

STANDARD CARS OF ORDNANCE BUREAU

VARIETY OF THE VEHICLES AND PARTS KEPT TO A MINIMUM BY CONSTANT EFFORT.

MANY BOOKKEEPERS NEEDED

Civil Service Examinations for Such Positions to Be Held Weekly—Raw Cotton From the United States Goes to Spain.

(From Committee on Public Information.)

Washington.—Among the standard motor vehicles being provided by the ordnance bureau are the following:

The ammunition truck, which has a steel body designed to accommodate packing boxes of any type of ammunition mounted on a four-wheel drive truck chassis. The equipment repair truck, making use of the same type of chassis, has bins and drawers for spare parts and material for repairing personnel equipment, rifles and machine guns, leather equipment, etc.

The artillery repair truck has a four-wheel drive chassis and a small machine-shop body with equipment consisting of a lathe, drill press, bench grinder, electric drill, welding outfit, air riveting hammer, milling attachment, blacksmith outfit, and other tools. Electric power is supplied by a gasoline-driven generator.

The 2½-ton artillery tractor weighs about 5,000 pounds and is capable of making 12 miles an hour under favorable road conditions. The five-ton artillery tractor, weighing 9,000 pounds and capable of a speed of six miles an hour, will handle a load of 10,000 pounds. It is intended for use with 4.7-inch gun and 6-inch howitzer material. A load of 18,000 pounds is the maximum for the 10-ton artillery tractor, which will make about 4½ miles an hour on high speed.

The 15-ton artillery tractor and the 120-horsepower artillery tractor will be supplied in limited numbers. They are of the track-laying type similar to those used by the French and British governments and are for heavy loads which are not subdivided for transportation.

Other standard motor equipment consists of the reel and fire-control truck with a four-wheel drive truck chassis and rear wheels replaced by caterpillar tracks; reconnaissance car, a 1-ton truck capable of a speed of from 30 to 40 miles an hour; the light repair truck, weighing about 2,400 pounds; the 1½-ton trailer for anti-aircraft guns; the 3-inch field gun trailer, which is utilized for hauling ammunition as well as the 3-inch gun material.

Tanks and other armored land vehicles are designed, procured, and maintained by the ordnance bureau.

There has been a constant effort to keep the variety of vehicles and parts to a minimum. Only one size of tire is used on all the heavier trucks and trailers, this size also being used on similar vehicles by the quartermaster corps, signal corps and engineers. The same magneto is used on all types of ordnance vehicles. All types of ordnance truck bodies are interchangeable on all truck chassis issued to the artillery.

So urgent is the government's need for bookkeepers that civil service examinations to fill positions of this character will be held throughout the United States each Tuesday until further notice. Women as well as men are eligible.

Two classes of examinations are announced. A grammar school education or its equivalent is required of applicants for each class, with the further stipulation that those who wish to take the bookkeeper-typewriter examination must have had at least six months' experience in bookkeeping, and those who would undertake the clerk-bookkeeper examination, one year's experience in clerical work, six months of which must have been in bookkeeping. The vacancies to be filled from the register obtained from these examinations are in the departmental service at Washington and offer entrance salaries of \$1,000 a year.

These examinations are open not only to all citizens of the United States but also to subjects of allied nations who are otherwise qualified for the positions offered.

There is being prepared in the adjutant general's office a new "pay card" which will be kept by the personnel officer and will show the pay status of the man at all times. Should a man be transferred or detached from his company he will carry his card with him. This is expected to eliminate the many causes for delayed payments of men so transferred, and to do away with many of the annoyances that have heretofore existed.

During the first year of war the army paid \$80,000,000 for horse-drawn vehicles and harness; more than \$50,000,000 for horses, mules and harness. Expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919, for fuel and forage are estimated at more than \$500,000,000.

A standard system of inspection by which federal food administrators may keep a check on commercial bakers is being worked out by the department of agriculture and the food administration.

The war trade board has granted licenses for raw cotton to Spain in quantity sufficient to load several Spanish vessels. This action provides cotton necessary to fill the normal requirements of the Spanish mills.

