

WEATHER.
Fair, warmer Monday; Tuesday probably rain.

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FOURTEEN MILITARY REGIMENTS CALLED FOR POLICE DUTY

President Authorizes Increase of Navy's Personnel to 87,000 Men TWO ADDITIONAL MILITARY DEPARTMENTS ARE FORMED

STEPS TAKEN TO PUT THE COUNTRY ON WAR FOOTING

President Orders Navy Recruited to the Full Authorized Strength of 87,000 Enlisted Men—Two New Military Departments Created to Facilitate Mobilization and Eleven Full National Guard Regiments Called Out.

GUARDSMEN TO PROTECT AMERICAN INDUSTRIES

General Wood Transferred to New Southeastern Department, Which May Be the Center of Activity Should German Crisis Develop
Need For Military Operations in the South—Further Steps May Await Congress Action.

Washington, March 25.—President Wilson took steps today to place the nation on a war footing. By executive order he directed that the navy be recruited without delay to full authorized war strength of 87,000 enlisted men. Taken in connection with emergency naval construction already ordered, this means that the President has exercised the full limit of his legal powers as commander-in-chief to prepare the navy for war. For the army, the President directed that two new military departments be created in the Atlantic coast region. The order means that the task of organizing whatever army Congress may authorize will be divided among six departmental commanders instead of four in the interests of speed and efficiency in mobilization.

To Protect Industries.
The third step was to assume as a national duty the task of protecting American industries from domestic disorders in the event of hostilities. For this purpose eleven full infantry regiments, two separate battalions and one separate company of National Guards were called back into the Federal service to act as national police in important districts. Supplementing these troops, a regiment of Pennsylvania Guard and two companies of Georgia infantry, en route home from the border for muster out, were ordered retained in the Federal service.

The President's orders were made known in terse official statements issued by both departments. No explanation accompanied them, except the statement that reorganization of the military departments, effective May 1, was designed to facilitate decentralization of command.

Order for Navy Recruiting.
Following is the executive order bringing the navy up to war strength: "By virtue of the authority vested in the President by the act of Congress approved August 29, 1916, entitled 'An act making appropriations for naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, and for other purposes,' it is hereby directed that the authorized strength of the navy be increased to 87,000 men.

(Signed) "WOODROW WILSON."
87,000 Enlistments Needed.
The navy must enroll immediately approximately 20,000 men to reach the required strength. Secretary Daniels supplemented it tonight with personal telegrams to newspaper editors all over the country urging them to aid the department in every way in their power, to obtain the men.

Congress must determine the system under which an army is to be raised. Today's action provides more elastic machinery, found necessary as a result of the recent border mobilization, for the enrolling and training of a great army, whether raised as volunteers, by conscription or through a universal service bill.

Object of New Departments.
The object of the creation of the new departments of the Northeast and Southeast was to distribute among three central commanders the work of mobilization in the states most thickly populated and from which the greatest number of soldiers must come. The present Eastern Department directed the mobilization of approximately eighty per cent of the 151,000 reservists sent to the border. With strength of the National Guard, called out in addition to whatever volunteers might be summoned, the task would be too great for a single departmental organization because of the vastness of the supply problems involved.

Department Learned Lesson.
Instructions to National Guard officers issued more than a month ago to cover any future mobilization, showed plainly that the War Department had centralized its mobilization problems as far as possible. Departmental com-

ORGANIZATION OF HOUSE CALLS FOR MUCH ATTENTION

Northern Democrats Want Some Southerners Unseated—"Wet" Element Troublesome.

BOTH PARTIES PERTURBED

Progressive Wing Gives Republicans Concern—Leaders to Discuss Legislation.

Washington, March 25.—With the convening of Congress in extra session only a week off, Congressional leaders are here for conference with administration officials over the legislation which will be demanded by the virtual state of war existing between the United States and Germany. Members of the foreign relations and military committees and House Ways and Means committee, which frames revenue legislation, will have important matters to discuss.

Aside from the great business for which Congress has been called, the question of organization is chiefly occupying the House leaders. Both Democrats and Republicans said tonight that the election of a speaker probably would follow soon after the House was called to order, but that the organization of committees presented a problem the result of which no one could forecast.

The attitude of the so-called "wet" members and of some of the northern Democrats is giving concern to the Democrats, while the Republicans are troubled over their progressive wing. Any of these elements might easily wreck the organization plans of the majority of either side.

