

# No Man Is Stronger Than the Elements from Which He Draws His Strength

If a man lives in the atmosphere of indifference, negligence and carelessness, he will naturally become the personification of these elements. That such living leads to a criminal life is testified to by the fact that the law holds men responsible for "criminal negligence," thereby linking the two words. There is no case on record where criminal negligence is responsible

for a greater crime than that negligence which causes a man's family to suffer. Very few families escape that inevitable "rainy day," and the man who, through indifference, negligence and carelessness, allows that time to come with no provision made against its attendant horrors, may well be charged with "criminal negligence." Stop living in those elements from which no strength can be drawn.

SERIES NOW OPEN.

COME IN NOW.

THERE NEVER WAS A BETTER TIME TO SAVE.

## BLUE RIDGE BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

J. E. RANKIN, President

ROBERT S. JONES, Vice-President

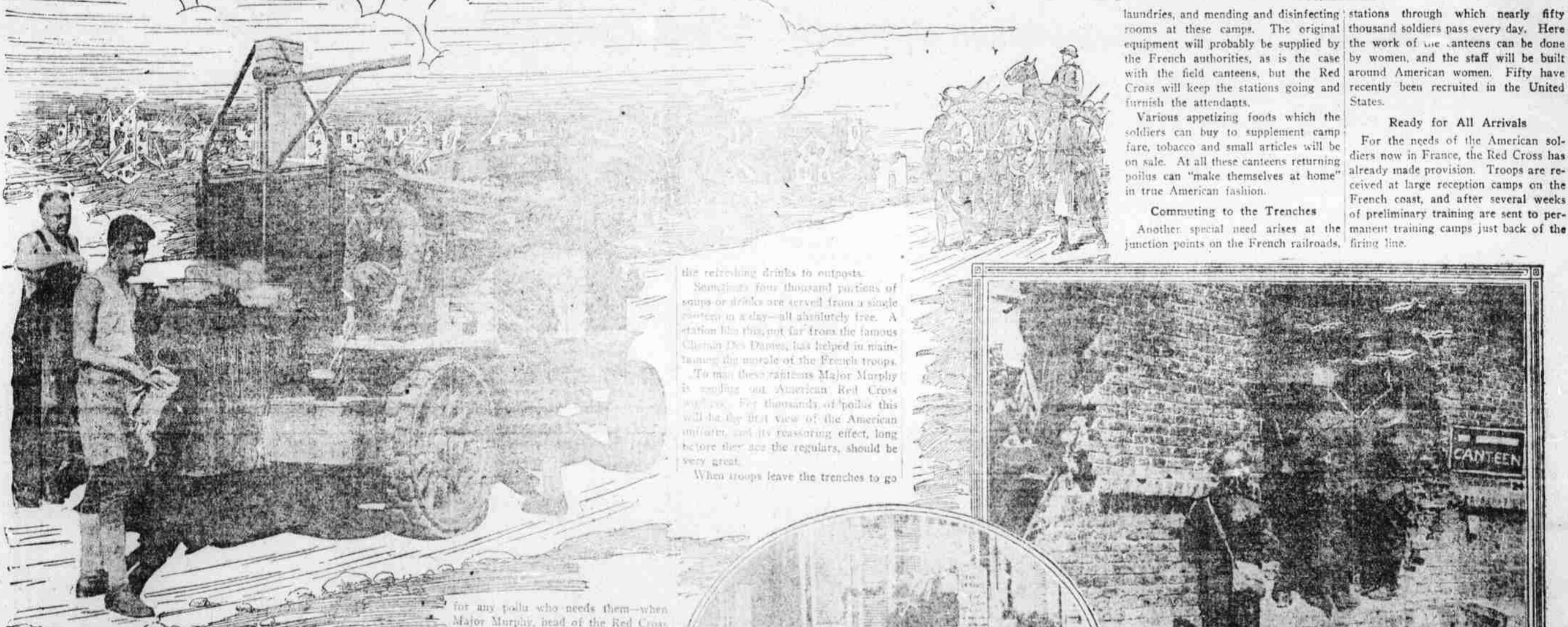
EDWIN L. RAY, Secretary-Treasurer

Stock Now Selling.

"WE BUILD HALF THE HOMES ERECTED IN ASHEVILLE"

No. 1 Haywood St.

# RED CROSS CHEER



A Red Cross Kitchen on Wheels

IN establishing canteens for every French and American army corps at the front in France, the American Red Cross is seeking to bring cheer and comfort to the soldiers in the trenches themselves.

It is in the trenches that the real hardships of war are found. Behind the lines, in camp, in the hospital and relief stations, always there are many willing hands extended to make the soldier's lot easier. There are packages from the relatives "back home," recreation and entertainment facilities provided by the Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A., and other agencies, in addition to the greater de-

gree of comfort the army itself affords. But in the trenches it means food that frequently must be eaten cold. It means water sometimes carried for hours in the canvas canteen bottle. It means sleeping when one can, and "catching" a smoke only when the gleam of a match cannot be seen across the parapet of the trenches.

