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PREPAREDNESS CAMPAIGN CLOSED TUESDAY NIGHT

MEETINGS HELD IN EVERY SECTION OF COUNTY

All Indications Point to the Planting of a Tremendous Crop of Food and Feed Stuffs.

From all sides there is heard statements of satisfaction over the outcome of the whirlwind campaign for civic preparedness that has just been held in this county. Enthusiasm over the matter of preparing to meet the food shortage has risen by leaps and bounds and it is safe to say that the people of the county are more thoroughly aroused over the situation than ever before in the history of the county.

Beginning last Friday night speakers have been sent into all parts of the county and to both races to talk to them along the line of food shortage and place before them the plans laid out by the county committee for the purpose of meeting this shortage with home raised food. From every meeting point has come reports of record breaking crowds and there was every indication at each of these places that the people are more intensely interested in the matter of increasing their food crops than ever before in the history of the county.

The speakers have urged the increasing food for man and feed for stock at the earliest possible date this summer. Gardens have been stressed and especially those garden crops that the sum will cure so that they may be saved for winter use. On the other hand the point has been stressed that our people waste at least twenty five per cent of the food stuffs that they use and they have been urged to preserve food as well as raise more food.

The crowds that have greeted the speakers have been most interested listeners and have shown by their questions and words of approval that the plans made by the county committee in the matter of what crops to plant will be followed by almost all of the farmers of the county. In many of these sections committees have been appointed to co-operate with the people in carrying into execution the plans suggested at these meetings. Taken all in all there is no question but that the campaign has been most successful.

FINGER-NAIL SKETCHES OF THE MEN WHO RUN THE U. S. NAVY

Washington, April 24.—"What has come to him, he has won by hard work always."

This is what the Navy Department thinks of Admiral William Shepherd Benson, Chief of Naval Operations, President of the General Board of the Navy, and the "one man, above all others, upon whom rests the success or failure of the fleet."

When Congress recently wrote into the law that Admiral Benson's orders "were to be considered as emanating from the Secretary of the Navy and have full force and effect as such," it showed what it thought of him.

The Chief of Operations is truly a Southern Gentleman. He was born on a small plantation in the heart of Georgia in 1855, and has carried with him throughout his brilliant career the best traditions of the old South.

Tall, spare, with a most courtly bearing and a full white mustache, much like his predecessor Admiral Dewey, the Admiral presents the most distinguished appearance. His rise has been meteoric during the past few years.

His first cruise as captain of a battleship was in 1913, when he piloted the Navy Yard, where he did "his bit" with the Utah to the fleet pennant. He then assumed command of the Philadelphia such "great labor and excellence," as he is called to Washington in 1915, when a man was sought to create and take charge of the new vital office of Naval Operations.

Admiral Benson is not a man given to epigrams, especially those of the first person. "I" seldom falls from his lips. If he can be induced to admit his services in Washington have met with "fair success" the Admiral will immediately impress it upon you that it is solely owing to "the loyalty and co-operation" of his associates.

This is what his brother officers say of the present ranking officer of the U. S. Navy.

This is the happy warrior.
This is he
Whom every man in arms
Would wish to be."

VETERANS OF SIXTIES FIRM ON CONSCRIPTION

ANNUAL REUNION HELD IN CHESTER

Remnant of Grey Clad Host Pledge Their Loyalty to Their Country.

Chester, April 25.—The annual reunion of the South Carolina division, United Confederate Veterans, which has been in session in Chester for two days, closed tonight, when the curtain descended upon the brilliant reunion ball.

The reunion was said to have been one of the most remarkable from every standpoint ever staged in South Carolina. The programme was the most elaborate and the speakers and entertainments were of the very highest order.

Today's programme opened at 9:30 o'clock in the auditorium of the city hall with a musical programme of Southern airs and national selections.

