

BATTLE CIRCLES ABOUT CIERGES, "CITY OF DEAD"

Two Divisions of Hun 'Heavies' Pitted Against Well-Fed Yanks in Hot Fight at Sergy.

London, Aug. 2.—The tide of battle on the American front drifted somewhat eastward on Wednesday, all the most severe fighting occurring in the vicinity of Cierges, says Reuter's correspondent on the American front, telegraphing Thursday evening.

"Cierges," continues the correspondent, "has for some days been a stumbling block to our advance, and it is noteworthy that it and the Meunier wood formed strong centers of opposition during the first German retreat from the Marne."

"Cierges itself is unoccupied by either side, neither having any wish to be in there, for the village is in a deep cup, in which the gas lies 10 feet deep. So it remains and so it will remain as long as the still summer weather lasts—a village of the dead, of dead cats, rats and mice, with all the herbs and flowers that had blessed it burnt and blighted."

"Meanwhile the battle circles about it on the surrounding hills, the Americans fighting towards it up the Ourcq valley and over the high ground north of Ronchieres and down from the hills near Sergy, while the Germans, after filling the village with gas, illustrated, from the crests to the north and the east, what could be accomplished in a deterrent way with machine gun fire."

"Hun 'Heavies' Routed. Fighting of the most bitter nature marked the American advance east and southeast of Sergy on Thursday, says Reuter's correspondent on the American front. Bellevue farm, north of Cierges, was the German strong point, and their gun nests about it were concealed cleverly in the ripening wheat. "This kind of fighting," the correspondent continues, "is slow, business and had business for the side that tries to hurry it, unless it has an overwhelming power of guns, and in this open fighting guns cannot be concentrated as they are for trench attacks."

"Two divisions opposed to the Americans were the 200th Jaeger division, which seemed to be composed of stout fellows from various German states, and the 216th, which was brought from Kemmel, on the British front in Flanders. They did not appear to be such good material as the other divisions. One youngster of 19 said he had been a year in service, but that this was his first fight. He avowed with tears that he did not like it. Others prisoners, being asked why the Americans were beating them, replied:

"The Americans have good food in their stomachs, while the Germans only have poor stuff that no one could fight upon."

"Not far from this front a somewhat pathetic group was found. There were five Germans and an officer on one side of it and four Americans on the other. It had been a fight to the finish and the last American to survive had thrust his bayonet downward into the earth to signify that he was the last one to see it through."

"Meanwhile the fighting had proceeded between Sergy and Seringes with much of the old bitterness. The fashion in which the enemy met the American infantry attack showed he had no intention of retiring unless compelled by superior forces."

"Prisoners from the 201st division declare that their orders were to hold the line at all costs, especially at Hill 184 (northwest of Seringes). They seemed to have little doubt that there is no lack of troops behind them."

Convulsions of Unknown Cause Strike Lead Worker

After suffering seven convulsions of unknown cause, George L. Cope, 1707 Leavenworth street, was taken to the Lord Lister hospital at an early hour Friday morning in the police ambulance. He was attended by Dr. T. W. Torpy and Dr. A. J. Edstrom, night police surgeon. John Briscoe, who occupies the room next to Cope in the apartment house in Leavenworth street, and other roomers were unable to give any information as to the cause of Cope's condition. Cope called to Briscoe, "Come, help me, John," in a faint voice from his room, where he was lying on the bed. Neither of the physicians was able to tell the reason for Cope's condition. Cope is employed in the lead department at the American Smelter company. He came home about midnight and shortly afterwards was taken ill. A bottle half full of liniment was found in his room, but there was nothing to indicate that he had swallowed some of the liniment or that he was suffering from lead colic.

Berger Scores Officers Who Are Tardy in Court

Acting City Prosecutor John M. Berger in police court Friday morning scored the dilatory methods of police officers who fail to appear on time against offenders whom they have arrested. "Every morning since I have been acting as prosecutor the court has been delayed an hour or more in waiting for these officers to appear. There is no excuse for such methods. In some instances cases have to be carried over until the next day because the arresting officer fails to show up."

Police Are Called When Girl Starts Fight on Smokes

Jessie Sherwood, an inmate of the Omaha detention hospital, so strenuously objected to being relieved of her cigarettes when placed in the home that a hurry call was sent to the police station for assistance. She was taken from the hospital to the city jail, where she was charged with disorderly conduct.

Daylight Motor Theft.

