

GENERALS APPROVE ARMY COURT LAW

Wood and Scott Oppose Taking Authority From the Reviewing Officials

RUSSIAN DEBACLE CITED

Washington, April 17.—Two major generals of the regular army, Leonard Wood and Hugh L. Scott (retired), formerly chiefs of the general staff and each of whom trained and commanded divisions during the war, and John L. Chamberlain, inspector general, opposed yesterday before the American Bar Association committee inquiring into the subject of military justice any plan of taking from the President and the commanding generals the control they now exercise over courts-martial. The present controversy as to war-time sentences began with the proposal of Lieutenant Colonel Samuel T. Ansell, then acting judge advocate general, to propose in the judge advocate general final jurisdiction of these cases.

The officers heard yesterday by the committee were in agreement that the proposed change would impair the disciplinary system, although all of them saw defects in existing laws or regulations which should be remedied. To meet complaints as to excessive sentences the officers were of the opinion the President should be authorized by law to fix maximum penalties in war times as well as in peace.

"But whatever is done," General Wood declared, "don't give us any possibility of a Harry Thaw case in the army. Give us a simple, direct process. We don't want the haggling over technicalities of civil court cases."

General Chamberlain shared this view as opposed to the suggestion that the military legal system should be put entirely under army military authorities. He opposed the suggestion that it be made mandatory that trained legal officers preside over courts.

General Scott was positive in his assertion that removal of discipline was an essential function of command. "The weakening of discipline in the Russian army," said General Scott, who was a member of the Red mission to Russia, "destroyed Russia."

The proceedings were continued yesterday by voluntary appearance of E. M. Duncan, of Maryland, who served during the war as a major in the engineering corps on construction duty at Fort Leavenworth, Camp Humphreys and Camp Lee. He said he had "sat on probably 1000 courts-martial, and vigorously attacked the attitude of officers as 'not human' in dealing with disciplinary matters. Part of this was due, he said, to the feeling that 'the old man,' the post or division commander, insisted upon severe penalties. At least 40 per cent of the sentences imposed by courts of which he was a member he characterized as 'unjust.'"

MAYO'S FLEET'S HEAD

Daniels Names Him to Command if Squadrons Are Combined

Washington, April 17.—Admiral Henry T. Mayo, commander of the Atlantic fleet during the war, has been designated by Secretary Daniels as commander-in-chief of the "United States fleet."

This order, which it developed yesterday, was issued some weeks ago, does not affect present disposition of the nation's naval forces, and Admiral Mayo would be in supreme command only in the event that the three separate fleets—the Atlantic, the Pacific and the Asiatic—were brought together.

CAPT. BUGGY RECOVERING

Philadelphia Athlete Was Wounded in Action Last October

Word has just been received from Paris that Captain Frank R. Buggy, machine gun company of the 106th Infantry, who was wounded in both hips late in October, is recovering in Cross Hospital No. 2. The date of his return is uncertain.

Captain Buggy is a Philadelphia athlete. He ran in track events for the Central High School and was a member of the Vixen Club.

139 PER THOUSAND FELL

War Department Reveals Percentage of Fatalities in Army Units

Washington, April 17.—Of the 46,846 battle deaths reported by General Pershing to the War Department, the infantry branch of the American expeditionary force suffered 41,420. A total of 1090 commissioned officers and 89,721 men were killed in action or died from wounds, demonstrating conclusively that the American infantrymen bore the brunt of the war for the A. E. F.

The deaths among infantry officers were in the ratio of 173 per thousand, and deaths among the men 139.7 per 1000.

The air service lost 235, of whom 180 were officers. In the engineer branch there were 1290 deaths, including sixty officers. The artillery branch lost 1915, of whom ninety-eight were officers.

Of the medical personnel, 698 were killed or died of wounds, including sixty-eight officers. Signal corps deaths aggregate 393, nine of whom were officers. In the tank corps there were seventy-two battle deaths, including ten officers. Ordnance lost three officers and sixty-four men; the quartermaster corps five officers and 229 men; cavalry two officers and fifty men; three deaths included twenty-nine officers and 604 men, making a general total of 2164 officers and 44,682 men.

Temperance Beer for Toledo

Toledo, O., April 17.—Announcement was made yesterday by the management of the Hubner-Toledo Brewery Company, one of the largest concerns of the kind in Ohio, will devote its \$3,000,000 plant here to the manufacture of temperance beer and will continue to operate its 175 saloons as social centers.

BELGIUM WILL NOT PROSECUTE KAISER

Believe Allies Should Join in Action Against War Lords as Common Criminals

SEE NO COMPETENT COURT

By the Associated Press. Paris, April 17.—The Belgian delegation to the Peace Conference has informed the correspondent that Belgium had not been officially requested by the council of four to bring the former German emperor to trial, and that the Belgian government would feel obliged to decline to take the step even if there were any request for such action.

The Belgian delegates hold that any action should be taken by a commission representing all the associated powers. The official Belgian view, it was said, is that the former emperor can not be arraigned for declaring war or violating the neutrality of Belgium, or for any act preceding or coincident with the declaration of war.

