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CHRISTMAS OVER THERE

CORP. C. E. SKILLMAN RELATES HIS EXPERIENCES

French Children and American Soldiers Have One Jolly Good Time Together; Old Santa Delights By Many Presents.

Chaumont Le Bois
Dec. 28, 1918.

Dear Ones:—

Well, Christmas is past, and it has been some Christmas too. I don't think I will ever forget my Christmas in France. We had hot chocolate, cakes and cigars the night before at the kitchen, and then Christmas morning Communion service was held at the Y. After that the Chaplain regular service and Major Pickering gave us a little talk. At noon we had a game of soccer football between E. and F. batteries which was some exciting. We happened to lose by one point, but that didn't make any difference. Then came dinner. I can't say that it was compared with the Thanksgiving dinner I had at the Valdahors Hospital, but it did very well. Besides the regular dinner of steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, and some other things I don't remember, we were treated to candy, oranges, cigars and cigarettes.

But the best of all came off in the afternoon. All the French children in and around the village were invited and we gave them some time. About thirty-five came and "we" played games a while and then they had hot chocolate, cakes, sandwiches of all kinds, candy, nuts, oranges and I don't know what. Then the curtain was lifted and there was the Christmas tree on the stage. Of course Santa Claus came out and distributed presents to all the children.

One of the children made a "Thank-you" speech in French, which was afterwards read in English, to the effect that they had been told not to expect anything this year, as it was all going to the soldiers; and here they had Christmas after all. I don't know who enjoyed it most, the French kids or the American! I guess the French children showed it more, but you couldn't judge by that. As our Chaplain said, "Christmas without children would be like an army without privates." They had another entertainment in the evening which I didn't take in, but every one said it was fine.

My box arrived in good order the day after Christmas. You sure had all the available space well utilized, and everything was just fine. The frosting on the cake was some hard, but it was just as good.

We had planned for this (Saturday) afternoon, a big hunt by the whole second battalion, composed of D. E. and F. Batteries; but as it is raining we are staying in. I don't know as we would have gotten any game, but I know six hundred men would surely scare up some. Deer and wild boar are often seen in the hills around here, and there are lots of small game too. We may go some other time when there snow on the ground. We had a little snow Christmas night; just enough to cover the ground, but it is all gone now.

(Here I must stop to read a couple of letters just arrived. They were both written Nov. 25th and have been here and to the hospital at Valdahors and back here again.) We haven't had any mail from the States for two or three days, and are looking for some more all the time.

I suppose by this time you are having some bad weather there, as well as we here. Your letters are all mighty cheering, but I know that you are working some back there. It makes me realize that Harild and I are not everything. I know that my part in the war has helped to win it, but it is very little that I have done. We fellows get most of the honor, but it is the folks back home that win the war. I have no new "dope" on when we'll start home. I only know we are still here and movements are slow.

Lots of love to everybody
Yours
(Corp'l.) C. E. SKILLMAN.
Bat. F. 318 F. A. A. E. F. A. P. L. 791

The Boys Come Home
One-twelfth of Gen. Pershing's army has already sailed for home. They number 151,000.

CLARENCE E. SKILLMAN



Son of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Skillman of near Grove Hill, who left May 12th for Camp Jackson. He is now serving "Over There."

Good Roads Convention at Mineral Wells

Birmingham, Alabama, January 27.—The Third annual session of the Bankhead National Highway Association will meet in Mineral Wells, Texas, April 18th and 19th. Delegates will be in attendance from Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California. This Highway has been officially designated by Government engineers and Pathfinding Commissions and the Association from Washington to Memphis to El Paso, Texas. The Pathfinding Commission has inspected two of the contesting routes and with probably inspect the third before they make their report to the Board of Directors, which will act and refer the same for final adoption to the Convention at Mineral Wells, Texas. The great rivalry and warm contest will undoubtedly draw large crowds to attend this convention, which has for its President, Ex-Congressman, T. S. Plowman, of Alabama, and for its Secretary, J. A. Rountree, who has active charge of arranging the details and conducting the affairs of the Association. Already automobile tours are being organized by various contesting routes from Memphis to Mineral Wells, Texas. It is planned to give a suitable prize or trophy to the city or route commencing from Memphis, Tennessee, that has the largest number of automobiles in the procession.

