

ALLIES RENEW BELGIAN PLEDGE

Promise Fight Till Nation Is Reestablished in Independence. AMPLIFIED INDEMNITY ALSO GUARANTEED

London, Feb. 16. The Allied Powers signatory to the treaty guaranteeing the independence and neutrality of Belgium have decided to renew their agreement not to end hostilities until the political and economic independence of Belgium is reestablished and the nation is indemnified for the damage suffered.

The decision was communicated to the British Foreign Office on Monday by the ministers representing the Entente Allies. The Russian Minister, Count Sazonov, stated to the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, "The Allied Powers signatory to the treaty guaranteeing the independence and neutrality of Belgium have decided to renew to-day by solemn act the agreement made regarding your country which has been heroically faithful to its international obligations."

Consequently, the Ministers of France, Great Britain and Russia, duly authorized by their governments, have the honor to make the following declaration: "The Allied and guaranteeing powers declare that, when the moment comes, the Belgian government will be called upon to take part in peace negotiations, and they will not put an end to hostilities without Belgium having reestablished its political and economic independence, and having been amply indemnified for damages suffered. They will lend their aid to Belgium in order to assure its financial and commercial restoration."

Belgian Confidence Unshaken. The Belgian Foreign Minister, Baron Degeert, replied: "The government of the King is profoundly grateful to the governments of the three powers guaranteeing the independence of Belgium, of which you are representatives, for their generous attitude in making known to-day this declaration. I thank you heartily in its behalf. Your words will have a soothing effect in the hearts of our people, whether they are fighting at the front, suffering in the occupied country or awaiting in exile—all and all with the same courage—the hour of deliverance. The new assurance which you have just given will confirm their confidence in the Belgian government, which has restored from its ruin and reestablished in its complete political and economic independence."

Hit by War, Kills Himself. A man found at desk—Leaves Wife and Five Children.

Depression in business due to the war is believed to have made John O'Connell, of 305 West End Avenue, member of the firm of Doscher & O'Connell, importers, commit suicide yesterday afternoon in his office at 50 Pine Street.

Gets Pennsylvania Steel. Schwab Completes Deal for 76 Per Cent of Stock.

Philadelphia, Feb. 16. Negotiations for the sale of 76 per cent of the stock of the Pennsylvania Steel Company to Charles M. Schwab, president of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, have been completed.

Fire Record. A fire at 100 West 46th Street, New York, destroyed a building containing a large stock of clothing.

Removal Notice. The New York Public Library has removed its collection of books to the new building at 410 Fifth Avenue.

BRITISH FOOD HIGH; TEUTON STILL HIGHER

London, Feb. 16.—Retail prices of food in the United Kingdom advanced on an average of 1 1/2 per cent in January, according to British Board of Trade statistics published to-day.

Flour and bread increased in price about 6 per cent. The average increase in retail food prices—including those for working class households—since the beginning of the war has been about 47 per cent.

The Board of Trade states that, in Berlin, the general level of prices of certain more important articles of food was 83.4 per cent above that of July, 1914.

In Vienna, it is declared, the general level of food prices was 112.9 per cent higher than that of July, 1914.

NEW ZEPPELINS CARRY SIX GUNS

Continued from page 1. different matters. The big dirigible came to England to build for a syndicate has failed to come up to expectations, and the probabilities are that it will be abandoned after fourteen months of work.

Mechmech, who is president of the Aeronautical Society of America, came here after the war began, and later announced he was constructing an aircraft in which were incorporated the best ideas of the Zeppelin and other dirigibles.

Backed by English capitalists, he laid down the craft in December, 1914. Today a huge framework, more than 20 feet long, a couple of unmounted motors, gas envelopes and a cover were put in place, and all there is to show for the efforts.

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British Cabinet Regrets It Has No Zeppelins. London, Feb. 16.—A. J. Balfour, First Lord of the Admiralty, created a sensation in the House of Commons to-day by declaring that one of England's great mistakes in the days prior to the war was in not taking up a serious policy of airship construction and in failing to develop a dirigible fleet along lines similar to that of Germany.

"I am sorry," he added, "that we did not long ago develop a fleet of such fighting machines as the Germans are now using for offensive purposes as far as air scouting."

"With regard to Zeppelins," he said, "looking back on events, I am sorry that we did not develop that type of vessel, not so much for aggression and defence as for maritime and other scouting. Such airships might have been used for us in an important part of the war."

"We are doing what we can to remedy this state of things, but I do not pretend that, when we began the race against the enemy, there is any reasonable probability of catching up. However, something must be done, and what can be is being done."

Air Defence Guns Lacking. "Every possible resource in Europe and America is being utilized for the provision of air material. One of the difficulties is that nothing can be standardized because the air services are constantly developing and changing."

Mr. Tennant, in behalf of the War Office, after outlining a new scheme for the coordination of the army, navy and munitions department in the work of air defence, closed with the statement: "While we have made strides in providing premier equipment and the safety of the country, the safety of every part of the United Kingdom against attack by long range aircraft can never be complete."

