

# COMEDIAN MAKES SOME HIT WITH FUNSTON COLONEL

### Officer at Army Post Is Played Up as Hero of One of Big Riotous Comedies Presented to Soldiers.

Camp Funston, Kan., March 22.—(Special.)—A clever young comedian in a theatrical company at Army City scored a hit and convulsed the cantonment when he conceived the idea of making Lieutenant Colonel Crimmins the hero of a riotous musical comedy, presented before a soldier audience.

# GOVERNOR WHITMAN SAYS WILL SEEK THIRD TERM.



CHARLES S. WHITMAN.

Governor Charles S. Whitman of New York has announced his candidacy for a third term. It was widely expected that he would be elected to a third term. The governor said: "I am ready to meet all comers at the primaries for the republican gubernatorial nomination."

# Federal Appointments and Transfers in West

Washington Bureau of The Omaha Bee, 1811 G Street, Washington, March 22.—(Special Telegram.)—Sue V. Wolfe, Sheridan, Wyo., and Margaret K. Vandiest, Lincoln, Neb., were appointed clerks in the War department.

Captain Frank S. Treadway, quartermaster reserve corps, is relieved from duty as assistant to quartermaster at Fort D. A. Russell, and will proceed to St. Louis, Mo.  
Frank L. Melvin, appointed postmaster at Mendocino, Calif., county, Neb., vice Emma Davis resigned, and Paul E. Bellamy, at Hardin Grove, Haakon county, S. D., vice Edwin H. Sprungling, resigned.

Rural letter carriers appointed for Nebraska: John Nelson, Jr., Nebraska City; William J. Dougherty, New Castle; Glenn H. Williams, St. Edward; Harry S. Haynes, Sterling; Harry J. Bright, Venus; Eugene L. Zimmerman, Buffalo.

South Dakota: Herbert V. Huntley, Avon; Clarence W. Peterson, Burke; William W. Wood, Gayville; Ray E. Bridge, Ward; Grove H. Flindt, Frederick; John R. Udseth, Summit.

# Boy Scouts Preparing For Spring Cleaning Day

Spring housecleaning day for Omaha is close at hand. "Get ready to clean up those ash piles, tin cans and other litter early," says John W. Welch, scout commissioner. "The Boy Scouts will get you if you don't watch out."  
These lads did their bit last spring. They were asked to make a survey of the entire town, take notes on sanitary conditions in yards, hand out circulars urging the necessity for cleaning up for summer, and urge on the people the importance of making Omaha a city beautiful.

"I am for the Boy Scouts all the time," says Mayor Dahlman, in commenting on the work of the boys. "The training a boy receives as a result of being a scout is, to my mind, the greatest manly training the world has ever known," is the tribute paid to the boys by President W. H. Clarke of the Rotary club.

# Crack Shot Liberates Elk

Taking a shot at an elk to liberate him without using a gun is an unusual thing to do, but it has happened.  
Elk are protected in Utah, and the animal is the special care of the state fish and game department.  
R. H. Siddoway, state fish and game commissioner, recently received word from a hunter, deputy game warden at Logan, that he was obliged to come to the rescue of a big male elk by using his rifle on the animal. A crack shot is, to my mind, the greatest manly training the world has ever known," is the tribute paid to the boys by President W. H. Clarke of the Rotary club.

Nothing in the army regulation prevents women from climbing the hill bordering Funston, however, and the elevation provided grandstand seats for hundreds who spent hours picking out "the place where Johnny sleeps," and "the barracks where Jimmy lives," from among the hundreds of buildings spread out below.  
Depot Busy Place.  
The headquarters information bureau, in charge of Orderly Hirschman, took care of the majority of the crowd, which arrived on the interurban cars. However, the camp receiving station, near the depot to which visitors arriving from a distance via train go first, was also a busy point.

There is a long line formed with the arrival of the first early morning train. Some of the visitors had come from as far away as Arizona, and a few affecting reunions were mingled with the many happy scenes. Everyone carried bundles.  
It is estimated that a ton of good things to eat were brought in by today's visitors for the boys. Many carried a huge armload of the duty appreciated delicacies and there were picnic parties by the score up on the hill, while the Young Women's Christian association cafeteria fed hundreds.  
One of Freaks of War.  
A recent reunion at Camp Funston illustrated another of the many coincidences of war. Years ago Alfred Bouchet and Fernand Reich were schoolmates in France. Afterward Bouchet went to London where he entered business, while Reich remained in Paris. When the war broke out both entered the French army in different branches, but never saw each other. It was one of the freaks of war, that the old friends, now lieutenants in the service of the tricolor, should both be assigned to the French military mission to this country, and they met recently at Funston for the first time, both going there for duty as instructors.

