

# GERMANS PREPARING FOR THEIR GREATEST OFFENSIVE OF WAR, SECRETARY BAKER WARNS

## ALLIES READY TO MEET GIANT THRUST BY FOE ON WEST LINE

A gigantic German thrust on the west front—possibly their greatest assault—during the war—is impending, Secretary of War Baker declared in his weekly military review today.

In the great battle, Baker said, the Germans "may be counted upon to strain every fiber of their remaining strength in an endeavor to make their plans succeed."

The delay in the assault predicted weeks ago by the German press and allied war chiefs, has been due to the time necessary for concentration of "large troop masses, adequate artillery, and ample reserves of munitions," Baker said.

Allies Victorious.

He counsels the American people on the eve of a possible German offensive, to recall that the allies in the past have always come out victorious.

Mr. Baker's statement follows: Six weeks have elapsed since the first rumors reached us of the great thrust in the west, which the enemy then announced as imminent.

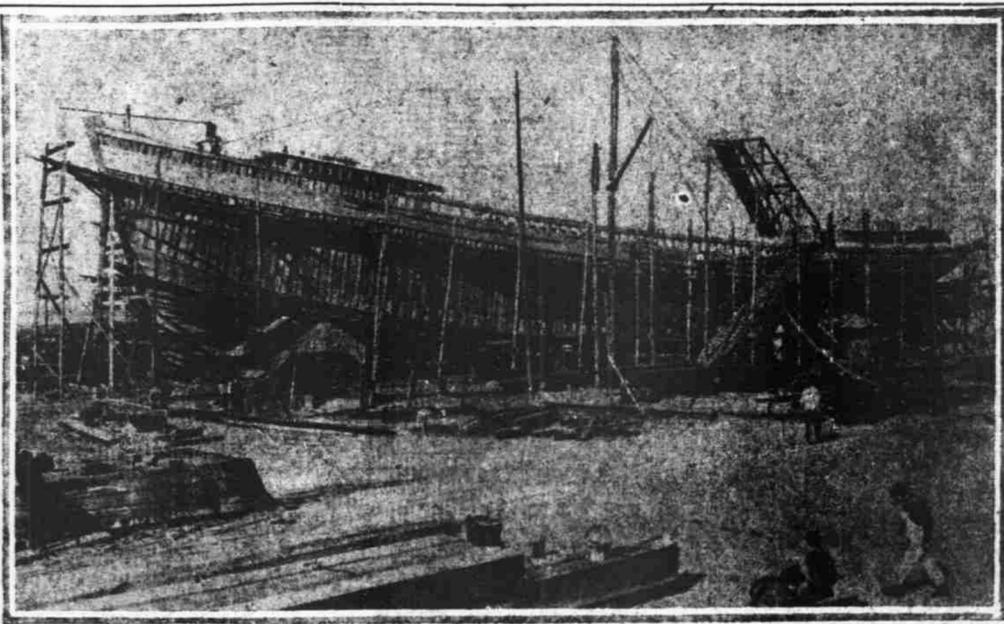
In order to concentrate large troop masses, adequate artillery and ample reserves of munitions, much time is required. Though the German higher command has so long delayed before beginning operations, advances received seemingly confirm the information that important actions are contemplated along the western front. They may be counted upon to strain every fiber of their remaining strength in an endeavor to make their plans succeed.

British Gains Steady.

In considering the general military situation on the eve of a possible German offensive, it must be recalled that through sixteen successive battles of great magnitude in Flanders, the British have every time come out victorious and pushed steadily ahead. Their gains have been methodical and cumulative.

The Germans have, during this long

## Ready to Brave the U-Boats



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A plentiful supply of merchant ships for the transportation of foodstuffs and munitions is regarded as essential to the success of the allied forces, and Uncle Sam is doing his utmost to provide the vessels. Practically every shipyard in the United States is busily engaged in constructing vessels for the Government, and the ablest shipbuilders

obtainable are giving their time and energy to the matter. The above photograph was taken at one of the biggest of Uncle Sam's shipyards, and show some of the newly constructed Government vessels receiving their finishing touches.

## War Death Alarmist Again Phones Widow of Two Sons' 'Death'

WESTERNPORT Md. Jan. 8.—The police here today are convinced that Mrs. James Reeves who has been called over the telephone several times recently and told that her two sons now in army service were dead is the victim of pro-German alarmist activity.

Edgard S. Reeves is with the Maryland corps in France and the young son Collins Reeves is in the national army camp at Atlanta Ga.

Several times recently Mrs. Reeves has been called, to the telephone and told that one son had been killed in action and the other had committed suicide in the training camp in Georgia. In no case would the informant give his name.

