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BAKER DEFENDS CONDUCT OF U. S. WAR DEPARTMENT

Conceding Mistakes, Secretary Says No Army Like it in History of World Has Ever Been Raised—Gives Some Figures as to Strength of Today

By the Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 10.—Secretary Baker today replied to criticisms of his department's conduct of the war. Conceding delays and errors in judgment in so vast an undertaking, Secretary Baker epitomized his defense in this paragraph: "No army of similar size in the history of the world has ever been raised, equipped or trained so quickly. No such provision has ever been made for the conduct, health and general well-being of an army."

America now has in France an army of "substantial" size ready for active service, Secretary Baker today told the senate war investigating committee.

Officers and men, he explained, have been trained for modern warfare, independent lines of communication and supply are in process of construction and great problems are being solved.

Arms of the most modern and effective kind, the secretary declared, have been provided for every soldier in France and are available for every available fighting man who can be sent to France in 1918.

An army of nearly 1,500,000 is now in the field in France and in training camps in the United States.

The subsistence of the army, he continued, has been above criticism, while its initial clothing supplies, admittedly short, have been met.

On the first day of April, 1917, the regular army, he said, comprised 579,100 officers and 1,217,797 enlisted men; the national guard in federal service approximately 3,733 officers and 76,713 enlisted men and the reserve 4,000 enlisted men. There were also at that time approximately 2,573 officers in the reserve, but as these were on inactive duty they cannot properly be considered in estimating the strength of the army at that time.

On December 31, 1917, the regular army comprised 10,250 officers and 475,000 enlisted men; the national guard of 16,931 officers and 409,999 enlisted men; the national army of 489,000 men; and the reserve of 84,575 officers and 72,750 enlisted men. In other words, in nine months, the increase has been from 9,524 officers to 100,856 officers and from 292,510 men to 1,428,650 men.

The aviation section of the signal corps on the first day of April, 1917, consisted of 65 officers and 1,102 men. On the 31st day of December, 1917, of 3,900 officers and 82,120 men.

Gov. Patterson who will make an address at the Methodist church tonight has arrived in the city.

RELEASE WHEAT FOR USE IN EUROPE

By the Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 10.—The food situation in Europe is regarded as so critical that the food administration is planning to release an additional 100,000 bushels of wheat to the Allies. The wheat will be sent to the Allies in the form of flour. The food administration is planning to release an additional 100,000 bushels of wheat to the Allies. The wheat will be sent to the Allies in the form of flour. The food administration is planning to release an additional 100,000 bushels of wheat to the Allies. The wheat will be sent to the Allies in the form of flour.

Representative Lever author of the food control bill is drawing attention to the fact that the food administration is planning to release an additional 100,000 bushels of wheat to the Allies. The wheat will be sent to the Allies in the form of flour. The food administration is planning to release an additional 100,000 bushels of wheat to the Allies. The wheat will be sent to the Allies in the form of flour.

MR. PATTERSON WILL SPEAK TONIGHT

Many people will probably go to the Methodist church tonight with a curiosity to see and hear the man about whose past there has been about four years ago the ablest such divergent comment. Until champion of the liquor traffic in America was Malcolm R. Patterson of Tennessee, the popular and gifted son of a father equally popular and gifted. As one of the young leaders of the Democratic party in his state, he had taken his father's seat in congress and, later, was twice elected governor of Tennessee. Until about four years ago, his splendid ability and ingenuity was devoted to the defense of the liquor traffic against the rising tide of prohibition sentiment in his state and the nation. When a governor of Tennessee, the Prohibition law passed the legislature and came to him for his signature, he vetoed it and accompanied his veto with a message in which he characterized the act as "destructive and undemocratic." Although the bill was passed over his veto, Governor Patterson's veto message and speech made in defense of his action, were circulated nation-wide by the liquor interests in defense of their traffic.

Then, in the very height of his career as a statesman, Governor Patterson was overthrown by the traffic which he had upheld. The dark hours through which he passed were the providential means by which he was led to become a Christian. His conversion has been likened to that of Saul of Tarsus. From that day to this he has been one of the strongest and ablest advocates of National Constitutional Prohibition. At the National Anti-Saloon League Convention, Columbus, Ohio, November, 1913, he delivered an address of marvelous eloquence on the theme: "Why I Changed Front on the Liquor Question." Immediately the demand for Governor Patterson to speak on this question came from every quarter of the land. Since then, he has spoken almost continuously from ocean to ocean, and seldom has an auditorium been found, even in the largest cities, large enough to accommodate the crowds that have thronged to hear him.

