

PAYING OUR DEBT TO FRANCE

"LAFAYETTE, we are here." In these simple words, General Pershing gave eloquent expression to the thought that America today is but paying her debt to France.

The words of General Pershing were spoken as he stood at the tomb of Lafayette, French aristocrat by birth but democrat at heart, who gave his own services and fortune to the cause of American independence and was instrumental in bringing from France the aid that turned the tide in favor of the revolutionists.

Those of the present generation who are not familiar with early American history are apt not to realize the magnitude of the debt which the United States owes to France and to the memory of the gallant Lafayette. In the dark hours before the dawn of freedom for America, France poured forth her men and money in quantities that were in those days most impressive.

It is not generally remembered that France furnished more troops than America at the battle of Yorktown, where final victory was won for the struggling colonists. In that battle there were engaged 3,500 militia under Gen. Thomas Nelson, 5,500 Continentals under Generals Washington, Lafayette and Alexander Hamilton and 7,000 French under Rochambeau, besides the French fleet of nineteen ships at anchor in the York, commanded by De Grasse. Altogether, the total military, naval and transport service which France sent to our aid in the American revolution amounted to 47,088 men and 99 vessels of war and transports.

Gave Money as Well as Men.

France, moreover, advanced to the depleted treasury of the revolutionists the equivalent of \$50,000,000, without interest, a loan or gift which she has never claimed. Furthermore she agreed, and adhered absolutely to the compact, that she would ask no share in such territory or booty as might be incident to victory. This agreement was the more remarkable in view of the fact that England had but a short time before taken the richest of French possessions—the Dominion of Canada.

And it was almost wholly due to Lafayette that this invaluable aid was given by France to the new republic.

At the time of the declaration of independence of the United States, Lafayette was only in his nineteenth year. His life had been one of ease and luxury. His family was among the most eminent in France. He was a nobleman with the title of marquis. He never had encountered those influences that usually lead people in the fight for democracy. But, as if it were a vision calling him Lafayette saw the new spark of liberty struck in the West. The greatest fight of the world was being fought for the greatest ideal in the world.

The youth of nineteen realized this, and in the fight he was determined to take part. He made known his intention, but he was forbidden by royal command to leave France. He escaped to Spain, and from there aboard a vessel he had purchased himself sailed for America. He landed in Charleston and set forth immediately to Congress, which was then in session at Philadelphia.

Congress at First Lukewarm.

His name and fame had preceded him, yet such was the unsettled state of affairs that when Lafayette went to Philadelphia congress was at first lukewarm concerning him. Some of the members could not sense the zeal and devotion of a man who had come 3,000 miles to fight in a cause not his own. There had been a contract signed in Paris through which Lafayette was to have the rank of major general in the American army. Even the wise Franklin, however, did not realize to the full the worth of Lafayette at this time, for in a letter of advice he speaks of the distinguished rank and family of the young soldier and hints that on account of the fact that he had a lovely wife and had left such surroundings at home that it would be well not to place him in any danger unless there should be some unusual emergency.

When the meaning of the self-imposed mission of Lafayette did dawn upon our forefathers recognition soon came. The rank of major general was conferred and it proved no empty title. Washington had gone to Philadelphia to consult with congress, and he and Lafayette, meeting for the first time at a dinner, began that friendship as proverbial as the affection between David and Jonathan.

Lafayette was then not of age, boyish in appearance, and had never studied English until he began his seven-weeks' voyage across the Atlantic. His zeal for liberty was such and there was such fire in his eye and such de-



THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, A GIFT FROM THE PEOPLE OF FRANCE

LAFAYETTE, THE GODFATHER OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE

of the Pennsylvania troops, and was reinforced by the militia from the Virginia mountains. With 4,000 men he gave battle to Cornwallis at Albemarle and sent him in retreat to Yorktown. The surrender of Yorktown soon followed, and Lafayette stood by the side of Washington when the British forces laid down their arms. He received the thanks of congress for his part in this campaign, which brought triumph at last to the cause of American independence. He returned to his native land with the love and respect of a people who revered him as second only to Washington himself.

