

NAVAL RESERVIST GROUPS!

THE GROUP OF THOSE THAT LEFT HERE ON THE "NIOBE".
THE GROUP OF THOSE THAT LEFT HERE ON THE "FRANCONIA".

THE GROUP OF THOSE THAT LEFT HERE ON THE "CARTHAGINIAN".
THE GROUP OF THOSE THAT LEFT HERE ON THE "MONGOLIAN".

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Geeral Joffre's Hammer.

Mr. Hilaire Belloc, in "Land and Water," gives a remarkable illustration of General Joffre's problem: how to use this reserves to break the German line. Mr. Belloc writes: "I have compared the work that is being done against the trenches in the west to the pressure a man may exert upon some strong, but brittle substance—such, for instance, as a rod of glass. The efforts he will make have a very slight, & hardly perceptible effect up to the breaking point. But when the breaking point comes, it comes suddenly and the result is final. To this metaphor, I will add another, which I think helps to explain the so-called 'deadlock' in the war."

"Suppose you had a hammer and the hammer was of such a nature that it struck its first blow unsuccessfully it would be shattered and useless for any further work. And suppose that, while you are applying pressure to your glass rod, a friend holding this hammer was ready to give the blow at the breaking point on your signal. It is evident that great deal would depend upon your state of the moment for the use of the hammer. If you misjudged the strain you had put upon the glass rod, making it greater than it was, and you, therefore, gave your friend the signal to strike with the hammer, the rod would remain unbroken, and the hammer could never be used again. If you judged the moment just right, then, though your hands were not strong enough to break the glass rod, the hammer would come in with just sufficient force to achieve the result, adding its weight to the strain you had already put upon the resisting but brittle substance."

NAPOLEON'S HAMMER.

Now, in this wearing down of reserves of enemy trenches, the hammer is the reserve. The whole point is a reserve is that you cannot have and use it too. The risk of work with a great reserve (as Napoleon did in all his later battles) is unless you judge the exact moment right in which to use it, you are worse off than if you had no reserve at all. It is evident that to strike with a large reserve means to strike with a correspondingly weaker force at the front, and if you use your reserve by throwing it in too early or too late you will run that heavy risk of working with insufficient numbers, or barely

Doctors and Gas Fires

In an article which recently appeared in the London "Evening News," Mr. W. G. Faulkner stated: "In making my inquiries I discovered one significant fact. This was that one company—the Gas Light and Coke Company—had among their consumers 2,500 doctors who had gas fires installed in their houses, some as many as ten or a dozen; that 1,500 of these doctors had become users of gas during the past three years; and that not one had ever given them up."

Professor C. V. Boys, F.R.S., says, in the "Standard": "Sentiment and inertia are the only obstacles against the general adoption of gas fires and cooking appliances. Wonderful strides have been made, in spite of deep-rooted prejudice. A gas fire, burning with a blue, is an admirable agent for heating a room; and, as a scientist, I fail to understand how such a gas fire dries the air in a room more than any other fire."—Nov 17, 1917.

sufficient numbers, and you will have run it in vain. But if you do judge your moment rightly then the possession of a reserve is decisive. You have risked a great deal. You have worked with too thin a line perhaps in your determination to keep back your last reserve for the decisive moment."

"You have heard a great deal of grumbling from the people suffering the strain at the front; you have had to suffer the acute anxiety of waiting for the decisive moment, and wondering, perhaps, whether it will ever come. The whole method means the severest control of oneself and of one's supporters, as well as the most exact judgment. But if you do use your judgment exactly and resist all temptation to use your reserve too early, then the method is the most decisive possible in war."

THE WAY UP.



WALLY MASON

Great men from low conditions rose, as history records; from poverty, with all its woes, they reached for high rewards. As Lincoln used to study law by feeble candle light, while stretched upon his couch of straw, on many a winter night. Himself he had to educate, he could not go to school; and so he climbed to high estate, while other boys played pool. And even as we go to press some boys are striving hard, in poverty and grim distress, to gain the world's regard. In garrets dark they con the page that points the upward way, and walk with thinker and with sage, and they'll arrive some day. Alas, such helpful wholesome joys, appeal not to the fool; where one thus reads, a thousand boys are busy playing pool. I've read ten thousand sprightly tales of boys who rose to fame, from whacking mules or splitting rails, or kindred humble games. The halls of congress always show a score or more of men, who in the days of long ago bood corn to earn a yen. And everywhere the great and good from small beginnings rose; they milked the cows and sawed the wood, and coiled the garden hose. I've never heard, though, of a wight (exceptions prove the rule!) who reached a great and shining height through skill at playing pool.

QUICK-WITTED ATKINS.

The Chaplain-General tells two good stories of quick repartee by soldiers. The hero of each was an R. A. M. C. orderly. Mr. Thomas Atkins No. 1 was being impressively warned by a hospital sister before going on night duty against the criminal offence of falling asleep.

