

RUSH U.S. ARMY TO THE LINES WITH ALL SPEED

Co-ordination of Effort of British, French, American Against Germany.

POOL RESOURCES

Great Results of Inter-Allied War Council Held in Paris.

Washington despatch: An engagement by the United States to send a great army against the Germans in time to offset the defection of Russia was disclosed today through the publication by Secretary of State Lansing of a review of the work and recommendations of the American mission which recently participated in the Inter-Allied War Conferences at Paris.

American fighting men are to cross the Atlantic as rapidly as they can be mustered and trained. France and Great Britain on their part undertake not only to join in providing ships to carry them, but to see that any deficiencies in arms and equipment are made up on the other side.

This was one of the great decisions reached at the conferences through which the co-belligerents planned to pool their fighting resources and move as a unit toward driving the Germans and their allies out of conquered territory and crushing the Teutonic world domination scheme. There is to be co-ordinated effort not only in fighting in land and sea, but in production at home and in the sea shipping routes upon which depends the vital problem of maintaining uninterrupted transportation in spite of submarines.

TO MAKE PLEDGES GOOD. Even before Col. House and his assistants on the American mission were sent to Paris to again set up war preparations here had been set in motion. In today's announcement is sent his explanation of the reorganization of War Department officers embraced in the formation of the new War Council of general officers, and of renewed efforts to speed up the Shipping Board's merchant building programme. Other indications of the new pressure applied since the American mission returned are manifest about the Navy and War Departments, but most of the things being done cannot be discussed publicly for military reasons. It can be stated authoritatively, however, that definite steps to make good the pledges given to the Allied leaders by Col. House have already been taken.

The first recommendation of the mission is for entire military, naval and economic co-operation between the powers opposed to Germany. That is regarded as having been accomplished.

The summary of the military conferences attended by General Bliss shows that an agreement to "pool resources for the mutual advantages of all" was entered into.

The contribution of the United States to this pooling arrangement was agreed upon. The contributions likewise of the countries associated with the United States were determined upon. The pooling arrangement guaranteed that full equipment of every kind would be available for all American troops sent to Europe during the year 1918.

In 1918, the United States will have no need to seek military equipment of any kind away from home. Before the present year ends its full war resources will have been made available.

"Systematic co-ordination of resources of men and materials," to produce the necessary ships is urged upon Government and people alike.

Under a resolution adopted by the Inter-Allied Conference, a united use of ship tonnage was agreed upon which would permit "the liberating of the greatest amount of tonnage possible for the transportation of American troops."

A policy to govern the use of neutral tonnage was agreed upon. Port facilities at debarkation points for American forces were to be improved and steps taken to permit the return of vessels to their home ports with the least possible delay.

Even as the nature of this agreement which has bound all the resources of more than half the world into one force to defeat Germany was being published, definite action toward making it good was in progress also in Paris. Assistant Secretary Crosby, of the Treasury Department, who remained in Europe as president of the Inter-Allied Council, officially described as a financial priority board, met there today with the financial representatives of the other powers to discuss questions of credit and to which of the Allies further American loans are to go.

The decision to keep American troops moving to Europe in a steady stream marks another advance in the Government's war plans. Originally it was proposed to use all available tonnage for the transportation of supplies and munitions, and to send no soldiers over until they had been given a year's training. This was changed when Marshal Joffre came to the United States with word that France wanted at once any number of Americans who could come to put the Stars and Stripes on the firing line and hear the French soldiers, wedded by their long battle against the invader.

The sub-headings naval, military, diplomatic and shipping here follow in full:

NAVAL.

1. The formation of an inter-allied naval council to co-ordinate the operation of the naval forces of the United States and her associates in the war so that these forces may in the future be operated as one in the prosecution of the war on the sea and in conjunction with the land forces.

2. An agreement between the British Admiralty and the Navy Department putting into effect certain plans relating to the prosecution of the naval war against the submarines.

3. The formation of a definite plan for the more active utilization of American naval forces in conjunction with those of nations engaged in the war against the Central Powers.

4. Agreement with the British Admiralty making it possible for American naval officers to keep fully informed of the operations and policy of the British Admiralty so that perfect co-operation between the Navy Department and that body is assured.

