

# INVASION FEARS CALLED INFLATED

## War College's 1915 Estimate of Foe Exaggerated.

### COULDN'T LAND SO QUICKLY

Getting 387,000 Men Over in 16 Days Impossible, as Shown by Our Own Experiment, Declares Gen. Peyton C. March, Chief of Staff—Shows How Lacking We Were in Knowledge of Shipping Large Armies.

The experiences of the United States in rushing troops overseas has made it evident that estimates given at the war department in 1915 that Germany, if not interfered with, could land 387,000 men in America in 16 days and 440,000 men in 31 days were gross exaggerations, Gen. Peyton C. March, chief of staff, said. The war department estimate was submitted by the war college to congress in the year mentioned.

On May 1, 1917, said General March, "the army owned a troop fleet of ten vessels, with an estimated deadweight tonnage of 52,725 and a troop capacity of 10,830 men. All these were boats which it would have been possible in an extreme case to put into trans-Atlantic service, but of that group of old vessels only one, the Buford, was permanently put into this service."

Between April 6 and September 1, 1917, the first six months, the deadweight tonnage of the United States army increased from nothing to 46,000 dead-weight tons. The troops carried eastward on these ships ran by months: April, none; May, 1,033, (carried on commercial liners); June, 12,621, (carried on commercial liners); July, 5,437; August, 5,453; September, 14,813. Total troops carried, 39,002.

Beginning with November 11, 1918, the date of the armistice, and running through the six months up to and including April, we had carried westward 717,490 men.

"The 300,000 total deadweight of army ships on November 11 included the Leviathan and other German ships taken over during the war. The rapid increase in the troop fleet since that time is due almost entirely to the making over of cargo ships into troop-carrying ships. Up to April 1 cargo ships of 539,000 tons had been converted into troop-carrying ships. These ships formed 58 per cent of the troop fleet in tonnage, although not in carrying capacity."

Quite Impossible. "About the war department statement in 1915, a pamphlet having the title 'Statement of a Proper Military Policy for the United States.' This statement contained an estimate of the number of troops which could be landed on our shores, provided there were no interference. Germany had the most; the estimate as to her was 387,000 men in 16 days, and an additional 440,000 in another 31 days. It was stated that these men could carry with them 176,000 horses and all the necessary equipment, munitions, supplies, and other impedimenta for three months. In about the same space of time it was estimated that France could land 404,000 men. Austria, 180,000, and Japan, 238,000, all with large numbers of animals and the necessary impedimenta for three months."

"Our experience in this war shows that these alleged facts are quite impossible. We have learned that you cannot mobilize ships, men and supplies with the ease and speed calculated in the statement. Ship performance cannot approach the performance assumed. Our fast troopships have averaged close to 35 days for a complete turn around to France and back, our cargo ships 70 days. The statement assumes that all ships, including cargo, would average 30 days for that distance."

"This statement shows how lacking we were in knowledge of the problem of shipping large armies overseas. There was no experience of our own or of foreign countries to guide us. The transportation overseas of the American army as an achievement is literally unprecedented."

### BURY SPIRITS IN COFFIN

#### Find Place of Concealment for John Barleycorn.

Is the cemetery to become the vault—the place of safe concealment for John Barleycorn when the days of privileged "booze" are past? According to cemetery officials at Rochester, N. Y., there are indications that the future will see an increased demand for burial lots. This official has been advised that in arid and liquorless sections of the country there has been a boom in choice burial lots. In rough boxes "remains" are said to have been and are being buried. Frequent visits to the "remains" by the nearest of kin have been observed. A cleverly contrived siphon pump connected with the "remains"—but why explain?

### Thief's Weakness for Bibles.

A sneak thief with peculiar proclivities has been at work at Alexandria, S. D. From the lodge hall of the Workman and Rebekah lodges the Bibles have disappeared. One of them had been in use in the Workman lodge for 28 years.

# LONGEVITY COMMON IN BRITISH FAMILIES

## Often Six to Eight Members Live Above the Average of 85 Years.

The remarkable case of the north country family of Calvert of which eight brothers and sisters have reached an average of eighty-five years, has had many parallels in recent years in England.