A thorough investigation is being made.

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## JAILED AS DRUNKS, THEY 'PASS BUCK' TO ICY STREETS

Five prisoners were sentenced today for being drunk in "dry" Washington. Three blamed slippery pavements for their downfall.

Robert Gwathmey, arrested in Union Station, told the court he was on his way to work in Virginia. He admitted he had purchased whiskey in Baltimore. The court suspended sentence.

Mamie Wilson, one of the prisoners who said icy sidewalks caused her to stagger, insisted that she had appealed to a policeman to call an ambulance. "I cut my hand when I fell," she declared. She said instead a patrol wagon was summoned.

She was given thirty days when Policeman Fegan testified she was so intoxicated that two other policemen had to carry her to the station house. We have no patrol wagon of any kind at the Second precinct," he said.

## COMMISSION BASIS URGED FOR RURAL POSTAL CARRIERS

Fourth Assistant Postmaster General James G. Blakeslee, in charge of rural deliveries, testifying before the House subcommittee on postoffice, today urged the committee to adopt a piece-work method as a means of pay for rural carriers, and base this on the number of pieces carried and number of miles traveled.

He said the method would make a more efficient, live delivery and mailing service, and make of the carrier a solicitor and business getter for the Government, and thereby increase the mail business.

"I can sit down with any carrier," said Blakeslee, "I don't care who he is, and establish an estimate of a fair and reasonable compensation, based on his own figures as given in his own report."

"There's a condition today like that of a town on fire with the firemen refusing to work unless their pay is increased. It's time to put a stop to it. I am in favor of establishing a minimum rate of compensation, however."

In Two Classes.

Mr. Blakeslee turned over to the committee a list of rural carriers divided into two classes, those who should receive an increase and those who should not. According to his testimony and his figures, the majority of the rural carriers, in his opinion, should not receive an increase. "Many of these carriers," said Mr. Blakeslee, "are able to handle their routes in two or three hours, and receive an average of \$100 per month for this time."

W. L. Denning appeared before the committee yesterday and testified to the condition in the railway mail service, of which he is superintendent. He gave figures to show that the postal service was better than ever before.

Where They Disagree.

"That is where you and the members of this committee disagree," said Congressman Madden.

"Complaints are pouring in to me of the poor service of the Postoffice Department. It is a case of trying to make a surplus at the expense of the service to the public."

"I forwarded one complaint to the department, and thirty days later received a letter telling me please to bring the next case to their attention." If the way the department handles its business it would be much better to improve the service and show a deficit.

Quotes From Reports.

Denning quoted liberally from Postmaster General Burleson's various reports in an effort to show that the clerks were well treated and well paid, and related to what amount of increase he thought should be given the clerks.

John C. Koons, First Assistant Postmaster General, testified yesterday before the House subcommittee and said that the department was in favor of 10 per cent increases to all those receiving \$1,200 a year and less, and all over that, 5 per cent. He introduced many figures to show that the Postoffice Department service was better than ever before, and claimed that what poor service there was, was due to the railroad and terminal companies.

## Redfield, Delayed Seven Hours From Cincinnati, Recalls Stage Coaches

"Railroad traveling nowadays resembles the old-fashioned voyages before the advent of steam," Secretary of Commerce Redfield good-naturedly commented today upon his return from Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Secretary was delayed seven hours on the train, but he said he has no complaint to make, as war necessity demands new traveling conditions.

## RICH DO NOT PAY INCOME TAX SHARE, TREASURY SHOWS

Revision of the income tax on large incomes now is under consideration by the Senate and will be effected by an amendment to the war revenue law, it was learned definitely today.

Figures submitted to Congress by the Treasury Department show that the rich men of the United States are bearing a disproportionately small share of the income tax burden. The main in moderate or even poor circumstances is paying the larger portion of the income tax, and therefore the war expense, according to the Treasury figures.

A canvass of the Senate according to information communicated to Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo by Senate leaders today, shows that the Smoot bill to abolish certain features of the war excess profits and income tax laws will not pass in its present form. However, legislation modifying these statutes will be enacted at the present session, the Secretary was told.

## GERMAN PEOPLE FOOLED BY DRASTIC PRESS CENSORSHIP

Germany's utter dishonesty, even with her own people, was clearly proven today by secret censorship regulation published by the State Department showing a complete press control.

Liberal speeches were suppressed; news of suspicious fires or disaster withheld; comment on foreign news of extreme political significance was colored to suit German government purposes; efforts were made to cheer the flagging spirits of the wearied Austrians.

