

How It Looks Now in France

There Is Not Much Change Except in the Spaces Between the Villages.

SHOWS HAVOC UNDISTURBED

The Soldier Who Goes Back to His Dugout in the Woods Is Likely to Find That Only the Rains Have Reshaped It.

New York.—To any American coming back from France these days, the first greeting from a quondam member of the A. E. F. is always this: "Well, how's it look over there? Changed much?"

To which, after some futile short-lived notion of describing the great mutilated stretch of France, with its million discouragements and its thousand and one evidences of renewing life, the returning wanderer must needs answer:

"No, not much."

For the impression that the old battlefields make is of havoc undisturbed, paralysis unceasing, Alexander Woolcott writes in the North American Review. The soldier who goes back to his old dugout in the woods near Grand Pre is likely to find that only the steady rains have reshaped it, that the old helmet the shell-hit blew from his head still lies where it fell two years ago and more. The villages of the Meuse, the Ourcq, the Vesle and the Aisne look much as they did when the American troops trudged out of them for the last time. It is true that the rubble is gone from the streets, and the litter of stone has been reduced to neat piles of assorted pieces. Here and there a rough new cottage has been fashioned from the materials of its demolished predecessor. At intervals there are unfamiliar shacks and barracks. But on the whole, Montfaucon and Fere-en-Tardenois and Juvigny—they all look much as they did when the Yanks started home. Vaux that little Marne village which the artillery behind the ninth infantry blew to bits in the excitement of June, 1918—Vaux has only one new building. It is not much of a building at that—just a shack of wood and tarpaper. And it is not a dwelling at all. It is a buvette.

Where Improvements Are Seen.

It is in the spaces between the villages that the change is so remarkable. You see it even in the rolling land of the Argonne and the blasted countryside of the Chemin-des-Dames. For almost everywhere some tilling has been done.

Visitors to the American graves near Juvigny in the spring of 1919 marveled to find that the old quarries along the ravine on the side of the town, which had once served as divisional headquarters, message centers and dugouts in time of battle, were then serving as homes for the first six of the returning families, so that children were playing with the useless gas masks out in front while Spartan percer-neiges bloomed at cave entrances and the week's wash flapped in the wind.

Now another winter and another summer have gone by. The fields nearby have been largely cleared of their wire and shells and have yielded some food and a little income to Juvigny. Perhaps 200 people are back in the town.

It is because of this scantiness of reconstruction; as far as home building goes that, as you walk along a ruined street, Juvigny seems a deserted city. But it is hardly that and you realize as much with something of a thrill when in a clearing amid the rubble, you come upon a barrack and catch through the windows the unmistakable drone of childish voices. It is a school and a glance through the window shows row on row of pig-

tailed girls and black-smocked boys declaiming the fact that the Amazon is a river in l'Amerique du Sud or that Ceylon is an island where the tea comes from.

School in a Barracks.

Laboring with them patiently, his brow furrowed by his sense of the time that has been lost, you see a fatherly young Frenchman. Perhaps he was a corporal at Verdun when the armistice was signed.

As the American in France sees all

Sobs as He Tells of Son Taking Fortune

Montreal, Que.—A tragic story of a father's misplaced confidence which enabled his son to wreck the family fortune during his absence abroad was bared on the witness stand before Justice McLennan in Superior court by C. H. Cahane, K. C., one of Canada's most distinguished lawyers.

The witness burst into tears when he told how he had conferred power of attorney on his son, C. H. Cahane, Jr., trusting him absolutely to carry on his affairs while on a European trip, and returning home only to discover that he had been betrayed; that his son had absconded and the family fortune had been wiped out.

The remarkable case was revealed through a suit brought by the Corporation Agencies, Limited, against the Home Bank of Canada to recover \$206,023, the alleged defalcations of the son. The legal issue rests on whether the bank can be held to make good the amount.

Use of Forests Is Increasing in U. S.

National Reserves Becoming Recreation Grounds for Campers and Summer Residents.

MANY HOMES BEING BUILT

Income Promises to Be Important Source of Revenue to the United States—Specially Trained Men Needed in Service.

