

BALFOUR MISSION IN WASHINGTON

British Leader Welcomed By Secretary Lansing.

UNION JACK BESIDE U. S. FLAG

Large Crowd At Station, Warded Off By Army Of Soldiers and Policemen, Cheers Visiting Delegates.

Washington.—The American capital extended a simple but heartfelt welcome to the British minister for foreign affairs, Arthur J. Balfour, and the other members of the British commission, which has come to Washington, as Mr. Balfour himself expressed it, "to make co-operation easy and effective between those who are striving—with all their power—to bring about a lasting peace by the only means that can secure it, namely, a successful war."

The weather was perfect and Washington, with bright spring sunshine clad in the light green foliage of the season, never looked more beautiful when the special train which had brought the distinguished visitors with their official escorts from the North drew into the Union Station. Everywhere bunting flew in the light breeze, mainly the American national colors. The British Union Jack and the French tri-color were in evidence in many places, but the local flagmakers had been unable to meet the public demand for them.

With the Balfour Party.—Great Britain's high commissioners to the International War Council to begin in Washington this week, set foot on American soil Saturday and reached Washington Sunday afternoon.

Arthur James Balfour, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Empire, formerly Premier, and often called the dean of the world's elder statesmen, was the central figure of a party that included some of Great Britain's most prominent men. With a genial smile playing over his features, he consented to a brief interview, warmly expressing his appreciation of all the United States has done as a neutral in charitable and relief work in Belgium and in German prison camps, his gratification that England and the United States now are allied for a common purpose, and his conviction that this country in its war efforts would astound the world, particularly Germany.

The object of the commission, Mr. Balfour said, was "to make co-operation easy and effective between those who are striving with all their power to bring about a lasting peace by the only means that can secure it, namely, a successful war."

While unable to discuss the situation before presenting himself to President Wilson, Mr. Balfour willingly consented to say a few words as to his general hopes for the conference and the fundamental purposes behind as follows:

"On my own behalf, let me express the deep gratification I feel at being called in any capacity whatever with events which associates our countries in a common effort for a great ideal.

"On behalf of my countrymen, let me express our gratitude for all that the citizens of the United States of America have done to mitigate the lot of those who, in the Allies' countries, have suffered from the cruelties of the most deliberately cruel of all wars. To name no others, the efforts of Mr. Gerard to alleviate the condition of British and other prisoners of war in Germany, and the administrative genius which Mr. Hoover has ungrudgingly devoted to the relief of the unhappy Belgians and French in the territories still in enemy occupation, will never be forgotten; while an inexhaustible stream of charitable effort has supplied medical and nursing skill to the service of the wounded and the sick.

"These are the memorable doings of a beneficent neutrality. But the days of neutrality are, I rejoice to think, at an end, and the first page is being turned in a new chapter in the history of mankind. Your President, in a most apt and vivid phrase, has proclaimed that the world must be made safe for democracy. Democracies wherever they are to be found, and not least the democracies of the British Empire, will hail the pronouncement as a happy augury. That self-governing communities are not to be treated as negligible simply because they are small; that the ruthless domination of one unscrupulous power imperils the future of civilization and the liberties of mankind are truths of political ethics which the bitter experience of war is burning into the souls of all freedom-loving peoples. That this great people should have thrown themselves wholeheartedly into the mighty struggle, prepared for all the efforts and sacrifices that may be required to win success for this most righteous cause is an event at once so happy and so momentous that only the historian of the future will be able, as I believe, to measure its true proportions.

"A. J. BALFOUR."

FRANCE HONORS AMERICA.

Paris.—An impressive ceremony was held at the Sorbonne by the French Maritime League in honor of the United States. Rear Admiral Lacaze presided and among those present were President Poincaré, American Ambassador Sharp and Alexander Millerand, former Minister of War. A large crowd made an enthusiastic demonstration with French and American flags, while the patriotic airs of both countries were played.

RAISING OF CHICKENS URGED.

