

MUCH INTEREST IN STATEMENT OF GOV. CRAIG

Views in Opposition to Continental Army Plan Are Much Discussed in Delegation Circles.

CONTINENTAL FEATURE IS CRUX OF THE FIGHT

If This Were Withdrawn Preparedness Program Would Go Through Congress, It Is Thought.

(By Parker R. Anderson.)
Gazette-News Bureau,
The Riggs Building,
Washington, Feb. 4.

The statement of Governor Craig, that he is opposed to the proposition of establishing a continental army, was read with interest in Washington. In view of the fact that the continental army program of President Wilson "is the crux of the fight here on his preparedness program" and the statement of the governor that an overwhelming majority of the people are with the president's preparedness plans, was the chief subject of conversation around the capitol and in the cloak rooms of the house.

The president went west on his now famous speech making tour with no other motive than to convince the country that his continental army program should be put through congress. There is little, if any fight, on the naval program. The president stated in one of his speeches that the navy is ready "for immediate war." Most every one is willing to concede something in favor of the navy, but no one has come forward in support of the continental army proposition except Secretary of War Garrison and his "general staff" familiarly called "war department chair warmers" around Washington.

More than this, President Wilson, less than a year ago, made pointed reference to the continental army and in his last message, which he read to a joint session of both houses, urged congress to adopt this plan of reinforcing its army. He gave it as his opinion that the plan would work well and that he had faith in the patriotism in the young manhood of the country and the generosity of the employers to enable the country to carry out this program.

As further evidence that Mr. Wilson is determined on this pet idea of the continental army, it is pointed out that during his speech-making tour which was brought to a close at St. Louis yesterday, he visited the states from which come members of the house military affairs committee, known to be against the continental army proposition. His first speech was made in New York. Representatives Farley and Caldwell came from that state, two members from Pennsylvania; one from Ohio; one from Iowa; one from Illinois; and one from Kansas. In each of these states the President made at least one speech. In many instances a half dozen.

It is known, and has been known at the White House for some time, that not a single democratic member of the house military affairs committee will vote for the continental army phase of the preparedness program. It is equally as certain that this committee, with its democratic majority, will report a bill in favor of increasing the national guard by providing for increased numbers of men and federal pay for both officers and men. A strong report against the continental plan will be made.

This phase of the situation, it is contended by men close to the White House, caused President Wilson to visit the home states of members of congress who are opposing his program in the committee. On the very day of his departure from Washington the president was urged not to advocate the continental program, but he is said to have announced that his mind was firmly set upon this plan.

Adjutant General Young, of North Carolina, who has been here for several days, told the Gazette-News correspondent that an overwhelming large majority of the people of the state are against the phase of the program. The national guard, officers and all, are bitterly opposed to it, he said.

With the facts before the public, will it be contended that they are in favor of the administration's program? This program means the absolute annihilation of the states' national guard and the eventual proposition of compulsory enlistment. Does North Carolina favor this plan? If so, they should advise their congressmen how to vote.

REFUSES TO ADMIT SINKING LUSITANIA WAS ILLEGAL ACT

Berlin's Suggestion for New Note of Regret Does Not Contain Word "Illegal"—Berlin Considers One of Most Serious Crises of War Has Arisen in Connection With the Lusitania Case.

Berlin, Feb. 4.—Information has reached the Associated Press which indicates that under no circumstances will the German government admit that the sinking of the Lusitania was an illegal act. The new instructions forwarded to Ambassador Bernstorff at Washington contain simply one phrase of the new formulation of the proposed note of regret for the sinking of the Lusitania. The suggested sentence is short, containing only eight words, and it does not contain the word, "illegal." This represents the extreme limits of Germany's concessions in the Lusitania case.

The view is entertained here that one of the most serious crises of the war has arisen in connection with the case and it is impossible to foresee the outcome from any indications here. The result of the negotiations apparently hinge solely on the single word, "illegal." In the way of an agreement between the United States and Germany stand only the seven letters, expressing the conviction which President Wilson and Secretary Lansing insist must be embodied in the German formula expressing regret for the sinking of the liner with the loss of American lives.

The Associated Press is authoritatively and positively informed that Germany cannot and will not designate as illegal the sinking of a liner by any submarine. Virtually there is no other difficulty in the way of settlement remains and the new instructions forwarded to Ambassador Bernstorff on Tuesday contain merely the new formula by which Germany hopes to satisfy Washington without humiliation to Germany.

