

URGES NEED OF AIR FLEET IN WAR

Expert Declares United States Is In Great Danger.

COULD BE INVADIED EASILY.

Aircraft Publisher, In Letter to Congress, Tells How This Country, Which Is Far Behind in Aerial Military Equipment, Could Be Devastated—Need \$10,000,000.

AERIAL FLEETS OF GOVERNMENTS.

Table with columns: Country, Aero-Dirigibles, Expenditures. Lists Germany, France, Russia, Italy, England, Austria, Japan, Brazil, Belgium, Greece, Bulgaria, Spain, United States.

In an open letter to congress, copies of which were sent to each member of the senate and house, Alfred W. Lawson of New York, publisher of Aircraft, one of the foremost advocates of aviation in this country, calls attention to the lamentable and dangerous position of the United States in the advance of the new science of flight.

"As I write," he says, "the United States of America stands thirteenth on the list of governments that have made expenditures for the purpose of aerial development. China ranks still below us, but so pitifully insignificant have been the American appropriations for this work that China could overtake and go beyond us in a day."

Mr. Lawson states at the outside his opinion that "the time has now arrived for this nation to start the construction of a great aerial fleet both for offensive and defensive purposes. In fact, in view of the great progress of other nations along these lines, further delay on our part must be considered little short of criminal negligence. Delay is jeopardizing the best interest of our people and of the army and navy in particular. For every year we delay now two years will be required later to overtake the nations that now lead us and are increasing that lead with every setting of the sun."

United States Should Spend \$10,000,000. Mr. Lawson's estimate of the needs of America is an immediate appropriation of \$10,000,000 by congress for an adequate aerial fleet of both aeroplanes and dirigibles, besides the necessary personnel, the removal of duty from foreign airships (rigid dirigibles) for two years to stimulate their importation, while maintaining a heavy tariff on aeroplanes and otherwise stimulating the manufacture of both types in this country by subsidies and government purchases.

"Germany," he says, "leads the countries of the world in governmental expenditures, having expended to date approximately \$10,000,000 for aeronautical equipment.

Asserts Possibility of Invasion. "Germany, for instance, could play havoc with this country if war broke out today. Yes; within thirty days it could have within our shores and right over our heads at least ten great armoured air cruisers of the Zeppelin and Schutte-Lanz types and 200 or more of the latest pattern war aeroplanes. How? you ask. The easiest way possible. These ten great air cruisers could be accompanied across the ocean by a flotilla of steamships with supplies, just as a fleet of naval vessels are accompanied by colliers and supply ships on their long voyages.

"They could be repositioned, re-gasolined and recharged with hydrogen gas as often as necessary en route by these supply ships and again innumerable times while standing off our very shores, say a hundred miles away and out of sight of our forts and fleets. These airships, which have a radius of action of about 1,200 miles and are capable of staying in the air for forty-eight hours without the necessity of having to be restocked with gasoline or hydrogen, could float over our forts and fleets as though they never existed and find their way right to the very hearts of our great cities.

No Defense Available. "It would require but two or three of these great ships of the air to float over Washington and lay its magnificent public buildings in waste. They could pour down shot and shell—in fact, tons of ignitable explosives—right over the halls of congress themselves, and the strangest part of the whole affair would be our absolute helplessness to prevent it. They could come and go by day or by night without opposition by merely rising high enough. All they would have to do would be to discharge their cargo of explosives and return over our great fortresses, without fear of harm to their ocean convoy, reload and repeat the operation.

"Japan is even now stealthily collecting a fleet of both aeroplanes and dirigibles. Within one short year she has outdistanced us in governmental appropriations for aeronautical work at a ratio of about 8 to 1."

INDIAN ORCHARD.

Indian Orchard, Feb. 20.

Mrs. R. E. Bayly is on the sick list. Josephine Schmidt, who has been quite sick, is improving nicely. Minor Crosby and wife are entertaining friends from Aldenville.

Mamie Schmidt, of Oakland farm, is spending the winter at White Mills. The school realized a fine sum of money from their entertainment and box social.

Phillip Murray, Jr., of Honesdale, was hustling among his many friends here Monday. Cal Schweighofer of Girdland, was in this vicinity to-day buying calves and fat cattle.

During the past week Samuel Saunders was attending business at the county seat. Mrs. W. D. Buckingham, who has had a severe attack of grip, is some better at present.

