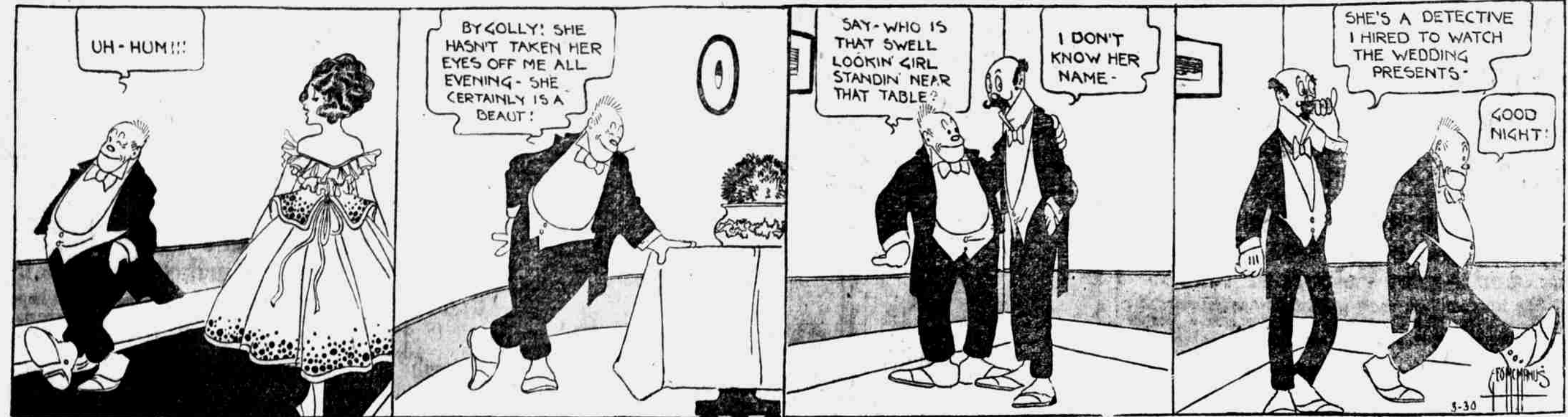


BRINGING UP FATHER

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Drawn for The Bee by George McManus



TONY DEFATE AND HANFORD ACCEPT TERMS IN OMAHA

Shortstop From St. Paul and Outfielder From Richmond Sign Rourke Contracts; Both Stars.

Clyde Defate, infielder, and Charles Hanford, outfielder, have signed Omaha base ball club contracts, according to announcement by Manager Bill Jackson.

Defate comes from the St. Paul club. He was in the Western league with Topeka two years ago and made a good impression with Omaha fans during his engagements in this city. He is a fast fielding shortstop and a good hitter.

Defate went to the big show from Topeka and he was considered such a good prospect the St. Louis Browns and the Detroit Tigers got into a fight over his services. St. Louis had possession and kept him until a National commission decision was made. Detroit received the verdict and Defate accordingly was sent to the Tigers. The Tigers shipped him to St. Paul shortly afterwards.

Apparently, the scrap over his services had a bad effect on Defate, for he began to slip and St. Paul offered to trade him and Boardman, a south-paw hurler, to Omaha for Marty Krug.

Krug Joins Army. Then Louisville refused to give waivers on Boardman and the deal was held up. And now Marty Krug has advised that he is about to join the army and will not report to St. Paul or any place else this year. So that deal was called off entirely.

But St. Paul released Defate to Omaha anyhow, so Jackson has a star shortstop for his infield.

Defate is only a youngster. He is an Italian and his nickname is Tony. Jackson believes he will be a star in the Western this year as he was two years ago with Topeka and that he will earn another trial under the big tent.

Hanford Ex-Fed. Hanford is a veteran outfielder and an ex-Federal. He comes from Richmond of the now defunct International League.

In all his career, Hanford has played less than class AA ball only once. That was two years ago when he played the last part of the season under Jackson at Peoria and helped Peoria win a flag.

Hanford was one of the first players to jump to the Feds and he was a regular in that organization all during his short career. He is a long slugger and a fancy outfielder and Jackson says he will be one of the best in the league this year.