5. Reorganization of American naval forces at French ports.

6. The securing of a full and detailed picture of the naval problem in European waters.

FINANCE.

1. Full accord with the financial representatives of Great Britain, France, Japan, Italy, Belgium, Greece and the United States for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of the financial effort necessary on the part of the United States, in order properly to co-operate with these Governments in making financial arrangements for the prosecution of the war against the Central Powers.

2. Conferences with the representatives of the above-mentioned countries for the purpose of perfecting organization of an inter-allied council, which is a priority board, whose duty it should be to consider the relative importance and urgency of the financial demands to be made by the concerted effort of the countries waging war against the Central Powers.

3. Arrangements begun for the proper financing of purchases by the countries at war with Germany of supplies from neutral countries.

4. Participation in the financial discussions of the inter-allied conference.

FOOD.

(1) A comprehensive and accurate estimate was obtained of the food in the possession of the allied nations and of the amounts that must be supplied by North America during the year ending Oct. 1, 1918. Complete information had not been of a satisfactory nature and personal contact ministrations of the countries concerned was necessary in order that the necessary data could be made available.

(2) The extent of shipments of foodstuffs required from North America for the United Kingdom, France and Italy were fixed for the year ending 1918. It is believed that the programme worked out with the several inter-allied executives dealing with supplies of foodstuffs will grant greater facilities for the distribution of foodstuffs at a lower cost in terms of tonnage and transportation.

(3) In order to permit the United States to visualize the problem of food control in North America, plans were worked out whereby the Governments of Great Britain, France and Italy agreed to put into effect a legislative and compulsory control of foodstuffs in these countries.

(4) The creation by the inter-allied conference in Paris of an inter-allied scientific committee on alimentations, to consist of two representatives each of the United States, Great Britain, France and Italy. This committee to be in continuous session in Europe for the purpose of studying the alimentations of the allies. This committee to stand in an advisory capacity to the food administrations of the above-named countries.

(5) Dr. Taylor, the representative of the food administration on the mission, reported the United States Department of Agriculture in a conference held in Paris to consider the problems of food production in the allied countries during the year 1918. At this conference, an inter-allied agriculture committee was established, to consist of one delegate each from the United States, Great Britain, France and Italy, to sit continuously in Europe and to act in an advisory capacity to the Governments named.

DIPLOMATIC.

1. Full and frank discussion between Col. House, as special representative of the Government of the United States, and the heads of the British, French and Italian Governments with regard to the war policy of the United States and her associates in the war.

2. Participation by the members of the mission in a meeting of the British War Cabinet, at which conference a general and useful discussion was had concerning the needs of the Allies and the extent of the assistance to be expected from the United States.

3. Participation by the United States in the inter-allied war conference, held in Paris on November 29. At this conference all preliminary speeches were dispensed with and within half an hour after the conference had been called to order by M. Clemenceau it had split into committees for work.

4. Participation by the United States in a meeting of the Supreme War Council held at Versailles, December 1. Representatives of England, France, Italy and the United States there met as a first step towards securing unity of control of the armies on the western front. This meeting, the first of its kind assured for the future unity of support on the part of the United States and the allies.

5. First steps taken in the establishment of a more perfect liaison between the commanding generals of the United States and the allies.

MILITARY.

1. After conferences extending over approximately 30 days with the chiefs of staff, members of the general staffs and commanders-in-chief of the allied armies on the western front, as well as with the highest civil officials of the respective Governments of the inter-allies, the military effort to be aimed at by the United States was clearly determined.

2. With this determination in mind,



FAMOUS FRENCH '75' FIELD GUN ON EXHIBIT AT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT EXHIBITION OF WAR TROPHIES NOW BEING HELD AT MONTREAL.

negotiation were carried on as to the pooling of resources for the mutual advantage of all the countries engaged in the war against Germany. The contribution of the United States to the pooling arrangement was agreed upon. The contributions likewise of each nation with the allied troops sent to Europe during the year 1918.

2. Unqualified support to the resolution adopted by the inter-allied countries looking to the creation of an allied advisory board charged with the duty of advising the shipping authorities of each nation with the allocation of tonnage, so as to permit American military effort to be realized.