Chicago.—One hundred million pounds can be added to the nation's meat supply within six months if people will grasp their opportunities to raise chickens. This proposition was laid before a meeting of the American Poultry Association here by E. T. Richards, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., president of the organization. He said the Department of Agriculture approved the plan to raise more chickens.

Spain Continues Strictly Neutral.

Madrid (via Paris).—The new cabinet had its first meeting and has issued a note announcing that it will maintain strict neutrality toward all the belligerents.

SCOURING THE ATLANTIC



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THE FRENCH SWEEP ONWARD

More Than 100 Guns and 19,000 Germans Captured.

SOME FURIOUS FIGHTING

Progress Also Made In Champagne In Face Of Stubborn Resistance. Teuton Counter-Attack Broken By Artillery.

Paris.—Hard fighting continues between the French and the Germans all along the southern front in France. The French War Office, in a late communication, records further progress for the forces of General Nivelle north of the Aisne, in Champagne and in the Argonne forest.

More than 19,000 Germans have been made prisoners and guns in excess of 100 have been captured by the French since the offensive began last week. The War Office communication says: "Between St. Quentin and the Oise there has been great activity by both armies, particularly in the region to the north of Crucilles.

"To the north of the Aisne our troops, harassing the enemy, have continued to progress toward the Chemin des Dames. We have occupied the village of Nancy.

"In Champagne we have captured several important points of support in the grove of Moronvilliers, notwithstanding the stubborn resistance of the enemy.

"He has made, since the 16th of April, between Soissons and Auberive, more than 19,000 prisoners. The number of guns we have captured during the same period and which have been counted up to the present exceed 100.

"In the Argonne, after sharp fighting, our detachments penetrated to the second enemy trench. They found a great number of German dead.

"Belgian Communication.—A reconnaissance attempted by the enemy in the region of Stuyvekenskerke was dispersed by our fire. Prisoners remained in the hands of the Belgians.

"Orient.—After brilliant counter-attacks our troops recaptured a few elements of trenches that had been lost on the eighteenth at Tarveta Stena. About 60 prisoners, most of them Germans, remained in our hands. To the east of the Cerna the Serbian troops repulsed two enemy attacks."

Berlin Reports New Battle.

Berlin.—The official statement issued by the German War Office reports that new engagements developed between Proseas, east of Rheims and the Suppes valley.

65,000 SHELLS INTO RHEIMS.

Paris.—Since the first of April 65,000 shells have fallen into Rheims, said Camille Lenoir, Deputy for Rheims, who has just returned to Paris from a visit to his constituency. "The number of houses demolished or set on fire," the Deputy continued, "exceeds anything experienced in preceding bombardments. Germany, with abominable vandalism, again has begun to shell the cathedral.

"I declare on my honor that nothing from a military point of view justifies our enemies in saying that they have reasons to fire on our admirable basilica."

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President Poincaré and Ambassador Sharp At Ceremony.

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NEW CABINET IN SPAIN.

Madrid, via London.—Marquis Manuel Garcia Prieto, President of the Senate, formed a new Cabinet to take the place of the Ministry of Count de Romanones, which had tendered its resignation. Marquis Prieto at various times held the portfolios of Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Justice and Minister of Public Works. He is a member of the permanent Hague tribunal.

IRON HAND FOR PLOTTERS

A Proclamation

Washington.—All persons in the United States, citizens and aliens, are warned in a proclamation issued by President Wilson that treasonable acts or attempts to shield those committing such acts will be vigorously prosecuted by the government.

The Proclamation.

The President's proclamation follows: "Whereas, all persons in the United States, citizens as well as aliens, should be informed of the penalties which they will incur for any failure to bear true allegiance to the United States:

"Now, therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, hereby issue this proclamation to call especial attention to the following provisions of the constitution and the laws of the United States:

"Section 3 of Article III of the Constitution provides, in part: 'Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort.'"

"The criminal code of the United States provides: "Section 1—Whoever, owing allegiance to the United States, levies war against them or adheres to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort within the United States or elsewhere, is guilty of treason.

Death Penalty.

