

MILITARY EXPERTS SAY WESTERN LINE IS GOOD

Russo-German Peace Cannot Affect Allies in France and Italy For Some Time—Russia Formally Announces Withdrawal From War With Central Powers

By the Associated Press.
Washington, Feb. 12.—How Russia's complete withdrawal from the war will affect the allies and the United States in a military way cannot be accurately estimated at this time. Officials believe despite the fact that Russian demobilization on paper will be a great help to the Germans, it will not help them very materially in fact.

Officially there is nothing to be said on the subject because the government has no official information. Military men, however, confident that the allied line on the western front will hold against any force the Germans can throw against it this spring are optimistic.

The fact that 1,500,000 German prisoners will be freed to return to Germany is regarded with no alarm at all. Military men say they could not quickly be organized into efficient military units. Military men say the Germans would be more interested in keeping the German prisoners in Russia until after the war, rather than have them return with bolshevik ideas.

The 147 Austro-German and Bulgarian divisions on the Russian front, which will entirely be released by the separate peace, are regarded as already having been stripped of their effectiveness which have been transferred to the western front.

Military experts say that Germany would be obliged to keep some of these 147 divisions in the conquered territory for garrison duty.

RUSSIA CONFIRMS IT

By the Associated Press.
London, Feb. 12.—Confirmation of the German report that Russia has withdrawn from the war is contained in an official announcement from Petrograd.

The statement says Russia declares the war with Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey at an end. Russian troops simultaneously receiving an order for complete demobilization on all fronts.

For the defense of the frontier some detachments of soldiers will be left.

Although this announcement was made yesterday from German sources, this is the first announcement from Russia.

CHILD RUN OVER BY AUTOMOBILE TRUCK

Herbert Nichols, small son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Nichols, who lives on Eighth avenue, was run over by an automobile truck driven by Willie Shuford, colored, late yesterday afternoon and sustained serious injuries. The lad was carried to Dr. Menzies' office, where medical attention was given him, and this morning he was hopeful that the injuries were not fatal. Shuford is in the city jail pending the recovery of the child.

It seems that the lad with his sister was about to cross the street near the Abernethy Hardware Company store when the mishap occurred. There was an automobile on this side and another on the far side.

The girl ran safely across, but the boy ran under the truck, the property of the Gibbs Grocery Company. The truck wheel passed across his stomach.

The reporter was unable to locate anybody who saw the happening, but it was said by others that the truck was moving slowly and that the accident was unavoidable. The driver stopped the machine after going six or eight feet, it was said.

It was said later today that Shuford had one or two accidents lately, a buggy being damaged some time ago.

COAL FAMINE WILL END IN TWO WEEKS

By the Associated Press.
Philadelphia, Feb. 12.—The coal famine may end in two weeks, Pennsylvania fuel administration officials say. Reports from the mines say the situation is becoming normal again.

THREE HICKORY BOYS AT PARIS ISLAND, S. C.

A letter from Dick H. Shuford today announced his installation as a private in the marines at Paris Island, S. C., where he found James Shuford and Cedric Dellinger, who had gone before. The letter was optimistic and requested that the dispenser of coal cheer be sent to his address. All three young men are well.

TO CALL PRESIDENT

The board of trustees of Catawba College will meet in Salisbury Feb. 26 for the purpose of receiving the recommendations of the committee named to secure a president to succeed Rev. J. D. Andrew, resigned. This was the action taken Monday at Salisbury by the committee.

RED CROSS NOTES

The weather has been fine for several days and should have brought out a larger number. Please do not tire in well doing.

Saturday—Mrs. W. B. Rawsay, Mrs. E. H. Lawrence, Mrs. W. T. Council.

Monday—Mrs. H. S. Smith, Mrs. Hugh D'Anna, Mrs. Fred Jones, Mrs. R. A. Grimes, Miss Effie Morrison, Miss Edwina Hancock.

PEACE IS VOICED IN SPEECHES, HE SAYS

By the Associated Press.
Washington, Feb. 12.—Actual peace negotiations of a new type on a far greater scale than heretofore known are seen by old school diplomats in the recent addresses by the spokesmen of the warring nations delivered to the world.