Washington.—That the use of the national forests for recreational purposes is increasing rapidly and bids fair to rank third among the major services performed by the national forests, with only timber production and stream flow regulation taking precedence over it, is the statement made by Col. W. E. Greeley, head of the forest service, in his annual report. Many summer homes are being erected in the national forests by private individuals, and the use of forests for other forms of out-of-door recreation was greater during the past year than ever before.

The summer home business promises to become an important source of revenue, Col. Greeley points out. On the Angeles forest in southern California, for example, a total of 1,329 permits for summer residences and commercial resorts were, he says, in effect at the close of the past fiscal year. The revenue from this one item amounted to approximately \$22,000. It is believed that within a few years the revenues obtained from the various rec-

reational settlements within the Angeles forest will pay the entire cost of protection and administration. Many western communities are recognizing the recreational resources of nearby national forests as one of their greatest assets and privileges, Col. Greeley says, and are establishing community camps under more or less formal organization.

No Charge to Public.—The picnic camps are improved by the construction of fireplaces, rustic tables and seats, and are made available to the public without any charge. The vacation camps under municipal direction charge merely the expense of feeding and caring for the successive groups of city people who enjoy their privileges.

The growth of the recreational resources of the national forests is so rapid that specially trained men are needed to direct and plan for the most effective development of this service, Col. Greeley says.

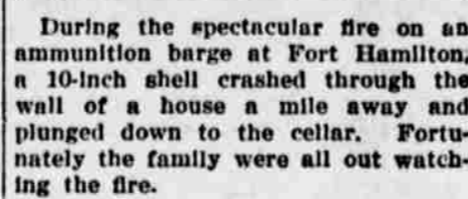
The protection of wild life and the recognition of the national forests as natural breeding grounds of fish and game is closely related to the development of the recreational resources. To make more effective the work of game protection, in co-operation with the state and local authorities, and to secure better development of the fish and game resources of the national forests, Col. Greeley believes that congress should make provision for the establishment of game sanctuaries within which wild life may find security. These sanctuaries, he says, should be relatively limited in area, but should be established in considerable number.

Elks Suffer Hardships.—Special attention is called by Col. Greeley to the necessity of additional protection for the harassed and decimated herds of elk using the Yellowstone National park and the surrounding forests. Famine and cold last winter took an unusually heavy toll from their number. Driven out of the high country by starvation and early snows, the northern herd suffered from hunters along the boundary line a percentage loss equal to that of a defeated army.

Many that escaped the hunters perished from cold and starvation before spring. The southern herd also lost heavily. As a result, the total number of animals in these two herds is now estimated by the best qualified officers in the forest service to equal half of their number five years ago.

The addition to the Absaroka and Gallatin forests of the lands still in government ownership and under withdrawal along the Yellowstone river north of Gardiner is urged by the chief forester. This land, he states, is urgently needed as winter range for the elk, and its addition to the national forests will materially relieve the situation without working an injustice to the local inhabitants whose live stock use the range. If this action is not taken the outlook for the northern elk herd is gloomy. The prospects for the southern herd are more bright, but additional purchase of land for summer feeding grounds appear absolutely essential.

SHELLED BY ACCIDENT



During the spectacular fire on an ammunition barge at Fort Hamilton, a 10-inch shell crashed through the wall of a house a mile away and plunged down to the cellar. Fortunately the family were all out watching the fire.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

Timely News Culled From All Parts of the State, Reduced for the Busy.

SCORES OF EVENTS COVERED

There is one automobile to every 5.9 persons in the state.

Comstock will have a big poultry and pet stock show the week of January 25th.

The Episcopal church at Arapahoe is building a new parsonage at a cost of \$5,000.

Seventeen applicants took the civil service examination held at Hebron last week.

The Catholic Workmen's National Bohemian Society will convene at Omaha January 20.

State Auditor Marsh, in a recent report, places the value of state property at \$165,077,384.

It is said that four women will be candidates for the nomination for mayor of Bloomfield.

The Alliance packing company organized last year, has been dissolved and retired from business.

North Platte officers found an illicit still in operation in a tank car on the railroad tracks at that place.

The municipal employment bureau at Omaha claims there are 10,000 unemployed persons in that city.

Sam Wickline, an Omaha restaurant man, found a rare blue pearl while opening oysters. It is said to be worth \$5,000.

Plans for a church costing \$100,000 in a downtown district are being discussed by the orthodox Greeks of Omaha.

