

MEN IN RANKS TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY FOR BARS

Army Candidates' School Will Continue to Train Promising A.E.F. Soldiers for Second Lieutenants' Commissions

Here's good news for the "man in the ranks." The Army Candidates' School, established last winter as a training camp for promising enlisted men, is to be continued indefinitely, thus assuring soldiers of the A.E.F. of a chance for commissions as second lieutenants.

How Candidates Will Be Chosen

Candidates will be chosen, it is announced in a general order from G.I.O., from various organizations in the following number, per organization: Infantry regiments (including Marine Corps), 32; machine gun battalions (including Marine Corps), 6; divisional artillery regiments, 12 (to be sent in groups of four each at one month intervals); cavalry regiments, 10; divisional corps, and army engineer regiments, 9; and army artillery regiments, 12.

Soldiers in the Medical Department and engineering organizations not enumerated above who are qualified to be second lieutenants also will be accepted upon recommendation by their commanding officers. The number sent from these branches is not to exceed two-tenths of one per cent of the strength of a command.

Geometry and Eyesight

Except in rare and unusual cases, hereafter no man will be recommended for a commission who is not a successful graduate of the Army Candidates' School.

EX-SCHOOL TEACHER CAPTURES HUN ACE

German Who Has Felled Over Thirty Allied Planes Comes to Grief While Returning from Night Raid on Paris

"It must be tough," remarked Abe Martin once, in his so-many-a-week paragraphs, "to be an aviator's wife and never know whether to get supper ready or not." But Abe Martin never fathomed the depths of the possible poignancy of fate—when I hold it to be an aviator, to win honor and renown by bringing to earth 30 enemy planes—and then to be captured by a school teacher and a veterinary surgeon.

It was the night of the bombing raid on Paris, Wolff, in his four-seater bi-plane, whose propeller blades were pointed with his name, had gone in the raid with Lieutenant Kaemmerer and Sergeant-Major Fischer. If there was a fourth man in the plane, he escaped. There is a story, which could not be verified, that there was such a man, and that he was caught by the French.

Well on Way Home Anyway, Wolff loaded his aeroplane with bombs, and joined his squadron. In the long flight of night hawks he held his place, reached the French capital, and by eleven o'clock was on his way home.

The Supply Company captain was just going to bed in his barracks. In fact, he had already tucked his head under his pillow, where it could not be seen, when he heard the roar of a propeller so loud that he knew a plane must be very near the ground, and rushed out.

He saw Wolff's plane coming down rapidly. From the forward end little flames were spouting, and it was evident that the machine had been hit and was coming down out of control.

Even as he watched, the machine pitched to earth, bounced lightly two or three times, stuck its wheels into a shell hole, and flipped over, bursting into flame at the same moment.

Hunt in Burning Plane's Light One man was flung in the air in a long arc. In less than a minute, long before the captain could gather his wits, he was running over the ground, and he saw the burning machine, a second man crawled out of it, all afire, and ran for the machine in the direction of an old communicating trench.

The captain ran back into his barracks, grabbed his gun, and shouted for the lieutenant of the Veterinary Corps and another lieutenant to come along. They raced over to the plane, and followed first the man whose clothes were

BRITAIN'S PREMIER GREET'S A.E.F.

I HAVE read with the greatest interest the first numbers of THE STARS AND STRIPES which you have so very kindly sent me.

It is an excellent thought to meet the needs of the troops in this way. I welcome the opportunity of sending greetings to the brave soldiers of America, who are now in line with their Allies in France, doing battle for the great cause of human justice and freedom.

Their presence, side by side with the soldiers of France and Britain, is no fortuitous alliance, formed merely for the purposes of war.

It is, in truth, the expression of an abiding instinct for the assertion of right against might, and for the deliverance of civilization from the servitude of autocratic militarism.

This instinct may have been obscured or over-laid in the past, but the revelation of the sinister purpose of despotism has awakened it in all the progressive democracies of the world.

I believe that the sacrifices which the soldiers of America are now making for the common cause are producing a unity of understanding and purpose with the allied peoples which will knit them permanently together to the immeasurable good of the world even after the victory for freedom has been obtained.

It is this acceptance of common duties and common sacrifices in the face of a common danger which gave us the victory over those selfish and parochial aims which encouraged a military autocracy to attempt to seize universal power.

7th March, 1918.



DAVID LLOYD GEORGE, BRITISH PRIME MINISTER

(Signed) D. LLOYD GEORGE.

WAR SECRETARY'S TOUR OF FRANCE INTERESTS U. S.

Press Calls Visit to A.E.F. Wise Step in Perfecting Co-ordination

WAR FINANCE BILL DEBATE

Kitchin Defends Corporation Measure in Reply to Attack Made by Longworth

HELP IN HIGHT FOR RAILROAD Government May Take Up Half of New Haven's \$43,000,000 Note Issue

By J. W. MULLER American Staff Correspondent of THE STARS AND STRIPES.