3. Full survey made of problem of debarkation in Europe of American military forces and transportation of such forces and supplies to the bases of military operations.

4. Arrangements made for fullest co-operation between the United States, Great Britain and France in the production of military instruments and supplies of all kinds.

5. Plans made for the proper organization under naval and military control of ports of debarkation of troops and discharge of cargoes looking to the most economical utilization of tonnage.

6. Participation in military deliberations of supreme war council as a step toward efficient and centralized unity of control of military operations.

SHIPPING.

1. Full and detailed reports were secured showing total loss of tonnage due to war risks and marine risks from August 1st, 1914, to September 30th, 1917.

2. The estimated output of tonnage by the allies during the year 1918 was ascertained.

3. The proper employment of existing tonnage so that the maximum utilization of such tonnage could be effected was provided for in a resolution adopted by the inter-allied conference.

4. The allies, considering that the means of maritime transport at their disposal, as well as the provisions which they disposed of should be utilized in common for the pursuit of the war, have decided to create an inter-allied organization for the purpose of co-ordinating their action to date, and of establishing a committee to be in continuous session in Europe for the purpose of studying the utilization of their resources to restrict their importations with a view of liberating the greatest amount of tonnage possible for the transportation of American troops.

5. The whole question of the employment of neutral tonnage in line with the proposals made by neutral countries with respect to this tonnage was exhaustively discussed and plans looking to the favorable result of tonnage negotiations with neutral countries were substantially agreed upon.

6. A survey was completed of the ports of debarkation of American troops and supplies, and plans were made looking to the more expeditious discharge of troops and cargoes so as to permit the return of vessels to their home ports with the least possible delay.

7. Full and detailed conferences were held with the British, French and Italian representatives upon the matter of a complete understanding was obtained of the principles under which these countries were proceeding.

8. A mass of information was obtained with reference to rationing requirements of Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Holland.

9. An agreement between the War Trade Board and the Swiss society of surveillance was agreed to and executed by the Swiss delegates and Mr. McCormick, the chairman of the War Trade Board.

10. Arrangements were made for the participation of the United States in the deliberations of the permanent international commission on contingents, sitting in Paris and on the inter-allied commission of Berne, Switzerland.

11. Tentative plans subject to the approval of the War Trade Board were made for the appointment of representatives and staffs of the War Trade Boards in London and Paris.

WAR INDUSTRIES.

(1) A detailed study was made of the organization of the British Ministry of Munitions and the supply departments of the British Admiralty and the British War Office, and a complete analysis of the facts and figures in possession of these departments of the British Government was made. The report embodying the results of these investigations contains a full statement of the methods in vogue in England for supplying

the army and navy with munitions and other materials and also statistics relating to the mutual co-operation necessary to be effected for the proper supplying of the armed forces of the countries waging war on the Central Powers.

(2) A survey was made of the system in practice in Great Britain relating to the letting of Government contracts and the organization of industries throughout Great Britain.

(3) Full conferences with representatives of the United States ordnance department in France and representatives of British and French munitions departments stationed there, resulting in the embodying of concrete recommendations in memorandum submitted to the War Department.

SANK MORE SUBS THAN FOE BUILT

British Made Great Record During December.

Clear Waning of the Menace is Shown.

London cable: Although the sinkings of ships of large tonnage in the past week have been rather heavy, the total for December is characterized as satisfactory, being only slightly larger than for November, which established a low record. The tonnage sunk during December was well below that of any month previous to September. Against this, however, the sinkings of submarines were greater in December than in any previous month since the war began.

Naval men declare that more submarines were sunk in December than the German shipyards were able to launch; so, the German submarine navy may now be said to have begun actually to shrink—a process which the allies hope to accelerate rapidly with the increasing effectiveness of naval methods.

The total entrances and clearances, while low for the past week owing to weather conditions, were larger in December than in November.

The sinkings in the past month occurred mainly in two areas. Owing to the severe weather submarines have been compelled to concentrate and work closer to shore. This, perhaps, accounts for the large number of submarines caught. One of these was rammed in the most casual manner by a slow-going coastal steamer almost within gunshot of land.

