

ALLIES CONTINUE TO MAKE GAINS ON WESTERN FRONT

British Cavalry Captures More Villages From Retreating Germans.

GERMANS OFFERING STRONG RESISTANCE

Early Spring Thaw on Russian Front Makes German Attack Impossible.

Further gains by the British over the Germans northwest of St. Quentin and by the Germans over the French in the Champagne region of France, are recorded in the latest British and French official communications.

The British cavalry have captured the villages of Villers-Faucon and Saincourt, lying a few miles north of Reims and are virtually astride the St. Quentin-Cambrai road, says the British war office, which adds that additional terrain has been taken from the Germans south and west of Croisilles, despite the strong resistance of the Germans.

The German war office, however, takes issue with the latter statement, asserting that the fighting near Croisilles was in favor of the Germans.

Activity on the part of the line held by the French west and south of St. Quentin is mainly by the artillery wings of the opposing forces. To the south of St. Quentin, between Esclary and Bony, a fierce artillery duel is in progress. No infantry action has been fought.

In Champagne, the Germans, after a violent bombardment, attacked the positions held by General Nivelle's troops west of Maumont. De Champagne and succeeded in penetrating elements of the French first line trenches. Sanguinary losses were inflicted on the Germans, however, during unsuccessful efforts they made to capture the village of Maisons De Champagne, says the Paris war office.

Thaw Blocks Attack. An early spring thaw on the Russian front, from the Baltic sea to the Carpathian mountains, has rendered impossible for the present any attack in force by the Germans against the Russians. This seemingly puts at naught, for the time being at least, the reported intentions of the Germans to attempt to force their way across the Riga region toward Petrograd. Minor operations are in progress, however.

In Roumania fighting continues in the Ural valley region. Here the Germans captured from the Russians a strongly entrenched ridge and held it despite numerous counter-attacks, according to Berlin. One hundred prisoners and machine guns and mine throwers fell into the hands of the Germans.

Bombardments are in progress along the entire Austro-Italian front, being especially violent on the east.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION MAY SUSPEND RATES DURING HEARINGS

Would Probably Be For a Period of Sixty Days.

TO HEAR ALL SIDES.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Suspension pending investigation of all increases in freight rates proposed by the railroads of the country in their forthcoming applications for a general advance, appeared tonight to be the course which the interstate commerce commission probably will follow when the various railroad groups filed their proposals.

Such suspension, it was indicated, would be for a period not exceeding sixty days instead of the customary six months. Hearings will be held, it is understood, during the period of suspension and shippers, commercial and civic organizations, state utilities commission and other interested parties will be heard.

Eastern railroads are thought to have virtually abandoned their plan to have the proposed increase of fifteen per cent go into effect without investigation by the commission and have intimated that they either will withdraw that portion of their petition asking that the rates be permitted to become effective without suspension or content themselves with an advance ruling on that point.

Hale Holden, president of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, representing the western group of roads, announced after a conference late today with Commissioner McChord, that western roads would file their formal petition for increased rates next week. He did not indicate what percentage of increase the western roads would ask, but it is thought they will join the eastern lines in asking for fifteen per cent.

In coupling with increased wages paid under the Adamson law, increases in the cost of fuel, supplies, equipment and various classes of labor as reasons why a general advance should be authorized, officials think the railroads have added to the complexities of the case and tending to lengthen the proceedings.

Petitions pending and about to be filed in the general advance cases overshadow all others before the commission and the early hearings in prospect may disarrange to some extent cases already on the docket.

NO DEVELOPMENT LIKELY TO CHANGE ACTION OF U. S. KNOWN TO GOVERNMENT

If Germany Has Any Peace Plan or Any Other Nation Intends Offering Mediation, It Is Not Known at Washington—Wilson Preparing Address.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—It was learned definitely today that the American government has no knowledge of any development likely to come before congress convenes which would change the present situation between the United States and Germany.

If Germany contemplates any sort of peace move or has considered abandoning submarine ruthlessness, or if any other nation has a step in mind designed to alter the present international status, the government is without information on the subject.

Everything Public. Except for information concerning German plots against American interests, it was learned, the public in a general way knows as much as the government about everything directly affecting the present crisis. Concerning German intrigue in this and other countries, the government has much information which up to the present it has not thought wise to make public.