In order to properly express his appreciation of the visit to Omaha of Henry Ford, some person, to the police as yet unknown, helped himself to a Ford car Friday morning at 8:30, from the corner of 20th and Pierce streets. The car belonged to R. Greenberg, 1148 North Twentieth street.

American Casualty List

Washington, Aug. 2.—The army casualty list today shows: Killed in action, 42; died of wounds, 48; died of disease, 7; died of accident and other causes, 7; wounded severely, 126; wounded, degree undetermined, 2; missing, 6. Total, 238.

- The list: Killed in Action. Capt. Walter M. Gearty, Philadelphia. Lt. Merritt Dunbar, Walnut, N. C. Lt. Charles W. W. Field, North Windham, Me. Lt. Herbert H. Turner, Statesville, N. C. Lt. James A. Figue, Nashville. Lt. Joseph C. Smith, Rochester, N. Y. Lt. Robert H. Turner, Statesville, N. C. Sgt. Jerry J. Driscoll, Clifton Springs, N. Y. Sgt. Henry J. Kierman, Brooklyn. Sgt. Henry T. Newman, South Manchester, Conn. Sgt. Angel G. Pappas, Ipswich, Mass. Sgt. Edward K. Stoffer, Aburria, Pa. Corp. Harrison G. Hayes, Flint, Mich. Corp. James B. Muller, Andalusia, Pa. Bugler Robert Porcelli, Fayetteville, N. C. Walter P. Atkins, New Brighton, Pa. Bartholomew W. Dutton, Detroit. Ernest D. Bannister, Cumming, Ga. William J. Banhot, Philadelphia. Sgt. Joseph H. Bannister, N. C. Pa. Everett J. Bushweller, Dunmore, Pa. Samuel W. Forman, Brooklyn. Milton D. Fulghum, New York, S. D. Harvey C. Wayne, Custer, Wyo. Richard Koppin, Jr., Webster Grove, Mo. Frank Kutch, Pottsville, Pa. John H. Leach, Charleston, W. Va. Joseph Levantovich, Olyphant, Pa. Carl Link, Thomasville, N. C. Amos W. Morris, Mineral, Neb. George Marfield, Rochester, N. H. Ello C. Mosser, Canby, Kan. Amos W. Morris, Mineral, Neb. Albert M. Mulderschen, Philadelphia. Francis E. O'Neill, Philadelphia. Ezekiah S. Porter, Higgansum, Conn. Corp. Edward L. Mann, Hallowell, Me. Russ R. Richardson, San Francisco. William H. Rotan, Baltimore. Harvey C. Wayne, Custer, Wyo. Clarence Wolfhard, Frankfurt, Ind. George Younginger, Belleville, N. J.

- Died From Wounds. Maj. Louis Farrell, Fort Snelling, Minn.; Capt. Rocius H. Back, Vancouver, Wash.; Capt. James D. Boney, Tyrone, N. C.; Lt. Herold B. Bonnell, Farnassus, Pa.; Lt. Elliott B. Clark, Weidon, N. C.; Lt. Alfred P. Conover, Keyport, N. J.; Charles A. Lewis, Farmington, N. H.; John Suba, Indiana Harbor, Ind.; Corp. Bernard J. Kenison, Sebago Lake, Me.; Corp. Carl McGlothlen, Philadelphia, Pa.; Sgt. John S. Mann, Holyoke, Mass.; Charles J. Rogan, Charleston, S. C.; Corp. Harry Sherman, Calais, Me.; Corp. Edward J. Newcomb, New York; William B. Ackles, Red Oak, Ia.; Francis Allie, Duluth; Antonio Ancefrata, Lawrence, Mass.; Clark W. Ash, Montborne, Wash.; Russell Benjamin, Perry, N. Y.; Samuel Benson, Long Island City, N. Y.; Frank Berkofski, Elyon, Pa.; Warren Black, Ottawa, Kan.; Arthur Brooks, North Adams, Mass.; Clarence E. Brown, Lebanon, Ind.; William J. Callahan, Woburn, Mass.; Lee Coleman, Petersburg, Ind.; Willie H. Collins, Cairo, Ga.; Stuart L. Cummings, Carnegie, Pa.; Ary A. Duke, Dosler, Ala.; John M. Fitzpatrick, Somerville, Mass.; John M. Flanagan, Bristol, Conn.; Emil J. Gelske, Kingston, Mich.; Charles Lanzer, Asbury Park, N. J.; Herbert H. Milliken, Freedom, N. H.; Elmer Nickerson, Provincetown, Mass.; Paul E. Noel, Okaloosa, Ia.; William A. Peterson, Manchester, N. H.; Lester D. Purcell, Red Oak, Ia.; Stanley Rekowald, Naugatuck, Conn.; Fred J. Rentschler, New Haven; James H. Scott, Alexis, Ill.; Dwight Simpson, Chillicothe, O.; John Ulan, Norwich, Conn.; Amos E. Walker, Columbia City, Ind.; Jesse E. L. Walrod, Polton, Kan.; John M. Warren, Ireland; Clarence G. White, Mountain Home, Ark.; Arnold L. Wright, Fort Dodge, Ia.

