# RMOUR LEVIES

Witness Says Chicago Company Pays Big Sum Annually to Retain Big Packing Plant.

REATENING TO MOVE

Company Would Locate Further West, Is Claim-Ownerhip of Property at

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.- Sensational disclosures of "nigh finance" between the Chicago packers' and the stockyards and terminal railroads there omise of more to come—feat-y's session of the federal trade on's investigation to get at the innermost causes of the of living.

with an array of facts and athered by trained investiga-ting with the new \$250,000 fund reently appropriated by congress.
Franci J. Hency, in charge of the investigatin for the commission, began cracking one sensation after the other.
Today session had wholly to do with

reday session had wholly to do with a big coporation in which a \$2,500, clerk wa the medium of forming an \$8,000,000 corporation which took the risk of the Chicago stockyards and terminal raways being moved further west and eveloped testimony to show here the lackers in rature to use the west and eveloped testimony to show how the ackers in return, to use the languaged one of the participants, got their shee of the "plunder" and took their "pkings."

J. Ogdi Armour, it was said, got all the profit over 9 per cent.

[hreatened to Leave.]

The part of the whole transaction as brougt out by the testimony was that includers were threatening to move any from Chicago; that a corporation was formed to take over the stock yas and properties and assume the risk f their becoming valuless, and that as result the enormous profits of the yard and terminal equipment was

avided ith the packers as an inducement to sem to continue their business in Chicao and not move further west. While oday's testimony dealt only with the phase of the packing industry, it is said the commission is in possessi of facts which will broaden possessi of facts which will broaden the inversion to show whether there is not algantic combination in pracical corol of the country's food sup-

The irde story of how the big transactionsame about was laid bare by the intruction as evidence of letters passing tween the organizers of the passing tween the organizers of the holding reporation and the stockholders of a companies which formerly controllethe yards and the railways. One ler said that the directors, fearing ourt decision against the reorganizen plan, were anxious to get it throw before the decision came

Broads Sought Change,

Anoth telling the reasons for the organizan of the new company said:
"For a g time some of the western railroadave been endeavoring to inrailroadiave been endeavoring to induce theackers to move west and it his onlysen on account of pecuniary considerons which your company has given tipackers from time to time, that thenave remained in Chicago.

Intereof the packers in the country's ste yards extends also to Kansas Cityccording to E. V. R. Thayer, presidenof the Chase National bank of New rix, who said he understood one of t packers owned part of the yerus tre, but that the others did

yarus tre, but that the others did not. Held not name the packer. Certif: minutes of the first meeting of the (cago Stock Yaris commission)

of the deago Stock Yards company on septiber 7, 1911, were intro-duced to details of an agreement disca tave details of an agreement between egraw and the company. The minutes ecited that Pegram had at-tained assent of the hoiders of 60,000 stress of the common stock of the Chigo Jinction railways and the Chigo Inction railways and Union Sak Yads company to a plan formulat by committee headed by Richard ley, a chairman.

It was aid to "plan assures to the

Richard ley, s chairman.

It was aid to "plan assures to the Chicago uncta railways and Union Stock Yads capany the continuance of the banessiow carried on by the packers don aermanent basis and a great incease | profits and the value of the three ostocks."

Pegran was corded as having given the learned aents and \$1,000,000 to

the plan and sents and \$1,000,000 in cash to the cobany for \$8,000,000 in common sock, gram, who previously had testified the his salary was \$2,500 a year, tetified at he knew nothing of the agreem as set forth in the

minutes.

Mr. Hart to the commission the plan wasdevisbecause there seemed great danger the business being driven aray in Chicago to place further vest.

## HURON BUNESS MAN TALID PRO-GERMAN

S. Doec. 21.—George Ison isin man of Huron, was ader 000 bonds by United Commoner Whitcher an a aced uner two moner whitcher an a large of make seditious utterances, is charted t Isenhuth on a train etween here! Buron used the fol-

the kaise if is justified in doing a crythin he loing. He started the war because were preparing for it and it way him to strike the first blow. The Chan government is of a very high start and the atrocities claimed by oapers to be committed by the Geri government are not true. We strying under a corrupt administrat.

