

JAPAN AND CHINA WILL COMBAT HUN AGGRESSION.

Washington, May 18.—Information reached the state department today of the conclusion of an agreement between Japan and China for the protection of their common interests in the far east against German aggression. The reports give few details, but were said to make it clear that the agreement was only for the period of the war and was solely for protective purposes.

A joint defensive to counteract German aggression in Siberia is known to be contemplated, but information was lacking as to whether this would involve a movement in force into Siberia by Japanese and Chinese troops. It is assumed that because of their proximity to Siberia, Japan and China, with a much keener interest in that country than any other power, doubtless were in better position to know the extent of German influence there and the necessity for curbing it by military force.

Regarding the agreement as of a purely defensive nature, the department of state does not believe it directly concerns the United States and consequently it involves no change in the policy of the department in the treatment of the far eastern question. As the matter now stands there is not the slightest disposition to question the motives that impel the two eastern nations to join hands to protect themselves from any danger which they may foresee.

BODY OF SHERMAN CLINARD FOUND

Winston Salem, May 19.—The body of Sherman Clinard, the youngest of the three brothers drowned in Salem Creek, Sunday afternoon, April 21, was discovered floating in the creek near the new bridge, on the Salisbury road, yesterday afternoon about 3 o'clock, by Coroner J. F. Wilson, of Davidson county, who was on his way to this city on business.

When discovered the body was floating down the creek, nearly a mile from where the accident occurred. The only visible part of the body was the feet which were sticking out above the water. The current carried the body to the bank where it lodged on some bushes. Mr. Wilson, assisted by Mr. Will Crouse, a farmer of that vicinity, and Mr. Chitty, who works with the dredging machine, secured the body so that it could not float farther down the stream. Mr. Wilson went to a telephone and notified the police department and the bearer of Vogler's undertaking establishing went immediately and brought the body to the city.

Lieut. Col. Hatch Is Sent To Clean Up Philadelphia



Lieut. Col. Charles B. Hatch of the United States Marine corps has been sent to Philadelphia by Secretary Daniels to see that the city is cleaned of all vice, in accordance with the wishes of the navy department. The first step in the cleaning up has been the appointment of Police Captain Mills as acting superintendent of the Philadelphia police.

MORE AERIAL ACTIVITY IN AMERICAN SECTORS

Washington, May 18.—An official American communique from General Pershing made public tonight by the war department says yesterday's fighting on the American front was limited to reconnaissances and intermittently active artillery firing. Increased aerial activity was reported north of Toul and Lorraine.

The communique follows: "Section A. Today fighting was limited to reconnaissances and intermittently active artillery fire. There was increased aerial activity north of Toul and in Lorraine.

"Section B. Further details concerning bringing down hostile planes reported May 15 and 16, are as follows:

"American aviators were waiting at one of our large aviation fields for the commanding general of French army who was coming to confer decorations on the following officers: Capt. James Norman Hall, Capt. David Mack Peterson, Lieut. James A. Meissner, Lieut. Edward V. Kickenbacher and Second Lieut. Charles W. Chapman. Of these Captain Hall was lost and Lieutenant Chapman killed in combat over the enemy territory. All of these pilots have shot down enemy aircraft as well as performed other gallant and meritorious acts. While waiting for the ceremony to commence, Captain Peterson made an ascent and brought down two hostile planes, as previously reported.

"The following particulars are now added:

"The planes were sighted by Captain Peterson, flying at 4,000 meters in single file toward our lines. Captain Peterson swung in behind them and at 5,200 meters and attacked the rear plane, firing 50 rounds. The hostile plane dove vertically 500 meters and broke into flames and fell. Captain Peterson was meanwhile attacked by the second plane from the front. He again attacked from above, firing 75 rounds. The hostile plane threw out a cloud of smoke and attempted a sharp turn, but slipped. The wings folded up and one fell off as the plane fell. Both planes were brought down about eight kilometers behind the hostile lines.

