

CHEERING WORDS FOR SOLDIER KIN

Figures Show Chances Overwhelmingly in Favor of Young Men Returning Alive and Well.

By A. R. GROH.

Little mother, is your tender heart filled with apprehension because your son has marched off to war or is going to march off to war? Do you awaken in the still watches of the night with the fear that your boy may not come back to you?

Let me speak words that shall comfort the mother heart of you. I shall not speak here about the honor that rests upon your son and upon you because he is a soldier of his country. You know that without being told, I shall show you simply that the chances are overwhelmingly in favor of his coming back to your arms alive and well.

There has been so much news of great battles and wholesale destruction that I think the dangers of soldiering have been exaggerated in our minds.

Let us look this question squarely in the face and consider it at its worst. Estimates of the number of men killed in this war, so far, vary from five to seven millions. The smaller of these figures is probably up to July 1 reported only 1,032,800 Germans and Austrians killed and died of wounds in the whole war. It is hardly likely that the other nations made up a grand total to five or seven millions.

Only One In Seven. But even if we take those high figures and remember that about 40,000,000 men are fighting it shows that only about one man in seven has been killed in these three years. Millions of men who have been fighting ever since the war started are just as fit today as ever.

It means, good mother, that your boy can be a soldier in the war for a year and have twenty chances out of twenty-one of coming out all right. Even if the war should go on for three years more he would have six chances out of seven of being with the boys that come marching home again.

Look at our own civil war. The figures on that have been compiled accurately and they show that only one soldier in 100 was killed in a year of fighting. In the four years 110,070 were killed or died of wounds in the Union army of 2,773,000 men. In other words, only one man in twenty-five in the four years!

Disease Is Reduced. In that war, 199,720 died of disease. But sanitary science has reduced disease in the army to a mere tiny fraction today. Typhoid and typhus fevers which used to slay their thousands of soldiers are now practically unknown in the army.

The total number of deaths in the Union army from the above-named causes and from accidents, prison camps, etc., totaled 349,944. This means that, out of every eight men who went into the army, seven came out alive when the war was over.

In other words, out of 1,000 soldiers who were in the war, 875 were alive when the war was over. Why, little mother, the death rate among soldiers isn't as high as the death rate among babies under one year of age. Not half so high. Your boy was in much greater danger of death when he was a tiny baby than he is now when he is a soldier.

Let us not forget that death comes in times of peace, too. It must come some time. Every day in this country death takes its toll of 4,600 souls, young and old. Every minute of every hour we are exposed to it. The soldier is only a little more exposed than the civilian.

Do you remember what Alan Seeger, the young American soldier in France, wrote to his mother? This is a part of his letter:

"You must not feel anxious about my coming back. The chances are about ten to one that I shall. But if I should not, you must be proud, like a Spartan mother, and feel that it is your contribution to a cause whose righteousness you feel so keenly. Death is nothing terrible after all. It may mean something more wonderful than life."

And so, good mother, be proud of your boy. And rest secure in the knowledge that in all probability he will come marching back to you, covered with glory and will be a better man, because of his service for his country in an army where his moral and physical welfare are safeguarded.

Be of good cheer, little mother. The future is bright and the best is yet to be.

Sitka Spruce Will Be Used In Making Airplanes. Seattle, July 11.—A steamer that arrived in Seattle June 20 brought the first shipment of Sitka spruce from Alaska for use in making airplanes. This wood is superior to any other for lightness and strength, and rods sixty feet long without a knot or blemish are easily obtained.

Much of this spruce has already been shipped to Europe from British Columbia, Oregon and Washington. Sitka spruce is the dominant tree of the Alaska coast region and was for a long time regarded with contempt by lumbermen and used only for fish boxes. Now it is the hope of the United States for paper pulp and airplane frames.

Russian botanists, with headquarters at Sitka, the old Russian capital of Alaska, discovered the tree and gave it the specific name sitchensis, after the town. Later the tree was found to be identical with the colossal tideland spruce of the Washington and Oregon coast—hollow trees which furnish room enough for a family to live in. These large trees are not valuable, for they are all brittle heartwood, whereas the white, new wood is desired. The tree in Alaska is not long-lived, but the big spruce trees of Oregon and Washington are 500 years old or more.

Deported Man Draus First Bisbee Number. Bisbee, Ariz., July 21.—The first number drawn in the selective draft today in Chocoma county was held by Alexander Duarte, now in the detention camp at Columbus, N. M. Duarte, a coal hauler, employed by the El Paso and Southwestern railroad, at Lowell, was deported July 12 with the band of alleged Industrial Workers of the World members and sympathizers.

WOOD RIVER BOY GOES TO ANNAPOLIS.



Daniel Q. Root of Wood River, Neb., has been named by Congressman A. C. Shallenberger as the representative of the Fifth district of Nebraska at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis. Root has passed the examinations and will report at the naval academy July 24.

