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ARE CONSIDERING FRENCH PROPOSAL

THE WHITE HOUSE AND CONGRESS BOTH THINKING OVER PROPOSITION OF SENDING NATIONAL GUARDS TO FRANCE SOON

(By United Press) Washington, May 1.—The French argument that troops, possibly the national guard, be sent within six weeks to Europe, is having its effect in the White House, it is generally believed. Officials are still canny when the subject is mentioned, but some of them are known to favor the plan strongly while others, once actively hostile, are now only passively opposed to the measure.

City Will Have Band

The campaign, engineered by the Chamber of Commerce, for a municipal band in Elizabeth City came to a successful close Monday night when the band organization was effected at T. M. Zeigler's on South Road street. The officers are as follows: Business Manager, C. R. Pugh; Leader, F. H. Zeigler; Director, Larry Ennis; Skinner, H. H. Zeigler. The band is to be known as the J. H. Zeigler Band, named in honor of the late J. H. Zeigler, who was first to undertake the proposition of a band in Elizabeth City.

SCARPE IS A DEATH VALLEY

SCENE OF RECENT BRITISH OFFENSIVE VIVIDLY DESCRIBED BY WAR CORRESPONDENT

(By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS) (United Press Staff Correspondent) With The British Arrives Afield—May 1.—The Scarpe is fast becoming a valley of death for the Prussians. The slaughtered enemy lies thick among the dandelions on the valley's yellowing slopes. In terms of losses the Scarpe is a year's defeat for the Germans. With that part of the Ziegfried line known as the "Woman front" already melting away at its northern end and the retreat to Queant system of German defenses threatened Hindenburg is throwing division after division into the struggle, with orders to hold at all costs. As the British day by day bite forward—a bit here and a bit there—the Germans counter attack repeatedly. Always they come in close masses, where British guns reap a horrible harvest in the open country. Sunday, I watched the heavy fighting about Oppy and south to Gavrelle. There the Germans attempted to retake trenches which the British won early Sunday morning. After three years of warfare between forces hidden from each other behind trenches, the sight of combatants maneuvering in the open is most spectacular. On Sunday I could (Continued on Page Two)

WEATHER OR NO

Fair and cooler tonight. Wednesday moderate west and north winds.

Stray Shot Hit's Negro Woman

Bedlam broke loose Tuesday morning at about ten o'clock in the back yard of Noah Overton, colored, when his wife was struck in the top of the head by a number 6 shot from a gun in the hands of Rev. J. A. Shaw who lives on Church street.

Mr. Shaw is raising chickens and gardening in his back yard this year to keep down the high cost of living. He had lost a number of young chicks lately and when he saw the cat that was eating them on the back yard fence just getting ready for another meal, he picked up a neighbors gun, which he had borrowed for the occasion, and let fly at the marauder. He got pussy all right and put her where she will trouble no more young chickens. But a stray shot glanced from the fence and struck Annie Overton on the top of her head as she was bending over her wash-pot kindling a fire. She saw the blood and began to scream and kept on screaming until Dr. Hofer, a colored physician arrived and administered an opiate. The home of Noah Overton is not directly back of Rev. Mr. Shaw's house, and not only a high board fence but a number of outbuildings interpose almost a solid wall between the two back lots. The shot must have glanced upward and sideways and struck the woman on its downward sweep. The incident created considerable excitement among the colored people living on the Dunstan's lane. Mr. Shaw says he will continue his gardening and chicken raising, but that he will do no more gunning.

CENSORSHIP IS NOW IN EFFECT

APPLIES TO TELEGRAPHS, TELEPHONE, AND CABLES BUT EFFECTS TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES ONLY ALONG MEXICAN BORDER

(By United Press) Washington, May 1.—The Government today put into effect a censorship of cables, telegraphs and telephones, applying the cable prohibitions to all lines but operating against telegraph and telephone lines only along the Mexican border. The President ordered the censorship by proclamation. The War and Navy Departments are also at work compiling regulations for the censorship of newspapers and press associations. These chiefly involve messages of incoming and outgoing of merican business concerns and individuals. Its object is to prevent military information from reaching the enemy and the spreading of information prejudicial to the interests of the United States or favorable to the interests of Germany, the circulation of false reports or reports prejudicial either to military operations or to relations with foreign powers. So goes into effect America's first ironclad censorship.

Halt Workers Join in Strike

(By United Press) London, May 1.—Half of all the munition workers in the province of the Rhine, Germany, joined in the general strike today according to a special agency dispatch received here from The Hague. Tight German censorship has covered most of the developments of May Day.—the date set for a general strike in protest to food conditions in Germany.

Full information concerning the Government War Loan can be obtained at The First National Bank which will handle individual subscriptions without charge.