"Section 2—Whoever is convicted of treason shall suffer death; or, at the discretion of the court, shall be imprisoned not less than five years and fined not less than ten thousand dollars, to be levied on and collected out of any or all of his property, real and personal, of which he was the owner at the time of committing such treason, any sale or conveyance to the contrary notwithstanding; and every person so convicted of treason shall, moreover, be incapable of holding any office under the United States.

"Section 3—Whoever, owing allegiance to the United States and having knowledge of the commission of any treason against them, conceals and does not, as soon as may be, disclose and make known the same to the President or to some Judge of the United States or to the Governor or to some Judge or Justice of a particular state, is guilty of misprision of treason and shall be imprisoned not more than seven years, and fined not more than one thousand dollars.

"Section 4—If two or more persons in any state or territory, or in any place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, conspire to overthrow, put down, or to destroy by force the government of the United States or to levy war against them, or to oppose by force the authority thereof, or by force to prevent, hinder, or delay the execution of any law of the United States, or by force to seize, take or possess any property of the United States contrary to the authority thereof, they shall each be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than six years, or both."

Treasonable Acts Defined.

"The courts of the United States have stated the following acts to be treasonable: "The use or attempted use of any force or violence against the government of the United States or its military or naval forces;

"The acquisition, use, or disposal of any property with knowledge that it is to be, or with intent that it shall be, of assistance to the enemy in their hostilities against the United States.

"The performance of any act or the publication of statements or information which will give or supply, in any way, aid and comfort to the enemies of the United States.

"The direction, aiding, counseling or countenance of any of the foregoing acts.

"Such acts are held to be treasonable, whether committed within the United States or elsewhere; whether committed by a citizen of the United States or by an alien domiciled or residing in the United States, in as much as resident aliens, as well as citizens, owe allegiance to the United States and its laws.

Vigorous Prosecution.

"Any such citizen or alien who has knowledge of the commission of such acts and conceals and does not make known the facts to the officials named in Section 3 of the Penal Code, is guilty of misprision of treason.

"And I hereby proclaim and warn all citizens of the United States and all aliens owing allegiance to the government of the United States to abstain from committing any and all acts which would constitute a violation of the laws herein set forth, and I further proclaim and warn all persons who may commit such acts that they will be vigorously prosecuted therefor.

"In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the City of Washington this sixteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and forty-first.

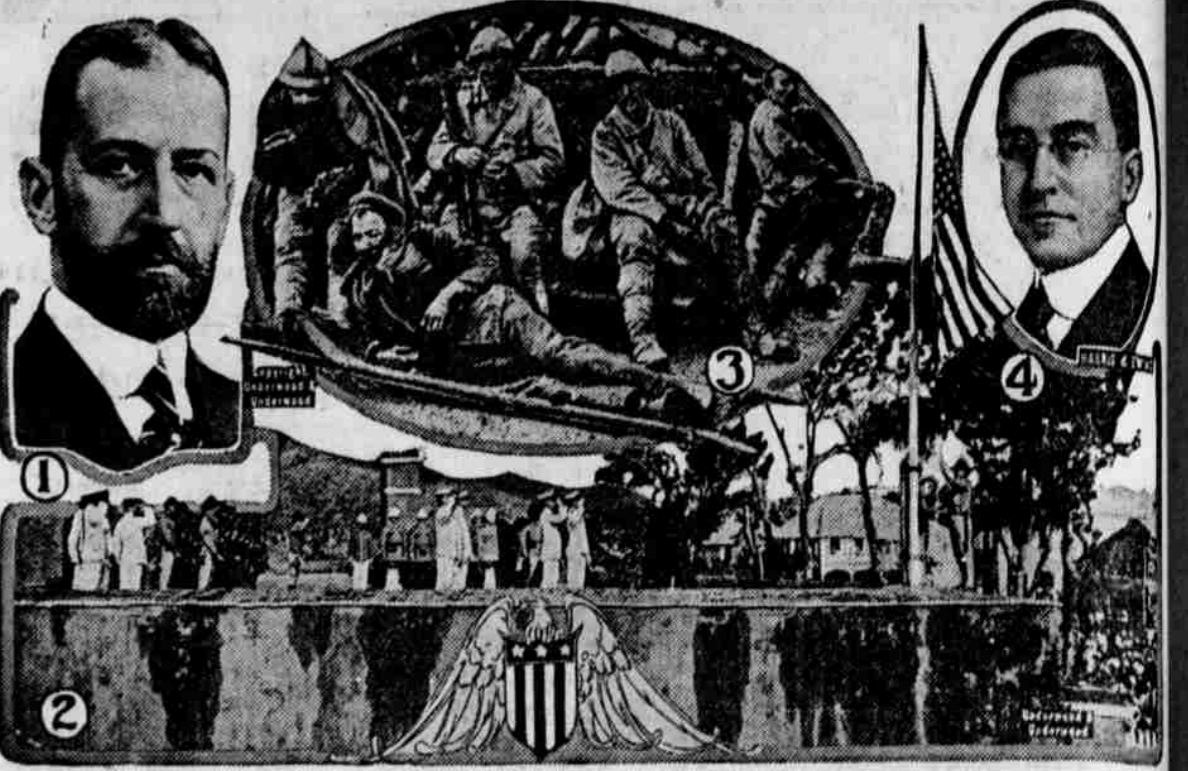
WOODROW WILSON.