Throughout the eventful years in which France was forming the ideals of republicanism on the ruins of an order which had passed from earth the marquis was one of the architects of this new fabric. To his native conceptions of liberty he had added ideals of freedom.

To Lafayette France owed its first declaration of rights drawn in the revolution. To him also it owed its tricolor flag, the same red, white and blue as that which glorifies our own Stars and Stripes, under which Major General Lafayette, U. S. A., fought for the existence of a nation of American freemen.

In the present struggle for the wresting of the world from the grip of an avid Attila Americans, British and French are shoulder to shoulder at the front. How our General Lafayette would have enthused and gladdened at the thought! The quarrel of the American colonies, many historians show, was not with the people of England but with a Hanoverian king who acted against the counsel of the wisest statesmen of British birth. The instinctive love of fair play which is implanted in the Englishman rebelled at the thought of a colonial taxation without representation.

Lafayette's attitude to the English was revealed when, while visiting his uncle, the Marquis de Noailles, then ambassador to the Court of St. James, he declined all invitations to visit arsenals and shipyards, believing that by so doing he would be taking an unfair advantage of a nation which was to be his foe through the stupidity of a ruler who could not and would not understand.

His home in Paris after the close of the war of the revolution became a place of rendezvous for both English and Americans. "Since the war is over and we have won it," he wrote to General Washington in 1786, "I have, I confess, an extreme pleasure in meeting English people. Either as a Frenchman, or a soldier, or an American, or a mere individual, I find myself without embarrassment in the presence of that proud nation."

There could have been no gentler acts of courtesy than those which he did when Cornwallis had surrendered at Yorktown, for he had the highest opinion of the British commander as a man, and, as he modestly wrote Cornwallis, "held him in high esteem."

Long before there were hands stretched across the sea between this country and England, Lafayette, the American general, was doing much to bring about a reunion of the two nations which are brothers of one blood.

termination in his manner that Washington at once welcomed him to his staff. As soon as the opportunity offered the leader of the Continental army put Lafayette in command of large bodies of men and that judgment was well justified.

The marquis was severely wounded at Brandywine without being aware of it for a time, so intense was his devotion to duty. When he recovered he renewed his activities at the right hand of General Washington, and lost no opportunity to serve the nation which was then coming into being. He was with the great leader at Valley Forge, where he conducted himself with such sympathy and understanding that he was soon as beloved by all the officers as by the commander himself.

The portrait painters of the time put the general and colonel of the day in fine uniforms of blue and buff, but very often some of the ablest had only nondescript clothes, and some were even ragged.

Washington once remarked to Lafayette that to one accustomed to being with French troops the appearance of the soldiers of the colonies must indeed have seemed unusual. "I come not here to teach, but to learn," was the reply of Lafayette. Enlisted Aid of France.

Part of the year 1779 was spent by Lafayette in France, where he did so much to get substantial aid from the French government, which was then in actual war with Great Britain. That victory ultimately rested upon the American standards was largely due to those activities in Paris, for the coming of the French fleet was a deciding factor in the long and unequal struggle for American independence.

Lafayette was received with affection and admiration by those who had so bitterly opposed his going from France, and he gained support even from the powerful Noailles, father of the Marquise. On Lafayette's return to America Washington sent him in 1781 to operate against Benedict Arnold in Virginia. After Cornwallis came with 5,500 more men Washington showed his confidence in the young general by continuing him in the command. Lafayette was near Richmond when Cornwallis started for him.

"The boy can't escape me," said the English general. Lafayette promptly retreated, made a junction with 1,000

A two-wheeled cart which automatically loads and unloads cornstalks is the invention of a New Jersey farmer.

Cast iron shells, once thought obsolete, are being manufactured in France at the rate of 1,300,000 a day. They are more effective against earthworks than those of steel.