A. K. Evans of Columbus has been designated as a candidate for entrance examination at West Point to be held in March.

Ross Wickersham died at a Fremont hospital from a gunshot wound received in a fight at Nickerson as the result of a poker game.

A church for children only has been established at Scottsbluff. One hundred and forty-five children attended the opening services.

Ceresco is to have a new financial institution to be known as the Union State Bank. The stockholders are principally farmers.

Lodgepole will have Sunday night moving picture shows begin an hour later than usual, so as not to conflict with church service.

At a recent meeting of the stockholders, it was decided to allow no gambling concessions of any nature at the Loup Valley fair next fall.

Geneva citizens have organized a "Fifty Year" club, to which anyone having lived in the county for fifty years is eligible for membership.

O. A. Rystrom of Stromsburg was elected president of the Midwest Implement Dealers association at the annual business meeting at Omaha.

Frank Delbridge a convict at the state prison, committed suicide by hanging himself to the upper bunk in his cell with a pair of suspenders.

A crowd so big that no hall at the state farm would hold it, attended the opening session of the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation at Lincoln.

Fire, thought to be caused from defective wiring, did considerable damage to the plant of the Register-Champion Printing company at Hebron last week.

J. B. Parker, a Beatrice pioneer, was found dead in bed one day last week, by his aged wife. It is supposed his death was the result of heart trouble.

Rev. Henry H. Martens of Lodgepole was entertained by members of the congregation, who, in honor of his 45th birthday, presented him a sack of silver coins.

The municipal skating pond at Osceola is now in operation and thronged with skaters from over the entire county. The pond is electrically lighted.

A \$10 per month increase in the pay of firemen and policemen has been voted by the city council of Omaha.

Samuel Jacobs, 86, oldest Odd Fellow in Nebraska, died at Omaha last week of illness incident to old age. Mr. Jacobs had lived in Nebraska fifty-five years.

A red fox was captured and killed in a circle hunt held near Adams. About 175 men joined in the roundup. It is the first of this species seen in this section in years.

Thirty-five street carmen in Omaha have been granted permission to carry firearms. The move was made as an endeavor to reduce holdups and lawlessness in that city.

Churches of Greenwood have acquired nearly a hundred new members as the result of a largely attended revival conducted by Evangelist W. D. Hamilton of University Place.

Oil bubbling forth in the creek in the very heart of Tekamah has caused considerable excitement among the citizens of that place over the prospective finding of a new oil field.

Inability to collect on its customers' notes is given as the reason for the closing of the doors of the First National bank at Chappell, pending action of the national bank examiner.

Beatrice citizens are petitioning for a special election to submit a proposition to the voters changing from the present commission form of government to the old mayor and council system.

Colorado capitalists are making arrangements to develop the clay deposits recently opened up near Wyoming, and which are said to be ideal for the manufacture of brick, tile and pottery.

One of the last acts of the Midwest Implement Dealers' association, before it closed its convention at Omaha, was to adopt five little Armenian orphans and donate \$300 for their support for a year.

Compared with 1919 there was a large falling off in live stock receipts at the packing house centers throughout the United States. This was apparent at Omaha, but more pronounced elsewhere.

Kappa Delta Phi, fraternity at the state university, has been granted a charter of Lambda Chi Alpha. The petition was made to the convention of the fraternity held in Indianapolis last week.

Mike and Bernard Tierney, who plead guilty to charges of stealing thirteen dozen shirts from a box car near Valley, were sentenced to three years in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth.

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Hunter, of Woodward, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last week in the Masonic hall, where their silver wedding anniversary was observed twenty-five years ago.

Attorney General Davis has filed a brief in supreme court defending the right of the juvenile court in the carrying out of the objects for which it was created, to try and sentence adults without calling in a jury.

Electric light and power rates have been boosted in Stanton from 12 and 6 cents to 14 and 8 cents, respectively.

Fifty head of Durocs were sold at Beaver City by J. C. Forney for \$6,500, an average of \$130 a head.

During 1920 there was shipped from Hay Springs 100 cars of cattle, 170 cars of hogs, fifty four cars of wheat and 106 cars of potatoes. Conservative estimates of the value of the foregoing shipment would be over \$800,000.