An address was delivered by Miss Mildred Rutherford, of Athens, Ga., upon the great work that she is doing in compiling an accurate history of the War Between the Sections. She was formerly historian of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. She possesses a wonderful mind and her address today was a historical masterpiece. Many of the prominent veterans said that she gave more accurate facts than they had read in histories and articles in the past ten years. Her work is in the line of getting together data, from Northern as well as Southern sources, so that the truth of the War Between the Sections will go down to posterity. She is said to be accomplishing a monumental task in a truly wonderful way that will be of lasting credit to the South. She is a capital speaker, possessing a magnetism that held her large audience for over an hour. She used no manuscript, quoting piles of figures from memory that fairly startled the people.

The following officers were re-elected for the ensuing year: B. H. Teague of Aiken, major general commanding the South Carolina division; Gen. W. A. Clark of Columbia, commander of the First brigade; while Gen. C. A. Reed of Anderson was again chosen to command the Second brigade.

The following pension board was re-elected: Capt. W. H. Edwards of Chester; Carlton W. Sawyer of Columbia; Capt. D. R. Flenniken of Columbia; Col. R. J. Morris and Dr. William Weston of Columbia.

Two important resolutions were passed, as follows:

"Resolved, That the son of a deceased father shall have the right to take the father's place as a full member of the United Confederate Veteran camp.

"Resolved, That we request the United Daughters of the Confederacy to allow the descendant, male or female, to wear the cross of honor of a deceased Confederate soldier, provided the name of the original owner is distinctly marked upon it."

The South Carolina division today voted to support George P. Harrison of Opelika, Ala., at the Washington reunion in Washington in June for reelection as general commanding the United Confederate Veterans.

The annual memorial exercises partook of a very solemn and impressive nature. It was to the Confederate dead. Many noble and beautiful tributes were paid to the devoted women of the Confederacy.

The veterans voted thanks to the people of Chester for their unbounded hospitality, and to the press of the State.

The following noteworthy resolution endorsing President Wilson's selective draft system was introduced by Gen. W. A. Clark of Columbia, and was unanimously adopted by the veterans:

"Whereas, our country has become involved in a war now being waged among the leading nations of Europe which for its magnitude is without parallel in the history of the world and which for its atrocious cruelties is violative of the rules of civilized warfare; a war in which the militarism of Germany—the remnant of medieval ages—threatens to deprive the people of their civil and political freedom.

"And whereas it now comes all true Americans to rally to our flag with a cordial enthusiastic support.

"Now therefore be it resolved by the South Carolina division, United Confederate Veterans in annual reunion assembled, That we pledge our loyalty to our country and to our flag; and in token of this pledge we hold ourselves subject to our country's call and ready, at the command of the president, to render such service as may in our power lie.

"Resolved further, That we hereby declare our confidence in our president and in our congress and pledge our cordial support to all measures which may

Dictatorship over Food Supply of World

THIS MAY BECOME PART OF GREAT WAR CAMPAIGN

Indications Are This Action Will Result from Conference Next Session.

Washington, April 26.—That some American, probably Herbert C. Hoover or Secretary Wilson, will within the next few months become the food dictator of the world, is a development of the international war conference in progress here.

More and more are the conference proceedings crystallizing a monumental campaign to feed the allies. Shipping and finance are considered as comparatively collateral, though vital.

Washington, April 26.—The result of the first Congressionally authorized probe into prices of foods conducted here reported today, is that there is "no just ground for such high prices of many of the products as are demanded."

The probers recommend the urgent need of organizing comprehensive marketing machinery and which would bring the producing and consuming communities into trading relations with each other.

The conditions unearthed here may be a criterion of what the federal trade commission may find in its nation-wide investigation. The probers found that the reports of the food shortage were misleading, that the prices in many cities were unusually high, the poor being forced to resort to the strictest economy to provide food.

The sale of ordinary cuts of meat appears to have been discontinued and the consumers are exercising more frugality than ever before, this being provoked by the decrease in the garbage collections.

The shipments of foodstuffs has been held up abnormally and, consequently the supply has been abnormally depleted. The element of food speculation has been a potent factor in the increased prices.