Metallurgical sodium hardens lead without changing its color. Two per cent of sodium will harden lead so that it will ring when struck; a larger amount causes it to become brittle.

A complete network of wires, suitably grounded, covers a nitroglycerin factory in Europe as a protection against lightning.

The Deutsche bank of Berlin, enjoying record prosperity on account of war industries in which it is interested, is paying employees war bonuses ranging from 30 to 50 per cent.

An artificial coffee is being made in Austria from figs, dried either in the sun or evaporating pans, ground into powder and then compressed into tablets, to be dissolved in hot water when desired.

Raise German Tanker

Five long, woolen mufflers aided in floating the German tanker "Gut Heil," after spending five years on the muddy bottom of the Mississippi river off Baton Rouge, says Popular Mechanics Magazine. When the ship was finally floated and towed to a bank, where an examination could be made, it was found that the machinery was in far better condition than had been expected.

A Profiteer.

"I saw you having a heated argument with a huckster this morning." "Yes," replied Mr. Dubwaite. "I was trying to instill a little patriotism into him, but he wouldn't see things my way, so I paid his price."

His Preference.

"I wish to look at some fountain pens." "Yes, sir. Now, what do you wish in the way of a fountain pen?" "Well, I'd prefer one that throws a jet rather than a spray."

"OVER THERE" BY AIRSHIP ROUTE

Will Be Established by the British Air Council.

NO DEFINITE PLAN YET

Initial Flight Set For This Summer—General Brancker, Of British Service, Arranging Plans With U. S. Officials.

Washington.—Establishment of an air route to Europe from the United States in order to bring the full force of American effort in the air to bear against Germany has been decided upon as a definite project by the British Air Council, the new organization into which all British air service has been merged. This was disclosed by Major General William Brancker, controller of equipment on the council, who is in Washington to discuss this and other projects relating to air warfare with American officials.

The plans for an initial flight across the Atlantic in August, September or October of this year are already well advanced. American co-operation is sought and General Brancker hopes that the first machine to make the crossing will carry both British and American pilots. At least three British pilots, regarded as qualified for the trip, are here now and several types of machines produced in England have ample fuel capacity for the 40 hours of flying it is estimated the trip would take.

The attitude of the American Government toward the project has not been disclosed, although General Brancker laid stress on the fact that the sole purpose of the trip was to blaze a new trail to Europe over which American aircraft can be delivered next year without taxing shipping. Presumably, it arises from the fixed purpose of the British Air Ministry to carry the bombing warfare into Germany on a steadily increasing scale until not a vital spot in the German Empire is safe from Allied raiders.

After General Brancker had made public his plans, Secretary Baker said that no army aviation officers had as yet been assigned to work in conjunction with the British on the project. Successful navigation of the air to Europe is to be hoped for, he said, but no definite plan to attempt it is now before Government officials.

There is little doubt, however, that the strong advocacy of the air-road-to-the-front plan brought by General Brancker already has had considerable effect. The General laid it before officers of the Army General Staff as an achievement that could be realized in the immediate future. Some officials connected with the air program previously had given it serious consideration.

Many officers believe it would be wise to inject an element of friendly rivalry into the effort to be first to make the flight. They argue that since the real value of the plan depends upon the ability of American-built night bombers and American pilots to cross the ocean, the initial effort should be partially, at least an American enterprise.

REWARD ON U-BOAT BASE.

Daniels Offers \$1,000 For Information Leading To Discovery.

Washington.—Extension to all naval districts of an offer of \$1,000 reward for information leading to the location of the enemy submarine base on the Atlantic Coast was announced by Secretary Daniels after he learned that such an offer had been made by one district commander. Mr. Daniels said there was no evidence indicating the presence of such a base, but some of the officers of the Coast Patrol thought the prospect of reward would stimulate vigilance on the part of people living in the vicinity of unfrequented bays and inlets.

KEY DESCENDANT FOUND DEAD.

Body Of Miss Alberta Key, Of Chicago, Found In Bushes.