President Wilson today continued conferences with his advisers preparatory to writing the address he will deliver to congress next week.

The administration is said to be chiefly concerned at present with the form of action to be taken by congress recognizing that Germany is making war on the United States, and with preparedness measures. Whether suggestions that a huge loan or gift of money to one or more of the entente allies should be adopted, whether an army should be sent abroad and whether increased supplies of munitions should be forwarded are generally regarded as questions which would only confuse the issue if pressed to decision now.

Will Review History. The president's message is expected to review the history of the negotiations with Germany leading up to the present situation and to suggest what he believes congress should do. The preponderance of opinion still is that congress will adopt a resolution declaring that a state of war exists.

The president conferred during the day with Colonel E. M. House, who came here last night and returned to New York tonight, and with Senator Husting of Wisconsin, just back from home. Secretaries Lansing, Daniels and Baker met to discuss activities common to their departments and at the department of labor there was a conference to lay plans for the mobilization of the labor forces of the country. Secretary Daniels, Attorney General Gregory and Secretary McAdoo paid brief visits to the white house.

Senator Husting said his personal opinion was that Germany is making war on the United States and that the United States should recognize that fact. He added

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FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS OVER-SUBSCRIBE ON LOAN TO THE U. S. GOVERNMENT

Sum of \$50,000,000 Borrowed on Ninety-Day Treasury Certificates.

ON ONE-DAY NOTICE.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The twelve federal reserve banks today over-subscribed on twenty-four hour notice a ninety-day loan to the government of \$50,000,000 at the rate of two per cent a year.

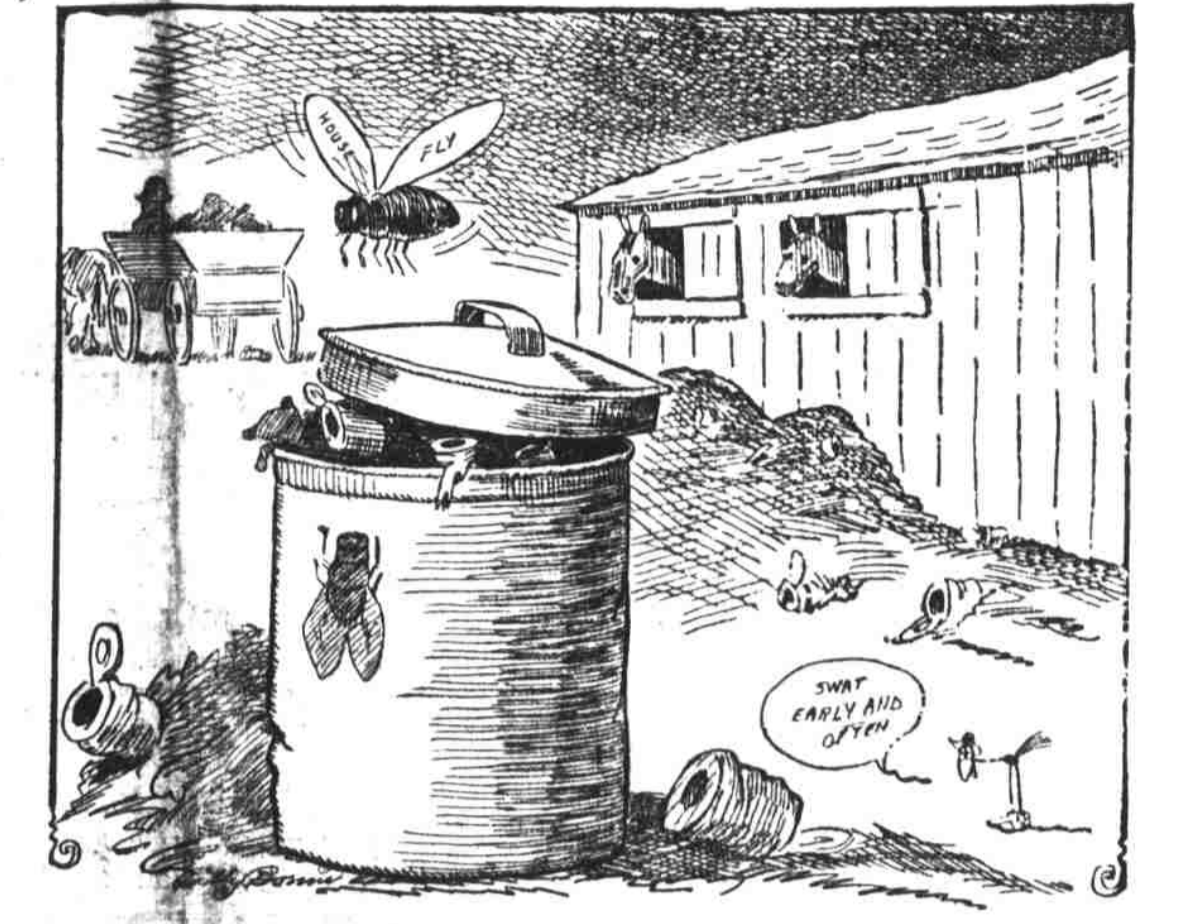
The money was borrowed on ninety-day treasury certificates of indebtedness to help tide over the government during the fiscal year. Temporary financing of the government in this manner was made necessary by the depleted condition of the balance in the general funds of the treasury, reduced to approximately \$34,000,000 and facing a further reduction of \$25,000,000 Saturday when the government will issue a warrant for that amount in payment of the Danish West Indies.