TO PREVENT ACTUAL WANT

FOOD COMMISSION URGES CULTIVATION OF EVERY IDLE LOT IN AND NEAR TOWNS AND CITIES

Raleigh, April 30.—The cities and towns of the State are being called upon to "do their bit" in the campaign for increased food and feed production being energetically pushed by the State Food Conservation Commission. Governor Bickett's proclamation in the interest of more home gardens was effective to a marked degree, but the Food Commission is now going a step further and calling upon the cities and towns of the State to undertake the cultivation in food and feed crops of all vacant land in and adjoining them. "The farmers are rallying to the call," declared Executive Secretary John Paul Lucas of the Commission "but many of them are handicapped because of the shortage of work-stock and labor. It is evident to me already that, while practically all of our farmers are going to be wise enough to raise sufficient food and feedstuffs for their own establishments, and many of them a surplus that will be available to feed our cities and towns and mill communities, we are still going to be short. It is going to require a tremendously increased acreage to produce sufficient stuff to take the place of the \$80,000,000 of food and feedstuffs our State has been importing. To prevent want and hunger our cities and towns must rally to the cause. "There is vacant and idle land in and near to every town and city in North Carolina. There is in every city and town some workstock and labor that can be temporarily diverted from other, less vital activities to the more important work of tilling these lands. We are calling upon the mayors, the commercial organizations and the progressive citizens of our towns and cities to act promptly in getting all of their idle lands into food and feed crops, such as corn, soy beans, peas and potatoes. In Raleigh the Rotary Club, which recently purchased garden seed for 100 poor families, has volunteered to assist in this important work. "Our towns and cities can and must be a factor in increasing our acreage and production of food and feedstuffs. They will be the greatest sufferers if the stuff is not produced and they are in a position to render service to the Nation and to themselves in the same measure as the farmer who has the workstock, the labor and the land necessary to increase his usual acreage. This work can be undertaken by individual, syndicates, by the municipal authorities or otherwise as local conditions may determine, but our people, to get the results demanded by necessity, should act promptly. In order to relieve the labor situation with the farmer to some extent if possible the Food Conservation Commission is calling upon the mayor of every city and town in North Carolina to rigidly enforce the vagrancy statute and force the loafers to the farm or factories.

Neutral City Is Bombarded

(By United Press) The Hague, May 1.—An aeroplane of unknown nationality bombarded the Dutch city of Zlenke near the Belgian frontier, Sunday night, killing three persons and damaging several houses.

CHILE IS TIED BY SECRET TREATY

AUTHORITY ON SOUTH AMERICAN RELATIONS OFFERS THIS AS EXPLANATION FOR SOUTH AMERICAN REPUBLIC'S ATTITUDE

(By CHARLES P STEWART) Buenos Aires, May 1.—Germany and Chile negotiated a secret treaty, guaranteeing Chile a foothold in South America when Prince Henry of Prussia visited this country. This is the statement made in an article Jose Mollins, authority on South American relations, published in the Revista today. Chile is thus held powerless, it is stated, to express sympathy with either Brazil or the United States.

Big Plot Is Unearthed

(By United Press) New York, May 1.—Details of a plot to blow up an important Wall Street office, presumably Morgan's to be followed by tapping of wires and the spreading false reports of Wilson's assassination and of submarine raids was revealed today by the police following the questioning of Wolf Hirsch, formerly petty officer in the German submarine service.

Bill to Include Other Nations

(By United Press) Washington, May 1.—That war with other nations than Germany may threaten the United States was indicated when Senator Chamberlain today offered an amendment to the Conscription bill, asking that the word "emergency" be substituted for the word "war." He said that he had been informed by the Judge Advocate that the general bill may be construed to apply only to the war with Germany.

BRITISH ADVANCE IS NOW CHECKED

FOR TWO DAYS GERMAN RESISTANCE HAS BEEN IMMOVABLE AND UNSHAKEN ON WESTERN FRONT

From William Phillip Simms, United Press Correspondent at the British Front. May 1.—British and German forces, alike took breathing space today. Worn out and cut to pieces by their retreats and reckless counter attacks of the last few days, the German infantry quieted down. The British for their part settled down to artillery firing. Their guns all day roared a never ending chorus. The German cannon replying in thunderous echoes. Guemappe was shelled all day Monday. Arleux was likewise a target for German projectiles. The Germans were palpably nervous, fearing an attack, south of Oppy and for this reason kept the line from Oppy to Caville sprayed with shells. London, May 1.—A deadlock is apparent along the British front today. Field Marshal Haig's only report of fighting is of a successful raid during the night north of Ypres. This is the second day of apparent immovability to the British advance from Arleux south of Monchy.

Rumors of New Peace Offer

(By United Press) The Hague, May 1.—The Imperial Chancellor, Von Bethman-Hollweg, will make a new peace offer in the German Reichstag Thursday, the Berliner Tagblatt announced today. For more than a month rumors of another peace feeler have been circulated in Europe in the hope, it is said, of countering the nationalistic propaganda.

