

VENICE AGAIN FACES HORDE OF MARAUDERS

The Modern Hun Has Enthralled the City of its Population

With the French Army in Italy, December 15.—(Correspondence.) Before the menace of the modern Hun, Venice whose lagoons centuries ago furnished an asylum of safety for refugees fleeing from Attila, is today almost emptied. Of the 150,000 persons who ordinarily inhabit the city, only about 1,000 remain.

The Queen of the Adriatic has her face to the foe. She has shut her shops and sent her merchandise away. The army or the navy have taken her youths. Men whose names have been bricked up or sand-bagged her churches and monuments and now await the issue in entire calm, confident that although the enemy is no more than a long gun shot away, it is not at her own gates that Venice is menaced.

From Burano, a motor-boat takes you through a maze of channels into the canal Sione where you thread your way between reed covered banks toward the mainland. You can see nothing but the channel and the reeds. There is not a roof nor a spire in sight. We are getting up to what may be called the artillery defense line of Venice. On the way we passed a British monitor with her big guns pointed inland. The coast batteries and big gun monitors constitute another defense line. Here in the salt channel between the islands we come suddenly upon a floating battery or pontoon, as the Italians call them. It is a big steel barge mounting a gun which has been pointed the Austrians on the Piave Vecchia all night.

From Forte Grandi, as far as the eyes can see the land is covered with a waste of muddy water, rows of half-submerged willows marking out the fields which it covers and here and there isolated clumps of farm buildings emerging from the floods. We are here on the edge of the Piave Vecchia, and in another hazy valley, the high banked roads, dikes and farm houses are all that remain above water. Some of these farm houses are held by Austrians and some by Italians and it is the aim of both sides to destroy the farms held by the enemy. A few nights ago some Italian sailors undertook a cutting out expedition against one of the Austrian islands, captured and burned the buildings and came back with Austrian prisoners.

Nothing more dismal can be imagined than this battlefield among the reeds except the awful desolation of the Flanders front. Unending water, half drowned willows and farm houses under a bitter winter sky compose as under a melancholy picture as even war presents. On the edge of the lands formed by the release of the floods to protect Venice are brave families clinging to their homes in the hope that 1918 will see the invader thrown back.

On this sector the Italians have a superiority of artillery. It is at night that the Italian guns do their hardest work. At night the Austrians always attempt to construct field works or to lay bridges of boats across the Piave Vecchia to the canals. They take a number of boats, tie them together and swing them out from one bank trusting to the current to float them into place on the other side. It is the business of the Italian floating batteries to drive away these bridge-builders and to destroy the fruits of their labors and this they do with surprising success.

In Venice, herself, I have seen no sign of actual damage, except a hole torn in the roof of San Giovanni and San Paolo by an Austrian airplane bomb. The front of San Marco and the pillars of the Dodge's Palace have been bricked up so that nothing of them remains visible. The same precautions have been taken with the famous statues of Colonnade and, in fact, with all the monuments of the town that can be so protected. In the Piazzetta di San Marco almost all the shops are closed, but a number are still open in the Merceria, and, although almost all the gondolas have vanished it is still possible to find one to take you up the Grand Canal.

A Mental Clinic. Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 17.—A department is to be added to the State Hospital here for the purpose of treating mental diseases, the primary object being to afford treatment for persons before they reach a serious stage.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE Having this day qualified as Administrator of the estate of Lizzie Hill, deceased, this is to notify all persons having claims against the said estate to present the same to me, duly authenticated, on or before the 10th day of January, 1918, or this notice will be filed in bar of recovery. All persons indebted to the said estate will please make prompt payment.

Administrator, Estate Lizzie Hill, 1-10-Law, 6w-Thurs.

TIDE WATER PRESENTS ITS VIEW OF THE CASE

Letter Addressed to Councilman Bunting Relative to Lightless Nights

In connection with the proposition of the Tidewater Power Company with regard to the payment for electricity because of the lightless night rule, which was under discussion at yesterday's Council meeting, the following letter to Councilman Bunting is of interest:

January 14th, 1918. "Mr. L. M. Bunting, Chairman, "Special Committee, City Council, "Wilmington, N. C.