Under the agreement with Spain that nation permits free export to the allies of certain commodities in return for which the United States permits, so far as consistent with its conservation policies, the export to Spain of necessary supplies of cotton and other commodities to cover genuine Spanish requirements.

Congress has authorized \$2,034,000,000, of which sum \$1,135,000,000 has been appropriated, for the United States shipping board and Emergency Fleet corporation; on March 1, \$353,247,955.37 of this sum had been expended. The Emergency Fleet corporation had requisitioned March 1, 425 steel vessels and contracted for 720 steel vessels, making a total of 1,145 steel ships, of an aggregate dead-weight tonnage of 8,164,508 tons; it had let contracts for 490 wooden vessels, aggregating approximately 1,715,000 dead-weight tons; it had repaired and put in operation 788,000 dead-weight tonnage seized from Germany and Austria. On March 5 the building program of the Emergency Fleet corporation was being carried on in 151 plants.

Among the purchasers of the quartermaster's department are 61,000,000 pounds of prunes and dried beans; 273,000,000 cans of tomatoes, condensed milk, and baked beans; 40,000,000 yards of mosquito bar; 75,000,000 yards of olive drab; 20,000,000 woolen stockings; 50,000,000 pairs of heavy stockings; 11,000,000 wool coats. The ordnance program includes the purchase of 23,000,000 hand grenades, 725,000 automatic pistols, 250,000 revolvers, 23,000,000 projectiles for heavy artillery, 427,246,000 pounds of explosives, 240,000 machine guns, and 2,484,000 rifles.

A war emergency course to train selected men for machine-shop occupations, blacksmithing, sheet-metal working, and pipe fitting has been prepared by the federal board for vocational education and will be distributed to the schools throughout the country. It is known as Bulletin No. 8.

The board is acting with the war department in preparing these courses of study and in dealing with the state authorities in charge of the school work.

Recently there has been considerable discussion through the press and at public meetings in Australia concerning the advisability of producing more beef, cattle and sowing less acreage to wheat, according to a report to the department of commerce.

Several hundred submarine chasers, built since the war, have been delivered to the navy by 31 private concerns and six navy yards; many of these boats have crossed the Atlantic, some in severe weather.

Through a card catalogue system 109,487 men have been transferred out of army divisions into technical units to function according to individual educational, occupational and military qualifications.

There are now four times as many vessels in naval service as a year ago. The estimated pay of officers and men in the navy for the first year of war was \$125,000,000.

The Norwegian government has appropriated \$7,000,000 to assist intensive agricultural development. Of this amount, \$4,500,000 is to maintain low maximum prices for cattle feed and fertilizer.

New Japanese concerns numbering over 100 are reported as having entered business at Shanghai during 1917. The Japanese population is rapidly increasing, now being about 14,000.

During 12 months the army hospitals increased from 7 to 63 in number and from 5,000 to 68,400 beds; 30,000 more beds are being added.

More than 70,000 acres of land in this country has been planted with castor-bean plants to produce oil for aircraft.

American troops permanently took over a part of the firing line as an American sector in January, 1918.

The navy now has in its possession a stock of supplies sufficient for average requirements for one year.

Our 14-inch guns weigh nearly 95 tons and are over 58 feet long, costing \$118,000.

Our 35,000-ton cruiser, capable of 35 knots, will be the fastest in the world.