"By the President, Robert Lansing, Secretary of State."

BUYS 500 TONS OF BACON.

Government Places Order At 35 Cents a Pound.

Chicago.—One million pounds of bacon, at 35 cents a pound, has been purchased here by the Government in the last few days. This is the highest grade of bacon. Among packers it was said that a modification of Government specifications as to bacon would make for economy. Canned sausage and canned corn beef also has been bought in considerable quantities.



1—New portrait of Mario G. Menocal, president of Cuba, who is co-operating actively with the allies. 2—Raising the Stars and Stripes over the Virgin Islands at Fredericksport, St. Croix. 3—German soldiers, captured by the French, wounded and dazed by gun fire. 4—Theodore Brent of New Orleans, youngest member of the federal shipbuilding board which is planning the construction of 1,000 wooden ships.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

War Councils With Leaders of the Allies Are Opened in Washington.

FIGHT OVER CONSCRIPTION

Dent's Committee Rejects President's Plan—Enemy Submarine Reported Near New York—Nivelle Smashes German Lines Between Reims and Soissons.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

For America at war the outstanding event of the past week was the opening of the great allied war councils in Washington. Headed by such eminent men as British Foreign Minister Balfour and Rene Viviani, former premier of France, the commissions from England and France arrived in the national capital, were installed in fine residences and at once began the series of conferences with the heads of the American government and of its armed forces.

In order to insure the safety of the commissioners, the government quite properly suppressed all news of their movements; and it is in no hurry to tell what transpires at the conferences. It is safe to say, however, that the results of the meetings will be momentous.

Congress provided enough sinews of war for the present by passing the bill for the issuance of \$7,000,000,000, of which \$3,000,000,000 is to be lent to the allies. There was not a single opposing vote in either house or senate. Congress also appropriated \$100,000,000 as an emergency war fund to be put at the disposal of the president.

Conscription Still In Doubt.

President Wilson continued throughout the week his strenuous fight for selective conscription, but arguments and threats were alike vain so far as the house military committee was concerned. The committee rejected, 13 to 8, the administration provision, and then adopted an amendment offered by Chairman Dent providing that the president should call for 500,000 volunteers under the existing volunteer act, and should apply conscription only when he "decides that such additional forces cannot be effectually raised and maintained under the call for volunteers." The house agreed to take up the army bill on Monday.

In the senate committee the president fared better, for the administration bill with the selective conscription feature was accepted by a vote of 10 to 7. It is the hope of the administration that the senate will pass this bill before the house acts.

Impressed by the strength of the opposition to his conscription plan, especially in the ranks of the Democratic party, the president on Thursday issued an appeal to the public to support his proposition.

