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ARMY PLANS ARE FORMING

Broadening of Defense Facilities
Begin to Take Definite Form
In Congress.

BE READY IN TWO WEEKS

Chairman Hay of House Committee
Will Present Completed Draft
of Bill to His Colleagues
On Wednesday.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 22.—The
army's part in national defense leg-
islation began to take definite form
in congressional committees today.

With the House Military Com-
mittee in practical agreement on the
outline of the army bill with the
federalization of the National Guard
as a compromise for the continental
army plan, unanimously favored,
chairman Hay was at work complet-
ing the rough draft for detailed con-
sideration by the committee tomor-
row. He expected that the measure
would be ready for presentation to
the House within two weeks.

Meanwhile the Senate military
committee was framing its measure
for a thorough reorganization of the
regular army, with a peace strength
of over 160,000 men. It is under-
stood that the House committee will
accept the large army plan of the
Senate provided its scheme for fed-
eralizing the National Guard is ac-
cepted.

The tentative House bill not only
grants the program mapped out by
former Secretary Garrison, but goes
farther and provides for reserve mil-
itary supplies.

RAILROAD RATE UPHELD BY THE SUPREME COURT

Routing of Commerce Commission
As to the Hauling of Lumber
Passed Upon Favorably.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 22.—The In-
terstate Commerce Commission or-
der requiring trunk line railroads
and tap lines reaching the Southern
yellow pine lumber districts to
divide the through rates on a basis
of the mileage hauled over the tap
lines was upheld yesterday by the
Supreme Court.

After the Supreme Court's deci-
sion in 1914 permitting tap lines to
share in the through rates the com-
mission, in finding some of the al-
lowances to tap lines to be in nature
of discriminations and rebates, or-
dered that the allowances be placed
on a mileage basis. The practical
operation of the order was that the
greatest distance possible, and thus
excluded from the traffic trunk lines
interesting the tap lines at inter-
mediate points.

CHARLES A. WEBB BUYS ASHEVILLE NEWSPAPER

United States Marshal and Associates
Purchase Gazette-News—Will
Make It Democratic Paper.

Asheville, Feb. 22.—The Gazette-
News Saturday carried the an-
nouncement that the paper has been
sold to C. A. Webb and his asso-
ciates. Mr. Webb has served in the
state Senate, as chairman of the
Democratic state committee and
now holds the position of United
States marshal of the western dis-
trict.

The Gazette-News, heretofore
conducted as an independent paper,
will be Democratic in politics, al-
though Mr. Webb and those asso-
ciated with him insist that buying
the paper is a business proposition.
It will not be published primarily
as a political paper they say.

The new owners taken charge
yesterday. The formal announce-
ment states that in the future Mr.
Hildebrand will devote his attention
exclusively to the affairs of the
Greensboro Daily News, which he
has for some time desired to do.

NITRE CAKE IS USED TO MAKE CALICO BLEACHING

(By the Associated Press.)
London, Feb. 22.—Nitric cake, a
waste material produced in enor-
mous quantities in the manufacture
of nitric acid, has been found to be
a useful product in the woolle in-
dustry and calico bleaching. A
solution of the cake can be used as
a substitute for sulphuric acid or
any mineral acid in chemical pro-
cesses where acidity alone is re-
quired. But it is not suitable in solu-
tions stronger than 15 per cent, and
thus can not be used in the dye-
stuffs or in the manufacture of ex-
plosives.

FIFTEEN STATES ARGUE FOR PROHIBITION LAWS

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 22.—Fifteen

Southern and Western attorneys-
general joined today in filing
with the Supreme Court of the
United States an argument in
support of the West Virginia
liquor law, prohibiting the receipt
and use of intoxicating liquors
for personal use, and the Webb-
Kenyon liquor law, prohibiting
the shipping of intoxicating li-
quors into states or use in viola-
tion of State laws.

Among the attorneys-general
was T. W. Bickett, of North Caro-
lina.

WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY OBSERVED

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 22.—Every

agency of the American govern-
ment paused today to pay hom-
age to the memory of George
Washington in the capital which
bears his name.

Both houses of Congress sus-
pended business while Senator
Johnston, of Maine, and Repre-
sentative Baker, of California,
read General Washington's Fare-
well Address with its poignant
phrases warning against "insid-
ious wiles of foreign influence,"
"mischiefs of foreign intrigues,"
and the "impostures of pretend-
ed patriotism."