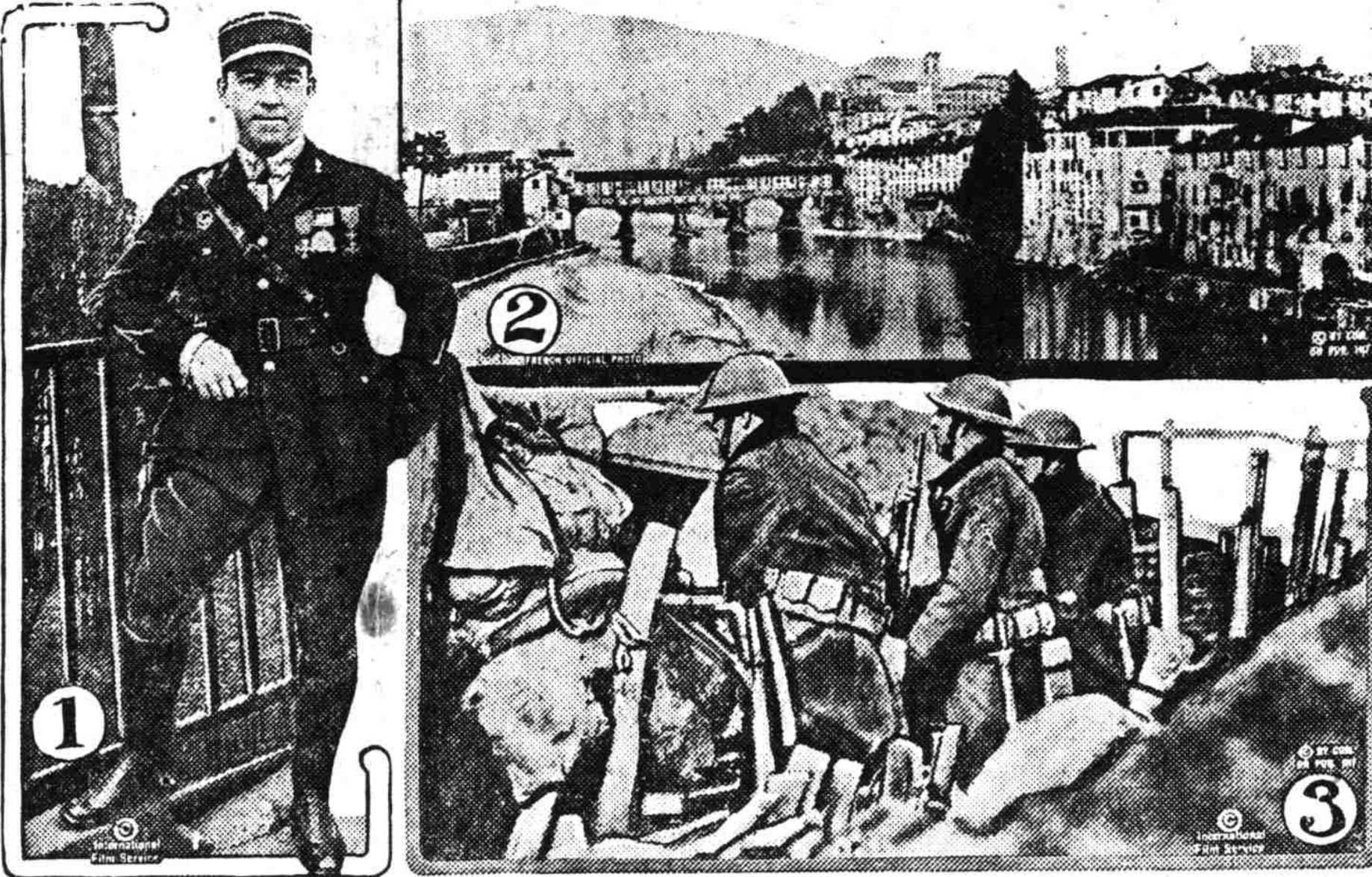
Production of 10,000 new automobile trucks is in progress for the army.

Chinese peanuts are usually hand sorted by women after being sifted.

The United States grows more than 6,000,000 bushels of peanuts a year.

The annual pay of the army now exceeds \$3,000,000,000.

The navy ration in 1917 cost \$0.438, as against \$0.37684 in 1916.



1—Lieut. S. Campuzano, a Cuban aviator who has won fame on the French front and has returned to instruct the Cuban esquadron. 2—The beautiful city of Bassano on the Brenta, in northern Italy, which is believed to be an objective of the invading Teutons. 3—Americans on the watch in the first line trenches in France.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Germans Resume Drive Toward Amiens But Pay Heavily For Small Gain.