Chicago.—The body of Miss Alberta Key, 19 years old, employed at a local bank, was found in a clump of bushes at Jackson Park. The police believe she committed suicide by poison. Miss Key was the great-granddaughter of Francis Scott Key, author of the "Star-Spangled Banner." Her father, Bunyon Atherton Key, a former resident of Buffalo, was declared to be doing special Government work in New York and Pennsylvania.

TO DEPORT ANARCHISTS.

Measure Passes The House And Goes To The Senate.

Washington.—Without a dissenting vote the House passed and sent to the Senate the Alien Anarchist Deportation bill authorizing the immediate deportation of aliens subscribing in whole or in part to the tenets of anarchism. The measure amends the immigration laws, so as to remove the limitation on the power of the immigration authorities to deport an alien after five years' residence.

HOLDS HER POTATOES.

Bermuda Forbids Exports And Fixes Prices.

Washington.—Bermuda, by proclamation issued under martial law, has forbidden exports of potatoes as a measure to insure the food supply of her people, a report received here said. A maximum retail price for potatoes of three cents a pound, and a price of \$3.75 a barrel, of approximately 160 pounds, for sales in quantity have been fixed.

Get Busy!



GERMAN TRENCHES CLEANED OUT

Americans Carry Positions in Front of Cantigny.

HUNS MAKE LYING CLAIM

Battle Is Short, Sharp And Deadly—Enemy Ordered To Hold At Any Cost And Many Are Killed.

American Army in France.—American troops stormed German trenches and machine-gun nests in front of Cantigny, in the Montdidier sector. Those of the German garrison who remained to fight and carry out their orders to hold the positions at any cost were killed by rifle and machine-gun fire and bayonet. The Americans also took prisoners.

The American artillery put down a heavy box barrage on the rear of the enemy positions. A few minutes later the infantry swarmed over the top and rushed the trenches. Some of the Germans had tried to escape through the barrage, crashing to their rear, but few of them got through, for numerous German dead were found later.

Prisoners captured declare that they had orders to hold on at all costs, and this was apparent by the desperate manner in which they fought. The battle was short, but deadly, for the enemy positions were swept clean of Germans. The official report says that a great many Germans were killed.

One machine-gun nest containing eight men, which had been sprinkling Cantigny for some days, was blown up by a direct hit from a trench mortar bomb.

American Forces on the Marne.—The American troops in this sector attacked the German line northwest of Chateau-Thierry during the night and made an advance of five-eighths of a mile, driving the Germans back from a small pocket on the northern side of Belleau Wood.

The Americans occupied the German positions without resistance from the enemy, the Germans having withdrawn when the short and sharp preliminary artillery bombardment indicated that an infantry attack would follow.

The Germans carried their material with them in their retreat and the Americans, therefore, did not take any machine guns. As a matter of course, also, no prisoners were taken. One small salient is all that the enemy continues to hold in Belleau Wood.

Washington.—Successful bombing of the German railroad yards at Comfians was reported in General Pershing's communique. Artillery activity at various points, the repulse of an enemy raid in the Woerwe, and the capture of more prisoners by American patrols crossing the Marne also were announced.

Hand-to-hand fighting between patrols in No Man's Land has made necessary a change in equipment of the American Army that will call for increased output of the .45-calibre automatic pistol. Manufacturers were urged by the War Department to speed up production, although the output is now about 3,000 pistols daily.

The Germans are said to have a wholehearted respect for American pilot fighters, one bullet from an American .45 invariably putting an enemy completely out of business. Men hit by shots from the smaller pistols used by the Germans frequently continue in action.

HOOVER IN LONDON.

Will Be Guest Of Britain For Few Weeks.

London.—Herbert C. Hoover, American food director, has arrived here, the official press bureau announced. Mr. Hoover will be the guest of the British nation for a few weeks.

GERMANS DEMAND PEACE.

Demonstrations in Berlin, Hamburg And Cologne.

