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## DEBS DEFIANT AFTER ACTION OF U. S. COURT

### Socialist Leader Bitterly Assails Judges of Supreme Court for Interpretation of Espionage Law.

Terre Haute, Ind., March 12.—In a statement last night Eugene V. Debs, socialist leader, hurled defiance at the United States supreme court, which sustained the decision of the trial court that found him guilty of violating the espionage act and imposed a sentence of 10 years' imprisonment.

"I am not in the least concerned about what those bewigged, be-gowned and be-powdered corpora-tion attorneys at Washington say," said Mr. Debs. "I have not changed my mind in the slightest. I stated to the court at the time of my conviction that the law was utterly despot and vicious. I despise it and defy the supreme court to do its worst."

"If, according to the supreme court, the espionage law is valid, then the constitution of the United States is another scrap of paper. The predecessors of the same court affirmed the validity of the fugitive slave law 60 years ago with the belief their decision was final and that chattel slavery as a result would be perpetual. Within five years from that date chattel slavery was dead on American soil."

**No Spies Caught.** "Far more flagrant violations of the provisions of the espionage law in respect to free speech were committed by the late Theodore Roosevelt, but he was not indicted. "Under the law I was convicted for a speech I could have made—" he hesitated.

"In Germany," supplemented his wife, who had her arms about him. "Yes," said Debs, "and in Great Britain, France and Italy, too." "It is worthy of note," he continued, "that though the espionage law was allegedly designed to catch spies, not one spy was convicted under it. That reveals the animus of the law under which the United States is made to begin where old Russia left off under the czar."

### New Jersey Cars in 141 Towns Stopped by Strike

New York, March 12.—Virtually all the surface car lines of the Public Service Railway company which operates through 141 cities and towns in northern New Jersey, were tied up today by the strike of 4,500 employees.

## Imperialistic Colonization, Now but Dissipated Dream, Never a German Success

### Former German Empire Called 11 Colonies in Africa and the Pacific Its Own—The African Possessions Alone Were Five Times as Large as European Germany—Pacific Occupations Mostly of Strategical Importance.

By JAY JEROME WILLIAMS, Universal Service Staff Correspondent.

Paris, March 12.—With the time near for the league of nations to appoint mandatories for the vast African possessions and other colonies of the former German empire comes the bitter realization on the part of Germany's imperialists that their dream of a great empire—rivaling the dominions of Great Britain—has crumbled to dust as quickly as did their once formidable military machine.

In Africa alone and along the equator, Germany has lost territories which in the aggregate are a third as large as the area of the United States and five times the size of Germany itself as it existed in the heyday of William II. These wealthy lands, the soil of which is capable of telling many a bloody tale of Prussian colonization, consisted of more than 1,000,000 square miles at the outbreak of the war, divided as follows:

German East Africa.....	Sq. Miles
The Cameroons.....	24,000
Togoland.....	30,000
Southwest Africa.....	322,459
Total.....	1,926,159

In addition are the Pacific possessions:

Kaiser Wilhelmland (German New Guinea).....	Sq. Miles
The Bismarck archipelago.....	70,000
The German Solomon Islands.....	20,000
German Samoa.....	1,000
The Caroline Islands.....	550
The Marianas or Ladrones Islands.....	250
The Marshall Islands.....	150

Of all these possessions, however, German East Africa ranks first. It was the diadem in the crown of the new empire. It was to have been the keystone of a "New Germany," modeled on the lines of Britain's colonial possessions in America, South Africa and Australasia. German East Africa has a native population of from 7,000,000 to 10,000,000, mostly natives—and in 1913 it could boast of a total trade of \$22,000,000 a year, more than half of which incidentally tinkled its metallurgical way into the coffers of the fatherland.

**Big Initial Immigration.** The aftermath of the congress of Vienna saw the infant German empire, molded by the able hands of

Boche Wrecked Empire. For the destruction of the empire two typically Teutonic concepts are responsible, both of which are mistaken and injurious to development.

One of the German concepts, as said before, was to create a "New Germany" in Africa, and the other was to free the fatherland from dependence on foreign nations for colonial wares by producing them within her own African domain. Failure greeted the practice of these ideas, however. In 1913 the empire saw but 18,362 Germans in the "New Germany," and of this number only 10,000 were actual settlers. The German, the world has learned, does not relish any assumption of the white man's burden. Furthermore, the attempts to Prussianize the natives were ignominious failures.

The chief disappointment, though, was measured in dollars and cents, for the vast African lands supplied only 3 per cent of Germany's total colonial imports. And this is one of the reasons why the peace conference believes that Germany's economic future is in no way contingent on the return of these colonies.

**Cruel Punishments.** All in all, however, the poor native was the chief sufferer, because the German colonial governments regarded their subjects as serfs and treated them accordingly. Forced labor was one ideal of the German colonial system; scorn of the native was another, and severe and cruel punishment was the order of the day whenever the authorities believed the natives were not performing to the utmost of their physical strength.

Sanitary conditions have been termed "execrable"; disease of the most vicious type was rampant, and the relation of employer to employe was that of master and slave. Floggings were administered on the slightest pretext and West Africa and part of the Cameroons bore the gruesome nickname of "The land of the twenty-five," because of the fact that this was the regular number of lashes dealt by the Simon Legrees of "New Germany."

**Officer Reinstated When He Proves Citizenship** Barney Cogan, South Side policeman, has qualified as a full-fledged citizen, and he has been reinstated in good standing. He has shown documentary evidence that he was naturalized through his father. He was reported by Chief Eberstein on Tuesday as one of four members of the department who were amenable to the provisions of a legislative enactment which prohibits employment of others than fully naturalized citizens in public service.