The importance of the salute in the making of a well-disciplined soldier has again been impressed upon Funston in a bulletin from Major General Ballou, ordering all commanders to make it a fixed part of their drill until the men are proficient. "This phase of the soldiers' training must be considered vital instead of casual," the bulletin reads, "and the individual should not be classed as proficient until he can perform the act of saluting with the bearing and look of pride that are so vitally necessary to the accomplishment of the real salute."  
War Finance Passes House.  
Washington, March 22.—The administration bill to establish a war finance corporation was passed by the house today, 369 to 2.

# GERMANS TIRE OF BATTLE; WAR'S END AWAITS VICTORY

### Staff Correspondent of London Times Declares Berlin Merry Despite Conflict; Food Conditions Good.

(London Times Special Correspondence.) Amsterdam, Feb. 21.—A traveler who had just arrived from Berlin told me today that he reached Berlin at the moment of the outbreak of the strikes, but saw little of them as he kept away from the quarters principally affected.  
He arrived in Berlin at the Potsdam station, and was struck by the large reinforcements of police visible everywhere. In the royal castle there were, it was said, two companies of machine gun soldiers; he was informed that they had 24 machine guns altogether.  
Although the strike caused alarm it did not paralyze the activities of the city, as traffic was interrupted only in some localities.  
My informant declared that the population of the towns were suffering severely from underfeeding, but the country folk experience less hardship from privation. His view is that March and April will be the time of greatest difficulty from the food point of view, but if this critical period is passed, Germany will be able to go on again for another year, apart from any possible supplies from the Ukraine. Germany will be able to suffer terribly from the effects of the war, but will never give way from privation alone.

# Victory Will End War.

"If the Germans get a good licking, he continued, collapse will come very quickly, and will be terrific, for the German people, including the officers, are heartily sick of fighting. Soldiers and officers will do anything to get excused from serving at the front."  
"When I was in Berlin I noticed incessant troop transports from east to west. Trains were continually arriving at the terminal of the eastern lines with troops going to the west front."  
In Berlin itself I only noticed one machine-gun battalion passing through the streets. It was about 500 strong. The troops were very smart, and the officers well mounted. Their horses' hair was long, indicating that they were from the East front.  
There is an enormous amount of dishonesty in connection with food in Berlin, where bread and meat cards are easily purchasable. I bought a bread card for five marks (shillings). It is said that millions of forged cards are in circulation. People with money can get anything in the food way.

# Plenty to Eat.

I lunched at one of the first wine restaurants in Berlin, and paid one mark for a plate of very decent vegetable soup, and 6m. 50pf. for a good portion of goose with a few potatoes. In the boarding house where I stayed, meat was served with lunch every day. The proprietress obtained it surreptitiously. She charged 10 marks for a simple luncheon. Still there is no question that a food shortage exists, the absence of fat particularly causing great hardship to the population as a whole.  
Berlin, although dark, only one street-lamp in about three being lighted, is still gay in some respects. Officers on leave are very numerous, and spend money freely. As a natural consequence, fast life with the female hangers-on forces itself the more strongly on the attention. The theaters also are packed every night. All soldiers returning home on leave, bring food from the front to their relatives and their friends. When they return to the front they carry medicines and other necessities, thus acting as commission agents.  
In Berlin I heard that about ten policemen were killed during the strikes, but when a state of siege was proclaimed the strikers' enthusiasm cooled. They were told that they would be sent to the front if they did not resume work. Upon this they asked if being sent to the front was a punishment where did the honor come in for the soldiers in such glowing terms. However, they gave way before the threat of the military authority.

At the end of January and beginning of February there was great interference with the railway traffic while the Germans were completing their concentration of troops in the west. I experienced no difficulty in travelling, however, when I left subsequent to this date.

# English People Reserve Calm During World's Greatest Clash

### (By Associated Press.) London, March 22.—Although a battle is being fought which is likely to develop into the greatest struggle of modern history, and perhaps settle the result of the war, the English people preserve the same quiet calm they have worn for the last four years. There are no signs of unusual excitement or nervousness in London. No crowds outside the newspaper offices or elsewhere.