London.—Heavily censored private messages received in Stockholm indicate that peace demonstrations were held recently in Berlin, Hamburg and Cologne and that several workmen were killed and many persons arrested, says a dispatch to the Morning Post from Stockholm. The police in military dispersed crowds of demonstrators.

OUTRAGE BY TURKS MAY FORCE WAR

Looting of United States Hospital at Tabriz.

CONSULATE ALSO INVADDED

Presbyterian Missionary Institution At Tabriz, Persia, Invaded By The Moslems Over The Protest Of The Spanish Consul.

Washington.—Sacking of the American hospital at Tabriz, Persia, and seizure of the American and British consulates thereby invading Turkish troops was reported to the State Department by the American minister at Teheran.

If the report as it reached the minister is officially confirmed, the outrages may be considered an act of war and settle the long-pending question of whether the Ottoman allies of Germany should be formally listed among America's enemies.

According to the dispatch the Turks sacked the hospital over the protest of the Spanish consul, in charge as representative of American interests and in defiance of the Spanish flag flying over the building.

Consul Paddock and the other Americans at Tabriz were believed to be making their way overland either to Teheran, some 400 miles from Tabriz or to Hamedan, where they would strike the great caravan route leading to Bagdad, from which city a British force has been sent out toward Tabriz. Mr. Paddock is said to be much experienced in Oriental countries and is regarded as well able to take care of himself and his companions.

New York.—Officials of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions here identified the American hospital sacked by Turkish troops at Tabriz, Persia, as the Colton Memorial Hospital, which was endowed by a Philadelphia family by that name and established several years ago through the Presbyterian Board.

The hospital's staff normally consists of three medical members and 11 girls, boarding school teachers and evangelical workers.

AN 18-TO-45 DRAFT LAW LIKELY.

Congress To Frame Legislation Following Indorsement Of Baker.

Washington.—With Secretary of War Baker favorable to an 18-to-45 draft age, Congress is likely to frame its legislation practically on that line. It may be appended as an amendment to the Army Bill, for it appears that the Secretary is favorable to that method, though Provost Marshal General Crowder is understood to advocate several changes.

Crowder, too, is understood to oppose lowering the draft limit to 18. But Baker originally advocated including youths of 19. Now he is favorable to including 18-year-old boys, saying that their inclusion would have a less disturbing effect upon industrial and family relations than would the drafting of many older men.

DRAWING FOR 21-YEAR-OLDS.

New Draft Registrants To Know Their Numbers Soon.

Washington.—Drawing for the 21-year-old registrants' numbers will be held at an early date. The date, although not announced, is expected to be around July 1. The drawing will be held in the same manner as the original one, with a few slight variations.

TRANSPORT SUNK; MANY LOST

Sant Anna, For Malta, Torpedoed And More Than 600 Perish.

Paris.—The transport Sant Anna, proceeding from Bizerta for Malta, was torpedoed and sunk on the night of May 10-11, according to the Havas Agency. There were on board 2,150 soldiers and native workmen, of whom 1,512 were saved.

CAPTAIN SPANG DISMISSED.

Sold Empty Flour Sacks And Pocketed Proceeds.

Washington.—Dismissal of Captain Frederick C. Spang, of the Quartermasters' Corps, after trial by court martial, for selling empty flour sacks to civilian dealers, at Camp Travis, Texas, was announced by the War Department. Captain Spang was on duty in connection with the camp bakery.

STRUGGLE ALONG THE PIAVE RIVER

The Situation Most Encouraging to the Allies.

AUSTRIANS MAY BE TRAPPED

Feutons Making Efforts To Establish Two Bridgeheads On The Right Bank For Future Operations.

Italian Army Headquarters.—The Italians, with their French and British Allies, are successfully resisting the Austrian onslaughts and are counter-attacking vigorously everywhere. In addition, there is acute watchfulness for all enemy movements either in the Brenta River area, the mountains or toward the plains.

