

ATTACK ON DANIELS.

NAVY LEAGUE AGAIN MALICIOUSLY ASSAULTS SECRETARY OF NAVY.

False and Slandering Charge Published by Navy Department Has Failed to Make Proper Investigation of Explosions of Mare Island—Secretary Daniels Writes Forceful Letter to President of League.

Washington, Aug. 14.—A statement issued today from the headquarters of the Navy League charging that indignation of labor interests was hampering investigation of the fatal black powder magazine explosion at the Mare Island Navy Yard June 9 was followed today by a letter from Secretary Daniels to Robert M. Thompson, president of the league, denouncing the statement as false and slanderous and declaring the best service Mr. Thompson and other active officials of his organization can render the navy is to resign at once.

In his statement the league said it had reliable information that the explosion, which killed five men and injured 51, was set off by a time fuse giving evidence of a criminal intent.

Information was made public, it was said, because it was the only way to force action.

Secretary Daniels, in a statement made public with the letter to Col. Thompson, said a board appointed by the commandant of the navy yard was actively pursuing a full investigation of the explosion; that it had been afforded ample funds and the full resources of the government, and had not been hampered in any way by supplemental instructions from the navy department. It had been current rumor, he added, that the magazine was exploded by a maliciously placed time fuse, but the department had refrained from making any statement concerning it until it was in possession of the full facts.

The Navy League in its statement says its informant contends that the discovery of the fuse gives evidence of a criminal conspiracy. The name of the league's informant is withheld but the statement says he is "one whose daily work would place him in a position to know the facts" and continues:

"It is clearly proper that the investigation into such an occurrence as the Mare Island explosion must and should be made secretly and the league realizes that the mere circumstance that no statements have been made to the press regarding the progress of an investigation does not warrant the assumption that no proper investigation is being made.

"On the other hand, the fact must be faced that the government department could employ this veil of proper secrecy to hide the fact that the investigation had been blocked."

The statement concludes:

"The league sincerely hopes that in giving publicity to this information it is serving the higher interest which is its one and only purpose."

Secretary Daniels' letter to Mr. Thompson follows:

"Some time ago you called at the navy department and stated that you wished the Navy League to be in thorough harmony with the navy department and that if I thought that your continuance and the continuance of Mr. Slaton as secretary would make it impossible for the Navy League to help the navy you would both retire. You will recall that I told you at the time that the Navy League was a purely voluntary organization, had no connection whatever with the navy department, and that while I had not been in accord with some things the Navy League had done, I did not desire to have any direction of the league.

"In view, however, of these false and slanderous statements given out by the Navy League today, I am writing to say that the chief service which you and other active officials of the Navy League can render to the navy is to resign at once."

In his statement Mr. Daniels said that immediately after the explosion the commandant of the Mare Island navy yard was directed to make a complete investigation to fix the cause and responsibility.

"The board appointed and the commandant," the statement adds, "has actively pursued the investigation, but the report has not as yet been received in the navy department."

The statement concluded:

"The attention of the public is invited to the deliberate attempt of the responsible agent of the Navy League to publish a statement which, even if true, should not have been given out without reference to the department. Inasmuch as it is false, the action in giving it circulation shows a malicious attempt to discredit the navy department and the capable officers who are doing everything possible to ferret out the cause of the accident. If I were to state to the public all the steps that the officers charged with this duty have taken

GOES INTO COURT.

CHIEF GAME WARDEN ELECTION UNDER TEST.

Wade Hampton Gibbs to Answer Within Twenty Days as to Right to Place in Issue.

Columbia, Aug. 15.—Wade Hampton Gibbs, State game warden, has been summoned to appear before the State supreme court to establish his claim to his office. The action to test the validity of Mr. Gibbs' claim to the office is brought by Thomas J. Peoples, attorney general, at the suggestion of Carlton W. Sawyer, comptroller general. Mr. Gibbs has 20 days within which to answer. The firm of Timmerman, Graham & Callison of Lexington will represent the Audubon Society.