A Zeppelin airship and probably all her crew, has been lost in the North sea and it is probable that she met her fate through the fire of

Dutch anti-aircraft guns. An English trawler reaching Grimby reports having seen in the North sea the Zeppelin L-19 partly submerged and with seventeen men clinging to her gas envelope. All was refused the Germans because they outnumbered the crew of the trawler.

Fifty shots, some of which it is believed hit her, were fired at a Zeppelin Wednesday morning as she flew low in a fog over the island of Ameland, off the coast of Holland. This airship, according to an Amsterdam report finally disappeared northward a course which would have taken her out into the North sea.

Thirteen men of the crew of the collier, Franz Fischer were drowned when the collier was sent to the bottom in two minutes by a bomb dropped by one of the Zeppelins returning from the raid made on England. Only three men of the Fischer were saved. Heavy bombardments are in progress in various points along the western line, especially in the region of Loos, held by the British and around Neuville, where the Germans recently captured French positions. The British are carrying out mining operations around Hulluch. Near the Bois Des Buttes, north of the Alsne, the French put down a German attack against their trenches.

There is comparative quiet on the Russian front except for bombardments and minor infantry engagements. Unofficial advices say that floods in the Sty river region have compelled the Teutons to abandon strongly fortified positions and that many deaths have occurred from pulmonary troubles.

Along the Austro-Italian front heavy artillery duels continue. Nothing new has come through with regard to the situation in Albania. A dispatch from Athens gives a report of an encounter between Bulgarians and entente allied detachments at the junction of the Greek-Serbian-Bulgarian frontiers, in which the entente allies repulsed the Bulgarians.

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The British government is caring for all passengers and the crews of the captured freighters and will send them on to England aboard the first available ship. The Elder Dempster company will arrange for the return of the Appam's crew.

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DEFENCE PLANS FAVORED BY 3 N. C. MEMBERS

Small, Pou, and Britt Supporting President's Program—Others Want "Reasonable Preparedness."

POU TRYING TO LINE UP BACKWARD ONES

Fourth District Man Is Confident "Big Army and Navy" Will Have a Majority.

(By Parker R. Anderson.)
Gazette-News Bureau,
The Riggs Building,
Washington, Feb. 4.

A careful poll of the house members from North Carolina recently developed the fact that only three members from the state—Representatives Small, Pou and Britt—have made up their minds to support the president's preparedness program as has been outlined by the white house and war and navy departments. Mr. Pou, the most ardent supporter of the administration, may not vote for the continental army plan, though he has not definitely decided on this point. He prefers, however, that the national guard be increased.

Major Stedman, Mr. Doughton, and many of the others favor "reasonable preparedness," whatever that means. But they will not support the continental army proposition. Mr. Doughton was confined over a year ago by the statements of President Wilson and Secretary of the Navy Daniels that we are already sufficiently prepared to defend our coasts against an invading foe. Mr. Doughton will not now support the billion dollar five year program which congress has been asked to adopt.

"The statements made by the president and Secretary Daniels less than twelve months ago," said Mr. Doughton, "convinced me that we were prepared from a military standpoint from any danger that might reasonably be expected. Of course it is not possible to prepare against all possible dangers. If we did we would have to have an army and navy as large as that of the entire world. However, I would be willing to vote for a reasonable increase—that is, a policy that would not cause an unreasonable tax levy on the people.

"But I will not support the additional billion dollar five year program. I am also opposed to turning this great republic into a military camp; and believe, if such a course is ever adopted it will lead to the speedy downfall of our republic, as has been the case with all other republics who followed the policy."

If 90 per cent of the people of North Carolina are with the president, therefore, a very large majority of the congressmen are not in harmony with their constituents. If Mr. Wilson gets more than four votes for his proposition as it now stands, he himself would be greatly surprised.

Mr. Pou, who is endeavoring to line up the backward ones for the administration, is confident that they will have a majority when the time comes for a vote. He thinks congress will get together and pass the bills. He said:

"It is being said that the democrats of the house are hopelessly divided over the question of preparedness. I believe it will soon develop that this is not true.

"The president has presented a program to congress. He has asked that the present standing army of 22,973 men be increased to 141,843, that the national guard of 125,000 be considered a part of the program and that a continental army of 400,000 be organized from the citizens of the nation by training 125,000 men about two months during the year for the next three years.