Idministrat
The comfit was sworn out by D.
H. Rapp. oberdeep. traveling man, and R. O. tton, another traveling man from hell was a witness. The arrest wasde by Deputy Marshal Vilas. Isen kave the required bonds for his a fance in United States court in J

## QUEEN WN IS SWEPT ISASTROUS GALE

London vay. Dec. 18.—A northwest ga swept Queenstown Satur
gaverte, swept Queenstown Satur
day nig ording to a Central News
dispate) that Irish port and which
was delm account of wire trouble.
Many as were injured in the
Many Colman's cathedral was
streets at the police barracks and
damages were untoofed. Glant
many it over the tessels in the
waves for several hours they were
harbofm communication with the

## **UP AT SWISS BORDER**

General Liman Arrested, Although Promised Passage to Neutral Soil.

Geneva, Switzerland, Tuesday, Dec. 18.—General Leman, known as the hero of Liege for his defense of that city at the time the Germans were going through Belgium in the first month of the war, was expected to arrive in Switzerland yesterday, the German government finally having agreed rive in Switzerland yesterday, the German government finally having agreed to his internment in this country. New difficulties arose, however, and the general was arrested yesterday on the frontier at Constance. It may be recalled that General Leman, although seriously ill, declined last year to accept a German offer of permission to come to Switzerland because it was made on the ground of his ill health and age. The general said he did not wish to admit he was unfit to fight for his country.

## **LUXBURG DISCLOSURES** MAY FORCE ARGENTINE

More Diplomatic Documents to Be Made Public-People Are Inflamed.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—Dis-closures of some of the sensational Luxburg telegrams which are expected to lay bare more evidence of the German diplomat's duplicity, comes at a most interesting time, especially as it is be-ing done by agreement with the Argen-

tine government.

How the public mind in Argentine, al ready pressing President Irigoyan to go to war with Germany, will regard further exposure of German intrigue, is of no less interest to officials here than is its probable effect on the gen-eral Latin-American attitude toward a socalled neutrality conference just called at Buenos Aires to attend which Lus Cabrera, Mexico's representative, unceremoniously left the United States recently while this government was waiting to begin negotiations over food

exports to Mexico.

While public sentiment for entering the war on the side of the United States and the allies has been spreading through all Latin-America, the conspicuous examples of inaction have been the governments of Mexico and

The sudden visit of Cabrera at this particular time to a socalled neutrality corference in Buenos Aires excited much speculation. Whether there can be any connection between the new Luxburg exposures and the relations between Mexico and Argentine excited much more.

#### 154 GERMAN DIVISIONS ON ANGLO-FRENCH FRONT

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—Germany's strength on the Franco-British front is placed in official dispatches received here today at 154 divisions, or within one division of the great force massed there last July, when the German military effort against France was

its maximum,
Withdrawals from Russia and drafts upon the younger classes of reservists have enabled the kaiser not only to make up the enormous losses suffered in bloody battles with the allies, but to replace the men sent to aid the Aus-trians in their invasion of Italy. Winter, therefore, finds the Germans with armies facing the allies in France virtually equal to the largest ever before mustered with advertisement of a great offensive which may presage mather reases approach.

another peace proposal.

The allies, however, are believed to maintain a considerable superiority in numbers in the French front

#### SICK CHILDREN PROVE AUSTRIA IS SUFFERING

Geneva, Switzerland, Tuesday, Dec. 18.—Living proofs of the terrible economic conditions in Austria were fur-nished yesterday by the arrival at Buchs, on the frontier, of 576 pale and suffering children between the ages of 7 and 9. They are from Vienna and other Austrian towns. The children had not tasted milk for months. They had received bad bread in insufficient quan-tities, stomach diseases resulting. Their clothing was most scanty and there was no fuel in their homes. They will be distributed among various places in Switzerland until their health is re-

#### WANT AMERICAN TOYS FOR TOTS OF HALIFAX

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 19.—An American Santa Claus must provide toys for hundreds of blind and crippled children in hospitals here. The limited stock carried by the local dealers has been exhausted. Americans have been asked to help.

Although no approximate estimate of these blinded by the santage of the santage

Athough no approximate estimate of those blinded by the explosion is available, it is believed the number may reach 1,000, including those who lost the sight of one or both eyes. Many of these are children and little gifts which they never will see are sadly needed.

## CANDY MONEY WILL GO TO AMERICAN RELIEF

Wheeling, W. Va., Dec. 20.—Sunday school scholars of West Virginia will sacrifice their Christmas candy this year and send the money that would be spent for sweets to the American com-mittee for Armenian and Syrian relief in New York.

DELAY PROBE AGAIN.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—Inability to obtain a quorum compelled the Senate committee investigating Senator La Follette's recent St. Paul speech to postpone action again today for the fourth time.

