

FRESH FROM TRENCHES TO DELIGHTS OF AIX

First American Permissionnaires Given Rousing Welcome on Arrival in Famous Savoy Watering Place

MAYOR EXTENDS GREETINGS FOR TOWNSFOLK

Colored Band Leads Troops Through Streets—Seventy Hotels Ready to House Thousands Who Will Soon Flock to Resort

They didn't have time to change their clothes. Thursday night they were in the trenches, Friday they were on their 24-hour journey, with a hot meal served en route by the Red Cross, and Saturday they landed in Aix-les-Bains, somewhere around half a thousand of them, still roofered over with Uncle Sam's latest patent eavestrough and still muddy with the mud of the front line.

place be found which would give the soldier sufficient distraction, house him successfully, have natural advantages sufficient to interest him at all seasons of the year? It is a problem that has presented a thousand details, many of them annoying, many of them by reason of military exigencies not yet determined, but so far as human presence can go, with the absolute success of the opening days, there seems no reason to believe that a happier choice could possibly have been made, particularly if soldiers' health and recreation are to be the determining factors.

Plenty of Room Outside Aix While the first few contingents are to be stowed away in the hotels of Aix, those following will be divided into such numbers as can be well taken care of in other places, Chambery and Challes-Eaux being the first selections. Like Aix these places have a "season," but are delightful at all times, winter recreations following on the summer and fall ones.

When the Y.M.C.A. accepted the responsibility of assisting in the welfare of the leave men, the secretaries certainly never dreamed that a task of this magnitude would be a part of that duty. They have risen to the occasion in spite of almost insuperable handicaps, not the least of which has been a shortage of experienced help.

The direction of Y.M.C.A. work at Aix and the neighboring towns of the leave center has been under the management of Secretary Franklin Edmunds, assisted by Messrs. Gerald Reynolds, James Springer, W. Carroll, Charles Snedeker, Rev. Shepherd Knapp, and others. The women workers, who have labored with equal zeal under the direction of Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., included on the opening day Mrs. Margaret Deland, Mrs. Winthrop Ames, Miss Annable, Miss Gertrude Lynch, Mrs. Helen Anderson, Misses Anderson, King, Steadman, Habisham, Weeks, Baldwin, and others.

CHIEF'S EAGLE GOES TO BRONX

General Pershing's Pet Moves From Governor's Island

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—General Pershing's golden eagle has moved from Governor's Island to the Bronx Zoo. The burning question is, what is the bird's real name? The newspapers differ, some claiming his title is "Uncle Sam," others holding out for "General Pershing" and still others dubbing him "Golden Jack." All agree, however, that he is a fine bird, and New York is willing that he shall eat all the other eagles in Bronx Park if he so desires.

Bill McBride is gathering unto himself, up there in the Bronx, lots of live souvenirs from the members of the A.E.F., and from men in the training camps. He already has an aviator goat, Texas deer, and four bears. He will soon have enough to constitute a branch zoo, with the occupants all recruited from the Army.

WOMEN PREPARING TO VOTE

New York City Congressional Election Gives First Chance

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—New York City women are greatly delighted over their first chance to vote in New York state on March 5. Four city congressional elections are to be held, and the women are preparing to make a big campaign. In the meantime, the predicament of Miss Hay, head of the women's suffrage party in New York City, is being re-counted. Miss Hay, one of the most active workers for suffrage, will not have an opportunity to vote with many of her co-workers. Owing to the fact that she does not reside in any of the congressional districts in which elections will be held she will not be able to cast a ballot. Six colored women employed in the kitchen at the city headquarters of the party will vote, however.

ORCHESTRA JOINS APPLAUSE

Soprano's "Home, Sweet Home" Wins the Whole House

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Galli Curci, the Italian soprano whose success in New York this winter has been so sensational, scored another triumph the other night when she sang "Home Sweet Home" at the Hippodrome, which was crowded to the doors. The audience went wild and even the staid and calloused orchestra, which long ago consented to laugh at Marceline, dropped its instruments to join in the applause.

A riot almost ensued when an attempt was made to continue the program and bring on the rest of the performers. The streets outside the Hippodrome were blocked with enthusiastic people, vainly endeavoring to obtain standing room.

TO OPEN PARIS CLUBHOUSE

Amex Officers to Celebrate Feb. 22 With a Housewarming

A new clubhouse in Paris for officers of the United States Army, Navy and Marine Corps is to be opened Friday evening, Feb. 22, at 7 o'clock with a dinner, a housewarming and certain other unannounced lively features more or less appropriate to a Washington's Birthday celebration. Lt. W. J. Morrow, 10 Rue St. Anne, who has charge of the arrangements, requests that all officers who wish to attend send him ten francs—necessary to cover the expense of the dinner—and in the same envelope give the name of the State from which they hail.