The shipments of food to the belligerents has not affected the price of potatoes, eggs and onions, but the prices of these products have soared with the prices of other foods.

The committee conducting the probe recommended the establishments of municipal wholesale markets, that the probe be brought together, cutting out some of the middlemen.

Washington, April 26.—For the purpose of aiding the farmers of the nation in meeting the food situation, the government today took steps to throw a hundred million dollars into the breach. Secretary McAdoo announced that all of the postal savings deposits would be made immediately available for loans to farmers.

Salesmen Lend a Hand in Northwest.
Minneapolis, April 26.—Three thousand salesmen are preaching bigger crops to the farmers of the Northwest today. Resolved to take every possible step to spur the thousands of farmers in the vast Northwest to produce the maximum crop, all salesmen with headquarters in Minneapolis are talking big acreage and bigger crops everywhere they go. Many deal directly with farmers and will carry the call of agricultural mobilization direct to the soil.

Wholesale firms are behind this move and are urging their country trade to work for bigger crops. Railroads through every agency are advertising the need of increased production. Posters will be displayed on fences, barns and sign posts throughout the northwest calling on farmers to work for large crops.

ROOT WILL GO TO AID OF THE RUSSIANS

Washington, April 26.—Elihu Root has accepted the chairmanship of the American commission to Russia. The American workers will assist the Russians in development of their resources and, if desired, in the reorganization of their government.

be adopted for the prosecution of the war and approve the selective draft system as may be best calculated to insure a speedy and successful termination; in which righteousness shall prevail, and upon which a peace may be established insuring future generations immunity against such cruelties and the horrors of uncivilized warfare in which the rights of humanity shall be vindicated and the principles of democracy triumph over the tyranny of royalty.

"And to this end we pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

"Resolved further, That the adjutant of this division be directed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the president of the United States and to the secretary of war."

OPPOSITION TO SELEC- TIVE DRAFT DWINDLING

HOUSE AGREES TO VOTE ON BILL FRIDAY

Now Seems Certain Draft Bill Will Pass—Stevenson Urged to Get Into Line.

Washington, April 26.—The House agreed to vote on the selective conscription bill tomorrow. It seemed certain it would pass. The debate ends this afternoon.

Washington, April 26.—Congress today resumed its struggle with the selective conscription bill. Representative Gardner took a poll and found that much of the opposition had vanished and the supporters of the measure are confident the bill will be passed by a safe majority. No vote, however, is expected in either house today.

Fort Mill, April 26.—The directors of the Fort Mill Chamber of Commerce have directed a telegram to the Hon. W. F. Stevenson urging him to support the plans of the administration especially as regards the matter of selective conscription, stating as their opinion that sentiment here is practically unanimous in favor of the measure.

Champ Clark Opposes.

Washington, April 24.—Champ Clark bitterly opposed conscription today. He told a delegation from the National Security League that he would never vote for conscription and that such a bill would never pass.

The war department is trying to bulldoze the country into approving, Mr. Clark said. "I am in favor of letting the flower and youth of the country volunteer before fastening the disgrace of conscription upon them."

RUSSIA FIRM FOR CONTINUANCE OF WAR

London, April 23.—The Daily Express Petrograd correspondent contributes an interview he has had with A. F. Kerensky minister of justice in the new Russian government, whom he called the Lloyd George of Russia. While insisting Russia would only wage a defensive war and countenance no annexations, M. Kerensky emphasized the fact that greater enthusiasm existed in Russia today than ever before for a defensive war. Even the Lithuanians, Poles, Little Russians and Finns, who had no war zeal under the autocratic regime, were now prepared to defend their country to the utmost said the minister.

"If President Wilson was expressing the will of his people and not merely making a democratic move," said M. Kerensky, "I am in complete sympathy with the war aims he suggests as being most compatible with an enduring peace."

While not objecting to the principle of compensation, especially in its application to Poland and Belgium, M. Kerensky declared that he was directly opposed to exactions for any purpose whatever.