Mr. Lewis R. Horton, who accompanies Gov. Patterson on his lecture tour, says he will not speak, as he wishes Hickory people to have the benefit of all the time in hearing Gov. Patterson. Come early if you wish to secure a seat, as there will no doubt be a big crowd present. Lecture begins at 7:30 p. m.

RESTRICTIONS TO APPLY TO GERMAN WOMEN ALSO

Washington, Jan. 10.—Enemy alien restrictions probably will be extended soon to German women in the United States. Legislation to this end is being drafted and congressional leaders have assured the department of justice that it will be enacted promptly.

If this is done before the week of February 4, when a nation-wide registration of unaturalized Germans is to be made under supervision of the department of justice, women probably will be included in the enemy alien census.

Regulations to govern the registration were sent to police officials of cities, and postmasters of small towns, to whom the active administration of the registration has been entrusted. The rules differ from those already made public only in that federal court districts are to be considered units for gathering census returns from non-urban sections in which post-offices are located. The registration will take the registrations of Germans who have entered the United States since the war only. Those who have been paroled permanently and given freedom for a time, it was disclosed today by John Lord O'Brien, special assistant to Attorney General Gregory, in charge of war problems. The announcement was made in refutation of widespread reports that the government has released hundreds of dangerous alien enemies.

KILLED IN WRECK

Three persons were killed and several injured in a wreck on the railroad between Hickory and Lenoir, N. C., north of Hickory, today. The wreck occurred at 10, but railroad officials denied this.

Miss Ernest Pegram, who has been teaching at Lincoln, has been elected a teacher in the South school to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Principal Hunsacker and the promotion of Miss Margaret McComb. Mrs. Pegram is a sister of Professor Little of Lenoir College.

ANOTHER FREEZE IS MARCHING THIS WAY

By the Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 10.—Another cold wave is expected to sweep the southern part of the country this week. In the northern district extreme temperatures will prevail.

The weather bureau today gave warnings of a disturbance over the extreme southwestern part of the country, rapidly moving eastward.

It will be followed by a two-day period of severely cold weather extending through the west gulf states Thursday and Friday and reach the south Atlantic states Saturday and Sunday.

POWDER EXPLOSION IN OKLAHOMA PLANT

By the Associated Press.

Fort Smith, Jan. 10.—A powder and dynamite plant at Patterson, Okla., 18 miles east of McAlester, Okla., was blown up at 12:30 o'clock today according to a message received over a railroad wire. It was reported that lives were lost.

BRITISH LOSE 21 SHIPS BY ENEMY SUBMARINES

London, Jan. 10.—The British admiralty reports the sinking in the past week of 18 merchantmen on 1,600 tons or over by mine or submarine, as well as three merchantmen under that tonnage. Four fishing vessels also were sunk. The admiralty report of January 2 gave the sinkings of British merchantmen for the current week as 21, 18 vessels of 1,600 tons or over. This was a material increase over the previous week, when the sinkings numbered 12, 11 of the vessels more than 1,600 tons. Thus the increase in the submarine sinkings has been more than maintained in the past week, as they comprised 21 merchantmen and four fishing vessels.

WEEK OF PRAYER

The Woman's Missionary Union of the First Baptist church observed the "Week of Prayer," Monday and Tuesday afternoon. The program was:

Monday—Hour 2 to 3—Leader, Mrs. J. L. Leach; hour 3 to 4, leader, Mrs. J. H. Hosley; 4 to 5—leader, Mrs. L. L. Hatfield.

Tuesday—Subject: "Our Schools at Home and Abroad"—Leader, Mrs. J. H. Patrick.

Devotional Meeting—Subject: "Service"—leader—Mrs. J. B. Pruitt. In spite of the severe weather, the ladies attended well, and the talks and papers given were interesting and helpful.

Dr. J. L. Payne and Mrs. Fannie Mayer returned to their homes yesterday. They had been called home to attend the funeral of their mother, Mrs. Mary Seitz, whose death occurred January 4. Dr. Payne is located in Cincinnati, Ohio. He has been away from Hickory 25 years.

WILL NOT MEET TONIGHT

The Knights of Pythias will not meet tonight because of the Patterson speaking at the Methodist church.

CENTRAL POWERS ASK SWEDEN TO HELP 'EM

By the Associated Press.

Petrograd, Wednesday, Jan. 10.—The German delegation in Petrograd are reported by the Evening Post to have got in touch with the Swedish legation here and to have expressed a desire that Sweden act as a go-between between the central powers and England, France and Italy. The German delegation in Petrograd were sent to take up with the Russians such as the resumption of commercial relations and releasing certain classes of prisoner. So far a known they were not charged with commercial affairs, and in such matters the German government would not seek Sweden as an intermediary.

