

THE EUROPEAN WAR A YEAR AGO THIS WEEK

Jan. 24, 1915.
 Germans bombarded several towns in Flanders. Allies evacuated St. Georges. Russians were checked in Transylvania. Turkish advance on Erzerum was checked by the Russians. British patrol squadron under Vice-Admiral Beatty defeated German squadron attempting to reach English coast; German battle cruiser Bluecher sunk. Secretary of State Bryan denied charges of government discrimination against Germany and Austria. Boer rebels under Maritz repulsed in attack on Upington, Bechuanaland.

Jan. 25, 1915.
 Kaiser sent Prince Eitel Friedrich to direct fighting in Alsace. French gained toward Altkirch and destroyed bridges over Meuse at St. Mihiel. Germans were forced by floods to abandon Dixmude trenches. Fierce fighting in Bukovina. Russians were forced from their trenches south of Tarnow.

Jan. 26, 1915.
 Another battle was fought at La Basse. Germans by vigorous attacks gained ground near Craonne and in Alsace. Russians captured German airship that bombarded Libau. Roumania resumed exportation of war supplies to Hungary. American Red Cross shipped large consignment of supplies for Serbia and Turkey.

Jan. 27, 1915.
 Germans celebrated Kaiser's birthday by attack on allies between La Basse and Bethune, losing heavily. Indecisive fighting took place near Ypres. Austrians recaptured Uzesok pass. Russians seized Pikkafon. British defeated Turkish advance guard near El Kantara on Suez canal. Turks were defeated by British at Korna. Two Hindu soldiers won the Victoria Cross. Prince von Buelow warned Italy because of its military preparations. General von Bissing ordered all Englishmen in Belgium sent to Germany.

Jan. 28, 1915.
 French were defeated at Craonne. Germans made gains in the Vosges and upper Alsace. Tremendous struggle for the Carpathians opened. Austro-Germans advancing on 80-mile front. Turks, re-enforced, attacked Russians in the Caucasus. Slaves in Austria-Hungary riotous because of mobilization order.

Jan. 29, 1915.
 Germans were checked in two attempts to cross the Aisne. Yaer flood area drained by the Germans. Russian wings advanced in East Prussia, closing in on Insterburg and Tilsit. Advance in Carpathians made by Russians. Turks fortified Erzerum and expelled civilians. Italian soldiers of First and Third categories called to colors. Polish legion formed at Warsaw.

Jan. 30, 1915.
 Russian forces entered Hungary. First detachment of Canadian troops reached France. Germans won a victory in the Argonne. Russians cut railway between Memei and Tilsit. Russians overwhelmed the Turks in the Caucasus and captured Tabriz, Persia. German submarine sank three British steamers in Irish channel. Italy placed contracts for war supplies in United States.

FACTS OF INTEREST

Canada has 1,415,000 men liable for military service, of whom 75 per cent are physically fit.
 An electrical process is being tried in Russia for the manufacture of gold leaf, heretofore made only by hand.
 Russia plans the longest railroad tunnel in the world—15 miles—to save an 815-mile detour.
 Extra seats carried over the running boards of a new automobile slide out of sight like drawers when not in use.
 When a man bristles he uses his muscular strength to draw in the air, and it is afterward forced out automatically. With insects, as a German investigator has just discovered, this process is just reversed.
 It is an insult in France to call any one "a melon."
 In India the lowest classes wear as shoes a flat block with a large knob, which slips between the first and second toes. They are so skilled in wearing these that they are able to keep them on and walk or run with great speed.
 Colorado Indians hold the ancient cliff dwellings in great reverence, saying that "the little people" inhabit them. The red men predict that these beings will destroy the government telephone lines now being built into Mesa Verde Park.

DECLARE DEATH TO AMERICANS

Slogan Adopted by Convention of Mexican Bandits.

REBEL CHIEFS ENTER PACT

The Agreement Was Entered Into By Representatives Of Villa, Zapata, Argumedo, Higinio Aguilar and Cedillo Brothers.

Washington.—Death to Americans in Mexico and destruction of their property, as well as war to a finish against Carranza, was determined upon, at a formal convention of Mexican revolutionary leaders held in November at a ranch near Cordoba. Present and joining in the agreement are said to have been representatives of Villa, Zapata, Argumedo, Higinio Aguilar, the Cedillo brothers and many lesser chieftains.

