

FRENCH GRATEFUL FOR THE U. S. AID

Thank American Women For the Aid Given to the French Sailors.

French Front, July 16.—(Correspondence of Associated Press.)—Dozens of divisions of the French army now sleep underground in comparative comfort, even in the front lines when the Germans are hurling tens of thousands of shells on the ground above them, thanks to the work of the companies of excavators formed since the beginning of the war.

The correspondent of The Associated Press has seen and been inside dozens of these subterranean cities—for such they may be termed—at many places, and even where all the natural conditions are difficult, has found the shelters commodious, well-drained and well-ventilated. In some cases a battalion finds accommodation in a single shelter, and each man lodged in it is provided with a simple bed consisting of a wire netting foundation supported by wooden uprights. On this the soldier lays his regulation bundle of straw and, covering himself with his army blanket and great coat, can sleep with freedom from anxiety as to any bombardment in progress outside. The shelters are provided generally with electric light or acetylene lamps, sanitary conveniences, and, in some cases, with complete shower-baths.

First aid posts and dressing stations with all modern surgical appliances are also to hand, so that the surgeon attached to the unit may attend immediately to any wounded men brought in from the near-by battlefields.

So well are the shelters protected from the view of the enemy that, although in many instances the underground lodging covers an area of 3,000 square yards, not once in the course of the past year has one of them been destroyed by the enemy's fire. They have many exits, the plan being to provide one for each section or quarter company, so that in case one exit should be hit and blocked, the men inside may escape through another opening.

At the beginning of the war the soldiers actually in the fighting line made their own shelters, which were just holes dug in the ground and covered with tree-trunks and earth and affording very little protection, besides taking up much of the time of the soldiers and costing very much labor and money for transporting the necessary timber.

It was then decided to utilize the older classes of the reserve of the territorial army who had been called to the colors and who, despite their previous military training, had been found unable to bear the strain of campaigning. Several companies of them were formed and they were first given the task of constructing shelters in the Somme district around Verdun. Their officers were chosen from the engineering corps and from men who in civil life were engaged in similar undertakings, such as builders and miners. Most of the men were peasants used to digging in the fields and their work was very satisfactory, but this kind of excavating work was different and they succeeded considerably from the unusual motion of having to throw the earth upward, or wheeling it in barrows up steep inclines.

One of the officers overcome this trying difficulty by inventing an apparatus for carrying loosened earth or rock to the surface by use of electric power. By this arrangement two men can do the work formerly done by ten. When the earth has reached the surface it falls into barrows and is wheeled away along the level and distributed about in such a manner as not to attract the attention of the enemy's airmen always flying above the lines to observe what is going on in the opposing position.

Special army sawmills have been started to provide the props and planking for the shelters and everything is done at minimum cost.

The veterans so employed have sustained losses when working in exposed positions, but no danger appears to daunt them and they continue their job as though they were working in the fields at home. They have adapted themselves to the use of the most modern tools, and although the great majority of them had no previous experience of electric drills and borers they now use them as well as practical miners.

Take This for Chills, Fever, Malaria. For a malarial condition with chills, fever and sweats, take Foley's "King of Malaria" Chill Tonic. It combines the virtues of quinine, without its unpleasant taste, with strong purifying and tonic properties of iron. It gives appetite, strength and vital energy. Try it.

ALLIED DIPLOMATS TO BE SPEAKERS

They Will Represent the Allies At the Southern Commercial Congress

New York, Aug. 15.—The diplomatic representatives of the countries now the allies in the war of the United States will be the guests of honor at the banquet to be given by the Southern Commercial Congress at the Hotel Astor, October 16, during the annual convention of the congress, the function falling on the eightieth anniversary of the inception of the organization.

Hon. Oscar Straus, general chairman of the New York committee, Senator Duncan U. Fletcher, president of the Southern Commercial congress, Clarence J. Owens, managing director of the congress and William H. Saunders, resident director, called on the diplomats in Washington and extended invitations to them on behalf of the congress.

The theme of the response and the address for the banquet will be international reconstruction. An invitation will be extended to the President of the United States and to ex-President Taft, who is president of the League to Enforce Peace, to speak for America. The responses for the representatives of all the Allies will be made by Ambassador Jusserand of France, the dean of the diplomatic corps. Arrangements will be completed for fifteen hundred covers. Senator Fletcher will deliver the introductory remarks and Oscar Straus will act as toastmaster.

The occasion will be one of the most notable ever held in the country, and will be significant through the interpretation of the ideals that actuate the Allies, and in the utterance of diplomats in marking an epoch in America's relation to the world war.

The Southern Commercial Congress will assemble in New York over twenty thousand representatives, including the governors of states, other state officials, members of the cabinet, heads of important government, bureaus and commissions, and executives of municipalities and civic commercial organizations.

The guests of honor list for the banquet includes the following:

Mr. J. J. Jusserand, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, of France.

Sir Cecil Arthur Spring Rice, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, of Great Britain.

Count V. Macchi de Cellare, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, of Italy.

Mr. Aimaro Sato, Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, of Japan.

Mr. Geo. Bakmeteff, master of imperial court, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, of Russia.

Vicount de Alite, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, of Portugal.

Phya Prabha Karavongse, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, of Siam.

Dr. Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, of Cuba.

Senor Dr. Don Belisario Porras, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, of Panama.

Mt. Liouhomir Mihailovitch, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, of Serbia.

Mr. E. Havenith, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, of Belgium.

Mr. A. Vouros, charge d'affaires ad interim, of Greece.

STATE FAIR EXHIBITS BEST.

State Board of Health Plans to Get in Some Good Health Work This Fall.