The late Lady Mabella Knox was one of nine brothers and sisters whose aggregate ages totaled 769 years. Five of them survived to ninety-nine, ninety-eight, ninety-three, ninety-three and ninety-nine years, respectively. Of another family all members of the Society of Friends, we read not long ago that three were still living at the ages of one hundred and one, ninety-one and eighty-seven, while five, who were dead, had counted 418 years among them, an average of 87 years. If the members of this family had lived consecutively instead of together the first born would have lived as long ago as the year 1220.

When Henry Wye, sexton at St. Mary's church, Leicester, died not long ago, at eighty-seven, it was said that two of his brothers had preceded him at the ages of eighty-seven and eighty-five, respectively, while he had two surviving brothers of ninety-seven and ninety-three and two sisters of eighty-three and eighty.

Joshua Jackson of Blackburn, who survived to see his eighty-seventh birthday, was one of eight brothers and sisters, not one of whom failed to pass the eightieth milestone. And quite recently there were living at Milverton, West Somerset, five brothers and sisters, the eldest of whom, Mrs. Shattocks, was ninety-two, and the youngest, James King, just ten years younger.

# FORMER SPEAKER AND HIS SOLDIER SON



Lieut. Col. Bennett Clark and "dad" were constantly together until war was declared, when the son entered the service. He was parliamentarian of the house when he went to war.

# NO JEWELS AT OPERA

## London Women Use Flowers and Leaves for Adornment.

A characteristic of the London opera season is the almost entire absence of what may be termed "dress jewels," usually worn by the women. On the opening night, the queen of Roumania wore an imposing diamond coronet, but she is a queen. Other women, who before the war would have glittered with diamonds at Covent Garden, are going to Drury Lane with wreaths of flowers or leaves in their hair, and only a string or two of pearls to remind the world they still have the jewel cases.

The dearth of jewels, however, does not prevent a dazzling spectacle, so many of the dresses are composed of gleaming gold or silver tissues of glittering brocades, of sequins and diamante and metallic fringes. The less there is of them the more costly they are as a rule. Feather fans, high-priced ones, are immensely popular again.

# STRIKE IN GOLD

## Dreams of an Ancient River Bed With Free Ore Came True.

The dreams of an ancient river bed fabulously rich in free gold which had been an obsession of prospectors for half a century have come true. For more than 50 years miners have believed that if the original channel or old bed could be located where once flowed the Rogue river in its gravel could be found free gold of untold quantities.

And so it happened that G. M. Esterly, owner of the old Waldo mine southwest of Grant's Pass, Ore., the other day made the greatest strike ever made in this section when he turned gravel for the first time. Esterly's holdings consist of 4,200 acres and it is believed that almost every foot of them lie over the old river bed and that nearly all of it is rich in pay dirt.

# RENT PROBLEM SOLVED IN ASIA

## "Cone Dwellers" Had No Fear of the Landlord.

### FIRST APARTMENT HOUSES

Homes of the Troglodytes in Cappadocian Valley in Asia Minor Were Shaped by Eroding Action of Flowing Water Some 2,000 Years Before Christ—Each Succeeding Generation Has Helped Make Dwellings More Habitable.

Refutation of the common belief that apartment houses are a development of modern methods in building and that the idea of housing 80 to 50 families under one roof was thought of first in the nineteenth century, is contained in an article on "The Cone Dwellers of Asia Minor," published in the National Geographic Magazine. The late Dr. J. R. Sillington Starrett, traveler and explorer, the author of "The Cone Dwellers of Asia Minor," presents a history of the inspection of the land of the Troglodytes whose homes in the Cappadocian valley were shaped by the eroding action of flowing water some 2,000 years before Christ, and stand today, "walk-ups" it is true, but nevertheless nature's own apartment houses.

The habitations are cone-shaped. Pumice stone is the material of which they are made, and to protect them from the action of rain nature provided them with roofs of lava that was belched from nearby volcanoes. Compared to those of more modern civilization, the homes of the cone dwellers lack much that makes for comfort. Needless to state, they are not provided with lighting systems, running water, elevators, superintendents, dumb-waiters and bellboys. But in their favor is the fact that no rent need be paid nor leases signed; no neighbors' children can disturb one because the floors are of thick stone, and burglars find business unprofitable because once the Troglodytes family turns in for the night, the "stairs" is pulled up after them.

### Improve Their Homes.

The present generation of Troglodytes has improved on the dwellings left them by their ancestors. In fact each succeeding generation has done its bit to make the stone houses more habitable. For instance, Doctor Starrett explains that in some locations, where the simple cones were the original dwellings, the Troglodytes have improved the situation by building facades of pumice stone in front of them.