Administration leaders protest that the advocates of the volunteer system have spread the idea that under the conscription plan there is no room for the volunteer system, whereas the president's plan leaves the way open for 500,000 volunteers to serve for the duration of the war only.

At the beginning of the week President Wilson issued a remarkable proclamation to the nation, calling on all the people to give to it, in their respective capacities, their united, full service for the successful prosecution of the war. Such a call was doubtless needed to arouse individuals, but recent events show that the industries of the country already are completely organized and proceeding to carry out the plans outlined by the council of national defense. The work done and being done by that body of patriotic men is revealed as most comprehensive and complete, and when it is known in its entirety will astonish the people of America.

U-Boats in American Waters?

Are there any German U-boats in American waters? Berlin says "not as yet," but the officers of the American destroyer Smith aver that a torpedo was fired at their vessel early Tuesday morning 100 miles south of New York. They are sure the missile came from a submarine, because they saw the periscope.

Having been advised by British and French naval men that the well-armed merchant vessel is the best weapon for use against the submarine, the American government is pushing with redoubled vigor its plans for the building of big fleets of wooden ships. It is even considering delaying the construction of five battleships for this purpose.

In the United States union labor in general is heartily supporting the government in its war measures. The exceptions are certain scattered groups of manifestly Germanic tendencies. The members of these, as well as certain other Americans with perverted ideas of their duty to mankind, may probably study President Wilson's proclamation, issued Monday, warning against the commission of treasonable acts. Giving aid and comfort to the enemy is treason, and the punishment for treason may be death. It is a pity that such a proclamation should be necessary.

Recruiting Is Better.

Recruiting for the regular army and navy during the past week was much more satisfactory than heretofore. From the navy training schools thousands of young men, made fit by intensive training, were sent to the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard to man the vessels of the fleets.

The University of Illinois' plan for the enlisting of a great army of agricultural laborers, men and boys outside the years of military service or otherwise exempt, having been recommended by the council of national defense and approved by the administration, seems likely to solve the problem of farm labor. This, and the concerted movement to urge the growing of limit crops have aroused the farmers and gardeners so that the dangers of a food shortage are decreasing. Every help possible is promised the agriculturists in the way of obtaining seed and labor.

Prices of Foodstuffs Still are Abnormally High.

Prices of foodstuffs still are abnormally high, and there are more than hints that the government will curb the avarice of the speculators. Canadian wheat was put on the free list Monday, and the depressing effect on the price of May wheat was immediate but not lasting. The grain speculators are being investigated by the federal authorities.

Great Victory for the French.

The greatest battle of the war to date, and consequently the greatest in all history, is that being fought in northern France. While the British were making their tremendous thrust toward Lens and St. Quentin, the French were concentrating their artillery fire on the German lines in the Reims-Soissons sector. When storms and German re-inforcements temporarily checked the rush of Haig's men, Nivelle's troops took their turn. On Monday they smashed against the Teutonic front, crushing the enemy defenses for 25 miles, capturing the sections and even the third line in places. Such was the impetus of the attack that in one instance, at Brimont, they broke clear through. This is the sector where the crown prince commands, and he hurriedly brought up brigade after brigade of reserves which made desperate attempts to win back the lost ground. But the wonderful French field artillery had followed close behind the infantry and checked the German counter-attacks with awful loss of life. On Tuesday the French resumed their drive and pushed the Germans still farther back on the line from Reims to the Champagne front. All Tuesday night the fighting was fierce, but the French held their gains. In those two days 14,000 Germans were taken captive and about 16,000 others were killed or wounded. The prisoners were in a state of collapse from hunger and the effects of the gun-fire.

Meanwhile the British Pushed Their Way Farther to the North of St. Quentin and Consolidated the Positions They Had Won.

What Berlin Says of It. German official reports on the French offensive are naive. They admit the success of the attack, but assert the object of the Germans was,

"even if war material were lost, to spare the lives of our forces and to avert heavy sanguinary losses upon the enemy, and thus decisively weaken him. This was achieved."