Mrs. Mary E. Barnes, of Beachlake, spent Sunday at the home of Charles Jay and wife. Cora Weeks, of Grand View farm, is helping care for the sick at the home of P. L. Braman.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Colwill, of Torrey, were the guest of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Garrett on Sunday. P. L. Braman and daughter, Mrs. George Ham, who have been very sick, are on the road to recovery.

W. H. Marshall and wife were recent visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tuman of White Mills. O. D. Henshaw of Galilee, spent Saturday and Sunday with his family here.

Mrs. John L. Young is quite ill at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Albert Mitchell. Nelson Decker, of Niagara, N. Y., spent Thursday last with his sister, Mrs. J. W. Spry.

Mrs. Addie Rice, of White Mills, is assisting in caring for her father and sister, at Maple Lane farm. Mae Richmond is visiting her sister, Mrs. Howard Bishop, of East Honesdale. The latter is seriously ill.

Miss Nellie Hall, who is spending the winter at Honesdale, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hall. Barbara Williams, of Seelyville, is spending a few weeks with her parents, W. Williams and wife, of Hough Lake.

C. T. Weeks and William Williams are filling F. T. Bishop's ice house at the Half Way House. Chas. Wagner is assisting them. Anna Schmidt, teacher of the Swamp Brook school, treated her school to a sleighride last Friday. The little folks had a good time.

J. T. Swartz, who is employed at the Wayne Milling Company's mill at East Honesdale, spent Sunday with his family at the Red Ridge farm. Several of Mrs. Richard Ham's friends made her a birthday surprise on Monday evening last. She was a recipient of several useful presents.

Mrs. Tryphena Smith and daughter, Mrs. W. D. Hiller, were royally entertained at the home of Mrs. William Weeks of White Mills one day last week. Mrs. W. D. Hiller and daughter, Geraldine, who have been visiting relatives here and at the lake, have returned to their home in Binghamton, N. Y.

The dairymen at this place are harvesting some fine ice; some are getting their supply from Beachlake while others are getting it from P. L. Braman's. The funeral of Lewis L. Ham held at Christ church on Sunday, officiated by D. S. MacKellar, of Hawley, was largely attended. Interment in Indian Orchard cemetery.

Mrs. Charles Schweighofer and children of Lebanon, have been the guests of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Avery of the Bethel Fruit Farm, during the past week. On Saturday last the Berlin teachers attended the district institute at Honesdale, where they received much instruction that will be of great benefit to them in the future.

Cole and John's are busily engaged at hauling lumber from the A. J. Williams lot, and E. C. and Jesse Hame have finished hauling the props from the George Ham lumber tract. W. C. Spry made a business trip to Twin Lake on Tuesday of last week. He called on E. Miller, proprietor of the Twin Lake House while there. He said that he enjoyed the latter's kind hospitality very much.

Down at Mrs. Frank Bishop's on Thursday last the members of the Ladies' Guild had a good time, fourteen members and several visitors being present. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Samuel Gregory. All are looking forth to a good time. At our last Grange meeting, Brothers Elery Crosby and W. H. Dunn favored the grangers with excellent talks, which were enjoyed by all. Bro. Wm. Karslake, of Pleasant Valley Grange, was present. We are always pleased to have Bro. Karslake visit us. He gives us good talks on poultry and the use of fertilizers.

Tottering Turkey. The Young Turk continues to manifest his attributes as the enfant terrible of European politics.—New York World. Turkey is the undisputed champion bluffing, vacillating and procrastinating heavyweight of the world.—Council Bluffs Nonpartiel.

Automobile Runs. Gasoline has gone up 100 per cent in six months. Best news pedestrians have had in some time.—New York Herald. Do not forget to carry a pencil and a pad of paper, so that you may take down the number of the motorcar that runs over you.—Chicago News. After this chauffeurs in New York must keep sober while running cars or go to jail. This measure is regarded in the light of a first aid to the census.—Baltimore American.

SURGEON STOPS A BABY SACRIFICE

Ship's Doctor Disperses Haitian Voodooists.

STUMBLES INTO CEREMONY.

Baron Hendrik van Renken Stam While Hunting For Flowers Bursts Upon Wild Scene of Blacks at Barbaric Worship—Ready to Kill Infant—He Knocks Medicine Man Down.

That voodooism in all its horrors is practiced in the interior of Haiti by the superstitious natives has long been known or suspected by residents and visitors to the tumultuous island. The white men who have ever had the experience of seeing the voodoo worshippers in the midst of their fearsome orgies might well be enumerated on the eight fingers. One of the few who have had the ghastly experience arrived in New York recently. He is Baron Hendrik van Renken Stam, the ship's surgeon.