Whether the enemy effort upon Montello Plateau is an attempt to move toward the rear of the famous Monte Grappa, key to the Italian mountain positions, or else to menace the Venetian Plains and the city of Venice, it is certain that the Austrians are fighting desperately to hold what they have so far attained.

The Italian command feels that while the first great attempt to advance has been blocked, each day will bring new efforts, and with each effort the fighting will be more arduous.

Mountain Offensive Fails.

London.—The failure of the Austrian offensive in the mountains, the most critical sector, is shown in Italian official statements. It is believed that the Italians have every prospect of restoring the positions on the Piave, where alone the enemy scored some success.

The British held the post of honor in the mountains, and how well they rose to the occasion is proved by the remark of a correspondent that "the results of the enemy attack suggest that it was the British who carried out the most successful offensive."

The Austrians undoubtedly hoped to sweep into the plains and crush Italy, but the latter's achievement in resisting the first onslaught is assurance that she is capable of defending her position.

The Germans are not likely to permit the Austrians to slacken their efforts. Should the Germans be compelled to send assistance, their strength on the western front would be correspondingly weaker.

GERMANS SHELL AMERICANS.

Another Of Their False Reports About American Positions.

American Army in France.—Enemy artillery has been more active on the Toul sector since the heavy gassing to which the Americans subjected them. The infantry action has been confined, however, to an attempted raid, in which only sixty men participated, in spite of the German official statement which said that they had penetrated the American lines at Seicheprey.

The Germans have thrown about six thousand shells along the American front in the Woerwe.

Berlin via London.—"Between the Maas (Meuse and Moselle)," says a war office announcement, "we penetrated deeply into American positions at Seicheprey and inflicted heavy losses."

Seicheprey, on the American Toul sector, is the village in which the first large scale battle between Americans and Germans took place previous to the German drive in Picardy. The village lies seven miles east of the forest of Apremont and 10 miles east of St. Mihiel. About two and one-half miles to the west lies the town of Woerwe, where sharp fighting took place several days ago.

HUN CRAFT BOTTLED UP.

Harbor Of Zebrugge Blocked Since Recent British Raid.

London.—Twenty-one German destroyers, a large number of submarines and numerous auxiliary craft are penned in the Bruges canal docks as the result of the recent British naval operations at Zebrugge, the German submarine base on the Belgian Coast. Thomas J. MacNamee, financial secretary of the admiralty, made an announcement in the House of Commons to this effect, and said that the operations were more successful than at first had been supposed. He added that the German craft were the subject of constant bombing.

MEXICO EMBARGOES BULLION.

Exportation Of Gold And Silver To Be Prohibited.

Mexico City.—Official announcement was made that the Mexican Government had decided to prohibit the exportation of gold and silver absolutely, because of similar restrictions placed on these metals by other countries. The Government also announced that the daily output of Mexican wells was 1,337,212 lbs. Of this amount, only 10 per cent could be exported, it was stated, because of the shipping shortage.

MORE GERMAN REPRISALS.

French Victims To Pay For Child Expulsions.

Amsterdam.—When reports that 900 Germans have been expelled from China and interned in Australia were proved, says the Deutsches Tageszeitung, of Berlin, the German Government will collect 10,000 (in thousands) francs of French occupied districts and send them to prison until the Germans are returned to China and compensated for their losses.

Much in Little

American artificial ice factories and refrigerating plants consume about 15,000,000 tons of coal a year.

The Bahama islands may become extensive producers of rubber by cultivating the Mexican rubber vine.

At one period no mail reached the miners of Spitzbergen for eight months, but they are now able to get the world's news twice a day by wireless telegraph.

Raleigh Fox, age seven, who weighs 227 pounds, was seen walking down the street in Pottersville, Mo., where he was visiting, crying because his shoes hurt and his father would not carry him.

For handling finished brick economically and without breakage, a truck with an ingenious unloading body has been constructed. Instead of being dumped, the load is deposited in an orderly pile when the steel container is turned to a perpendicular position so that one end rests on the ground. The open-end body is then pulled away and the load left standing.