The issue of certificates of indebtedness to run not longer than one year and to bear interest at a rate not exceeding three per cent has been authorized by congress up to \$300,000,000, and today's issue is the first to be made under this authorization. In addition, Secretary McAdoo has authority to issue \$474,000,000 in bonds for various purposes, including Panama canal bonds to reimburse the treasury for the amount paid out of ordinary receipts for the construction of the canal.

The quick subscription by federal reserve banks alone—without reference to any of the member banks of the federal reserve system with their billions of dollars of resources—at a rate of interest one per cent lower than the rate authorized, is viewed by officials as a striking demonstration of the excellent condition of financial preparedness for any events that the future may hold.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Forecast for North Carolina: Fair and warmer Thursday; Friday, fair.

Suppress the Fly Nurseries Now



ALL NATIONAL GUARD UNITS PARTIALLY DEMOBILIZED ARE ORDERED BACK INTO FEDERAL SERVICE BY WAR DEPARTMENT

Order Applies Also to Troops Demobilized Within the Past Few Days, Which the Department, When It Issued Previous Orders, Understood to Be Still in Federal Service—More Guardsmen Called for "Police Duty."

GUARD CALLED BACK.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Orders were issued today by the war department calling all national guard units which have been partially demobilized back into the federal service. It applies also to troops demobilized within the last few days which the department understood still to be in the federal service when its previous orders were issued.

MORE TROOPS CALLED.

Washington, March 28.—The number of national guardsmen called into the federal service for policing industrial and other strategic points was brought up to 50,000 under orders issued today. At the same time the regular First regiment of engineers, scattered along the Mexican border, was ordered back to its barracks at the capital, the navy took additional measures to hasten construction and equipment of fighting ships, and both war and navy departments announced further provisions to facilitate recruiting.

Regiments Ordered Out.

The national guard regiments ordered out today, "for police purposes of protection" are the First West Virginia; the Seventy-fourth New York infantry; the Second Connecticut infantry and the Second New Jersey infantry. Because of a misunderstanding as to the number of troops affected by the order issued yesterday stopping demobilization of the guardsmen returning from border duty, the war department also directed that all organizations which have been mustered out of the federal service, but have not left the state camps for home be brought back under arms. The First Mississippi infantry and ambulance company No. 1, Alabama, are affected by this provision. A supplemental order is expected to recall the First Kentucky infantry, a part of which was mustered out some weeks ago.

It is not improbable that similar supplemental orders may be necessary in regard to other organizations partially demobilized.

Bids for Supplies.

At the navy department bids were opened during the day for a large quantity of ordnance supplies, and Secretary Daniels announced that additional bids would be opened Saturday for construction of submarine chasers.

The New York Shipbuilding company also has been requested to speed up construction of the superdreadnaught Idaho, building at its plant. The Idaho was to be ready for launching by October, but a postponement has been necessary. Builders of the battleships Maryland, Colorado, West Virginia and Washington also have been requested to expedite construction work, and to induce more rapid work a special bonus has been suggested by the department.