MORE INFLATION IN COST OF NEWSPRINT

Official Report of Canadian Commission Discloses Arbitrary Basis of Large Paper Manufacturers.

Toronto, Ont., July.—The publication of the official report of the proceedings of the Royal commission on newsprint paper has brought to light further instances of the inflation of cost figures by the paper manufacturers on their returns to Commissioner Pringle.

The statement of the Donnacoma Paper company, Ltd., showed a sudden increase in the cost of newsprint paper from \$29.21 a ton in 1915 to \$45.39 a ton in 1916 and \$50.20 a ton during the first four months of 1917. George M. McKee, general manager of this company, admitted that the returns for 1916 and the first four months of 1917 were based on arbitrary figures of \$50 a ton for sulphite and \$25 a ton for ground wood instead of the actual cost of production.

George Chahoon, jr., president of the Laurentide company, limited, admitted under cross-examination that after the first session of the present investigation some of the manufacturers who make their own sulphite had discussed among themselves the prices at which sulphite and ground wood should be entered in the replies to Commissioner Pringle's questionnaire and had decided upon \$50 a ton for sulphite and \$25 a ton for ground wood. On his return home, Mr. Chahoon had telegraphed to each of the manufacturers his personal opinion that it would be satisfactory to the commissioner if the statements were made out along those lines.

George H. Millen, president and general manager of E. B. Eddy company, limited, admitted that in the statement of that company for the first four months of 1917 sulphite had been entered at \$80 a ton and ground wood has been entered at \$30 a ton, although the actual cost of production during that period was \$45.96 a ton for sulphite and \$18.84 a ton for ground wood. With the use of these arbitrary figures there was shown a cost for roll news of \$61.91 a ton.

The use of the figures of actual cost given by Mr. Millen would reduce the cost to \$45.13 a ton.

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Kleffner Dies at Home

Miss Regina Mary Kleffner, 17 years old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Kleffner, 2218 South Thirty-first street, died at her home Saturday noon of heart trouble. She had been ill five weeks.

Her father is superintendent of mails in the Omaha postoffice. Funeral services will be held from the residence at 8:30 o'clock Monday morning to St. Peter's church at 9 o'clock. Interment will be in St. Mary's cemetery.

Score of Persons Injured In Seattle Street Car Riot

Seattle, Wash., July 21.—In a riot today in the business district twenty persons were injured by flying stones and bricks, when an attempt was made by the Puget Sound Traction, Light and Power company to operate cars through the streets. Sixteen hundred platform men struck Tuesday for recognition of their union.

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LODGE ROOM NEWS OF GREATER OMAHA

Seymour Camp, Woodmen of the World, Says Adieu to Members of Drill Team, Who Enlist.

Omaha-Seymour Camp No. 16, Woodmen of the World, gave a farewell stag party Tuesday evening, in honor of the drill team, the championship record of which dates back to 1898, the year of its organization. Owing to the fact that the majority of the members of the team have enlisted, it was decided to disband and Tuesday evening was the last opportunity for the team and the camp members to get together in a final evening of good fellowship. Dr. John E. Simpson presided, delivering a farewell address. Captain Charles M. Richards was presented with an emblematic watch fob by the camp as an expression of its appreciation of his leadership during the last eight years.

Druid Camp No. 24 will give a reception and entertainment Monday night for the members of the Druid Guards that have enlisted. This team won the honors at the district encampment last year, which entitled it to a trip to the national encampment at Mobile, Ala. Captain George Benjamin has been commissioned as lieutenant in the "Dandy Sixth." The reception will be the last opportunity for the members of the camp to bid the boys in the team Godspeed. A bunch of new members have been added to the camp in the last few weeks.

Komenius Camp No. 76 added two new members last week. The new clerk, James Rehal, says there will be many more to follow.

South Side Camp No. 211 will introduce several new members Wednesday evening.

Benson Camp No. 288 is making preparations for a big time August 7, when Alpha camp will meet and work on candidates.

Camp No. 523 is going ahead with its new hall. It will be ready for dedication soon. The boys expect to have a big time.

Dante Camp No. 533 was organized and instituted Wednesday night by the city manager and Deputy Jerry Jelen. The following officers were elected: Consul commander, Louis Noble; adviser, lieutenant, Frank Roberto; banker, Joe Moneta; clerk, Carl Noble; escort, L. Sebastiano; watchman, Sam Mattili; sentry, Tony Longo. This camp promises to be one of the live wires.

