

GEN. PERSHING SAFE

MAJOR GENERAL OF U. S. REGULAR ARMY ARRIVES AT BRITISH PORT.

BIG ARMY SOON TO FOLLOW

From Now on Units of Every Branch of the Service Will Proceed to France by Selected Routes—Plans Shrouded in Secrecy.

Washington, June 8.—"Black Jack" Pershing, soldier par excellence and major general of the United States regular army, is in England. Cable advice announcing his arrival at a British port reached here. With the sense of gratification which was expressed by officialdom generally over his safe arrival came a realization that at last the entire united service is in the war.

From now on units of every branch of the service will proceed to France by selected routes. Pershing's initial command will be made up of regulars and marines. Other divisions, comprising such additional regulars as can be spared and selected units of the National Guard which saw service on the Mexican border will take their places on the line from time to time.

New Army to Follow. Later on these forces will be followed by the new army to be made up of the selective conscripted troops, who will be taken from the more than ten million men who registered last Tuesday.

The French mission told the president and his cabinet and the War college that what was needed most on the western front was men. Two classes of organizations were demanded—railroad men to take over and reorganize the railroads of France and fighting men to replace the exhausted French soldiers along the wide battle front. The appeal was not allowed to go unheeded. Pershing and his troops were immediately put under orders, and then the War college, working day and night, rushed along its plans to throw every fighting unit that could be spared across the Atlantic so that all of the warring people—friend and enemy—might realize that the United States intended carrying out the injunction of its president and utilizing all of its man power and the gold power of the country to secure the continuation of democracy.

Plans Are Secret. Naturally all plans for sending the troops to France will be shrouded in absolute secrecy. Secretary of War Newton D. Baker has pointed out the danger of speculation as to who is to go, or the way they are to go. There will be no announcement at any time of units that are going, although after certain troops arrive it is expected that the war department will from time to time authorize announcement of their safe arrival.

The only reports of the passage of General Pershing and his staff came to the press associations by cable, these cables having been passed by the British censors. "We took it as a matter of course that he would get through all right," said General Bliss, acting chief of staff. "I presume he will report in his own good time."

Washington Gets Report. Washington, June 8.—Reports reaching Washington that General Pershing and his staff have landed safely at an English port en route to France were accepted as true by war department officials. In the absence of a report from General Pershing himself, however, it was said that no statement regarding the commanding general of the first expedition to France or his plans could be made as yet.

It is understood here that General Pershing and his staff, with his force of orderlies, will proceed to France without delay. The war department is anxious that General Pershing shall get down to business as soon as possible.

Paris, June 9.—The ministry of marine announced on Thursday that American warships have anchored off the French coast.

A large American transport containing wheat for American troops which are to come later has crossed the Atlantic under the protection of an American warship, the *Matin* announces. The transport is now being unloaded at a French port, the newspaper says. Preparations are being made for the reception of American troops, the newspaper says further. A number of bases similar to those of the British army have been organized. Camps have been laid out for infantry and artillery and aviation parks have been established for American aviators.

Washington, June 9.—The naval collier *Jupiter* has arrived in France, Secretary Daniels announced, laden with 10,500 tons of wheat and other supplies.

Russ Workers Win Six-Hour Day. Petrograd, June 8.—A six-hour day was granted to metal workers in 14 big factories where a strike threatened. Other sweeping demands also were met by the employers and the workers consented to remain at work.

France Decorates U. S. Woman. Paris, June 8.—Mrs. Royal Tyler, vice president of the American Hospital for Refugees and of the Association for the Children of Flanders, was decorated by President Poincaré with the gold medal for devotion.

HIS VERSION OF IT

AMERICA FIRST!



LANE EXPLAINS WAR PRISON RIOT STOPPED

"WHY WE FIGHT" IS TOLD BY CABINET MEMBER.

Kaiser Thrust Battle Upon America and U. S. Must Fight in Self-Defense.

Washington, June 6.—On the eve of war registration day Secretary Lane made a speech before the Home club of the interior department in which he addressed a word to those who have not seen clearly the reason for the country's call upon its young men, and in ringing sentences answered the question, "Why are we fighting Germany?"