Apparently the cones already were standing when the forefathers of the present Troglodytes entered the Cappadocian valley. They were solid, however, and considerable work was necessary to make apartment houses of them.

Primitive tools were used to cut entrances first once the first hole was made, the workers spread themselves, so to speak, and proceeded to enlarge the space inside. The entrance tunnels branched off into rooms; windows were then cut, and the Troglodytes moved in. Everything portable that was owned by the Troglodyte was carried into his apartment and stored away in the store room.

The mere fact that a cone already was inhabited, made no difference to a Troglodyte who liked its appearance. If he found a friend living inside, he hurried a home under or over that friend's home. In many instances, Doctor Starrett wrote, cones were found to be or to have been used by four or five families. The entrances were found level with the ground in many cases, while on the other hand there were cone dwellings the entrances to which were located far above the surface.

Evidently the Troglodyte of ancient times was a long-fingered, strong-toed individual. Small clefts in the surface of the cones' side were used in climbing to and from the apartments. Many of the Troglodytes of today, the article explains, use a pole in entering or leaving the house.

### Use Pole for Stairway.

And the modern Troglodyte, using a long wooden pole as a means of entering his home, shows little progress in architecture. None of his ancestors were brought up to the fresh-air habit. Their sleeping rooms for the most part were not constructed so that air might circulate. Examination of the interior rooms indicates that the Troglodytes of the pre-Christian era were content to live in almost total darkness.

So today their descendants pay little attention to light and air. Fresh air and sunlight find their way into just one room. That is located at the entrance. The other rooms are always in inky blackness, unless the occupants of the house lets the wind and rain exert their forces on his walls. Thus a window may force its presence upon them.

### Bed Posts in Fence.

A Shawnee County, Kansas, farmer, William T. Stock, has more than two miles of fence, of which the posts are all iron bed posts bought from Topeka junk dealers. He paid from 5 to 7 1/2 cents apiece for them and estimates he has a permanent fence at a saving of \$200. Stock does a good deal of junk yard shopping. He has an automobile trailer made from an old spring wagon, salvaged automobile wheels and home-made axles, hubs and spindles.

# RED CROSS CLEANS UP TURKISH CAPITAL

## Americans Join With Allies in the Regeneration of Constantinople.

Constantinople is being cleaned up by the allies, and soon it will be like a western European city. The regeneration of Turkey is commencing with a general sanitary campaign in which the American Red Cross commission to the Balkans has been asked to aid.

"American sanitary engineers of the Goethals type are badly needed out here," said an American physician. "Sewage conditions must be installed throughout the near East in hundreds of towns. Constantinople must be cleaned up till it looks like a Swiss housewife's kitchen."

"Mosquito netting by the millions of miles must be brought over. Local doctors do not believe in the screening of sick beds or of hospital windows. They must go to school again in their profession."

"The people must be driven out of the filthy centers of disease into the open country, where the sun can get at them and where they can engage in healthful farm work."

"Sometimes," said the Red Cross doctor, "I feel an irresistible desire to watch 10,000 of these unfortunate wretches together, strip them of their crazy-quilt bundles of vermin-infested rags, force them all into a vast petroleum pool, then into a great tank of clean water. I would give them one and all a pair of American shoes, a pair of overalls and a sweater."

"The roads over which we are trying to get our automobiles, filled with Red Cross supplies for the underfed of central Serbia, are quite impassable. From Saloniki to Belgrade the roads are lined with tens of thousands of skeletons and rotting carcasses of animals. Soldiers' graves, thinly screened with earth, skirt the highways. No wonder there are dozens of cases of typhus in every city in Serbia."

"What the near East needs is several divisions of Americans plumbers, railroad men, sanitary engineers, doctors, nurses, white wings, building contractors, army hikers and coat and pants salesmen with East side experience."

"The first boatload to leave Toulon or New York should contain the plumbers."

# CARES FOR COMFORT OF MERCHANT CREWS



Aboard every ship controlled by the United States shipping board the comfort of the men is carefully looked after. This picture shows a tier of individual metal clothes lockers where the "shore clothes" of the sailors may be kept under lock and key.