"Dear Sir: "Referring to the conference held with your committee in regard to a proper allowance, we deduction, for the street lights ordered to be extinguished two nights per week in compliance with the ruling of the Fuel Administrator, we would like to make the position of the Tidewater Power Company entirely clear.

"It goes without saying that both the City Administration and the Tidewater Power Company (or either of them whose duty it may be) are as a matter of patriotism entirely willing to comply with the order of the Fuel Administrator, for the purpose of saving fuel.

"A careful reading of the instructions issued by the Fuel Administrator shows that the intention is not to interfere unnecessarily with municipal lighting contracts. The request is made to cover particularly 'cluster' lighting, which is a wasteful system, and which for that reason was not adopted for the new lighting system of the City of Wilmington.

"As the street lighting contracted for by the city is approximately what is needed, and of economical type, the actual saving in coal to be made by complying with the request of the Fuel Administrator is something less than \$400 per year. There is a psychological advantage, but also a real danger, in darkening the principal streets twice week, which should be considered by the City, in determining how far to go in this direction, and whether an additional loss of \$600 per annum is compensated for in results obtained.

"In other words, there will be an expenditure of \$1.50 (plus the loss of the lighting) in order to save \$1.00 worth of coal. Any saving would, of course, be credited to the city.

"The Tidewater Power Company has contracted to furnish this lighting to the city, and as a part of the contract has invested in the necessary equipment and assumed all the necessary expenses. The city has contracted in consideration of this to use the lights, and it is certainly an open question as to whom the Fuel Administrator's order is directed or given. In other words, whether the city is ordered to darken its streets for two nights a week, or whether the Tidewater Power Company is ordered to decline to furnish the city with a certain amount of fuel which it has sold to the city.

"It is the company's view that the city is, under the terms of the contract, the party to say whether it demands or relinquishes the lighting; and in order to maintain the integrity of the contract it is important that this point be decided. "From the report in the daily papers it seems that your committee, under the advice of the City Attorney, stands squarely on the terms of the contract with the Tidewater Power Company, and particularly as to lights reported out by the Police Department, under Clause No. 9. This clause, in our opinion, contemplates solely causes due to accidents or negligence on the part of the company, or the inability of the company to furnish the lighting. But in the case under consideration the company is able and willing and is under contract with the city to furnish the lighting.

"The company respects the wish of your committee to stand entirely on the terms of the contract, and is equally anxious to adhere to its terms. We therefore suggest that we select a committee of arbitration and abide by its interpretation of the terms of the contract.

"Yours very truly, "TIDEWATER POWER COMPANY. "R. HUNT, "Asst. General Manager."

The following statement was made by Councilman Shepherd with regard to the suspension of Fireman Freimuth:

January 14, 1918. "Mr. L. Freimuth, City.

"Dear Sir: I am this day suspending you indefinitely for the following charge: For not giving your entire time to the city, which is required by ordinance. I have had complaints from the merchants of the city as well as the general public to that effect. I also know of my own knowledge that you have been neglecting your work; and it is my opinion that it is unfair to the merchants to allow you to give part of your time to your merchandise business and draw a salary from the city. I am, therefore, suspending you, as I take it as my duty as councilman of the Fire Department.

"L. L. SHEPARD, "Councilman of Fire Department."

NOTICE. Annual stockholders meeting of the Wilmington Homestead and Loan Association will be held tonight (Thursday) at 8 o'clock at office of J. Hicks Bunting Drug Co., Second and Princess street. Every stockholder urged to attend. C. C. Brown, Secretary.

DESIRES SUPPORT OF WATERWAY'S FRIENDS

Attention is Directed to One Clause in Federal Transportation Bill

(Special to The Dispatch.) Washington, D. C., Jan. 17.—In the bill to provide for the operation of transportation systems while under Federal control, which has been introduced in both the Senate and the House, there is a paragraph which should command the earnest support not only of every friend of waterways but of every loyal citizen of the United States," says Hon. Jos. E. Ransdell, United States Senator from Louisiana and President of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress.

