

PICTURE ARGONNE AS A SHAMBLES

Allen Charges of Sacrifice of American Lives Repeated Before House Committee

OFFICIAL REPORTS READ

They Show Inadequate Artillery—Battle Won by Bravery of Infantry

By a Staff Correspondent

Washington, Feb. 17.—Volumes of official reports and signed memoranda of officers who fought with the Thirty-fifth Division in the Argonne forest battle were read to the House Rules Committee today by Governor Henry Allen, of Kansas, to support the statement he made in the newspapers about a month ago that lives of thousands of American soldiers were needlessly sacrificed in France through failure to supply horses, artillery and airplane support.

The charges made by Governor Allen of wanton sacrifice of the lives of the infantrymen made such a profound impression upon the committee, that Chairman Dent asserted early in the hearing this was only a forerunner of a very comprehensive investigation that will be made by Congress into the different phases of the war with regard to which there has been most serious complaint.

Governor Allen repeated the charges he had previously made. The principal assertions to corroborate which he presented official reports and signed memoranda, were as follows:

First. The infantry was totally unprotected by artillery. What little artillery fire there was fell short and killed and wounded many of the American force.

Second. Because of lack of American airplanes the American army was unprotected and misdirected and was ineffective in aiding the American advance.

Third. Because of absence of American airplanes the Germans completely controlled the air, directing the German artillery to make havoc in the American lines.

Fourth. The German airplanes filled the air and unmolested flew so low that they killed and wounded hundreds of the American soldiers and killed hundreds more who lay on the ground wounded.

Fifth. The men went into the battle and fought six days and nights without proper food, with summer underwear in October and with poor shoes.

Sixth. The wounded lay twenty-four to forty-eight hours in mud where they fell for lack of enough ambulances or medical supplies.

Seventh. The divisions were not equipped with guns to fight off the German airplanes which terrorized them from above.

"It was my observation and that of the infantry officers and men who were in that battle that every branch of the army supposed to help the infantry fell down flat," continued Governor Allen.

"The only thing that held up and won the victory was the raw American manhood, that stood out strongly and bravely at all times."

N. Y. HONORS NEGRO HEROES

"Old Fighting Fifteenth," 3000 Strong, Has Parade

New York, Feb. 17.—(By A. P.)—The 3000 members of the Fifteenth, New York's colored regiment, who made a great record in France, are guests of the city today.

The regiment came by train from Camp Upton for a parade up Fifth avenue. The reviewing party included Governor Smith, Mayor General Barry, Rear Admiral Gleaves and aldermen and other city officials.

The Rocky Mountain Club today called on all New Yorkers who formerly lived west to join the movement for a welcome to the famous Rainbow Division and other divisions including western boys when they land in New York and give them the "western handshake."

HONOR LOGAN BOYS

Organ in M. E. Church Dedicated to Service Men

In memory of the boys of the Logan M. E. Church, Thirteenth and Rockland streets, who are in the service, a victory pipe organ was installed yesterday morning with appropriate ceremonies.

During the evening service a bronze tablet in the name of the organ on which was inscribed the names of the fifty men in the service was unveiled by two little members of the congregation, Misses Janet Grant Williams and Ella Louise Reiver. Speeches were made by Joseph MacLaughlin, Director of Supplies, and E. J. Lafferty.

FORD SUIT BEFORE COURT

Judge Will Name Place Today for \$1,000,000 Libel Trial

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 17.—(By A. P.)—The million-dollar libel suit brought by Henry Ford against the Chicago Tribune, is to be brought before Circuit Judge Mandell here this afternoon for decision as to a trial court in the change of venue granted on motion of the defendant company.

Motion by the Ford attorneys to vacate the order or change of venue will also be decided by Judge Mandell.

Soldier Describes German Prison

Corporal Leroy Congleton, of Company D, 1024 Infantry, told the Bible class of Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church, Forty-eighth street and Baltimore avenue, yesterday of his eight months in German prison camps. Corporal Congleton was captured during the fighting at Chemin des Dames and was confined at Darmstadt and Obiladen. He told how the Germans took from the prisoners their shoes and clothing because of the scarcity of leather and cloth. Paper clothes were furnished. The corporal was forced to stand in the sun seven hours a day for two weeks because of his refusal to work for the Germans.

Darby Boy Rescues Ship's Carpenter

Lieutenant J. H. Macdonald, a Darby boy, residing at 414 Spruce street, commander of the United States minesweeper Pennington, leaped overboard on the night of January 31 and rescued from drowning John Gillbert, ship's carpenter, who fell overboard when the gangplank upon which he was walking tilted. Lieutenant Macdonald dived after the man had disappeared for the second time and then swam to the ship's side, when a rope was thrown to him and both were hauled on board.

Wounded Yanks See Show

Wounded soldiers just back from overseas and other service men from various quarters were the guests yesterday afternoon at a special performance of "A Tailor-Made Man" at the Marine Theatre. The actors and musicians volunteered their services for the occasion.