Feeling among Democrats over committee assignments was bitter at the close of last Congress. The "wets", of whom there are about twenty, angered over the manner in which prohibition legislation was pushed through in the dying days of the session declared that they would see several Democratic chairmen displaced at this session if they had to vote with the Republicans. In turn, Democratic "drys" declared openly that any insurgent movement by the "wets" would result in their summary relegation to the foot of committee.

Discontent among Northern Democrats over Southern members holding virtually all of the choice committee chairmanships, broke out in heated declaration that the coming session would have to see some decided changes in committee heads if northern support was desired further. Rumors reaching the capitol daily indicate that many of the Democrats will demand pledges of changes in committee heads before they will agree to caucus rules on anything except the selection of speaker. All factions are united in their support.

SAYS GERMANY IS PREPARED TO OFFER MODIFIED TERMS

Berne, Switz., via Paris, March 25.—"If peace negotiations were begun today," says the Journal de Geneve, which does not reveal the source of its information but declares it is absolutely reliable, "Germany would offer to restore the territory she occupied in France, except in the mining district of Briey, in exchange for a channel port, Calais or Dunkirk, and an indemnity of 15 billion francs."

"Germany would also offer," says the newspaper, "to restore the territorial integrity and the sovereignty of Belgium, on condition that Belgium would not be allowed to maintain a national army and that Germany would be permitted to garrison Namur, Liege and Antwerp perpetually."

It is added by the newspaper that Germany must be given control of the Belgian railroads and ports and be favorably treated in an economic treaty. This is not the program of pan-Germans, but the actual terms of the German government, says the Journal de Geneve.

GERMANS PREPARING FOR DRIVE TOWARD PETROGRAD
Petrograd, Saturday, March 24 (via London, March 25).—From internal troubles and the problems of reconstruction, the attention of Russia has

MORE GROUND IS TAKEN BY FRENCH NEAR ST. QUENTIN

Paris Reports Pushing Germans Back Over Front of About Two and a Half Miles.

BERLIN ADMITS RETIREMENT

Says Withdrawal Before British in Roisel Region Was "According to Orders."

The French forces and the Germans again have been engaged in heavy fighting on several sectors of the front between the Somme and the Aisne rivers, and again the French have made advances toward the strongly defended town of St. Quentin. According to the French war office the French troops have pushed forward over a front of about two and a half miles south and southwest of St. Quentin, the new positions taking in the town of Castres, three miles southwest, and Esigny-le-Grand, four miles south of St. Quentin. Gains also were made south of the Oise and north of Soissons.

Berlin admits the retirement of the Germans "according to orders," before the British between Beaumont and Roisel, northeast of Peronne, but says the Germans repulsed French attacks north east of Soissons. For the most part the fighting on the British end of the line has consisted of reciprocal raiding and bombing attacks.

There has been considerable fighting in the air. The Berlin war office reports the loss of 17 airplanes by the French and British, while London reports eight German machines were driven down out of control, but admits that four British machines failed to return to their base. Bombs have been dropped from German aircraft on Calais and Dunkirk.

While only small raiding operations and artillery duels have been reported from the Russian front, a dispatch from Petrograd says there is indisputable evidence that the Germans are bringing up large numbers of troops to the northern part of the line for an effort to break through toward Petrograd.

The spring thaws are holding the Russo-Rumanian and Teutonic allied troops in check in Rumania. In Macedonia the fighting has been active activity prevails. The usual artillery duels and small activity continues in the Austro-Italian theatre.

WITHDRAWAL MADE ACCORDING TO ORDERS, BELLEN REPORTS.
Berlin, March 25 (by wireless).—German rear guards engaged with hostile forces near Beaumont and Roisel and east of the Crozat canal on the front in northern France have fallen back according to orders after inflicting losses, army headquarters announced today.

A French attack near Vreigny, northeast of Soissons, was repulsed. The British and French lost 17 airplanes, the statement says. It reads: "Western front—During the bright weather there was lively artillery activity on the Flanders and Artois fronts."

"Southeast of Ypres our mine throwers carried out efficient shelling. Reconnoitering troops advancing after this found the trenches completely destroyed and evacuated by the enemy."