"Section 6 of the bill," continued the Senator, "provides for the establishment of what is called a 'revolving fund, of \$500,000,000, and the last paragraph of that section reads as follows: "From said revolving fund the President may expend such an amount as he may deem necessary for construction, or utilization and operation of boats, barges, tugs, and other transportation facilities on the inland and coastwise waterways, and may in the acquisition, and use of such facilities create or employ such agencies and enter into such contracts and agreements as he shall deem in the public interest."

"In the city of New York, people have been found frozen to death in their homes and the death rate from pneumonia has mounted higher than ever before. In Philadelphia, the City Health Officer says there is illness in 10,000 homes because of lack of coal. In Boston, when it was reported that barges containing coal were to arrive, long lines of people stood in the streets all night in the bitter cold, hoping to share in its distribution. In Washington, the capital of the nation, 11 persons were burned to death in eleven days, their clothing having caught fire from the gas and oil heaters which they were using because coal was not to be had. These are only samples of conditions which have extended far and wide over the country.

"There was in reality no lack of coal; the trouble was a lack of transportation facilities for its distribution, and if the waterways of the United States had been improved and utilized, as they should have been, all of this suffering might have been avoided. "We have been told that for winning the war the supreme need is ships, and ships costing hundreds of millions of dollars are now under construction. But, according to The New York Times, more than a hundred ships, loaded with a million tons of food, munitions and supplies which are sorely needed in England, France and Italy, have been lying in the harbor, some of them for more than a month, waiting for bunker coal! Ships are needed, of course, but for the coal they burn and the cargoes they carry they are dependent on inland transportation.

"Another press dispatch recently stated that works which normally furnish 10 per cent. of the total steel production of the United States were closed for lack of coal, and this when the country is at war and every pound of steel that can be produced is more urgently needed than ever before in the world's history, or will ever be needed again, let us hope, as long as the world shall last.

"The United States is able to produce everything that is needed both for the health and comfort of its people, and for the supply of its Navy on the seas and its Armies in the field, but unless every possible method of transportation is made available at the earliest possible time and used to its full capacity, suffering and death will continue to stalk over our own land and we stand more than an even chance to lose this war and see humanity go beneath the heel of the Hun.

"It is vitally important that this paragraph shall remain in the bill when it is passed, and everyone who reads these lines is urged to write at once to the Senators and Representatives from his State asking them to work and vote for this feature of the bill."

JUNIOR CAMP FIRE.

Big Outing to Be Given by Y. M. C. A. Juniors Friday Night.

The Y. M. C. A. Juniors will have an outing and overnight camp on Friday, January 18. A potato roast will feature the outing and the potatoes will be furnished by the teachers.

Campfire stories will be told and J. Prof. John J. Blair will relate the story of the stars. The first squad will leave the Y. M. C. A. at 5 p. m. and hike to the Cabin. The second squad will leave on car at 7:30 and the third squad will leave on car at 8:30. In addition to the potato roast, the boys may bring such things to eat as they may desire.

It is expected that several will spend the night in camp. These should furnish two blankets each for themselves. The club that has the most boys present will be awarded 25 extra points. All juniors are urged to come to the camp and enjoy the big outing.

Registering Aliens.

Greensboro, N. C., Jan. 17.—Chief of Police Foushee has received instructions from United States Marshal Webb to register all alien enemies in this city, and this he is arranging to do immediately. It will be no great task, it is said, as there are only some four or five here in that class.

Reappoint Union Secretary.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 17.—Mr. W. C. Crosby, executive secretary of the Community Service Bureau of the State Department of Education, has been reappointed by Dr. H. Q. Alexander, president of the Farmers Union, as secretary of the Union.

ADVICE OF FRIEND WAS OF GREAT VALUE

Chance Remark Put Woman on the Right Track. She Acted on Suggestion Made to Her and Now Tells How Much She Gained by Doing So.

"I happened to be talking to a friend and was telling him how badly I felt at times," said Mrs. Lucille Palmer, 17 South Tryon St., Charlotte, in a statement in which she explained a recent and most gratifying change in her condition. "My friend said to me," continued Mrs. Palmer. "Have you heard of Peplac? Everybody is talking about it in Charlotte. That is how I commenced taking Peplac."