### **EVA TANGUAY GAINS** DIVORCE FROM FORD

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Eva Tanguay obtained a divorce today from John W. Ford after the actress had given her testimony before Judge David M. Brothers. Ford was her dancing partner and the actress swore that after their marriage his habits were so irregular that he would remain away from the show for days at a time. They were married at Ann Arbor Mich., in 1913. -

## HERO OF LIEGE HELD Italy, Yielding, Battles Valiantly, Awaiting Snow

With the French Armies in Italy, Dec. 21.- The fate of the Venetian plains this evening hangs on the weather. If Italy's line holds for a fortnight under the tremendous Teuton pressure, winter's ice and snow will lock the door to the plains. Both sides realize the supreme necessity of a decision on both

sides of the Brenta river. If Italy can make a successful defense, as she now is doing, and check the Austro-Germans at their present lines, she will be ready for a spring counter offensive. Officials regard the present situation as the most favorable it has been for the Italians since the original retreat commenced.

Berlin, Dec. 21.—Repeated Italian counter attacks against the positions recently captured by the Austro-Ger-mans on Monte Petrica were repulsed

WORKMEN PLAY;

**CONTRACTS WAI** 

Factory Hands Played Check-

ers While Waiting for Ord-

nance Bureau Heads

to Act.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21 .-- With

ts inquiry into alleged delays in sup-

plying the war army with guns and ammunition virtually concluded, the

ast August workmen on a "cost plus" iontract played checkers while wait-ng for work held up. Government irsenal methods he also criticised, say-

ng the Springfield arsenal has some machinery 50 years old, while many army ordnance officers, he asserted, nave no special training to qualify them.

ot qualified production engineers,
General Crozier said Mr. Colvin

Although given the Browning gun contract in July, Mr. Hanson said that because of time needed to prepare new

machinery his deliveries would not be-gin until next April. His firm, how-ever, is making deliveries on previous

orders of Vickers machine guns, some contracted for a year ago.

Regarding government arsenal pro-fluction, Mr. Hanson said the impres-sion that they are "away behind the times" was wrong. The arsenals com-

pare very favorably he said, with foreign government and American pri-

munition, he said, are much su erior munition, he said, are much su erior to those of any of the allies and at least qual to Germany's.

American machine gun manufac-turers Hanson declared, have had prac-

fically no encouragement from

use French arms and ammunition.

SENSATIONAL STORIES

was responsible for the stories. Con-sumers began to hoard, he said, and luring the spring and summer demands

is to be examined

government, most of their orders com-ng from abroad.

In reply to questions by Senator Wadsworth, the witness admitted that if machine guns had been promptly or-

ers in the fighting between the Brenta and Plave rivers.

By Associated Press. Between Monte Grappa and the Brenta on the Italian northern front the Italians are resisting desperately renewed Austro-German efforts to break through the hills to the plains. The Italians after withstanding strong attacks and inflicting heavy losses or attacks and inflicting heavy losses or The Italians after withstanding strong attacks and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy, were forced to retire to new positions when the invaders brought up reserves. On the southern part of the Piave line the Austro-Germans have been checked in several attempts to reserve the content of the process of th

Germans have been checked in several attempts to cross the river.

On the western front the Germana have not yet given strong indication of where their advertised drive is to begin. The German guns continue to bombard various sectors along the front from the North Sea to the Swiss border, including the Ypres and Champagne areas, and enemy raiding parties are harassing the British and French soldiers. Enemy raids have been repulsed by the British in the Arras area and northeast of Ypres, while the yesterday the German general staff an-nounced today. Since December 11 the French have repulsed an attack Feutons have taken nearly 9,000 prison-Regneville, northwest of Verdun.

## **GERMAN SOCIALISTS OPPOSE PEACE MOVE**

Minority Faction Say Russian Bolshevists Are Traitors to Their Country.

By United Press.

Stockholm, Dec. 21 .-- German independent socialists are up in arms once again against the government.

Confirmation of yesterday's exclusive United Press dispatch that Germany's real socialists are violently opposing real socialists are violently opposing separate peace with Russia came today in the receipt of the current issue of the Leipziger Volks Zeitung, chief organ of the independent socialists.

The leading editorial bitterly assails the separate peace movement as the "greatest danger yet menacing German and European democracy."

Demand is volced that the central powers immediately state their terms making general negotiations possible.

making general negotiations possible. The bolshevists are denounced in the editorial as "traitors to the Russian revolution."

ammunition virtually concluded, the Senate military committee today prepared to question Quartermaster General Sharpe, regarding shortage of and production delays in clothing and food for soldiers. Chairman Chamberlain iromised a thorough investigation of the work of the quarter masters' department of which Major General Toethals, recently recalled to active service, soon will take charge. The reation of the clothing shortage to prevalence of disease in various cantonments also will be developed.

