

# The Frenchman and the Soldier

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 1917.

VOL. XLIV

## FRANCE'S GREAT NEED

### WAR MISSION DISCUSSES MATERIAL NEEDS OF FRANCE AND BROTHER NATIONS.

Washington, April 27.—The French mission to the United States, headed by General Gouraud, is expected to leave for France in a few days. The mission is expected to discuss the material needs of France and the other nations at war.

April 27.—Conference of the French mission and the United States representatives was held in their conference room here today.

The French mission left Paris with full powers to negotiate with the United States on all subjects—military, financial and economic. It was believed that the mission would be more successful than any other mission in the history of the world.

The mission, however, that it will be able to secure a better understanding of the situation in France and the other nations at war.

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## ARMY DRAFT BILL PASSED.

### Senate and House Favor War Department Measure by Big Majorities.

#### House Fixes Age Limit at from 21 to 40, While Senate Makes it from 21 to 27. Differences will be Adjusted in Free Conference. Those who had Opposed Selective Conscription in Debate Voted for it When They Saw Certainty of its Passage.

Washington, April 25.—By an overwhelming majority both the senate and house passed late tonight their administration bill to raise a war army by selective draft. The final roll call brought into line behind the bill many senators and representatives who had fought for the volunteer system until routed by the decisive vote of the volunteer amendments earlier in the day in both houses.

The senate, which had voted for the volunteer plan, 53 to 18, passed the bill by a vote of 51 to 8. In the house the vote against the volunteer plan was 113 to 109 and that in which the bill itself passed was 239 to 23.

As passed by the senate the measure provided for the draft of men between the ages of 21 and 40, while in the house the minimum age was fixed at 21 and the maximum at 40.

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## LEVER OFFERS FOOD MEASURE

### WILL INTRODUCE ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION TODAY.

#### Bill to Follow Ideas Set Forth by Secretary of Agriculture in Communication to Senate.

Washington, April 27.—The administration's food control legislation will be introduced in the house tomorrow by Chairman Lever of the agriculture committee. A senate committee is preparing similar bills for early introduction in the senate.

The measures will incorporate Secretary Houston's suggestions made in a recent communication to the senate for laws to give the government direct supervision of food production and distribution. One would authorize the agricultural department to license food manufacturing, storage and distributing concerns and if necessary to operate them for the public. Another would give the president power to direct the council of national defense or some other government agency to fix maximum and minimum prices if conditions arise under which the government deems it advisable.

The sum of \$25,000,000 is asked for the department of agriculture in carrying out the programme. Officials hope it will not become necessary to fix prices and they believe that that power conferred on the government will in itself prevent the occasion arising.

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## STRIKE THREAT

### ENEMIES AT HOME GREAT MENACE TO GERMAN.

#### Strike on May Day Expected to Be Crisis of Internal Disturbance—Germany Divided into Three Factions and Bitterness is Growing—Socialists Want Peace at Any Price.

London, April 28.—The terrific German counter-attacks on the British have ended and the British are again advancing. Their progress is slow, but there are many signs, however, of the resumption of fighting on a more terrific scale soon. Not the least of these are the frantic appeals and threats of the German leaders and press to avert a general strike throughout Germany as the result of the seething discontent among the workers.

The Arbeiter Zeitung, the organ of the Austrian Socialists, takes it for granted that there will be a strike throughout Austria-Hungary on May 1st, but urges that it be limited to one day.

Germany appears to be divided into three great factions with a feeling of growing bitterness. The old junkers still talk of victory, annexations and indemnities; the Socialist majority seeks to force the government to declare that it desires neither annexations nor indemnities; the third led by the radical Socialists consisting of an unknown but considerable number of workers, seems to want peace immediately at whatever cost.

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## SUBMARINES MAKING GOOD.

### MINISTER VON CAPPELL TELLS REICHSTAG THAT CAMPAIGN IS A SUCCESS.

Berlin, April 27.—It is officially announced that Minister of Navy Von Capell told the Reichstag main committee that the success of the submarine campaign continued great, and that their losses have been small. He predicts that the expectations of success against England will be realized.

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