K. OF C. WILL FIGHT BOLSHEVISM IN U. S.

Organization to Continue Constructive War Against Socialism, Says Flaherty

MAKES TOUR OF NATION

James A. Flaherty, of this city, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, who recently completed a tour of the United States, finds need of concerted efforts to combat the growth of Bolshevism. The Knights, through their 1800 councils, he declares, are prepared to fight to the limit against the importation of foreign anarchistic doctrines and practices. In speaking today of his trip he said:

"Anybody making an intelligent survey of the United States at the present time will find that the end of this war discloses conditions akin to the end of all wars gratification in victory less accentuated than an eagerness to have things restored to a peace footing. The present time is no exception to the rule that an unrest follows in the wake of war, even of victorious war. Fortunately the good sense of the American people insures us against what might be truly termed the turbulent conditions prevailing abroad, even in the countries of our associates in the war.

"This makes it all the more necessary for us to be on our guard and so carefully and skillfully maneuver the nation from a war to a peace basis that we shall avoid all of the disturbances that could arise with even the slightest mismanagement.

"It is not true," Mr. Flaherty added "that there is a good opportunity for propagandists of extreme radicalism in this country at this time. Certainly we are confronted with some difficult problems, and out of these difficulties opportunities for the spread of Bolshevism may arise. The Knights of Columbus as a nation wide organization, is prepared to anticipate whatever Bolshevistic movements may be launched. Long before our country entered the war, long even before the war broke out in Europe, the Knights began a campaign on a constructive warfare against Socialism in this country. Experts in industrial relations formed the societies under the auspices of the board of directors of the K. of C., giving public addresses on the subject and holding public question classes to enlighten the people regarding the dangers of Socialism. Now the Knights of Columbus, through its 1800 and more councils throughout the country, is an agency in constructive combating any new forces of disrupting that arise.

"With whatever healthy dissatisfaction may crop up among labor circles, the K. of C. has no more or less interest than any other body of American citizens who stand for a square deal all around, but the society, as a body, is opposed to the import and spread of foreign anarchistic doctrines and will fight them with all the power at its command."

GERMAN-BORN MAJOR OF WOODBURY, N. J., HOME WITH FAME

Henry Bootz Fought With Irishmen and Avenged Killing of Three Brothers

An American major, born in Germany, the man who led the first American raid against the Germans and participated in the final attack upon Sedan, was easily the most spectacular veteran from this section who has arrived back in the United States.

He is Major Henry Bootz, of Woodbury, N. J., and he fought all through the war with the 165th Infantry, formerly the "Fighting Sixty-ninth," of New York National Guard fame, made up almost entirely of men of Irish extraction. The regiment arrived back in New York aboard the transport Harrisburg yesterday, and was given a royal reception by the people of that city.

Major Bootz is thirty-eight years old. He came to this country with an uncle when he was five years old, leaving his parents and three brothers in Germany. He settled near Philadelphia and twenty years ago enlisted in the army, serving with honor through the Spanish American war, and also saw service along the Mexican border, at which time he was a sergeant.

He won a commission as lieutenant shortly after the United States declared war on Germany and, having his choice of organizations, chose the "Fighting Sixty-ninth." And the fighting Irishmen and the fighting German got along in fine shape. He endeared himself to them when he led the first American raid.

Boy Drowned at League Island

Ten-year-old Casper Shihadi, 2027 South Percy street, was drowned at League Island Park yesterday. Police of the Fifteenth street and Snyder avenue station recovered the body. The boy, with several companions, decided to take advantage of the warm afternoon. Shihadi was the "first in" after a lively race.

DEPARTURE FROM FRANCE YANK'S HAPPIEST MOMENT

Sergeant Ralph Ebert in Diary Relates Experiences on Board Transport Great Northern En Route Home

SERGEANT RALPH EBERT, first member of the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER staff to enlist when the United States entered the war, has arrived safely in New York. He saw the Boche at close range and was frequently in the excitement when it was hottest.

Ebert, who is a member of Evacuation Hospital No. 3, arrived on the Great Northern. Mere words cannot explain how glad he is to be back home again.

Many of the delights of a soldier's life are set down in an interesting and somewhat graphic diary, which Sergeant Ebert kept daily while returning on the Great Northern. Many of the boys over there are not home yet, he says, because they did not march at attention to the skirl which was to take them to the United States.