WORLD'S SERIES OPENED—BATTER UP!



The outfield is a-creepin' in to catch the Kaiser's pop, and here's a southpaw twirler with a lot of vim and hop!

He's tossed the horsehide far away to plug the hand grenade! What matter if on muddy grounds this game of war is played? He'll last through extra innings and he'll hit as well as pitch! His smoking Texas Leaguers'll make the Fritziels seek the ditch!

He's just about to groove it toward a ducking Fritz's bean. His cross-fire is the puzzlingest that ever yet was seen, His splitter is a deadly thing; his little in-shoot curve Will graze some Heinie's heaving ribs and make him lose his nerve.

Up in the air he never goes; he always cuts the plate. No matter if the bleepers rise and start "The Hymn of Hate!" And pacifistic coaching never once has got his goat—Just watch him heave across the top the latest Yankee note!

The Boches claim the Empire is a-sidin' with their flag, But we are not the boobs to fall for such a phony line; We know the game is fair and square, decisions on the level; The only boost the Kaiser gets is from his pal, the Devil!

The series now is opened, and the band begins to play. The batteries are warming up; the crowd shouts, "Hip-Hurray!" The catcher is a-wingin' 'em to second, third and first. And if a Heinle tries to steal, he's sure to get the worst.

So watch the southpaw twirler in his uniform O.D. Retire to the players' bench the Boches—one, two, three!

He'll never walk a bloomin' one, nor let 'em hit it out—Just watch him make 'em fan the air and put the Hun to rout!

MORE TIME GIVEN ON WAR RISK PLAN

Congress Makes April 12 Final Date for Taking Out Protection

CHANCE TO RAISE POLICIES

Total of \$888,000,000 Already Underwritten in A.E.F.—Automatic Insurance Ceases

One more chance—that is Uncle Sam's latest message to the men in the A.E.F., who have not yet availed themselves of the opportunity to take out what the president of a great insurance company, now an American Army officer, has declared to be the best and cheapest insurance in the world.

President Wilson has just approved a joint resolution of Congress extending the time for which applications for policies can be made until April 12. Sixty days of grace are thus provided for men who have not yet taken advantage of the offer, which was to have expired February 12. The automatic insurance actually did expire on that date, so that men previously covered by it are unprotected until they sign applications for policies.

Not only will soldiers not heretofore insured be given a chance to come under the sheltering wing of the Treasury Department, but those who consider their policies too small may increase them to the \$10,000 limit. This represents the War Risk Insurance Bureau are urging them to do.

An Insurance Agent's Paradise

The new ruling extending the time will undoubtedly have a greater effect in camps in America than among the A. E. F., because the campaign has been pushed so vigorously on this side that no American soldier in France is ignorant of the benefits to be derived from the plan. Over \$800,000,000 worth of insurance has been underwritten here in five weeks, which is a record to make an agent back home want to run the risk of every U-boat in the Kaiser's alphabet in order to get a chance to work such a productive field.

Convertibility Plan Retained

The extension of time does not alter the convertibility plan previously announced. It will be possible for policy holders to exchange war insurance for any desired form of policy after the war. While this aspect of the program has not yet been fully developed, it can be said on the authority of the bureau that any alterations made will be wholly in favor of the policy holder.

Plan Under Way to Have Returned Soldiers Till Land in South

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Brought prominently to the fore by the world food problem, much comprehensive work of an educational nature is being done all over the United States in agriculture. Practically every State in the Union has adopted, in some form or another, plans to aid its farmers in increasing their output, and in many instances counties and even cities and towns are co-operating.

Push Campaign with New Vigor

Now that the 60 additional days have been provided, the War Risk Insurance Bureau will push the campaign with renewed vigor in order to impress upon every American soldier the importance of boosting his policy to the limit, \$10,000. The average policy taken out in France to date is about \$9,000, showing that by far the greater number of men have insured themselves for the five-figure amount.

The terms of the policies and the amount of the premiums remain as heretofore; that is, a monthly payment of from \$6.50 for 21 years of age to \$8.10 for 40 years of age for the maximum amount of insurance will yield the beneficiary \$67.50 a month for 20 years, and a like sum to the policy holder himself in case of total disability. The phrase "total disability" is interpreted by the Government as it is by the large insurance companies, and includes complete loss of sight, the loss of both hands, both feet, or a hand and a foot. The beneficiary receives by these 20 year payments

MAIL THIS AS A LETTER

"Like a Letter from Home." That is one of the mottoes of THE STARS AND STRIPES. Another is: "Like a Letter to Home."

Send THE STARS AND STRIPES HOME. It's next best to a personal letter and an ideal inclosure for one.

U. S. troops are entitled to send mail free by virtue of a law passed by Congress Oct. 3, 1917, which provides that letters only shall be handled without postage. It is necessary, therefore, to put THE STARS AND STRIPES in an envelope—to make it a letter.

