

## AMERICANS BADLY SMASH THE GERMANS FIRST LINE TRENCHES

Uncle Sam's Soldiers Take the Initiative in the Lorraine Sector and Make Three Very Savage Raids

### FIGHTING IN ALL THEATERS

British Rout Turks in Palestine—Austrian Attempt to Advance Balked by Italians—Raid on Naples

American initiative has asserted itself on the Lorraine front in France. Three savage raids on the German lines have been made by the Americans, who succeeded in reaching the second line of enemy trenches before ordered to return. During their stay in German-held territory they destroyed carefully-built defenses and picked up much war material.

The American artillery ably assisted the infantry in the operation. A heavy barrage fire was laid down in front of the advancing Americans and the Germans had fled before the wave of infantry reached the hostile positions. After the Americans had been in the German trenches for a few minutes, the German barrage fire was loosed on them, but the American guns answered shot for shot and silenced a number of batteries. The American artillerymen used gas shells with good effect. Near Toul the American heavy guns have been in action.

**Fighting Spreads**  
Three raids on the British lines were attempted by the Germans in the Armentieres sector, but the British in spite of a heavy fire from the enemy's heavy guns, repulsed the Teutons. The fighting has spread along the Passchendaele front, the Ypres and the Passchendaele sectors figuring in the official reports. The activities of the contending armies have spread farther south, encounters near St. Quentin being mentioned for the first time in recent weeks.

Information from German prisoners was responsible for the dislocation of German plans for heavy attacks on the British southeast of Houtholst wood. On February 20, 28 and March 8 attacks were forestalled by a terrific British artillery fire and while an enemy attack on March 9 was successful to some degree, the British on Saturday succeeded in reestablishing their lines.

The British forces operating in Palestine have once more advanced north and northwest of Jericho. They have taken positions to a depth of 3,000 yards over a front of twelve miles. The Turks fought stubbornly at various points of vantage.

The resignation of Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, is explained by a report that he acted after a quarrel with Nikolai Lenine, the premier, who insisted that the Russian people agree to the disastrous peace of Brest-Litovsk, while Trotzky protested against submitting without a struggle. The only fighting reported in Russia is in the neighborhood of Kiev, Radsjelnai, and along the Shmerinka-Odessa Railway, where the Germans claim to have scattered bands of Russians.

**On Italian Front**  
There has been fighting on quite a large scale on the Italian front. In the mountain sector of the line, enemy attempts to advance have been checked, while along the Piave river the Austrians were defeated in an attempt to launch pontoons for an attack on the Italian lines.

The French have been in scattered encounters with the Germans at various points along their part of the front, but nowhere has there been serious fighting.

The air squadrons have been busy of late. The most spectacular of these operations was made by the Teuton airmen who raided Naples, Italy. It may be that they started from their base on the eastern shores of the Adriatic and flew over the sea and across Italy in their raid. British raiders have dropped large quantities of bombs on military points in Belgium while the Allied airmen have been active in Italy.

### PROFITEERING IN SEEDS

Government Will Act on Any Specific Information

Washington, March 11.—Profiteering in seeds was charged by Secretary Hoover and Food Administrator Hoover in a joint statement tonight, which said that prompt action in such cases would be taken whenever specific information was submitted. Many complaints of abnormally high prices are being received.

"Without adequate distribution of seeds at reasonable prices there is danger that acreage will be lessened and that seed of poor quality will frequently be used," the statement said. "If such conditions are to develop, it would seriously impair our national food propaganda."

Dealers under federal license were warned that if they engaged in such practice they would be dealt with severely.

Tribute was paid to "patriotic" State associations of seed growers and the war service committee of the American Seed Grade Association for cooperation in preventing excessive profits.

## AMERICA AND SPAIN SIGN TREATY TERMS

Pershing Will Get Army Supplies and France Gets Credit from Don

### TREATY SIGNED IN MADRID

America Agrees to Let Spain Have Cotton and Petroleum She Needs

Washington, March 8.—Under the commercial agreement between the United States and Spain, the formal signing of which in Madrid was announced today at the State Department, not only will Gen. Pershing get the supplies from Spain which he desires for his troops, but a French credit in Spain is arranged and the Spanish government permits free export to the Allies of pyrites, minerals and manufactured wool.

These and other details of the agreement, which becomes effective immediately, were made public tonight by the war trade board. Besides the free export of pyrites, minerals and wool, which the board described as a "concession of decided value to the Entente Powers," Spain will also permit the export of various other commodities to the extent that home requirements will permit. This is in addition to the specific licensing of the supplies required by Gen. Pershing, which are to include 200,000 blankets and a large number of mules.