Dr. Stam has had many thrilling experiences, but it remained for the voodoo worshippers of Haiti to give him the thrill of thrills. "Talk about the spinal shivers," said the surgeon in discussing his experience, "well, I had them for fair. I had the experience about two weeks ago, and my sleep is disturbed with frightful nightmares yet.

Hobby Leads Him Ashore. "My hobby since my college days has been botany, and in my rambles about the world I have always taken the opportunity to explore the out of the way places for botanical specimens. It was this hobby that made me a witness of the voodooistic ceremony. The ship was lying in the harbor of Port au Prince, and I took the opportunity to go ashore with my collecting case to seek rare flowers in the hills back of the Haitian capital.

"I started early in the morning, and mid-afternoon found me wandering about through the hills. I started back blindly, and in a few minutes the realization came over me that I was lost. "As I marched blindly through the wooded hills I heard the sound of drums reverberating. At first the drumbeats sounded afar, and then they came nearer and nearer. I thought that I must be approaching some settlement, and at the thought I quickened my footsteps. Then I discerned a faint light and felt certain that a village was near.

Stumbles on Worshipers. "As I neared the light the sound of the drumming became more and more intense, and then I distinguished voices raised in a wild chant. Like a flash the realization swept over me that I was coming upon voodoo worshippers in the midst of their weird rites. I had heard the story of the voodoo worshippers for years, and at the thought of seeing the natives in the midst of their ceremony I forgot danger and decided to see for myself what voodoo worship was.

"The nearer I came to the light, which I soon saw to be a big fire, the more cautious I became in my movements. I soon found it necessary to crawl down on my hands and knees and get through the underbrush. The beating of the drums was awful, but the noise served to cover my not altogether stealthy approach through the brush.

Crawls Through Underbrush. "Nearer and nearer I crawled toward the fire, and then I found myself in a clump of bushes from which I could see the natives in their orgy, not two-score feet away. About thirty blacks were in the party, and they stood or sat about the fire, the half dozen drummers pounding their instruments for dear life, while the others raised their voices in the awful chant. During all this a native, with face besmeared with vermilion streaks and with trinkets hanging about his neck and waist that rattled as he moved, strode up and down before the fire, chanting some wild incantation. Suddenly he approached a native holding a bundle in his arms. The chant grew wilder and the drums beat the louder.

"The bundle which the medicine man or voodoo chief seized was a living infant. Above the sound of the voices and drums I caught the infant's wail. I saw the voodoo man raise a knife above the child, and blind with rage and forgetful of my own safety, I sprang to my feet and dashed from my place of concealment toward the heathen. If the devil himself had suddenly popped into their midst those voodooists could not have been more astonished. The chant broke off suddenly, the drums ceased their thundering, and half of the worshippers took to their heels into the forest.

Fells Medicine Man. "The voodoo medicine man stood with mouth agape watching my approach, and the next instant I had hit him over the head with my collecting case, and he dropped like a poled ox. I passed through the remaining worshippers and into the dark. As I ran my fear increased and, with the growth of fear, my speed. Far behind me I could hear the howls of my pursuers, but I had a good start and a great fear to keep me moving.

"Lucky I had headed right in my run, and about the time I had exhausted myself I saw the lights of Port au Prince, and I kept at my best effort until I was in the town."

DAMASCUS.

Damascus, Feb. 20.

Some people are so mean and evil-disposed that their wretchedness gives them no peace so that they are ever reaching up to pull down those of noble character to a level with themselves and this is generally done behind backs.

Mrs. Katie Burke, widow of the late Philip T. Burke, and who lived on a farm a mile and a half from Galilee, toward this village, has bought the Arthur Edwards house and grounds in Galilee village. She had moved to this place about December 1.

While assisting at putting up a telephone line for Stanley Van Natta Charles Appley had a narrow escape from serious injury. It happened in this wise: Mr. Van Natta did not wish to set poles through the woods and decided to fasten the wire to small trees. To prevent strain upon the wire by the swaying of the trees, it was concluded to cut off the tops at the proper height for the wire. Mr. Appley scaled the first tree with a pair of lineman's climbers on and had severed the top. In dodging the falling top he lost his balance and fell to the ground. He was badly shaken up, and bruised but not seriously injured, but how he escaped this is a miracle.

Nelson B. Alfast, writing from Los Angeles, Cal., states that California is even more than he expected to see. There had been but one rainy day since he had been there. The day before he wrote he and his family had visited the famous Busch Gardens; also an ostrich farm at Pasadena.