THE STARS AND STRIPES can be folded to make a neat fit in a Y.M.C.A. envelope. Fold it in quarters, as a newspaper usually is folded, then crease again down and fold it in thirds. Make it a "Letter to Home."

not a flat total of \$10,000, but that sum with interest during the whole period—an actual total of \$13,500.

Special attention is called by the bureau to the fact that the automatic insurance is no longer in force. If an uninsured soldier dies now that the time covered by the automatic policy has passed, he—or rather his family—will be decidedly out of luck. The Government's theory in allowing the extension is that, while many men who were slow to recognize the benefits of the plan should be given a chance to increase their policies, there is no reason for allowing another period of grace for men who have been getting something for nothing.

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No further extensions of time will be granted, it is definitely announced, so that any men who have held off and think that they can still save premium money by holding off still longer will be badly fooled.

FARMING BOOM ON EVERYWHERE IN U. S.

Plan Under Way to Have Returned Soldiers Till Land in South

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Brought prominently to the fore by the world food problem, much comprehensive work of an educational nature is being done all over the United States in agriculture. Practically every State in the Union has adopted, in some form or another, plans to aid its farmers in increasing their output, and in many instances counties and even cities and towns are co-operating.

Public Morale Increases

Apart from this splendid actual result, this proof of national efficiency is a big factor in increasing the public morale. Pessimists of the last fortnight now are optimistic and admit that the American talent for straightening out things is not such a non-existent thing as they had claimed. During the last week I have met scarcely a kicker. Several men engaged in large affairs have told me in the last few days that they have felt a decided improvement everywhere.

The public is just beginning to realize that weather, almost unprecedented in the modern history of American industry, had created tremendous problems perhaps never before equalled. The swiftness with which all the energies of the country got into motion again the moment conditions improved is beyond all doubt greatly inspiring to the public. The outlook now is apparently excellent, unless the unforeseen happens. I believe the danger of a coal famine is past and that the supply now will make possible a continued and increasing movement of transportation and ship loading.

A cause for apprehension during the past week was the strike of ship carpenters. The hindrance to shipbuilding thus menaced was serious in itself, but

TUSCANIA LOSS IS STERLING TEST OF NATION'S MIND

News of Transport's Sinking Taken Quietly and Resolutely

WEATHER TURNS PRO-ALLY

Freight Trains Again in Motion and Congestion at Seaports is Greatly Reduced

LABOR LOOKS TO GOVERNMENT

Mediation Commission Wins Favor By Impartial Handling of Vexing Problems

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—The Tuscania news was received by the nation with great grief, but no perturbation or meaningless excitement. It is the long-expected first big loss, and it finds the country ready to face bad news as well as good. It was taken quietly and resolutely, with no flaunting or passion, but a steady matter of course determination to rebouche our efforts.

A gratifying quality in the national attitude is the utter absence of even a suggestion anywhere of seeking to declare anybody to blame. It proves the nation is facing the war in a big way with temper too sound to be shaken easily. It shows a decided growth in the national mental stature.

The biggest material phase the past week was the splendid weather everywhere in the land. Nature apparently determined to make up for the recent record bad weather and gave a magnificent week for moving freight. Indications are that the Government and individuals concerned in the war used the opportunity to its full advantage.

When fuelless Mondays were declared, the nation wondered if its various agencies would show the capacity and energy to get maximum results from the national sacrifice. People now believe that the result is a satisfactory proof of the advisability of the move. Congested freight has been reduced 25 per cent. in six seaports. The reduction in New York is more than 50 per cent.

Name Must Be on Certified Lists

When an officer or enlisted man is admitted to a hospital for treatment of a wound, or when an officer or enlisted man is treated for a wound without being admitted to a hospital, the commanding officer of the hospital or, in the latter case, the medical officer who treats the wound, will furnish the commanding officer of the wounded person with a certificate describing briefly the nature of the wound and certifying to the necessity of the treatment. This information may be furnished to commanders of higher units in the form of certified lists, and will be transmitted by them to the commanding officers concerned.

Commanding officers will forward to the adjutant general of the Army, through military channels, lists in duplicate of those officers and enlisted men of their commands who have been honorably wounded in action with a statement in the case of each individual, showing time and place wounds were received, and organization in which they were then serving. Whenever a report is made of an action it will be accompanied by this list, and by certified copies of the medical officers' statements of wounds.