### Will Assist French

While conducting the negotiations for this country, the American representatives, the board's statement said, will be able "to materially assist the French Government in securing a large credit in Spain to finance payments for the supplies which the republic draws from Spanish sources."

In return for supplies granted to this country and the Allies, the statement continued, "the United States assures to Spain its necessary supplies of cotton and petroleum, the amount of the monthly export of these commodities being fixed in the agreement at a figure which will cover the genuine Spanish requirements, but bar the possibility of German agents in Spain secretly buying up and hoarding a stock of cotton against the time of the conclusion of peace."

### Other Supplies

"Spain is granted other supplies," said the board, "to the extent that they can be spared after satisfying home requirements in the United States' associates in the war. As has already been stated, special concessions have been made in regard to locomotives and railway material, which are required to increase the carrying capacity of the Spanish railway system, a measure of decided importance to America and its assistants which are drawing supplies from Spanish territory."

### As to Shipping

Whether the agreement covers the broad question of Spanish shipping was not disclosed. Before issuing licenses for fuel coal for Spanish ships the board has been requiring an agreement by the owners or charter parties to return the vessels to the United States for cargoes. This was done recently in the cases of three ships at a Gulf port which were loaded with supplies for the Allies. The Spanish consul refused to let the ships sail because he wanted them to go to Spain after discharging, but his orders were withdrawn today after announcement of the signing of the agreement with Spain.

### THUNDER EAGLE APPEARS

Ojibway Indians Say it Portends Wonderful Happenings

Fort William, Ont., March 8.—"The thunder eagle," sacred among the Ojibway Indians as personifying the spirit of the Manitow, supposed to have it snest on the Sleeping Giant, 14,000 feet above Thunder Bay, was depicted in fire in fire in the brilliant display of the aurora borealis here last night.

The Ojibways say the thunder eagle has not been seen for many years and that its appearance portends wonderful happenings in the world. The figure of the eagle traveled swiftly southward over the bay accompanied by huge splashes of red and green fire which shot about it like meteors. A Duluth dispatch told of the appearance of an eagle in the aurora borealis last night.

### REVOLVING NITRATE FUND

Byrnes Puts it in Urgent Deficiency Bill

Washington, March 12.—Special: While the amendment to the agricultural bill to make a revolving fund of the \$10,000,000 for the purchase of nitrate for resale to farmers was being discussed, James F. Byrnes, of Aiken, who is a member of the House appropriation committee, actually secured the adoption of an amendment to the urgent deficiency bill providing this identical thing. The House recently passed the bill carrying the Byrnes amendment and the Senate agreed to the amendment this afternoon. Therefore when the agricultural appropriation bill comes up for final action the matter of the revolving fund will already have been settled so that the nitrate money will be constantly at work for the farmers so long as the war lasts.

## FELL ON STONY GROUND

Speech that Cost John L. McLaurin Seat in United States Senate

One of the most striking thoughts in the last letter of Senator Banks is in reference to McLaurin's stand on ship subsidiaries. In November, 1902, Senator McLaurin delivered an address to the Southern Cotton Spinners association in Atlanta, Ga., and in it, not only called attention to our lack of ships, but to what Germany was doing in this respect.

"Great Britain is spending two million a year in mail subsidies in excess of her receipts. France, Japan and Germany are spending millions each year and together they have driven the American merchant flag from the high seas. There are millions of American money invested in ships that run under the German and English flag, because this government is blind to the importance of ships. Remember that being under a foreign flag in case of war, these ships built with American money will be used against us."

"This will strike the south a terrible blow when war does come, because our only money crop is cotton, and it is an export crop. These merchant ships become warships in time of war, and cannot be built here after war comes. Look at Germany. Her kaiser is one of the ablest living men. All of his powers are bent to the promotion of German interests, and the extension of German commerce, the employment of German labor and markets for German products. 'Made in Germany' is becoming a trade slogan the world over."

"He is doing it by government subsidies to ships and railroads, in Asia and South America and Africa. He is building up German shipyards and the subsidies are on the condition that the ships are built by German labor in German yards. Both exports and imports passing over German railways, leave a part of the freight remitted to the ship delivering same to increase its earnings. In addition to this he has inaugurated a system of preferential rates to the German manufacturers from the railroad for goods exported into the competitive markets of the world."

"This is really a bounty which enables the German manufacturer to undersell his English competitor in China or South America."

"I want to see the American built ship, with its American crew under Old Glory, put in a position where it can carry American goods and sell them in competition with any country."