The UNITED STATES GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION, of which Senator J. H. Bankhead is President, and also UNITED STATES GOOD ROADS EXHIBIT OF MACHINERY AND MATERIAL will meet on the 14th and continue during the week. Taking into consideration the interest that will be manifested in these three conventions, probably the largest crowd of road enthusiasts that ever assembled in the Nation will be drawn to Mineral Wells, Texas. Application for reduced rates on the various railroads has been made. Excursions from various points throughout Texas and the Southwest will be promoted to this Convention. Thousands of Texans will not depend upon the railroads to transport them, but will come in their cars over the splendid roads in that State. Many people have commenced to plan their vacations and to be at Mineral Wells, Texas, Good Roads Week in April.

ITALY AND THE PRESIDENT

President Wilson's trip through Italy proved to be one continuous ovation. At Rome, Genoa, Milan, Turin and elsewhere he was greeted with an enthusiasm which seems to have surpassed even the wonderful demonstrations in France and England. The cordiality of the Italian people is said to have been especially appreciated by the President because it was evidently based largely on the fact that he is regarded as the world's chief exponent of the prevention of future wars.

"Fletcherism" Unavailing

Among recent deaths is that of Dr. Forace Fletcher, whose system of exclusive chewing of food was expected to prolong life to extreme old age. He died of bronchitis, at the age of 69.

Where The Lilies Bloom.

They lie in France
Where lilies bloom;
Those flowers pale
That guard each tomb
Are saintly souls
That smiling stand
Close by them in
That martyred land,
And mutely there the long night shadows creep
From quiet hills to mourn for them who sleep,
While o'er them through the dusk go silently
The grieving clouds that slowly drift to sea,
And lately round them mourned the winter wind
Whose voice, lamenting, sounds so coldly kind
Yet in their faith those waiting hearts abide
The time when turns forever that false tide.

In France they lie
Where lilies bloom,
Those flowers fair
For them made room
Not vainly placed
The crosses stand
Within that brave
And stricken land;
Their honor lives
Their love endures,
Their noble death
The right assures,

For they shall have their hearts' desire
They, who, unflinching, braved the fire,
Across the fields their eyes at last shall see
Through cloud and mist the hosts of victory.
Percival Allen, in N. Y. Times.

Why He Left Town.

It was because the following items appeared in his paper:

"Mrs. Thomas W. Johnson read an article for the Women's club entitled, 'Personal Devils.' Seventeen were present."

"Mr. John Crouse shipped a carload of hogs to Kansas City one day last week. Three of his neighbors went in with him to make up the load."—Exchange.

Homely Phizz.

Mr. Mugg (relating his adventures.) And starvation stared me in the face.

Miss Bright: Unpleasant for both of you, I should think.—Clipping.

To Come Later.

Patience—Is that young man I saw gaged to?

Peggy with today the one she is engaged to?

Patience—I guess so.

Patience—But why isn't he fighting?

Patience—Oh, dear; they're not married yet.—Clipping.

Approved By Experience.

An Eastern clergyman says that kissing is a relic of the dark ages. There are many customs that come down from the dark ages—eating for one.—Life.

Too many men spend their money before they see it.—Ex.