"Near Beaumont and Roisel and east of the Crozat canal hostile advances encountered our protecting troops which, after inflicting damage upon the enemy, gave way, following their orders, from the bridge. In aerial engagements, the British and French lost 17 airplanes. First Lieutenant Baron von Richtenhofen brought down his 30th and Lieutenant Vosse his sixteenth and seventeenth adversaries."

Shots Are Exchanged.
Havre De Grace, Md., March 25.—Shots were exchanged this evening at 7 o'clock between a sentry on duty at the Pennsylvania railroad bridge over the Susquehanna river and an unknown man in a row boat who failed to move away from the bridge. The boatsman disappeared in the dark. It is not known whether he was struck.

UNITED STATES AFTER MAY 1 TO BE DIVIDED INTO SIX MILITARY DEPARTMENTS INSTEAD OF FOUR

National Guard Units In Eleven States To Perform Police Duty

Washington, March 25.—Calling into the federal service of fourteen regiments of the National Guard for police protection purposes was announced today by the war department. The Second Virginia regiment is included in the call. The department issued this statement: "Many states have deemed it advisable to call out the National Guard for police purposes of protection. As the necessity for such steps arises from issues which are more national than local, it has been deemed advisable by the President to call into federal service for the above mentioned purposes the following organizations of the National Guard: "Massachusetts, 2nd and 9th regiments; "Maryland, 4th regiment; "Pennsylvania, 1st and 3rd regiments; "Virginia, 2nd regiment; "Vermont, company B, 1st regiment; "Connecticut, 1st regiment; "New York, 2nd and 71st regiments; "New Jersey, 1st and 5th regiments; "Delaware, 1st battalion, 1st regiment. "The following organization which are now in the federal service will not be mustered out: "4th Pennsylvania, A and B, companies of the 1st Georgia."

Northeastern and Southeastern Departments Are the Two New Organizations

N. CAROLINA IN THE LATTER

Southeastern Department Embraces the Old South, With Headquarters at Charleston.

GEN. WOOD IS COMMANDER

Changes Made to Facilitate Decentralization of Command

Washington, March 25.—Division of the United States into six instead of the existing four military departments was announced today by the War Department. The two new departments are the Northeastern, comprising the New England states, and the Southeastern, comprising the states in the Old South.

Wood Commands Southeastern.
Major-General Leonard Wood is transferred from the command of the Department of the East to the new Southeastern Department, with headquarters at Charleston; Major General J. Franklin Bell from the Western Department to the Eastern Department; Major General Hunter Liggett from the Philippines to the Western Department; and Brigadier General Clarence R. Edwards from the Canal Zone to the Northeastern Department. Major General Barry, of the Central Department, and Major General Pershing, of the Southern Department, remain in their command.

The changes were outlined by the department in the following statement: "To facilitate decentralization of command the United States is divided into six military departments in place of the four now existing. The new organizations become effective May 1, 1917, and comprise the following: "A—Northeastern Department, to embrace the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Headquarters at Boston.

"B—Eastern Department, to embrace the states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia and the Canal Zone and the island of Porto Rico with the islands and keys adjacent thereto. Headquarters at Governor's Island.

"C—Southeastern Department, to embrace the states of Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi, together with the coast defenses at Galveston, and the coast defenses of Galveston. Headquarters at Charleston, S. C.

"D—Central Department, to embrace the states of Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming and Colorado. Headquarters at Chicago.

"E—Southern Department, to embrace the states of Louisiana (except the coast defenses at New Orleans), Texas (except the coast defenses at Galveston), Arkansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona. Headquarters at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

"F—Western Department, to embrace the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, California, Nevada, Utah and the territory of Alaska. Headquarters at San Francisco.

Major General Leonard Wood will command the Southeastern Department and Major General J. Franklin Bell will command the Eastern Department. Major General Hunter Liggett will command the Western Department and Brigadier General Clarence R. Edwards will command the Northeastern Department. Brigadier General Edward H. Plummer will command the troops in the Panama Canal zone. Other departmental commands will remain as at present.

Child Labor Conference Ends
Baltimore, March 25.—The National Child Labor conference closed here today with a mass meeting.