Both the war and navy departments are enrolling physicians from civil life in order to expedite recruiting. During the day Secretaries Lansing, Baker and Daniels conferred regarding the army and navy preparations but there was no announcement of the specific subjects discussed. Tonight Mr. Daniels left for Annapolis, to preside at the graduation exercises there tomorrow of the first class of 152 midshipmen, ordered into active service three months ahead of its regular June graduation.

NORTH CAROLINA READY.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 28.—Following the news from Washington this evening that all national guard organizations mustered out of service the past few days are ordered back into service immediately, the North Carolina national guard authorities are ready to apply the order in this state and believe it will not only include the Third infantry mustered out here yesterday, but also have the effect of recalling to service the field hospital corps at Asheville, ambulance corps at Canton, and the two troops of cavalry at Lincoln and Asheville, recently mustered out. It is hardly thought that the First regiment, recently recalled to colors, will be affected by this order. It may

TRANSFERS AND NEW APPOINTMENTS.

Transfers and new appointments announced this morning by the adjutant general of the North Carolina National guard completes the organization of the state administration staff which is now reported to the war department as available for immediate service, and in consequence of urgent inquiries recently made by the war department as to status and availability of this branch of the North Carolina guard. Under this organization Major R. T. Daniel is transferred from the quartermaster's corps to the adjutant general's department. Captain J. S. Peayres, of Henderson, is appointment major in the quartermaster's department. Major S. Glenn Brown, heretofore inspector of small arms, is appointed judge advocate; E. A. Blanton, Raleigh, is made captain in the quartermaster's corps; J. O. Durham is appointed to a captaincy in ordnance detachment.

IT IS CONSIDERED CERTAIN.

It is considered certain at national guard headquarters here that there will be orders within the next few days for the immediate demobilization of the entire strength of the North Carolina guard at war strength of 8,000 men, to which the various units are being recruited with the utmost speed.

Greenboro companies, and also the engineer companies at Wilmington and Charlotte are being held under arms in compliance with the orders from the war department instead of the muster out that was intended when the companies were sent to their home stations. It is expected that orders for flat regiment demobilization at Charlotte and Greensboro will not be longer delayed.

TO INSTRUCT SURGEONS.

NEW YORK, March 28.—A hospital for the instruction of surgeons in the treatment of infected wounds by the method worked out by Dr. Alexis Carrel and H. D. Dakin at the military hospital at Compiègne, France, will be established immediately on the grounds of the Rockefeller foundation.

UNIVERSAL SERVICE FOR WOMEN IS RECOMMENDED

Southern Women's Patriotic Committee Favors Action in Case of War.

NEW YORK, March 28.—Five hundred members of the New York Southern Women's Patriotic committee went on record today as favoring universal service for women in "treating the wounded, cheering the sorrowful, and assisting the country in any way possible should it become involved in war."

The state charities aid association decided to offer its services to the nation "in such form as may be considered advisable and most efficient." A resolution pointed out that the association in its early membership was recruited largely from former members of the New York branch of the United States sanitary commission which was engaged throughout the civil war in providing hospital supplies for the sick and wounded soldiers and sailors.

The New York chapter of the Life Extension institute, with a membership of 5,000 physicians, sent a representative to Washington to offer the services of the organization to the government. The New York chapter of the Red Cross announced that it is ready to respond to all applications for aid from dependent families and relatives of national guardsmen who have been called into service again.

RECOGNIZES GOVERNMENT.

TOKYO, March 28.—Japan has decided to recognize the new Russian government.

GERMANS ACCUSTOMED TO DOING AS THEY ARE TOLD

NEW YORK, March 28.—Ernest Becker, one of six Germans on trial here charged with plotting to destroy vessels leaving American ports with munitions for the entente allies, declared on the witness stand today that "Germans are accustomed to doing as they are told, not to asking questions." This answer was called forth after he had testified to having made parts of shells which were used for bombs, but denied knowing for what the bombs were to be used.

Becker, an electrician on board the German steamship Friedrich Der Grosse, tied up at Hoboken, N. J., since the outbreak of the European war, said he once had served in the German army.

"Do you know what a bomb is?" Becker was asked. "Sure" he replied, "it is one like a Zeppelin comes along and throws down."