Ordinance officers were criticised by fred H. Colvin, editor of the American Machinist, for imposing too rigid rifle specifications. Requirements for interchangeability of parts, he said, delayed production three months last summer and he cited one private factory where ast August workmen on a "cost plus" The editorial likewise reveals for the first time that the German government had refused passports to Stockholm to members of the independent socialist

party.

"This shows the soul of the German government is just the same as ever," the editorial asserts, "and it should open the eyes of the Russian fanatics who are now dealing with the majority socialists. The majority socialists are the lackeys of the government."

## SHIP INVESTIGATION Correspondence with Secretary Baker which he produced disclosed a controversy between Mr. Colvin and General Crozier, chief of the ordnance cureau, the former told Secretary Baker that the arsenal officers were too quiffed production engineers. TO START TODAY

Chairman Hurley Will Be First Witness Before Senate Committee.

arsenals because he insisted expert machinists and not army officers should be in charge. should be in charge.

Additional testimony regarding deiay in machine gun production was
given by Vice President B. M. W. Hanson, of the Colt Arms company at
Hartford, Conn.

Although the new Browning type
was adopted last May, he said, no contract was made until July, although
orders were anticipated and preliminary work begun. The delay was ex-Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—Investigation of the government shipping board and emergency fleet corporation's operations under the resolution of Senator Harding, which the Senate adopted, the Senate commerce committee decided today will begin tomorrow afternoon with Chairman Hurley as the first priors were anticipated and preliminary work begun. The delay was explained by Mr. Hanson as due to desiberations of the joint civilian army poard appointed by Secretary Baker to test and adopt the new weapon. Hanson was a member of the board. witness.

Other witnesses will be Vice Chairother witnesses will be vice Chairman Stevens and John A. Donald, of the board. By resolution at its meeting today the committee called on Chairman Hurley for the following information: formation:

"An itemized statement of all con-tracts for both steel and wood ships, with the full name of each contracting person, firm or corporation, when or-ganized and when in operation and the place where the ship building under each contract has been or is being car-ried on.

The number of ships constructed, "The number of ships constructed, where, and by whom built, "Number of ships now under construction, where and by whom, and the proportion of work done."

rate factories. The principal difficulty of American arsenals, he said, is in etaining skilled workmen. Rife production has been greatly increased, he said, by adoption of the modificated Enfield. The American rifle and amount in the said are much serior. "Copies of all ship building contracts.
"What ships are being built in pri-

vate yards for other than government account, and by whom."

## Rescues Bartender Friend From Ocean After Sinking Sub

London, Dec. 20 .- "Hey, Pete, don't ou remember me? I've sold you a good many beers!"
That was the surprising greeting in

lered when the government went into the war General Pershing's machine gun units, now would not be required to perfect American language that an American bluejacket got from a mem-ber of a U-boat crew caught by an Upon conclusion of Hanson's testi-mony, the hearing was adjourned until tomorrow, when Quartermaster Sharpe American destroyer. An American sailr in town today on leave brought the

After the U-boat had been taken and sunk by the American destroyer and the Germans fished out of the water, CAUSED SUGAR FAMINE they were put aboard the destroyer. They were at once taken below and given dry clothes. While dressing and warming in the heat from the boilers, all of the bluejackets who could leave Washington, Dec. 21.—Foundation for the sugar shortage was laid while refiners held large stocks last February, by sensational stories of a threatened famine and strikes caused by the f. W. W., Earl D. Babst president of the American Sugar Refining company sestified today at the sugar investigation. He dld not say who he believed was responsible for the stories. Contheir posts went down to take a look at the "catch." Suddenly one of the Germans jumped to his feet and shout-

ed his greeting:
"Don't you remember me?" he demanded. "I tended bar at that saloon near the Brooklyn navy yard. You used to come in and tip over a few of them

iuring the spring and summer demands in pont the refiners were unprecedented. When consumers began to hoard, retailers raised prices, he said, but refiners did not increase prices correspondingly, as they did not desire to increase the alarm.

Added to the scare stories came reports of a Cuban revolution and destruction of cane fields, which stimulated the demand creatly. Babst said. Then after stocks became low there developed a difficulty in getting raw sugar.

BLAIR RESIGNS.

Trequently."

The group of Americans crowded around while he shook hands with the former bartender.