Although President Wilson's address to congress is as seen as a clear reiteration of the country's readiness to continue the war until victory is achieved, it was pointed out that negotiations on a vast scale really are going on.

These "extra official negotiations" as they are called by diplomats, depart radically from the ancient and accepted practices of diplomacy.

Instead of being conducted in the secrecy of the round table the great issues are being threshed out in the world court of public opinion.

OHIO RIVER RISES TO OVER 60 FEET

By the Associated Press.
Cincinnati, Feb. 12.—The Ohio river reached a flood gate of 61.1 feet at 11 o'clock today and the weather bureau predicts that if the Sugar Creek gorge continues to hold, the water will rise to 65 feet by 6 o'clock tomorrow morning.

LEWIS ARRAIGNS GERMAN WAR LORDS

By the Associated Press.
Washington, Feb. 12.—Germany's war lords were scathingly denounced and Americans were urged to continue their efforts to dethrone them in an address commemorating the birthday anniversary of President Lincoln by Senator Lewis of Illinois. The German peace offers were declared to be only "a ruse to murder."

Struggles of the world's democracies to retain their liberty were recounted by Senator Lewis, quoting the German poet Goethe that "those who have liberty must fight to keep it."

GETS TARIFF JOB

By the Associated Press.
Washington, Feb. 12.—Thomas W. Page of Virginia was nominated today by President Wilson to be a member of the United States tariff board.

TO DISCUSS LIVE ISSUES ON FRIDAY

The open meeting of the Community Club Friday afternoon at 3:30 will give ladies of Hickory an opportunity of hearing the exact facts about the food situation, methods of helping in the crisis and preserving vegetables and fruits against worse conditions next winter and spring.

The speakers will be County Food Administrator Yates Killian, Mrs. Rev. Mr. Robinson, Mrs. Gordon Wilfong, Mrs. G. Harvey Geitner and Mr. J. D. Elliott. Mr. Elliott will talk on Thrift and War Saving stamps.

GARFIELD PLANS TO REVOKE ORDER

By the Associated Press.
Washington, Feb. 12.—Fuel Administrator Garfield is expected to rescind tonight the heatless Monday order. At a conference today with Director General McAdoo he went over the situation in the country.

Despite floods from melting snow, fuel administration officials believe there will be no further difficulty in getting coal to the consumers and manufacturing plants.

This gives coal first to households, ships, war industries and other necessary plants.

AUSTRIANS RAID ITALIANS IN NORTH

By the Associated Press.
Berlin, via London, Feb. 12.—British Admiralty per Wireless Press.—After a day of lively artillery fire on the Settee Communi plateau on the Italian front, the Austrians attacked south Sasso Rosso clearing supporting positions and capturing nearly 180 prisoners, army headquarters announced today.

HUNS USING PRISONERS TO PREVENT AIR AIDS

New York, Feb. 12.—The German authorities are packing Stuttgart, in southwestern Germany, with prisoners of war in an avowed attempt to discourage air raids in reprisal for those made by the Germans on London and other entente cities.

The Cologne Gazette announced in its issue of January 7 that the Stuttgart, which already was the site of several large prison camps containing British and French prisoners of war and of hospitals in which prisoners of war were being treated, hundreds of officers were being brought to be lodged in special quarters constructed for them in all parts of the city, in order, as the Gazette stated, to make them share the dangers of the civil population.

SERVED THEM RIGHT THEY DESERVED IT ALL

The Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Garth were given a delightful surprise last night when the members of their church, all unexpected, made a sudden attack on the manse and before it was all over had left so much stuff in the pantry that the family will find it difficult to hooverize.

The pounding was engineered by the ladies, of course, and they put it across in good style. Mr. Garth being asked about it today, said the Presbyterians were the best people in the world and the way he proved it was by saying that they had listened to him for 10 years and then had showered so many good things on him and his family. That's not the reason assigned by the members.

Some poetry was spilled along with the other good things and Mrs. H. C. Menzies left an onion in which was a \$5 gold speck. Mrs. Carrie Gamble and Mrs. W. B. Ramsay commanded the storming brigade.

THIS DURHAM BULL IS GOING TO FRANCE

By the Associated Press.
Durham, N. C., Feb. 12.—Amid the applause of thousands of people, Durham's first load of tobacco pulled out of the station today bound for "Somewhere in France." It was a well known brand of smoking tobacco.