- Died of Disease. Lt. Sidney L. Spilsberg, New York; Joseph O'Brien, Deridder, La.; Leon Glider, Beaumont, Tex.; William H. Grant, Elion, Ark.; James A. Hill, Newbern, N. C.; Claud C. Murphy, Comfort, N. C.; Burley Smith, Palestine, Ark.

- Died from Accident. Capt. Paul E. Betowski, Waverly, N. Y.; Gustaf Borgford, Clallum Bay, Wash.; George Cronin, Pittsburgh; Earl Gardner, St. Charles, Mo.; William G. Green, Boston; Pedro Latoro, El Paso; Henry E. Wadsworth, Portland, Ore.

- Wounded Severely. Lt. Clyde H. Wassan, Topeka, Kan.; John L. Byers, Spencer, Ia.; Henry W. Fields, Joliet, Kan.; John E. Greewcock, Elkhorn, Neb.; Thomas W. Kearns, Lawrence, Kan.; Charles Witt, Norris, S. D.; Carl R. Bursum, Arnold, Kan.

No Change in Rule as to Amount of Wheat a Family May Secure

According to Deputy Food Administrator Lau there are some persons who are under the impression that restrictions relative to the purchase and consumption of wheat have been removed. "This is all a mistake," says the food dictator. Said Mr. Lau: "The rules at this time are in force the same as they have been in the past. The government requirements limit the consumption of wheat flour to householders to six pounds per month per person. In addition, there must be purchased and consumed an equal quantity of the accredited substitutes. Purchase of the substitutes must be made at the same time as the purchase of wheat flour. "The same rule applies with the farmer as with the town man, or woman, the only difference being that the farmer may go to the mill and there exchange his wheat for flour, but in doing so he must sign a certificate that the wheat was grown upon his own land or upon land leased by him. He must sign another certificate to the effect that in accepting the flour in exchange for his wheat he will buy the accredited substitutes, pound for pound and will use them in connection with the consumption of the wheat flour."

Nemaha County Picnic is to Be Held at Elmwood Park

A meeting of the committees on arrangement for the Omaha Nemaha county association picnic met at the home of Edson Rich, 3220 Harney street Thursday night and finally decided on the use of Elmwood park for the picnic, which is to be held Saturday afternoon, August 10. On account of sugar conservation all of those who attend the picnic are requested to bring their own "sweet-ennin". The event will be in the nature of an old-fashioned basket picnic, in which every family is requested to bring their own picnic viands, also to provide cups, spoons, forks and paper plates. No formal invitations will be issued, but every person in Douglas county, and every person in Douglas county who formerly lived in Nemaha county, Neb., and there are nearly a thousand here, are invited to be present. There will be an old-time reunion, plenty of games and amusements for all, singing led by Miss Fannie Arnold, and a speech by T. D. Blackburn, member of a pioneer family of Nemaha county.

Officers Recalled From France to Train New Units for Army

Washington, Aug. 2.—The American forces in France have reached such high proficiency in the new methods of warfare that they are to furnish instructors for the new units being organized in the United States. No additional instructors from the old armies will be asked except possibly in special technical cases.

The war department has ordered a number of officers back from France to command brigades in the 12 new divisions, the formation of which recently were announced by General March, chief of staff. Among the officers known to have received their orders are Brig-Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who is to go to Camp Meade, Md., and Brig-Gen. Cornelius Vanderbilt, who went overseas as a colonel of engineers, to Camp Lewis, Wash. The chief of staff has announced that each new division will be formed around a nucleus of two veteran infantry regiments. The units available in the United States for this purpose has been practically exhausted and it is considered likely that regiments from the first American contingent will be brought home to service as foundations for later additions to the army.

