

# PREPARING FOR CONFLICT

## REALIZATION THAT A STATE OF WAR EXISTS PUSHES PREPARATIONS FORWARD

**General Military Budget Will Be Laid Before House and Senate When the Extra Session Convenes a Week From Monday—Council of National Defense Holds a Long Session With Committee of Seven Industrial Plants.**

## PRESIDENT IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH EVERY DEVELOPMENT

**Secretary Daniels Makes Awards for Twenty-four Destroyers, Nine of Which Will Be Built Under Emergency Fund—Situation Is Tense Says Baker.**

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Having taken virtually every defense measure possible before the assembling of congress, President Wilson and his advisers in the executive branch of the government are concentrating their efforts to prepare for the more sweeping steps for which congressional authority will be sought.

The details of the steps to be recommended are held in closest confidence, but officials let it be known today, that among the rest a general military budget, co-ordinating many items of expense deemed imperative, will be laid before the house and senate when the extra session begins a week from Monday.

### Defense Council Meets.

During the day the council of national defense held a long conference with its advisory committee of seven industrial leaders who have mapped out mobilization plans for the country's economic resources; the navy department awarded contracts for twenty-four destroyers and called a conference of steel and other material companies for next week to consider means of speeding naval construction; the war department announced that failure of the army appropriation bill at the last session of congress would not be permitted to handicap the army's preparations; and

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## MINISTER WHITLOCK IS TOLD TO LEAVE BRUSSELS BY STATE DEPARTMENT

Department Advises Relief Workers Not to Remain Longer.

### SENT TO HAVRE.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Because of the "German government's" disregard of its written understandings for the protection of Americans and American relief work in Belgium, the state department announced today that American Minister Brand Whitlock had been withdrawn from Brussels and the staff of the American commission for relief in Belgium advised that they should not remain longer in German occupied territory.

## GENERAL LEONARD WOOD DOES NOT LOOK FOR ANY TROUBLE FROM ALIENS

Says That This Country Has Nothing to Fear from Internal Conditions.

### NATION UNITED.

NEW YORK, March 23.—Major General Leonard Wood, in an address at a luncheon of the Republican club, here today, declared he did not believe the United States would have any trouble with the "so-called alien population" within its borders.

### UPROAR AT PEACE MEETING.

NEW YORK, March 24.—Considerable disorder attended a meeting tonight of the Emergency Peace federation, in Madison Square Garden, at which resolutions were adopted declaring that overt acts "however brutal," do not afford cause for war to a republic whose slogan was "conciliation, arbitration and democracy."

## REED APPEALS FOR UNITED CITIZENRY BEHIND WILSON

"Loyalty Day" at Kansas City Ends With Huge Mass Meeting.

## SENATOR SCORES THE MAN WHO INTERRUPTS

Missouri City, Scene of Wild Enthusiasm with Flags and Parades.