Alpha Camp No. 1 will confer the protection degree on a class of candidates for Benson camp Tuesday evening, August 7. B. & M. Camp No. 945, Modern Woodmen of America, will give a stag entertainment for the members of the camp ball team Tuesday evening, in the club rooms, 220 Bee building. All members of the ball team and camp are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Nebraska Lipa camp No. 183 held a well attended meeting last Thursday, in spite of the warm weather. Several applications for new members were turned in by hustlers of the camp, and after being balloted on, were accepted. Special business of importance was transacted and after being disposed of the meeting adjourned and was followed by a social card party.

Woodmen Circle

W. A. Fraser Grove No. 1 will give an ice cream social in Crouse hall Friday evening, July 27.

Brotherhood of American Yoemen

Last Wednesday evening Omaha Homestead No. 1404 held a regular business meeting. Grand Foreman of the Order George N. Frink of Des Moines was present. A large class was initiated. Refreshments were served. The next regular business meeting will be August 1. The new district manager, Edgar Michener, has started a campaign for membership.

Knights of Pythias

Nebraska Lodge No. 1 will hold its regular weekly meeting Monday at 8 p. m. at Crouse hall. There will be work in the rank of knight for the benefit of a sojourning esquire from Fremont, O., who is at present in the United States army and stationed in Omaha. Council Bluffs boys will be over in force to look and assist if called on. The chef promises a real watermelon feed. Every knight in the city should be present at this meeting.

Brother George Westergaard, sergeant in the quartermaster's corps, United States army, has been ordered to the colors and will report for duty in the next few days at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Committees from St. Albans No. 17 and Nebraska No. 1 will meet in secret session after the meeting next Monday night and arrange definite

MISS CHRISTIE HARRINGTON
—Of New York, boasts the honor of being the first woman in America to act as a uniformed personal bodyguard to another woman. She has been accepted for that role by Mrs. Grace Humiston, the attorney who solved the Ruth Cruger mystery.



MISS CHRISTIE HARRINGTON

plans for the big joint picnic to be held in the near future. Watch for further announcement later.

Order Daughters of St. George

A public installation of the newly elected officers will be held in the lodge rooms, Lyric building, Wednesday at 8 p. m., and all friends are cordially invited to be present. At the conclusion of the ceremony a social evening will be spent in connection with the Shakespeare Lodge.

The well known aviator, Sergeant Hill, who is detailed by the British army to service at Fort Omaha, will give a short address to the members. His experiences in France, where he allowed to tell of them in full, could be found more thrilling than the widest imagination of fiction.

Otto Bridge, the gifted entertainer, will be on deck, having now removed to Omaha from Sioux City. His many friends will give him a hearty welcome.

Will Send Guardsmen To France This Winter

Washington, July 21.—In response to protests against training of northern National Guardsmen in southern state, a letter from Secretary Baker, read today in the senate, said the arrangement had been made for climatic reasons and that the guardsmen probably cannot be sent to France before cold weather.

Bigamist Sent to Prison From Gage County

Beatrice, Neb., July 21.—(Special Telegram.)—Grant Satterlee of Kansas City, who was married in this city on June 16, 1917, to Pearl Catherine Johnson, pleaded guilty in district court today to the charge of bigamy and was sentenced to from one to ten years in the penitentiary. Satterlee was arrested at Fairbury and was brought here for trial. He deserted his wife and baby at Kansas City about a week ago.

TALKS TO PARROT OVER TELEPHONE

Owner Converses With "Polly" at Park Avenue Hotel and Wise Bird Seemed to "Get It."

New York, July 11.—Many necks craned in the Park Avenue hotel recently when a medley of squawks, clucks and other shrill sounds proceeded from a telephone booth, where a man seemed to be in the throes of a new form of heat prostration. That diagnosis proved to be wrong, however, when a few minutes later Mr. Edward Alcott, who lives at the hotel, emerged with the explanation that his strange vocal efforts had been made in behalf of his pet parrot, Billy.

Billy was at the other end of the telephone in White Plains, where he and his playmate, Jerry, who long have lived at the Park Avenue, had been taken for a sojourn by Mrs. Alcott. It was at Mrs. Alcott's suggestion that Billy had been induced to hold a conversation with his master.

Billy is a parrot with a remarkable capacity for fitting his sayings to the occasion. He gave proof of that on his occasion and all of vividly associating words and what they represent. Mr. Alcott declares, by bawling out, "Get off—you're on a busy wire," "Hurry up and pass that call," "Cut that 'don't answer' stuff," by repeating other words and sentences of human language and by otherwise imitating the alternating petulance and politeness of telephonic converse.

"I know Billy had the receiver in his claw," asserted Mr. Alcott, "and when he heard my voice he quickly had his beak at the transmitter. But that's nothing for a bird who, when

Council Bluffs and Cedar Rapids Escape

Late advices say no one will be drafted from either Council Bluffs or Cedar Rapids. Both of these towns have furnished their quota of men to the army through enlistments in the regular army and also in the organization of military companies.

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