"Until very recently commerce was not deemed a proper subject for governmental consideration. There is no direct department of commerce in any government except that of Germany. The moving considerations prompting the settlement of the Chi-

## BAKER HAILED AS 'ORGANIZER OF VICTORY'

Unless All Signs Fail Secretary Baker Has Reached France Just in Time to Become a Witness to Opening of Armageddon

Paris, March 12.—Cheered by vast throngs and hailed by the French press as the "organizer of victory," Newton D. Baker, secretary of war of the United States, arrived in Paris today. He was met by the "executor of victory," General Pershing. His first visits were to President Poincaré and Premier Clemenceau, the American commander-in-chief introducing him. After a brief stay in the capital the secretary will proceed to the front. He will make a thorough inspection of the American sectors and training camps, but will also see every other vital segment of the western battle line.

**Big Things Foreshadowed**  
The big guns of both sides are tuning up to drumfire. The weather is clearing up. From the North Sea to the Swiss border there is a hustle and bustle foreshadowing big things. Unless all signs fail, Mr. Baker has arrived just in time to witness the opening of Armageddon.

As he stepped from the special train that brought him and his staff here from the French port where an American cruiser landed them yesterday, Secretary Baker was at once attacked by an army of French newspaper men. His jovial smile, however, finally broke the barrage of rapid-fire questions hurled at him, and his captors dispersed good humoredly when he announced he might have something to say later, but "nothing now." They understood and appreciated the "finesse" of etiquette which prompted him to defer all public utterances until he had called upon the president and prime minister of the country which he is visiting.

At the station he was met by Generals Pershing, Bliss and Squier, Admiral Wilson, representing the American navy, and representatives of the American embassy, as well as personal emissaries of President Poincaré and the foreign office. Admiral Moreau and the mayors and councillors of the municipality were members of the French reception committee at the port of landing yesterday. Mr. Baker was visibly impressed by the warmth of the welcome extended him.

### Saluted as Organizer of Victory

There was a little incident at the station. Stepping toward the waiting automobile the secretary accidentally jostled a French laborer. The two

nese trouble were commercial. The time will come when the best minds of every country will be called upon to adjust the complicated questions of foreign trade and the consular officers at the leading ports of commerce will equal in importance the diplomatic ambassadors."

In connection with the extension of the south's foreign trade, Senator McLaurin advocated an American merchant marine.

"Our weakness upon the sea is the one great danger that confronts the nation," said the senator. "If ships could be built in the United States as cheaply as they are under other flags, it would be unnecessary for our government to do more than to offset the subsidies, bounties, naval reserves, retainers and other methods by which foreign governments attract capital into merchant ships built and managed by their own people."

"We must not imagine that American capital is dependent upon national legislation in order to make ship-owning pay. We have ample evidence of large American investments in foreign-built ships manned and operated by foreigners in our foreign trade. However much our people may have invested in foreign ships, they are unavailable under national law when at war as naval auxiliaries."

"Another thing we should remember: These very ships and the men employed on board them may be turned against the United States in the event of our becoming involved in war with the nation whose flag they fly."

"The object of extending government aid to the upbuilding of our merchant marine is to secure adequate protection for the nation upon the sea, and the mere fact that the investment has been made attractive to American capital is an incident of the transaction."

"We do not want to see the isthmian canal become merely a foreign highway of commerce," said the senator. "We do not want our millions expended merely to become a bounty to foreign shipping. It should be an American highway, and we should so develop our mercantile marine that with the opening of this great canal our own flag shall predominate at the mast head of a majority of the ships that it accommodates."

"The south will be the immediate beneficiary of that waterway when it is constructed."

In conclusion, Senator McLaurin said: "What we need in this country today is a non-sectional patriotism and statesmanship more devoted to the upbuilding of our country than the achievement of party success. Great national or business questions involving the glory of our public and the prosperity of our people should not be dwarfed into mere party questions."

looked at each other for a moment, half surprised, half curious. Then the Frenchman, after the European fashion, tipped his hat, with a slight bow. Mr. Baker, with winning courtesy, did likewise. There was something inspiringly democratic about the whole scene, brief as it was, and a look at the crowd showed that the American cabinet member had made a decided hit.

Epitomizing the sentiment of the French press, Excelsior says:

"Secretary Baker comes to see with his own eyes the employment of the vast military effort of which he is the principal worker.

"At the moment he touched the soil of France, we saluted this organizer of victory."

### FARM ARMY TO BE DRAFTED

250,000 Young Men Will Be Called to Man the "Third Line" of the County

Washington, March 11.—A new army of at least 250,000 is to be raised to man the "third line" defense of the United States.