DISEASE GERMS WEAPONS PREDICTED FOR NEXT WAR

Dr. Isaac Sharpless, President Emeritus of Haverford College, in Talk Against Compulsory Military Training, Says Biologists May Decide Conflict

Disease germs, rained from the sky on armies and cities, may be the destructive agents of the next war, instead of high explosive shells, bombs and bullets, declared Isaac Sharpless, president emeritus of Haverford College, in speaking against compulsory military training in the public schools.

Doctor Sharpless, who engaged in a debate yesterday of the "Main Line Forum" in the Woman's Club of Ardmore, said the war just ended was a war of chemists. The next conflict would be a war of biologists, he predicted.

The thought outlined by Doctor Sharpless was used years ago by Jack London, who, in a fiction story, told of the conquest of China by airmen who hurled down bacteria-filled glass tubes on the Chinese people.

Strong support of military training in the schools was voiced by Professor R. T. Shaw, of the West Philadelphia

High School, and by Ensign Stephen Knowlton, U. S. N.

Professor Shaw asserted that military training was not only of value to the nation but helped in the physical and mental upbuilding of the youth of the country.

In dwelling on the possibility of the use of disease germs in warfare Doctor Sharpless said:

"While this may be too horrible even to contemplate now, nevertheless it is a possibility, and even a probability, to be reckoned with, and certainly it should be most seriously considered before we begin to burden ourselves with the inevitable costliness of military training. For it certainly will be costly, and we, the taxpayers, will have to pay the cost."

Most of the resulting debate was in opposition to the stand taken by Doctor Sharpless. Miss Ellen Winsor, of Ardmore, however, insisted that the only way out of any situation was to give the women the vote. She declared military training to be the essence of Prussianism.

NEGROES FROM HERE FOUGHT CONTINUALLY

Officer of 368th Regiment Declares Men Behaved Gallantly

Captain Richard M. Philler, who carved through some of the hardest fighting in France as a company commander of the 368th (negro) Regiment, has arrived at his home, 1811 De Lancey place. After a few days rest he will rejoin his command at Camp Upton.

Captain Philler was transferred from the Seventy-ninth Division at Camp Meade to his present command, known as the "Buffaloes," and the regiment sailed for France on the transport George Washington last June 15.

Their baptism of fire came the following August, when they were sent to the front in the Vosges section. After a short while there they were sent to the Argonne front, and were placed as a liaison regiment with the Seventh French army, and when the armistice put an end to the hostilities they were in the Metz sector, having been in action continuously for almost four months.

"The Argonne battle was one of the most effective and bloodiest battles of the war," said Captain Philler. "The

main force of the German army retired but they left behind them a line of machine guns and field artillery which did very effective work, picking off our men as they advanced through the wire. There were some 500 casualties in the regiment, and nine officers and six men were cited for heroism."

More than 80 per cent of the 368th regiment are negroes from this city and plans are being made by prominent negroes to give them a royal welcome home. The Colored Protective Association and committees from various negro churches will arrange the reception, which will probably be in the nature of a street parade and numerous demonstrations. It is not known just when they will arrive here.

BRAVED DEATH FOR COMRADES

James T. O'Neill Cited for Outstanding Food Supplies Under Fire

For crossing the Vesle River near Pannes under a hail of machine-gun bullets and obtaining food and medical supplies for his comrades, Private James T. O'Neill, of Aidan, a member of the 119th Ambulance Corps, was cited for bravery.

O'Neill crossed on a small, hastily improvised bridge, making six trips in all, being wounded in the left leg on his last crossing. O'Neill is twenty years old. He comes from a fighting family, his grandfather, John B. Davis, having served with Admiral Farragut, and his uncle, a marine, taking part in the Spanish-American War.

TRANSIT SUBSIDIARIES WIN WAR TAX SUITS

Supreme Court Affirms Judgment Against Holding Company, Involving \$363,000

Under an order read by Chief Justice Brown, the State Supreme Court, today affirmed the judgment of Court of Common Pleas No. 2, which was against the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company in ten of the thirteen suits brought by its underlying companies against the P. R. T. to recover the income and excess profit taxes levied by the government on the income of the subsidiary lines.

Payment of these war taxes, which, it was estimated, amounted to about \$360,000, was the subject of a bitter legal controversy. Ellis Ames Ballard, the legal counsel for the P. R. T., and former chief counsel for the P. R. T., and former Judge Beidler, his associate in certain of the cases, opposed the payment of the tax, their main contention being that when the leases were made no such extraordinary obligations as war taxes were contemplated in the provision which made the P. R. T. assume all obligations of the underlying companies.

Joseph Gillilan represented the Union Traction Company, while Owen J. Roberts appeared for the Ridge Avenue Passenger Railway Company, and George Wharton Pepper for the Philadelphia Traction and the Continental Passenger Railway Companies. In the lower court the cases were decided in opinions written by President Judge McMichael, and Judges Ferguson and Davis. The decision was against the P. R. T., and ruled that the transit company must pay the taxes for the Philadelphia Traction Company, the Germantown Railway Company, Thirteenth and Fifteenth Streets Company, the Philadelphia City Passenger Railway Company, the Ridge Avenue Passenger Railway Company, the Frankford and Southwark, the Fairmount Park and Huntingdon, the Citizens and the Hestonville, Marcus and Fairmount Passenger Railway companies.