HICKORY SCHOOLS TO RESUME ON MONDAY

The Hickory schools will resume Monday morning with enough school to last several weeks and, it is believed, it is not believed there will be any more interruptions.

Mrs. Ernest Pegram, who has been teaching at Lincoln, has been elected a teacher in the South school to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Principal Hunsacker and the promotion of Miss Margaret McComb. Mrs. Pegram is a sister of Professor Little of Lenoir College.

SEPARATE PEACE BULGARIA AND RUSSIA

By the Associated Press.

Berne, Switzerland, Jan. 10.—A separate peace agreement has been signed by Russia and Bulgaria, the Bund reports. A Bulgarian correspondent of the Bund sends the following:

War between Russia and Bulgaria ceases. Diplomatic and economic relations between Russia and Bulgaria resumed. Russia recognizes Bulgaria's right to name a commission for the navigation of the Danube.

The first peace is thus concluded with the consent of Bulgaria's allies.

The Bund says Bulgaria has appointed a minister to Petrograd and a consul-general to Odessa and has ordered the resumption of navigation on the Danube.

AUTOMOBILE TRUCK AN IMPORTANT FACTOR

"The automobile has created more business in the retail life of every city and town than the average person realizes," says W. L. Kissel, secretary and treasurer of the Kissel Motor Car Company. "Agricultural and suburban owners, who formerly either did without supplies and necessities, rather than to undertake a long and tedious journey to town, think nothing now of making the trip in their automobiles. This adaptability has resulted in increased business in cities and towns, which in itself is beneficial to every inhabitant because the more business a community does, the greater is the prosperity of everybody concerned."

COSSACK LEADERS REPORTED AS BEATEN

Petrograd, Jan. 10.—Generals Dutoff and Kalendine, the Cossack leaders, the official news agency announces, have been defeated. General Dutoff is in flight pursued by revolutionary forces and the red guard.

The workmen's soldiers' council has been liberated. The Cossacks, the announcement adds, are unambiguously against General Kalendine, whose troops seek towards the Don river are refusing to fight.

SOME NEW RESIDENTS OF HICKORY ARRIVE

E. A. Hicks of Belleville, N. J., arrived in Hickory this morning. After some correspondence with the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Hicks decided that Hickory was the place he was looking for, so packed up his goods and had them shipped to this point. Mrs. Hicks and her three children will come as soon as she receives word of the arrival of the household goods.

BUSY BEE KEEPERS MEET AT NEWBERN

New Bern, N. C., Jan. 10.—More than 200 bee keepers from all parts of North Carolina gathered here today for their second annual meeting. Three business meetings are on the program today. The next meeting place will be decided at the afternoon session.

NEW YORK COTTON

By the Associated Press.

New York, Jan. 10.—Better prospects of rain in the southwest and the optimistic talk of the outlook of peace led to a renewal of heavy buying in the cotton market early today. The market opened barely steady at a decline of 30 to 32 points, rallied on demands of domestic sources, but soon declined on private reports of rains in Texas.

	Open	Close
January	32.40	32.05
March	31.80	31.42
May	31.37	31.07
July	31.08	30.82
October	30.03	29.60

HICKORY MARKETS

Cotton	30 1-2
Wheat	\$2.40

WEATHER FORECAST

For North Carolina: Fair to light in east and snow in west portion; slightly warmer; moderate northwest to north winds.

COMPARATIVE WEATHER

Jan. 9, 1918	1917	
High	41	65
Low	25	23

MORE BAD WORK UNCOVERED IN U. S.

By the Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 10.—Through intercepted communications and evidence found on a score or more of arrested aliens, government agents have discovered a concerted movement to reorganize German sabotage and anti-war propaganda in this country.

HICKORY-MOORESVILLE PLAYS BASKETBALL TONIGHT

Hickory and Mooresville high schools will meet on the local court tonight in a basketball game that promises to have plenty of pep from the start. The locals are in good trim and the Mooresville boys have been giving a fine account of themselves this winter.

BIG DUPONT PLANT IS LIKELY TO CLOSE

By the Associated Press.

Paterson, N. J., Jan. 10.—Closing of the DuPont powder plants at Pompton Lakes and Haskell, engaged exclusively in war work, was declared to be only a matter of a few hours by the management unless coal is received immediately.

