



AMERICA PREPARED TO STRIKE BLOW FOR WORLD'S FREEDOM

U. S. PREPARED TO MEET THE HUN ON FIELD OF BATTLE

Arms of Most Effective Kind Supplied Men in France, Secretary Baker Tells Senate War Investigating Committee; Great Program For Production of New Devices of Warfare; Almost Two Million Men Under Arms; Equipment For All; Credit For Accomplishments Due Every Loyal Citizen, War Head Says

Washington, Jan. 10.—America now has in France an army of "substantial" size ready for active service, Secretary Baker to-day told the Senate War Investigating Committee.

Conceding delays and errors of judgment in so vast an undertaking, Secretary Baker epitomized his reply in these words:

"No army of similar size in the history of the world has ever been raised, equipped or trained so quickly. No such provision has ever been made for the comfort, health and general well-being of an army."

Officers and men, he explained in a statement of the mobilization accomplishments, have been trained specially for modern warfare, independent lines of communication and supply are in process of construction and great programs have been formulated for the production of new instruments of war.

Arms of the most modern and effective kind, the secretary declared, have been provided for every soldier in France and are available for every fighting man who can be sent to France in 1918.

An army of nearly a million and a half men, enlisted and selected without serious dislocation of the nation's industries, is now in the field or in training at home and abroad, he asserted. The subsistence of the Army, he continued, has been above criticism, while its initial clothing supply, temporarily inadequate, is now substantially complete.

States Department's Problems

"I state the foregoing conditions of the War Department's problem and some of the results attained, for two purposes," he said. "In the first place the American people are entitled to know of the splendid effectiveness with which they have been able to organize the man power and the material power of the nation in a great cause, and second, our army in France, under General Pershing and our allies are entitled to have the benefit resulting from the depression of the morale of their enemies which must come when the Germans realize that the American democracy has neither blundered nor hesitated, but actually brought the full power of its men and resources into completely organized strength against their military machine."

Nation Now Organized

"By the co-operation of all interests and all people of the country the nation is now organized and set to its task with unanimity of spirit and confidence in its powers. More has been done than anybody dared to believe possible. That there have been here and there errors of judgment and delays goes without saying; but I should be wanting in frankness were I to omit my own estimate of the estimate of the real unselfishness and intelligence with which my associations, military and civilian, have applied themselves to this undertaking, and the results demonstrate the success of their efforts."

Secretary Gave the Committee

an outline of the work of the department and its various bureaus.

Outline of Work

"On the first day of April, 1917, the Regular Army," he said, "comprised 5,731 officers and 121,797 enlisted men; the National Guard in Federal service, approximately 8,733 officers and 76,713 enlisted men; and the reserve, 4,000 enlisted men. There were also at that time approximately 2,755 officers in the reserve but as these were on inactive duty they cannot properly be considered in estimating the strength of the army of the United States at that time. On the thirty-first day of December, 1917, the Regular Army consisted of 10,250 officers and

475,000 enlisted men; the National Guard of 16,031 officers and 400,900 enlisted men; the National Army of 480,000 men; and the Reserve of 84,575 officers and 72,750 enlisted men. In other words, in nine months the increase has been from 9,254 officers to 110,859 officers and from 202,510 to 1,425,659 men.

Over Great Army

"The total number already in the military service is one and a half times as large as any force ever mobilized by this nation."

"A substantial part of our military forces was selected by the operation of a draft law, the execution of which has demonstrated both the economical and the efficient way of selecting soldiers."

"For the training of officers two series of training camps were held, from which about 45,000 officers were commissioned from civil life. This number is nearly eight times as great as the number of officers in the Regular Army of the first day of April."

"For the training of these soldiers, sixteen camps have been built, costing \$134,000,000 with an average profit to the contractors of 2.38 per cent."

"In the death rate in our forces in the United States, from mid-September to the end of December averaged 7.5 per cent. Leaving out the deaths from measles and its complications, our rate among all troops in the United States, since September 1, has been about two per thousand."

"For the fiscal year 1915 Congress appropriated for the War Department \$133,000,000; for the fiscal year 1916, \$293,000,000; for the fiscal year 1917, \$402,000,000; for the fiscal year 1918, \$7,327,338,716. In other words, taking 1915 as a normal year, the appropriations for 1918 are nearly fifty times as great."