MEN FROM CAMP DODGE REACH FRENCH FRONT Des Moines, March 29.—(Special Telegram.)—The first contingent of soldiers from Camp Dodge to be sent to France has arrived safely, according to word received here today. The men were a part of a regiment of engineers transferred from Camp Dodge soon after Christmas. The regiment will be used for construction work. The men were from Minnesota and a few from Iowa. About 100 Camp Dodge men are in the regiment.

COLUMBIA SOCIETY HALL CLOSED UNTIL AFTER WAR Norfolk, Neb., March 29.—(Special Telegram.)—The Columbia society hall was marked in big red letters Friday morning and a sign reading "Closed Till After the War" was nailed across the door. The hall formerly was known as the German hall. The society changed its name recently from the Landwehr Verein to the Columbia society.

Sandlotter Goes Up. Frank Mullane, a 21-year-old Minneapolis product, will get his first trial in fast company this season. Mullane has been signed by the Milwaukee club of the American association and will try for second base. He is a graduate of the sandlots. He batted around .450 last season and fielding in sensational style.

St. Louis Comes Back. After considerable lay-off of the boxing game, St. Louis has come back stronger for the sport. The Mound City promoters are staging A-1 bouts, and the scrappers are coping some big money.

Yanks Great in Spring. Word came from Macon that the Yankees are killing the ball, circling drives being as plentiful as pickininnies watching the pastime. But the Yanks always were great hitters—in Macon in the spring.

"Amateur" Again. Sometimes it is called the National Amateur Hockey league and at other times the National Hockey league. Perhaps the "amateur" stuff is applied to some of our hockey performances is puzzling to the scribes.

FRENCH MAINTAIN JUNCTION BETWEEN ALLIED ARMIES BY GREAT FIGHT; RETIRE SLOWLY

(By Associated Press.) With the French Armies in France, March 29.—Fresh German troops were thrown today against the French army maintaining the junction between the French and British lines, and notwithstanding the determined stand made by the French, they were forced to retreat toward the west, the Germans breaking through at Montdidier and occupying that place. Further south, the French held well, resisting all the German efforts.

In the rear of the French army the movements were so intense that it was impossible to approach the firing line. Notwithstanding the continued advance of the Germans the battle has become more or less stabilized in the last two days. The French are pushing northward in order to keep in close touch with the British, who had been forced back by overwhelming numbers.

FRENCH RELIEVE BRITISH. French troops have relieved part of the British line. Nothing as yet has been allowed to develop regarding the intentions of the entente allied commanders, but it is certain that at an opportune moment they will make a counter stroke. The general idea of the battle as far as it goes shows that the Germans chose to make their principal attack against the British front. At the same time they made a demonstration just where the two armies, French and British, join.

The Germans succeeded in making a breach in the British line, which the French forces closed, first sending cavalry to fill the gap. The Germans had carefully prepared for this offensive, whole divisions and army corps rehearsing the parts they were to play when the moment came.

GERMANS LAUNCH SLAUGHTER. Just before the assault, the British lines were deluged with shells for a short period and with projectiles charged with noxious gases. Then came thick waves of infantry, closely following one another. The first waves, or what remained of them, reached their objectives and held on until further waves came along and cleaned up the islets of British, who were holding out with obstinacy, using for that purpose jets of liquid flame.

Reinforcements joined the Germans, and from the captured first British line a murderous fire with rifles, machine guns and automatics was opened on the rear lines of the British. This rain of death was so deadly as to overpower the British reserves, who could not see whence it came and were unable to advance, owing to the severity of this fire.

ATTACK UPON ARRAS OPENS SECOND STAGE OF BATTLE

By ARTHUR S. DRAPER. London, March 29.—(Special Cablegram to Omaha Bee and New York Tribune.)—The Germans have begun a new attack in the Arras sector, widening their battle front by another 10 miles.

A violent bombardment of the British line, which runs six miles east of this battered French city, preceded the infantry attack.

There are three reasons for a drive in this quarter. The German line was beginning to form a rather sharp salient south of Arras. The main enemy attack has been checked in the Albert sector, and he can hope for little progress until the artillery catches up. The enemy evidently believes that the British have withdrawn their troops from the Arras sector to support Haig's army.