America is at war, Mr. Lane said, in self-defense and because she could not keep out; she is at war to save herself with the rest of the world from the nation that has linked itself with the Turk and adopted the method of Mohammed, setting itself to make the world bow before policies backed by its organized and scientific military system.

"Why are we fighting Germany?" said the secretary. "The brief answer is that ours is a war of self-defense. We did not wish to fight Germany. She made the attack upon us, not on our shores, but on our ships, our lives, our rights, our future. For two years and more we held to a neutrality that made us apologists for things which outraged man's common sense of fair play and humanity."

PLAN HEAVY WHISKY TAX

Prohibitive Rate Proposed by Senate Committee—Suspension of Beverage Production Would Result.

Washington, June 6.—Prohibition legislation was approved by the senate finance committee on Monday, as a new feature of the war tax bill.

Prohibitive taxes upon distillation of whisky and other spirits for beverage purposes, with a ban upon their importation, were agreed upon by a substantial majority of the committee. General suspension of beverage production by distilleries and use of liquor now in bonded warehouses probably would be the effect of the new tax section if enacted into law.

In addition to the present tax of \$2.20 per gallon, a tax of \$20 per bushel (from \$5 to \$9 a gallon) upon all grain, cereal or other foodstuffs used in manufacturing whisky or other distilled spirits for use as beverages was written into the bill. Senator Simmons said the increase would be prohibitive upon manufacture while the law is in effect, or during the war.

FIRE ON SOLDIER GUARDS

Hundred Shots Exchanged When Mysterious Assaultants Attack Bridge in California.

Santa Ana, Cal., June 7.—Soldiers guarding a railway bridge near here were fired upon in the night by unknown assailants. The fusillade which heralded the attack was returned by the soldiers and nearly a hundred shots were exchanged.

Food Exports Show Gain.

Washington, June 9.—Steady gains in American food exports, which fell off with the beginning of Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare, now are reported. Food shipments in April reached a total value of \$88,000,000.

Brazil Increases Its Navy.

Rio Janeiro, June 9.—The government has issued a decree for the formation of a first section of coast artillery. The decree also calls for the opening of a credit of 870,000,000 reis to be expended on war materials.

ILLINOIS TROOPS FIRE UPON PRISONERS AT JOLIET.

One Man Is Killed and Several Hurt in Fight—Buildings Burned by Convicts.

Chicago, June 7.—One prisoner was killed and eight persons, two of them guards and one a prison chaplain, were injured in a mutiny in the Joliet penitentiary. Nearly 1,000 convicts took part in the uprising. Fires were set within the prison inclosure and several buildings were destroyed or seriously damaged. The battle between convicts, guards and militiamen raged in the prison yard for four hours.

The riot broke out as the result of Warden Bowen's order forbidding convicts to receive visits except from relatives. Flaherty, life-term prisoner, Cook county; leaped from burning building.

"The prison had been full of woman visitors every day," he said. "Such conditions could not be tolerated. Either I had to stop it or my successor had to. I stopped it."

There was some dissatisfaction, too, the warden declared, with the army draft, for registration which was held in the prison.

The first fire company to arrive was greeted with a volley of bricks and stones from the convicts. Chief Royce of the fire department was knocked down and rescued by his men. An appeal was sent for more fire companies and Warden Bowen wired Governor Lowden for soldiers.

BIG DRIVE FOR RED CROSS

Week of June 18-25 Set Aside for Campaign to Raise \$100,000,000 Fund.

Washington, June 6.—With a war relief fund of \$100,000,000 as a goal, the largest fund ever sought by popular subscription in the United States, the American Red Cross is now perfecting all the details of the organization which is expected to secure the subscriptions to complete this sum during the week of June 18 to June 25. President Wilson has, by proclamation, set this week aside as Red Cross week, and 50 expert money campaigners, sent out from the central headquarters of the finance committee, in Washington, are now on the way to their assignments in all corners of the United States. They will assist local Red Cross chapters and committees in forming their teams and organizing for the work of Red Cross week.

