

DECLARES U-BOAT MENACE DOOMED

Chairman Saunders Reaffirms Personal Belief Only
EDISON SAYS NEWS TO HIM

Naval Consulting Board Leader Says He Is Sure That American Inventive Genius Has Solved Problem.

William L. Saunders, chairman of the naval consulting board, whose statement that a plan of aggressive operation against U-boats that could break the menace had been developed, caused differences of opinion to be expressed by other members of the board, explained his position more exactly and cleared up a misunderstanding that had resulted from his interview.

He said he simply had stated his personal belief in the ability of recent inventions used in conjunction with known agencies to put an end to the activity of German submarines, and he reaffirmed this belief.

Other members of the board continued to disagree with Mr. Saunders' opinion, but some of them admitted that new inventions that promised to be effective against submarines had been tested by committees of the board and, while they were not as optimistic as Mr. Saunders, several of them agreed that he might be justified in his opinion, and that their own hopes had been raised by what had been accomplished through their experiments.

Basing his opinion on his own knowledge, Mr. Saunders firmly believes that inventions reported by members of the board to Washington after experimentation are sufficient, if used in connection with destroyers and other known agencies, to close the northern exit of the North sea to submarines and to bring to bear against U-boats an aggressive campaign that will exterminate them.

Concerning operations against centers of enemy strength located on land he also believes that the means for their destruction has been developed by American inventors and scientists.

For many weeks Thomas A. Edison, a member of the board, has denied himself to all interviewers. He has virtually locked himself in his laboratory, where he has been studying a problem of which he has steadfastly refused to speak. It is known to be in connection with the submarine question. However, he gave out the following statement to the public:

"The statement that the submarine question has been solved was news to Mr. Edison. He did not know that any such statement was to be issued, nor does he know how the question was to be settled, as there has not been a meeting of the board."

From this it is evident Mr. Edison is working independently on a device intended to combat the submarine menace. It was recalled that on occasions when Mr. Edison has denied himself practically to the outer world such as lately that he has brought forth an astounding invention.

Lawrence C. Addicks, who has charge of experiments with underwater devices to detect submarines, gave out this statement:

"I fear some of the statements regarding the naval consulting board may unwittingly give the wrong impression regarding progress made in combating the submarine menace, and conclusions are likely to be drawn that the problem has been fully solved or given up as hopeless."

"While it is evident specific information as to progress made would be contrary to public policy at this time, as chairman of the committee of the board dealing specifically with the submarine menace, I feel justified in saying good and satisfactory progress has been made and that we have now under practical trial some novel devices of great promise."

SEEDS HELD FROM MARKET

Speculators Said to Be Holding Great Quantities.

Seed speculators in the United States are holding from the market enough seed to solve the food problem confronting the allied nations at war against Germany.

"The food situation in Great Britain and France is serious and growing increasingly serious," said a government official. "Enough seeds are now being held up by speculators to turn the scale in the situation if the department can get hold of them so that they may be planted at once. There are now in private holdings 200,000 bushels of soy beans seed which if planted now would grow a normal crop of 5,000,000 bushels of soy beans."

HAITI PLANS WAR

President of Republic Demands That Congress Make Hostile Declaration.

President Artigue of Haiti has sent a message to congress demanding a declaration of war against Germany and a commission has been appointed to consider the question.

This action was taken in consequence of the fact that among the victims of the torpedoed French steamer Montreal were five Haitian members of the crew and three Haitian passengers.

NEW COMMANDER OF DEPARTMENT OF EAST



Photo by American Press Association.

GENERAL J. FRANKLIN BELL. This is General Bell's latest photo. It shows him at his desk on Governors island, N. Y., the day he took command.

WAR ENVOYS IN WRECK

No One Injured When Special Train Leaves Track.

The special train carrying the French war commission left the tracks at Arcola, Ill., a small station on the Terre Haute and Peoria railroad, about twenty miles beyond Terre Haute, Ind.

The envoys were considerably shaken up but no one was injured. The cause of the wreck is not yet known. Pennsylvania railway employees who made an examination of the wreck expressed the opinion that the cars were derailed accidentally. Secret service men, headed by William Nye, began an immediate investigation. The train was speeding eastward forty miles an hour.

General Joffre and M. Viviani were at dinner when the crash came. The dishes on the table before them were hurled into their laps.