The correspondent remarks on this question of reparation that M. Kerensky is not in agreement with some of his colleagues. Asked about the Russian attitude toward the British people, M. Kerensky said the entry of the United States into war after the overthrow of the autocracy had given the United States a popularity such as the British had rarely enjoyed.

The minister of justice painted a grave picture of the state of affairs under the autocracy. He said a German spring offensive under the old regime would have meant defeat. Asked about the insistence of the Socialists for peace, M. Kerensky said:

"Foreign observers fail to understand that the call for peace was greater under the old regime, but owing to the policy of darkness, it never appeared on the surface. Now, with freedom of speech, it appears in the full light of day to attract attention but to receive little strength."

Rome, April 25.—The pope has been informed by the papal nuncios in the Teutonic countries that the general strikes in Germany and Austria-Hungary closely approximate the scope of a revolution.

According to reports in Vatican circles the nuncios assert their belief that a general revolt to back the demands of the people for peace might develop.

WOULD NOT DENY THE PEOPLE RIGHT TO CRITICISE OFFICIALS

Washington, April 26.—President Wilson declared that while he approved the espionage bill, he was utterly opposed to any censorship which would deny to the people their indisputable right to criticize their own public officials.

TREMENDOUS LOSSES SUFFERED BY TEUTONS

BRITISH ATTACK PARTIALLY CHECKED BY GERMANS

Wall of Living Soldiers Used to Check British—Loss of Life Terrible.

London, April 26.—A complete repulse of the massed counter attack by the German forces against the new British positions around Gavrelle was announced by General Haig in his report to the war department today.

Germany is now suffering the most appalling losses of the entire war.

To the north of the Scarpe river, where the British fought ahead almost by inches in the face of a great mass of Germans, the carnage was greater than suffered by the enemy anywhere during the conflict.

Dispatches state that the Germans, realizing that no trench works could stand against the leveling fire of the British artillery, are seeking to make a wall of living beings stand against the British.

Considering the ferocity of the fighting, the British losses are exceedingly low, it is stated.

With the British Armies in France, April 26.—One single British post defending just a part of the Guillemont farm emerged victorious today from one of the fiercest of the countless scattered actions, marking the day as one replete with bitter fighting, by killing off every man of their German assailants.

Paris, April 26.—Two tremendous German attacks along a mile and a half front to the west of Cerny, were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy, it is announced.

The Allies Failed.

Amsterdam, April 24.—The heaviest attacks of the Entente forces have failed, according to a Berlin report. Major Morath, critic, writing in the Berlin Tages Zeitung, says the Germans have yielded at certain points along the line, this being in keeping with the plan to keep the fighting line moving.

French Hold Positions.

Paris, April 24.—The French are holding the positions wrested from the enemy last week, despite all the German counterattacks.

The official statement says the number of German assaults were designed to shake the grip of the French, but failed. Several scattering actions are reported.

London, April 24.—General Haig gained more ground in the resumed British offensive today. He reported further progress to the east of Monchy le Preux and Roeux, and also gained the South Bapaume-Cambrai road.

On a wide front, east of Epheny the British reached the St. Quentin canal and captured the villages of Villers, Plouch and Beaucamp.

This was the greatest gain yet achieved in the thrust against the Cambrai-St. Quentin line. General Haig's report curtly mentioned that his forces had reached St. Quentin canal in the neighborhood of Venrhulle.

Meantime there is no diminution of the power in the attack on the Germans to the east of Monchy lePreux.

Amsterdam, April 25.—The new anti-government socialist party precipitated a tumultuous disturbance at yesterday's meeting of the reichstag, according to Berlin dispatches.

Socialist Ledebours charged that the government was responsible for the food crisis and demanded that the reichstag discuss the situation and the government's mal-administration.

Today, Wednesday, amidst a tempestuous debate the resolution was rejected. A later report declared the reichstag has adjourned not to meet again until May.

London, April 25.—German propaganda is centering in Russia to such an extent that apprehension is evidenced over the necessity for immediately stamping out the German influence.