In New York a man-to-man canvass of the Wall street district will be made by leading financiers among whom are J. Pierpont Morgan, Jacob H. Schiff, Frank A. Vanderlip, Cornelius N. Bliss, Jr., A. H. Wiggin and Charles H. Sabin.

To Give British War Aims.

London, June 7.—It was reported in political circles here that Premier Lloyd George will shortly make a speech in the house of commons interpreting England's war aims.

Tin Cans to Be Made August 1.

Washington, June 9.—An announcement by the commerce department on Thursday afternoon said that by August 1 tin plate manufacturers will be in a position to furnish can manufacturers with all the tin they need.

City of Mons Fined \$100,000.

Amsterdam, June 9.—The city of Mons has been fined £20,000 (\$100,000) because a Belgian paper announced that Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria was in Mons when the city was bombarded by allied airmen.

CAUGHT IN FIRE TRAP

ARE ENTOMBED IN BLAZING COPPER MINE.

IS GREATER THAN EXPECTED

Wheat Crop Will Be Millions Larger Than in 1916—War Strength

Quota Will Soon Be Completed.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Butte, Mont.—With thirty-six known dead and 167 men missing as the result of a fire which broke out in the Speculator copper mine Friday night, Butte is wrestling with the worst mining disaster in its history. The fire broke out in the lower levels of the mine, starting from a broken power cable that carried electricity to the underground pumps. Lower levels of the mine quickly filled with smoke and gas. There were 415 men on the night shift. Of these 213 escaped through levels connecting with other mines. The gas spread to the Diamond mine and took a further toll of life in that property.

Twenty-six men were brought to the surface alive Sunday. One was so far gone, however, that resuscitation was impossible. The finding of the men alive stimulated efforts of the rescue teams and hope was expressed that others might yet be found alive.

To Complete War Strength Quota. Lincoln.—Organization of the new Sixth regiment and completion of the war strength quota of the two other regiments, under imperative orders just received from the war department, are two angles to the new drive by Adjutant General Phil Hall for recruits.

General Hall has gone to Omaha to open recruiting stations for the national guard. At the same time he announced the names of twenty-three Nebraska towns interested in the formation of companies for the new Sixth regiment.

This regiment, it is planned, will be organized by the first of the year, ready to join the Fourth and the Fifth possibly in the spring, in forming a brigade to go immediately to the French battle front.

It is rumored that the new orders are of an urgent nature and may presage early mobilization of the two present regiments, which have been announced to leave Nebraska about July 15, for centralization camps in the south, where intensive training will be given in modern war tactics.

GREATER THAN EXPECTED

Wheat Crop Will Be Millions Bigger than in 1916.

Washington.—The prospective wheat crop of the United States this year is forecasted by the department of agriculture at 656,000,000 bushels, combining a revised estimate of the badly damaged winter wheat crop and the first estimate of the new spring wheat crop, based on June 1 conditions. That compares with 640,000,000 bushels harvested last year and 806,000,000 bushels, the average crop for 1911-15.

Condition winter wheat 70.9; spring wheat, 91.6; acreage spring wheat, 19,039,000.

Improved weather conditions during May and increased prospects of winter wheat indicated a crop of 373,000,000 bushels. The crop began this spring under adverse conditions, 12,437,000 acres having been abandoned because of the severe winter and other causes. April 1 conditions indicated a production of 430,000,000 bushels but during that month growing conditions were so poor that the May 1 forecast was reduced to 366,116,000 bushels.

Subscriptions to Loan Lagging.

Washington.—The liberty loan is lagging, on the face of official bank returns, behind the hopes of treasury officials and their expectations of what it would be on this, the third week of receiving subscriptions. On the face of actual subscriptions received at the treasury, the loan will have to be taken at the rate of \$100,000,000 a day between now and the closing date if the entire \$2,000,000,000 is to be subscribed. The average of subscriptions thus far received has been approximately \$54,000,000 a day.

Scattering "Liberty Loan" Literature.

