

MERGING OF THE AMERICAN ARMY

Brigaded With the British and French Forces.

FED INTO THE WAR MACHINE

The United States Government is Ready To Place All The Man-power Available At The Immediate Disposal Of Allies.

Washington.—The announcement from London that American Army units are to be brigaded with British and French organizations was interpreted by army officers today as indicating that the United States government is ready to thrust aside all questions of national pride in placing American man power at the immediate disposal of the Allies.

The plan was decided on at conferences between Secretary Baker and Generals Bliss and Pershing and British and French officials.

Details of the methods to be followed are not available and presumably will be arranged by General Pershing. There was every indication, however, that American troops now in training here are to be rushed across regardless of their proficiency.

The British statement carefully notes that the national aspect of General Pershing's army is not to be impaired. The building up of that purely American war machine will proceed as rapidly as possible. To supplement that effort, however, other American units will be fed to the front through the French and British lines to meet the present emergency.

"Arrangements for the transportation of these additional forces," the British statement said, "are now being completed."

This was regarded here as an indication that the full extent of British troop ships shortly is to be devoted to taking forward American units and insures, it is said, the early delivery in Europe of at least double the American man-power that could have been forwarded in the same time otherwise.

It was noted that the statement pointed out that the American forces merged with the British and French are to be withdrawn when their training is completed and "General Pershing wishes to withdraw them to build up the American Army." To many officers here, however, the picture presented after active operations is one of French-American and British-American units of the French and British armies in which the individual soldiers will be so inter-mixed that it will be impossible to withdraw them without disintegrating the divisions or brigades.

Whatever efforts may be made to keep a purely American unit in a veteran division of one of the other armies, officers say the exigencies of conflict and the problem of replacing losses will lead to the creation ultimately of composite battalions rather than divisions, composed of French and American or British and American units. A complete merging of the men is as certain, it is believed, as is the complete merging of regular Army, National Army and national guard units in the American Army.

There is no practical way to avoid it, officers say, without impairing the efficiency of the entire force.

There are many officers who believe this to be the only practical solution of the transportation and supply problems, if American military power is to be made immediately available to repel the German onslaught.

Lord Reading, the British ambassador, sent to President Wilson a message of thanks on behalf of the British government for "the instant and comprehensive measures" which the President took in response to the request that American troops be used to reinforce the allied armies in France.

DISTILLERY IN KITCHEN.

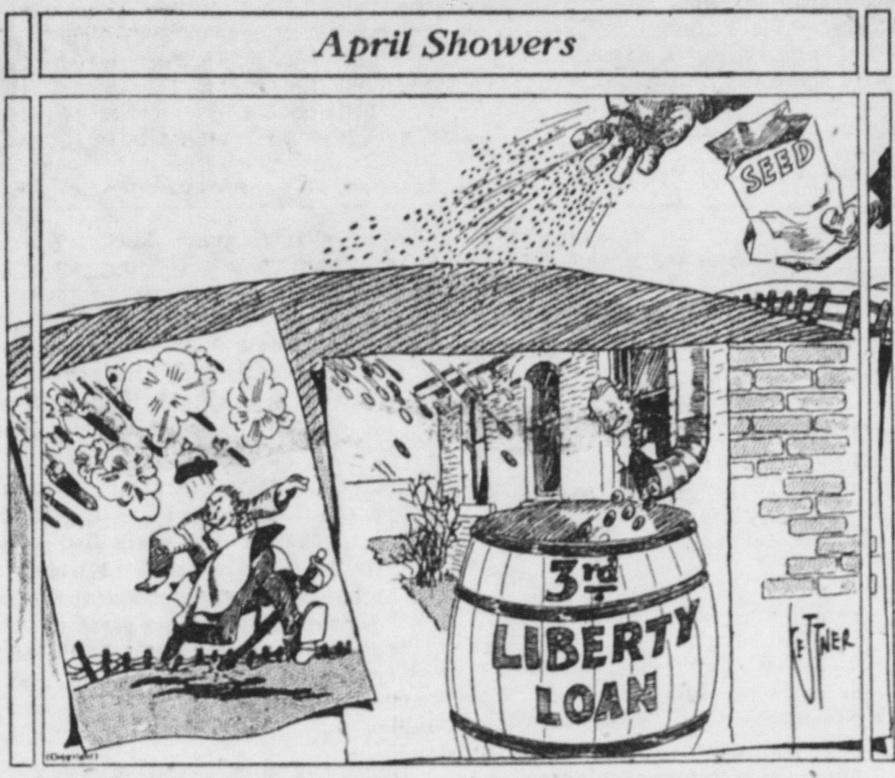
West Virginian Had 36-Gallon Still In Operation.