Foch's Plan Not Revealed

Hundred Thousand Cheering American Troops Moving Up to Battle Front—Count Czernin's Stupid "Peace Offensive"—Exasperation Against Disloyalty Is Increasing.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Halted by the magnificent defense of the allies and, according to their own statements, by the bad weather prevailing, the Germans made little efforts during the first part of the week to push farther ahead in Picardy. Then, on Thursday, they launched a series of furious attacks in the region north of Montdidier, evidently aimed at the Amiens-Calais railway. Ten times the Huns, 100,000 strong, advanced against the Franco-British lines, only to be met with a devastating gun fire, and in the end they had gained but a few hundreds of meters of terrain, with three small villages, at the cost of many thousands of lives.

At the same time the British between the Somme and Avre rivers and near Albert, north of Amiens, were subjected to heavy attacks. In the former region General Haig reported that he had yielded a little ground, and on Friday the fighting still was severe, with the allied lines holding well.

Earlier in the week there were daily local operations at many points on the battle front, but these were mostly undertaken by the British and French for the purpose of improving their positions; and usually were successful. The recapture of Alette, south of Arras, the center of a fiercely contested sector, by the British, and the retaking of Hangard-en-Santerre by the Franco-British forces were apparently the most important of these enterprises. In both of them the Huns lost heavily.

The period of comparative quiet was utilized by both sides in strengthening their lines and bringing up re-enforcements and supplies for the renewal of the battle, which was regarded as inevitable. No intimation was given of the plans of either the Germans or the allies, and there was considerable wonder in America at least that the expected counter-attack by the allied reserve army did not begin. It may be that General Foch is planning to strike at some sector yet unguessed. He is recognized as one of the best of strategists.

Since the Kaiser has promised his people a big victory, there is every prospect of a long period of bloody fighting, with further heavy losses for the Germans. Already the casualties of the Huns have been staggering, the estimate of the French being between 350,000 and 450,000. Those of the British and French, have been unexpectedly light, perhaps not more than 130,000, including the considerable number of prisoners.

Artillery work was almost continuous during the week, and especially vigorous in the Montdidier region and north of that toward Amiens. The Germans admit they have had much difficulty in getting their heavy guns to the front, owing to the mud and the destruction of roads by the allies. Also their transport is so slow that they are short of food and ammunition. Presumably in order to help in clearing up the congestion and preparing for a resumption of the checked advance, Field Marshal Von Mackensen went to the west front from Berlin Wednesday.

Of vital interest to the United States is the part our soldiers are to play in the continuation of the great battle. Offered to the allies without

reservation by President Wilson and General Pershing, their aid was joyfully welcomed by the British and French and America's unselfish action in relinquishing independent command for the time being was highly praised. One hundred thousand thoroughly trained American troops at once began moving toward the places selected for them, singing and cheering as they ploughed their way through the mud, happy that they were at last to have opportunity to take a real part in the mighty conflict. Where they were assigned to duty naturally has not been revealed, but wherever they may fight, there is not the least doubt that the high opinion of them held by the British and French officers will be fully justified.

The American aviators in France have been giving invaluable aid and have won unstinted praises by their boldness and skill during the battle. Attached to the service of the allies, they have helped them maintain complete command of the air. The American Red Cross, it is almost unnecessary to say, has covered itself with added glory, for its physicians and ambulance men and nurses who were in the battle zone have devoted themselves with bravery and self-sacrifice to the care of the wounded and to helping the refugees.

As our trained hundred thousand marched away from the sectors they had been holding in France, their places were taken by less seasoned troops who enviously cheered them on. From this time forward the flow of Americans to France will be continuous, for the government plans to send about 100,000 in each remaining month of this year. This means that by 1919 we will have 1,500,000 men over there. As they go the training camps will be refilled by drafted men, for it is the intention to call out 100,000 of these every month.

The plan now adopted of temporarily brigading American troops with the British and French permits the sending of National guard and National army divisions that are not yet adequately trained and whose ranks are not full.