Meager reports of this gathering came to the State Department long ago, but they were not made public, and few people in Washington knew that there was a general conspiracy against Americans, or even that the various rebel factions in the field in Mexico had effected any kind of an agreement for concerted activities against the de facto government.

The recent massacre at Santa Ysabel, attributed to bandits led by Villa officers, is believed to have been perpetrated in accordance with the rebel convention order. Officials think the long period elapsed after the Cordoba meeting before the murders because of the time required by the various delegates to make reports to their commanders, and the fact that news of the convention's decision had to be carried to subordinate military commanders by courier. Cordoba is on the railroad between Vera Cruz and Mexico City, and some 1,000 miles from Santa Ysabel.

The Carranza authorities have been fully advised concerning the movements of the rebels, and have been depended upon by the Washington government to take every possible precaution to prevent the threats against Americans from being carried out. They are believed to have the situation fairly well in hand now, although the chiefs whose delegates met at Cordoba still are in the field, operating more or less openly.

Advices to the State Department from El Paso told of the reported capture near Chihuahua of 18 bandits alleged to have taken part in the Santa Ysabel murders. No confirmation of the report that Villa himself had been taken was received and officials of both the department and the Mexican Embassy abandoned hope that this was true.

WOULD MAKE DISTRICT "DRY."

Congressman From "Wet" District Favors Anti-Saloon Bill.

Washington.—Representative A. W. Barkley, from the "wet" Paducah district of Kentucky, startled his colleagues in Congress by proposing legislation to make the District of Columbia "dry."

He introduced a bill providing for the abolition of saloons at the nation's capital on and after November 1, 1916. The measure also prohibits the express companies from delivering intoxicants into the District. Druggists are permitted to sell alcohol for scientific, mechanical and medicinal purposes. The bill is similar to the measure favored by the Anti-Saloon interests.

POTATO SUPPLY DEPLETED.

Growers Hold Smaller Stocks Than In Two Previous Years.

Washington.—Unusually small stocks of potatoes remained in the hands of growers in the important producing States January 1, compared with unusually large stocks a year ago. Figures made public by the Department of Agriculture shows that January 1 stocks in 19 Northern States which produced 66 per cent of the crop, were 105,245,000 bushels; 35 per cent less than last year and 15 per cent less than two years ago.

POCKETKNIFE FAMINE NEAR.

Skilled Labor and Material Scarce, Say Manufacturers.

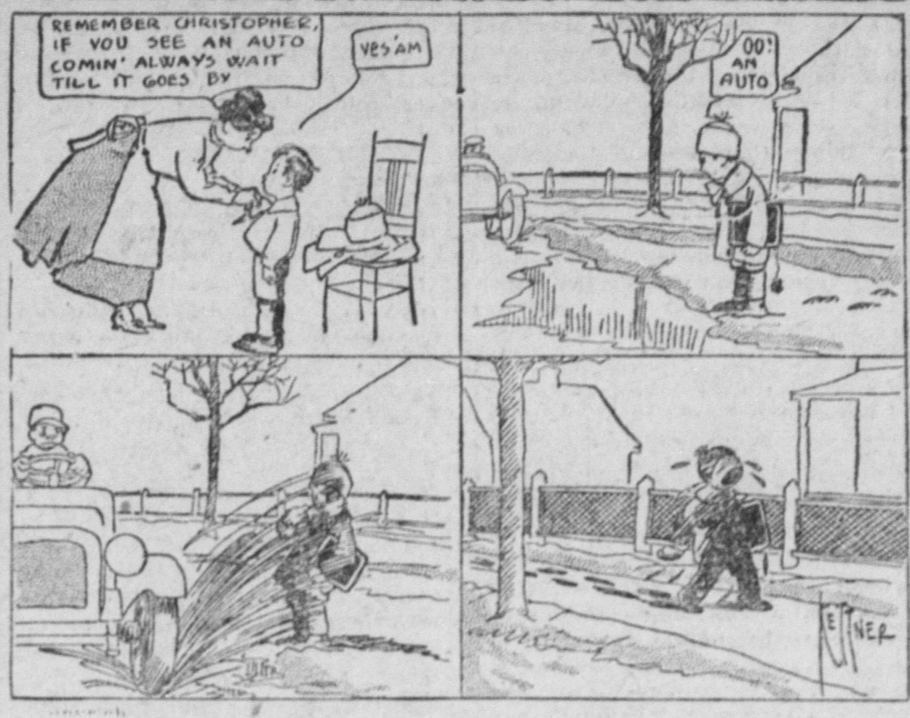
New York.—A pocketknife famine threatens the country. The American pocketknife manufacturers canvassed the situation at a session at the Hotel Biltmore here. It was revealed that skilled labor and material are scarce. The existing tariff law was roundly condemned. One cause of the scarcity of material was an order filed by a firm which supplies much of it for 100,000,000 dozen table knives for the British Army.