Mr. Gibbs was nominated for the office of chief game warden several weeks ago at a meeting of the society called by Dr. C. W. Barron, vice president. Dr. E. C. L. Adams, president of the society, was in the North at the time the call was issued, but returned to Columbia for the meeting, attending only long enough to assert that the meeting was illegally called. Chief contention was that written notices had not been sent to the members of the society. Announcement of the meeting was published in the daily papers. No other name was presented at the meeting and Mr. Gibbs was commissioned by the governor a few days later. The paragraph containing the bulk of the complaint alleges:

"That upon information and belief the said Wade Hampton Gibbs unlawfully did on or about the 28th day of July, A. D., 1917, usurp, intrude into and assume the office of chief game warden of South Carolina and ever since said date unlawfully has held, exercised and discharged duties, powers and functions of said office and now undertakes to hold, exercise and discharge duties, powers and functions of said office without authority or warrant of law and in violation of the laws of the State of South Carolina in such case made and provided, in this that he, the said Wade Hampton Gibbs, wrongfully and unlawfully has since said date undertaken to discharge and appoint certain officers, agents and employees of the State of South Carolina, has issued warrants for and received and accepted funds of the State credited to the game protection fund of South Carolina and has disbursed the same or a part thereof and has and is now threatening wrongfully and unlawfully to usurp, undertake and discharge other duties, powers and functions of the office of chief game warden aforesaid, notwithstanding he, the said Wade Hampton Gibbs, is not the duly and legally constituted chief game warden of the State, for the reasons that he has never been named or recommended to the governor of South Carolina by the Audubon Society of South Carolina as a suitable person for said office, and his name has not been approved for said office by the senate of South Carolina, as is required by law."

EXEMPTION BOARD FINISHES WORK.

Gets Required Number of Men For National Army Out of First Call.

Sumter's exemption board today completed its work of passing on all exemption claims after deliberating for the past three days. Out of the 534 men called 273 were certified to the District Board as being qualified for service. The number of exemptions granted was relatively small. Those found to be physically unfit were exempted. This county was called upon to furnish 267 men.

About 80 per cent. of the men called for service put in claims for exemption on various grounds. The board went into each case and were guided in their conclusions by the rules and rulings of the war department which they had before them. There still remains several men whose time for filing exemptions has not expired, and there are others who have been transferred to this board by other boards whose cases have to be passed upon. The official list of the men accepted and the ones rejected was not available at this time, but will in all probability be published tomorrow.

Madrid, Aug. 15.—The city is like an armed camp as the result of the general strike. Soldiers are running the street cars. Interior Minister Guerra said that the agitation had increased but the troops were quelling the disorders.

and are taking, the people would despise the slanderers who attempted to impugn their honesty and sincerity. "The false suggestion that any action or lack of action has been due to the navy department's attitude toward labor is too contemptible to deserve notice."

AMERICANS IN LONDON.

TROOPS MARCH THROUGH THE STREETS OF ENGLISH CAPITAL.

Accorded Enthusiastic Reception by Immense Crowds That Lined the Streets—Cabinet Meeting Adjourned to Welcome Americans—Detachment Reviewed by Ambassador Page and King George.

London, Aug. 15.—A detachment of American troops marched through London streets today. The evening papers say that to find a parallel of the scenes of enthusiasm attending the parade it probably would be necessary to recall the return of the British troops from the South African war. Crowds lined the streets through which the troops paraded. The meeting of the cabinet was adjourned so that Premier Lloyd George and his colleagues could pay a compliment to the Americans. The troops were reviewed by Ambassador Page and later by King George at Buckingham palace.

MAY HAVE ELECTION.

Labor Party May Force General Election in England.

London, Aug. 15.—The political correspondent of The Telegraph says if the labor conference adheres to the resolution to send delegates to the Stockholm conference the premier will advise a general election.

TWO CAMP SITES NEEDED.

INFANTRY AND MACHINE GUN SCHOOLS PROPOSED.

Department of Southeast Asks Governor's Office for Information as to Suitable Terrain.

