroom and novelty shapes are among the assured favorites. Lovely new colorings of turquoise, taupe, brown, beige, pearl and combinations are prominently featured, while in trimmings wings, quills and wreaths of flowers are quite proper.

BARGAIN BASEMENT. 200 NEW WOMEN'S & MISSES' Cloth Coats \$5 \$7 \$9. Including the new full-flare models, cross belts and large roomy pockets. Silk, plush, fur, fur-fabric or self-cloth trimmed, large convertible collars.

SILK & DRESSES \$3 to \$6.75. SERGE. Here are the new box-pleated effects; high-waisted models and draped styles. Embroidery trimmed, etc. Values up to \$10. Silks, serges and combinations.

CHILDREN'S COATS \$3. \$3 Children's Dresses \$1.49. Brand-new white lingerie dresses. Daintily trimmed.

No More Frozen Radiators. Last week thousands of radiators were ruined through freezing. PERMA-LOC ANTI-FREEZE is the ounce of prevention. One application will last all winter. It will not boil, evaporate or affect the cooling system in any way. Radiators treated according to directions will not freeze at 20 degrees below zero. It is mixed ready to use.

PERMA-LOC ANTI-FREEZE. RADIATOR COMPUND. WILL NOT BOIL. EVAPORATE. OR INHURE THE COOLING SYSTEM. The Perma-Loc Mfg. Works, Philadelphia, Pa.

PERMA-LOC ANTI-FREEZE. RADIATOR COMPUND. WILL NOT BOIL. EVAPORATE. OR INHURE THE COOLING SYSTEM. The Perma-Loc Mfg. Works, Philadelphia, Pa.

PERMA-LOC ANTI-FREEZE. RADIATOR COMPUND. WILL NOT BOIL. EVAPORATE. OR INHURE THE COOLING SYSTEM. The Perma-Loc Mfg. Works, Philadelphia, Pa.

Mawson & DeMany 1115 Chestnut Street Opposite Keith's

The Season's Most Notable Fur Event Arrives Tomorrow Morning FURS AT HALF PRICE FURS ONE-THIRD OFF

One hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars' worth of merchandise is to be sold for exactly ONE-HALF and TWO-THIRDS of its full worth! The prices below tell the story of the remarkable reductions.

No greater news for the women of Philadelphia could be printed than is contained in that single paragraph—not one dollar's worth of our entire stocks is withheld from this offer!

The Monday closing order, which restricts our business week to five selling days, makes it imperative for us to overcome any accumulation of stocks which might be caused through our obedience to this Governmental order.

An extraordinary condition exists in the business world and we thus take extraordinary measures to meet it.

This remarkable event we launch earlier than usual, which will be welcome news. For us to sell our entire stock of fine furs at such sharp reductions constitutes an event which the whole community of Philadelphia recognizes as an occasion.

BUT LET FIGURES AND FACTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES:

HUDSON SEAL COATS. Regularly Now. 6 Hudson Seal Coats 110.00 55.00. 5 Hudson Seal Coats 165.00 98.50. 5 Hudson Seal Coats 185.00 125.00. 8 Hudson Seal Coats 220.00 145.00. 6 Hudson Seal Coats 255.00 165.00. 7 Hudson Seal Coats 270.00 185.00. 5 Hudson Seal Coats 345.00 225.00. 5 Hudson Seal Coats 385.00 265.00. 5 Hudson Seal Coats 450.00 310.00. 5 Hudson Seal Coats 500.00 375.00.

OTHER FUR COATS. Regularly Now. 1 Pony Coat 50.00 25.00. 1 Hair Seal Coat 75.00 25.00. 2 Near Seal Coats 60.00 32.50. 4 Near Seal Coats 85.00 47.50. 4 Marmot Coats 110.00 68.00. 9 Natural Muskrat Coats 110.00 68.00. 1 Leopard Coat 195.00 110.00. 1 Mole Coat 325.00 195.00.

MUFFS. Regularly Now. 8 Black Fox Muffs 15.00 7.50. 4 Skunk Muffs 20.00 10.00. 3 Raccoon Muffs 22.50 12.50. 4 Nutria Muffs 20.00 12.50. 9 Skunk Muffs 25.00 12.50. 4 Black Wolf Muffs 25.00 12.50. 9 Hudson Seal Muffs 22.00 13.50. 9 Black Wolf Muffs 30.00 15.00. 4 Beaver Muffs 32.50 16.50. 4 Black Fox Muffs 37.50 22.50. 6 Black Lynx Muffs 45.00 29.50. 4 Taupe Wolf Muffs 45.00 29.50. 2 Red Fox Muffs 55.00 34.50. 3 Taupe Fox Muffs 55.00 34.50. 1 Ermine Muff 70.00 45.00. 2 White Fox Muffs 90.00 59.50. 4 Cross Fox Muffs 100.00 69.50.

SCARFS. Regularly Now. 4 Skunk Scarfs 15.00 7.50. 6 Skunk Scarfs 20.00 10.00. 6 Wolf Scarfs 20.00 10.00. 6 Skunk Scarfs 25.00 12.50. 6 Red Fox Scarfs 25.00 12.50. 7 Wolf Scarfs 25.00 12.50. 8 Wolf Scarfs 27.50 15.00. 6 Wolf Scarfs 30.00 17.50. 5 White Fox Scarfs 29.00 19.50. 5 Black Fox Scarfs 29.50 19.50. 7 Black Fox Scarfs 39.50 22.50. 4 White Fox Scarfs 35.00 22.50. 7 Red Fox Scarfs 37.50 22.50. 2 Jap Kolinsky Scarfs 49.00 24.50. 8 Cross Fox Scarfs 42.50 29.50. 2 Jap Kolinsky Scarfs 110.00 55.00. 1 Silver Fox Scarf 145.00 97.50.

AND remember every fur in this sale is our standard quality and up to our requirements for smart style, good workmanship, serviceable linings and accessories. Such a sale is unprecedented. Every woman should share its helpful savings in addition to the richness, style and warmth of dress.