"I lived in New York 10 years," the German continued. "I happened to be in Germany at the outbreak of the war and they grabbed me and here you see me. It looks like it is all over with us now, and I am glad. I am done shook hands with the former bartender.

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business and take it from me, I don't like it; but it is much better than Chicago, Dec. 20.—Resignation of leorge A. Blair, assistant freight traffic manager of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad to enter an industrial business was announced today. President Brvam said that for the time being the position would not be filied.

## CHICAGO ROBBERS GET \$30,000 IN BANK RAID

Overlook Suitcase Containing \$40,000-Main Vaults Not Touched.

Chicago, Dec. 21 .- Robbers last night stole approximately \$30,000 from the safety deposit vaults of the State Bank of Summit, a suburb. The money was in bills of small denominations and belonged to the Corn Products company. it was reported, and was placed in the vaults yesterday in preparation for pay day today. The robbery was discovered when the bank was opened this morn-

H. Kilgore, who is president of the bank, is also vice president of the State Bank of La Grange, another suburb, which was held up in daylight a week ago by robbers, who escaped with \$46,845. According to Mr. Kilgore, the \$46,845. According to Mr. Kilgore, the pay roll at the Summit bank was insured. The money stolen was in a suitcase in the vault. Another suitcase containing \$40,000 was everlooked.

The robbers entered the bank by a rear door, and, using a gas torch, burned their way through eight inches of steel and concrete to their booty.

They left no clue, nor has any trace of the quartet which robbed the La Grange bank been found.

According to an official of a burglar

Grange bank been found.

According to an official of a burglar insurance company, there have been 17 bank robberies, netting approximately \$400,000, and 14 payroll robberies of insured firms. netting \$200,000 to the bandits, in the past 18 months. The depredations have goes the lives of 17

depradations have cost the lives of 17 policemen.

A long series of house burglaries led

A long series of house burglaries led to an increase of 10 per cent in the burglar insurance rates on residences and apartments. Payroll robberies last month resulted in an increase of 33 1-3 per cent in payroll insurance.

Banks, it was said, will come next.

The automobile has made modern robber raids possible. The robbers usually young, numbering four or five, lie in wait unnoticed among other ma-

lie in wait unnoticed among other ma-chines, for the appearance of the pay-roll messenger or descend suddenly on

# **MORE SOLDIERS**

Further Draft on Man Power Is Necessary, Says Premier-Allies' Failures Cause-Sub Losses Less.

London, Dec. 21.-Speaking in the house of commons today David Lloyd George, the British prime minister, said that the margin of losses at sea was narrowing. The sinkings by submarines, he declared, was decreasing, while ship building was increasing. The premier said the sinking of sub-

merchant tonnage was down by 20 per cent, he added, the loss had been only 6 per cent of imports over that of last year.

marines was increasing. Although the

Regarding the military situation, Mr. Lloyd-George said it was idle to pretend that the hopes formed had been realized. This disappointment he attributed to the Russian collapse. The Germans, the premier said, had had only one success, which was due to surprise and this was now engag-

had lost 100,000 prisoners, va positions and hundreds of guns. Says Germany Must Pay.

Complete restoration of the territories taken by the enemy, together with compensation, was demanded by Premier Lloyd George in explaining the war aims of the government.

The premier said that the losses in shipping had been fighter by 100,000 tons than he had anticipated in his Angust estimates.

tons than he had anticipated in his August estimate.

The premier said that if the Russian army had fulfilled the expectations of its generals, by this time the pride of the German military power would have been completely humbled.

On the whole the British campaign had not achieved the expectations formed, he said, but there had been military successes in Palesting which military successes in Palestine which would have a permanent effect on the history of the world. Jerusalem, he stated, never would be restored to Tur-

Greater Sacrifices Necessary. After referring to the Italian reverses the premier said it would be necessary

for Great Britain to make greater sacrifices to strengthen its armies in the coming year. The need would arise increase the nation's man power taking some men now exempted. The premier's speech was delivered when adjournment for the holidays was moved in the house of commons this afternoon. He dealt first with the problem of food.

Two circumstances, he said, had contributed lately to the gravity of the situation—the failure to obtain margarine and butter from Holland and Denmark and the fact that England had been required to make sacrifices in order to supply deficiencies of the salid. der to supply deficiencies of her a troller an improvement was visible in circumstances which had caused so much anxiety in the last few days. More tea was coming in and it was hoped by increased manufacture to imrove situation as regarded marga

Owing to the food difficulties in Ger-Owing to the food difficulties in Germany, the premier went on, the physical deterioration of workmen had been so marked that the output per man had been decreased by \$3 per cent.