Princeton, W. Va.—H. G. Jones, of Matoaka, is in jail here following a raid on his home, where a whiskey distillery was found in operation on a large scale. A 36-gallon still, together with worm and the odd ends of copper from which he is alleged to have made his outfit, together with a quantity of corn liquor, the finished product, were confiscated. The outfit was rigged up in the kitchen, where a false floor had been built. Jones refused to give the officers permission to enter and it was necessary to knock him down before they could go inside.

ANOTHER LOAN TO ENGLAND.

Total Credits To Allies Not Over Five Billions.

Washington.—Credits to the Allies in the last year were raised to more than \$5,000,000,000 by a loan of \$200,000,000 to Great Britain. That nation's total credits from the United States now are \$2,720,000,000, and all the Allies, \$5,160,000,000.



DRASTIC PENALTY FOR DISLOYALTY

Measure Agreed Upon By Senate Committee.

WILL CURB RABID TONGUES

Bill Provides Imprisonment For Twenty Years and Ten-Thousand-Dollar Fine for All Who by Word or Act Support German Cause.

Washington.—In favorably reporting a bill to impose drastic penalties on disloyal acts, the Senate Judiciary Committee adopted an amendment by Senator Poindexter, of Washington, prescribing imprisonment for 20 years and \$10,000 fine for whoever shall by word or act support or favor the cause of the German Empire or its allies in the present war or by word or act oppose the cause of the United States therein.

The committee also approved the same penalties for persons obstructing government war bond issues and for wilfully "attempting" as well as actual attempts, to obstruct recruiting or enlistment in the Army.

The Poindexter amendment would make it unlawful "for any person or persons in the presence or hearing of others to utter any disloyal, threatening, profane, violent, scurrilous, contemptuous, slurring, abusive or seditious language about the government of the United States or the Constitution of the United States, or the President of the United States, or the flag of the United States, or the uniform of the Army or Navy of the United States, or the good and welfare of the United States, or any other language calculated to bring the United States or the United States government or the President of the United States, or the Constitution of the United States, or the Army or Navy or soldiers or sailors of the United States, or the flag of the United States, or the good and welfare of the United States into contempt, scorn, contumely, or disrepute; or any language calculated to incite or inflame resistance to any duly constituted federal or state authority in connection with the prosecution of war; or to threaten the good or welfare of the United States or the United States government; or to advise, urge or incite any curtailment of production in this country of anything or things, product or products necessary or essential to the prosecution of the war in which the United States may be engaged, with intent by such curtailment to cripple or hinder the United States in the prosecution of such war."

Other amendments written into the bill by the committee, with the same drastic penalties provided, prohibit disloyal or abusive utterances or writings, display of enemy flags or any acts tending to curtail production of essential war products or "to advocate, teach, favor or defend" such acts.

Senator Jones, of New Mexico, introduced a resolution calling for the dismissal of any government employe who performs any disloyal act, utters any seditious language against the President or speaks disrespectfully of the flag.

Transmission by mail or otherwise of any matter published in the language of any nation with which the United States is at war, would be prohibited after July 1, subject to penalties of five years imprisonment and \$5,000 fines, under an amendment introduced today by Senator King, of Utah, to his bill proposing repeal of the federal charter of the National German-American Alliance.

WASHINGTON.

Vice Admiral William Lowther Grant, commander-in-chief of the British forces on the West Indian station, has taken up his headquarters in Washington as liaison officer of the British Embassy.

GERMAN LOSS PUT AT 300,000 MEN

Sending Most of Their Wounded to Belgium.

THE COUNTER OFFENSIVE

Teutonic Forces Make Desperate Attempts To Reach The Paris-Amiens Railroad—Both Sides Claim Successes.

Washington.—A French official estimate of the German losses in the great battle on the western front puts their total casualties at between 275,000 and 300,000 men. The Germans are sending most of their wounded to Belgium, it is declared, to conceal from the German people their heavy sacrifices.