The statement made by Andrew Bonar Law in the House of Commons was circulated in the hotels and other public places. That is the last news of the great struggle before they see the morning papers, but Bonar Law's words have carried much assurance.

# U. S. WILL CURTAIL RAIL EXPENSES

### First Act of Director General Prescribes Basis of Compensation to Owners During Federal Operation.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 22.—The first act of Director General McAdoo, after President Wilson signed the railroad bill which provides \$500,000,000 revolving fund, and prescribes a basis of compensation to the owners during federal operation, was a bill to restrict the operations of the railroad companies. Inasmuch as the government has now undertaken largely the financing of improvements and purchase of new equipment the order will serve as a safeguard to the big working fund.  
The signing of the bill opens the way for the railroad administration to proceed with necessary extensions, with the negotiation of agreements on compensation, and with other forms of financial assistance to the companies.  
Lovett at Head.  
Without waiting for the railroad bill to pass the final stage of the president's approval, Mr. McAdoo had created in the railroad administration a division of capital expenditures headed by Robert S. Lovett, former director of priorities for the war industries board, to supervise the regulation of additions and betterments.

This division will scan all requests for the building of new terminals, extensions of lines, purchase of locomotives, cars and other equipment, and all other enterprises requiring expenditure of capital.  
Engineers of the railroad administration will report on the physical necessity of proposed betterments before these are considered by higher officials. After being approved by Mr. Lovett and the director general, proposals involving capital expenditures will go to the division of finance and purchases, headed by John Skelton Williams, for execution.

Buildings and Grain Burn.  
York, Neb., March 22.—(Special Telegram.)—Fire destroyed several buildings on the farm owned by Dennis Mahan and occupied by Dan Keef a few miles north of this city Wednesday. Fifteen hundred bushels of oats, 1,500 bushels of corn, two autos, two wagons and a lot of farm implements were destroyed.

Curiosity.  
A dashing lieutenant colonel, former member of the general staff, was approached by a recently drafted man.  
"What might your name be? Do you belong to this bunch?"  
"Yes, the colonel in charge."  
"Well, I see the balance of 'em busy around here, and I don't see you doing anything. How does a fellow go about getting your job?"—Everybody's Magazine.

Charles F. Feemster Dies At Brother's Home in York.  
York, Neb., March 22.—(Special.)—Frank Record of Stromsburg and Addie A. McDuffie of Netica were married by Judge Hopkins Monday.  
Charles F. Feemster died at home of his brother, H. C. Feemster, 936 Florida avenue, after an illness of one week of erysipelas. Mr. Feemster had charge of the manual training department of the Stromsburg high school. Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon.  
The Board of Education opened bids for furniture to be placed in the new \$135,000 school building. The Omaha School Supply company obtained the contract.

Holdrege Second Auto Show Opens With Fine Spectacles.  
Holdrege, Neb., March 22.—(Special.)—The second annual Holdrege auto show opened with a bang yesterday. The affair would do credit to any city and in most every way but size, it outclasses any show in the middle west. The displays are first class, the decorations extraordinary in every detail and the entertainments of the highest order.

Wednesday afternoon Swanberg's orchestra gave a splendid concert.  
The Holdrege Automobile Dealers' association, which is behind the show, is a permanent organization, composed of the eight local auto dealers, all of whom are keen business men. C. Engstrom, senior member of the Engstrom Motor company, is president of the organization and R. W. Kiplinger of the Kingsbury & Kiplinger firm is secretary and treasurer.

Noonday Club Now Sponsors For Foreign-Born Sailor.  
The members of the Noonday club are sponsors of a navy recruit, Emil Ela, of Sioux City, Ia., Austrian-born enemy of the kaiser, who was presented to them by Ensign Condit of the navy at the monthly meeting held in the Chamber of Commerce last night.

The sailor boy was sworn into service and the oath of allegiance was given at the meeting in the presence of the club members.  
The boy's father and mother are still in Austria and the son, who has heard no word from them for some time, is worried about them.

Has Nine Relatives in France; Visits Dr. Callfas.  
Thomas Hilliard and Mrs. Hilliard, here from Canada, are visiting the home of Dr. William F. Callfas. Mr. Hilliard is prominent in insurance circles in the north.  
He has two sons, two grandsons, one son-in-law, three nephews and one niece in the service in France. One of the boys are commissioned officers in the British army. One, Lieutenant Harry Hilliard, was severely wounded, but he is still in the service.