"I suffered from stomach trouble for years. My food would ferment and sour and did not seem to give any nourishment. I could not relish what I ate; did not sleep well and was extremely nervous. "My first bottle of Peplac brought a change. I am growing stronger and, best of all, I have gained three pounds in weight. My work does not seem tiresome now. The effect of the Peplac I have taken has been so good that I intend to keep on with it. "I gladly tell what Peplac has done for me, thinking it may be the means of helping someone who is in a similar condition.

Peplac, the new medicine for catarrhal affections, stomach, liver and kidney ailments, is now being sold at R. R. Bellamy's drug store and it all leading drug stores in Wilmington and vicinity.—Adv.

CAMPAIN FOR BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION

Thirteen Southern States are Asked to Contribute \$125,000

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 17.—With John J. Eagen, of Atlanta, as general chairman, and Dr. W. D. Weatherford, of Nashville, Tenn., as campaign director, the \$125,000 campaign for Blue Ridge Association, Asheville, N. C., will be conducted simultaneously in 13 Southern States and the District of Columbia during the week commencing February 3rd.

In several States the securing of initial large subscriptions is already under way by special committees. The States served by the Blue Ridge Association co-operative in the campaign have accepted the following apportionments as suggested during the recent conference by Y. M. C. A. Secretaries in Atlanta: Tennessee \$17,500 Virginia 17,500 North Carolina 15,000 Georgia 12,000 Alabama 12,000 South Carolina 10,000 Mississippi 7,500 Louisiana 7,500 Kentucky 7,500 Florida 5,000 Arkansas 5,000 Maryland 5,000 West Virginia 5,000 District of Columbia 5,000

The forces of the Army Y. M. C. A. in the Southeastern Department will be behind the Blue Ridge Association in the campaign according to S. A. Ackley in charge of the Red Triangle activities in the training camps in this department. Army Y. M. C. A. Secretaries will be called upon to speak in the various city campaign meetings and three will probably be released from each camp to be placed at the disposal of the campaign committee for this purpose.

"In a large measure the success which has attended the work of the Army Y. M. C. A. in the Southeastern Department is due to the training and leadership furnished by the Blue Ridge Association. It would have been practically impossible to have manned our camps without the assistance of Blue Ridge Summer school in training 163 Secretaries for War Work in 1917," according to executive Secretary Ackley.

Before mid-summer it will be necessary to train approximately 600 Army Y. M. C. A. workers and about 1,000 new secretaries for city associations in classes to be conducted at Blue Ridge. This institution serves the South as the training center for religious leaders and Y. W. C. A. secretaries, as well as Y. M. C. A. workers. Its present indebtedness totals \$89,000 and the additional \$36,000 which the Y. M. C. A. and Evangelical leaders in the South will be called upon to give is to be used in improving the grounds and enlarging the building accommodations. Present facilities will not accommodate the number of students likely to attend during 1918, largely for Army and city Y. M. C. A. secretarial training.

Organized in 1911 the Blue Ridge Association now owns property valued at \$219,046 with 24 buildings and 1,191 acres of land located in one of the most beautiful scenic spots in the Blue Ridge mountains.

HEROES OF CHEMIN DES DAMES HONORED

Young America Watched Veteran France in Inspiring Military Ceremony

With the French Armies in the Field, Dec. 10.—(By Mail).—Young America silently watched veteran France today in one of the most inspiring military ceremonies of recent months, carried out on the edge of a shell battered city and within sound of the combined rumble of French and German guns.

It was the aftermath of the recent splendid French victory on the Chemin des Dames where the poilus thoroughly beat the Germans and took thousands of prisoners and scores of guns. The veteran regiments whose tattered battle flags have appeared with glory in many battles since 1914 were officially honored by the French army through its commander-in-chief. Men who had especially distinguished themselves in the face of the enemy were decorated by the hand of the Generalissimo himself.

Young American student officers from a neighboring school who witnessed the ceremony took no part. But they saw the counterpart of such a military procedure that could only come to them after American troops have emulated the poilus—the hope and ideal of all of the young Americans who today could only stand by and admire.

An aeroplane view of the ceremony might have recorded it as a giant picture frame of solid horizon blue dotted with the glistening pin-points of hundreds of bayonets and surrounding a sodden, rain-soaked field of many acres. Sprinkled along the inner rim of the frame were the war worn battle flags of the various units. In the distance were the hills from behind which the noise of war never ceases night and day and nearby the partially ruined city.