It has been possible to identify, the dispatch says, nearly 100 German divisions, more than 10 of which were twice engaged. Some of the divisions, it is declared, had to be relieved at the end of the first day after losing more than half their men.

The dispatch follows: "After an 11-day offensive, during which the Germans have recklessly pushed forward their attacking waves, one may gather a fairly accurate estimate of their losses.

"In the first place, it has been possible to identify nearly 100 of their divisions since the beginning of the offensive, more than 10 of which were twice engaged. Some divisions had to be relieved at the end of the first day, having lost more than half of their men; such was the case of the 45th and the 88th. The latter has been nearly entirely wiped out. Among those that have suffered the most are the 5th, 12th and 107th divisions as well as the 2d (Prussian Guard), the 15th, the 21st and the 26th divisions of reserves.

"In the second place, an enormous number of corpses were found on the battleground, and the prisoners on being questioned acknowledged the extent of the losses of their respective units.

"It is not an exaggeration to estimate the total of their losses at between 275,000 to 300,000 men."

Both Sides Are Digging In.

Washington.—Both sides are "digging in" between Montdidier and Noyon, General Pershing reported to the War Department.

The report from General Pershing reads:

"Summary of the battle along the British and French front:

"No new attacks launched by the Germans north of the Somme. South of the Somme and on the front from Marcelcave to Montdidier the Germans made heavy attacks. Between Montdidier and Noyon both sides digging in. The battleline on the evening of March 31 was as follows: "Hamel, Marcelcave, Aubercourt, Hamard, Demuin, Moreuil, Mally, Ranval, Souvillers, Gravignes, Caugny, Fontaine Mesnil, Lamonceell, Ayencourt, Rollet, Orvillers, Biermont, Roye, Fleasier, Passel and along the Oise, Barisis."

Germans Aiming At Paris-Amiens Rd.

While the advance of the German armies in Picardy has come almost to a halt, there has been savage fighting on the extreme western edge of the battle zone. Encounters in which large forces have been engaged have occurred north of Moreuil, but these seem to be no decided advantage gained by the Teutonic invaders. They claim to have taken heights and to have carried wood in advance of their line near Moreuil, but the British say that they have driven back the enemy from positions they have occupied elsewhere in this sector.

The French lines farther north have stood firm against savage assaults, especially in the region of Montdidier and eastward of that place, along the part of the line which was subjected to a terrific strain for two days late last week.

AMERICANS ON BATTLE FRONT

France Accepts General Pershing's Offer.

ON PLAINS OF PICARDY

Khaki-clad Americans Singing, March Through Driving Rain And Wade Through Deep Mud, In Order To Get Into Position For Great Battle.

American Army in France.—All the American troops have been turned over to the Allies for such use as they see fit to make of them. American troops may soon be fighting side by side with their British and French allies in the battle which is raging in Northern France.

It is enough to say that gerat activity of many sorts is in progress in the entire American zone. Miles of motor trucks loaded with ammunition have passed through the towns, some going in one direction, some in another. Through a driving rain the motor trucks plowed their way along muddy roads, the Americans singing. Many of the trucks had American flags fastened to their tailboards.

On other roads mile after mile of marching Americans splashed through the mud, which came over their ankles. The horses were steaming from the work they had to do. All the men are working as hard as possible, with the realization that they are to be of service in the common cause and used in the present conflict.

Every man is thrilled to the core by General Pershing's offer.

They show the results of their training in their whole conduct, even in the salute when staff cars passed. The training is now over. The beginning of the real thing is at hand. The troops are glad to get into action, particularly in this crucial period.

News reaching here is to the effect that the French and British have definitely stopped the enemy. This is indicated even by the communique from Berlin.

The news was received with the intensest joy by the Americans, who now feel sure that they will be in the thick of it when the tables are turned on the foe.

Baker Approves Action.

Secretary of War Baker gave newspapermen, calling on him at General Pershing's residence, the following statement:

"I am delighted over the prompt and effective action taken by General Pershing in placing all American troops at the disposal of the Allies. In the present situation, his action will meet hearty approval in the United States, where the people desire the Expeditionary Force to be of the utmost service to the common cause.

"I visited practically all the American troops in France, some of them quite recently, and had an opportunity to see the enthusiasm with which officers and men received the announcement that they may be used in the present conflict. The regiments broke spontaneously into cheer when they were appraised of it."

Secretary Baker said he did not see the American railway engineer on the British front.