Tribute Paid to Lincoln

Marshal Joffre, hero of the Marne, paid tribute to the memory of Lincoln at the emancipator's tomb in Springfield, Ill., and with others of the French commission received an enthusiastic welcome to the capital of Illinois. Marshal Joffre silently placed a wreath upon the Lincoln sarcophagus. With bowed heads and doffed caps the French hero, Rene Viviani, vice president of the French council of ministers, and the military and civil officials who accompanied them, filed into the tomb, paid honor to the war president and left without a spoken word.

Balfour Addresses House

Arthur J. Balfour, head of the war commission, addressed the house of representatives on Saturday. He spoke of the bond of sympathy between the "greatest and the oldest of the free assemblies now governing great nations in the world," the American congress and the British house of commons, of which he is a member, and told his audience that in the common cause of the future peace of the world "we shall surely conquer."

To the surprise of the house and the galleries, President Wilson appeared in the executive gallery to join in the demonstration accorded Mr. Balfour. Two precedents of a century and a half were broken. It was the first time in American history that a British official has been invited to address the house of representatives and the first time that a president of the United States has sat in the gallery.

SLAVS SAY "FORCE PEACE"

Belligerents' Peoples Told They Can Do It—No Annexations on Program.

A call to the people of all belligerents to force their nations to make peace has been issued by the Council of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates in Petrograd. Peace should be made without annexation or the payment of indemnities, declares the resolution.

The council also passed a resolution declaring that the government's explanatory note to the allies of Russia's note of May 1 will clearly outline the provisions under which the nation will accept peace. The explanatory note declares that Russia does not aim at the domination of other nations, but only seeks to establish a lasting peace on the basis of the right of all nations to determine their destiny.

The council passed a vote of confidence in the government by a majority of 35. About 2,500 delegates voted.

Austrians Advised to "Honor" U. S. Count von Tarnow, the unrecalled Austrian ambassador to the United States, before sailing for his home land, issued farewell greetings to his countrymen here and advised them to "honor the land whose hospitality they enjoy and in which they earn their livelihood."

CONSCRIPTION PLAN GIVEN OUT

First Force to Have 18,538 Officers, 528,659 Men

NATION SPLIT IN DISTRICTS

Pennsylvania Divided Between Third and Fourth While Ohio and West Virginia Makes Up Eighth.

The war department for the first time announced the composition of the forthcoming army of 500,000 men, which is to be raised by conscription. The army will be composed of 126 commands. The composition follows: Sixteen infantry divisions of 913 officers and 27,245 men each. Sixteen divisional hospitals of 24 officers and 238 men each. Seventy camp infirmaries, of two men each.

Two cavalry divisions of 607 officers and 18,021 men each. Two divisional hospitals of 24 officers and 238 men each.

Coast artillery corps of 666 officers and 20,000 men. Medical corps of 288 officers and 1,000 men.

Sixteen brigades of field artillery (heavy), 48 officers and 1,319 men each.

Eight aeroplane squadrons of 10 officers and 154 men each.

Eight balloon companies of 19 officers and 154 men each.

Ten field hospitals of 6 officers and 73 men each.

Ten ambulance companies of 5 officers and 150 men each.

Twenty-two field bakeries of 1 officer and 67 men each.

Six telephone battalions of 10 officers and 215 men each.

Sixteen pack companies of 14 men each.

Six ammunition trains of 4 officers and 352 men each.

Six supply trains (number of men not given).

Grand total, 18,538 officers and 528,659 men.

The 28,659 men in excess of the 500,000 represent the number of non-commissioned officers to be in the army. These, as well as the 18,538 officers, are to be obtained from the regular army, the national guard and the officers' reserve corps, and are to be in addition to the 500,000 enlisted.

The department also announced that the nation had been divided into sixteen military districts, each of which will have to bear its share of the burden of raising the army under the conscription measure. The separate districts will thereafter be required to furnish sufficient men from time to time to keep the divisions from each at full war strength.

The Tenth, Eleventh, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Twenty-first, Twenty-fifth and Twenty-eighth congressional districts of Pennsylvania are in the Third district, while the rest of Pennsylvania is in the Fourth. Ohio and West Virginia make up the Eighth district.

EVERYBODY FARM

Governor Brumbaugh Declares Food Crisis Is Before Us.