TO SELL BERKSHIRE PIGS IN THIS SECTION

Mr. W. W. Shay, representing the state extension service, will meet Secretary Joy at the Chamber of Commerce rooms Friday to go over a proposition of having a sale of Berkshire hogs in this city. The shortage of feed during the summer of 1916 cut down the supply of hogs on the farms in this section of the country to a pitifully small number. This year with a big corn crop, few hogs are available. The state extension service aims to remedy this through supplying this need from other sections that have them to spare.

SPECIAL AT PASTIME FRIDAY

The following is a short synopsis of the fourth episode of the "Hidden Hand" featuring Doris Kenyon and Sheldon Lewis which will be shown at the Pastime Friday night: A clever plot, put into effect by the Hidden Hand, causes Doris to doubt Ramsey who professes his loyalty. That night she surprises the false Ramsey at the safe. She grabs him believing him to be the man she is beginning both to love and distrust. He binds her to a chair. Breaking open the safe he takes the explosive packet, inserts the lock and is about to open it when he is mysteriously shot. Terror stricken Doris looks toward the window and to her amazement sees the Hidden Hand.

NUNS RESCUE MANY IN HOSPITAL FIRE

By the Associated Press.

Ottawa, Jan. 10.—Heroic efforts by nuns and nurses saved all but one of the 105 patients in the Water Street Hospital here today when fire broke out and destroyed part of the building. A child with a broken leg stray to a bed was burned to death.

CONSOLIDATED BANK HAS ANNUAL MEETING

The stockholders of the Consolidated Trust Company met last night and elected directors for the present year. They are G. E. Ransom, J. A. Lentz, J. F. Abernethy, C. L. Mosteller, R. M. Mitchell, W. B. Councill, R. M. Bumgarner, G. R. Wooten, J. W. Orebrough. The directors reelected the old officers, as follows: G. E. Ransom, president; J. A. Lentz and J. F. Abernethy, vice-presidents; J. W. Orebrough, cashier and C. W. Cloninger, assistant cashier.

FIRST NATIONAL HAS REELECTED OFFICERS

Stockholders of the First National Bank, meeting this week, reelected the old directors and these in turn reelected the old officers. The regular semi-annual dividend was paid January 1. The directors are J. M. Elliott, J. W. Elliott, G. H. Geitner, Chas. H. Geitner, Geo. N. Hutton, A. M. Kistler, K. C. Menzies, Dr. W. H. Nicholson, J. L. Riddle, A. A. Shuford. The officers are: J. D. Elliott, president; K. C. Menzies, vice-president and cashier; J. L. Nicholson, assistant cashier.

FIVE FEET OF SNOW STOP AUSTRO-GERMAN ATTACK

Lines of Communication of Teutonic Armies Blocked by Heavy Falls in Alps—Italians in no Danger Now—Artillery Busy on Western Front

By the Associated Press.

YAQUI IS CAUSE OF TROUBLE OFTEN

By the Associated Press.

Hermosillo, Son. Mex., Jan. 10.—The Yaqui Indian has been the trouble maker of northwestern Mexico for generations and his recent outbreak is but one of a large number which have occurred during the administrations of Diaz, Madero and other leaders.

Starting with the Bronco Yaquis along the Rio Yaqui in southwestern Sonora early in September, the revolt has spread to many of the allied tribes, including the Mansos Yaquis who have been peaceful in the past and who derived their names from the fact that they worked with their hands.

In the rich Yaqui River Valley of Southwestern Sonora the Indian uprising has had its center. The Indian towns of Potam, Vacum, Bacum, LaColorada and Suaqui Grande have been scenes of various Indian raids and Mexican federal troops have been unable to make any great headway in conquering these warring tribesmen. The revolt reached its height after the fall harvests of corn, beans and zarbanzo had been harvested. Storehouses where these crops were put away for the winter were looted and the Indians extended their field of operations far into the north toward Hermosillo, the capital.

Ammunition and rifles were smuggled across the Sonora border for them and a number of engagements fought between the Yaquis and the federals resulted in the routing of the government troops. The basic cause of the unrest among these southwestern Mexican Indians is the land problem. At one time these Indians owned and tilled thousands of acres of the most fertile land in the republic which was watered by the Yaqui river. These lands were gradually confiscated by the various governments and parcelled out to favorites of the ruling powers. The Indians claim they were given inferior lands in place of their original holdings and insist upon the restoration of these tribal holdings. One American company now controls 300,000 acres of land in the Yaqui country, much of which is claimed by the Indians.