Reports of encounters with submarines in the past three months indicate that whatever improvements have been made for the past few months are not nearly so efficient or deadly as they were earlier in the year. In a day partly to the lower standard of their torpedoes and also to deterioration in the quality of their crews. In "cutting," as in aviation, experienced men are irreplaceable, and novices stand a poor chance.

Allied naval men have learned to identify the German U-boat veteran merely by the character of his operations, and can tell when the novice comes on their beat by his amateur methods.

THE AURORA LOST.

The Shackleton Expedition Vessel Feared Wrecked.

London cable says: The Daily Mail says it is feared that the Antarctic ship Aurora, which took part in the Shackleton expedition, has been lost with all hands while returning to England. It is understood the vessel sailed from Wellington, New Zealand, in June, with a crew of about twenty-two, and while on its way to England it was sighted by a patrol vessel. It is believed that the vessel was wrecked on the coast of New Zealand, after leaving some of its crew at Ross Barrier. Sir Ernest Shackleton set out to rescue the members of the Aurora's crew in December, 1916. He found seven of them alive, but three others had perished.

U. S. ALARMED

By British Bill Respecting Trade Marks.

London cable says: The representatives of American manufacturers in England are much alarmed over a bill pending in Parliament, providing that if the proprietor of a word trade mark uses his mark so as to lead the public to read it as the name of an article, it shall be removed from the register of trade marks.

It is pointed out that if the bill were passed many American articles which have become popularized through name trade marks would probably be imitated under the same name, and that Americans would have no redress, thus entailing untold loss to them financially, if not the ruin of their business in Britain. Americans here say that the fact that cargo space for Britain is now so restricted that the trade in many articles has already become greatly affected, and if the bill becomes law, American goods will be successful in getting control of all the business before the cargo space is increased and normal conditions are resumed between the United States and England commercially.

The attention of the American Consul-General, Robert T. Skinner, has been called to the seriousness of the situation, and if the representations of American representatives and officials here are unavailing, Washington will probably be asked to intercede with the British Government for the removal of certain objectionable features of the bill.

NEW TYPE U-BOAT

Especially to Attack American Transports.

Berne cable: A Rome despatch to the Agena Nazionale reports the formation of a new type of German submarine. The new type is especially intended to attack American transports. The Germans readily obtained officers for these new craft, but are having difficulty in getting men. Despite the high pay offered, it has been necessary to resort to conscription. These plans have been reported here for some time, and are known also to have been current in England. The Germans are believed to be employing desperate efforts to get fast and powerful underwater cruisers on the high seas.

"EXTERMINATED"

Were British and French People at Irkutsk.

Petrograd cable says: A despatch to the Russian Embassy from the British Consul at Harbin, Manchuria, says the British and French residents of Irkutsk, Siberia, have been exterminated in the recent fighting against the Bolshevik forces. The despatch adds that Irkutsk was under heavy bombardment for two days, and much property was destroyed.

The Embassy is inclined to believe that the word "exterminated" is an exaggeration. Although there are no official figures at hand, it is said that there are not more than fifteen French and British residents at Irkutsk.

"RED" LEADERS WERE JAILED

Bolsheviki Envoys Prisoners in Roumania.

Only Cossacks Saved Their Lives.

Petrograd cable: Apparently the Roumanian Government does not intend to tolerate any interference with their troops by the Bolsheviks. The latter admit that the situation on the Roumanian front is very serious. So far as the Maximilians are concerned, one report is to the effect that the Roumanians have shot several of the Bolshevik leaders, who were accused of plundering Roumanian villages.

The Semi-Official News Agency today made public a communication from Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister, assuring that the Roumanian authorities ordered the Bolshevik committee visiting that country arrested and tried, and declaring that they would have been shot except for interference by the Cossacks.

The statement says that Trotzky, in a protest to the Roumanian Minister, has demanded the punishment of all those responsible for the alleged outrages and declared that the Roumanians and Soldiers' Deputies would not shrink from using the harshest methods against Roumanian counter-revolutionary conspirators, the accomplices of Gen. Kaloussis. Lieut-Gen. St. Cherbacheff, commander of the Russian forces in Roumania and the Rada.

TWO HURT IN EXPLOSION.