To give these men the cup of cold water or hot soup, which frequently may mean the difference between spirited fighting and sagging morale, is going to be the business of the Red Cross. Already the French Red Cross had begun this service—which means, in practice, the establishment of stations close behind the front-line trenches where cold drinks and hot can both be kept ready

for any soldier who needs them—when Major Murphy, head of the Red Cross Commission to France, asked that America might aid in the work.

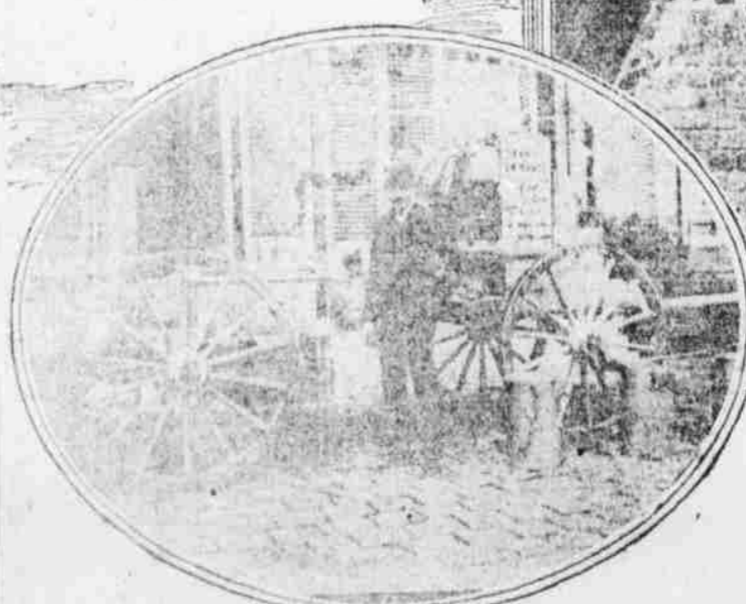
To carry the work on a scale so that every army corps at the front could be supplied with such a canteen, the War Council has appropriated \$700,000.

Hot Drinks by the Gallon When our own men get into the trenches they will find the service in full operation and will share in its benefits.

The typical canteen of this sort is a field kitchen in or near the second line of trenches. Generally it is from two to five miles behind the firing line. Here about 125 gallons of hot drinks—coffee, tea, chocolate or bouillon—can be kept at the proper heat in large thermos containers mounted on trucks.

A Red Cross "convoy" and three French soldiers are in charge, while a fleet of small motor trucks distribute

the refreshing drinks to outposts. Sometimes four thousand portions of soups or drinks are served from a single canteen in a day—all absolutely free. A station like this, not far from the famous Clerval Des Dunes, has helped in maintaining the morale of the French troops. To man these canteens Major Murphy is sending out American Red Cross workers. For thousands of hours this will be the first view of the American uniform, and its reassuring effect, long before they see the regulars, should be very great. When troops leave the trenches to go



ONE OF THE FRENCH MOVABLE CANTEENS THAT IS DRIVEN UP CLOSE BEHIND THE FIRST LINE TRENCHES

back to reserve posts or are sent home on leave, generally they are mud-stained, germ-laden, covered with trench vermin. In cooperation with the Young Men's

laundries, and mending and disinfecting rooms at these camps. The original equipment will probably be supplied by the French authorities, as is the case with the field canteens, but the Red Cross will keep the stations going and furnish the attendants.

Various appetizing foods which the soldiers can buy to supplement camp fare, tobacco and small articles will be on sale. At all these canteens returning poilus can "make themselves at home" in true American fashion.

Commuting to the Trenches Another special need arises at the junction points on the French railroads,

stations through which nearly fifty thousand soldiers pass every day. Here the work of the canteens can be done by women, and the staff will be built around American women. Fifty have recently been recruited in the United States.

Ready for All Arrivals For the needs of the American soldiers now in France, the Red Cross has already made provision. Troops are received at large reception camps on the French coast, and after several weeks of preliminary training are sent to permanent training camps just back of the firing line.



REFRESHMENT FOR WEARY SOLDIERS COMES OUT OF A SHELL HOLE IN THIS CASE

and the railroad stations in and about Paris. Often there are no facilities for getting food at places where the soldiers may have to wait three or four hours, or even over night. The Red Cross, by large-scale purchasing and volunteer service, can sell hot meals and miscellaneous foodstuffs at a price so low that the soldiers can afford them, and yet, enough above cost to provide for maintenance and extension. There are eleven of these railroad

Along the route of the troops the Red Cross has established infirmaries and rest stations, each in charge of an American trained nurse with an assistant. An infirmary contains ten beds, a stock of drugs, and necessary supplies. Arrangement is made for the care of the seriously ill at French hospitals in the neighborhood. Daily calls are made upon these patients by the nurse and her attendant, who carry reading matter, tobacco, confections and the like.