Island Set Aside for Carmina Pig. Britain Provides Special Quarantine Station for Sick Porker.

TEUTONS GIVE UP DRIVES ON LAND

Decide Henceforth Merely to Hold All Territory Now Occupied.

LOOK TO U-BOATS FOR BIG RESULTS

New Submarine Warfare Expected to Force Britain to Discuss Peace Terms.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Germany is satisfied with the extent of foreign territory already occupied by her arms. A high German authority here announced to-day that the German Staff of the Teutonic powers had resolved that henceforth their conduct of the war on land would be purely defensive, except for a possible drive on Egypt in the near future.

For the rest, as far as Berlin and Vienna are concerned, the war has resolved itself into the problem of retaining the present lines held by their troops until the forces of the Entente are exhausted.

Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, when questioned concerning this statement to-night, said that this military policy had been forehanded some time ago in a speech made by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg. He refused to discuss the question at length.

While, however, the land operations of the Teutonic alliance will be purely defensive, great results are expected from the threatened resumption of submarine warfare.

The person who authorized this announcement hinted that the Teutons would be willing to restore to each of the warring countries of the world the territory which they had occupied at the same time as the Kaiser will be willing to accept.

But the next peace proposal must come from the land of the Allies, Berlin insists. Germany will be willing to grant reasonable proposals for a readjustment at the end of the war, but she will make no further proposals to bring this to pass.

Regarding the possibility of Bulgaria attaining a separate peace, it was said that the German Staff had decided to completely cripple Britain economically.

Wanted, a War Secretary. President Considering Two Chicago Men for Garrison's Place.

Washington, Feb. 16. While President Wilson is understood to have begun narrowing the list of men under consideration for appointment as Secretary of War, officials said to-night he had made no final selection.

John Barton Payne, of Chicago, a lawyer, and Frederic A. Delano, also of Chicago, vice-governor of the Federal Reserve Board, are being discussed as possibilities.

See Plot in Fire at Toronto Club. Directors Ask That Man Who Lost Life Be Honored as War Victim.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—One man was killed and two others were injured to-day in a fire which wrecked the American Club building and which, in the opinion of the club's directors, was of incendiary origin.

Mule Ship Repels U-Boat with Shots. One Sailor Wounded in Sharp Mediterranean Fight.

New Orleans, Feb. 16.—The British mule steamer Baron Napier, from Alexandria, Egypt, brought a thrilling story to-day of battling in the Mediterranean on January 17 with a German submarine.

11 GERMAN RAIDERS READY FOR DASH TO SEA

Steamers at Canary Ports Secretly Armed, Says Captain.

Mohale, Ala., Feb. 16.—Eleven German steamers laid up in the Canary Islands ports have been secretly armed for commerce raiding and are preparing to make a dash for the open sea, according to a statement made here to-day by Captain F. E. Maguire, of the schooner Murdock.

"At Tenerife," said Captain Maguire, "no time was lost in unloading my cargo on the beach. The vessels were sent straight to the sides of the German vessels. The first German ship in sight was the Cap Ortega, a big passenger liner of some 5,000 tons. She looked like she had just come out of a shipyard, presenting a shipshape appearance, and I was told by shipping men that all of the German steamships in Tenerife kept full crews aboard and appeared to be ready to sail any moment their masters desired."

Author's Report Will Tell How Nation's Lands Are Sued to Ex-Soldiers.

London, Feb. 4.—Sir Rider Haggard has left England on a trip around the world with a mission from the Royal Colonial Institute.

Sir Rider's mission is to facilitate the rebuilding of the empire after the war by preventing the emigration to foreign countries, including the United States and South America, of soldiers and their families, and by directing steady streams of these war veterans to the British colonies.

Sir Rider, as a justice of the peace of his home town in Norfolk, has studied land settlement, unemployment and agriculture, and this led to his present appointment. He goes first to South Africa, then eastward to the Straits Settlements, Australia, New Zealand, and will be in America and Canada next summer or autumn.

U. S. Arms Shipments \$2,000,000 A Day. Munitions Sent to Europe Since War Began Valued at \$250,000,000.

Washington, Feb. 16. American-made munitions now are pouring into Europe at the rate of nearly \$2,000,000 worth daily, with the figures swelling rapidly as production increases.

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Army and Navy Orders; Movements of Warships.

Standard of California's Year. The report of the Standard Oil Company of California for the year ended December 31, 1915, shows net profits of \$9,529,846, equal to 19.18 per cent on the \$49,686,655 capital stock.

President's Envoy Detained in England—Steamer Delayed.

London, Feb. 16.—Long delay in the arrival of the steamship Rotterdam in port at Holland has caused a change in the plans of several distinguished Americans, including Colonel House, Chandler Anderson and Lloyd Griscom, who probably now will be delayed in England until March 10 on account of the postponement in sailing.

HAGGARD SENT ON EMPIRE TASK

Royal Institute Deputes Sir Rider to Study Colonies of England.