Ingersoll Report—Shortly before five o'clock this afternoon a serious explosion occurred at the works of the Ingersoll Ship Company. The company's local manager, M. D. Montgomery, and Harry Barton, a friend, who were in the building at the time, were seriously burned.

The condition of Montgomery is regarded as very precarious. The cause of the explosion is unknown. It was followed by fire in the roof, and considerable damage resulted.

A poor joke is better than a good joke in one respect at least. "How's that?" "One's likely to hear the last of a poor joke."—Buffalo Express.

GERMAN DRIVE ON THE WEST IS ASSURED

Gen. Maurice Warns of Its Surety, Following Foe's Strengthening.

MAY GIVE GROUND

But British Will Not Suffer as Enemy Did Last Year.

London cable: The probability of the Germans now taking a vigorous offensive attitude on the western front was pointed out by Major-Gen. F. D. Maurice, Chief Director of Military Operations at the War Office, in his weekly talk to the Associated Press today.

There were two factors that contributed to this probability, the general staff, the first being the steady flow of German reinforcements from the eastern front, and the second fact that the American forces were not yet ready to take any considerable part in the operations.

The public should be prepared, Gen. Maurice said, for some losses of both ground and men if the Germans attempt really determined offensive preparations. They would not, however, be able to inflict any such losses on the allies as the latter had inflicted on the Germans during the past year, he declared.

"The enemy in the past fortnight has been attempting numerous raids, mostly on a small scale," began Gen. Maurice. "At Cambrai, however, he tried a larger operation with the object of getting control of a ridge on the British flank, whence he hoped he could strangle the supplies to a British salient and force its withdrawal. His attack, however, ended in an almost complete failure, for although he gained a few hundred yards on our front trenches he failed to get foot on the ridge anywhere.

"These attempts to take the offensive," continued the general "are a sign of a new distribution of the belligerent forces on the western front. The enemy is steadily bringing troops from Russia with the aim of re-establishing his superiority over the Anglo-French forces. The Germans do not possess a magic carpet and cannot transfer troops at a supernatural rate, especially under winter transport conditions. Nevertheless, there is a steady flow of German troops westward.

"The Germans are still a long way from having superior numbers on this front, but the relative strength of the forces is already so altered that it is doubtful whether the allied commanders would feel justified in undertaking offensive operations on a large scale. The enemy's constantly improving numerical condition will, on the other hand, lead inevitably to offensive operations by the Germans, but I see no reason to believe that we will be able to inflict anything like such losses on us as we inflicted on him during the past year.

"Owing to our work of the past year, we are in an excellent defensive position, holding practically all the high ground. On the other hand, we are everywhere on new ground where we must prepare new defensive systems. We must be prepared to lose ground, if the enemy makes a determined attack with the usual heavy preparation, followed by energetic infantry assaults, for our own experience has taught us that it is practically always possible to move a certain distance under these conditions of attack.

Regarding the situation in Palestine, Gen. Maurice said: "A word of caution is necessary relative to the hopes of an immediate future advance in Palestine. The hills of Judea are notoriously difficult, the weather is unfavorable, and the roads impassable owing to the wet season. The transport problem, therefore, is likely to prevent any considerable movement there for some time."

2,500 KILLED

In the Great Earthquake at Guatemala.

San Salvador, Salvador cable says: Newspapers of this city declare that no fewer than 2,500 people lost their lives in the Guatemala earthquake.

Many persons are going overland from Salvador to Guatemala to investigate the fate of friends. Telegraphic communication between San Salvador and Guatemala is again interrupted.

Early reports on the Guatemala earthquake, which began Christmas Eve, declared the loss of life was very heavy, some estimates reaching 10,000. A Guatemala City despatch of December 31, however, said that only a few persons had been killed.

JOINT ALLY REPLY.

Italian Premier Intimates One is Coming.

Rome cable says: The Premier announced in the Senate today that so far the Allies have not exchanged views upon the Austro-German peace proposals, indicating that a joint reply will be decided upon at an early date. He explained clearly why the conditions of the proposals were not acceptable and that their rejection was due to no wish of the Allies to prolong the war. Reliable information is to the effect that the Pope had a deep personal conviction that the proposal was doomed to failure, hence the non-committal attitude of the Vatican.