NEW YORK, March 21.—The Sunday newspapers carried long dispatches from France describing Secretary Baker's inspection tour, with details of the great work of building the ports, the terminals, and the railroad web—a graphic picture of what American energy and constructive ability are accomplishing. They evoke general satisfaction.

The Secretary's foreign tour is generally commended as a wise step in perfecting the co-ordination of the American Expeditionary Forces with the work at home.

Working conditions continue good, with steadily favorable weather and no dispute of moment anywhere directly affecting production.

There is no decided indication of public opinion regarding the Japanese-silver issue. The newspaper comment is divided broadly for and against Japanese entrance into Siberia, but is guarded and can hardly be considered as reflecting the opinions of any large part of the American people as yet.

Longworth and Kitchin Debate

It appears pretty clearly that the great body of the public in Washington is for a decision, and that the main concern of the solid American mass is that the nation shall stand without shaking and without fear, on a basis of moral and international justice before everything else.

The War Finance Corporation Bill, for controlling corporation financing during the war, has been the subject for long debate in the House of Representatives.

Representative Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio, son-in-law of Colonel Roosevelt, in an hour-long speech, objected to it strongly, demanding that Congress assert its power over legislation and declaring that the Bill gives autocratic powers to the executive. He characterizes it as revolutionary, giving, as it does, power to the Secretary of the Treasury to advance or withhold from banking and industrial institutions credits to the extent of \$4,500,000,000.

Representative Claude Kitchin, Democratic leader, and in charge of the Bill, has answered him fully, declaring that the radical Bill, as originally drafted, was entirely relevant to the committee, for the careful and complete safeguarding of the nation and at the same time for affording the necessary assistance to business enterprises engaged in work for the nation and Government.

Kitchin Asks Aid for War Work

Mr. Kitchin stood a lively cross-examination from all parties in the House and apparently satisfied the majority by his full reply. He said the problem before the country was that the Government must either necessarily take over all industries contributory to the war or else aid them by advancing Government money.

He described the three ways that pre-

FIRST TO GAIN D.S.C.

The Distinguished Service Cross, the new American decoration granted for "extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy," has been awarded for the first time, and is soon to be presented to one officer and two enlisted men who were actively concerned in the repulse of the German raid on our positions north of Toul on March 1. The enlisted men in question have already received the Croix de Guerre, in the presence of Premier Clemenceau at France.

The three men are Second Lieutenant J. N. Greene, Field Artillery, and Sergeants Willie Norton and Patrick Walsh, both of the Infantry. The commanding general of their division, in recommending that they be given the D.S.C., had this to say about them:

"Second Lieutenant J. N. Greene, Artillery, while in a dugout, was wounded in the hand grenade and summoned to surrender; he refused to do so, and defied the fire of the enemy, wounding one of them, and pursuing the hostile party by running along the ground above the trenches.

Sergeant Willie Norton, Infantry, finding himself in a dugout surrounded by the enemy in which a grenade had just been thrown, refused to surrender, made a bold dash outside, killing one of his assailants, and by so doing saved his own party's log hogs.

"Sergeant Patrick Walsh, Infantry, followed his company commander to the first lines in spite of a severe barrage; the captain being killed, he assumed command of a group, and attacked a superior force of the enemy, inflicting severe loss upon them. Though advanced in age, he refused to leave the front."

The Commander-in-Chief approved at once the division commander's recommendation. The Crosses are not on hand now, but will be forwarded as soon as received, and presented by the division commander, in the name of the Commander-in-Chief, with suitable ceremonies.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IS HUGE SUCCESS

New York Spectators Showered with Stone from Cathedral Spire

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, March 21.—The St. Patrick's Day parade in New York was a great success—the weather, huge crowds, 5,000 in line. Half of the marchers were women, many in hand-made participants were civilians, but the Irish volunteers and cadets gave the procession a martial touch.

There were no incidents of any kind, save that a great stone fell from the spire of St. Patrick's cathedral, smashing through the organ loft, and showering the big crowd on the street with fragments. Nobody was hurt except Congressman Thomas Smith, secretary of Tammany Hall, who broke his wrist while endeavoring to keep order in the frightened crowd.

The annual dinner of the St. Patrick's society in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Astor was a notable affair. Many Army and Navy officers were present. Secretary Daniels eulogized America's revolutionary hero, Barry, and the Very Rev. John Cavanaugh, president of Notre Dame University, made an impassioned plea for Ireland. Justice Dowling of the New York Supreme Court, fervently expressed his hopes for a united, self-governing Ireland.

IDLE RICH FLEE JERSEY

NEW YORK, March 21.—New Jersey has begun to make great hands under its new idlers' law.

Already many fat and wheezing old parties—both of the white shirt front variety and the no-collar clan—have been rounded up and steered toward occupations for which they seem to be partially fitted.