Boys between 16 and 21 years are eligible. They will see active service this spring and summer on American farms.

The United States employment service announced today a campaign to begin March 18 to raise a "farm army." The drive for recruits will be conducted similarly to that recently made for shipyard volunteers. The members will belong to the Boys' Working reserve.

The campaign will be conducted through state directors. Directors have been appointed for all states except Louisiana, South Carolina and Washington. Each state has been given a quota. The reserve is already strongly organized in the west. Illinois, Kansas, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Indiana have enrolled large numbers of boys. Indiana has 5,000. The national enrollment to date is 75,000. Many states have prepared to train the army before it takes the field. Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and other states have made appropriations or assigned tracts of land for training the recruits.

A high standard will be maintained in selecting volunteers, it was said.

Near beer and temperance drinks coming within the designation of malt liquors are included in the President's proclamation limiting brewers of beer to 70 per cent of the amounts of grain and other food materials that were used last year.

## LIQUOR AMENDMENT GETS INTO COURT

Mandamus Proceedings Will Be Held Before Judge Sease in Manning Next Monday

Columbia, March 12.—Special: The amendment to the "gallon-a-month" law, requiring judges of probate to be reasonably satisfied that applicants for medicinal purposes, will be taken into the Supreme Court in a friendly action to test its constitutionality.

The action is being taken by a citizen of Sumter county, who yesterday was refused a permit by Thomas E. Richardson, judge of probate for that county, on the theory that the act is unconstitutional in several respects. Mr. Richardson announced that he would not issue any permits unless compelled to do so by the courts.

The initial action will be an application for a writ of mandamus to compel the Sumter judge of probate to issue the permit. The hearing will be had before Judge Thomas S. Sease, of the Seventh judicial circuit, at chamber at Manning next Friday or Saturday. Mr. Richardson will be represented by D. S. Henderson, Esq., of the Aiken bar, and the petitioner by Thomas H. Peoples, Attorney General. The Attorney General will represent the petitioner because the constitutionality of an act passed by the General Assembly is being attacked. Whatever decision Judge Sease renders, the party decided against will take an appeal.

The amendment to the law, which is the nux of the complaint, reads as follows:

**The Amendment**  
"Provided that in no case shall the probate judge issue such a permit unless he is satisfied of the truth of each statement contained in the affidavit herein required, nor shall such permit be issued by other than the probate judge personally, or by his regularly constituted clerk within the precincts of his office. Any violation of the provision of this act by the probate judge shall subject him to prosecution and penalties as for malfeasance or misfeasance in office."

The following is the text of the complaint to be presented to Judge Sease:

**The Complaint**  
"1. That he, the aforesaid petitioner, is a citizen and taxpayer and resident of the county of Sumter, in the State of South Carolina, and as such is entitled to protection under the laws of said State.

"2. That the General Assembly of this State, at its recent session, passed an act, which was approved on the 18th day of February, 1918, and became of force according to law, on the 11th day of March, 1918, known as Act No. 190 of the 1918 session of the General Assembly, and entitled (setting forth the title of the new quarter-a-month law), which said act of the General Assembly so approved and passed and of force as the statutory law of South Carolina, among other things provides in substance that any person desiring to import any alcoholic liquors under this act shall apply to the judge of probate of the county in which he resides, and file with him an affidavit that he has not received any liquor permit during the same calendar month, and specifying the amount and kind of alcoholic liquors desired, not exceeding one quart, and that he is not a minor, nor student of any institution of learning, and the office of the common carrier from which delivery is desired, the office of which is to be nearest the residence of the applicant, and that the same is desired for medicinal purposes, and upon the receipt of such affidavit and the payment of a fee of ten cents the probate judge shall issue a permit under his hand and official seal to receive such alcoholic liquors, and that in no case shall the probate judge issue such permit unless he is satisfied of the truth of such statement contained in the affidavit required by the act and presented to him.