Mrs. Evelyn Priess McElhane, convicted of murdering Earl B. Anderson at Alliance and sentenced to 30 years in the penitentiary, is now an inmate of that institution and has been assigned to the laundry department.

R. J. Dunham has been re-elected president, and Everett Buckingham remained vice president and general manager of the Union Stock Yards at Omaha. Mr. Buckingham has been a director of the company for 15 years, nine of which he has served as vice president and general manager.

Edwin Smith, a member of the Nebraska City high school basketball team, fractured his collar bone while at practice and will be out of the game for several weeks. Last fall, just before the opening of the foot ball season, young Smith fractured the same bone and was out of the game during the entire season.

During 1920, the state of Nebraska paid \$25,533,002.90 revenue to the federal government through the Omaha internal revenue office, according to announcement by the office of Collector George L. Loomis. This was an increase of over \$1,300,000 since 1919, when the collections for the district totalled \$24,233,004.96.

The state railway commission has issued an order permitting the American Railway Express Co. to increase its present rates in the state 12 1/2 per cent beginning January 15. The company had asked for a 15 per cent increase.

C. A. Sorenson, chairman of the Non-partisan League of Nebraska, has issued a call for a mass meeting of men and women voters to be held at Lincoln, January 19 and 20, for the purpose of making demands on the legislature for a "constructive program of economic, political and social progress."

According to a report issued by State Auditor George W. Marsh, state taxes delinquent for the years 1917, 1918 and 1919 can be considered collectible to about 97 per cent, while taxes unpaid for the years 1911 to 1916 are good to about 25 per cent. Of those prior to 1910, only about two per cent will ever be collected.

Workmen of Nebraska suffered 25,027 accidents during the two-year period ending January 1, according to the biennial report of Frank Kennedy, secretary of the State Department of Labor. Of these accidents 78 were fatal.

REPORT ON PRISON

RECEIVE MORE PRISONERS IN 1920 THAN DURING ANY PREVIOUS YEAR

PENITENTIARY IS CROWDED

Warden Blames War and Automobiles for Many Crimes Committed—Reformatory Is Recommended for First Offenders

Lincoln—More prisoners were admitted to the Nebraska state penitentiary in 1920 than during any previous year. Three hundred and fifty-seven persons were received at the institution during the year, according to figures given out at Warden W. T. Fenton's office. This exceeds by 67 the number of prisoners received during 1916, the next highest year.

The war, strict enforcement of the law and automobiles are blamed by Warden Fenton for the increase. Many of the prisoners admitted during 1920 were sent up charged with stealing automobiles.

Since the prison was established in 1869, it has shown a steady increase in the number admitted each year. When the prison was completed in 1869 there was one prisoner to be admitted. During the next few months, 10 others were admitted. In 1870, the first year the prison was open, 38 prisoners were admitted. From that year until 1884 the number admitted each year was less than 100. From 1884 until 1894, the number ranged from 100 to 200 yearly. In 1894, the number jumped to 272, but fell back to less than 200 in 1895. From 1895 until 1911, the number ranged from 136 to 223. The present population of the penitentiary is 550. Of this number, all but four are men.

Governor McKelvie has recommended to the legislature that funds be provided at this session for the erection of a reformatory for first offenders. An appropriation of \$150,000 for a reformatory was made by the legislature in 1913, but it was never built. The governor will include an appropriation for a reformatory in his budget, to be presented to the legislature.

Appropriation Bill Introduced

Without waiting for Governor McKelvie to send in the budget for departmental and institutional appropriations, Representative Morlan of Madison county introduced a bill to provide \$35,000 of additional funds for building, equipping and furnishing a combined kitchen, dining room and dormitory at the Norfolk state hospital for the insane.

If the budget should include an item for that purpose, it will take precedence over Mr. Morlan's bill. The new constitution says that the legislature shall not increase any budget item except by three-fifths vote of each chamber.

Governor Invited to Inauguration

Governor McKelvie has received from A. B. McClean, chairman of the District of Columbia inaugural committee, a personal invitation to attend the ceremonies attending Senator Harding's inauguration as president on March 4. The governor plans to accept.

Welfare Bills Introduced

The movie censorship bill and fifty-two others proposed by the children's code commission, in connection with its program calling for appropriations totaling \$359,000, and the creation of a number of new state jobs, are now before the Nebraska legislature.