"There is discontent even in battling," he declares, and when a man reaches for his soup he does so at a specific command.

"The army rules," says Ebert, "make a man superior to a mere human in a vast piece of machinery.

"But to get the delicate touch of things observed the Great Northern and other incidents just read Ebert's diary aboard."

"On Board United States steamship Great Northern, April 12.—Go West, young man; go West—and we, 3000 of us, to the game of tell the armistice. American boilermakers, big box cars and the troop movement office in Brest are going west as fast as the specified transport in Uncle Sam's possession can carry us. It is a far cry from Brest, with its good disinfectant odor, with its sad of M. P.'s to inforce the order, and with its secret service men to more than the M. P.'s to see the job to happiness, general good nature and air of freedom on this ship. Although the Great Northern's engines have been turning for a few weeks, we are already out of sight of land, and many a kinks and figures showing regret anxious as he is to get home once more. The sea is quite a little rough, but that has proved still more to disturb humanity, who are draped more or less gracefully over the rail or sprawled miscellaneously along the deck.

"The fact that we are out of sight of France allows everybody to become a little more freely, because we can now allow ourselves to believe that the ship won't be recalled and some of us or all of us ordered back to Camp Pontanezen, the big Brest embarkation camp, because of some misdeed. Before leaving Germany we had heard the still repeated story of how one ship was loading on a transport, when everybody was recalled and the unit transformed into a labor battalion, because some humorous individuals chanted a parody that begins, 'Hello, Broadway,' and ended with a few words not considered complimentary to France in polite society. Heaven help the one who yells 'Who won the war?' at an M. P.

Possession by Suggestion

"That story is told by every soldier entering Pontanezen, and is a part of the Sunday school movement in Brest, where the authorities have in operation a most efficient system of keeping enthusiastic homegoers within bounds. As in every other part of France, there are Military Police, but they are only a part of the system, a small part. Most of the police work is done by suggestion. For instance, it is suggested to you upon your arrival that a well disciplined company will be given preference in embarkation orders; that if the company's details work hard everybody will soon be hustling toward the Statue of Liberty, and it is further impressed upon the anxious troops, that an inspector is always hovering near, ready to put in an unfavorable report if some lads relapse from the Sunday school lesson. One hour of units brought back from the foot because they didn't march at attention to the docks, and the day before we left one company was marched back from the docks to camp because they had not polished up quarters.

"As a result of these suggestions, plus the regular camp rules, which are not usually strict on account of the severe criticism of the camps in the states, a man realizes as never before that he is a mere atom in a vast bit of machinery. He is a part of an eating, sweltering, bathing and sleeping machine. When the scheduled time for him to eat arrives, he marches with his company to one of the numerous mess kitchens and he marches at attention, or at least he is supposed to. When the scheduled time for him to bathe arrives, one marches every five days, he marches at attention to the bathhouse. He undresses at command, enters the shower bath room at command, goes soap-proofed and departs when ordered to do so by the attendant. It does him no good to linger a second longer, because there is no hot water until for next contingent arrives.

Subdues Hilarious Spirits

"A week or two under such an efficient system and such a varied supply of opinions all pointing the end of the road to Coblenz tends to subdue the most hilarious spirits, so that when the big time came for the all-important march to the docks everybody was on guard. One of the most popular reports current at the camp was that somebody would be sure to ask the marching column 'Where are you going, fellows?' and then if some thoughtless soul violated the sacred rules of warfare by answering, he automatically transferred himself to a labor battalion doomed to remain in France for weary months. The inquisitive one, reports said, might be disguised as a buck private, or a German prisoner, or a Polar bear, etc., and would back up suddenly, quite likely from behind a hedge or from under a piece of duckboard. But we passed all such pitfalls and did our best to camouflage ourselves as good soldiers, finally reaching the docks. Then came a tiresome wait, relieved somewhat by the gift of a pair of socks from the Red Cross, each sock containing such delicacies as cigarettes, chocolate and jam.