Stanley Van Natta and a force of men are engaged in denuding the tract of timber land known as "The Shaker Tract." This tract lies northwest of Fallsdale and formerly comprised some 400 acres. But sections of it has lately been sold off. A few years ago the late William Penwarden purchased the remainder of the lot. The timber is mostly or all hard wood and of the very best quality. It is said that some of the trees show that there must have been a fierce fire passed over this tract very many years ago as at the butt there is charred wood grown over with a thick growth or layer of sound wood.

Mr. Van Natta took the contract to cut and saw all the timber on the tract. He erected a portable steam saw mill that has a capacity of about 8,000 feet a day. It is reported that the Messrs. Penwarden have contracted with a piano company for the entire output of lumber, and it is possible that the shipment will be made from Skinner's Falls on the Erie as this is the best grade to get to by rail. Mr. Van Natta came here from Berwick, Pa., with his father several years ago and cut off several tracts of valuable timber, cutting from one tract alone nearly two million feet, much of it a desirable quality of pine. He is an expert as a sawyer, having passed nearly his entire life at that work. He spent several years in the pine forests of Virginia. That climate and the water did not agree with him and he returned north again. Mr. Van Natta is a son-in-law of Fred S. Price of Damascus.

Feb.—the abbreviation for February, but stands for freeze everybody. That is generally the case and this February has been no exception to the general rule. The cold weather fell upon everybody so suddenly that they take bad with it. When the mercury drops from mild to from six to ten below zero no wonder people go around humped up like a half open jack knife.

We said in our last letter that T. F. Conklin was a "stone carpenter" and not a "stove carpenter" as it appeared. This was only a slight mistake.

B. H. Dodson, who is denuding the Yerkes lumber tract, has his mill moved to a new location on the lot. That is one great advantage of these portable saw mills—they can be set at a location to favor stocking. It is only a matter of small delay and expense to move one of these mills loaded upon skids, and it very much facilitates starting in large, heavy logs. He expects to have the job all finished except the acid wood. Everything large enough to make a stick for acid wood will be cut. With the exception of a few small clumps of pine and hemlock reserved for private use, the only remaining timber available in this township is hardwood, and that mostly beech. There is one 400-acre tract of this timber, but it has been cut over once, taking all then that was considered suitable lumber.

The bi-weekly attraction at Laurel Lake last Saturday afternoon drew about a half hundred of the sporting class from the surrounding hamlets, the magnet being speeding horses for amusement only, no purse being put up. Only four entries were made on this date, viz. "Doc" Cade, Thomas Jackson, Jacob Bischoff and Freeman Brown. It was a walk-over for "Doc." He took third money at Lake Huntington, N. Y., a week ago.

Mrs. Dermody died at her home in Cocheton last Thursday. She never fully recovered from the shock of her husband's sudden death at the home of his friend, Michael McCue, whose home he had just reached to see Mr. McCue who had died that day. That was in November last.

And They Call Men Strong. The fair and gentle maiden's rig is planned in wondrous wise. Her hat looks seven times too big. For one of her small size; Her skirt is made so very tight that she must walk with care. For if her steps were long she might cause useful seams to tear; Her ankles are exposed to all the biting winds that blow; Her soles are thin, her shoes are small and cut extremely low. With nothing on her throat or breast To keep away the chill She braves the storm and does her best To be enchanting still. If I were dressed as she is dressed—I shiver as I write— They'd call the doctors in for me, And by this time next week I'd be put safely out of sight. —Chicago Record-Herald.

CASTORIA advertisement. Includes signature of Chas. H. Fletcher and text: "The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. All Counterfeits, Imitations and 'Just-as-good' are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment."

ABSOLUTE SECURITY. Wayne County Savings Bank HONESDALE, PA., 1871 42 YEARS OF SUCCESS 1913. BECAUSE we have been transacting a SUCCESSFUL banking business CONTINUOUSLY since 1871 and are prepared and qualified to render VALUABLE SERVICE to our customers. BECAUSE of our HONORABLE RECORD for FORTY-ONE years. BECAUSE of SECURITY guaranteed by our LARGE CAPITAL and SURPLUS of \$550,000.00. BECAUSE of our TOTAL ASSETS of \$3,000,000.00. BECAUSE GOOD MANAGEMENT has made us the LEADING FINANCIAL INSTITUTION of Wayne county. BECAUSE of these reasons we confidently ask you to become a depositor. COURTEOUS treatment to all CUSTOMERS whether their account is LARGE or SMALL. INTEREST allowed from the FIRST of ANY MONTH on Deposits made on or before the TENTH of the month.

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