# BULLET HITS WATER

## Little Lad Had a Narrow Escape From Death.

Twelve-year-old Vernon Marion, son of Mrs. Frank Marion of Tumalo, Ore., narrowly escaped death while playing on the banks of the Deschutes, a short distance from his home, the other day, when a bullet, fired by C. A. Daniels of that city from the opposite side of the river, hit the water, ricocheted and struck the lad in the forehead.

The boy, stunned by the impact, at first was believed dead, but regained consciousness before being brought to Bend. The bullet, its course being deflected, had followed the bone and was found imbedded under the scalp. Only the fact that the leaden pellet struck one of the thickest portions of the skull saved his life, according to the attending physician.

# Boys Find Robbers' Loot.

Four followers of Tom Sawyer explored a cave in the mountainside at Thorold, Ontario, and came across a name of treasure trove. It was the loot of a gang of railway thieves. There were expensive silks and tapestries and velvets. Now the police are busy.

# NEW YORK NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

## Paragraphs of Interest to Readers of Empire State.

### Interesting News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points in the State and So Reduced in Size That It Will Appeal to All Classes of Readers.

Penn Yan says the outlook for apples is poor.

Newfane's free library is to have new quarters.

Terrific hail storm near Albion injured fruit trees.

Hornell's city tax rate will be slightly lower this year.

Joseph Mumby has been named as police chief of Palmyra.

The knitting mills of Perry are now working on eight-hour basis.

May building records in Rochester showed increases at \$545,148.

Romulus is kicking against curtailment of trains on the Lehigh.

Several posts of World War veterans will be organized in Buffalo.

It is probable that another rural carrier will be added at Phelps.

Intense heat last week closed the schools of Rochester temporarily.

Hornell's common council put the ban on Sunday baseball in that city.

Bath wants to return to the sort of mail service in vogue before the war.

It is said that the lumber industry in the Tonawandas is steadily waning.

Seneca county's farm bureau has adopted resolutions against daylight saving.

The Liberty bank of Buffalo is to shortly erect a 20-story building in that city.

Fruit blossoms in Orleans and Niagara counties are damaged, state experts say.

Ice sells at wholesale for \$5 a ton in Rochester and costs the consumer \$11 or \$12.

Dairymen's Co-Operative association is incorporated by farmers of Steuben county.

Farmers of Bath and vicinity have formed the Bath Dairymen's Co-Operative association.

Wellsville Odd Fellows have decided to buy the home of Clarence A. Furnum for a clubhouse.

Newark's fire wardens plan to secure additional apparatus and reduce the fire risk of that village.

Rochester has put a special motor cycle cop on the job to keep an eye out for automobile spooners.

Niagara Falls common council has adopted Sunday baseball ordinance despite opposition of ministers.

It was learned in Albany that the investigation of the Albion House of Refuge has been indefinitely held up.

About 1,500 one-day chicks arrive from nearby points, via parcel post, to be delivered in Buffalo every morning.

Word comes from Washington that the Curtiss-Elmwood plant in Buffalo is soon to be owned by the government.

Penn Yan Butchers are protesting because they are not allowed to slaughter animals inside the village limits.

The County Farm bureau and Dairymen's league and Grange will have an ox roast and field day at Little Valley July 1.

Fredonia soldiers and sailors who recently returned from the war have organized a branch of the American Legion.

In Lockport the Niagara Apple Products corporation filed papers of incorporation, the stated capital being \$50,000.

H. E. Warren was elected president at the first gathering of the New York State Chiropractors' association in Rochester.

Total sales at the Cabana stock farm at Elma, during the recent close out sale, amounted to \$733,000 for 200 head of cattle.

Senator Poindexter and Samuel Compers will be speakers at an immense open-air celebration at Exposition park, Rochester, on July 4.

It is probable that a scarlet fever epidemic was avoided in Mt. Morris through the timely discovery by a community nurse in that village.

The Niagara Brass & Manufacturing company of Buffalo has bought the old Holley shops in Lockport and opened a foundry and machine shop in Lockport.

Shower baths near the New York Central station in Rochester, erected and maintained by George Eastman, have been opened for the convenience of soldiers.

Mrs. Sherman Clarke, president of the Rochester Federation of Women's clubs, has offered \$25 for the best American drama written by a resident of this state.

W. G. Pollard of Batavia has accepted the chairmanship of the Genesee County committee of the League to Enforce Peace. Mr. Pollard is president of the Bank of Genesee.