Omaha Food Prices Compare Favorably With Other Cities.  
Comparison of Omaha's retail prices of fundamental foods with prices maintained in 35 other cities of the United States shows that consumers are getting lowest prices. Omaha is below the average on all but two articles.

# GERMAN ATTACK NOT BIG DRIVE, SAY OFFICIALS

### Believe Tumult of German Artillery Cloaks Some Other Purpose; Supremely Confidential Line Will Hold.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 22.—Even word from London that the drive launched by the Germans on the west front is on a larger scale than any undertaken since the war began has failed to convince American military observers that the long-heralded German offensive is at hand.  
They are waiting for the usual scope of the enemy action against both British and French fronts to be made clear, and still believe that the logic of the situation points away from a German offensive in the west at this time.  
There was a distinct feeling tonight that the tumult of the German guns might cloak some other purpose than to commit the issue of the war to desperate onslaughts against the all but impregnable allied lines in the west. Supreme confidence in the power of those lines to resist the shock characterized the expressions of all officials.

May Hasten End.  
Some high army officers, heretofore confident that the German position on all fronts made a defensive attitude in the west almost mandatory, viewed with eagerness the possibility that a great thrust at Paris or the channel ports had been actually set in motion. They believed only some internal pressure that would not brook wise counsel could force the general staff to risk such a venture. They believed, too, that a German assault in the west now would bring the ultimate triumph of the allied cause close, because the resisting power of the allied armies is unshakable.

"If this is in fact a German drive," said one general officer, "I will look upon it as the most hopeful sign in the war thus far. Defeat of the movement is certain."  
"But I cannot believe that it is a real drive. Every requirement of reason would direct the Germans to press their exploitation of Russia's resources and Russia's man power to the limit while they held the west front locked against our efforts."

Holland Involved.  
Reports from Holland that a peace offer had been made semi-officially to the entente by Germany caught immediate attention. There was nothing at the State department to confirm this report, but some observers saw the possibility that the menace of the German guns had been turned loose to play a thundering prelude to such an offer for the effect upon the French and British peoples.  
Others saw possible significance in the fact that the German onslaught

comes quickly on the heels of the acquisition of Dutch shipping by the United States and the allies.  
There was speculation as to whether that incident might have created a motive for the drive, in view of the strategic situation.  
The purpose might be, it was said, to over-awe European neutrals, or it might be that realization that the submarine campaign had failed to block the movement of American troops to France led to resort to a desperate effort to reach the channel ports.

Poor Military Strategy.  
From a purely military standpoint the launching of an offensive this early in the year is an innovation. Experience would indicate that the ground is as yet too soft with the winter rains for extensive troop and transport movements necessitated in pressing home a great thrust. The spring appears to be early in Europe, however, and the German experts have certainly gauged every factor before undertaking extensive operations. It may well be that prolonged bombardment, covering many days of constant gunfire, will follow the initial rush in the Cambrai sector, paving the way to greater efforts by the infantry later.

The situation at Cambrai has menaced the security of the German lines ever since the surprise assault by the allies last year gave them certain strategic advantages. It was thought here early today that the Germans were seeking to restore their old lines in preparation for possible more extensive operations later. As reports indicated a movement of wide scope today, however, this view was abandoned.

J. G. Masters Elected to Schools Executive Board.  
Chicago, March 22.—Standards for accredited schools will be greatly lowered and the lowlier schools and colleges will become more prominent as a result of the war, delegates to the convention of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools declared today.

A. A. Reed of the University of Nebraska was elected president of the commission on accredited schools and colleges.  
J. G. Masters, Omaha, was elected a Bombs Found on Ship.  
Mobile, Ala., March 22.—Five bombs with fuses attached were taken from the Danish schooner Edske Smith here today before the ship sailed for the West Indies. No arrests were made.

Why Not Nicholas Oils?  
L. V. Nicholas & Company  
"Business is Good—Thank You!"

# Spring Calls to the Suburbs

## and the call is "Own Your Home"

Probably one-half the adult population of Omaha was born in the country. A healthy man of rural birth rarely takes kindly to confinement.

For this reason there is a latent desire widely prevalent to "Own a Home" in the Suburbs of this city. This desire is particularly urgent in the spring.

In choosing a location for a permanent suburban home or summer residence accessibility to business and social privileges should be well considered.

Omaha is rich in choice suburban areas. Advertisements of good property in all of Omaha's suburbs will be found in The Bee's Classified Columns. Look there NOW and

**"Keep Your Eye on The Bee"**  
Improving Every Day