Mayor W. E. Newson delivered a patriotic address to a great throng that gathered at the station to witness the departure of the tobacco.

PRESIDENT HEMMETER GOES TO ROCHESTER

Newton, Feb. 12.—Rev. H. B. Hemmeter, who has been president of Concordia College at Conover two miles west of this place, for several years has resigned and has been installed pastor of St. Matthews Evangelical Lutheran church at Rochester, N. Y., recently made vacant by the transfer of Rev. Mr. Ruhland to Trinity church, Buffalo.

Rev. Mr. Hemmeter has held a number of important pastorates in cities of the middle west, his last charge before being elected to the presidency of the Conover institution being Bethlehem church, St. Louis, Mo. He has long been recognized among Lutherans as a leader of exceptional qualifications and as a speaker of great power and eloquence.

TRADING IN HENS AND PULLETS IS FORBIDDEN

Washington, Feb. 12.—Trading in live or freshly killed hens and pullets anywhere in the United States is forbidden in an order announced by the United States food administration. February 23 is fixed as the date when fresh stock must be disposed of and ads that additional stocks may not be purchased.

By restricting the killing of chickens which should be heavy layers, the food administration hopes to increase the production of eggs and allow them to be put in storage at a reasonable price.

The new order was issued several days ago and had been given publicity by local food administrators before the administration announced it.

WEATHER FORECAST

For North Carolina: Probably rain tonight and Wednesday; light south winds.

SAY PRESIDENT HIT SOLID ROCK

By the Associated Press.
London, Feb. 12.—President Wilson's address was given the same prominence that all his utterances received in the morning papers, but the text reached here too late for extended comment.

The president's attitude toward the speech of Count von Hertling received the main consideration and in this the president is regarded as having gone to the heart of the matter.

In the address the Times sees an important "refutation of the bolshevik illusion that Prussian military force be exercised by rhetoric" and commands the serene confidence by which the president adheres to the belief that the war will not end without establishing the region of right and justice.

ASQUITH IS PLEASED AT WILSON'S SPEECH

By the Associated Press.
London, Feb. 12.—In the house of commons today former Premier Asquith, commenting on President Wilson's speech to congress yesterday, said the president had discriminated justly between the Austrian and German foreign ministers.

AIR MAIL ROUTE STARTS NEXT SUMMER

By the Associated Press.
Washington, Feb. 12.—Establishment of an airplane service between Washington, Philadelphia and New York during the coming summer was indicated today when the postoffice department asked for bids.

The service will begin with one round trip a day and later will expand. First class mail only will be carried at first.

The bids will be opened February 21 and the planes are to be delivered not later than April 25 this year. Arrangements have been made with the war department for the release of several motors.

WILL BE REAPPOINTED

By the Associated Press.
Washington, Feb. 12.—Major General Barnett, commander of the marine corps, whose terms is about to expire, will be reappointed, Secretary Daniels announced today.

PLAN CONSIDERATION OF PRESIDENT'S BILL

By the Associated Press.
Washington, Feb. 12.—Administration leaders in the senate planned consideration of the bill the president feels he is now disposed to ex-ercise authority to effect such reorganization of the department.

Senator Overman today predicted a favorable report.

If congress fails to act, the president feels he is now disposed to ex-ercise authority to effect such reorganization of the department.

BAKER HAS FACTS ON SHIPS FOR SOLDIERS

By the Associated Press.
Washington, Feb. 12.—Secretary Baker today transmitted to the senate military committee the shipping statistics upon which he based his estimate of transporting 1,000,000 American soldiers to Europe this year.

The information was labeled "highly confidential" and will be considered in executive session of the committee as the basis for final cross-examination of the secretary, probably this week, behind closed doors.

The information was compiled largely by the general staff and is understood to give complete details of both American and allied ships.

BATTLES ARE FORECAST BY CLEARING WEATHER

Germany Mustering Her Hordes to Overrun France, But Allies Are Confident They "Shall Not Pass"—Austrians Repulsed By Italians on Brenta River

GOOD WAR STORY BY ONE OF THE BOYS

By the Associated Press.
On the western front where Germany is mustering her forces to crush the entente there are signs of growing alertness, forecasting the battles to come. The weather has improved and in the British sector the ground is getting to be in fair condition.