SECOND STAGE OPENS. The new offensive which opened the eighth day of the battle of Picardy may be considered as definitely marking the second stage of the colossal struggle in which approximately 2,000,000 soldiers are engaged. The Germans won a considerable success against the French during the night, capturing Montdidier, 11 miles southwest of Roye, an important road and railway center.

MARCH ASSURES AMERICA ENEMY CANNOT WIN WAR

U. S. Commander Expresses Confidence in Ultimate Triumph of Allied Armies.

Washington, March 29.—In a statement tonight Major General March, acting chief of staff, assured the American people that there is no cause for alarm in the advances made by the Germans in the great battle now raging in Picardy, and expressed complete confidence in triumph of the allied arms.

General March said: "Whatever may be the present ground held by the Germans; whatever sacrifice of men the situation may entail, the allies will see it through and will win."

Late tonight the general still was without word from General Pershing concerning the American troops participating in the battle. General Pershing's report today and tonight dealt entirely with the positions of the opposing forces yesterday, as described in the British and French official statements.

EXPECTS COUNTER ASSAULT. Announcement by Field Marshal Haig tonight that the German war machine along the whole British front had been beaten off today with heavy losses, gave new zest to speculation here as the allied counter assault officers feel certain will not long be delayed.

War department officials generally appeared to be satisfied that substantial American forces would enter the battle lines with the French when the signal for the counter blow is given.

Among the new divisions identified on the German front the War department is advised a few which have been brought back from Russia.

Baltimore Police Refuse to Allow Fulton-Willard Bout Baltimore, March 28.—On the ground that public opinion in this city was against the holding of a heavyweight prize fight here, the police board today declined to issue a permit for the proposed Willard-Fulton championship bout, for which application had been made earlier in the day.

Exhibition Games. Jacksonville, Fla., March 28. R.H.E. Philadelphia Americans..... 1 6 2 Pittsburgh Nationals..... 2 8 1 Miami, Fla., March 28. R.H.E. Philadelphia Nationals..... 8 16 4 Boston Nationals..... 8 14 4

Germany Pounces on Roumania's Oil Fields Washington, March 29.—German planes subjected Roumania to the sacrifices of a conquered province. State department advices today say, now has demanded that the little state turn over all her valuable oil fields to a German-controlled corporation.

Seeing Them Coming. THE Baltimore police have refused to permit the Willard-Fulton fight in the Maryland metropolis. Apparently the Baltimore police have cut their eye teeth.

From Our Near Neighbors

Valley. Mrs. John Fitzgerald was taken to the Nicholas Penn hospital in Omaha Monday for treatment for rheumatism.

Bill Brennan Fight Champ Of New York Cantonment Bill Brennan and Tex Kelly, professional boxers, are divisional champions at Camp Upton in the middleweight and heavyweight divisions.

Zulu Kid Tips Hand. The Zulu Kid has tipped his hand. No honest-to-goodness Zulu could be so tame as the New York brawler has shown himself in his recent bouts.

Today's Sport Calendar * Bench Shows—Annual show of Bulldog club of Canada at Montreal.

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JAPANESE SHIPS IN EXCHANGE FOR STEEL FROM U. S.

Under Agreement Between Nations Twelve Steamers of 100,000 Tons Capacity to Fly U. S. Flag.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 29.—Under the agreement between the United States and Japanese ship builders, 12 big steamers of about 100,000 tons dead weight capacity, soon will be brought under the American flag in return for supplies of steel.

In formally announcing the agreement tonight the War Trade board let it be known that through negotiations now in progress it hopes to have Japanese builders turn over 200,000 tons of new construction with steel furnished by the United States.

Deliveries of the ships at American ports are to begin not later than May, and to be finished in September, a progressively higher price per ton to be paid according to the month of delivery as a premium on early deliveries.

Further negotiations are in progress to secure from Japanese ship builders 200,000 additional tons of new construction, the ships to be built in return for new steel placed at the disposal of the builders by the War Trade board. Recent editorials in such papers as the Jiji Shimpo of Tokio, show an encouraging disposition in regard to the furnishing of tonnage for allied war needs.

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