Again, on Wednesday, General Nivelle hit the German line hard along a twenty-mile stretch from Reims to Auberive, and then bent off the crest of the British's furious counter-attacks. The British made more advances near Lens and St. Quentin. So it went day after day until, before the week ended, French estimated the number of wounded prisoners taken by the allies at more than 20,000. They also captured many guns and immense quantities of supplies.

Retirement of the Germans in Belgium is foreshadowed by the report from Jassy that they have burned the towns of Bralla and Pokshani.

The Turks, too, are retreating, step by step, before the steady advance of General Maude's army northwest from Bagdad and the Russian forces in Asia Minor.

Russia Will Stand Firm.

In what may be called the field of diplomatic endeavor, attention must be called again to German efforts to reduce the new Russia from her allegiance and make a separate peace. These efforts, started by Socialist leaders, have now taken on a semi-official character, for the German censorship and prohibition of egress from the country have been relaxed and the government treats the Socialists with a sudden favor that is decidedly suspicious. The negotiations are being carried on in Sweden, whether some Russian radicals have betaken themselves. Encouraging reports from Petrograd say that the duma is split, the majority favoring sustaining the provisional government in its determination to prosecute the war to a victorious end is very large. Germany's pacifist promises to Russia, and those of Austria, are too showy to deceive any but the most simple-minded, and even were they more substantial, the course of the imperial government has been such as to inspire the least confidence in its pledges. Wilhelm must mean to fulfill his promises of electoral reform in Prussia, but they give little assurance of measurably promoting the cause of democracy, for which the world is fighting. Indeed, the promised reform would leave the autocratic system in the heart of Germany.

The leaders of democratic Russia must see, as do the leaders of the other allied nations, that though the world might afford to make peace with the German people, it cannot afford to make peace with the German Kaiser. On Wednesday still better news came from Petrograd in the form of assurances to the American government that it was no longer conceivable that under any conditions the provisional government of Russia would yield to the overtures of the German and Austrian Socialist agents to negotiate a separate peace.

The Austrian cabinet became disrupted during the week. Two of its members withdrew. It was reported that Premier Tisza of Hungary had resigned.

Food restrictions and labor conditions in Germany gave rise to a big strike of Berlin munition workers that started on Monday. The government was forced to make concessions to them. Poles forced by the Germans to work in munition plants of War saw also went on strike.

Norway and Spain Aroused.

Norway is becoming more and more indignant over the destruction of the merchant marine by German submarines, and in the last few days the shipping men and the press, heartened by America's entrance into the war, have been openly advocating the arming of their vessels. Spain, too, is exasperated by U-boat outrages, and King Alfonso on Wednesday told some troops at a review: "It is necessary that we shall keep in a constant state of preparation."

Serious news came Thursday from Buenos Aires to the effect that the German inhabitants of three states in Brazil had rebelled. They are said to be well armed and organized. There are about half a million Germans in Brazil.

Germany lost one of her "strongest" men last week when General von Blixen, the German governor general of Belgium died. The Belgians did not go into mourning.

body else do your job and have a conscience. This republic has given everything in the way of opportunity, and, on the other hand, it has the right to demand the service of its citizens.

"A voluntary service, however plentiful in theory, is ridiculous in practice. It would be a noble thing if every man rushed to the colors, but every man does not. Only 6,000 men have been enlisted in two weeks, and I leave it to you to estimate how long it will take to get an army of a million men."

PLEA FOR UNIVERSAL SERVICE

Major General Wood Points Out What He Considers the Duty of the United States.

Boston.—Major General Wood, speaking at a meeting of the American Cotton Waste Exchange here, said that the United States would not fulfill its duty in this war until it had sent men to the front. The meeting was called to raise funds for the Red Cross. "If we are to be part of the war,"

Major General Wood, "our men in our uniform must be at the front. It is no child's play. We shall send living men and bring them back dead—but never until this is done shall we fulfill our duty.

"You are now standing behind the allied lines and behind such forces as we have afloat. There is a long period of preparation ahead of us, before we shall be ready to assume our proper position in the war, and the first step is to back up the plan for universal military service. You cannot let some-