"The regular appropriations made

LAWYERS AND BANKERS TO HEAR TAX EXPERT

David A. Snyder, an inspector in the Federal Treasury Department will speak to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock at the regular meeting of the Dauphin County Bar Association, to be held in the courtroom No. 2. Mr. Snyder will explain every important phase of the income tax. Officers of the city banks have been invited to be present at the meeting.

Refuse Accumulates as Contractor Neglects His Schedules of Collection

Because of the failure of the Pennsylvania Reduction Company to maintain any regular collections of either ashes or garbage, city officials anticipate that at the expiration of the contract, February 1, there will be a big accumulation of waste to be removed. Hagy Brothers, who received the garbage collection contract, are rapidly completing preparations to start work on the first of next month, but will probably have some of the garbage which has been piling up, to remove.

Bids for ash collections will be opened on Saturday. Commissioner Hassler said he does not expect the firm which receives the contract for ash collections will be in a position to start before the latter part of February because of the scarcity of labor and materials. While the reduction company promised Dr. J. M. J. Raunick, city health officer, that a cleanup will be made, some officials said it will take almost a month to cover the entire city and collect all the ashes, rubbish and garbage which has accumulated.

ASYLUM FIRE CLAIMS TWO

Middletown, Conn., Jan. 10.—Two lives were lost in a fire which destroyed a wing of the Connecticut Insane Asylum to-day. Four patients are unaccounted for. Until the fire had been subdued and the men had begun to rake over the wreckage it was believed that every one of the inmates in the wing had escaped unharmed. The property loss is placed at \$150,000.

2,000 ACRES FOR WAR SUPPLY BASE NEAR MT. GRETTA

A. D. Smith, superintendent of the Lebanon division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, formerly the Cornwall and Lebanon, officially announced to-day that the United States government has taken up options on 2,000 acres of land along that railroad in the Conewago Valley near Mt. Gretna between Bellaire and Beverly station. It understood that thereon the government proposes to locate one of the largest storage bases for munitions and other military supplies in the east. Work will be started at once, it is understood.

This is part of a general plan of the War Department it is said for a secondary line of war base depots to be located along or near main trunk lines about 200 miles back from the Atlantic seaboard. The first series of

[Continued on Page 8.]

BRITISH TANK CAPTURES BIG GERMAN GUN



After a British tank during the recent Cambrai offensive had driven the crew from one of the great German naval guns used on the defense, the men rushed forth and hitching it to their tank towed it to their lines. The photograph shows the gun passing through a lane of British soldiers.

GROSS THROWS A WRENCH INTO CITY CONTEST

Takes Sting From Statement When Other Councilmen Protest

City Commissioner Gross has thrown a monkey wrench into the councilmanic machine through his public statement that he cannot support three of the several candidates for City Treasurer because of certain propositions which, he says, each of the three has made to him. This statement has upset the situation to such an extent that certain of his colleagues in the City Council will refuse to vote for any of the three candidates in question until they are satisfied that the intimations of Commissioner Gross are not of such a character as to reflect upon the integrity of these candidates.

His colleagues believe that his statement places them in a false position.

[Continued on Page 8.]

K. OF C. NEARS ITS QUOTA FOR WAR CAMPAIGN

District to Go "Over the Top" When Drive Closes Sunday

Contributions were coming into the Knights of Columbus headquarters in the Kunkel building, so rapidly this morning that the office force was unable to get a total, but the \$15,504.14 total of the night before had been increased almost to \$17,000 for the city alone. Over \$3,000 has already been reported from outside the city, so that the Knights are within \$5,000 or so of their goal.

Chairman Tracy last night announced that the campaign for the Knights of Columbus War Camp Fund will be continued until Saturday night. The cold weather of last week hindered efforts the first few days of the drive. Many workers did not get a start. For that reason two days have been added.

"We want to take this opportunity to thank our friends who have responded so generously," said Mr.

[Continued on Page 6.]