Lincoln.—With a roar of motor and whirl of propeller blades, sent "God speed" by the cheering of 3,000 spectators and the shriek of an engine whistle, Ruth Law, aviatrix, doing her "bit" flew from the Country club grounds Friday on the longest cross-country flight ever attempted west of the Mississippi river, scattering "Liberty loan" literature. On the way she is bombarding every city over which she passes with "Liberty Loan" muniti- ons.

British Subjects to Enlist

New York.—Arrangements to secure enlistment of the estimated 500,000 British subjects in the allied armies were announced by General Bridges, military head of the British mission here.

Joliet, Ill.—Serious rioting among convicts at the state prison here broke out Tuesday morning and five buildings were set on fire. Two companies of national guardsmen were called to assist in quelling the disturbance.

MAY IMPOSE THE TAX

RULING IN CASE APPLIES TO NEBRASKA

LATE NEWS FROM CAPITOL

Items of General Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources Around the State House

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Secretary of State Pool is much interested in a decision of the United States supreme court, in a case from California where a state law imposing an occupation or excise tax on corporations doing an interstate business, based upon their capital stock, was upheld.

This decision appears to be on the same point which Judge T. C. Munger of the United States court recently decided in favor of the state of Nebraska as against the Rock Island railroad. Secretary of State Pool, with the assistance of the state legal department had sued to recover the maximum tax of \$2,500, for three years past, instead of the \$550 a year tendered and paid by the railroad company.

Attorneys for the Rock Island have announced their intention of appealing, but in view of the supreme court's decision in the California case this may be a useless proceeding. Secretary Pool has written to Washington for a copy of the court's opinion, in order to determine how closely it may fit the Nebraska litigation.

The contention of the Rock Island, which Judge Munger overruled, was that the state of Nebraska cannot impose a tax on any more of the capital stock than is employed in the business of the railroad corporation in this state. He held that it must pay on the entire capital stock, the tax not being levied on the property in the state, but for the privilege of doing business here.

Road Building in Nebraska

At a recent meeting of the Lincoln Commercial club, there was a general discussion of the convict road law adopted by the late legislature. The bill carries an appropriation of \$50,000 to be used by the board of control in the purchase of a site and equipment of a plant for manufacturing purposes, to be operated for the use and benefit of the state in the employment of convicts at the penitentiary. Following reports from Dr. Condra and Prof. Chatburn of the state university, State Engineer Johnson, and others, the club adopted resolutions urging the board of control to investigate the use of convict labor in the various states with the idea of putting into effect senate file No. 300; and that such part of the \$50,000 appropriated and now available, as may be necessary, be expended for the purchase of a site, machinery and equipment for the operation of a plant for the making of brick, or getting out other road building material and thus conserving the resources of our state; and further urges the board of control to purchase such machinery and equipment as is necessary to make the convict road law operative.

State Fair Increases Production

The Nebraska state fair board is going ahead with its plans for the 1917 fair, regardless of war conditions. Indirectly, the board expects the state to perform an important service to the nation, inasmuch as Secretary E. R. Danielson pointed out the big exposition always tends to increase production of Nebraska's farms.

"It has been the experience of Canada," said Mr. Danielson, who has just concluded an investigation there, "that war has increased interest in the fairs, and all of the Canadian provinces reported the largest attendances last year in their history."

Acreage Is Much Increased

An increase of 31 per cent in the Nebraska acreage devoted to oats; of 95 per cent in the acreage for potatoes and 38 per cent in corn is shown in the monthly crop report issued by the Nebraska state board of agriculture. This does not take into account the thousands of acres devoted to beans this year and the big increase in gardens.

The report indicates that much of the available land in the state, which has been allowed to remain idle in previous years, has been utilized in the big drive to increase the food production of the Cornhusker state. Western and central Nebraska will undoubtedly prove Nebraska's big bread basket, the first report showing the least amount of crop damage there due to the severe winter and the largest increases in acreage.

The report sounds a warning to Nebraska farmers to make sure of their wheat seed for next fall.