Governor Brumbaugh of Pennsylvania issued a proclamation addressed to the public safety committee calling on the people of the state to take steps to meet the food crisis and to mobilize workers on the farms. The governor says:

"That we are facing a food crisis in this commonwealth and in the world cannot be disputed. That in the next thirty days the quantity of food possible for our people and for the nations of the world will be determined by the amount of soil plowed and seed planted, is apparent."

"I therefore call upon you as a member of the state of local public safety committee to use your most endeavours to mobilize upon the soil of Pennsylvania the largest possible army of industrial workers."

"Let Pennsylvania answer the call of our government not only with its quota of troops, but with a full quota of food. This is our patriotic duty and these our days of opportunity."

The Land of the Kurds.

Kurdistan appeals to the archaeologist. It was ruled successively by the Persians, Macedonians, Parthians, Sassanians and Romans and is exceedingly rich in antiquarian remains, most of which are still unexamined. The Kurds are a wild, pastoral, partly nomadic people, are mostly Mohammedans and are very hostile to Christians, their cruel massacre of the Armenians being only too well known. Kurdistan belongs to both the Turkish and the Persian monarchies, though chiefly to the former.—London Chronicle.

Object of the Visit.

"Did the tiled foreigner call on you to ask your consent to his marriage with your daughter?"

"I don't think so," replied Mr. Omrox. "My impression is that he came to look me over and decide whether I was sufficiently good form to be invited to the wedding."—Washington Star.

He Got the Job.

"I understand that you told my clerk you were seeking employment?" "Your clerk misinformed you. I told him I was looking for work." "Take off your coat."—Houston Post.

BRITISH NAVY EXPERT HERE WITH WAR MISSION



Photo by American Press Association.

ADMIRAL DE CHAIR. Britain's naval envoy, whose full name and title is Sir Dudley R. S. de Chair, is fleet paymaster and is held in high esteem by the British admiralty as an authority on naval matters. He is already popular with American navy officers with whom he has come in contact at Washington.

A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE WAR

The French have scored another brilliant gain northeast of Soissons. They are now masters of the ridge crowned by the Chemin-des-Dames, having smashed the Germans back over a front of eight miles. Prisoners taken in this new offensive number 6,100. The battle is going on with great ferocity and the casualties are tremendous.

The British troops have reached Chaisy, crossed the Hindenburg line toward Reincourt and are reported to have taken Bullecourt, says Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters. Canadian troops have captured Fresnoy.

"Fighting was of terrible intensity throughout the day at the main points of the British attack," says the correspondent. "The battling has been in many places of ding-dong order, which renders it extremely difficult to define the situation, but I think it may certainly be claimed as a successful day for our gallant troops. The most conspicuous gains have been on the flanks of the long front, while toward the center, up the valley of the Scarpe, we have made less progress owing to the intensity of concealed machine gun fire."

"Despite the opposition of massed German forces the Canadian troops took Fresnoy, Oppy, however, still proved too strongly held to attempt to carry it by direct frontal attack without courting a heavier casualty list than the enterprise warranted. The wood in front of the ruined village literally was infested with machine guns."

The taking of Fresnoy and the reported capture of Bullecourt indicates that the British troops have smashed their way through the Hindenburg line at two points twelve miles apart on the Arras battle front. Fresnoy is near the northern end and Bullecourt near the southern end of the Arras section of the Hindenburg line.

The new British attack takes in virtually the entire front on which the battle of Arras was begun on Easter Monday and evidently is a major operation. It is the fourth great attack which the British have made along this line.

General Gurka, Russian commander in the west, has issued an order declaring that the fraternizing of Russians with the enemy troops must be stopped. He declares that such fraternizing, which has become a common practice, enables the enemy to learn Russian military dispositions and also, by causing a lull on the Russian front, leaves the Germans free to concentrate forces against the British and French.

General Gurka warns the troops that if the fighting comes to a standstill in France the Germans will throw all their forces against the Russians, who, lulled by promises of peace, will not be in readiness to repel the attack.

The transport Arcadian was sunk in the Mediterranean April 15 with a loss of 279 lives, according to an admiralty statement.

The Arcadian was hit by a torpedo from a Teutonic U-boat and sank in five minutes.

Socialist Against Root. Maurice Reinstein, member of the Socialist Labor party, is declared to offer protest to the people of that country against the acceptance of Elihu Root as head of a commission from the United States.