Columbia, Aug. 15.—Data has been asked by the Department of the Southeast on suitable camp sites for an infantry school of arms and a machine gun school, which are to be established in the immediate future by the war department. The governor's office has been asked to forward to headquarters such information as may be in its possession as to proper and available sites for the prospective schools. It is emphasized that the schools are separate and distinct institutions and that "it must be borne in mind that the future may demand the expansion of each of these schools to include a personnel of from 20,000 to 30,000 faculty and students." Reports by General Wood are to be made to the war department not later than September 20. Conditions to be met in proffering sites are:

"A tract of land from 15 to 20 miles square, a varied terrain, including hills and valleys, streams, lakes, meadows, prairies, woods, etc.; climatic conditions such as to admit of intensive outdoor instruction practically the year around; soil suitable for easy entrenchment; terrain such as to admit of easy and effective drainage of trenches; an absence of habitations or rights of way within the tract that would seriously limit the use of service ammunition; a suitable locality within the tract for the building of the cantonment or post; good rail connections, with a large urban center that is not so far distant as to be inaccessible as a regular market and source of recreation and amusement; an abundant and unfailing supply of good water, and locality healthful.

"It is well recognized that it is impossible that sites will be found to fulfill all these conditions. In search for suitable sites, not only are existing military reservations and camp sites to be considered, but also the possibility of increasing the acreage of said reservations and, in addition, the purchase of tracts without reference to existing reservations.

"It is to be borne in mind that the future may demand the expansion of each of these schools to include a personnel of from 20,000 to 30,000 faculty and students."

HEAD CAROLINA TROOPS.

Gen. Harvey Likely to Command Brigade in Greenville.

Washington, Aug. 14.—The president today nominated Gen. W. E. Harvey of this city to be a brigadier general, thus making it almost certain that Gen. Harvey will be in control of South Carolina troops when they join with those from the District of Columbia upon arrival of the latter at Greenville a little later on.

TEUTONS TAKE OCNA.

Petrograd Admits Loss of Important Town.

Petrograd, Aug. 15.—Reports have been received that the Teutons took a height west of the Roumanian town of Ocna, in southwestern Moldavia.

FOOD CONTROL CORPORATION.

ORGANIZATION NAMED TO TAKE OVER COUNTRY'S GRAIN SUPPLY.

Seven Executive Officers Appointed With Herbert Hoover as Chairman—Charles J. Barrett of Georgia and Goodwyn Rhett of Charleston on Board.

Washington, Aug. 15.—With the approval of President Wilson the food administration announced the formation of a corporation to take over the control of the country's grain supply. Seven executive officers are named, with Herbert Hoover, chairman. The personnel of the wheat price fixing commission includes Charles J. Barrett, of Georgia, president of the National Farmers' Union; R. Goodwyn Rhett, of Charleston, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. Twelve men are named to represent the grain division at terminals. The milling interests named a committee to cooperate in negotiating voluntary regulation of the milling industry.

That the government will purchase enough of the 1917 wheat crop to stabilize prices is forecast by forming the corporation which is capitalized at fifty million dollars. The government will hold the stock. The corporation will purchase all the wheat and flour for the allies. The flour mills will be assured that they will get a supply at government prices.

BRITISH RENEW ATTACK.

CONSIDERABLE GAINS MADE ON FRONT OF FOUR THOUSAND YARDS.

Canadians are Closing In On City of Lens and May Force Germans to Evacuate It Without Frontal Attack—French Gain at Dixmude.

The British and French renewed their attack in Northern France and Belgium last night. Preliminary reports indicate that they won considerable success. The principal blows were struck by the British on a front of four thousand yards from the northwestern outskirts of Lens to Bois Hugo, northeast of Loos.

General Haig reports that the British carried the first line at all points and are making satisfactory progress. Hill seventy, which dominates Lens is reported to have been captured by the Canadians. Since beginning the attack at the northern end of the western line the Canadians have been making steady progress about Lens. The new attacks immediately north of Lens are evidently designed to close around the city from the north. If successful, the movement might force the Germans to evacuate the city without the difficult and costly frontal attacks.

The French made gains near the coast in the vicinity of Dixmude.

The Germans are still active with artillery on the Aisne front. They did not renew their infantry attacks last night, however.

Two more of Norway's diminishing merchant fleet have been sunk by submarines.

CAPTAIN IN THE ENGINEERS.