"I have asked some of our colleagues in the house who are listed as opponents of preparedness to indicate just what they are willing to stand for. It is contended that some increase in our military and naval establishments is necessary, and when these gentlemen indicate just what increase they are willing to vote for, the difference between their own ideas of preparedness and the program of the president is so small as to hardly justify a bitter fight. When all plans have been carefully considered and digested it will be seen that the program of the president is simply a very necessary precaution taken by a great nation to preserve peace.

TEXTILE MEN ASK SEVERAL QUESTIONS

In Telegram Today to Labor Conference Southern Mill Employers Inquire Why Keating Bill Does Not Include N. Y. Tenements—Secretary Lovejoy Says It Does—C. L. Coon Speaks.

The assembly room at the Bath & Park hotel was well filled this morning at 10:30 with men and women interested in the proceedings of the national child labor committee. General Secretary Owen R. Lovejoy presided in the absence of Homer Folks, chairman of the committee on prevention of tuberculosis.

General Secretary Owen R. Lovejoy read a telegram from the Southern Textile association, which was in substance as follows:

"If child labor produces all the evils that your organization claims it does, why does not the committee provide for education of children and relieve suffering in the mill districts of the south? And please explain to the conference why the Keating bill was not framed so as to apply to New York tenements where babies make flowers to decorate women's hats."

Outline of Answer.
Outlining the answer that will be sent to the manufacturers, Mr. Lovejoy said that in the first place the committee raised and expended only \$60,000 a year while the public school fund in the United States amounts to \$500,000,000 annually. The burden of education belongs to the bigger fund, he declared. As to suffering, the national committee, said the secretary, tries to secure the passage of mothers' pensions for families in need. And through its agitation for child labor laws it does not, except in rare cases, reduce any family to poverty. When it does occur, appeals are made to the community to give aid.

As to the Keating bill, framed as it is to apply to all factories and workshops, it includes the tenement shops that the telegram refers to; and the secretary stated that if today's meeting were in session in New York city the emphasis of discussion would be laid on conditions there where 15,000 children are at work, many of them from four to eight years old.

The regular program was preceded by an exhibition of stereoscopic views showing conditions in North Carolina cotton mills. Lewis W. Hine of New York, director of exhibits for the committee, was in charge of this feature, giving the explanatory comment for each picture. Introducing Mr. Hine Secretary Lovejoy said that Mr. Hine was the best disliked man on the staff of the national committee because he was continually going around getting photographs that contain interests wished to withhold from the publicity the director gave them. He stated that the director had been threatened with having his picture published in the Congressional Record.

Record, but that it was hoped that no such calamity would befall the organization.

The Slides.
Mr. Hine stated that the pictures of young children, some of them showing injured hands or legs were not meant for an attack on North Carolina industries; they were aimed at the employers of child labor. Some of the slides showed children as young as 8 years old who within the past three months have been found employed in mills in this state. Mr. Hines exhibited pictures of injured boys and girls to refute the statement that a cotton mill is a safe place to work.

Director Hine also gave an account of the work of Miss Eunice Sinclair of Fayetteville who has been investigating conditions in North Carolina mill towns. Secretary Lovejoy called on W. H. Swift of Greensboro to make a statement as to what he has seen in North and South Carolina in his work as secretary for these states. Mr. Swift said that the officials show him through their plants and that no denial is made that children under the age limit are worked. He declared that in his travels he had not been looking for strong and well developed boys and girls; he had been interested in the frail, stunted and overworked and, he concluded, "they are there and they will remain there until we say that they shall not remain there."

C. L. Coon, secretary of the North Carolina child labor committee, was introduced by Mr. Lovejoy as one of the most vigorous fighters in the ranks of those opposing the exploitation of childhood for gain. Mr. Coon read a paper showing how child labor interferes with the process of educating the states' rising generations.

Saturday's Program.
There will be no afternoon session. The program for Saturday evening is as follows:
Saturday Morning, 10:30 O'Clock.
10:30-11:30—A Get-Together conference.

Informal discussion of practical steps and experience in child labor reform. Present your local problems at this session.
Conference of state committees and local workers.
11:30—Conference of state committees and local workers.
Special attention will be given to the operation of the eight hour day in Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey.