CONFEDERATE REUNION IN MAY.

United Veterans To Fraternize At Birmingham, Ala.

New Orleans.—The twenty-sixth annual reunion of the Union Confederate Veterans will be held in Birmingham, Ala., on May 14, 17 and 18 next. Official announcement of the dates was made here by William E. Mickle, adjutant-general of the veterans organization.

HE DID



MONTENEGRINS WILL FIGHT ON

Premier Announces Rejection of Peace Terms.

NICHOLAS WITH TROOPS

Is Determined To Fight To The Last. Message To Consul-General At London Declares—Government At Scutari.

Rome.—Fighting between Austria and Montenegro has been resumed. Montenegro notified Italy officially of this fact.

Montenegro's decision was communicated to the Italian Foreign Office from the Montenegrin Premier. The note is to the effect that King Nicholas and the Montenegrin Government have rejected all terms offered by Austria and that fighting already has been resumed along the whole front.

King Nicholas remains with his army to organize the defenses of the country.

Word Sent To London.

London.—Sir John Roper Parkinson, Consul-General in London for Montenegro, received official confirmation of the report that King Nicholas and his sons would remain at the head of their troops, determined to fight to the last. Queen Milena and two of her daughters, the dispatch adds, have reached Italy on their way to France.

A dispatch from San Giovanni di Medua, Albania, says that the Montenegrin Government has been installed at Scutari.

KAISER REPORTED AT NISH.

Met King Ferdinand Of Bulgaria and Exchanged Honors.

London.—A dispatch received by Reuter's Telegram Company says Emperor William was in Nish, Serbia, Wednesday. According to this information, which was forwarded from Nish by way of Berlin, the German Emperor met King Ferdinand of Bulgaria at Nish. "The monarchs greeted each other cordially," the dispatch says, "and then reviewed from the citadel a procession of Bulgarian, Macedonian and German troops." The Emperor presented to King Ferdinand a field marshal's baton and the King appointed the Emperor as honorary commander of a Bulgarian infantry regiment.

RICHMOND ASKS DEEP CHANNEL.

Delegation Urges Congress To Appropriately \$500,000.

Washington.—Richmond business men and manufacturers appeared before the House Committee on Rivers and Harbors and asked for an appropriation of \$500,000 to prosecute work on the proposed 22-foot channel in the James river from Richmond to the sea. Congress authorized a 22-foot channel 20 years ago.

19,600 WORKERS GET RAISE.

Voluntary Increases in Wages Run From 5 To 10 Per Cent.

New Bedford, Mass.—Fifteen thousand operatives are affected by a wage advance of 5 per cent, announced by cotton yarn mills in this city. The Hissett, Sharp, Holmes, New England and City Mill managements posted notices of the raise. The Monomet and Kilbura Mills recently announced an advance.

DANIELS INCREASES PAY.

Master Mechanics In Navy Yards To Get 5 Per Cent. More.

Washington.—Increases in pay, averaging 5 per cent, will be given master mechanics in the navy yards throughout the United States. Secretary Daniels said he had decided to grant the increases and would make them effective as soon as possible, probably within the next two weeks.

WIRELESS TO BIND THE UNITED STATES

Daniels Approves Contract For Three Big Stations.

TO REACH ALL POSSESSIONS

Plants At San Diego, Cavite and Pearl Harbor To Be Most Powerful Ever Erected—All Within a Year.

Washington.—One of the final steps toward linking the United States and its foreign possessions together by a great chain of wireless stations was taken when Secretary Daniels of the Navy approved a contract with the Federal Telegraph Company, of San Francisco, for the equipment of the big radio stations now under construction at San Diego, Cal., Cavite, P. I., and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Completion of these stations within the next year will pave the way for radio communication from Washington not only to the insular possessions, but to almost any point in the world where there may be a receiving plant.