Frank Eason Commissioned in the Reserve Corps.

Frank G. Eason, senior United States drainage engineer for North and South Carolina, has received his commission as a captain in the engineer reserve corps of the United States army and is awaiting orders. Capt. Eason is a graduate of the Citadel, which has furnished a large number of officers for the regular army as well as for the officers' reserve corps. He is treasurer of the Association of Graduates of the Citadel. Capt. Eason's friends were yesterday congratulating him on his appointment.—News and Courier.

Mr. Eason was formerly a member of the teaching corps of the Calhoun Street school and is well known here. He also was engaged in engineering work during his two years stay in this city. His many friends will be pleased to know of his appointment.

AUTOMOBILE LICENSE RECEIPTS

Nearly One Hundred Thousand Dollars Taken In.

Columbia, Aug. 15.—Receipts from automobile licenses are within striking distance of \$100,000. Up to yesterday noon the full amount was \$98,854.40. About 75 license numbers are issued daily which the members of the highway commission regard as extraordinarily high. The total number of licenses issued is 31,759. Previous orders by the commission for licenses called for 35,000. Believing that this number would be inadequate, quotations have been asked on 2,500 more. Licenses for 1918 will be issued after December 1.

AMERICA AND JAPAN.

HEAD OF JAPANESE MISSION SPEAKS OF NEW DAY AND BETTER UNDERSTANDING.

Says "March Together, Work Together and Fight Together as Comrades."

A Pacific Port, Aug. 14.—A new day among nations, in which Japan and America shall "forget the little mole hills that have been exaggerated into mountains to bar our good relations," and "march together, work together and fight together as comrades," was pledged here tonight by Viscount K. Ishii, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the United States.

Heading a special mission, Viscount Ishii spoke for his government at a dinner tendered him by this municipality. The ambassador said: "We come to you at the dawning of a new day. As individuals we have no right to expect to find place at this busy time of preparation. But we come as the humble representatives of the gracious sovereign of a friendly and loyal nation, and we say that we know well that performance not profession, deeds not words, sacrifices not selfishness, are the requisites of the hour.

"Our message is that in this day, through its hours of shadow or of sunshine, your purpose is our purpose, your road our road and your goal our goal. It is that America and Japan will march together, work together and fight together as comrades until the end has been reached and the victory won in the struggle which involves our rights and our liberties.

"It is for that—and I take the liberty of using the words of your great President, Abraham Lincoln—in order that each of us may enjoy an open field and a fair chance for our industry and intelligence that the struggle must be maintained; that we may not lose our birthright—the right of humanity.

"We are here to say that in this tremendous struggle for those rights and liberties, America and Japan are bound together; that when the victory of the allied force is secure, America and Japan should so live that your sons and our sons will have a certainty of good neighborhood; so live that no word or deed of either can be looked upon with suspicion; that venomous gossip, hired slander, sinister intrigue and influence of which we have both been the victims, can in the future only serve to bring us close together for mutual protection and for the common welfare.

"The importance of this cooperation was brought home to us particularly as we voyaged safely and pleasantly across the Pacific ocean. It becomes the first duty of Japan and America to guard this Pacific and to insure safe continuous intercourse between Asia and the United States; to see to it that the ships of the ferocious pirates whose crimes upon the high seas can never be palliated, find no shelter in the waters of our sea.

"It is for us together to continue to enforce respect for law and humanity upon the Pacific, from which the German menace was removed at the commencement of the war. Had this not been so; had the barbarians of Europe not been rooted from his Oriental bases the shuddering horrors of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean would today be a grim reality on the Pacific. In the protection of our seagoing merchandise and men, in safeguarding the pleasures of intercourse, you may count on us, and we must count on you.

"In the dawning of this new day of stress and strain let us forget the little mole hills that have been exaggerated into mountains to bar our good relations. Let us see together with a clearer vision the pitfalls dug by a cunning enemy in our path. Let us together fix our eyes upon the star of principle which shall lead us together most surely to a participation in the triumph of the right, to a certain victory in the greatest and, let us hope, the last great war in human history.