300 Americans Lost. Incomplete statistics show Germany had sunk or attempted to sink at least twenty-two American ships and has sacrificed over 300 American lives, including women and children, during the war.

ENGINEERS TO FRONT AT ONCE

Force Is Ordered Recruited For Duty In France

NINE REGIMENTS ARE CALLED

Preliminary Training Is Believed Unnecessary—Technical Men Wanted. Not Part of Army to Be Raised.

The war department announced that orders had been sent out for the raising of nine regiments of engineers for duty at the earliest possible moment on the communication lines in France. These troops will be in addition to the forces contemplated in the administration of the army plans.

Recruiting points will be New York city, St. Louis, Chicago, Boston, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Atlanta, San Francisco and Philadelphia.

The department's statement follows: "The war department has sent out orders for the raising as rapidly as possible of nine additional regiments of engineers, which are destined to proceed to France at the earliest possible moment for work on the lines of communication. It is requested of the press that no speculation or rumors regarding this force be carried, other than that given out. All details regarding the force will be given out as fast as compatible with the best public interests."

It was explained that these engineer forces were not in any way connected with the army organization planned by the war department and already made known. They represent an addition to the total military preparedness program upon which the country is now engaged. In effect the regiments will be additional technical units of the army which the administration bill authorizes the president to organize in whatever numbers and on whatever plans he deems best. The strength of an engineer regiment is approximately 2,000 men, which would make a total of 18,000 men to be assembled in the new force.

As it is specified that the troops are for use on communication lines, presumably on railways, highways and telephone and telegraph lines, it is assumed that the men will be drawn as far as possible from railway employees and the forces of the telegraph and telephone companies. Additional officers to supplement those detailed from the active list of the army, or from the officers' reserve corps, probably would be sought among the engineers now engaged with work of the same character as that which the troops will be called upon to do in France.

Rochambeau Just Missed.

The liner Rochambeau, recently arrived at a French port, narrowly escaped a torpedo fired by a submarine, according to one of her passengers. The torpedo passed a bare ten yards astern. The Rochambeau immediately fired a dozen shells at the submarine. Whether they found their mark is not known.

LIVE STOCK AND GRAIN

Pittsburgh, May 8.

Butter—Prints, 43@43½c; tubs, 42@42½c. Eggs—Fresh, 38c. Cattle—Prime, \$12@12.50; good, \$11.25@11.75; tidy butchers, \$10.50@11.25; fair, \$9.50@10.25; common, \$8@9; heifers, \$7@11; common to good fat bulls, \$7@11; common to good fat cows, \$5@9.50; fresh cows and springers, \$40@85. Sheep and Lambs—Prime wethers, \$11@11.50; good mixed, \$10@10.75; fair mixed, \$9@9.75; culls and common, \$4.50@7; lambs, \$14@17; veal calves, \$13@13.50; heavy and thin calves, \$6@10. Hogs—Prime heavy and heavy mixed, \$15.75@15.80; mediums, \$15.70@15.75; heavy Yorkers, \$15@15.65; light Yorkers, \$14@14.25; pigs, \$13@13.25; roughs, \$14@14.75; stags, \$12.50@13.

Cleveland, May 8.

Hogs—Choice heavies, \$15.90; good mixed, \$15.75; Yorkers, \$15.65; pigs, \$13.25; roughs, \$14; stags, \$13. Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$11.50@12; choice to fat steers, \$10@10.50; good to choice butcher steers, \$9.50@10; fair to good butcher steers, \$8.25@9.50; common to light steers, \$7.50@8.50; choice heifers, \$9@10; light heifers, \$8.50@8.50; good to choice butcher bulls, \$8.50@10; bologna bulls, \$7@8; good to choice cows, \$8@9.50; common cows, \$5@6; milch cows and springers, \$60@90. Calves—Fair to good, \$11.50@12; choice, \$12.50@13; heavy and common, \$8@11. Clipped Sheep and Lambs—Good to choice lambs, \$13@13.75; fair to good, \$12@13; culls and common, \$9@11.50; good to choice wethers, \$9@10; good to choice ewes, \$8.50@9.50; culls and common, \$7@8. Chicago, May 8.