The Farewell Address has
been read every year in Congress
for generations, but probably
never before were Washington's
words so closely applied to pres-
ent day conditions.

President Takes Part.

Washington, Feb. 22.—George
Washington's birthday was gener-
ally observed in the National Capital
today. President Wilson and
other high government officials paid
tribute to the continental leader.
The day was practically a holiday
here.

The chief celebration was that
held at Continental Memorial Hall
under the auspices of various pa-
triotic societies in which the Pres-
ident, Secretaries Lansing and Dan-
iels, and French Ambassador Jus-
serand took part. The President
was one of the speakers.

Various patriotic societies jour-
neyed to Mount Vernon to place
wreaths on Washington's tomb.

Observed in Henderson.

Washington's Birthday was ob-
served in Henderson only by the
banks of the city and the force at
the post office. The banks were
closed the entire day, and the post
office was open only from 10 to 11
a. m. There was only one delivery
of mail in the city, and none on the
rural routes.

LINEAL DESCENDANT OF CONFUCIUS IS HONORED

(By the Associated Press.)
Peking, Feb. 22.—President Yuan

Shi-kai has honored Duke Kung
Lin-yi, a lineal descendant of Con-
fucius with a princedom, a honor
heretofore not bestowed by any
Chinese ruler upon a descendant of
the distinguished sage.

Duke Kung Lin-yi was recently
received in audience by President
Yuan Shi-kai who has shown great
zeal in upholding the Confucian
doctrine, following the example of
previous dynasties in China. Duke
Kung Lin-yi lives at Chu-fou, near
the tomb of his distinguished an-
cestor, and recently acted as host to
Dr. Paul S. Reinsch, the American
minister to China, and a party of
Americans who accompanied him on
a visit to the Confucian tomb.

Play at Epsom.

A play entitled "Hearts and Dia-
monds," will be given Friday even-
ing of this week at Epsom school,
beginning at 7:30 o'clock. An ad-
mission fee of 15, 25 and 35 cents
will be charged.

Of course a man gets credit for
executive ability when everybody he
depends on performs their duty so
effectively that the boss can get
credit for being a good manager.

Previous German Assurances On Attacking Unarmed Liners To Hold Good For the Future

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Con-
fidential advices from Ber-
lin today indicate that Germany
will inform the United States
that her previous assurances that
unremitting liners will not be at-
tacked without warning hold good
for future submarine operations,
provided, however, that submarine
liners do not carry armament.

The German government will
contend, the advices state, that
what now is considered as de-
fensive armament, is really offen-
sive armament.

As none of the British and
French liners now clearing from
American ports carry any arms
whatever, such assurances from
Germany will be in the nature of
reassurances from Germany, even
under the terms of the new sub-
marine controversy.

Last night's conference between
President Wilson, Senator Stone,
and Representative Flood chairman
of the committee dealing with
the foreign affairs situation, and

Senator Kern, majority leader of
the Senate was said today to have
been held in order that the Pres-
ident might inform them as to the
status of the negotiations.

Senator Stone, it was said asked
to see the President to learn what
the facts in the negotiations really
were.

The President thought Senator
Kern and Representative Flood
should have the same information,
and asked them to be present.

United States to Stand Firm.

The President told the three
leaders that while the foreign situ-
ation was grave it was not critical.
It is understood that he said the
United States would remain firm in
its position that merchantmen have
a right to arm for defensive pur-
poses.

The President does not believe
there should be much discussion
of the foreign situation in Congress,
because of the danger of embarrass-
ing negotiations being carried on by
the State Department.

WEAKENING LEVEE IMPERILS A TOWN

Heroic Efforts Made at South-
wood, La., to Prevent River
Bank From Breaking.

RESCUE WORK CONTINUES Relief Parties Make Desperate At- tempts to Reach Marooned In- habitants in Two Parishes

(By the Associated Press.)
New Orleans, La., Feb. 22.—

Weakening of the Mississippi levee
at Southwood, La., eighteen miles
below Baton Rouge, and appeals for
aid in behalf of marooned inhabi-
tants in western Tensas and Con-
cordia parishes furnishes a well
filled program for activities for flood
workers today.