A group of Jamestown men purchased 200 acres of land around Freck's Mills, up Quaker Run, with the intention of converting it into a recreation place for themselves and their families.

Genesee county supervisors have approved the action of the Rochester Automobile club in regard to securing Roosevelt highway action at once.

Erie county supervisors voted to have the county join the Dairymen's League and sell the milk from the poor farm at Alden through that organization.

Work on the Allegheny road through Darien will be started by the town superintendent of high ways shortly. A stretch of road about four miles long is to be rebuilt from the Pembroke line.

Batavia will be furnished with aerial mail service within a year under the plans for the Milwaukee-New York aerial mail route, Fred B. Parker of Batavia, state fair commissioner, said after his return from Syracuse.

The first dairy improvement association in Western New York has been organized at Millgrove with 38 members. These associations have the backing of the state and are organized to promote the movement for more and better cattle.

The Rev. Dr. George Chalmers Richmond, former rector of St. George's Episcopal church of Rochester, who left that city 10 years ago to take the rectorship of a Philadelphia church, will be ordained as a clergyman of the Baptist faith.

Superintendent of Prisons Charles F. Rattigan announces the designation of Herbert S. Carpenter of Ardley-on-Hudson as a member of the state prisons survey commission to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Bishop David H. Grazer of New York.

At a meeting of the Chemung County Sheep Breeders' association, held in the Farm Bureau offices in Elmira, it was decided to pool the wool raised in that district and President J. Barry VanDuser of Horseheads is communicating with several mills in regard to prices.

Genesee county will have an introduction to the mysteries of the tail spin, the loop-the-loop, the instant turn, the whip-stall and the other stunts of aerial acrobatics at the Genesee County Fair next September, K. M. plans for bringing a flying circus to Batavia go through.

The diocesan council of the Episcopal diocese of Western New York in session at Geneva granted salaries to the women of the diocese at parish meetings and authorized the appointment of a financial secretary for the diocese at a salary of not less than \$1,000 or more than \$2,000 a year.

Attorney General Newton was advised of the indictment of Harry Meala of Middletown for the crime commonly known as "ambulance chasing" and technically the solicitation of law business for certain offenses and New York lawyers. The indictments are novel in the history of criminal law.

Cattaraugus county chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star, commencing the 34th district of the order, held their district convention in Olean. Representatives of the 11 chapters in the district were present. The members are Salamanca, Allegany, Helderberg, Little Valley, Randolph, Gowanda, Otto, Portville, Frankville, Machias and Olean.

The peace crop is the only one in the great fruit country of Niagara that gives promise of being large this year, according to Prof. L. E. Strickland, inspector of plant industry for the state with orchards in Niagara and Orleans counties under his direction. He told the story of the present condition of the orchards to the Niagara County Farmers' club at Warren's Corners.

Commissioner of Agriculture William H. Clegg announced that 75 county and town agricultural fair associations paid out \$296,302.71 at fairs held in 1918 and will receive a pro rata share of \$260,000 appropriated by the state for the encouragement of agriculture and of domestic arts. The state's policy is for the promotion of the breeding of cattle, swine, sheep, poultry and horses through awards at fairs.

Dr. James Dearden of New York City has been elected president of the New York State Association of Milkmen in New York, being the unanimous choice of the delegates. Other officers elected were: William H. Ryland, Gloversville, first vice president; J. B. Brayton, Rochester, second vice president; James B. Hobart, Staten Island, third vice president; Howard W. Fuhrer, Queens, fourth vice president; Jay Farrer, Oneida, treasurer, and A. W. Foot, Utica, secretary.

Baldwins, which are the most widely grown commercial apple in Western New York, are reported to be a light and scattered bloom and the same conditions regarding this variety prevail in Genesee county, according to the Genesee county farm bureau. Russets in that county have a heavy bloom, while fall varieties in general have a fair bloom. There were excellent conditions for the pollination of the fruit, although the actual set of apples cannot be determined till the June drop has taken place.

New York state's treasury was swelled by \$1,111,731 during May as a result of the operation of the stock transfer tax. This is the largest amount netted for a single month since the tax became operative in 1905. The May receipts bring the total from this source for 11 months of the current fiscal year to \$5,919,445. This brings the 11 months' total to more than \$600,000 in excess of last year's full quota. Comptroller Travis also predicted that this year's receipts would be materially increased by the close of the present fiscal year.