SEEK 10 CARS OF COAL TO RELIEVE POSSIBLE FAMINE

Crisis Reached Here With Dealers Without Fuel to Supply Needy Families

Indications are that the coal shortage in Harrisburg is approaching a crisis. Ross A. Hickok, fuel administrator of Dauphin county, returning after a five days' absence from the city, announced this morning that the situation is serious.

Ten cars of coal, laid up on a siding on the Pennsylvania tracks beyond Highspire, will be commandeered for use in the city if the fuel administrator's demand is not met.

[Continued on Page 8.]

SNOW COMES TO AID DEFENDERS ON PIAVE LINE

Entire Mountain Front Buried Under Solid Blanket of Winter

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Wednesday, Jan. 9.—The enemy's winter campaign appears to have been interrupted seriously, if not halted definitely, by heavy snowfalls during the last twenty-four hours. The snow covers the mountain front to a depth of from three to five feet.

Monte Grappa, which is the center of the Italian front.

[Continued on Page 3.]

European Situation Demands U. S. Wheat; Americans Must Save

Washington, Jan. 10.—The food situation in Europe is regarded here as so critical that the food administration is planning to release an additional 90,000,000 bushels of wheat despite the fact that the normal export surplus had been shipped by the middle of December. The American people will be asked to save to make up this deficiency.

The demand from the allies is so insistent that the food administration has decided to take a chance on a shortage in the spring to meet in part their needs. If consumption is not reduced, officials see a possible shortage of flour in the United States in May before the new wheat crop comes in in June.

Prominent Promoter Killed by Red Cross Car

Philadelphia, Jan. 10.—Edward P. Vogel, a promoter and member of a family socially prominent in this city, was killed by a Red Cross motor car. He stepped in front of the machine and sustained fatal injuries before the driver could throw on the brakes. He was 34 years old and was connected with a New York real estate corporation.

RUSSIA RESUMES PEACE PARLEY AT BREST-LITOVSK

Selection of Meeting Place in a Neutral Country First Consideration

AGREEMENT IS LIKELY

Proposal of Separate Peace With Turkey Is Rejected by Bolsheviki

By Associated Press

London, Jan. 10.—At the first sitting of the resumed negotiation at Brest-Litovsk on Tuesday, says a dispatch sent out by the official Russian news agency, the discussion between the Russian delegates and those of the central powers centered on the selection of a city in some neutral country in which to continue the deliberation. There is every probability, it is added, of a satisfactory arrangement being reached.

Petrograd, Wednesday, Jan. 9.—Generals Kaledines and Dutoff, the Cossack leaders, the official news

[Continued on Page 11.]

Government Will Cut Out All Solicitors; Thousands Affected

Reading, Pa., Jan. 10.—Since the government has taken charge of the railroads it is learned here to-day that it is the plan of the Federal officials to cut out traveling freight and passenger solicitors all over the country. This will affect thousands of men, many of whom are well known in this city. The competing systems employed a large number of men and maintained offices in many cities.

It was the duty of these men to solicit freight and look after the interests of their respective lines in a certain territory and some of them traveled considerably. There is no necessity for their employment since there is no competition, between the lines.

An official of the Reading railway stated to-day that the company would take care of its traveling men all of whom have a valuable experience in the freight business. The company did not employ near as many traveling men as some of the other lines.

\$4.50 Per Day Required For Family of Five

Philadelphia, Pa. 10.—In a statement supported by statistics, Edward L. Keenan, president of the Central Labor Union, told the National Shipping Labor Adjustment Board to-day that the head of a family of five must make more than \$4.50 a day to support his family.

The food bill of a family of five, under prevailing price schedules, Keenan said, cannot possibly be figured at less than \$12.12 a week, and even then the food allowances are the smallest.

Keenan was chairman of a committee of twelve which made a canvass to determine food prices and other expenses the industrial workers must meet.

Including housing, fuel, lighting, and other necessary expenses as well as insurance and doctors' fees, Keenan's figures purported to show it would cost a family of five \$1,442.80 a year to exist.

CLASHED WITH INDIANS

Douglas, Ariz., Jan. 10.—A detachment of American cavalry sent into Bear Valley, twenty-five miles west of Nogales, yesterday, to observe trails, clashed with a band of Yaqui Indians, capturing ten, one of whom died at Nogales of wounds, according to a telegram to-day from the commandant at Nogales.