It is reported that an organized anti-American demonstration occurred Sunday before the American embassy at Petrograd, and an attack threatened by a number of socialist radicals.

Richmond, April 25.—The governor of the Federal reserve bank today issued an appeal to the state banks and trust companies to co-operate more fully with the Richmond institution and do their part in the mobilization of the nation's financial resources.

He said Congress had created a machine to meet all emergencies, "but we are slackers in making use of it."

DID AMERICAN GUNNERS SINK GERMAN SUBMARINE?

SHIP'S OWNERS NOT NOTIFIED OF SUCH RESULT

Mongolia's Captain Describes Encounter—Says Subma- rine Was Sunk.

New York, April 26.—The International Mercantile Marine Company has received no report regarding the sinking of a submarine by the gun crew on its freighter, the Mongolia. The commander of the vessel merely cabled that he had arrived safely in port.

London Skeptical.

London, April 26.—Considerable skepticism is manifest here as to the ability of observers to detect a hit of a submarine a thousand yards distant, as reported by the captain of the Mongolia in reporting the sinking of a submarine by gun fire. Americans here hope that the sinking may be confirmed.

London, April 25.—Captain Rice of the American steamship Mongolia which has arrived at a British port told the Associated Press today that the Mongolia had fired the first gun of the war for the United States and sunk a German submarine.

The periscope was sighted dead ahead on the last afternoon of the voyage. The captain gave the order for full speed ahead with the intention of ramming the submarine.

The periscope disappeared and a few minutes later reappeared on the ship's broadside. The gunners fired, hitting the periscope squarely and throwing up a mountain of water.

Captain Rice outlined the incident with modesty, but could not quite conceal the pride he felt in the achievement of his ship. He paid a high tribute to the gunners, and especially to the manner in which they were handled by the officer who directed the firing of the telling shot.

"For five days and nights, said Captain Rice, "I had not had my clothes off and we kept a big force of lookouts on duty all the time. It was 5:20 in the afternoon of the 19th that we sighted the submarine. The officer commanding the gunners was with me on the bridge when in fact we had been most of the time throughout the voyage. There was a haze over the sea at the time. We had just taken a sounding for we were getting near shallow water and we were looking at the land when the first mate cried: 'There's a submarine off the port bow!'"

"The submarine was close to us, too close, in fact, for her purposes and she was submerging again in order to maneuver in a better position for torpedoing us, when we sighted her. We saw the periscope go down and the swirl of the water. I quickly ordered a man at the wheel to put it to starboard, and we swung the nose of the ship toward the spot where the submarine had been seen."

"We were going at full speed ahead and two minutes after we first sighted the U-boat it emerged again about 1,000 yards off. Its intention probably had been to catch us broadside on, but when it appeared we had the stern gun trained full on it."

"The lieutenant gave the command and the big guns boomed. We saw the periscope shatter and the shell and the submarine disappeared."

"I assure you we did not stop to reconnoitre after the incident, but steamed away at full speed, for it was not improbable that there was another submarine about. The one I got undoubtedly had been lying on the bottom at this spot waiting for the ship and came up when it heard our propellers. I immediately sent a wireless message stating that a submarine had been seen."

"That's about all the story, excepting this:

"The governors had named the guns on board the Mongolia, and the one which got the submarine was called Theodore Roosevelt; so Teddy fired the first gun of the war after all."

Captain Rice recalled that he came from Allston, Mass., and that the encounter with the submarine occurred on the day when the Bay State was celebrating the anniversary of the battle of Lexington.

AMERICAN SAILORS GET NEWS "BY UNITED PRESS"

Washington, April 24.—American seamen hereafter will get their news "By United Press."

Each night at 10 o'clock, the big Arlington radio flashes out to sea the news of the day—war stories, domestic news, baseball scores "boiled down" by the navy censor, from the United Press leased wire report.

Every ship has orders to "listen in" at 10 o'clock and copy the "pony reports" as sent out by the censor.