"And when that victory shall have been won, let us together help in the upbuilding of a new world, which shall rise, fair and strong, and beautiful, from the ashes of the old."

The speaker's table was dotted with uniforms. High officers of the American army in khaki with Major Gen. Hisachichi Sugano, naval officers in blue surrounded by Vice Admiral T. Takeshita, the ranking army and navy representatives on the mission. The State Department delegation was headed by Breckenridge Long.

Late in the afternoon Gen. Sugano was given his first glimpse of American troops in force when he reviewed 6,000 soldiers and sailors with Major Gen. Hunter Liggett, commanding the Western department of

REMARKABLE EXPORT FIGURES

JUNE, 1917, SHOWS HEAVY INCREASE, ESPECIALLY IN PRICES OBTAINED.

Dollar Dwindles Faster Than Quantity Gains—World Must Beat Germany.

Washington, Aug. 14.—According to the statement just published by the Department of Commerce, the United States sent abroad nearly three times as much wheat in June, 1917, as in June, 1916.

It will be interesting to see how the July figures, when they come out, are affected by the fact that President Wilson's embargo on certain exports to neutral nations went into effect July 1, 1917.

If the United States had not declared a state of war with Germany the situation as to exports of foodstuffs would not have been different except that it would have been harder in that case to put the embargo on the next-door-to-Germany neutrals. The eagerness of our producers to sell abroad at famine prices would have been just as great, and the reflex action upon prices at home would possibly have been worse, because there is less objection to using war powers of domestic price-control when we are at war than when we are not.

Our entire exports of breadstuffs amounted to \$73,442,000 in June last, according to the Department of Commerce. The same figures for June, 1916, were \$26,823,000. For June, 1914, before the great war in Europe began, the breadstuff exports amounted to only \$13,363,000. Measured in dollars, we are now sending the rest of the world—chiefly anti-Teutonic Europe presumably—about six and a half times the breadstuffs we were sending in the months before the conflict started.

But the increase in quantity of exports has not been so great as the increase in their value. The dearth abroad has been rapidly thrusting up prices, as we all know; and none knows where the rise will stop.

The 5,900,000 bushels of wheat we exported in June, 1916, were worth \$7,477,000; the 15,800,000 bushels we exported in June, 1917, were worth \$43,000,000. These are the official valuations.

The 3,700,000 bushels of corn we exported last June brought \$6,165,000; the 4,800,000 bushels in June of last year brought \$3,994,000! Actually less corn brought very much more money.

As compared with 1916, the June figures do not show a remarkable gain in quantity of exports; but do show a whopping rise in prices. There is a great gain in both quantity and prices, it goes without saying, when the comparison is between 1917 and the ante-war period.

The world has got to bring the war with Germany to as quick an end as possible in order to live. A half a dollar before the war was as good as a dollar today. This has taken place in three years.

Though only one of many nations at war, we have to contemplate expenditures totaling perhaps \$15,000,000,000 the first year. When the Crusaders 700 years ago sought the aid of Venice in the great expedition which captured Constantinople, the rich Venetians thought their Doge had turned a great trick of business when he had charged the Franks \$850,000 for his republic's help.

In the feudal days of France a good horse was often swapped for two peasants; and the Turks were once so hard put to it that they gave up a Christian knight for a pair of shoes.

War puts human life at a terrible discount and lesser things at a terrible premium. Therefore, the world has to put down the nation which makes war its business, or Dark Age conditions return.

First Cotton Bale.

Marion, Aug. 14.—The first bale of cotton of the 1917 crop from Marion county, and it is believed the first from the State, was brought in today and was shipped tonight by express to the Charleston exchange where it will be sold. This cotton was grown by Butler General, one of Marion county's most highly esteemed negro citizens, a progressive farmer.

Death of an Infant.

From The Daily Item, Aug. 14. Little Bernard Manning, the infant son of Capt and Mrs. Bernard Manning, died at Baltimore this morning after a brief illness. The body will be brought to Sumter for interment and the funeral services will be held at the Episcopal church tomorrow, immediately after the arrival of the 11 o'clock train.

the army. At the end of the review he said simply: "These are splendid troops. It has been a pleasure to see them."