Plans are being prepared by the Navy Department to increase the power of the existing equipment at Tutuila and Guam, so as to make them a part of the main world chain. The intermediate stations at Boston, New Orleans, Point Loma, Chicago and Guantamano already have been strengthened and are able to relay messages from ships at sea to Washington via the Arlington (Va.) towers.

Further advancement in radio development will be made this year at Charleston, S. C.; San Juan, Key West, Puget Sound, Cordova and Mare Island. The plants at these places will be strengthened and their radius of communications greatly extended. The new stations at Pearl Harbor and Cavite will be the most powerful in the world. They will be equipped with apparatus for exchanging messages over an area of approximately 4,700 miles, the greatest distance ever attempted by radio plants doing a regular business. Each will maintain direct communication with San Diego, the Canal Zone and the Arlington stations, and be able to sweep the Pacific Ocean from the Philippine Islands and to Alaska and the Canal Zone.

GOING BLIND, SHE KILLS SELF.

"God Will Not Be Angry," Wrote Mrs. Ranous.

New York.—Mrs. Dora Knowlton Ranous, writer and translator, killed herself with gas in a furnished room at 246 West One Hundred and Third street. She left a note to Dr. Rossiter Johnson, who had collaborated with her, saying: "God will not be angry with me. I have confessed everything to him. He knows how much I can bear, and must know I can bear no more. My eyes are failing me, and the blackest misery is ahead of me. There is no one to take care of me if my eyes and general health go."

GERMANS EVACUATING LUTSK.

Kiev Says Prisoners Arriving There Bring Information.

Kiev, Russia.—Lutsk, the important fortress in Volhynia, one of the triangle of fortifications there, is being evacuated by the Germans, according to information obtained from prisoners arriving here. Four thousand prisoners have recently arrived here from the southwestern front.

COL. HOUSE STILL IN LONDON.

Times' Report Of His Departure Erroneous.

London.—The Times' report that Col. E. M. House, President Wilson's personal representative, had gone to the Continent, is erroneous. Colonel House is still in London, conferring with Ambassador Page and meeting prominent officials. He will go to Paris within a week.

BRITAIN GOING SLOW ON BLOCKADE

Discussion in Parliament Expected Soon.

SMARTING UNDER CRITICISM

Protests Being Ignored Until Trade Of All Kinds With Germany Is Cut Off—Not Sounding U. S. Public.

London.—The American Embassy has not sent any notification to the State Department that Great Britain intends to change the situation created by the order-in-council into an actual blockade. Some time ago the embassy notified the State Department by letter that there was a great deal of discussion in the British press and among the unofficial public concerning the possibility of a change in the blockade policy of the government. British official circles, however, declare that no change will be made until the subject is freely debated in the House of Commons. A debate of this character is expected soon.

It seems evident that the foreign office is weary of the criticism that its policy has been subjected to, and that it will be quite willing to have the subject freely ventilated in Parliament, but it is not regarded as likely that it will grant the demands of the extremists that the entire control of the blockade of the Central Powers be surrendered to the admiralty.

The British answer to the latest American note on shipping is virtually ready to be dispatched to Washington, and it is expected it will be sent as soon as the note has been submitted to the French government for its approval.

May Disregard U. S. Rights.

Washington.—High administration officials said that Great Britain has answered the protests of this government against interference with our commerce by her announcement of plans to extend her blockade. It was stated on authority that intimations have reached the State Department from private sources abroad that Great Britain will disregard all the protests of this government. The British Foreign Office is declared to be making its plans to tighten the blockade of Germany without regard to the rights of the United States. The protests already made by this government and the reports reaching London of the preparation in Washington of a vigorous note on the contraband question are being ignored, until Great Britain has completed all of her plans for shutting off trade of all kinds with Germany. It was stated that when all her blockade plans are complete Great Britain will answer the United States, rejecting its claims.

Officials predicted that Great Britain's reply to the contraband note and the previous American protests will provoke an exchange of acrimonious notes. It is understood that Great Britain's position will be that she is judge of the ultimate destination of cargoes and therefore she has a right to seize ships bound for neutral ports and confiscate the cargoes if she thinks they are intended ultimately for the enemy.

Challenge By U. S. Expected.

State Department officials intimate that this government will take such a position to be in denial of the principle of freedom of the seas. In its notes to Germany over the submarine question, this government declared flatly that it stood as a champion of all neutral nations for freedom of the seas. This, it was pointed out, would make it necessary for the United States to challenge Great Britain's position sharply and finally.

