

# The Watchman and Southron.

THE WATCHMAN, Established April, 1880.

"Be Just and Fear not—Do all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1880.

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## PLANS ANNOUNCED.

### FOR OFFICERS' RESERVE CORPS MADE PUBLIC.

Plans for training the first 10,000 men for the first 500,000 troops to be raised by selective conscription was made public today by the war department.

Washington, May 4.—A full outline of plans for training the first 10,000 officers for the first 500,000 troops to be raised by selective conscription was made public today by the war department.

Three months' instruction at the training camps the 10,000 officers for the 18 infantry and two cavalry regiments will be selected on merit from the total of 40,000 and assigned to regiments which will be called to the colors a month or two later. The 30,000 men who are deemed qualified will be commissioned in the officers' reserve corps and called to duty as needed.

Plans for the mobilization camps have not been announced but they will be in each case within the limits of the district prescribed for the officers' training camps.

For the first of their training the officer candidates will be organized into 16 infantry companies and drilled as such by regular and National Guard soldiers and such of their own number as may be qualified for command. They will be organized by individual fitness into nine infantry companies, three batteries of artillery and two troops of cavalry.

Those designated for coast artillery will go either to Fort Monroe or Fort Winfield Scott, California, for two months of special instruction while those for signal corps, aviation or other special services will be assigned to special training units.

The department's statement lays great stress on the fact that mature men, schooled for responsible positions will be sought particularly in selecting the first 10,000. In later training camps younger men are expected to predominate.

## JEFFERSON STORM DAMAGING.

### Oil and Fertilizer Plant Struck by Lightning and Destroyed by Flames.

Jefferson, May 4.—One of the severest electrical storms in years visited this town and vicinity Monday night between 9 and 10 o'clock. It was accompanied by torrential rains and considerable wind. The electricity was most spectacular. In the suburbs a negro church was hit by lightning and burned to the ground. A few minutes afterward the main building of the Jefferson Oil and Fertilizer company's plant was struck and burned to the ground before assistance could be given. The male population of the town turned out as quickly as possible and saved from the fertilizer department about 100 bags of cotton seed meal, some mixed fertilizer and 20 odd bags of nitrate of soda.

The loss is \$10,000 to \$12,000, partially covered by insurance.

## TWO WAR COMMISSIONS.

### Plans for Commissions to Sit in London and Washington.

Washington, May 7.—A plan is being worked out to have two allied war commissions sitting continuously, one in London and one here. The idea sprang from a general trade meeting in Secretary Lansing's office last week. Although not definitely decided upon it is likely to be the first step to coordinate the resources of the United States will bring into the war. The commission in London with representatives of all the allies, including the United States will decide upon the apportionment of sea-borne traffic. The commission here would manage getting the supplies to the seaboard.

## RAILROADS NEED MONEY.

### Freight Rates Increase Will Not Make up Deficiency.

Washington, May 7.—The eastern railroads at the hearing today told the Interstate Commerce Commission that the fifteen per cent. increase in freight rates asked for would fall only five million dollars short of making up the two hundred and seventy million increase in 1917 operating expenses over 1916 statement. The eastern roads, who will be followed by the southern and western roads said the cost of coal, wages and material had advanced so rapidly that the incomes cannot keep pace. Shippers counsel are ready to go before the commission to oppose the increase.

## FRENCH NEAR LAON.

### GERMAN STRONGHOLD UNDER GUNS OF FRENCH ARMY.

Steady and Determined Advance of French Troops Has Brought Them Within Striking Distance of Key of German Trench System—British Continue Advance West of Bullecourt.

The French are only six miles from Laon, the German stronghold on the Hindenburg line. After yesterday's advance the only formidable barrier between them and goal is the Allette river valley, which lies in a deep gorge. But from the captured heights along the Chemin des Dames, the French guns overlook the stream. Since April 16th the French claim to have captured 29,000 prisoners. Heavy German counter-attacks in this region have been repulsed.

London has officially announced that the British have pushed forward west of Bullecourt and the reports say the town was entered by hand to hand fighting.

In Germany apparently the recent suggestions in the reichstag of reform proposals have checked the rising tide of popular discontent. However, the German government's measures to prevent the world from learning the true state of affairs, have made adequate judgment impossible. The proposed reforms are said to provide for a curtailment of the emperor's power and to make the ministry responsible to parliament.

## AIRPLANE RAIDS LONDON.

### Four Bombs Dropped in East London Sunday Night.

London, May 7.—It is officially announced that a hostile airplane dropped four bombs in East London last night.

One man was killed and a man and woman injured. The damage to buildings was slight.

## SHOWS HIS PATRIOTISM.

### Orangeburg Man Willing to Give Ten Dollars Each Month to Assist in Winning War.

Washington, May 6.—Representative Lever says patriotism in this country is not dead and will not die so long as there live in it men of the type from whom he has just received the following letter. It comes from Orangeburg county.