"We don't know anything about such things in this country" said the judge.

DRY LEGISLATION KILLED.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 28.—The Illinois house of representatives today killed all pending dry legislation, including the statewide prohibition referendum bill.

The latter measure, on which the state had centered their campaign, was defeated eighty to sixty-seven.

GERMANS WILL PROBABLY DE-TAIN BELGIAN RELIEF WORKERS FOR FOUR WEEKS.

THE HAGUE (Via London, March 28).—The Associated Press has been informed from an absolutely authentic source that the German government will ask American officials and relief workers of the American Commission for Relief in Belgium to submit to a period of "news quarantine," the time not to exceed four weeks, in order to prevent military information from leaking out.

The time would count from the day the men lay down their present charges and notify the authorities in Brussels of their readiness to depart. They will be asked to assemble at some center like Liege, or preferably a German city, such as Cologne, Karlsruhe or Munich, which they would not be allowed to leave for the period mentioned.

The "news quarantine" would apply equally to Brand Whitlock, the American minister to Belgium, and his staff, whom the German government, since the break in diplomatic relations, regards on the same footing as relief workers, although personally in the case of Mr. Whitlock the period of detention, as a matter of courtesy, might be shortened. After the "quarantine" has ended, it is stated that no obstacles will be placed in the way of the departure of the officials and relief workers by any route they may choose.

WEBB DECLARES DEMOCRATS WILL ORGANIZE HOUSE

North Carolinian on Way to Washington Expresses Confidence.

BOTH PARTIES ARE READY FOR ACTION

House Leaders at Washington Plan For Quick Work on Emergency Bills.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., March 28.—Representative E. Y. Webb, chairman of the house judiciary committee, in the last congress, on his way to Washington tonight, said the democrats would organize the house and that congress' work would be concluded in six weeks. He also expressed the opinion that congress would not take steps for an aggressive war on Germany but would stop with defensive measures.

Congressman Webb's stop in Charlotte was at the request of woman suffragists and a delegation headed by Miss Doris Stevens, of California, member of the executive committee of the national woman's party, who urged him to support the Anthony amendment. His reply was he "would vote against it because he took the position that women should be enfranchised by the states."

Mr. Webb said that if retained at the head of the judiciary committee, he would re-introduce his espionage bill.

CONFERENCES HELD.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—House leaders, democrats and republicans, began conferences today to pave the way for quick action on appropriation bills and legislation pending on the international crisis, regardless of which party organizes the house when the extra session begins Monday.

Speaker Clark, Democratic Leader Kitchin, Republican Leader Mann and Representative Fitzgerald agreed tentatively that the big appropriation bills which failed at the last session of congress should be introduced in the form which they originally passed the house, without delay under a suspension of the rules and sent to the senate. They also agreed that should either party organize the house the minority representation on all committees should be raised several members.

Conference held. Democratic members of the ways and means committee of the last congress who will serve on the incoming congress conferred on committee assignments for their party, confident that, as heretofore, their caucus will name them to make the selections.

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MOBILIZATION OF LABOR FOR THE GOVERNMENT IN EVENT OF WAR PLANNED

Workers Will Be Obtained Through the American Federation.

CONFERENCE HELD.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Mobilization of labor for government service in event of war with Germany was planned today at a conference of officials and labor leaders in the office of Secretary Wilson. Means were outlined and agreed upon for making readily available enough workers to insure operation of government shipyards and arsenals and of plants working on government contracts.

Officials, profiting by the experience of England, are determined that the country in the event of war, shall not be embarrassed by labor troubles and inability to obtain skilled and unskilled workers.

Through the American Federation of Labor represented today by its president, Samuel Gompers, the government expects to get its supply of trained workmen. The United States public employment service will furnish unskilled men and the civil service commission will supply clerical help. The postoffice department will advertise the country's needs. The council of National Defense, of whose labor committee Mr. Gompers is chairman, also will co-operate.

In obtaining men for mechanical service the civil service commission, it is announced, will waive scholastic qualifications and will examine applicants for physical fitness and mechanical experience only. There will be no technical test.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Circulation. Rows include City (4,306), Suburban (4,179), Country (1,715), Net paid (10,200), Service (205), Unpaid (158), Total (10,563).