REMNANTS OF ROADS CHOKED WITH TROOPS

Spectacular Scenes Accompany Retreat of Germans

Long Lines of Cavalrymen and the Scattered Detachments of Infantry Remind one of the Olden Days of Warfare

With the British Armies in France, Saturday March 24, via London, March 25 (From a Staff Correspondent of The Associated Press).—The open fighting of the last ten days during the German retreat has presented war pictures fascinatingly spectacular and closely approximating the older ideals of martial splendor. The roads, or more exactly, the remnants of roads, in some of the stricken districts of France have been fairly choked with troops on the move. From an eminence on a recently evacuated German stronghold could be seen today a seemingly endless column of cavalry coming over a distant hill, dipping down into a beautiful valley and rising again by a winding road to a broad, open field where camp was pitched for the night. At times the brown hued horses and brown-clad men were almost invisible against the brown winter landscape. At points further forward, infantry detachments could be seen disappearing in the distance, skirmishing, dodging, one unit covering another, until it seemed almost as if the days of Indian fighting had returned.

This open movement is a striking change from the deadly staleness, the

TO PROTEST AGAINST GERMAN 'BARBARISM'

Note Sent to French Diplomats in Neutral Countries

Tells of Wrecking of Homes, Poisoning Wells and Streams, Pillaging of Safes and Theft of Stocks by Retreating Troops.

Paris, March 25.—The French government has charged its representatives in all neutral countries to protest against "acts of barbarism and devastation of the part of the Germans" in territory evacuated by them in northern France. The full text of the note, which is signed by Premier Ribot, follows: "The government of the republic now is gathering the elements of protest which it intends sending to neutral governments against acts of barbarism and devastation committed by the Germans in French territory which they are evacuating while retreating. "At this time I ask you to make known to the government to which you are accredited that we intend to denounce before universal judgment the unqualifiable acts indulged in by the German authorities. No motive demanded by military necessities can justify the systematic devastation of public monuments, artistic and historical, as well as public property, accompanied by violence against persons; cities and villages in their entirety have been pillaged, bared and destroyed, private homes stripped of all furniture.

(Continued on Page Six).

ADDITIONAL VESSELS SUNK BY THE MOEWE ANNOUNCED

Berlin, Thursday, March 22 (via Sayville, March 25).—An additional list of vessels captured by the German auxiliary cruiser Moeve, which recently returned to Germany from a second cruise in the Atlantic, was issued by the admiralty today. The admiralty statement reads: "To the booty captured by the Moeve, the following is added: "Mount Temple, British steamer with 7.5 centimetre gun, 792 tons gross with provisions, parcels and horses; Dutchess of Cornwall, British sailing ship of 152 tons with fish; King George, British steamer of 3,852 tons gross with explosives, provisions and parcels; Cambrian Wange (Cambrian Range), British steamer of 4,200 tons gross, with wheat and parcels; Georgic, British steamer with 12 centimetre gun, 1,000 tons gross, with wheat, meat and horses; Yarrowdale, British steamer of 4,600 tons gross, with ammunition, provisions and war materials; St. Theodore, British steamer of 6,000 tons gross, with coal; Dramatist, British steamer of 5,400 tons gross with ammunition and fruit; Nantes, French sailing ship of 2,600 tons gross, with saltpetre; Asnières, French sailing ship

of 3,100 tons gross, with wheat; Hudson Maru, Japanese steamer of 3,800 tons gross, with parcels; Radnorshire, British steamer with 12 centimetre gun, 4,300 tons gross, with coffee and cocoa; Minieh, British steamer of 3,800 tons gross (listed at 2,800 tons gross) with coal; Netherbyhall, British steamer of 4,400 tons gross, with rice and parcels.

"Jean, Canadian sailing ship of 215 tons gross, with sugar; Staut, Norwegian sailing ship, of 2,100 tons gross, with whale oil; Brecknockshire, British steamer with 12 centimetre gun, of 3,800 tons gross, with coal; French Prince, British steamer of 4,800 tons gross, with coal; Katharina (Katharine), British steamer of 2,900 tons gross, with wheat; Rhodante (Rhodante), British steamer of 3,000 tons gross, in ballast; Esmaraldas (Esmeraldas), British steamer of 4,680 tons gross, in ballast; Otaki, British steamer of 7,400 tons gross (listed at 9,575 tons gross), with 12 centimetre guns, in ballast; Demeteron, British steamer with 7.5 centimetre guns, half a thousand tons gross (listed at 6,045 tons gross), with food; Governor, British steamer, with 12 centimetre guns, of 5,500 tons gross, in ballast.

"Of these prizes the British steamer Yarrowdale reached a German port December 31, 1916, with 460 prisoners (Continued on Page Two)