Confidential information from Nebraska bankers has been asked by the banking board on behalf of the state council of defense, regarding threats which any depositors may have made to withdraw business from any institution that might invest in Liberty bonds. A circular on the subject has been mailed to 900 state banks and 180 national banks by Secretary Tooley of the banking department. This was done under the direction of Governor Neville, who is chairman of the banking board and a member of the council of defense.

PROCLAIMS FLAG DAY

Governor Neville Designates June 14 and Asks Its Observance.

Observance of flag day, June 14, is called for by Governor Neville in a proclamation just issued, with especial reference to the celebration of Nebraska's semi-centennial of statehood and the fact that the United States is now a participant in the world war. The proclamation says:

"June 14th has come to be recognized as flag day in most, if not all of the states of the union, and for several years has been specially mentioned as such by the governors of this state.

"This year it falls on one of the days of the semi-centennial celebration of the admission of Nebraska into the union. Such is the patriotic sentiment of the people at this time, that it needs no urging to have them display the flag; it is now in evidence everywhere. Nevertheless, some additional distinguishing features might be given in its display on that particular day. Many of the nations of the earth, belligerent and neutral in the great world crisis, now look to our country as the most potent factor in the final settlement of the bitter controversy pending, and the stars and stripes will be welcomed by those who are struggling for the establishment of a form of government that will insure universal peace.

"In view of these conditions, I, Keith Neville, governor of Nebraska, set apart Thursday, June 14th, as flag day to be observed in a manner that will give the best expression of the love we have for our country.

"KEITH NEVILLE, Governor."

CLASSES IN CANNING

Thirty Two Day Courses in Systematic Instruction

The classes in canning held recently at the state university and last week at Wesleyan mark only the beginning of a systematic instruction in canning thruout the state of Nebraska which is being undertaken by the university extension service. During the month of June about thirty schools, each maintaining two-day courses, will be established in Nebraska cities.

Nebraska university opened its school with an enrollment of over 250. Wesleyan followed with about seventy-five. At universities all university women were admitted to the courses, but the summer schools will be open only to those promising to give volunteer service in teaching others. In short, the extension service, which furnishes only experienced teachers in home economics, is endeavoring to instruct instructors. All women taking the course pledge themselves to repeat the course for others, either in their locality or among the members of the organization which they represent. Exact record of the work thus done will be kept.

State's Finances in Good Shape

The balance in the general fund has increased from \$156,000 to \$278,000, according to the monthly report of State Treasurer Hall.

The total balance in all funds increased from \$1,200,000 to \$1,525,000. The temporary school fund has in it \$411,000—one of the largest for apportionment ever made.

Treasurer Hall is certifying the amount of the present apportionment to State Superintendent Clemmons, who will distribute it according to the provisions of the new law. It will be based on the enumeration of school children in each district instead of daily average attendance in school.

Educational trust funds invested at the present time amount to \$9,940,268, not including the \$500,000 which the state recently spent for liberty bonds.

State Council Pleased.

The state council of defense is pleased with Nebraska's response to the call for registration. The council, however, is only at the beginning of its campaign. Also seventy-five counties have their organizations perfected and in smooth running order, organization in some communities has been delayed because of the efforts of the farmers to put in a maximum acreage of corn after the wheat failure. The sole object of the state council and its county units is to give the government plenty of backing in finances and resources of all kinds.

Out of the 3-4 mill tax levy for special activities of the state university and its branches, made by the last legislature, salaries and administrative expenses may lawfully be paid, according to an official opinion given by Attorney General Reed at the request of Dr. P. L. Hall, one of the members of the board of regents. Heretofore the salaries have been paid out of the general maintenance fund.

Blank petitions for the referendum on the limited suffrage law passed by the last legislature are being circulated from headquarters at Omaha.

Condemned Cattle Fit for Food.

Thirty dairy cattle, condemned as tubercular at the Lincoln hospital for insane, brought \$1,842 when sold for beef, according to a report to the board of control. They were worth \$2,000, as a part of the dairy herd. As passed at the packing plant, government inspectors left thirteen carcasses to be used in their entirety for beef; condemned the heads of fourteen others and left the rest for beef. Only three were condemned as a whole to be "sent to the vat." None of the carcasses were badly diseased.