How The States Said Good Bye J. Barleycorn

RATIFYING STATES TO DATE, JAN. 17, 1919

The following tables shows the population of each ratifying state to date, January 17, and the total vote for and against ratification. The population figures are given from the 1910 census. It will be observed that almost seventy million of the one hundred million people of the country through their Legislatures have ratified. Before the present sessions of the Legislatures close it is a foregone conclusion that considerably more than three-fourths of the population of the nation will have given their approval to the national dry law through their Legislatures. The total vote by the legislators themselves stands more than four to one for the dry measure. This is about 81 per cent dry. It certainly appears that the drys are in the overwhelming majority:

State	Population	For	Against
(1) Mississippi	1,797,114	121	8
(2) Virginia	2,061,612	114	21
(3) Kentucky	2,289,905	94	16
(4) South Carolina	1,515,400	94	35
(5) North Dakota	577,056	139	12
(6) Maryland	1,295,346	76	43
(7) Montana	376,053	112	10
(8) Texas	3,896,542	87	10
(9) Delaware	202,322	40	9
(10) South Dakota	583,888	129	0
(11) Massachusetts	3,366,416	172	103
(12) Arizona	204,354	46	3
(13) Georgia	2,609,121	163	26
(14) Louisiana	1,656,388	90	61
(15) Florida	752,619	86	5
(16) Michigan	2,810,173	118	3
(17) Ohio	4,767,121	108	45
(18) Oklahoma	1,657,155	133	8
(19) Maine	742,371	150	20
(20) Idaho	325,594	100	0
(21) West Virginia	1,221,119	104	3
(22) Washington	1,141,990	132	0
(23) Tennessee	2,184,789	109	4
(24) California	2,377,549	72	43
(25) Illinois	5,638,591	114	81
(26) Indiana	2,700,876	114	81
(27) Arkansas	1,574,449	127	2
(28) North Carolina	2,206,287	98	10
(29) Alabama	2,138,993	87	45
(30) Kansas	1,690,949	160	0
(31) Oregon	672,765	83	3
(32) Iowa	2,224,771	128	20
(33) Utah**	373,351	0	0
(34) Colorado	779,024	97	3
(35) New Hampshire	430,572	241	125
(36) Nebraska	1,192,214	129	1
Total for first 36	62,033,939	3,976	822
(37) Missouri	3,293,335	126	46
(38) Wyoming***	145,965	0	0
(39) Wisconsin	2,333,860	77	46
(40) Minnesota****	2,075,708	—	—
Total to date (Jan. 17)	69,882,807	4,179	914

*Vote not given for Senate, ratified unanimously.
**Vote not given for either branch, ratified unanimously.
***Vote not given for either branch, ratified unanimously.
****Vote not given.

MACY D. HARRIS



Son of Mr. W. E. B. Harris, of Macon, who was killed in action with H. Company bravely fighting upon the fields of France.

Dr. Taylor Writes In Memory Macy Harris

Many of our boys left their homes, at the call of their country, and went into the army that will never come back any more. They were good soldiers, and as brave as the bravest; and, as long as the blood of patriotism flows through our veins, they will be lovingly remembered.

Among these noble young men was Macy Harris of Macon. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. B. Harris of this county; and lived, until he went into the army, in the community where he was born.

Some time before the breaking out of the war, he enlisted in the Warren Guards and entered heartily into the required service. When war between the United States and Mexico seemed imminent; and the Warren Guards were called out, Macy promptly volunteered for the required number of years, and went with the Guards to Camp Glenn. Later he served on the Border. In the spring of 1917 he returned to Warrenton with his company, and in the fall of that year with his company went to Camp Sevier, near Greenville, South Carolina, where he remained until he was sent to France with his command. There the boys begin to learn the real meaning of war, and it is good to know that our boys stood the test as brave men should.

Macy was a good soldier and stood well with his officers and comrades. On the 29th of September in that fearful battle which resulted in breaking the Hindenburg line and crushing the hopes of the Huns, Macy laid down his life in defense of the rights of man, and today he sleeps in Flanders fields.

Macy Harris was born on the 16th of April 1895, and fell in battle, Sunday, September the 29th, 1918. Several years ago he made a profession of religion and joined the Baptist Church in Macon. Letters which he wrote from France to his friends show that he was trying to live a Christian life.