"It's all right, miss; there ain't no fear of that," he said, with a twinkle in his eye. "I was a poacher before I joined."

Mr. Thomas Atkins No. 2 was being put through his paces by another hospital sister as regards his practical knowledge.

"And what would you do in case of collapse?" she asked.

"Give him some brandy, miss."

"But supposing you had no brandy?"

"Sure, then, I'd promise him some, miss."

War News.

Messages Received Previous to 9 a. m.

OFFICIAL.

LONDON, Jan. 14. To the Governor, Newfoundland: The French Government reports very bitter fighting northeast of Soissons. The French troops fell back slightly at one point.

The Russian Government reports some progress in East Prussia, and further Turkish defeats in the Caucasus.

BIG LOSS OF OFFICERS.

PARIS, Jan. 14. Prisoners taken in Flanders by French troops assert that 27,000 German officers already have been killed, and that the formation of the new army corps has been seriously hampered for this reason.

BRITISH REINFORCEMENTS.

PARIS, Jan. 14. Both the French and Germans have been reinforced on the Meuse, Soissons, Berry au Bac, and in front of Laon, and fighting around Croule Cliffs and Hill No. 132 is very severe with alternate bayonet charges and artillery bombardments. Five hundred thousand more British troops are reported to be on their way to France from England to strengthen up the Allies' line at points where other support may be deemed necessary.

FEAR FURTHER RAIDS.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 14. That Germany fears raids by British aviators similar to that which recently caused severe damage at Cuxhaven, is indicated by a decree issued at Berlin, placing Hamburg and other cities under martial law. Lights in all the cities are dimmed at night.

KING VICTOR AT AVEZZANO.

AVEZZANO, Jan. 14. King Victor Emmanuel arrived here this afternoon. He inspected the ruins and watched the work of rescue, which is being carried on by troops, with the assistance of civilians. Persons most seriously wounded, are being attended to here; others are sent to Rome.

WIDESPREAD RUIN.

LONDON, Jan. 14. A despatch from Rome says the member of the Chamber of Deputies for Lipari, has telegraphed to the capital that the disaster yesterday surpassed the Messina catastrophe. Ruin is more widespread and injury to life and limb much greater. The Central News publishes a despatch from Rome, giving the recital of an Avezano refugee. "I can best describe Avezano by telling it in an immense cemetery," this man said. "From the ruins of the college for young women we heard frantic calls for help. 'There are one hundred and forty of us still alive here. Help us quickly!' Soldiers and civilians rushed to the scene, and when I left were doing their best to cut a way through the mass of ruins. I believe that twenty other towns have suffered severely. This includes Colono with 20,000 inhabitants."

A SURVIVOR'S STORY.

LONDON, Jan. 15. The experience of a passenger on a moving train which was thrown from the track by the earthquake, related in a despatch from Rome to the Central News, is as follows: "Our train was near Lake Fucino, when the earthquake occurred. There was one shock of great violence, followed by three others. I climbed out on the train and gazed around the lake and surrounding mountains, where there had been towns. I could merely see enormous whirlwinds of dust and smoke, and apparently the towns existed no longer." The despatch adds that almost all the way to Tivoli the buildings along the railway line are in ruins. Troops sent from Rome were able to rescue hundreds of persons in many places, but cries for help are heard from beneath the ruined buildings, and in a large number of instances it was impossible to effect a speedy release of the victims. It is estimated that four thousand persons are buried alive under the

wreckage at Avezano. Throughout the night, shouts for help could be heard. In one instance a school building collapsed, burying 200 children, many of whom are still alive. It is stated that 400 soldiers were in barracks at Avezano when it collapsed, and only four escaped. An employee of the municipality at Avezano, one of the few survivors of the city, says the dead include the sub-prefect, the members of his family, the whole staff of the prefecture, the staff of the law courts, the mayor and all the members of the municipal council. Ninety-five out of a hundred soldiers, who comprise the garrison, lost their lives, and four out of seven customs officials, and eight out of nine local policemen. This man was on the street when the shock came. To him it seemed as if everything fell to pieces at once and an immense cloud of dust arose from the ruins, completely veiling the sky.

RUSSIAN PROGRESS.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 15.—(Official.) Yesterday we made progress on the right bank of the Lower Vistula, our troops changing positions in a manner favorable to them.

The cavalry of the enemy in this region were repulsed, leaving Serpetz in possession of our vanguard.

On our other fronts nothing has occurred other than skirmishes and artillery duels.

A GERMAN VICTORY.

LONDON, Jan. 15. A reverse of the Allies along the River Aisne in the neighborhood of Soissons, is admitted in the latest official French statement, although the possible effect of the German advance is officially minimized.

After continuous engagements which lasted nearly two days, the Germans forced the French to yield in front of Vregny, to the east of Crouy.

It is explained by the French War Office that the flooding of the River Aisne destroyed several bridges and thus rendered precarious communication with our troops operating on the right bank.