BOLSHEVIKI WILL REPUDIATE DEBT OF RUSSIAN NATION

London, Jan. 10.—The Bolsheviki government intends to publish a decree within a few days cancelling the Russian national debt, telegraphs the correspondent at Petrograd of the "Manchester Guardian." The correspondent understands the decree will contain these provisions:

"First—All loans and treasury bonds held by foreign subjects abroad or in Russia are repudiated."

"Second—Loans and treasury bonds held by Russian subjects possessing more than 10,000 rubles in capital are repudiated."

"Third—Loans and treasury bonds held by Russian subjects possessing capital in loan scrip or deposits not exceeding 1,000 rubles are to receive five per cent. interest on the nominal value of the loan, and those possessing 10,000 rubles are to receive three per cent."

"Fourth—Workmen and peasants holding 100 rubles worth of loans or bonds, may sell their holding to the state at 75 per cent. of its nominal value. Those holding 600 rubles worth may close it at 70 per cent. of its nominal value."

LATE NEWS

ITALIAN STEAMSHIP SUNK

New York—The big Italian steamship Milazzo, 11,477 tons gross register, was sunk during the early part of December by a German submarine while the ship was in Mediterranean waters, according to word received in shipping circles here to-day. It is understood no lives were lost.

ASK DISSOLUTION OF CORTES

Madrid—The Spanish cabinet has decided to submit to King Alfonso another decree calling for the dissolution of the Cortes. The King is expected to sign the decree to-day.

MARKET CLOSES STRONG

New York—Steels, oils, shippings and specialties at extreme gains of 2 to 4 points, infused considerable activity in the final hour. The closing was strong. Liberty 3 1-2's were quoted at 8.78 to 98.70, first 4's at 98.10 to 97.90; second 4's at 96.62 to 96.44. Technical conditions were again the chief influence in to-day's stock market, short covering in the later dealings more than effacing the numerous declines of the forenoon. Sales approximated 500,000 shares.

TUNGURAGUA VOLCANO ACTIVE

Quayacul, Ecuador, Jan. 10.—The volcano of Tunguragua, in central Ecuador, has been in eruption for several days past, emitting showers of stones and ashes. The population in the region is alarmed. It is reported the town of Banos, at the foot of the volcano, has been destroyed.

DEATH OF YORK SOLDIER IN FRANCE

Washington—General Pershing to-day reported the death of Walter L. Fitzgerald, 423 East Prospect street, York, Pa., from meningitis.

COUNTY TREASURER A SUICIDE

Norristown, Pa.—George M. Anders, treasurer of Montgomery county, who several days ago cut his throat with a razor, died to-day at a hospital. The registrar of the county issued a certificate that death was due to suicide while temporarily insane.

DYNAMITE IN COAL WRECKS ENGINE

Memphis, Tenn.—Dynamite in coal shoveled into the engine's boiler this afternoon exploded a freight locomotive at Harahan bridge, spanning the Mississippi river here, fatally injuring several persons. At least two men are reported to be dying.

EXPLOSION KILLS MANY

Fort Smith, Ark.—The powder and dynamite plant at Patterson, Okla., was blown up at noon to-day. There has been a heavy loss of life.

REQUA HEAD OF OIL DIVISION

Washington—Mark L. Requa, of Oakland, Calif., was to-day appointed head of the newly-formed oil division of the fuel administration which will handle government control oil. The first work will be an investigation of the entire petroleum situation.

PARIS PRAISES WILSON SPEECH

Paris—The passage in President Wilson's address to Congress relating to Alsace-Lorraine is emphasized by all the Paris newspapers. The Matin says restoration of the lost territories is the foremost condition of peace, not only of France but of her allies. It refers to Mr. Wilson's speech as an immense effort at conciliation by a sincere Democrat.

SWEDEN TO ACT AS GO-BETWEEN?

Petrograd—The German delegations in Petrograd are reported by the Evening Post to have got into touch with the Swedish legation here and to have expressed the desire that Sweden act as a go-between with Great Britain, France and Italy.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

George Eichinger, Uccleston, and Anna Schochauer, Harrisburg; Earl A. Patterson and Rebecca P. Hignett, Harrisburg.