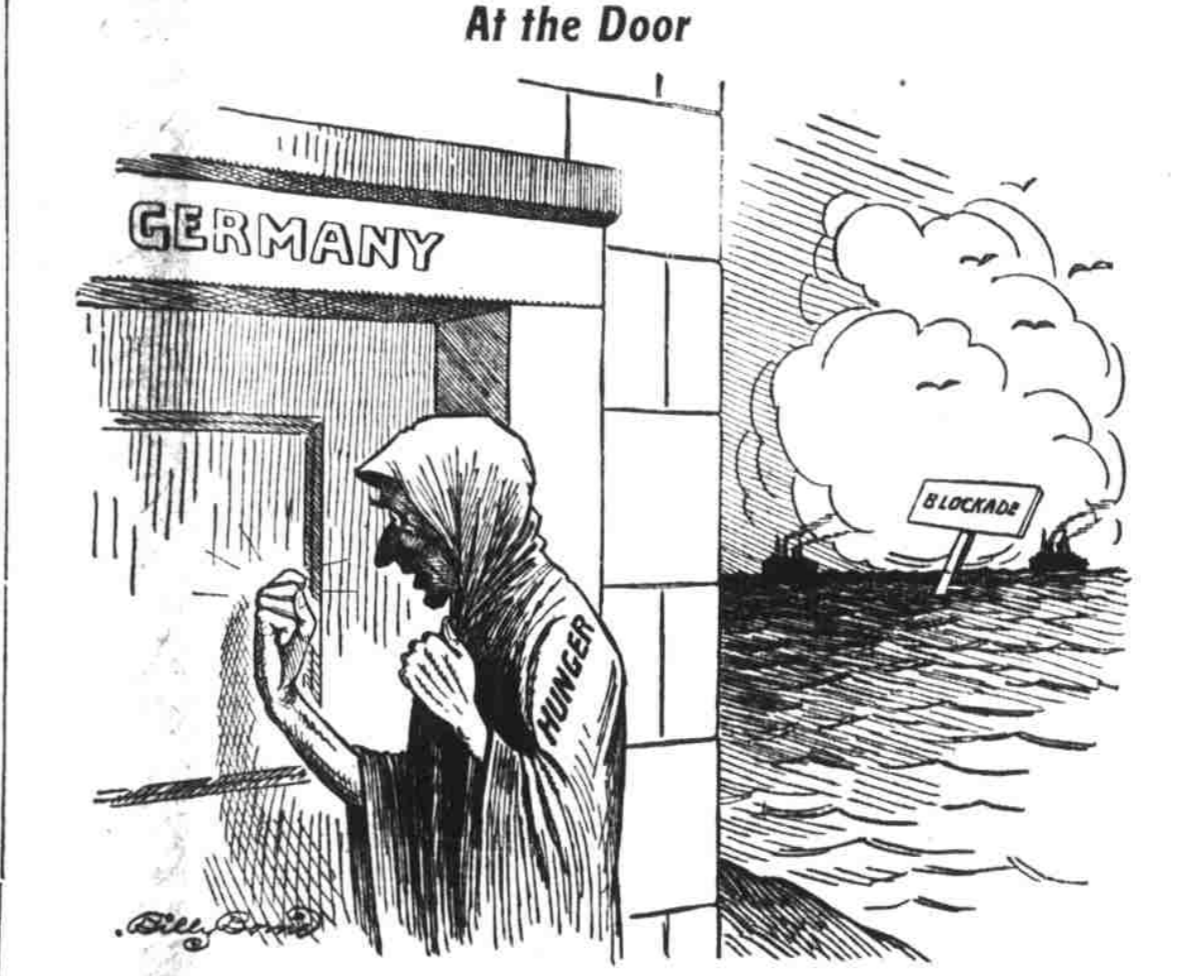
KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 24.—Kansas City brought "loyalty day" to an end tonight with a tremendous expression of patriotism and loyalty in convention hall, the scene of a huge mass meeting.

## AMERICAN NOTE TO CUBA REITERATES POLICY OF U. S. TOWARD GOVERNMENT

Outlines, Clearly and Concisely, Stand of This Country Against Revolt.

### TO SUPPORT ORDER.

HAVANA, March 24.—A note from the American government to the Cuban government reiterating the purpose of the United States to support the Cuban government in its efforts to re-establish order and condemning the conduct of the rebels, was delivered today by William E. Wood, minister to the American minister. The note follows:



## AS GERMANS RETREAT BEFORE ADVANCE OF FRENCH TOWARD ST. QUENTIN THEIR TRAIL IS MARKED BY DEVASTATION

Associated Press Correspondent Traveling With Forces of France Gives Vivid Description of the Fighting—No Dwelling Is Left By Germans as They Move Out—Pollution of Wells Said to Be Deliberate.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, FROM A CORRESPONDENT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, March 24. (Via Reutels.)—The rapidity of the German retreat has somewhat diminished, but the French advance continues eastward of St. Quentin canal. The fighting between the advanced and rear guards has been sharp at various points, but the Germans have been unable to withstand the pressure of the French forward move. All obstacles placed in the way of the oncoming French are overcome with indomitable energy and spirit, with which the men are imbued more than ever since they left the trenches for the open country.

The hardships of bivouacs and iron rations are borne with the utmost cheerfulness because the French soldiers feel that they are liberating from serfdom their fellow citizens who have been under the sternest German rule for more than two years.

**Bridges Blown Up.**  
The Associated Press correspondent with the troops encountered some of the difficulties that confront the pursuing army. At five different places the French tried to cross the canal, but on each occasion were pulled up suddenly by a yawning opening where a bridge had been blown up, but eventually crossed by a pontoon.

As the French progress continues the extent to which the countryside has been laid waste increases; not a dwelling remains intact. This is not the result of artillery fire, but specially prepared bombs which were placed in the buildings as the Germans left. Cottages and farm houses, which once housed nearly 100,000 peasant farmers have thus been rendered uninhabitable, merely in the districts where the Germans recently have been forced to evacuate.