RUSSIANS GET REAL FREEDOM

NOW HAS ONE OF MOST DEMOCRATIC ARMIES ON THE GLOBE SAYS CORRESPONDENT

(By WILLIAM G. SHEPHERD) (United Press Staff Correspondent) Petrograd, May 1.—From the Czar's winter palace, until recently the seat of the most autocratic of all modern governments, a huge sign today proclaimed the rising tide of world democracy. On the eve of May Day, minister of War Gutchkoff issued an order striking the last bonds from the army of the new Russia. It is with this new spirit of freedom that Russia will celebrate tomorrow. The keynote of the day is struck by the sign stretching across the front of the palace, fashioned by the hand of workmen now knowing the meaning of liberty. It reads: "The Proletariat of All Countries Unite." The orders issued by minister Gutchkoff today were put forth at the suggestion of the private soldiers themselves. They provide: Hereafter all soldiers, are to be considered citizens of Russia. (Under autocracy's rule they were not even supposed to be units of the nation they were supposed to die for.) Complete religious freedom. Free speech guaranteed. Attendance at church services not compulsory. Mail from trenches shall not be censored. All mail, including pamphlets, shall be delivered to soldiers at the front. The service "sir" abolished in replies by private soldiers to officers. Hereafter privates shall say "yes" or "no"—without the "sir" in answering officers. Also soldiers hereafter need not salute their officers—"unless the soldier wishes." Privates, however must come to "attention" when commanded to do so. Corporal punishment in the army completely abolished. It is in this spirit of complete freedom that Free Russia celebrated May Day. Under czarism, a few brave spirits used to meet in remote forests on May 1 and in constant dread of secret police, would go through the forms of a parade under the red flag of liberalism. Today the government itself joins. The Russian calendar is more than two weeks behind that in use everywhere on the globe. But in order that new Russia's idea of a world brotherhood—a "proletariat of all countries"—it was decided to advance May Day in Russia to coincide with the rest of the world. A parade such as Russia never saw before will be the principal feature of the celebration here in the capital. But while Russia is celebrating her freedom, her people, jubilant at throwing off of their shackles, are not forgetting that Russia's liberty must be fought for. Soldiers who graced their homes from the front immediately after the revolution are returning to fight by the thousands. All over Russia women of the villages are shaming them into returning to their duty, demanding they fight and hold new Russia in her proud place in the world's democracies. Strange stories are told by Russian soldiers back from the front of how the enemy received the news of Russia's overthrow of autocracy. One soldier told me today of the strangest sight he ever saw: "We have discovered now that the Germans on our front don't like to attack us!" he said. "Under a red flag last Monday German officers climbed out of their trenches. The German soldiers followed. We didn't fire, but we likewise hoisted our red flag. When the Germans saw we were deliberately withholding our fire from their ranks, under the same red flag as our own forces, the soldiers themselves stopped still, and turned back to their own trenches. They abandoned their own. The officers stood there in no man's land

Difficulty in Drawing Jury

(By United Press) Christiansburg, Va., May 1.—There are indications of difficulty in drawing the jury for the Vawter case and there is even talk of a change in venue.

Moyock Briefs

Moyock, May 1.—Miss Leola Lane spent Sunday with her friend, Mrs. N. B. Evans of Tullis, N. C. Mr. Halsey Sears was the guest of friends in Moyock, Sunday. Mr. Frank Bryant, of Norfolk, was in town Sunday. Miss Nellie Forbes of Indiantown, and Miss Sarah Walker, of Norfolk, spent the week end with teh misses Ayldette. Mrs. C. E. Morrisette and daughter, Dorot, of Norfolk, spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Sanderlin. The school commencement will be held May 8th, afternoon and night, instead of May fourth, as previously announced. We consider ourselves very fortunate in securing Mr. J. G. Joyner, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, for the day. He will probably deliver his address in the forenoon. The public is cordially invited to attend the exercises. alone, urging them to attack, but with out avail. Finally they, too, went back—disquieted. Not a shot had been fired; not a German soldier harmed in that death territory. How ever we mistrust red flags borne by Germans and Austrians. Now we fire with all our strength on such approaching enemy forces. "We have proved our right to the red flag—now for the Germans and Austrians prove their right to it."

MEN WANTED TO BUILD SHIPS

CONGRESSMAN SMALL SENDS SIGNED STATEMENT APPEALING TO WORKERS TO RESPOND TO THE GOVERNMENT'S NEED

Congressman John H. Small sent this paper the following signed statement for publication: "The Government, through the U. S. Shipping Board, is preparing to construct about one thousand wooden ships and the Department of Labor has undertaken to aid the Board in securing workers in this line. They need experienced ship carpenters, shipwrights, bridge builders, dock workers, joiners, caulkers and also men who can use an adze, and all other men who feel that they can quickly learn the work of a shipyard. If there are any who wish employment in this line I advise them to write at once Honorable W. B. Wilson, Secretary, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., stating their experience in any particular line of shipbuilding work and the Secretary will at once give them detailed information. I may further state that the Department of Labor has undertaken to assist the Department of Agriculture in the work of securing farm laborers. Under this cooperative plan the Department of Agriculture is to ascertain where such workers are most needed and the Department of Labor will undertake to find the workers. In this time of national crisis when it is so necessary to produce the maximum of farm products, increasing the food supplies, it is most essential to bring together the demand and supply for farm workers. Farmers who need additional help, especially on large farms, should at once communicate with the Secretary of Agriculture, stating their needs, and also with the Secretary of Labor, addressing both at Washington, D. C."