The Yaqui tribes were originally agricultural people with a bent for hunting in the mountains during the winter. They are stocky, sturdy and possess many of the traits of the American Indian. Fighting has lately been one of their chief occupations as they have been on the warpath either in their own interest or for the various de facto governments for 15 years.

During the days of President Diaz the Yaquis were dispossessed of much of their fertile valley lands by General Torres, the federal governor of Sonora. Large numbers were deported from the state by boat to the hot lands of Yucatan and to Tres Marias Island, off the coast of Tepic. This was one of the chief grievances which caused the Yaqui war. This war continued until the outbreak of the Madero revolution when the Indians joined with Madero against their sworn enemies of the old federal regime.

They did much of the hard fighting during the madero and subsequent revolutions, especially at Olaya where they were General Obregon's chief mainstay when Villa and his powerful army attacked the entrenched positions of Obregon's Carranza forces. The Yaquis were given much of the credit for this victory which shattered Villa's dream of political power and drove him back to the border. At Agua Prieta, Sonora, the Yaquis again aided in defeating Villa and causing him to revert to his guerrilla campaign which included the Santa Venavul and Columbus, N. M. massacres.

General Plutarco Elias Calles has undertaken a "matted fist" campaign against the Yaqui Indians in Sonora to suppress the present uprising. He has interned the peaceful Yaquis in reconcentration camps and has ordered all others hunted down and killed. Wholesale deportations to the hot lands of Mexico have also been threatened.

The Yaquis are divided into two classes. One is the "bronco Yaqui" which includes the fiercest of the fighters and the sturdiest of the tribesmen. The other class includes the "manse" or peaceful Indians. Numbers of attempts have been made to convert these Indians to peaceful ways. President Madero had a commission of Indians visit him in Mexico City. Later he sent a commission to treat with the tribal leaders. But the Indians claim they were not given back their promised lands and were soon on the warpath. The present uprising is said by officials of the government to be the most threatening since the

Snow has come to the aid of the Italians and the Austro-German offensive apparently has reached a halt, if not an end. The whole mountain front where the enemy has been making a slight but steady gain is buried under five feet of snow, making infantry operations impossible and hampering the Austro-German supply lines.

Heavy snowfalls in the Alps are reported to have blocked the heavy communications in the Trentino and the Carnia leaving them only two lines across the Venetian plains to the Piave, which would be of no help between the Asiago and the Piave.

The enemy troops on the eastern bank of the Piave are not troubled so badly by the snow, but previous efforts to cross the stream had failed.

The bombardment on the northern front has slackened with the coming of the long expected snow and only patrol engagements have occurred. It is indicated that the enemy will be unable to begin operations for the conquest of the Venetian plain while the snow lasts.

On the western front the opposing guns have been active on the Scarpe on the Arras area northeast of Ypres and northeast of Verdun. The Germans have failed thus far to take counter measures against the successful French sortie in the Woivre. British merchantmen lost during the last week equalled the losses of the previous week, when 18 or more than 1,600 tons and three or less than that tonnage were sunk by submarine or mine. The French lost one, as against nine the previous week.

Peace emissaries of Russia and the central powers are meeting at Brest-Litovsk. It is reported that the first discussion revolved around the selection of a permanent meeting place, but that this would be settled satisfactorily.

The Russian government has refused Turkey's offer for a separate peace and has informed that country that she must participate in the general conference.

Reports from Petrograd that the bolshevik government intends to repudiate Russia's foreign debt are reiterated in today's dispatches to England. A similar report was circulated the latter part of last year, but was denied.

Superintendent McIntosh and Sergeant Roy Black in charge of the local recruiting station, went to the new West building today to look over the drill grounds preparatory to having work done necessary to putting the cadets through a course of instruction in the manual of arms. Council authorized the improvement.

SUFFRAGE WINS IN HOUSE THIS AFTERNOON

By the Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 10.—One of the long and hard fought goals of the woman suffrage cause seemed to be in sight today when the house resumed consideration of the suffrage amendment.

Backed by the approval of President Wilson, suffragists were sure the Susan B. Anthony amendment would poll more than the necessary two thirds vote when the house began to vote at 5 o'clock this afternoon. So sure were they of favorable consideration that they gave their attention to the senate, whether the bill has not been reported.

As the debate progressed, Representative Raker, in charge of the amendment, said the prediction of adoption with 15 to 25 votes to spare stood unchanged. Representative Lenroot of Wisconsin, one of the Republican leaders, said the amendment would carry.

For the anti-suffragists Representative Meeker of Missouri, who has led the anti-suffrage fight, made this observation: "What can you expect when congress is run by the preachers and the