"Dear Sir: I feel it my duty as all others to do my part in helping my country while in war, and I am sending you money order for \$10 to be placed to the credit of the war department, and will donate \$10 each month during said war. I am ready to offer such sacrifices as I can and would do more but I am a poor man and have a family dependent upon me for support. But if there is anything else I can do I will be pleased for you to let me know."

Mr. Lever, of course, wrote him a letter of sincere appreciation and returned the money order, but added that it was this spirit that would win this war.

## MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES.

### To Be Held at Church of Holy Cross, Stateburg—H. C. Haynsworth to Make Address.

Stateburg, May 5.—The annual Memorial exercises at Stateburg will be held on Thursday afternoon, May 10, at 4.30 o'clock at the Church of the Holy Cross.

Mr. Hugh C. Haynsworth of Sumter will deliver the address. The public is cordially invited to these exercises.

## MONEY FOR ENGLAND.

### United States Will Make Second Loan of \$100,000,000.

Washington, May 7.—The government has decided to lend to Great Britain one hundred million dollars to meet her needs in the United States during May. The second installment of twenty-five million was transferred to the British embassy today. This with the twenty-five million lent Saturday completes half of the May total.

## OFFER FROM ANDERSON.

### Manufacturer Tenders Use of Plant to Government.

Washington, May 6.—John G. Anderson of Rock Hill is in Washington and has tendered the government the use of his entire buggy, wagon and automobile making establishment for its use on a 10 per cent. basis.

## FIGHT ON COTTON TAX.

### SOUTHERNERS SAY SCHEME IS SECTIONALLY UNFAIR.

Pennsylvania Congressman Calls for \$2.50 a Bale Tax on Fleecy Staple, Raising a Howl.

Washington, May 5.—A proposal by Representative Moore of Pennsylvania to include a tax of \$2.50 a bale on cotton in the war revenue bill stirred up a sectional controversy today in the house ways and means committee and resulted in the committee's failure to complete the bill tonight as had been planned. When adjournment was taken the suggestion still was under discussion.

Mr. Moore proposed the cotton tax while the committee was struggling with indifferent success to raise the total of the bill to \$1,800,000,000 desired by Secretary McAdoo. City products, Mr. Moore maintained, had been heavily burdened with taxes and it was only fair that Southern planters should bear their share. Approximately \$30,000,000 could be raised during the coming year, he said, by the levy proposed.

A storm of opposition ensued and tonight Southern members in and out of the committee were up in arms, predicting confidently that the Moore proposal never would carry. They argued it would be just as fair to tax wheat, corn and oats.

Argument on the proposal will be renewed in the committee Monday. Its injection has made the time of completion of the bill uncertain, but predictions tonight were it would be ready for submission to the house by Tuesday.

Despite the fact that the house bill now totals much less than the desired \$1,800,000,000, the measure as finally enacted is expected by senate and house leaders to carry this amount. Some senators indicate a willingness even to raise the total looking with favor on applying a graduated scale to excess profits taxes, once suggested by Secretary McAdoo. Consideration was given a proposal today to strike out all exemptions and substitute for the subcommittee plan of doubling the present excess profits tax a scale of 10 per cent. on businesses paying from 8 to 15 per cent.; 15 on those paying 15 to 25 per cent.; 20 on those paying 25 to 50 per cent., and 25 on those paying 50 per cent. and upwards. Transportation taxes on pipe lines and taxes on jewelry and advertising also were discussed.

## SPANELL FOUND GUILTY.

### Convicted of Killing Col. Butler and Given Five Years.

Coleman, Tex., May 5.—A verdict of guilty of murder was returned tonight by the jury in the case of Harry J. Spannell, charged with the killing of Lieut. Col. M. C. Butler. Punishment was fixed at five years' imprisonment.

Spannell all but collapsed when the verdict was read. Counsel for the defense announced motion for a new trial would be filed immediately and if it were not granted, an appeal would be taken. The plea for reversal, they said, would be based specifically on the refusal of the court to sustain defense's plea of "former acquittal."

Spannell was indicted at Alpine, Tex., for the alleged killing of his wife and Lieut. Col. Butler on the night of July 20, 1916. The charge of killing his wife, Mrs. Crystal Holland Spannell, was tried at San Angelo last February on a change of venue. Spannell was acquitted and the case against him for killing Col. Butler was brought to Coleman county. The trial here began Monday, April 23.

## TIME EXTENDED.

### List of Candidates for Georgia Training Camp Not Full.

Atlanta, May 7.—The time limit for accepting candidates for the officers' training camp at Fort McPherson has been extended "one or two days." A total of twenty-three hundred had been accepted up to today. The full quota for the camp is twenty-five hundred.