Of course the success of the American program depends largely on the tonnage available. It is good to know that this probably will be sufficient, with the seized Dutch shipping, the 450,000 tons Japan is to turn over to us and the new vessels being built under the direction of the shipping board. The launchings of new vessels are increasing, in spite of lack of steel at the big Hog Island plant and labor troubles at other shipyards. The shipping board is planning to build a number of 10,000-ton vessels on the Great Lakes.

The situation in what once was Russia is if possible more confusing than ever. In Finland the allies are said to be aiding the revolutionary Red guard; the Germans have landed a large number of troops presumably to assist the government's White guard; the Swedes are helping the White guard, who have been shelling Tammerfors; Russian troops, including the famous Probrashensky guard, have arrived and taken up a position on the Karelian front. In Siberia the bolshevik forces have asked the allies to aid them in fighting the Cossacks who make incursions from China and retire there; the Japanese still hold back from intervention at Vladivostok; the bolshevik declare Siberia never will submit to Germany, but a German army occupied Irkutsk. In Russia proper, according to Trotsky, the bolsheviks have crushed all their enemies but we cannot consider their power lasting, owing to the disorganization of the country. They are still trying to raise a great volunteer army. In the Caucasus the Armenians and Georgians are fiercely fighting the Turks. In Turkestan and in Kiev serious anti-Semitic riots have broken out and hundreds of Jews have been killed. In Ukraine the Germans persisted in advancing and at last reports were near Ekaterinoslav, while the Turks and Kurds were threatening Sebastopol. Anyone who thinks he can figure out what all this portends is welcome to try.

Russia and Roumania have concluded a peace treaty by which the latter agrees to evacuate Bessarabia and to defend the Russian republican feder-

ation against attacks, while Russia agrees to deliver to Roumania the surplus of grain in Bessarabia.

Teutonic diplomats seem to be the stupidest on earth, and seldom have they been more stupid than in their latest "peace offensive." This was launched by Count Czernin, the Austrian premier and usual catspaw for Germany in such matters. It apparently was designed to separate the United States from the allies, for the count undertook to show that France's claim to Alsace-Lorraine was the only real obstacle in the way of peace. He said Premier Clemenceau had inquired through an intermediary whether Austria-Hungary was ready to negotiate and on what terms. To this Clemenceau replies merely: "Czernin lies." The Austrian leader said nice things about President Wilson's peace aims, but declared his country would not beg for peace but would enforce it by moral right and physical strength.

The Teutonic leaders are blind if they cannot see that neither America nor the entente allies will for a moment consider a peace settlement that leaves their military power unbroken or that does not carry, as a prerequisite, the evacuation by Germany of the invaded territory she now holds. Only a few days ago President Wilson, in a letter to American Methodists, reiterated his determination to carry on the war until the German power is crushed.

With a rush that promised to carry all before it, the Third Liberty loan campaign started Saturday. In every town and hamlet in the country the event was celebrated with parades, salutes and speeches, and the enthusiasm was such that the success of the \$4,500,000,000 loan cannot be questioned. Helping to make it a success, with money and with work, has been established as a test of patriotism, and few will care to evade the test. Most appropriately, the opening of the campaign coincided with the first anniversary of America's entrance into the war and Saturday was made a day of remembrance and action that will not soon be forgotten.

Warned by their constituents that intolerance of pro-Germanism is so increasing that it will soon take the form of lynch law, the members of the senate have awakened, and on Tuesday three separate measures were introduced providing for dealing more drastically with disloyalty. One would greatly enlarge the scope of the espionage act and increase the severity of the punishments provided; the second would bar from the mails any publication printed in an enemy alien language; the third calls for the dismissal of any government employee who unwarrantably criticizes the government or makes disloyal utterances.

The governors of the states, at the first session of their conference on Americanization of aliens, also were roused to speech and action concerning the prevalence of disloyalty. Resolutions calling on congress to provide for the enforced naturalization of all aliens of draft age and to suppress all German language newspapers for the period of the war were introduced and probably would have been adopted if Secretary of the Interior Lane had not intervened with a plea against bitterness and for a campaign of education. Many of the governors did not like this, and next day they resumed their demands that the government deal more drastically with disloyalists, spies and the German language press.