Receipts Over Million Dollars

Receipts of the Nebraska state treasury in December were \$1,732,380.67 and disbursements \$1,415,240, according to the monthly report of State Treasurer Cropsey. During December, overdrawn accounts were reduced from \$2,089,631 to \$1,834,162, with a cash balance at the end of the month of \$998,370.

Senate Selects Clerical Force

The senate committee on employes has announced that twenty-nine workers have been placed on the clerical staff—including women—at salaries of \$5 and \$6 a day, except the pages, who are to get \$3 a day.

The payroll will amount to \$156 a day if all are working.

Attacks Primary Laws

Representative Douglas of Polk county has launched an attack on the direct primary as it now exists by introducing a bill that would bar from the primary election only those nominated by a state convention. Each party convention takes one preference ballot, and the three high persons run in the succeeding primary.

Reject Hospital Bids

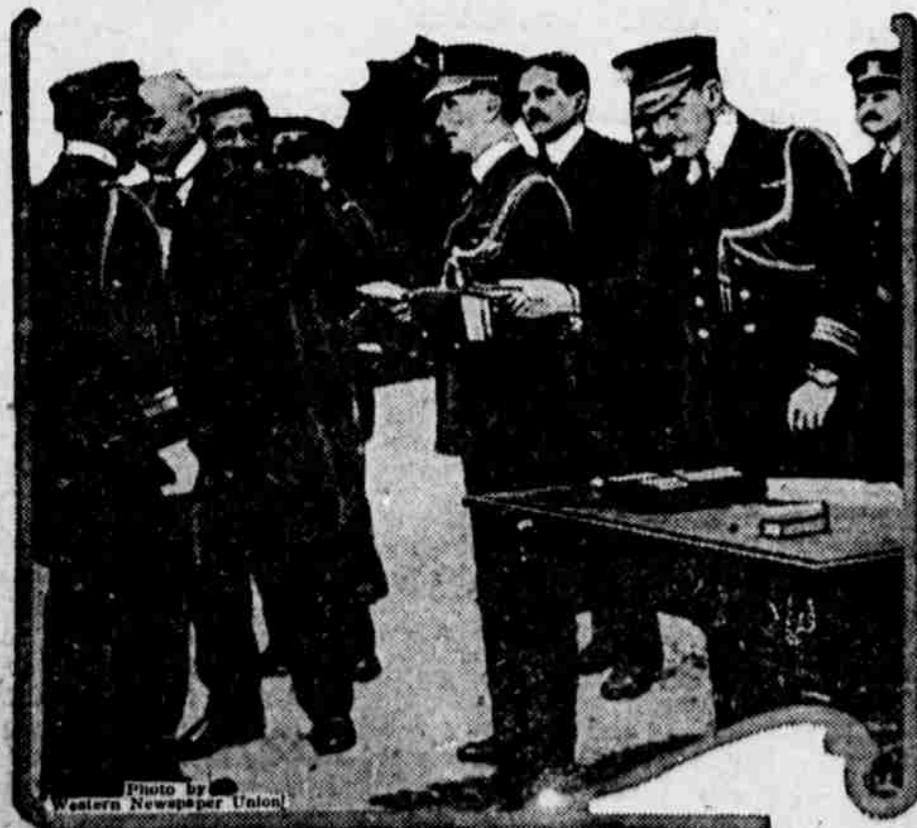
Bids on the proposed new kitchen and dining room for the Norfolk hospital for the insane, which were opened by the board of control, and which ranged from \$86,000 to \$111,000, not including plumbing, heating or equipment, were all rejected because the board had only \$75,000 appropriated to cover all the expense of the building and equipment.

New Parole Regulations

Not a man of the 110 at the Nebraska penitentiary subject to parole can be released without a formal hearing and notice of it given to the trial judge, the sheriff and the county attorney of the county in which he was convicted.

The new constitutional amendment creating the board of pardons and paroles so provides, according to Secretary of State D. M. Ansberry, secretary of the board, whose other members are Governor McKelvie and Attorney General Clarence A. Davis.

America Decorates French Heroes



American ambassador Hugh Campbell Wallace, in the name of the United States government, presenting distinguished services and navy crosses to about one hundred officers of the French army and navy. The presentation was made in the gardens of the American embassy in Paris.