## THE IRISH QUESTION.

### Laborites Will Make Representations to Cabinet.

London, May 7.—The Pall Mall Gazette understands that powerful representations will be made to Premier Lloyd George and the cabinet by Laborites as their view of the Irish question.

## PEACE THROUGH SACRED UNION

### VIVIANI SAYS IMPERIALISM MUST BE DESTROYED.

French Mission Given Rousing Welcome From Thousands in Kansas City.

Kansas City, May 6.—"The sacred union of the United States and the entente allies will not be dissolved until German imperialism has been destroyed and the peace of the world assured."

In those words M. Viviani, head of the French mission and former premier of France, acknowledged today the proffered pledges of undivided cooperation of the Middle West in the war.

The mission at the western end of their trip through America spent a morning here filled with manifestations of the spirit and patriotism of this section. Thousands of persons waving the French tri-color and the Stars and Stripes, lined the streets and crowded all available space at the religious-loyalty meeting at Convention hall.

M. Viviani told the Convention hall audience that the United States had not entered the war alone to help France, but rather to uphold the torch of civilization and to obtain for the world ultimate peace. His words were greeted with an outburst of applause that subsided only when Marshal Joffre spoke a few words in acknowledgement of the thunderous ovation.

"You free Americans so well understand why thousands and thousands of our children now are sleeping their last," M. Viviani said. "You know it was not because there was in our hearts the desire to conquer."

"You will come, not to help France but to aid the cause of civilization. France, bleeding and fighting, with many destroyed homes and tombs, has held the German flood that now is going back. Come to France, you Americans, and help civilization and liberty. It is the best way, the only way to insure the peace of the world."

The former premier's speech came at the close of the meeting, after Govs. F. D. Gardner of Missouri and Arthur Capper of Kansas had promised their States would not fail to do their "bit."

Thousands of persons had been unable to get within convention hall when Mayor Edwards called the meeting to order. For hours men, women and children had stood outside the doors—as they had at the Union station and wherever else they might catch a glimpse of "Papa" Joffre, Viviani, Admiral Chocheport, Lieut. Col. Jean Fabrey and the others. Every aisle was packed and the roar of applause was tumultuous. Members of the commission expressed their especial pleasure at such a demonstration from this district because it would be from the surrounding States that much of the wheat, corn and foodstuffs must come to insure final victory over Germany.

"Papa" Joffre was touched by an incident that occurred at the breakfast at the Union station attended by a small number of representative men. A gray haired woman, whose name was unknown, sent to him by a National Guardsman a letter containing a \$50 bill for the relief of wounded heroes of the Marne.

The meeting at Convention hall was a religious service, partly as a memorial for the Lusitania. All creeds were represented and one of the most dramatic climaxes came when Rabbi Bernstein of St. Joseph, Mo., declared in his speech:

"I am thankful that the time has come when I and my brothers, as Jews, may enter this war, even as an ally of Russia."

The commission departed for St. Louis shortly after noon.

## DISMISSES SUIT OF NEGROES.

### Supreme Court Holds That Former Slaves and Descendants Cannot Collect.

Washington, May 7.—The Supreme Court has dismissed the suit of former negro slaves and their heirs to collect more than sixty-eight million for labor on crops in the South from 1857 to 1868. The money was collected as internal revenue taxes on cotton. The negroes claim the work was performed while they were in a state of involuntary servitude.

Christiansburg, Va., May 7.—After the renewal of the trial of C. E. Vawter, charged with killing Stockton Heth, Jr., the court adjourned to a moving picture theatre because the large crowds proved a strain on the court house.

## PLAN RESERVE SERVICE BODY.

### COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE WOULD ORGANIZE FOR HOME WORK.

Proposal is to Unite Men and Women to Carry on Work of Non-Combatants During Present World War.

Washington, May 3.—Plans for a great national service reserve made up of men not subject to draft into the army and of women, already approved by the war department, were submitted to the council of national defense today at a conference of the council with State governors and representatives of State defense councils.

Members of the reserve would be available for any service they could perform for the government.

The plans were presented by George Wharton Pepper, representative of the Pennsylvania State defense council and chairman of a national committee of patriotic and defense societies.

The reserve would be headed by a board of nine nationally known men, who would operate through a national committee of members from all the States. Under the national committee there would be State and district communities and in Washington a permanent headquarters committee would sit to carry on administrative work.

Membership on the board of nine has been tentatively accepted, it was stated, by Former President Taft, Maj. Gen. George W. Goethals and Henry L. Stinson, former secretary of war.

The purposes of the organization, as outlined to the defense council, would be to furnish any military or civil service which could not be performed by enlisted men, to aid in recruiting, to work under any private employer engaged on government contracts, or on farms and to supply the army and navy. When not in active service reserve members could aid in home defense. They would be given compensation for the time spent in government service.