**Wells Polluted.**  
Every well has been rendered useless and the homeless people must now rely on supplies of water brought in barrels by the French soldiers. This pollution of the wells was deliberate, as demonstrated by a German order found on the battlefield dated March 14, addressed to the second squadron, Sixth German cuirassiers, belonging to the Thirty-eighth division, giving instructions to this end.

The correspondent spoke to dozens of homeless inhabitants, all of whom asserted that the German soldiers, when asked why they were destroying the property of householders, always replied: "It is our order."

The wife of the village doctor at Naelo, who had housed the German regimental staff, protested to a German lieutenant against the willful destruction of her furniture. He appeared to regret what his men were doing, but said: "I cannot do other-

wise: it is my command."  
Most of the liberated people are without money, their metal coinage having been taken by the Germans who gave paper in exchange. Everything possible is being done for the refugees by the French civil and military authorities.

**TWO FORTS TAKEN.**  
PARIS, March 24.—Two of the advance forts in the defensive system of La Fere, a strong point on the Hindenberg line, have been captured by the French, who also have occupied the west bank of the River Oise from the outskirts of La Fere as far north as Vendoul, a distance of about four miles.

The new French success is chronicled in the official report issued by the war office tonight which adds that several villages on the east bank of the Allette river have also been taken, the German rear guards being driven back.

The statement reads:  
"North of the Somme we have forced back the enemy to the outskirts of Savy, where he had established himself in a line of trenches prepared in advance from the Somme to the Oise.

"Our troops, continuing their success, gave battle to the enemy who defended himself foot by foot and

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## DESPITE FIERCE RESISTANCE OF GERMANS BRITISH AND FRENCH GAIN

Allies Make Progress on Both Sides of Somme and Oise Rivers.

## FRENCH NEARING THE CITY OF LA FRERE

Roisel, Seven Miles East of Peronne, Is Captured by the British.

Notwithstanding stiffened resistance by the Germans before the Hindenberg line, British and French troops continue to make progress on both sides of the Somme and Oise rivers in France.

The west bank of the Oise from La Fere northward to Vendoul, a distance of about four miles, has been occupied by the French troops who also captured two of the advance forts in the defensive system of La Fere, supposed to be one of the German strong points.

North of the Somme, the Germans have been forced back to Savy, four miles west of St. Quentin. The fighting on the west bank of the Oise, according to French official statement, was of the most desperate character, the Germans giving ground only foot by foot and defending themselves tenaciously.

In the face of the German attempts to check the French progress south of the Oise by flooding sections of the French have advanced on the east bank of the Allette river, capturing several villages and forcing the Germans to retreat.

**Roisel Taken.**  
Roisel, seven miles east of Peronne and a railway junction point on the line between Maroing and St. Quentin, has been captured by the British. At Beaumont-Les-Cambrai, near the center of the British line on the Somme front, the Germans attacked and obtained a temporary footing in the village, but later were ejected. A British advance southwest and west of Roisel, St. Mein, southeast of Arras on a front of one and a half miles, also is reported by London.

Grand Duke Nicholas has been ousted from the chief command of the Russian armies because of his connection with the Romanoff dynasty.

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## SEARCHING DEBRIS FOR VICTIMS OF STORM AT NEW ALBANY, INDIANA

Measures of Relief Instituted for People Rendered Homeless.

### TWO MORE DEATHS.

NEW ALBANY, Ind., March 4.—With but two additional deaths reported during the day, the work of searching the debris proceeding satisfactory and measures of relief instituted for the homeless, New Albany today began to emerge from the gloom which had enveloped the city after the storm which wrecked portions of it late yesterday.

The deaths reported brought the list of fatalities to thirty-three. Three-fourths of the wrecked area, it was said, had been explored and the remainder might possibly yield additional bodies.

Of the 100 or more who were injured, it was said probably seventy-five were badly hurt, but that less than a dozen were in a serious condition.

Citizens of Louisville have subscribed more than \$12,000 for relief and sent motor trucks loaded with food and clothing. The chamber of commerce has issued an appeal for aid, estimating that \$200,000 is needed to properly care for the injured and homeless.