These troops were withdrawn as it was thought impossible to send reinforcements to their support.

The success is a partial one for our adversaries, says the French statement, but will have no influence on our operations as a whole.

Emperor William himself was present at these operations which resulted in the capture of several thousand French prisoners, and were continued throughout January 12 and 13.

AVEZZANO'S HEAVY DEATH TOLL.

LONDON, Jan. 15. A despatch to the Morning Post from Rome says in the Marsi region around Lake Fucino at Avezano, there are 20,000 victims of the earthquake. Deputy Sipari, who represents Avezano in the Chamber of Deputies, has asked for 25,000 soldiers and material for huts. Fifteen other towns were destroyed in Marsi and others damaged. Of 12,000 inhabitants of Avezano only 100 survive.

HOCKEY.—The St. Bon's and Terra Nova's practiced at the Prince's Rink last night. The former will comprise practically the same players as last year while the Terra Nova's will be made up of all new material, with one exception.

DRY SACK Sherry

THE CHOICEST PRODUCT OF THE FAMOUS SHERRY DISTRICT—SPAIN. Welcome your guest with a biscuit and a glass of Dry Sack Sherry—it's a graceful, old-time custom now coming into favor again. In bottles only—of all good dealers. D. O. ROBIN, Canadian Agent, TORONTO.

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THE "WALTHAM" Military Wrist Watch.

This Watch straps to the wrist for convenience, and to make it secure against loss. It is neat, light in weight, and will keep accurate time under all circumstances. It is fitted with a special military dial with heavy numerals and heavy hands.

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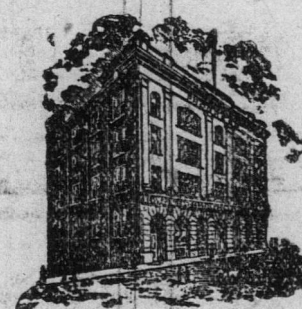
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A pretty big claim, but listen—

"All-wheat food" sounds good to most people, but Grape-Nuts goes one better. It not only contains the entire nutriment of wheat, but also the rich nourishment of barley.

More! Grape-Nuts is long baked and digests quickly. Most wheat foods—bread for instance and some so-called breakfast foods—require 2½ to 3 hours for digestion.

Grape-Nuts food digests generally in about one hour.

Being highly concentrated, there's more actual food value, weight for weight, in Grape-Nuts than in some other foods sold in bigger packages.

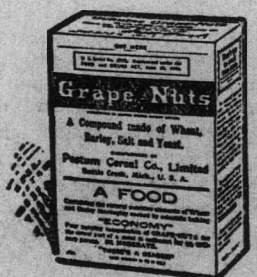
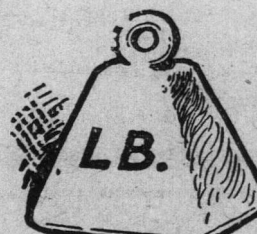
Grape-Nuts contains the vital bone, muscle and nerve making phosphates necessary for health and life, but lacking in most wheat foods—white bread especially. A daily ration of Grape-Nuts readily makes up for this lack.

Ready to eat from the package, appetizing, nourishing, economical—

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Message from I. C. Morris.

The following message was received by Mr. I. C. Morris yesterday by telegraph from Mr. Ronald:—

"Splendid tour so far, beautiful weather. Immense meeting here last night; unbounded enthusiasm."

Another Meeting of Reserve Committee.

The Reserve Force Committee met last night at the Board of Trade Rooms for the purpose of considering the recommendation of Officers for the Reserve Force.

Sir Joseph Outerbridge presided and those present at the meeting were:—

Hon. M. P. Cashin, F. J. Morris, M. A., W. J. Higgins, M.H.A., Capt. Montgomery, W. H. Rennie (Captain of Musketry Committee), Capt. McLaughlin, Lt. Col. Rendell (C.I.B.), Lt. Col. Conroy (C. C. C.), Dr. Macpherson, Captain H. Outerbridge, J. W. Morris, Major Hutchings (M. G. R.), J. J. Harvey, J. W. N. Johnstone and Mr. V. P. Burke, Secretary.

The nominees decided on by the Officers' Selection Committee were submitted and approved of and will be forwarded to His Excellency the Governor for consideration.

The report of Capt. H. Outerbridge, Quartermaster, was read, showing that the work in that direction was being done in a thorough manner. Nearly 300 have been supplied with kits.

Lieut. E. S. Ayre, who is in charge of the day unit, submitted a most comprehensive report on the advancement made by the Volunteers in the various branches of training.

The Officers' Selection Committee reported favourably on the efficient state of the force.

Blocked With Ice.

A change of wind is eagerly awaited to remove the ice that has filled the harbour for the past twenty-four hours. Off the Narrows the ice is packed tightly, making it extremely difficult for shipping to get in or out.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES DIS-TEMPER.