As for the British casualties, Mr. Lloyd George said they had not amounted to more than one-fourth or one-fifth of the Germans'. Opposed to Germany Austria and their allies be

Germany, Austria and their allies, he asserted, were man power and reserves more than double those which the Teu-

tonic allies possessed.

The government, said the premier, would confer next week with trades unions on the man power proposals

### FUEL SITUATION IN NORTHEAST CRITICAL

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—A criti-cal fuel situation in New England, was pictured to the fuel administration today by J. J. Storrow, fuel administra-tor for New England and Governor Mc-Call, of Massachusetts. Public utilities companies and manufacturing plants the fuel administration was told will be forced to close unless shipments

## ALTERED PEACE PLAN OUTLINED

Kaiser Would Make England ay for African Colonies, Using Money to Pay Indemnities.

#### TERMS REACH WASHINGTON

Sincerity of Offer Open to Question-Russia Informed Proposals Soon Will Be Made.

Washington D. C., Dec. 21.—What purports to be an outline of the salser's much advertised "Christmas peace terms" has been received 'hrough neutral diplomatic channels. The socalled terms include the fol-

To leave the disposition of Alsace-Lorraine to a plebiscite of
inhabitants.

England to pay Germany for her
lost African colonies and the
money to be used for the rehabilitation of Belgium, Serbia, Rumania and northern France.
Russian provinces bordering the
Baltic sea, the Black sea and Prussia to become independent under a
German plan.

Poland to be called an independent state under Austrian suzerainty.

Disarmament, freedom of the

zerainty.

Disarmament, freedom of the seas and commerce to be left to the peace conference.

Rumania, Serbia and Montenegro to retain their original boundaries with the right of access to the sea being granted to Serbia.

Turkey to remain intact.

Whether such a proposal of terms s merely another step in the Ger-man propaganda to impress the public mind that the allies are responsible for a continuance of the war, or whether it is really a feeler for peace, is a subject for the estimate of the governments concerned.

USE RUSIA AS TOOL.

USE RUSIA AS TOOL.

Petrograd, Wednesday, Dec. 19.—According to press reports Russia has been informed by the central powers that they intend to make peace proposals to the allies.

This report is published in the Evening Post, which says the representatives of the central powers at the first preliminary peace conference with the Russians held yesterday announced that their governments intended in principle to put the question of peace pefore all the powers and that they had asked their allies to do likewise. Russia was requested to take similar steps. It is stated the Russians are endeavoring by all means to sound the allies.

chief.

The Evening Post says the Germans have officially informed the botshevist headquarters that the central powers are ready to consider the arrangement of peace on the basis of no annexations and no indemnities, but pointed out that self-definition of nations was improved the properties.

that self-definition of nations was impracticable.

The representatives of the central powers informed the Russians they were ready to discuss peace preliminaries, but desired to know the result of the Russians' efforts to induce the allies to join in the negotiations before proceeding with them. They said this point of view might be changed, however, and that they might be willing to discuss peace with Russia alone. The Germans were of the opinion that the Russian armistice might influence the other fronts.

The first conference was devoted merely to a discussion of who would necessaries to the properticates.

participate in the negotiations.

GIVE ALLIES TWO MONTHS.

GIVE ALLIES TWO MONTHS.

Stockholm, Dec., 21.—The Russian bolshevists have given the allies two months in which to join in the "general peace," according to a speech by Leon Trotzky reaching here today.

"We do not promise to conclude a separate peace," he declared, "We are not able to make war for 10 years in the interest of the French aristocracy and the British imperialists. History will condone a separate peace."

Trotzky's speech was made to see

will condone a separate peace."

Trotzky's speech was made to re
group of members of the "left wing
of the radical party" at the peasants'
congress last Monday afternoon, after
the bolshevist minister had been heoted
down by the main convention.

## COMMENDS SEAMAN.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.-David Goldman, machinists mate in the navy has been commended by Secretary Daniels for gallantry in having rescued Arthur C. Palmer, water tender from drowning on October 30. Palmer fel overboard from the U. S. S. O'Brien and Goldman jumped over board after him and held him up until he was rescued.

#### HEADS BALLOONING IN ARMY SERVICE



Col. John Nance

Col. John Nance is chief of the balloon division of the U.S. aviation service. Though airplane develop-ment has been great during the war the use of balloons for observation and other purposes has been of in-creasing importance.