## THREE MEN SHOT BY WIFE BEATER WHO KILLS SELF

### Crazed by Drink, Chicago Man Barricades Self in Home and Stands Off Police Posse Three Hours.

Chicago, March 12.—Two policemen and a civilian are in hospitals today with bullet wounds inflicted by a man barricaded in his own house, while the latter lies in a morgue with part of his head blown off by turning his weapon against himself.

From 10 o'clock last night until 1 o'clock this morning George Ondeck, real estate dealer, held more than half a hundred policemen at bay, exchanging shot for shot and driving the besiegers to cover of adjacent fences, sheds and cottages. One of his bullets plowed a furrow along a policeman's scalp, while another lodged in a brother officer's leg.

The civilian was wounded in the head, and of the three men he is the more seriously injured. When Ondeck was reduced to his last cartridge he turned his rifle against himself, exploding it by shoving the trigger against the back of a chair.

**Charged with Cruelty.** Forty-five minutes later the police crept cautiously into the house. Ondeck lay dead on the floor. The house was filled with gas, a besieger's bullet having broken a gas pipe. In a rear room, lying on the floor and close to the walls, were Mrs. Ondeck and her several children, where they had thrown themselves to escape the bullets that crashed through the frame cottage walls.

Ondeck is said to have been drinking and the police were hunting him with a warrant charging cruelty, sworn out by the wife. They had gone to the house, when the eldest boy had hurried to the nearest police station to summon aid against the father, who was threatening the family. Three of them went and were fired upon. They summoned the reserves.

**Postpone Wearing of New Officers' Naval Uniform** Washington, March 12.—American naval officers abroad will not wear the new uniform, substituting a roll collar for the present tight fitting neck band, until after the peace treaty has been signed. Secretary Daniels said today this had been ordered to prevent the officers on duty in foreign countries from appearing in two different kinds of uniforms.

**Sugar Rations Did Not Reduce U. S. Consumption** Jersey City, N. J., March 12.—Putting the United States on a sugar ration did not reduce the consumption in 1918, according to the annual report of the American Sugar Refining company, issued here today, which stated that the daily consumption approximated 10,000 tons, the same as for the last 10 years.

## Conference Favors Admitting Pope into Councils of League

### Berne, March 12.—The International conference of league of nations societies today drew up two new resolutions to be addressed to the peace conference in Paris. One favored the participation of all self-governing nations in the league and the other was in favor of free trade.

The question of participation by the Vatican aroused much discussion, Prof. Forel, a Swiss delegate, opposing it on the ground that if the holy see became a member, Buddhism and other religious systems would have to be admitted. The conference finally decided by a vote of 13 to 8 to grant the holy see some voice, at least, in the councils of the league.

During the discussion relative to free trade the existing blockade was sharply criticized as an "insult to international rights."

## Protests Against Chinese Trading Company Rejected

Peking, March 12.—(By The Associated Press.)—American and British protests made against the creation of the "Chinese Trading Company" which was authorized last August for the purpose of acting as a special purchasing agent for the Chinese government, have brought replies from the government to the effect that other companies may apply for similar privileges. The American and British legations objected to the proposed monopoly on the ground that it infringed treaty rights.

## Call Meeting to Discuss News Print Paper Prices

Washington, March 12.—Representatives of manufacturers of news print paper and publishers of newspapers and periodicals have been asked to appear before the federal trade commission Friday, March 21, to discuss the proposed reopening of news print prices on the application of the publishers made in December.

## Japs in Honolulu Vote to Send Delegation to Paris

Honolulu, March 12.—A mass meeting of 2,000 Hawaiian Japanese held here today adopted a resolution to send a Japanese delegation to Paris to ask that an effort be made to insert a clause in the peace treaty abolishing racial discriminations for the sake of humanity and justice.

## Holy See Advocates Simpler Outline for League of Nations

### Rome, March 12.—The Osservatore Romano, the semi-official organ of the Vatican, prints an article on the league of nations which is understood to embody the viewpoint of the Holy See. It says the league "might have been constituted in a simpler manner" and outlines the functions of the league as follows:

The setting of an arbitration tribunal to solve international conflicts. The formation of a society of all civilized nations, including those defeated in the war, which will pledge themselves to submit their differences to a tribunal and accept its rulings.

The bringing about of an agreement to declare an economic boycott against any nation which refuses to submit controversies to a tribunal or which will not accept decisions on matters which have been so submitted.

In conclusion the article recalls that such a project was suggested in the pope's appeal to belligerent nations on August 1, 1917.



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## Meat: Russia and the Allies

Russia crumbled away and failed the Allies largely through lack of food, according to an American eyewitness.

With plentiful reserves and resources virtually untouched, her people starved at home and at the front because there was no adequate organization to place food where it was needed.

Animals on the hoof were shipped thousands of miles to the various fronts, wasting transportation facilities required for other purposes. They arrived shrunken and emaciated, to be killed and dressed amidst filth and confusion behind the lines. Half of those brought from Siberia, it is said, perished on the way; many more were unfit for food.

On the other hand, the American packers turned live stock into meat in large sanitary plants located in the producing sections, and shipped the product under refrigeration so that it reached the trenches in France in perfect condition, without waste.

### Says Our Authority:

"Had such facilities for cold storage transportation been available to the Russian supply committee as were placed at the disposal of the quartermaster of the United States by Swift & Company, there might have been a different story concerning Russia's part in the final drama of the war."

A large-scale packing industry would be an asset to Russia, in war or in peace, as it has proved to be to the United States.

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