Upon receipt of lists of wounded, the Commanding General of the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe is authorized to grant the right to wear the wound chevron to the persons concerned. The right to wear the wound chevron shall be confined to those who are authorized to do so by letter from the adjutant general of the Army or from the Commanding General of the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe. Requests for authority to wear the wound chevron on account of wounds

OLD GOTHAM CHURCHES UNITE

Presbyterian Consolidation Will Represent \$1,200,000 Endowment

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Three famous New York Presbyterian churches are to be consolidated. It was announced here today that the old First, Second and Third Presbyterian Churches, which were merged by the Rev. Howard Duffield, the University Place Church, of which the Rev. George Alexander is pastor, and the Madison Square Church, whose pulpit has long been occupied by the famous Rev. Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst.

The consolidated pastorates probably will use the old First Street, and institutional buildings probably will be erected north of the village of Greenwich. One result of the merger will be unified control of the missions at present maintained by the three churches.

The endowments of the three churches give the new church a fund of \$1,200,000, which will be utilized. It is announced, for the maintenance of a big constructive church and institutional activity. The three pastors will be co-pastors of the new church.

NEW VALOR CROSS AND MEDAL FOR A.E.F.

President Approves Awards to Be Made for Bravery and Meritorious Conduct of Men and Women in War Service

OAK LEAF AND STAR FOR LATER CITATIONS

Gold Chevron for Every Six Months in Zone of Advance—Similar Decoration on Right Sleeve for Each Wound

A Distinguished Service Cross, a Distinguished Service Medal, a bronze oak leaf and a silver star for additional citations in War Department orders, war service chevrons, and wound chevrons have been authorized for the A.E.F. by the President as Commander-in-Chief of the Army. New regulations regarding the award of the Medal of Honor during the present emergency, have also been approved by the President.

The Distinguished Service Cross is to be a bronze cross of appropriate design, and a ribbon to be worn in lieu thereof, to be awarded by the President, or in the name of the President, by the Commanding General of the American Expeditionary Forces, to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, shall hereafter distinguish himself or herself, or who, since April 6, 1917, has distinguished himself or herself, by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy of the United States under circumstances which do not justify the award of the Medal of Honor.

The Distinguished Service Medal is to be a bronze medal of appropriate design, and a ribbon to be worn in lieu thereof, to be awarded by the President to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, shall hereafter distinguish himself or herself, or who, since April 6, 1917, has distinguished himself or herself, by exceptionally meritorious service to the Government in duty of great responsibility in time of war or in connection with military operations against an armed enemy of the United States.

The war service chevron, of gold and standard material and design, is to be worn on the lower half of the left sleeve of all uniform coats except fatigue coats by each officer and enlisted man who has served six months in the Zone of the Advance in the war, and an additional chevron will be worn for each six months of similar service thereafter. Officers and enlisted men of the Aviation Service on combat flying duty in Europe will be credited for the war service chevron with the time they may be on that duty.

Chevron For Every Wound

A gold chevron, of pattern identical with that of the war service chevron, is to be worn on the lower half of the right sleeve of all uniform coats except fatigue coats by each officer and enlisted man who has received, or who may hereafter receive, a wound in action with the enemy which necessitates treatment by a medical officer, and an additional chevron will be worn for each additional wound. Not more than one chevron will be worn for two or more wounds received at the same time. Disability by a medical officer shall be considered to be a wound.

The Distinguished Service Cross and the Distinguished Service Medal may be awarded posthumously to persons killed in performance of acts meriting such award or to persons whose death from any cause may have occurred prior to such award. The medal so awarded will be issued to the nearest relative of the deceased person.

No individual will be entitled to more than one Distinguished Service Cross or one Distinguished Service Medal, but each additional citation in War Department orders for conduct of a character would warrant the award of either of these decorations will entitle the person so cited to wear upon the ribband of the decoration, and upon the corresponding ribband, a bronze oak leaf of approved design, and the right to wear such oak leaf will be announced as a part of the citation.

Other citations for gallantry in action published in orders issued from the headquarters of a force commanded by a general officer will be indicated in each case by a silver star three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, worn upon the ribband of the Distinguished Service Cross and upon the corresponding ribband.

Recommendations for the award of the Distinguished Service Medal will be forwarded to the adjutant general of the Army through regular channels.

PRINCE CHARLES ESCAPES

New York Chimpanzee Apparently Not a Hohenzollern

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—The New York police have a unique prisoner. They have arrested a chimpanzee wandering about in male garb in the Hotel Knickerbocker. His name is Prince Charles, but he is not believed to be a Hohenzollern. His trainer says that the prince escaped from his room. Both trainer and chimney have been booked on a charge of disorderly conduct.

BREAKS OLD ICE RECORDS

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Bobby McLean, champion professional skater of the world, lowered the heat record to 1:15 at Lake Placid, which is two-fifths seconds lower than John Johnson's mark, which has been standing since 1896. He also skated 100 yards in 9:10 seconds, beating Johnson's record by two-fifths of a second. This mark was made in 1893 by Johnson. The record, however, in one time of a second slower than Morris Woods' amateur mark.

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