"The happiest moment in many a fellow's life came when he finally filed up the gangplank. It had been eighteen or more months since many had walked up a gangplank on the other side, and since then he had been longing for just the chance that was his now. But many on this ship could not walk aboard. There are 300 patients, some of them dealt terrible blows by fate. Some are armless, others legless and still others with features distorted, eyeless and with bandages shielding some injuries incurred in the final days of the Argonne. But these poor fellows seemed to be the happiest of all as they were carried on board, while a Rainbow band on the pier was playing 'Home, Sweet Home,' with variations.

"One 'leatherneck,' returning as a casual, remarked that the last time he had heard that selection was in a cafe in Germany and it made him so homesick that he went A. W. O. L. for two days. But now everybody can appreciate the sentiment, except the unhappy ones that remain on the docks. The American soldier's sense of humor is sometimes unthinkingly brutal. For instance, the slightest motion in the world is a 'come along' wave of the arm from fellows on a passing troop train bound for port, and many a man has gritted his teeth and spoken strong language in reply to the smiling, waving figures on the train. We saw the waving figures in Germany and cursed them. The men who saw them came we waved at some other fellow to come along and were cursed at. And the same motion of the arm was made as the tugs pulled the Great Northern toward the channel and more than one fellow in O. D.'s clenched his fist and shook it in answer.

Passed Disabled Transport

"As the Great Northern was headed seaward she passed the Mobile, still stationary, with Section 501, U. S. S. R., on board. Section 501 is under the command of Lieutenant Clayton Michael, of Philadelphia, and the section is composed almost entirely of Philadelphians. The Mobile sailed Thursday, but something went wrong with the machinery and she put back. On the Great Northern are twenty-two sections of the United States army ambulance service, who, under Colonel Percy Jones, saw service with the French armies for almost two years. Many of these units were recruited in Pennsylvania and all trained at Allentown. Other units on board are the 110th Ammunition Train, of the Thirty-fifth Division, that saw plenty of action, especially in the Argonne; Evacuation Hospital No. 3, originally organized in July, 1917, at Fort Oglethorpe, Pa., and which participated in all the purely American activities from the last of the Chateau Thierry offensive until the Argonne, including the Champagne offensive in October, when the Second Division was hustled over to assist the French; the 329th Infantry Band, of the Eighty-third Division; Sanitary Squad No. 6, and St. Aignan Casual Companies 3417, 3404, 3405, 3411, 3426, 3472, 3473 and 2999.

"The first evening on board the fastest troop transport was made pleasant with a concert by the naval band, movies in the mess hall and by the report that the 'skipper' has a date to eat Easter dinner in New York. The sailors seem to think we will see the Statue of Liberty one week from today. The sea is probably in the condition that writers of the sea describe as 'choppy,' and is getting choppier every minute."

Eastward Ho! for 54—20 Missing

Six Chinamen picked up by the immigration authorities last October, when 285 Chinese illegally in this country were arrested, were sent to New York this morning from the Gloucester immigrant station for return to China. In New York forty-eight more will be put aboard the steamer Onafa, which is to carry the deported Chinese back. Of the Chinamen picked up last fall twenty are missing, and it is believed the $1000 bail bond in each case will be forfeited.

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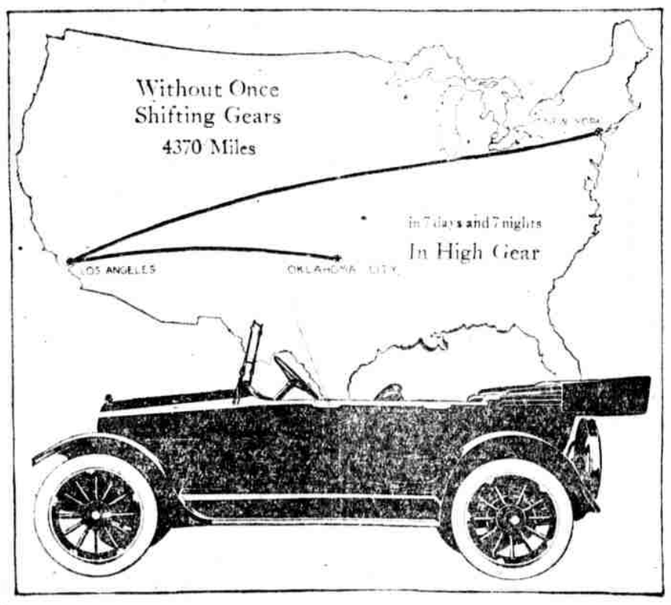

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