14,000 SILK HANDS END STRIKE

Only About 3000 Workers Now Idle in Paterson, N. J.

Fourteen thousand of the silk workers who went on strike here early this month in an attempt to enforce a forty-seven-hour week returned to their looms today. Ten thousand dyers called their strike off last week and only about three thousands workers now are idle. These, it is expected, will report at the mills tomorrow.

The returned strikers included many members of the Industrial Workers of the World, who demanded a forty-four-hour week, refusing to join the United Textile Workers in their stand for a forty-seven-hour week.

The resumption of activities was called temporary, pending investigation of local working conditions by the national war labor board.

Rumania Denies Revolution

Paris, Feb. 17.—(By A. P.)—Reports of a revolution at Bucharest are denied by the Rumanian press bureau here.

SPANISH

To help you in the development of business with South America we have arranged a class in Commercial Spanish for Tuesday and Thursday evenings, beginning February 18 at 7 o'clock. Particulars will be given on request.

CENTRAL Y. M. C. A. 1421 ARCH STREET

833-35 Market Street | No C. O. D.'s—No Approvals—No phone or mail orders for this sale | 833-35 Market Street

One Day Specials \$1.00 Camisoles, 75c Wash satin, lace and ribbon trimmed. \$2.50 Chemises, \$1.85 Envelope style in crepe de Chine. Lace and ribbon trimmed. Blauner's Main Floor

BLAUNER'S

One Day Specials \$2.00 Kid Gloves 1.00 Washable Cape and Lambkin Gloves in all sizes, but in broken lots. Black, white, tan, gray and pearl, in self or contrasting stitching. Blauner's Main Floor

GRAND CLEARAWAY OF WINTER STOCKS AND SPECIAL PURCHASES FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SALE



HAT SALE 4.00 Values up to 10.00 Lisere straws, trimmed with burnt goose and ostrich, wing-trimmed turbans, smart Sailors, and many graceful mushrooms adorned with flowers, fruit and ribbons; also contrasting facings in fashionable shades. 2.50 Values up to 5.00 Smart new Hats, including Turbans, Tams, Sailors and Mushroomos, of straw, fancy braid or Georgette. The styles and trimmings indicate the higher values of these most attractive Hats. Blauner's Third Floor

The Blauner Policy is to start each season with ALL NEW STOCK, clearing out all merchandise, even though recently purchased, at reductions that insure absolute disposal. Certain departments have made special and unusual purchases to maintain the extraordinary standard of values for this Sale Day.

Two Coat Clearances Second Floor Tremendous reductions have been made on Coats of velour, kersey and beaver plush, most of which are fur-trimmed. Values up to 25.00 Clearance Price 9.50 A very special assortment of velour Coats have been reduced to half price. Many fashionable and becoming styles. Values up to 35.00 Clearance Price 14.50 Wonderful values in Coats of velour de laine, Bolivia and silk plush, luxuriously fur-trimmed. All exclusive styles. Values up to 45.00 Clearance Price 18.00

Downstairs Store Black Thibet, plaid felt and corduroy Coats in full or sports lengths. Values up to 5.00 Clearance Price 1.00 Velvet or cloth Coats, lined throughout. Many with beaver plush collar and cuffs. Values up to 12.00 Clearance Price 3.00 Melton, cheviot or pompom Coats, many with collars and cuffs of plush. Values up to 15.00 Clearance Price 5.00 Wool velour Coats in stunning styles; many with collars of Coney or plush. Values up to 20.00 Clearance Price 7.00 Plush Coats, full length, many elaborately trimmed with beaver plush. Guaranteed linings. Values up to 25.00 Clearance Price 10.00



WAIST SALE \$5 and \$6 Blouses, 2.75 Exquisite Georgette Blouses, featuring silk embroidery, frills, beading, two-tone combinations and fine tuckings. Suit and pastel shades. All designs are new and smart. \$3 and \$4 Blouses, 2.00 Georgette, Crepe de Chine and Sports silks in stunning trimmed and tailored styles. Trimmings of tucks, pleats, embroidery and beads. \$2 Voile Waists, 1.00 Waists of colored Sports stripes, also dainty styles showing lace and embroidery trimmed styles. Jap silk Waists also included at this price. 79c Voile Waists, 29c White-striped, colored-striped and blocked voiles, in corded effect, trimmed with tucks or embroidery. There are many good styles. Blauner's Main Floor

Reductions on Between-Season Frocks 12.00 Values 16.50 to 19.95 Smart models in serge, taffeta and silk are marked down to nearly half price for final clearance. A score of stunning styles excellent for spring. 18.00 Values 22.50 to 27.50 Beaded or braided Georgettes, in elaborate designs, as well as smartly fashioned serges, tricotines, velours and Jerseys. Drastic reductions. Blauner's Second Floor

All Skirts at Half Price 1—Serge and novelty Skirts in fashionable styles. 50c 2—Velveteen, khaki, Serge and novelty Skirts. 1.50 3—Winter weight black and navy novelty weaves. 2.00 4—Serges, poplins, velveteens and novelties in stunning styles. 3.00 Blauner's Third Floor