EIGHT CENT INCOME TAX

NEW YORK, March 21.—The smallest income tax on record was paid last week to the collector in the Wall Street district. It consisted of eight pennies, brought in by a patriotic laborer.

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48 MEDALS AWARDED IN LUNEVILLE SECTOR

Every Rank from Colonel to Private and Most of United States Represented in New Group of Honor Men

MAJOR "BEST OFFICER UNDER FIRE EVER SEEN"

Two Sergeants Commended by Every French Officer in Sector—Trio of Corporals "Showed Coolness of War Hardened Veterans"

Forty-eight more Americans have been awarded the cherished Croix de Guerre for gallantry in action. All 48 have been engaged in the Luneville sector east of Luneville—a new combat area for American troops. They represent all ranks, from colonels down to humble buck privates; and they represent nearly all sections of the United States from way down south in Alabama to way up north in Minnesota.

Other American troops have had the Croix de Guerre distributed among their numbers in addition to those already listed in THE STARS AND STRIPES, but those lists are not yet available. In fact, the habit of annexing the coveted war cross of France has become so general among the Americans at the front that it is hard, at times, to keep up with the awards and citations as they are made. The names of those who won the medal in the operations further to the west than the Luneville and Toul sectors will, however, be speedily forthcoming.

The men whose awards of the Cross came as a result of the operations on the sector east of Luneville are: Colonel Douglas McArthur, Lieut.-Colonel Matthew A. Tully, Major William J. Donovan, Captain Charles W. Atkins, Captain Thomas H. Handy, Captain Edward Stelliar, Lieutenants Oscar L. Buck, W. Arthur Cunningham, A. A. Pailette, Henry A. Peterson, Howard H. Smith, Edward S. Merrell, Capt. Bernard Vanhof, Sergeants Abraham Blaustein, Earl Edwards, Varner Hall, William J. Moore, Daniel O'Connell, Theodore Peterson, Raymond Quinlan, Spencer Rossell, Charles W. Stout and James H. West; Corporals Marvin Dunn, Russell A. Simmons, Thomas W. Sporrer, Joseph W. Walker, Homer Whitler, and Russell A. Yarnell; Privates Percy Breesse, John A. Gedner, Charles Danielson, Herbert Freeman, Charles Gordon, John Golix, Emil E. Kraft, Floyd H. Leseman, Nicholas McLaughlin, Elmer McLoughlin, Charles McLaughlin, Harvey A. Meeker, Glenn Moffard, Frank Osgood, James E. Potts, Walter Smith, Amos Teske, and Lawrence Wenell.

Major William J. Donovan's citation says that he is "a higher officer who showed brilliant military qualities, notably in the repulse of the German raid during a violent bombardment, a remarkable example of bravery and activity and presence of mind."

Major Donovan, whose law practice has been removed from Buffalo, N. Y., to Luneville sector, France, by the exigencies of war, stayed up front, although his own unit had just been relieved, to steady a new unit which had never been in the trenches before, during a period of heavy and accurate shelling by the Boche. A French officer, who was in the trenches at the time, reported to his superior officer, Major Donovan, that the best officer under fire that he had ever seen.

Another higher officer of the A.E.F. to obtain the coveted French war cross is Lieutenant-Colonel Matthew A. Tully, who, at the tipping times of peace in Council Bluffs, Ia., accompanied the award to him says that "during a violent enemy attack he directed, with the coolness and calmness of experience, the defensive operations; and, thanks to the brilliant way in which his orders were given before and during the fight, he succeeded in keeping the line intact despite the efforts of the enemy, who was aided by powerful artillery."

The incident noted in the citation occurred during the raid of March 5. "The Boche, after a preliminary bombardment, knocked our positions almost to pieces by shells, and then attacked in waves. Although our forces were shaken by the artillery, Colonel Tully gathered them together and organized them. When the German infantry appeared he ordered a ready-made reserve to attack with French troops, in order to observe personally the methods used by the infantry and artillery for such engagements—risking his life that the lives of soldiers in the future might be preserved and for capturing single-handed a Bavarian officer."

Of Captain Handy, the report reads: "To get a better idea of the effects of artillery fire, he followed the assaulting waves of the infantry into the German front line positions, exhibiting a fine example of coolness and bravery."

What the Others Did The other recipients of the Croix de Guerre, for the reasons for the bestowal in each case, are listed below:

CAPT. CHARLES W. ATKINS, Winchester, Ia.—He installed a platoon under heavy fire on demolished terrain, preparing a counterattack to cost the enemy.

CAPT. EDWARD STELLIAR, Ottumwa, Ia.—For bravery and coolness with his troops during an engagement.

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CONCRETE SHIP LAUNCHED

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, March 21.—While most Americans are still wondering if concrete ocean ships are not figments of the imagination, they learn that the first big ship has been launched on the Pacific coast, and named the "Path."

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