May Be Open Warfare.

The news that the German drive has been definitely stopped, which even the Berlin communique practically admits, was received with the greatest enthusiasm by the American troops, who had become somewhat pessimistic temporarily.

Everywhere it is realized that time means much more to the Allies than it does to the enemy. If worst comes to worst, many Americans otherwise regarded as unfit for the trenches because of lack of lengthy training could be thrown into the struggle, especially if the war became a campaign of movement instead of the old stationary tactics of entrenched positions.

In open war the training in trench warfare would not count so heavily and the troops of lesser training might be thrown in line.

AMERICAN WOMEN KILLED.

Wife And Daughter Of E. H. Landon Victims Of Hun Shells.

Paris.—The eighth long-range bombardment of Paris begun when a projectile exploded in the region of the city. The bombardment resulted in the wounding of two women. Further identifications show that three members of the Landon family, of New York, who had been residing in Paris, were killed Good Friday when a shell from the long-range German gun struck a church.

PRIMATE VISITS WILSON.

Archbishop Of York Received At White House.

Washington.—The Most Rev. Cosmo Gordon Lankester, archbishop of York and primate of England, called on President Wilson Monday.

CZERNIN MAKES PEACE TALK

Washington Believes Move Was Conceived in Berlin.

NO FAITH IN STATEMENT

American And Allied Diplomats Declare No Teutonic Peace Suggestions Will Be Considered Until Germany Is Whipped.

Washington.—American Government officials and the Entente embassies saw another Teutonic peace offensive in the reports of a speech of Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, declaring that recently negotiations were near between the Austrian and the Allied governments.

The move, evidently conceived in Germany, they said, was made just as it became certain that the German drive in the west had failed of its purpose and was intended to bring discord among the Allied powers and to cause discontent among their populations.

The Foreign Minister's statement that Premier Clemenceau, of France, had advanced a suggestion of peace discussions and his reference to Alsace-Lorraine as a stumbling block, it was declared here, were designed to create the belief that the Allies desire to recover Alsace-Lorraine for France is the only thing that stands in the way of peace.

Officials and members of the diplomatic corps were unanimous in their declaration that Czernin's statements had no basis of fact and further that no peace suggestions coming from the Teutonic powers would be given consideration at this time. There was no disagreement in the conviction that Germany must be defeated by force of arms before the question of peace is taken up in any way.

Some believe that Czernin's speech is a forerunner of some declaration by the German government on the subject.

At the State Department it was made clear that officials of this Government do not believe the present great engagement in Europe will result in any weakening either at the capitals or among the people of the nations at war against Germany.

"Lie," Says Clemenceau.

Paris.—"Czernin lied!" This is all Premier Clemenceau had to say when told of the statement of Count Czernin that he had inquired through an intermediary whether Austro-Hungary was ready to negotiate and if so on what basis.

NEW CENSORSHIP RELATIONS.

Four Basic Principles That Must Be Met By Every Article.

American Army in France.—The following are the most important provisions of the new censorship regulations which just became effective:

"It is the policy that all information not helpful to the enemy may be given the public. The basic principle requires that all articles must meet the four conditions:

"First—They must be accurate in statement and implication.

"Second—They must not supply military information to the enemy.

"Third—They must not injure the morale of our forces here or at home, or among our Allies.

"Fourth—They must not embarrass the United States or her Allies in neutral countries.

"The foregoing conditions apply to every article written.

TO FURLOUGH THE FARMERS.

Soldiers May Apply For Leave For Agricultural Work.

Washington.—An outline of the procedure by which soldiers may be furloughed for work on farms was made public by the War Department.

Applications may be made by the soldiers themselves, their relatives or by farmers desiring their service. When application is made by farmers it is provided that the men must be willing to accept the furloughs and that the traveling time from their post to the places of labor will not exceed 24 hours. Farmers are advised to make formal application through the office of the Provost-Marshal-General.

DISLOYALTY DOESN'T PAY.

This Year's Tar-And-Feather Crop Sufficient For The Needs.

Sulphur, Okla.—Because the Rev. A. J. Capers, 72 years old, is alleged to have declared he would never have his hair cut until Germany emerged victorious from the war, 60 young men awaiting draft call, invaded Capers' room in a hotel here, while he was asleep, and shaved his head. His iron-gray locks were distributed as trophies of war. The minister was forced to kiss the flag, pledge allegiance to the United States, promise not to speak seditiously and was shown the shortest route out of town.