Americans Put Out of Action Six Thousand Huns in Day

London, Aug. 2.—"That the Germans actually took the offensive on the American front is the most significant of events," says the Reuter correspondent at American headquarters under date of Wednesday evening. "Their attacks were genuine efforts to gain ground, though all were defeated. "This must mean either that the enemy is more confident of his ability to resist our advances or that he is under pressing necessity to hold it up a little longer. He left a lot of men beside the Ourcq, some of the best he had, which means that he had thought the gain of a day worth a big price, since he probably had 6,000 men put out of action on a front of a mile and a half."

Lincoln Boy is Reported Killed in Action in War

Friday's casualty list contains the name of one Nebraska killed in action on the French front. Floyd D. McGee, 1541 South Tenth street, Lincoln, was instantly killed the report shows. Five Iowa boys are reported to have died from wounds received in action. They are: Corp. Carl McGlothlen, Sheldon; and Privates Paul E. Noel, Okaloosa; Lester D. Purcell, Red Oak; William B. Ackles, Red Oak; and Arnold L. Wright, Fort Dodge.

Towl Discovers Trinagle Squatters Own Legal Rights

City Commissioner Towl has made a surprising discovery that a resolution, ordering squatters to move from the Winspear triangle, was placed on file a year ago and that no legal order exists to clear this famous tract of occupants. Mr. Towl will offer a resolution to the city council next week and will see that another faux pas does not occur, for he is interested in the reclamation of this land by the city for use as steamboat docks.

King Victor Reviews U. S. Troops on Italian Front

Rome, Thursday, Aug. 2.—King Victor Emmanuel today reviewed the American troops in the north Italian war zone. He congratulated the commander of the American forces upon the magnificent appearance of his troops and on the profound impression they had given of their military qualities.

U. S. Steamship Sunk After Crash on Ocean

New York, Aug. 2.—The American steamship Posidon, 1,911 tons gross, formerly under the Dutch flag, was sunk in a collision with an American tanker last Wednesday off the Atlantic coast, it was learned today. Five members of its crew of 38 are missing. Captain J. Durie, master of the ship, died after being landed as the result of exposure.

Auction of Chinese Geese for Red Cross Will Be Held Tonight

Thousands interested in war gardens, poultry raising and conservation have paused to listen to the songs of Caruso and Melba, the two beautiful white Chinese geese donated to the Red Cross by William Welch through The Bee and now residing in a wire summer house on the court house lawn.

They have made numerous friends during their week on the lawn and many have held remarkable conversations with them. Melba has all the feminine characteristics of getting the last word. She talks back as long as her friends are in sight and is sure to have the final say-so. Saturday night this pair will change their residence. Perhaps they will go to some nice place where there is a little water, in the outskirts of Omaha. They are hoping so, according to interpreters of goose language. They were imported from China recently and Mr. Welch was offered \$100 for the pair for breeding purposes. He refused it because his mind had been fully made up to donate his prize to the Red Cross.

Water Board to Hold Open Position for R. B. Howell

F. D. Wead, member of the Metropolitan water board, speaking in connection with the forthcoming leaving-taking of General Manager Howell, who has been called to service in the navy, said: "Our board probably will keep Mr. Howell's place open for him until he shall return. The work of the members of the board will be increased, but we have a good organization and anticipate that everything will run along smoothly in the interim." It is proposed to increase the duties of Chief Engineer Larmon.

Hold Funeral Services For Corp. James Woods Today

The funeral of Corp. James W. Woods of the 100th headquarters train and military police, formerly the Sixth Nebraska national guard, who died in Camp Cody at Deming, N. M., will be held from the receiving vault at Forest Lawn cemetery, Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The arrangements have been in the hands of the war activities commission of the Chamber of Commerce, and a full military funeral will be conducted. Burial will be in the plot which has been laid out for those who die during the present war. Corp. Woods will be the first soldier to be buried in this section of the cemetery. A great deal of interest has been shown by the comrades of Corp. Woods at Deming, many of whom have written to their relatives in this city, asking them to attend the funeral.

Report of Register of Deeds Shows More Considerations

The monthly report of Harry Pearce, register of deeds, shows a decrease this year over last in the number of instruments recorded, but a considerable increase in the total amount of consideration involved in the transaction. The figures are as follows: 1917, number instruments 1,470; considerations, \$804,245.91. 1918, number instruments, 1,310; considerations, \$1,353,198.84.

Bill Yager Freezes His Hands While Omahans, Are Sizzling in the Heat

Br-r-r, shuddered Bill Yager, owner of the Curo Mineral Springs company, as he nursed a frozen hand and rushed for a snowdrift in which to bury it.