Addresses by Richard K. Conant, secretary, Massachusetts child labor committee, Boston, Mass.; Douglas F. Falconer, secretary, New Jersey child labor committee, Newark, N. J.; George A. Hall, secretary New York child labor committee, New York City. (Continued on page two).

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THINKS PEOPLE ARE WITH HIM

President Returns to Washington, After Campaign, Convinced Middle West Is For "Preparedness."

CAMPAIGN SUCCEEDED BEYOND EXPECTATION

Presidents' Advisors Want Him to Make Another Tour Both in South and West to Urge His Plans.

On Board President Wilson's special car, Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 4.—President Wilson started back to Washington last night convinced that the people of the middle west are with him on the issue of national defense and are prepared to insist that congress take speedy action. He finished his speaking tour in St. Louis yesterday and expressed the conviction that his mission had succeeded beyond his great hopes.

President Wilson's advisers believe he has explained clearly why he considers immediate preparedness imperative, has won many converts to the movement and has given new impetus to a discussion of the cause. From the sympathetic attitude of most of his audiences, from the enthusiasm his every appearance in public has evoked, from the huge crowds which have greeted him, they have drawn the conclusion that the people overwhelmingly support his plans—at least in the middle west.

The president's official family want him to start on another tour. Some of them liken his swing through the middle west to an operation not yet completed. En route to Washington last night they looked both south and west for the setting of his next appearance in the role of champion of national preparedness.

The south beckoned with many hands. Senators and representatives from most of the southern states already have asked him to include their sections on his next tour. To this have been added invitations from many public bodies, with Texas strongly asserting her claims. There is a feeling among some of his most intimate advisers that in choosing the scene for his next plea to the people, the president could pay no greater compliment to his own political party by going into its stronghold.

Minneapolis, Ct. Paul and Denver have presented what they consider strong claims and it is probable that if the president makes another preparedness tour it may include those cities and then swing south in Texas possibly asserting his case of New Orleans, Birmingham or Louisville, although nothing has been decided concerning this.

At least one hundred thousand persons, his advisers estimate, heard the president's chief speeches. Fully fifty thousand more crowded about the rear platform of his car during his five minute talks and hardly fewer than half a million others have been banked on the sidewalks in various cities to watch him pass.

An audience of fifteen thousand swayed with a tumult of cheering in St. Louis when the president told them that the United States should have the greatest navy in the world.

"I believe the navy of the United States should have the greatest navy in the world."

"I believe the navy of the United States should be unconquerable," he said. "The greatest in the world."

The president declared that submarine commanders abroad have instructions which for the most part conform with international law, but the act of one commander might set the world afire, including America.

"Upon the ocean there are hundreds of cargoes of American goods," he said. "Cotton, grain and all the bountiful supplies America is sending out to the world—one of those cargoes, any one of those ships, may be the point of contact that will ring America into the war."

For the first time during the tour the president told how one set of heliographers was cut off from the world. He said this kept the United States from helping them as it would like. He made the statement in trying to show that the United States was really neutral.

The president said he came away from Washington thinking that the country was with him on the issue of preparedness, and was going back knowing that it is with him beyond his greatest hopes. Apparently his conviction of this grew with each succeeding day; deepened in Kansas City last night when he asked "Would you volunteer?" and received a thundering "yes" from every section of the great convention hall; and reached its climax with the demonstration.

Chicago, Feb. 4.—The conviction of Don M. Roberts, former mayor of Terre Haute, Ind., and 10 others who were found guilty with him of election fraud, has been sustained by the federal district court of appeals here.

Passengers And Prisoners Liberated From The Appam

More Than 400 of Those Aboard Liner Held by German Prize Crew Permitted to Land—British Ambassador Prevails After Sharp Controversy With Appam's Agents, Who Opposed Landing of Crew.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Secretary Lansing indicated today that the United States had decided to hold that the Prussian-American treaty would govern the case of the British liner Appam, captured and brought into Hampton Roads by a German prize crew, as Germany contends. All that now remains will be the interpretation of the application of the treaty terms. It was disclosed further that the sole question to be decided by the interpretation was how long the prize might be permitted to remain in American waters.