Reports received here from
Southwood stated double action was
being taken to prevent a break in
the levee as the result of a cave-in
last night of a section of cooping.
Two barges, the report said, were
anchored in the river and dirt was
being placed in the cavity. On the
outside of the levee forces of rail-
road workers from Baton Rouge
strengthened the embankment. That
the alarm was given in time to re-
pair the levee satisfactorily was the
belief expressed by engineers in
charge of the work early today.

Reports from Natchez today were
to the effect that immediate efforts
would be made to rescue inhabitants
from the flooded areas of Western
Tensas and Concordia parishes,
where water from Buck Ridge over-
saw and from the Red River over-
flow marooned a great number of
persons. Power boats were said to
be needed to reach the people in iso-
lated sections, although scows, it
was believed, could effect the relief
work necessary.

AMBASSADOR GERARD BREAKS COLLAR BONE IN SKIING IN MUNICH

(By the Associated Press.)
London, Feb. 22.—A dis-

patch to Exchange Telegraph
Company says that James W.
Gerard, American Ambassador
to Germany, broke his collar
bone while skiing yesterday
near Munich, and also injured his
left side. It is said his
injuries are not serious.

BRITISH STEAMER SUNK WITH SINGLE SURVIVOR

Big Vessel Was 593 Tons and Was
170 Feet Long—Details of Loss
of Vessel Are Lacking.

London, Feb. 22.—Sinking of
the British steamship Dingle is re-
ported by Lloyds. There probably
is only one survivor. No details
have been received.

The Dingle, 593 tons gross, and
170 feet long, was built in 1914
and owned by the West Lancashire
Steamship Company, of Liverpool.

About a year after marriage many
a man begins to realize why he was
not designated as the best man at
the wedding.

10 KILLED, 16 INJURED IN NEW HAVEN'S WRECK

New York, Feb. 22.—Ten per-
sons were killed and sixteen in-
jured in the wreck of passenger
trains near Milford, Conn., today
according to reports received by
the local offices of the New York
New Haven and Hartford rail-
road. Six of the dead were pas-
sengers and four were trainmen.
The injured were taken to
Bridgeport, it was stated, a num-
ber of them being in a critical
condition. The dead included,
according to information received
here, the engineer and fireman
of the special train and the flag-
man and Pullman porter and six
passengers of the express.

OUR WIRELESS SHOWS IT IS PREPARED

(By the Associated Press.)
Davenport, Ia., Feb. 22.—

Twenty minutes from Davenport
to Hoquim, Wash., was the re-
cord established by the radio
message on preparedness through-
out the country last night. The
message left the station of W. H.
Kirwin at 11 o'clock, central
time, and reached Hoquim at
9:20 Pacific time.

Mr. Kirwin is satisfied as a
result of the test that there are
a large number of wireless opera-
tors in the United States capable
of handling government mes-
sages in a manner highly satis-
factory.

Reach Remotest Sections.

Chicago, Feb. 22.—The message
sent by wireless to governors of the
States and mayors of the largest
cities at 11 o'clock last night from
Davenport, Ia., as a demonstration
of the radio preparedness of the
country's 25,000 licensed amateur
operators reached the remotest
parts of the country through var-
ious relays, according to advices re-
ceived here today.

On account of the number of re-
lays, it required about an hour and
a half to send the message to the
Pacific Coast, more than 2,000 miles
from its starting point.

The message, which was author-
ized by the United States govern-
ment and signed by Colonel W. J.
Nicholson, commander at the Rock
Island arsenal, is as follows:

"A democracy requires that a
people who govern and educate
themselves should be so armed and
disciplined that they can protect
themselves."

Boy Scouts were on hand today
to deliver the message to the var-
ious executives throughout the
country.

Chinese Banker Was Mysteriously Assassinated.

(By the Associated Press.)
Shanghai, Feb. 22.—Chang Sze-
shen, manager of the Shanghai
branch of the Bank of Communica-
tions, was mysteriously assassinated
on January 8th.