TO STEER RESTLESS BRITONS AFTER WAR

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BRITISH TOBACCO BAN BLOW TO U. S.

Importers' Hopes Centred on Special Board of Trade Exemptions.

PROHIBITED LIST MAY BE LENGTHENED

Fruit and Certain Canned Goods, Not Food Essentials, Likely to Be Barred.

London, Feb. 16.—In the opinion of American importers here, the royal proclamation forbidding importation after March 1 of certain commodities, including tobacco, furniture, woods, wall paper and wood pulp, would prove disastrous to American traders were it not for the saving clause which permits the bringing in of these articles under licenses from the Board of Trade.

Under the new order a British ship in an American port, ready for loading and wanted at a home port, will have no difficulty in obtaining a license to load any available cargo of commodities on the prohibited list. Control of free tonnage and better regulation of the trade in what are considered luxuries in war time are the ends sought by the government.

The effect on the tobacco trade within the United Kingdom is expected to be even less disturbing than any interference with the exportation of tobacco from America may be. With two years' supply on hand, both for domestic consumption and manufacture for export, British tobacco importers are not greatly worried.

Further extensions of the prohibited list are anticipated. If fruit be prohibited, the United States will be a heavy sufferer, as more than half of Great Britain's annual importations of \$10,000,000 worth of apples come from there. It is considered inevitable here that canned goods ultimately will be placed on the list, thereby greatly affecting American canned fruits and salmon, which are heavily imported by Great Britain.

A prominent American diplomat who has been studying trade conditions abroad as affected by the war stated to The Associated Press to-day that the present list is merely an entering wedge for a policy which seeks absolute government control of all overseas trade. Necessities, food and munitions will continue to be bought in the United States, but apparently little else.

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FRENCH WIN BACK TAHURE TRENCHES

Hand Grenade Attack Wins Ground in Champagne—Storms Delay Operations.

London, Feb. 16.—Three attacks by the British in efforts to recover the trenches southeast of Ypres, which they lost to the Germans, are announced in Berlin to-day. All the attacks are declared to have been fruitless, as were those of the French in attempts to regain ground lost northwest of Tahure, in the Champagne. A later statement, given out in Paris, however, tells of the recapture of certain trenches near Tahure by means of hand grenades.

"The English," says the official statement, "made three vain attacks yesterday on the position southeast of Ypres, which we had captured. They lost a total of 100 prisoners."

"In the Champagne the French repeated their endeavors to regain their positions northwest of Tahure, with the same failure as on previous days."

"Generally speaking, stormy, rainy weather is hindering fighting activities."

"In Artois, in the neighborhood of the road to Lille," says the official statement issued in Paris to-day, "we exploded a camouflet, which shattered the mine works of the enemy. Our artillery has shelled revictualing convoys to the north of Tracy-le-Val, east of the Oise, and in the region of Berry-au-Bac, Valley of the Aisne."

"In the Champagne we recaptured, by means of attacks with hand grenades, certain trench sections to the east of the road from Tahure to Somme-epy. To the southeast of St. Mihiel we bombarded enemy organizations in the Forest of Apremont."

"There is nothing to report on the rest of the front."

WOOD GIVES WAR WARNING

General Says Corps of 50,000 Reserve Officers Is Needed.

General Leonard Wood, U. S. A., told the student body of Stevens Institute in Hoboken yesterday that the United States' vital need is a reserve officer corps of 50,000 men. He scoffed at the assertion that a million men could be raised in the country between sunrise and sunset.

"Rich nations, unable to protect themselves, are an incentive to war," he said. "There numbers of men mean nothing unless the men are trained."

"Without becoming a militaristic nation we can train every man in the country to be a soldier. Officers of the army and navy themselves are enemies of militarism. Washington, Adams and Jefferson warned the country to be ready. It is much more important now than it was before that it be ready."

"The capture of 600 yards of our front line trench, reported yesterday, was preceded by a heavy bombardment and the explosion of five mines, which rendered our front trench untenable. The attacks, which extended over 4,000 yards of the front, were repulsed everywhere else with considerable loss to the enemy."

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Advertisement for The New York Tribune, featuring the headline 'Is Adams Sincere—and Are We?' and 'Occasionally some one says to us: "Do you realize what a weapon you are wielding when you print some letters of praise or criticism and exclude others?" Of course we do. In unscrupulous hands there could hardly be a more effective method of business blackmail.' The ad also mentions 'In the hands of Samuel Hopkins Adams it is an editorial feature, with its contents determined by the same considerations that govern any editor's choice of material. A great deal of his editing is done at his upstate home, far from newspaper rush and pressure.' and 'And when he comes to New York—well, do you think he writes like a man who could be urged, cajoled, threatened or wheedled into printing or not printing anything against his desires? As for the attitude of the management of the paper, you can form your own impression from "How It Works," the 36-page booklet which will be sent if you will say you would like to have it. It is well worth reading.'