"3. That on the eleventh day of March, 1918, your petitioner, being within his rights as a citizen and resident of the county and State aforesaid, applied to Thomas E. Richardson, Esq., judge of the court of probate in and for the county of Sumter as aforesaid, at his office at the court house of said county, and filed with him and presented to him an affidavit sworn to by your petitioner, setting forth strictly and fully the requirements of said act of the General Assembly, asking a permit thereon, upon such evidence as was needed, to import a quart of whiskey or alcoholic liquor into the State of South Carolina, and that your petitioner tendered to said judge of probate the fee required by the act, to wit, the sum of 10 cents, whereupon said judge of probate after due inquiry and investigation into the facts concerning your petitioner, and the truth of the affidavit presented to him, addressed to your petitioner a letter a copy of which is as follows, to wit:

"Sumter, S. C., March 11, 1918.  
"Dear Sir: You have this day applied to me under the act of the General Assembly, approved the eighteenth day of February, 1918, for a permit to transport into the State one quart of whiskey, and you have filed an affidavit in this office requesting said permit and stating the facts. Under the terms of that act I am required before I could issue such permit to be satisfied of the truth of each statement contained in the affidavit; and I ask to say that from your character and my knowledge of you, and my

## SECRETARY McADOO UPBRAIDS THE BANKS OF THE COUNTRY

In Announcing New Issue of Certificates Secretary Reminds Them of Duty

NEW ISSUE OF \$500,000,000

Only One-Half of the Banks of Country Subscribed to the Last Issue

Washington, March 11.—In announcing tonight another \$500,000,000 issue of 4 1/2 per cent certificates of indebtedness in preparation for the third liberty loan, Secretary McAdoo gave out figures showing that only one-half of the banks of the country subscribed for the last issue.

Although the report was issued without critical comment it was made plain that the banks had not complied with the secretary's request of a month ago when the \$3,000,000,000 program of certificates was announced, that each bank set aside one per cent of its resources weekly for ten weeks to invest in certificates in order to insure a wide distribution of the temporary securities to ease the floating of the next loan.

### Record Given

Of the 28,000 banks—20,400 state institutions and 7,600 national banks—14,472 subscribed for the last issue, dated February 27th. To the issue of February 8, the first after the secretary's request, 12,550 subscribed, and for the issue of January 2, before the special certificate campaign was started the number of subscribers was 6,364. Most subscribers were banks.

All of the issues were subscribed in full, however.

The certificates offered tonight are to be dated March 20 and payment must be made between that date and March 22 when subscription books close. They are payable June 18, with the same privilege of being called for payment before that on ten days' notice, as previous issues of the same nature have carried, and will be received in payment of loan subscriptions. They are free from ordinary taxes (a subject only to estate and inheritance income surtaxes and excess profits taxes). In addition, the interest on \$5,000 of the certificates held by any one person or company is free from income surtaxes.

When these certificates are subscribed, \$1,900,000,000 of certificates issued in anticipation of the third loan will be outstanding.

The subscription goal which each Federal Reserve District will be expected to reach on this issue is as follows:

Boston \$33,000,000; New York \$173,000,000; Philadelphia \$40,000,000; Cleveland \$45,000,000; Richmond \$18,000,000; Atlanta \$15,000,000; Chicago \$60,000,000; Minneapolis \$15,000,000; Kansas City \$25,000,000; Dallas \$18,000,000; and San Francisco \$33,000,000.

### FAILED TO CROSS PIAVE

Rome, March 11.—Austrian troops which apparently were making an attempt to cross the Piave were prevented from doing so yesterday by the Italian batteries which sunk rafts and boats in the river opposite Fagare, the war office announced today.

### BRITISH SHELL CAMBRAI

Berlin, March 12.—(Via London).—Cambrai has been bombarded by long-range British guns, according to today's army headquarters report. Several shots from British artillery of the heaviest caliber fell in the town, the statement reports.

personal inquiries, I am satisfied of the truth of each statement contained in your letter, but nevertheless being conscientiously of the opinion that said act of the General Assembly on various grounds is unconstitutional, I decline, unless compelled by the courts, to deliver to you a permit to transport into the State the quart of whiskey as you request, and it is my purpose to adopt the same course as to all others who apply, unless I am compelled by the court to change my course. I wish to assure you of my desire in no way to offend you, but to obtain an investigation of this matter.

"Very respectfully yours,  
"Thos. E. Richardson,  
"Judge of Probate of Sumter County."

"And your petitioner further states that the said judge of probate as aforesaid declined to receive the fee of 10 cents provided by law and absolutely refused to issue the permit to your petitioner, which your petitioner shows and charges he was entitled to receive as a matter of right, and it is submitted to the court that said action of judge of probate is arbitrary, contrary to the requirement of the aforesaid act of the General Assembly of South Carolina.

"Wherefore, petitioner prays that a writ of mandamus do issue out of this court, requiring and commanding the respondent, Thomas E. Richardson, Esq., judge of the court of probate of Sumter county, to issue forthwith, and to the petitioner herein, the permit to transport into South Carolina the alcoholic liquors specified in the affidavit which was presented to him, and for such other and further relief as petitioner is entitled to."