"After the hostile planes were brought down the ceremony proceeded before a guard of honor composed of one infantry company, one French infantry company and a band. Planes of the local aviation group lined up on the field. The decorations were conferred in the presence of the French army corps commander, American army corps commander and other commanding officers of French and American units and their staffs. Continuous patrols kept in the air during the ceremony and an exhibition flight was given at the end by the aero squadron to which the officers decorated belonged.

"On May 15 Captain Marr attacked a hostile biplane flying at 2,000 meters behind the lines of the enemy. He fired 20 rounds and the hostile plane fell in flames.

"On the same date Lieutenant Chambers attacked an enemy observation balloon, firing 4 rounds. A large cloud of black smoke was observed and when this cleared the balloon was no longer seen.

"On May 16, Lieutenant Meissner attacked hostile observation balloon, firing at it from 1,500 to 1,600 meters. The observer was seen to jump from the basket.

"In Lorraine, May 13 to 14, hostile patrol attacked small machine gun positions held by us from both front and rear. They were driven off by pistol and grenade fire. No casualties to our men."

FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN RATIONS IN GERMANY.

Washington, May 19.—Further reductions in food rations have just been ordered in Germany,

ALASKANS WHO HIKE 121 MILES THROUGH SNOW AND ICE TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY



Here are 61 doughboys from Alaska who hiked 121 miles through snow and ice to enlist in the armed forces of the United States. They hulk from Anchorage, Alaska, and are shown as they appeared in a Liberty Loan parade in San Francisco.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS ARE GETTING ALONG MIGHTY WELL WITH THE BRITISH.

Headquarters of American Troops with British Forces in France, Friday, May 17.—The American troops are putting finishing touches to their preparations for active fighting behind the British line in a beautiful rolling country, which resembles western New York in full bloom. The Americans started this morning on maneuvers in which they took their first long hike in heavy marching order under a broiling sun.

After six hours the Americans were still full of go when the correspondent encountered a line of infantrymen resting in the shade of a hedge. Some were footsore, but the operations were going on to the satisfaction of the officers.

"They covered a good deal of ground before, but it was cool," said the colonel in command. "This is their first trial under heat and they are standing it well."

The men are pictures of health and appear to be trained to the hour for hard fighting. All were in good humor, even those with blistered feet.

"Hail! Hail! The gang's all here!" called one who, out-distanced by his company, came limping alone down the dusty road under a heavy pack.

Besides maneuvers and regular exercises, the boys are being coached to the last minute in British schools in all tactics of modern warfare. The commandant of one of these schools told the Associated Press the Americans are keen and quick to learn.

All over the region where Americans are billeted along with the British there are evidences of how well the Americans are getting on with the British. This feeling is displayed everywhere they meet and it will aid in the success of the amalgamation of the forces.

The food administration was advised in dispatches received today. Bread rations have been cut from eight to five ounces per day and meat from seven to five ounces per week.

American embargoes on feedstuffs to the European neutrals has had its effect on Germany's meat supply. Those countries have been unable to raise and feed stock as formerly and their meat exports to Germany have fallen off. Only 25 per cent as many hogs are now raised in Denmark as formerly and production of cattle has fallen off 25 per cent.

In contrast to the situation in Germany, the allied countries have been able to increase the meat allowance to about 30 ounces a week to each person as the result of increased exports of meat from the United States. Exports of wheat from the United States and Canada to the allies also have increased as a result of economy in consumption.

THE NEW SUGAR LAW

The new sugar ruling, which went into effect May 15, is very rigid. No manufacturer using sugar will be allowed to purchase sugar except upon certificates furnished by the Food Administration, according to County Food Administrator, Mr. W. F. Carter, who has just received full information from the Food Administration regarding the new system of "rationing."

Every druggist, soda fountain, candy manufacturer, bottling works, commercial establishments for preserving and canning, ice cream manufacturers—in short, every user of sugar except the households, hotels, restaurants and baking establishments, which are controlled by other means, is affected by the new plan.