After pointing out that there is no tribunal competent to hear such charges against the former emperor and no provision of international law covering such cases, the delegates said that Belgium expects that persons guilty of acts punishable under the criminal codes of any of the belligerent powers should be placed on trial, as theft, murder and other crimes committed during war do not relieve the criminals of responsibility.

"If the commission desires to arraign General Baron von Manteuffel for the sack of Louvain, General von Schroeder for the murder of Captain Fryatt and General von Sauberzweig for the execution of Miss Edith Cavell, all the necessary documents will be forthcoming," said the general secretary of the delegation. "But Belgium does not seek revenge. It wants only justice. It would be small satisfaction to lock up the Kaiser for a few months in the Saint Gille prison, and those who have reported that such revenge has been offered Belgium as a solace for her wrongs have sadly misunderstood the Belgian character if they thought it would be acceptable.

"The only case in which the personal responsibility of the ex-emperor for a criminal act committed in Belgium could be established beyond doubt is in the atrocities attending the deportations of civilians and compelling them to do forced labor in Germany. In this case his responsibility is unquestioned."

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RANTZAU OPPOSES PLOTS

Deprecates Any German Attempt to Split Allied Nations
Copenhagen, April 17.—(By A. P.)—Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, the German foreign minister, quoted by the correspondent of the Vienna Neue Freie Presse, deprecates any attempt "to take advantage of dissensions between the

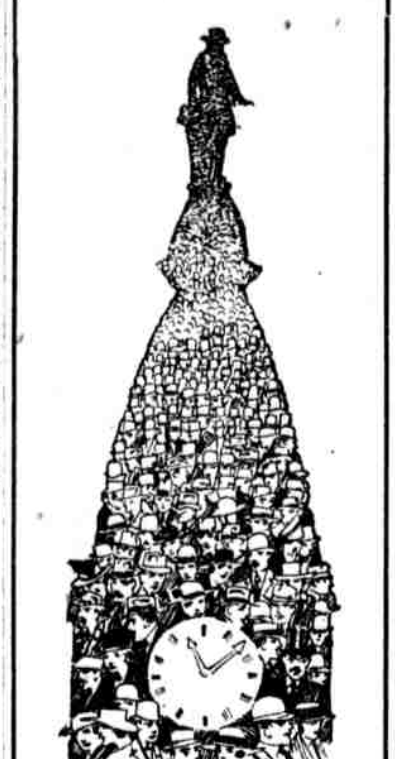
Entente powers and play off one against another." He declares that such "would be a foolish undertaking," adding: "I think it more dignified for the peace delegates of a nation of 70,000,000 frankly and honestly to endeavor to convince the Entente of the justice of all we are striving for than, by petty intrigues, to fill the political atmosphere again with explosive material. There

are so many common interests among all taking part in the peace negotiations that, with a certain amount of goodwill, there remains a basis for an honorable understanding."

Mt. Holly Water Rate Stays
Trenton, April 17.—The Public Utility Commission has denied an applica-

tion of the Mt. Holly Water Company, of Mt. Holly, to increase its rates on the ground that existing rates have been too low to enable the company to pay dividends in recent years, and that the operating expenses and taxes and the consumption of water have increased in much greater proportion than the increase in revenue of the company.

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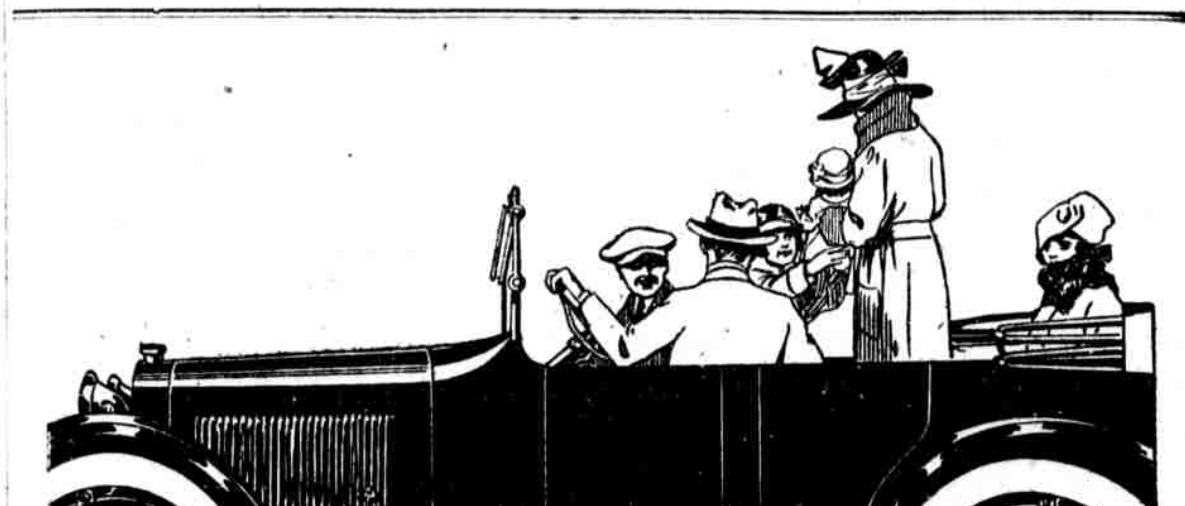
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