In Collinsville, Ill., a man of German birth, who was accused of making seditious remarks, was hanged by an exasperated mob, and in many other places pro-Germans were roughly handled.

In the Wisconsin senatorial election, in which Congressman Lenroot was elected, the Germans of the state did not show up any too well, for they gave the indicted Socialist, Berger, a sizeable vote, especially in Milwaukee and other German regions. Also Milwaukee re-elected its Socialist mayor. There may be nothing against such men as Socialists, but the very name now smacks of treason.

Chicago did better than Wisconsin, for in its aldermanic election every Socialist and anti-war candidate met defeat.

AMERICAN TROOPS HURRIED TO FRANCE

AT ACCELERATED RATE CONTINGENTS PLATED IN GOVERNMENT'S SPEED-UP PROGRAM.

NO DETAILS GIVEN

American Forces to Be Brigaded With British Troops to Hasten American Participation.

Washington.—Transportation of American troops to France already is proceeding at the accelerated rate contemplated by the speeding-up measures taken after the battle of Picardy began. Acting Secretary Crowell made this statement today would give no details.

Following the conference between Secretary Baker and allied officials, orders were given under which British official statement was issued saying that American forces were to be brigaded with British troops in order to hasten American participation in the war. Officials explained that the process to be followed was similar to that adopted in placing American troops in the front lines with the French for training.

It has been estimated that 30 days' training of this character, with American battalion units assigned with the British organizations, will fit the newcomers for active duty at the front. All divisions now moved from this side are composed of men who have had several months of preliminary training and who need only final instruction to take their full share in the fighting line.

The training process will be quicker with the British than with the French, it is believed, because the language difficulty does not exist. American units will find every British veteran an instructor, and there will be no need for interpreters.

It was indicated that the new plans call for a more extensive training scheme with the British army than has been the case with General Pershing's original force. There probably will be no attempt to set up a purely American force within the British ranks, as has been done with the French.

The Americans are to be withdrawn when trained and turned over to General Pershing as a part of his army. They will share fully with their British comrades the battles on their front and the belief here is that they will not be withdrawn as long as there is pressing need for their service with the British lines.

SAYS GERMAN OPINION UNDER-ESTIMATED AMERICA

Washington.—Word that American reinforcements are moving to the support of the allies in Picardy has revived argument in Germany over the efficacy of the submarine and draw from Captain Persius military critic of The Berliner Tageblatt, the comment that after being persuaded to under-estimate America, German opinion is undergoing a change.

An official dispatch from Switzerland, reviewing the latest discussion, quotes Captain Persius as follows:

"We were at first a good deal persuaded to under-estimate the participation of America in the war. We begin now to note a change of opinion. It is beyond a doubt that it would be well to curb at the present time these more or less fantastic vagaries of persons discussing the submarine war. We cannot for the moment estimate when the United States will have ready the millions of men which her population will permit her to raise, but it is certain that America will in the very near future succeed in amassing armies which will constitute a very valuable aid for our enemies."

Captain Persius expressed without great conviction the hope that the present offensive will attain a result which will frustrate these plans.

DECISION IN \$57,000,000 DUPONT SUIT DELAYED

Philadelphia, Pa.—A decision of the United States circuit court of appeals in the \$57,000,000 DuPont stock suit is delayed perhaps for a year as a result of the refusal of the court to order the case argued during this month.

The litigation arose out of the acquisition by the DuPont Securities company, formed by Pierre DuPont and others, of the holdings of Coleman DuPont in DuPont Powder Co.

WHEAT FORECAST PLEASES U. S. FOOD AUTHORITIES

Washington.—Forecasts by the department of agriculture of a winter wheat crop of 560,000,000 bushels this year brought optimism to the food administration, and the prediction was unofficially made that if the spring wheat crop maintained the same ratio the next harvest will furnish sufficient wheat to take care of the needs of this country and the allies next year. Forecasts indicate an increase of 142,000,000 bushels.