NOT SUNK BY GERMANS.

Berlin Finds None Of Its Submarines Attacked Persian.

Washington.—Secretary Lansing announced that the Berlin Foreign Office had informed Ambassador Gerard that all German submarines in the Mediterranean have reported and that none was concerned in the destruction of the British liner Persia.

RUSSIANS ATTACKING AGAIN.

Vienna Reports New Offensive Near Czernowitz.

Berlin.—A new offensive movement has been inaugurated by the Russians to the east of Czernowitz, near the Bessarabian frontier. The official Austrian statement says the Russians made four successive attacks at several places, but were repulsed.

WASHINGTON.

A committee of the American Bankers' Association has proposed a plan to return the outstanding 346,000,000 greenbacks.

A committee of the Association of Military Schools asked the House Committee to give them better training facilities.

Major Generals Scott and Bliss, before the Senate Military Committee, endorsed the War Department's preparedness plan.

START CAMPAIGN FOR BETTER ARMY

Security League for Universal Military Service.

GARRISON PLAN FIRST STEP

Resolutions Urge Universal Service, Increase in Army and Navy and Mobilization Of Industries.

Washington.—The three-day session of the National Security Congress, the most representative gathering of preparedness advocates which has yet assembled in this country, was concluded with a dinner here, which was addressed by Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts; former Attorney-General Wickersham and former Assistant Attorney-General Beck.

Two important sessions of the congress were held Saturday. Judge Henry Stockbridge, of Maryland, presided at the morning session, and Franklin Q. Brown, of New York, presided in the afternoon. Judge Stockbridge delivered no address to the congress, but presented his views in a general way in introducing the speakers.

It was found necessary to further enlighten the people upon the question of preparedness and to then rely upon the pressure of public opinion to secure action by the House and Senate. Otherwise, it is feared, even the Administration's plans will, to a large degree, be defeated. These plans do not proceed as far as the security congress would like, but they are regarded as being far better than anything the national legislators now propose.

An indorsement of Secretary Garrison's efforts toward enlargement of the nation's military forces was voted by the National Security League, with the reservations that the regular mobile army should be even greater than that contemplated in the War Department plan, and that adequate national defense would depend ultimately upon "universal obligatory military training and service."

A set of resolutions, drafted by a committee of which Luke E. Wright, former Secretary of War, was chairman, were adopted almost unanimously. In part they follow:

"Be it resolved, That the defense of the United States depends upon an adequate navy and a national army founded upon a system of universal obligatory military training and service. This system must be wholly under the discipline and control of the national authorities. We depreciate all steps which tend to obstruct or postpone the adoption of such a universal system.

Goes Further Than War Office.

"That the National Security League indorses the efforts of Secretary Garrison to obtain an increase in the regular army, the correction of our faulty enlistment law, the establishment of an adequate regular army reserve and the accumulation of an adequate supply of ammunition, artillery and material, but we believe that in addition to the proposed quota of coast artillery and auxiliary troops the mobile regular army within the United States should comprise at least four complete infantry divisions as recommended by the War College report of 1915.

"That the National Security League recommends the authorization by Congress of a council of national defense for the purpose of securing more harmonious co-operation between the executive and legislative branches of the Government with respect to the national defenses.

"That the National Security League recommends the establishment of a navy adequate to conserve the national interests in conformity with the following recommendations:

"That the personnel of the navy be increased in conformity with the requirements of the fleet as interpreted in the General Board of the Navy; that there shall be established for the navy a general staff, similar to the general staff of the army, as is customary in all other navies of the world, and that the National Security League indorses the program of July 30, 1915, of the General Board of the Navy, and urges its immediate adoption by Congress.

"That a fundamental factor in the problems of preparedness should be such intensive mobilization of the productive, industrial and commercial forces of the United States as would insure in time of war the contribution of their fullest resources at a restricted profit, to be regulated by the Government."

War News in Brief

The British forces in Mesopotamia going to the relief of Kut-el-Amara are being hampered by bad weather, but nevertheless fierce fighting, with varying success continues with the Turks. Heavy fighting has been in progress on the road between Arras and Lens being attacked by strong German forces. The infantry attack was preceded by mine explosions and a violent bombardment, and the Germans captured a first line trench on a front of several hundred yards.