PENNSYLVANIA BRIEFS

Motor truck service between Hazleton, Berwick, Mahanoy City, Mauch Chunk, Wilkes-Barre and other adjacent towns is to be established as a war measure.

The Chiman Knitting Mills, operating hosiery factories in Easton, West Easton and Bethlehem, announced an increase of 10 per cent in the wages of 900 employees.

A campaign has been started to increase to 1000 the membership of the Mauch Chunk Moose lodge, which now has 600 members.

Machinery is being installed in Easton's experimental sewage disposal plant and it is expected that the system will be tested out within a month.

George, five-year-old son of Frank Bitner, of Morgan's Hill, was burned to death in a haystack while playing with matches. His little companion, Charles Arthur, escaped with burns on the head.

Wormleysburg closed its high school when S. H. Hetrick quit to take a place in Steelton.

John Zuber, nineteen years old, was crushed to death between mine cars at the Shenandoah City colliery.

The Lemoine school board elected Miss Edith Mumma, of Mechanicburg, principal of the borough schools.

Charles Grenavitz died at the Miners' hospital at Fountain Springs from injuries received under a fall of coal.

More than 2000 persons witnessed the raising of a sixty-one-star service flag at St. Joseph's Catholic church, Danville.

From injuries suffered in a fall six weeks ago, Mrs. Hannah J. Stapleton, seventy years old, died at Shamokin Dam.

Scranton's newest financial institution, the American Bank of Commerce, opened for business with local depositors on the first day.

Rev. Max Wiant, pastor of the North Main Avenue Baptist church, Scranton, accepted a call to the First Baptist church, of Reading.

One hundred and thirty Cumberland county women will form a main committee to aid in various ways in pushing the third Liberty loan.

The Hazleton Y. M. C. A. began the enrollment of boys for war service in accordance with the proclamation of President Wilson and Governor Brumbaugh.

The supervisors of Lehigh township Carbon county, have applied to the county commissioners for financial aid in placing their roads in better condition.

When Allen Kuhns, of Zionsville, went away and did not have his pigs and poultry fed for four days, he was fined \$10 and costs.

After being idle nearly four months, the plant of the National Rubber company, Pottstown, resumed with a force of sixty men.

A \$1500 tabernacle will be erected at Mauch Chunk for the Johnson evangelistic campaign which will open there on April 5.

The Easton public library has sent 1200 books to soldiers in camp and through public school children is collecting 3000 more.

Twelve hundred dog licenses have been issued in Lancaster county.

Lancaster county cows have an average milk producing value of \$25 to \$30 a month.

Blair County Food Administrator Reighard has received flour reports from more than 25,000 families, and ninety students of the Altoona high school are tabulating them.

War on the fly has already been started by the Perkasio board of trade offering prizes for swatters the coming season.

Neither late nor absent from Bible class for 1300 consecutive Sundays, covering twenty-five years, is the record of George R. Curtis, of Joyport.

Harrisburg health officers in one night rounded up and vaccinated 200 persons in a district where a new case of smallpox was reported.

Climbing over the tank of a locomotive in motion, at Summit, Jesse E. Wertz, nineteen years old, fell under the wheels, and with both legs cut off he is reported dying.

The youngest American soldier preparing to fight against the Kaiser is believed to be William Brenner, of Marietta, who is barely sixteen, and has been in service a year.

Seven months was required for a post card from a Russian war prison camp to reach Phoenixville, coming from John Schabovik, who left there in 1914 and joined the Austrian army.

Edward McElroy, Marietta, and William Swan, now in the Virginia Soldiers' Home, are the last survivors of a prisoners of war organization, formed in Marietta just after the civil war by a score or more men who had been confined in Libby, Danville or Salisbury prisons.

Chief of Police Stoltz, of Freeland, will ask council to revive the long-defunct curfew ordinance.

Eleven hundred pounds of meat weekly are saved by one meatless day at Danville insane hospital, which has 2200 inmates.

The unprecedented heavy frosts have left the majority of roads in Lancaster county in a deplorable condition.

Caught between ash dumpers, Anthony Vincine, of Mount Carmel, conductor on a mine locomotive, died within four hours.

A telegram received by relatives announced the drowning of James Boyd, of Ashland, in Los Angeles, but no details were given.