Our deepest sympathies go out to his loved ones. May God bless and comfort them.

Memorial services in memory of this brave young man will be held some time next spring.

T. J. TAYLOR.

A WASHING MACHINE PAYS.

We often visit the home of a successful, prosperous farmer and find that the family washing is done by the old washtub, washboard manner. Many arduous and unpleasant duties are placed upon the farm woman, but probably there is nothing which comes into the every-day life of the average farm woman which is more distasteful than doing the family washing. Much is said and written of the conservation of man power, forests, water power, soil, etc., but too little is said of the conservation of the labor of woman. There is every reason why modern washing machines should be installed on many thousands of farms to greatly lighten the burden of washing.—The Progressive Farmer.

Can Hold the World to Peace

In his first speech in England, Ambassador Davis said that Great Britain and America had the same ideals and purposes. He believed they could and would act together.

CONFERENCE SAILS ALONG

DECLARES FOR A LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND TO ADMIT

All Nations Which Will Promote Its Welfare; Small Nations Ask For Representation On League Committees.

Paris, Jan. 26.—The peace conference on Saturday weathered its first storm and under the inspiration of a speech by President Wilson and skillful guidance by M. Clemenceau, the chairman, unanimously adopted resolutions declaring for a league of nations. The conference also went on record in favor of incorporating the league as an integral part of the general treaty of peace and admitting to the league "every civilized nation which can be relied on to promote its objects."

Belgium, Serbia, Roumania, Portugal, Brazil, Siam, China and Czechoslovakia protested against the various committees being largely restricted to the great powers and asked for proportional representation privileges particularly on bodies dealing with the league of nations, labor and reparation for war damages.

Cloud No Bigger Than A Man's Hand

Although this was a cloud no bigger than a man's hand, it threatened at one time to grow in a general alignment of the small powers against the five great powers. This, however, was averted by M. Clemenceau's good tempered and skillful direction.

The session had the same impressive dignity as the open session, with a picturesque setting of Arabs and Indians in their turbans and tunics, as well as a distinguished array of prime ministers and other world figures. President Wilson for the first time was accompanied by the entire American delegation, Colonel House having recovered sufficiently from his illness to be present.

Brief Review of Saturday's Proceedings.

Although it had been expected that Premier Lloyd George would open the discussion on the league of nations, President Wilson had this honor. The president was followed by Mr. Lloyd George in a brief address, and the resolution favoring the league was adopted without dissent after the proposal had been seconded by Premier Orlando for Italy, Paul Hymans for Belgium and Mr. Lu for China.

When the other resolutions were brought up and the protest of the representatives of the small powers were made, M. Clemenceau made a plea for harmony and on his assurance that the supreme council would give attention to the viewpoint of the small nations all the proposed amendments were withdrawn and the resolutions were adopted unanimously.

VESTED PREJUDICES

President Wilson appears to have located an "affinity of ideas" in the person of Lloyd George, Prime Minister of England. The latter in a recent statement, declared that "it is not the vested interests I am afraid of, it is the vested prejudices." He added the comment: "Sweep these away and the State can easily deal with the interests; you must not take away any man's property; you cannot build a great State on dishonesty; you are bound to come to grief if you attempt it."

England is facing the same conditions that have grown up in the United States, and Lloyd George recognizes the fact that organized movements exist in the countries that have been busy with the war, seeking to control the opportunities which have heretofore been the birthright of citizenship. What is known as Bolsheviki in some of the European countries has been manifesting itself in a modified form in the United States through attempts to honeycomb our political and economic affairs with a taint of socialism. The American soldier has had an opportunity to see this system in operation in foreign lands, and the probabilities are that he will prefer the good old U. S. A. under the conditions as he knew it before the war. America is not old enough to have any great stores of progenitors, but the "Sons of Liberty" are determined to uphold their heritages.