The defense council today gave the governors and State representatives an outline of a programme for State assistance to the federal government in the conduct of the war. They were told that State defense councils could do these things:

Promote patriotic spirit and educate the people to the magnitude of the task ahead; aid in recruiting the National Guard; assist in carrying out the enrollment for new army and in determining exemptions for draft; maintain labor standards; establish labor clearing houses; assist in getting workers to use their "broken time" on the farm; assist in getting idle men and boys to the farms; afford facilities in aiding the government to collect revenues; help float the Liberty loan; organize central food production committees to work with the State defense councils; supply their own food requirements wherever possible and reduce waste in the home.

The State councils were asked to induce older and more responsible men to enter military training camps as men going to the first camps probably will be advanced in grade in the near future.

Members of the federal council's organization outlined at length to the governors steps the government is taking to put the country in a state of preparedness.

## DENIES BANKERS' CLAIMS.

### Supreme Court Holds That Banks Cannot Collect on German Steamship for Failure to Deliver Gold.

Washington, May 7.—The Supreme Court has denied the claims of New York banks for \$2,240,000 damages against the German steamer Kronprinzessin Cecilie for failure to deliver twelve million gold from England and France at the outbreak of the war.

## FRATERNIZING TO BE STOPPED.

### Russian Troops Ordered to Have No Friendly Relations With Germans.

Petrograd, May 7.—General Gurko, the commander of the western front, has ordered fraternizing of Russians with enemy troops stopped. He declares the practice enables the enemy to learn Russia's military dispositions and by causing a lull in fighting on the Russian front, permits the Germans to concentrate troops on the French front. The order concludes with an appeal to the troops to do their duty toward Russia and her allies.

## SERVICE FOR NATIONAL GUARD

### WAR DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS SENDING THEM TO FRANCE.

Regulars Will be Kept to Train New Army, While Guardsmen Carry Flag Across Sea.

Washington, May 4.—Plans are rapidly being perfected by the war department to dispatch America's first contingent of troops, members of the National Guard, to the fighting lines in France.

For two reasons it is said the government desires to send the State troops abroad in small contingents. The authorities, while anxious, after having conferred with the high French and British officers, now in the United States, to get the men across as soon as possible, realize that there is the big question of transportation of both food supplies and munitions to the allies. In addition to this it is believed that by distributing the troops in small numbers among the ships of commerce the danger of elimination by submarine attack would be reduced to the minimum.

By sending the National Guardsmen abroad at this time it is believed that as they are already hardened by many months of service on the Mexican border, they could be learning the methods of modern warfare at the front, while the regular forces could be kept here to train the selective conscripts. The United States could profit better, it is pointed out, by reversing the operations of the British forces at the beginning of the war. The British, realizing that they blundered at the commencement of hostilities, have since bitterly deplored the fact that they sent all their trained regulars in the first expedition, leaving no training units behind to handle the raw recruits.

It is further said that along with the units of the National Guard will probably go regular army officers who will act in the capacity of general officers in command at the front.

If the ideas of the French military experts are carried out, the National Guardsmen, before being sent actually into the fighting lines, would be given a few weeks intensive training close to the front and close enough to the real fighting to profit by what they would see and hear. Under the French plan of training infantry companies would be divided into several groups, each of which would be given special training, some in rifle firing, some in bombing, some in the use of asphyxiating gases and others such training as the situation might demand.

## PRESIDENT SITS IN GALLERY.

### Chief Executive Views Presence of British Commission on Floor of House.

Washington, May 5.—President Wilson occupied a seat in the executive gallery of the house while the British foreign minister Balfour and other members of the British commission were received on the floor of the house. Capitol historians said it was the first time the president had ever appeared in the galleries.

Both the president and Lord Balfour received ovations. Balfour in his speech predicted the triumph of democracy over militarism.

## STAND BEHIND GOVERNMENT.

### People of Petrograd Gather in Streets and Outshout Demonstrators Who Seek Peace.

Petrograd, May 4.—Friends of the provisional government out-demonstrated the demonstrators tonight. They are seemingly stirred into a realization of the catastrophe overshadowing the country through the menaced fall of the government. Well groomed, gray headed men, women, expensively clad, stunts of soldiers, business men, children, seemingly a quarter of the population, packed the immense area before the government headquarters and cheered and shouted for the government.

## WAR STRENGTH PASSED.

### Many Recruits Join Gauley Artillery Company.

Gaffney, May 4.—Capt. Henry C. Moore of the Third company of coast artillery said today that his company now exceeds war strength, but that it is his intention to recruit a number of additional men for the reason that it is likely some of them may be rejected on final examination. The company recently lost a number of men when those who are married were eliminated.