The bank with which he was con-
nected, is largely under the direc-
tion of Liang Shi-yi, President
Yuan Shi-kai's right hand man, and
it has been suggested that the crime
was committed by revolutionists as
a protest against the monarchical
movement. This theory has not
been supported, however, so far.
The murdered manager was not
actively engaged in politics, and has
never held any office. It has been
charged by some of the revolution-
ists, however, that he constantly
supplied information to Liang Shi-
yi concerning the movements of the
enemies of the Yuan Shi-kai gov-
ernment, and was the financial
agent who directed efforts against
the protesting progressives in
Shanghai. Chang Sze-shen's family
denies these allegations emphatically,
and are at a loss to find a motive
for the crime.

Amsterdam, Feb. 22 via London.

A dispatch from Munich says
that a great avalanche fell in the
Hochoenberg region carrying away a
mountain shelter with its occu-
pants. Thus far 35 bodies have
been recovered.

Inundations and storms are re-
ported from the Thursingian woods,
Franconia and other parts of south-
ern Germany.

TURKS' ARMY LOST 40,000

Petrograd Guesses Enemy Casu-
alties at Erzerum in Killed,
Wounded and Prisoners.

RUSSIANS NEAR BLACK SEA

Other Fronts Are Mostly Quiet—
Austrians Continue Air Raids
Over Italy—Russian Duma
Meets Today.

(By the Associated Press.)

The Turks lost heavily in the
fighting resulting in the capture of
Erzerum, according to a Petro-
grad dispatch today which estimates
their losses at 40,000 killed, wound-
ed and prisoners.

Following up their victory ener-
getically, the Russians are pursuing
the Turks westward from Erzerum,
as well as north and South as the
Turkish forces have split and fled
in all directions. The different
Turkish forces have split and fled
from communication with each
other, while the Russians are de-
clared to have solidified their own
lines so that their advance is rapid-
ly becoming a forward drive along
an unbroken front from the Black
Sea to Muz, west of Lake Van.

Trebizond Is Threatened.
On the north, Trebizond is threat-
ened. The Russians having rushed
close to the Black Sea port in their
operations along the coast, while
the Russian forces from Erzerum
are reported nearing the coast.

Mostly Quiet on Other Fronts.

Military operations in European
territory are continuing relatively
important, no extensive movements
being underway on the eastern or
western fronts, while conditions in
the Balkans are comparatively
quiet.

Differences between Greece and
the Entente Allies over diplomatic
questions appear to be in a way to
be smoothed out.

Austrians Raid Italy.

The Austrians are continuing
their air raids over Italian territory.
The latest flights were across the
province of Brescia and toward
Milan. Some reports said four
prisoners were killed and five
wounded with only slight material
damage.

Russian Duma Meets.

In Petrograd the Russian Duma
meets today. It has not been in
session since last September.

The British delegation to the
Anglo-French parliamentary com-
mittee begins today its conferences
in Paris with an equal number of
French and English deputies, the
object being the full discussion of
the conduct of the war.

EARTHQUAKE FELT IN HENDERSON AT 6:35

Late Yesterday Afternoon Hender-
son People Felt Houses Shaking

—Reports From Places in Three
States—Where Two Shocks Were
Felt—Lights Put Out at South
Boston, Va.

It has been reported to the Daily
Dispatch that the earthquake was
felt in Henderson yesterday after-
noon about 6:35 o'clock. A lady
living on Charles street says that
her house shook slightly for some-
thing like two seconds or more, and
that she spoke of the shaking to
others and they decided it was an
earthquake.

Reports come today from Atlanta,
Ga., Greensboro, Wilmington, Ashe-
ville, Greenville, S. C., Bristol,
Teen, Richmond, Va., and other
places in the three States that two
severe shocks were felt. No damage
was reported more than dishes and
glassware being shaken from tables
and broken and window glass
shaken out at different places.

Much excitement was caused on
Lookout Mountain and Missionary
Ridge, where the shocks were re-
ported to have been of pronounced
intensity.

NEW YORK BLAZE FATAL TO 4 MEN AND 1 WOMAN

Boarding House For Actors and
Actresses Burns in Theatre Dis-
trict In Morning Fire.

(By the Associated Press.)
New York, Feb. 22.—Four men

and a woman lost their lives today
in a fire which destroyed a theatri-
cal boarding house above a restau-
rant in the theatre section of this
city. Early reports said that a
number of the actors and actresses
who were stopping in the house had
perished, but dead were identified
later as employees of the boarding
house and Thomas Keratsas, one of
the proprietors.