With the stage thus set, the commander-in-chief arrives. Followed by his staff, he makes a quick march of inspection around the enclosure and then takes a position in the center of the field. Here, generals, colonels, captains, lieutenants, and poilus alike who have performed special deeds of individual valor are assembled. A priest in a long black cloak and wearing a steel helmet is among them.

A record of each man's achievement is read aloud and the Generalissimo steps forward, pins a medal on the breast of the soldier, congratulates him and steps back. A stiff salute from each ends the little ceremony and it goes on until every man has received the thanks of France and has been an actor with his highest commander in a solemn ritual which he will remember to the end of his life.

Then the human picture frame breaks up piece by piece. Standing to one side and in front of his staff, the commander-in-chief watches the solid soldier columns parade before him. He salutes each battle flag as it passes.

Today, against a dull, leaden overcast sky the long polished bayonets gleamed as they rose and fell in perfect time. They seemed to almost pierce the low hanging clouds as the men who had most recently used them on the Germans marched by in hundreds. Leading those bayonets, on a prancing black horse, was their general, who had just received the Grand Cordon of the Legion of Honor.

To the small group of budding American officers wearing their new sup plate helmets, the spectacle, the rumbling of distant guns, the faint rattle of a machine gun coming with the wind helped to impress them, as potential leaders of American troops, that they were really part and parcel of the big war. But what impressed them most according to several, was the picture frame of French veterans, the proud smart stride of men who advanced toward their chief to receive their medals and the perfect rise and fall of the bayonets—all after three years of battle.

"Look at them after three years of it," exclaimed a young Middle Westerner who a few months ago was a student at Cornell. "We may be as good some day, but we'll never be better soldiers. Six months from now I hope we'll be able to give the Germans what these fellows gave them at the Chemin des Dames. It's all we ask."

The sentiment expressed was probably that of the whole American army in France.

Died From Overdose of Opiate. Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 17.—Mr. O. B. Harding, said to be a well to do farmer of the Neuse section, this county, died Monday at a local hospital where he was carried Sunday after having been found unconscious from an overdose of opiate in a room at one of the hotels here.

DO NOT SAVE KINKY HAIR

Use Exelento which makes long, soft and silky. All colored people can have nice long, straight hair by using Exelento.

It is a hair grower, removes dandruff and stops falling hair at once. Every package guaranteed. Accept no fake preparations. Ask for Exelento. Price 25c on receipt of stamps or coin.

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE Write For Particulars EXELENTO MEDICINE COMPANY

Have fed 200 tons of Buckeye Hulls. Foster & Fitz, Tuscaloosa, Ala., have fed 200 tons of Buckeye Hulls and are still feeding them. Buckeye Hulls are not only the least expensive but the most satisfactory roughage on the market.

KRYPTOK GLASSES THE INVISIBLE BIFOCALS. Afford a comfort which is appreciated by those who want near or far vision in one pair of glasses.

Relieves CATARRH of the BLADDER and all Discharges in 24 HOURS. Santal Midy. Removes superfluous hair from any part of the body. MANDOLINE. Green's Drug Store, 109 Market St.

How's This? We offer one hundred dollars reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine. Southern Railway System announces effective with last cars into and out of Beaufort Sunday, Aug. 12th.

CANDY FOR WIFE MOTHER SWEETHEART. Before going home tonight to mother or wife, or the visit you contemplate for tomorrow—drop in and slip a "surprise joy" in your pocket. Jarman & Futrelle.

IF You Wish to Get Your DRUG ORDERS Filled Promptly. Call 520. PAYNE DRUG CO. HARRY E PAYNE

Pyorigg. DON'T USE A TOOTH BRUSH. New York, N. Y.—An investigating committee of dentists in greater New York has just stumbled over the fact that "two-thirds of the people don't use a tooth brush nor brush their teeth at all."

How's This? We offer one hundred dollars reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine. Hall's Catarrh Medicine has been taken by catarrh sufferers for the past thirty-five years.

HAIR BECOMES LIKE PICTURE. Fluffy, Soft, Silky, Long By Using Herolin. Pomade Hair Dressing. Agents Wanted.