The work of clearing away the wreckage and searching the ruins for bodies today was under the supervision of a detachment of state troops. Sixty were on duty today and 100 more were expected tomorrow when 200 inmates of the Indiana State reformatory at Jeffersonville, three miles away, will be put to work. Monday an additional 200 men will be used with electricians and other skilled labor from the institution in an effort to rehabilitate the stricken section.

An effort to estimate the property loss was made late today by a committee representing local trade organizations which placed the loss at \$1,123,000.

When the rescuers today examined the ruins of the negro school houses, which was expected to yield a number of bodies, they found only a badly frightened but practically unharmed negro boy, who had been pinned beneath the debris.

## SECOND TANZER JURY NOT ABLE TO REACH VERDICT

Woman of "Oliver" Osborne Fame Must Stand Third Trial for Perjury.

NEW YORK, March 24.—After deliberating sixty-seven hours without reaching an agreement, the jury in the case of Rae Tanzer, charged with perjury in her breach of promise suit against former Assistant District Attorney James W. Osborne, was discharged today by Federal Judge Van Fleet. A new trial will be necessary.

The jurors were nearly in a state of collapse, and one was stricken with indigestion this morning and had to be attended by a physician.

This was the longest deliberation by a federal jury in this district, court records indicating that the previous case of the New Haven railroad officials in 1915.

Judge Van Fleet questioned the jurors in the Tanzer case individually and learned that almost from the first they were hopelessly deadlocked. They said they had considered the evidence and believed there had been so much false testimony given during the trial that they were unable to determine which side to believe.

The alleged perjury was committed at the trial of Franklin D. Sanford, a hotel clerk, who at the time Miss Tanzer brought her suit identified James W. Osborne as "Oliver" Osborne, which was the name signed by a man who accompanied Miss Tanzer to the hotel. Charles H. Wax has testified several times that he was the woman's companion. Sanford was convicted and sentenced to prison.

Miss Tanzer's suit against James W. Osborne was never brought to a conclusion, having been withdrawn with her attorney's request.

## WESTERN ROADS MAY ASK FREIGHT RATE INCREASE

Officials Want Conference With the Interstate Commerce Commission.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Application of western railroads for an increase in freight rates because of the higher cost of labor under the Adamson law and of supplies and equipment was forecast late today by a telegram to the interstate commerce commission signed by officials of more than twenty roads, asking for a conference to consider steps necessary to meet "a financial situation requiring immediate relief."

While the western roads did not state specifically that a general advance in freight rates would be requested, such a request is expected to follow. Eastern roads yesterday filed a formal petition requesting the commission to suspend its rules so as to permit without delay a general advance in rates, and the commission has called a hearing for next Tuesday afternoon.

Southern roads have yet to be heard from in connection with the proposed general increase in rates. Because of difficult conditions and regulations applying in their case, there is some doubt here whether they will join the other roads at this time in requesting a general advance.

**COOPER WILL BE THERE.**  
BRAMWELL, W. Va., March 24.—It was announced tonight at the home of Representative Cooper, republican, who has been ill, that he would be able to attend the opening of the special session of congress April 1.

## IMPRISON GERMAN MINER FOR WRECKING ATTEMPT

Fenton, Charged With Trying to Damage Machinery, Is Sentenced.

ROANOKE, Va., March 24.—Joannes Schmidt, a German miner, was arrested today by detectives at Mayberry, W. Va., a few miles across the Virginia line, for attempting to wreck machinery in the mine where he was employed. He was given a hearing before Magistrate Smith, at Mayberry, and sentenced to serve sixty days in jail and pay a fine of \$100. Schmidt was taken to Welch, W. Va., and lodged in jail.

The detectives assert that Schmidt placed a spike in one of the mine motors. A crowbar was found in a conveyer before it caused any damage. Schmidt is known to have taken a number of pictures around Mayberry, which is one mile from Elkhorst Tunnel, the largest tunnel of the Norfolk and Western railroad system, and through which practically all coal from the West "Virginia fields" pass.

The Norfolk and Western railroad has taken adequate steps to protect all tunnels and bridges and heavily armed guards are keeping a lookout for suspicious characters.

**WANTS ROADS FEDERALIZED.**  
BALTIMORE, Md., March 24.—Announcement was made at the Baltimore and Ohio railroad offices today that Daniel Willard, president of the company will appear before the Newlands committee in congress this week and urge federalization of railroads. By this it was explained he will advocate government regulation to the exclusion of conflicting state laws.