Hogs—Bulk, \$15.40@15.70; light, \$14.50@15.65; mixed, \$15.15@15.70; heavy, \$15.10@15.80; roughs, \$15.10@15.30; pigs, \$9.75@13.70. Cattle—Native beef cattle, \$8.90@13.30; stockers and feeders, \$7.15@10; cows and heifers, \$6.25@11.10; calves, \$8.75@13.25. Sheep and Lambs—Wethers, \$11.25@13.75; lambs, \$13.50@17.65. Wheat—May, \$2.83. Corn—May, \$1.53½c. Oats—May, 67½c.

KEYSTONE PATTERNS

The Fayette county public safety committee announced in Uniontown that a carload of seed potatoes will be placed on sale at cost within a few days. A feature of the announcement is an order prohibiting the sale of the potatoes to farmers who have cash to pay for them. Members of the committee say that farmers who have the money can buy potatoes at the top price, while those who have no money will be able to get seed potatoes from the committee on their notes.

In a fire that destroyed their home at a hamlet near Berwick, two of them—Cora, aged six, and Ray, aged fourteen—of John Spinor were burned to death. The father and five other children were saved by jumping. The father is in the Berwick hospital, suffering from burns from which he cannot recover. The mother, who had been called to the bedside of her mother there, collapsed when told of her children's death, and is also in a serious condition at the Berwick hospital.

Conductor William H. Collier, aged fifty, of Altoona, was killed and brakeman William J. Waite, aged thirty-five, of Tyrone, miraculously escaped death when their train, which was parted to examine the coupling knuckle of two cars in the yards, came together without warning, due to a misunderstanding of signs. Collier was squeezed to death. Waite was pushed aside when his conductor was caught.

The fourth voluntary increase granted by the H. C. Frick Coke company in the Connellsville district in fifteen months is in effect today. It is a 10 per cent increase. The last increase given by the company was last December. The independent companies, who have always paid the scale, will also grant an increase of 10 per cent. About 40,000 coke workers are affected.

The Pennsylvania state department of agriculture announced this week that from present indications the wheat production in Pennsylvania for 1917 will be 23,751,000 bushels, with the possibility of a greater total. Figures show that the rye crop will at least equal the 4,495,400 bushels of 1916.

Governor Brumbaugh of Pennsylvania has issued a stay of execution of Henry Ward Motter and Ernest Haines, Jefferson county, from the week of May 7 to the week of Sept. 10. It is stated that this action was taken because the supreme court authorized new trials.

Facing a labor scarcity and realizing that conscription will further deplete their force the transit company, operating electric lines between Bloomsburg, Berwick, Catawissa and Danville, is advertising for women to be used as extra conductors.

The H. C. Frick Coke company announced that thousands of vacant lots owned by the Frick works in Allegheny, Westmoreland and Fayette counties will be turned over to the general public for cultivation free of charge.

Mayor Smith of Philadelphia issued a proclamation of a sale of fireworks in Philadelphia. The proclamation contained an order for the arrest of any persons discharging a firearm of any sort within the city limits.

Harmon M. Kephart of Connellsville became state treasurer of Pennsylvania Monday, succeeding Robert K. Young of Wellsboro. The new state treasurer announced he will retain the entire office force for the present.

Mayor C. E. Rhodes of Altoona has received \$1,000 from a local business man, to be used for the purchase of seed potatoes for those who are cultivating gardens but who cannot afford to pay the prevailing prices.

Sale of fireworks for July 4 is to be prohibited in New Castle. This action is being taken as a safety first measure in order that no explosions that might appear of an accidental character may take place here.

The Trades and Labor assembly of New Castle has notified the officers of the American Federation of Labor that it desires an effort to be made to have congress fix a maximum price at which all foodstuffs is to be sold.

The Pennsylvania supreme court reversed the Fayette county court, which some time ago appointed receivers for Josiah V. Thompson, and the case stands the same as prior to the receivership proceedings.

The Pittsburgh Steel company announces a voluntary wage increase of 10 per cent. The increase affects all employees of the company, both in the general offices and the Monessen and Glassport plants.

An order for twenty-five cars of the all-steel F-25 type, especially adapted for gun truck service and moving armor plate, has been placed with the Pennsylvania railroad shops in Altoona.

Howard Heinz of Pittsburgh has been appointed director of the department of food supplies of the committee on public safety for the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In a special order handed down by Judge J. W. King, retail liquor dealers in Armstrong county were directed not to sell any bottle goods.