For preserving, canning, making ice cream, medicines and other essential products, full quantities of sugar required will be allowed. Soda fountains, bottling works and similar industries producing the less essential articles will be allowed only 80 per cent of the quantity of sugar they used last year. If they began business after November 1, they will be allowed only 50 per cent of their previous consumption. No establishment which has entered business since April 1 or which has enlarged its plant since April 1 will be allowed any sugar at all.

The process by which the manufacturers may secure sugar is as follows: They must make application to the Food Administration at Raleigh for blanks upon which to make detailed sworn statement of the quantities of sugar they used last year. Upon satisfying itself that this statement is correct, the Food Administration will determine the allotment of sugar which such applicant will be allowed to have and will issue to him certificates for the quantity. The blanks for statements by merchants have already been printed and can be secured upon application to the Sugar Division of the Food Administration at Raleigh.

Food Administrator Page has announced that any violations of the new rules and regulations governing the sales of sugar will be dealt with promptly and drastically; and about the best that any dealer or user of sugar can expect if they violate the law is to be put out of business during the period of the war. All sugar refiners, brokers, jobbers and retailers are subject to the new rules.

The new plan of "rationing" manufacturers using sugar will in no wise affect the present ruling of the Food Administration governing retail sales of sugar to individuals who have a legitimate demand for it for canning and preserving purposes. The whole plan is designed to assure

AMERICANS ARE READY FOR NEW ENEMY DRIVE

Washington, May 18.—With every indication pointing to the early resumption of the German drive in France, officials here feel that all that could be done to bring American aid to the allied armies has been done. They await the outcome with the same supreme confidence that Germany's offensive power finally will be repulsed as do the French and British leaders.

American troops are shoulder-to-shoulder with the French and British in Picardy, while in Flanders, American units are training close behind the battle lines, ready to go in immediately if necessary. In both places the number of Americans is being increased at a rate not hoped for only a few months ago and in the two American sectors farther south, the lines are being strengthened and extended daily.

With more than 500,000 men overseas, the United States forces are occupying their full share of the fighting line. It was learned officially today that the actual frontage held is third in extent at this time, having exceeded the length of the Belgian sector when American troops came into line with the French in Picardy.

Officials here believe that the German high command is so heavily committed to the Picardy and Flanders sectors in its offensive plans that no serious effort elsewhere along the front is to be expected. It therefore appears certain that when the new blow is struck, Americans will share in increasing numbers from month to month in the German defeat.

Meanwhile, events are moving swiftly on this side to back up the army now abroad with a steady and increasing flow of men and equipment. Members of the senate military committee in their conference at the war department today, are understood to have been shown that encouraging progress is being made in all lines.

There appears to be little doubt now that the American forces abroad will pass the 1,000,000 mark by mid-summer, although official statements were lacking. The rate at which troops are being sent overseas is rising from week to week. Figures may not be published under the rules of voluntary censorship, but Secretary Baker's recent statement that 500,000 men had been dispatched is regarded as already out of date.

a sufficient supply for these purposes and it is the non-essentials or less essential industries which have to get along with reduced supplies, such as soft drink fountains and bottling works.

(By request of Henry A. Page, National Food Administrator; W. F. Carter, County Food Administrator; W. S. Reich, City Food Administrator.)

WILSON SENDS MESSAGE TO THE FRENCH PEOPLE

Paris, May 18.—On the eve of the great German offensive, says an official note issued here today, President Wilson, anxious to address a message to the French people, has asked one of his personal friends, James Kerney, director of the Franco-American committee on public information, to convey the following to them: "The people of the United States is happy to find itself in the brotherhood of arms with the people of France in a war in which every man who loves right ought to be proud to take part.

"For over one hundred years the American people has desired this opportunity, which befalls it today, of giving the French people proof of its gratitude and friendship. There is added now in its soul deep and ardent admiration for the heroism and self-denial whereof the French people have given proof in this terrible and last conflict between liberty and brutal ferocity.

"American hearts are with the armies midst the bloodstained battlefields of valiant France. Americans are your brothers in the great, holy, common cause."