No, the heat has not effected any-one connected with the story and Yager has a badly frozen hand to prove that although the thermometer may register over 90 it is no reason why a peaceful citizen of Omaha may not freeze his hand on its main avenue of commerce. This is the wondrous tale: Yager was unloading a tank of highly compressed ammonia. The valve on the tank, however, was out of commission. While striving to repair it a leak was sprung which Yager muffled with his hand as he worked over the defective valve. When the recreant outlier was again in shape, Yager withdrew his hand which had a stiff and numb feeling. Realizing that it was frozen by the escaping ammonia he rushed for a snowdrift, which by some mistake on nature's part, was not at hand.

Refuses Resignation.

Lima, Peru, Aug. 2.—President Pardo has refused to accept the resignation of the cabinet, which was tendered yesterday.

Advertisement for UKELELES. "We carry a complete stock of these instruments from \$4 to \$10. Our Free Instruction book with each instrument makes the learning an easy and delightful matter. We carry a complete line of Ukeleles, Banjos, Guitars, Mandolins, Violins and Band Instruments. Also Sheet Music and Teachers' Supplies at lowest prices. We invite comparison. SCHMOLLER & MUELLER PIANO COMPANY. Phone D. 1623."

Large advertisement for The William Berg Company, Inc. "NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER POTASH COMPANY. The William Berg Company, Inc. Manufacturers and Producers of POTASH. The William Berg Company started building this plant at Merriman, Neb., on June 14th. Construction is being vigorously pressed, over 60 men now employed, all machinery has been bought and delivery guaranteed by October 15. This plant should be producing its full capacity before January 1. MANAGEMENT—The construction and operation of the plant is under the general supervision of Mr. A. L. Kreiss, assisted by a corps of experienced engineers, draftsmen and mechanics, all of whom are experienced in the construction of potash plants. Mr. Kreiss is one of the pioneers in the potash business in Western Nebraska. He was for 14 months actively in charge as superintendent of The Hord Alkali Products Co., who are one of the largest producers of potash in the United States. Mr. Kreiss joins this company to become active in its management and we can refer you to any concern in the potash business as to his standing and ability. All of these bankers in Merriman and Cherry county are actual stockholders in The William Berg Company: MERRIMAN AND CHERRY COUNTY BANKERS. A. C. BLANCHARD, Cashier, Anchor Bank, Merriman, Neb. ARTHUR BOWRING, Pres. American State Bank, Merriman, Neb. H. A. COLE, Cashier, Ranchers' State Bank, Cody, Neb. C. H. ELLIOTT, Banker, Crookston, Neb. E. C. DAVENPORT, Cashier, Valentine, Neb. FLOYD E. DODSON, Banker, Farmers' State Bank, Crookston, Neb. DAVID HANNA, Pres. Wood Lake Bank, Wood Lake, Neb. E. KAMINSKI, Cashier, American State Bank, Merriman, Neb. BEN J. MICKLEY, Cashier, Wood Lake Bank, Wood Lake, Neb. W. F. PARKER, Cashier, Citizens State Bank, Wood Lake, Neb. BEN ROBERTS, Director, Merriman, Neb. CHAS. E. SWANSON, Cashier, Farmers' National Bank, Valentine, Neb. And thirty other bankers in the state of Nebraska have bought and paid for stock in this company. ONLY A LIMITED AMOUNT OF STOCK TO BE OFFERED. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ALL APPLICATIONS. INFORMATION COUPON. THE WILLIAM BERG CO., 1006 First National Bank Bldg., Omaha, Neb. Gentlemen—We are interested in making an investment in your Potash Plant. We would consider the purchase of _____ shares, providing we find upon investigation that your leases, surveys and analysis justify the investment. Name _____ Town _____ Route _____ State _____. STOCK SUBSCRIPTION COUPON. THE WILLIAM BERG CO., 1006 First National Bank Bldg., Omaha, Neb. Gentlemen—Enclosed find draft for _____ for which kindly issue me _____ shares of stock in the William Berg Co., Inc. This subscription is submitted for your consideration and if acceptable forward stock certificates by return mail. Name _____ Town _____ Route _____ State _____. Address All Communications to THE WILLIAM BERG COMPANY Suite 1006 First National Bank Bldg., Omaha, Neb. NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER POTASH COMPANY. NOTICE—While The Omaha Bee does not endorse or recommend the purchase of any stock, we are authorized by The Omaha Bee to say that any statements or editorials appearing in The Omaha Bee in criticism of certain promotion organizations were not directed at nor did they apply to the organization of The William Berg Co.