German troops and guns are still pouring into France opposite the British lines, but the British are reported confident, the preponderance of artillery and men still being with the allies.

Raids are increasing in intensity and the artillery fire is becoming more active on all fronts.

In the attack against Caucricers wood northwest of Verdun, the French repulsed the Germans with loss. On the Italian front the Italians have repulsed Austrian attacks west of the Brenta.

AUSTRIANS REPULSED

By the Associated Press.
Rome, Italy, Feb. 12.—The Austrians yesterday renewed their attacks on the northern front west of the Brenta river, but were held in check. The Austrian columns were torn to pieces by the Italian artillery.

sible ride on a wooden horse. He got his directional rudder mixed up and the machine, instead of taking a straight away, slewed around in a circle. There was a platoon from another squadron doing close order drill near by and when in the course of its turn the platoon headed for them and the first squadron broke ranks and scattered like a hand grenade, and the others were about to follow suit when the "cheval" swerved again and came to a stop about where it started. An acroplane charging on the ground is as dangerous a weapon as it is novel. The last I heard of the fellow who forgot which foot to push, he was very shame facedly obeying the French monitor's pointed advice to "get out."

Such occasions as those are exceptions. Most of the boys taking their hop sail way as smoothly and prettily as you wish. The unpractised eyes like mine can't tell the difference between some hops and an experienced flight. * * *

Another warning—if you ever send anything by parcel post, put it in a good strong box and then wrap very securely. But before you do either take it to the post office there at home, get the postmaster to inspect it and then to tag it as "inspected"—they have little stickers saying "no prohibited articles." That will insure that it will not be opened on the way. I have a friend who is mail orderly here and I frequently see the mail when it comes in. The condition is something wonderful. Some packages have to be rewrapped twice by the postal authorities, and I have seen even tin cans mashed in. So if there are packages, let them be strong ones.

Don't you bother about my keeping warm when I begin flying—whenever that is. You can't keep absolutely warm but they do all they can to approximate protection. They issue us heavy warm sweaters that roll up around the neck and a "Scotch cap" of grey wool that works like my knitted helmet—pulls down over the face and leaves only the eyes out. Over the cap goes a cork helmet with big earflaps, both for warmth and protection. And there are heavy leather breeches and a still heavier leather coat—and fur lined gloves. Over your regular shoes goes a pair of fur-lined leather boots. So we ought to be warm, you see!

When the boys get far enough advanced to do their altitude or go on long trips—voyages—they take away their leathers and give them "Teddy bear." A Teddy bear is not the same in aviation as in the advertisements from 5th Avenue. Here it is a sort of mail pouch for a human being, lined from top to bottom with heavy fur, closed tight around the feet and wrists, and belted in the middle. Add gloves, helmet, and goggles, and the illusion is complete. Oh, of course, the thing is divided for your legs. I didn't mean to convey the impression that the poor boy was thrown into a bag and tied up. I merely said "mail pouch" because even the thinnest of them—like myself look like a full balloon when they drape up.

It would be fine if the government gave us those clothes but they only lend them to us while we are flying. And the boys have to be very careful of them because a "second loan" is a very hard thing to be negotiated. A few days ago one of the beginners hit a "bump"—a sudden gust—and fell pretty hard. The machine was smashed all to pieces, but all the cleve was worrying about was a big tear in his leather breeches that made them useless. A broken arm or so could easily have been mended, but leathers!—oh, they should be well cared for!—It's remarkable what a machine can go through without hurting the pilot.

I was watching the "hop" class for a few minutes this morning. A hop is still another thing different in aviation from what it is in ordinary life. When a man hops he is taking his first ride alone. It is supposed to be very short—just a straight rise and down again—but not as short as the attempt one boy made. He had a tendency to keep his nose down and the old boat rumbled along on the grass or just a very few feet up all the way. He must have thought he was way up for when it was time to land he turned her nose down sure enough and the bounce he got when the wheels hit caused him to take the only real flight he had at all. He shot up to about fifteen feet and had to fly there for a few seconds, at least before he staided and came down for a good landing.

Another boy rode a "cheval de bois." I don't know where the term started, but what he did was certainly more exciting than any pos-

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