The North Carolina Agricultural Fairs will be made the media of more health propaganda than ever before, if plans of the State Board of Health work out as present indications point. Instead of one demonstrator accompanying exhibits this year there will be two and possibly three or even four. Four new acts of exhibits are now being prepared on a scale more elaborate and more effective than has been attempted thus far. From the last week in September to the closing of the last fair in November, the educational work will go on in the perfectly worthy effort to utilize the drawing power of the sawdust midway and sideshow attractions for the dissemination of the doctrine of right living and disease prevention. Three and perhaps four, fair each week will be reached in the round.

A number of county fair organizations already have requested the exhibits of the Board, while others have been written to be the State Board of Health to learn their attitude on this subject.

Boston Ready for G. A. R.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 16.—With the date for the opening of the national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic only a few days distant, the local committees are putting the finishing touches to the elaborate preparations for the reception and entertainment of the thousands of old soldiers and other visitors who will be the guests of Boston during the coming week. The applications for accommodations indicate that the attendance will be up to the average of recent years. While the money originally subscribed for decorations has been devoted to patriotic purposes, the general program of business and entertainment will not be curtailed on account of the

Death of Husband Sent a Girl to the Front

New York, Aug. 16.—(By Associated Press.)—It was the death of her husband which prompted Ensign Vera Butchkaeff to enlist in the Russian army and eventually to organize the Women's Legion of Death, of which she is commander and which achieved fame in a recent battle with the Germans, according to facts received by the Russian Information Bureau here. According to this information, Vera Butchkaeff is a young country woman who went to Petrograd from her native village in the province of Tomsk.

Having learned in May, 1915, that her husband was dead on the German frontier, she made up her mind to continue the task which her husband began, and enlisted in the 25th Reserve Corps of Tomsk.

After a comparatively short training, she went to the front with a company that was to fill the ranks. Colonel Stubindorf enlisted her as a regular in the 28th Polotak Regiment, 2nd Army. For three months, Vera Butchkaeff fought with a rifle and on March 8, 1916, was wounded in the leg under heavy artillery fire in a battle which took place on Lake Naroch. The wound notwithstanding, she remained at the front with her comrades who captured two lines of trenches and one thousand prisoners.

On March 9, after the commander and

the captain were killed, she led the soldiers in an attack which resulted in victory for the Russians.

Afterward she went to the Austrian front, and was wounded in her arm, while taking part in a counter-charge near the Doubova Kuchma. Nevertheless, she retained her position in the army. But in the next charge she was wounded severely by a fragment of a shell. She was taken to the hospital where she remained for four months. Immediately upon recovery, she went to Petrograd and saw M. Rodzianko, of the Duma, to ask permission to organize a company of women.

In a recent interview, Vera Butchkaeff said:

"I saw the president of the Duma and obtained permission to form a woman's company which is to leave for the front at once. We will set an example to the men soldiers, many of whom misunderstood the meaning of liberty. It is to the fraternization and to all the undesirable phenomena that are responsible for the disorganization of our forces. I will sacrifice my life for my country and I am sure that I will find followers enough to point out to the desertions, among women. Woman's mission is not only to give life to man but it is also up to us women to teach men how to defend the new-born freedom."

No Market System Holds Back State Development

(Special to The Enterprise.)

Raleigh, Aug. 16.—That the agricultural development and the prosperity of North Carolina are being held back by the lack of an adequate and fair system of markets for corn, wheat, oats, hay, beans and other staple food and feed stuff is a striking declaration in a statement issued by the State Food Conservation Commission to the supply merchants, bankers and other business men of the state.

The food commission for several weeks has recognized the great economic importance of adequate markets, not only as a means of meeting the present emergency but as a necessity under normal conditions. "We cannot expect our farmers to diversify their agriculture and raise a surplus of corn, wheat, oats, hay and other crops unless they can sell these products at fair and equitable prices," says the statement. "In spite of this very evident fact, however, it is a notorious fact that in the majority of cities and towns in this state the merchants have been prone to take advantage of the absence of such markets and purchase the small amount of products offered on a long margin instead of offering fair prices and finding a market themselves for the vastly increased amount of products that would result from such a course. This is a shortsighted policy, and the prosperity not only of our rural sections but of our cities and towns as well is being throttled by its operation.

The big essentials are:

"First, a disposition to give the farmer a square deal, to give him preference over the farmers of the Central West, and

"Second, warehouse space and equipment for shelling corn, grading and cleaning corn, wheat, oats, beans, peas and other products and for baling hay.

"Merchants have excused themselves for their failure to develop a market in the past by the statement that the farmer did not have his corn, for instance, properly graded, or even shelled, perhaps. The farmer who has a surplus of only 25 to 200 or 300 bushels of corn cannot afford to purchase shellers and graders for so small an amount, yet the possibilities of production lie with the farmers of this class. The merchant must provide the shellers and graders.

"The fact that the farmers will appreciate and utilize a fair and adequate market has been demonstrated, even in the south, too often to be questioned. Gainesville, Fla., is a fair example. Here a market was established by a North Carolinian, by the way, and was able to purchase from the farmers of the community three carloads of corn and two carloads of hogs, among other things;

paid by the Southern Railway System. Five hundred dollars toward will be for the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who removed spikes, bolts and angle bars, resulting in derailment of passenger train No. 26 near Huntersville, N. C., Tuesday morning, July 17, 1917.

All communications pertaining to this subject should be addressed to J. W. Connally, Chief Special Agent, Southern Railway System, Charlotte, N. C.

If arrested, wire him or Sheriff N. W. Wallace, Charlotte, North Carolina.

N. FORMACHE, General Manager.

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These

Are serious times for us as a Nation and for each of us individually.

We MUST win this war.

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