JOE JACKSON IS CALLED

Greenville, S. C., May 18.—Joe Jackson, star outfielder, who a few days ago left the Chicago American team to enter a ship-building plant at Wilmington, Delaware, was ordered today by the local draft board here with which he is registered, to report immediately for active army service. He will be sent to a training camp upon his arrival, it was announced by a member of the draft board.

Jackson was recently transferred from a deferred classification to class 1 for immediate service, and successfully passed the physical examination in Philadelphia. He entered the employ of a ship building plant last Monday and it is reported here that he would file claim for exemption on the grounds that he was engaged in essential war work. No such claim has been received here, however, it was stated at the office of the local draft board.

FORMER CZAR WILL BE EXILED IN SWITZERLAND

Geneva, May 20.—Nikolas Rumannoff, the former czar of Russia, and his family, according to reports of newspapers in Vienna, has been given his choice of exile in Roumania or Switzerland and has decided to go to Switzerland. This concession, it is added, was promised by the soviet government on special conditions, the first of which was he would refrain from future efforts to return to the Russian throne.

Don't keep a good scheme on hand when it should be placed on foot.

Zeebrugge Admiral Is to Lose His Command

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86 KNOWN DEAD, 31 MISSING AND 94 IN HOSPITALS

Pittsburg, May 19.—Fifty-six men are known to be dead, 94 injured in hospitals and 31 employees of the Aetna Chemical company, are missing as a result of the nine explosions yesterday that wrecked this company's explosive manufacturing plant at Oakdale, 16 miles from this city. This report is the result of the day's investigation by state, federal, county and city officials and of the work of scores of men under direction of Coroner Samuel C. Jamison.

Throughout the night and all day today men were extinguishing small fires in the debris and were bringing out remnants of human bodies, legs and arms, hands with finger rings on them and, in some instances, only the incinerated torsos were found. In most cases there was nothing to indicate the identity of the victim. These gruesome recoveries were carried to the temporary morgue where opportunity to view them was given any one that might have lost friend or relative in the disaster.

While earlier explosions wrecked the plant, the last one, about 6:30, scattered debris over more acreage than before and blackening every piece of metal or timber as well as anything human, beyond recognition.

All day a blue-brown smoke continued to hang over the ruins considerably impeding the work of the searchers. Its deadly fumes are feared by the residents of the community and only when a slight breeze would lift the smoke would searchers be able to get close to the various piles of debris. For a time the work was impeded further by the thousands of sightseers that flocked to the scene from the surrounding country. A company of the state constabulary was rushed in automobiles from Greensburg to establish a greater cordon about the scene of the disaster. The crowds and automobiles were turned back when they had reached within five miles of Oakdale. Only those having business, or the officials were admitted past the guards.

Thousands of persons streamed into the temporary morgue all day to view the gruesome finds from the ruins and it took a special detail of police to keep this morbid element in check. Some identifications were made. Piteful, sad scenes were on every hand, and one in particular was when Adam Martz, one of the coroner's workers in the morgue, collapsed. He had found in a bucket a bunch of keys and a penknife, which had belonged to his son. The son had been employed in the plant.

The country is desolate for an area of several miles around the plant where the former beautiful green hillsides have been seared and burned by the blasts. Fruit and shade trees have been blasted and denuded of their foliage.

Federal officers, representing the department of justice, today ordered the arrest of two men who were photographing the ruins, and who were charged by a woman with making seditious remarks. A special policeman employed by the Aetna Chemical company, arrested two men early today as they were about to hurry away from the plant on a motorcycle. The names and charges upon which these men are held, are withheld by officials pending investigation.

Among the identified dead is Henry Plenty, negro, of Scottsburg, Va., and Marshall Anderson, China Grove, N. C.; George Christopher, Reynolds, Ga.; H. E. Brillinger, York, Pa.; J. R. Lane, Meadville, Pa.

The cause of the explosion had not been determined tonight by the many officials and explosive experts seeking to solve the cause. H. L. Wolenberg, general manager of the company, who arrived from New York this morning, is expected to make a statement tomorrow after a conference with the various officers representing federal, state, city and borough governments.