Newport News, Va., Feb. 4.—Nineteen days of ceaseless vigil for the short-handed German prize crew aboard the former British liner Appam ended last night when the last of more than four hundred British passengers and prisoners climbed over the ship's side to liberty on American soil. And for the first time since Lieutenant Berr and his twenty-two men boarded the liner from the raider, which captured her on the night of January 15, most of the Germans slept peacefully with a few of their number on watch.

All British subjects and the one naturalized American, G. A. Tagliaferri, quit the ship, leaving the prize commander with the twenty Germans who had been prisoners on the Appam, including three women.

Captain Harrison and the Appam's British crew left their vessel only after there had been a sharp controversy between agents of the owners, Elder

Dempster company and the British embassy at Washington. The company desired its men to remain on the liner to support the claim that the Germans forfeit their prize by remaining in neutral waters. But the embassy insisted that every British subject depart as soon as permission had been granted by the prize commander on the demand of the United States government.

Plans were changed every hour during the afternoon and evening, but the embassy's authority prevailed finally and a special boat was provided to take the Appam's crew of one hundred and fifty-five to Norfolk, to await the sailing of a steamer for New York tonight. In the meantime the one hundred and fourteen passengers and the one hundred and thirty-six British seamen captured with the other seven ships taken by the raider Ponga or Moore, had been transferred ashore by steamer. Five of the seamen, one Englishman and four Germans of the crew of the Clan MacTavish, all suffering from several wounds, were removed to a local hospital for treatment. All the rest, with most of the passengers, were placed aboard river steamers for Norfolk. An Old Dominion liner was being held at her dock to take them to New York.

The British government is caring for all passengers and the crews of the captured freighters and will send them on to England aboard the first available ship. The Elder Dempster company will arrange for the return of the Appam's crew.

Juarez Isolated When Villa Attacks Montezuma

El Paso, Feb. 4.—Juarez was completely isolated early today from communication with Chihuahua City, as the result of the attack made yesterday of Francisco Villa on the garrison at Montezuma, about 100 miles south of here. Beyond establishing that Villa himself led the attack no news had been received here early today which indicated how the fighting had resulted.

Troops were hurried from Chihuahua City to attack Villa, while reinforcements were en route to Montezuma to support the Carranza troops there.

It is believed that should the fighting be prolonged Villa will be surrounded on all sides.

Canadian Parliament Building Now In Ruins

Magnificent Structure Swept by Flames, Origin of Which Is Attributed by Some to Bomb or Infernal Machine—Cost Over Six Million Dollars.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 4.—Canada's magnificent parliament building which cost more than \$6,000,000 lay in ruins today, swept by a fire which was attributed by some to a bomb or infernal machine. At least six lives were lost and many persons were injured.

The flames were under control early today, after having raged for six hours. The financial loss is difficult to estimate, but the contents of the building were of great value.

The building covered four acres of ground and was rated as one of the finest gothic structures on the continent.

The origin of the fire can only be determined by an investigation which it is understood will begin at once.

The flames started in the reading room of the house of commons and many agree that the fire was preceded by an explosion which blew open the doors of the library and knocked down several people who were standing nearby. They say they believe the fire was caused by a bomb or infernal machine.

Police were on guard at both doors of the library and there were others in the room itself, so that it would have been difficult for anyone to have entered the room to set the fire.

It was suggested that the fire might have started from a smoldering cigar, but smoking in the room was prohibited. In the room were thousands of papers and they caused the fire to spread rapidly. The smoke rolled up in dense volumes, out of the doors and into the chamber of the house of commons which body was in session. With the spreading of the alarm the members of the house, the spectators in the galleries and attendants fled in a panic for the windows, doors and fire escapes.

So swift was the progress of the fire that some in the building narrowly escaped with their lives.

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Relief Work In Flooded Sections Systematized

Little Rock, Ark., Feb. 4.—Relief work in the district flooded by the breaking of the levees of the White and Arkansas rivers today was being systematized under the direction of committees which had established headquarters here and at Pine Bluff. An expedition with supplies of food and other necessary articles left Pine Bluff early today for points where the refugees are congregated and plans were being perfected for the establishment of a central refuge camp outside of the flooded area.

A number of small boats which were to be used in reaching the people marooned in isolated districts were being hurried to the flooded regions from Pine Bluff.

A dispatch from Lake Village in Chicot county in the extreme southeast corner of Arkansas stated that two-thirds of the county is undated and that the water is spreading toward the east and west of Carroll parish in Louisiana.

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