One secret circular to the press held that there was a certain amount of "bluff" about American war preparation figures, but added, "the fact must not be overlooked that the United States, with the support of its capacity for material and industrial management, is arming itself for war with great energy and tenacity." In conclusion the circular warned that they must be taken seriously "without on that account being made a source of worry."

Germany's food shortage was reflected in one memorandum says, "Advertisements in which dog flesh is offered for sale are not allowed. Their acceptance is forbidden."

News of strikes was guarded, while reference to a resolution adopted by the Leipzig unions was suppressed.

## JUSTICES AT FISTICUFFS IN CHICAGO COURTROOM

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—Samuel Harrison and Nazarus Barashumian, justices of the peace, forgot all about the last part of their title and "mixed it" in the former's court room.

They will be tried by a neutral justice.

### AMUSEMENTS

**PLAZA** 454 9th St. N. W. TODAY Nightly at 8:20. **THE PRIMAL LURE.** WM. S. HART.

**THE NEW STANTON** 6th & C.N.E. TODAY Nightly at 8:20. **THE NIGHT TONIGHT.** BELLE BENNETT in "ARIES OF HOPE." ALSO SPECIAL ADDED FEATURES.

**PENN GARDENS** Pa. Ave. at 21st. TODAY Nightly at 8:20. **BONDAJE.** DOBOTHY PHILLIPS. COMEDY.

**LEADER** 507 9th St. N. W. TODAY Nightly at 8:20. **STOLEN HONOR.** VIRGINIA PEARSON.

**CRANDALL'S AVE. GRAND.** 646 Pa. Ave. S. E. TODAY Nightly at 8:20. **REACHING FOR THE MOON.** FAIRBANKS in "REACHING FOR THE MOON."

### AMUSEMENTS

**CRANDALL'S Knickerbocker.** 15th St. at Col. Rd. TODAY and TOMORROW—LINA CAVALIERI in "ETERNAL TEMPTRESS."

**CRANDALL'S Theater, 9th & E Sts.** TODAY, TOMORROW & THURSDAY—MADAME in "THE SECRET OF THE STORM COULDRY."

**CRANDALL'S Savoy, 14th & Col. Rd.** TODAY and TOMORROW—ELLA MAN in "THE CINDERELLA MAN."

**CRANDALL'S APOLLO, 624 H St. N.W.** TODAY—C.A. RYLAND in "THE GOOD-FOR-NOTHING."

**CRANDALL'S American, 1st & R.I.** TODAY—MARGUERITE CLARK in "BABY'S HONEY."

## NATIONAL THEATRE

**THE RIVIERA GIRL** Original Cast Intact. Next Week Heart TOOT-TOOT. Fifth Concert Ten Star Series. **FRIDAY JULIA CLAUSSEN** 4:30. The Swedish Contralto. Tickets—\$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c. T. Arthur Smith, 1206 G St.

**NATIONAL THEATRE** Friday, Jan. 18. **MME. LOUISE** 4:30. Prices: \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c. On sale at Mrs. George O. Lee, 12th and G Sts. N. W.

**GAYETY Burlesque De Luxe** Fred Irvia's Big Show **BILL** Next Week—Mollie Williams' Own Show.

**STRAND TODAY and TOMORROW** Mata, 15th & E. 15c, 25c. **NOTE CHANGE** **FLORENCE REED** in "TODAY" A Powerful Modern Drama. **GARDEN TODAY** 10c and 15c. Mutual Production **EDNA GOODRICH** in "Her Second Husband."

**ARE YOU KEEPING PACE WITH THE TIMES**

## Belasco

**You're in Love** By Authors The Firefly, High Jinks, Katinka. Next Week—WILLIAM GILLETTE in "A Successful Calamity."

**NEWMAN Traveltalks** Color Views. Matin Pictures.

**5 Sunday Evngs.** 4 to 8. **BEG. JAN. 13-14** Our National Parks—Our Pacific Coast—Our Egypt—Our Hawaii—Our West Indies.

**Courts Sale** M. B. H. 11—Closes Wed. 10 p. m. Single Tickets Thursday.

**POLIS** Tonight at 8:30. **25c to 50c**

**POLI MEDICAL PLAYERS** 20 Singers, Dancers, Comedians. The Best Yet. **"WHEN LOVE IS YOUNG"** A Military Musical Comedy. Prices: 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00. The Theater Pays the War Tax.

**B. F. KEITH'S** TWICE EVERY DAY. The Supreme Dancing Star. **THEODORE KOSLOFF** and the Famous Imperial Russian Ballet and Theodore Kosloff Orchestra. **ROBT. T. HAINES & CO.** Pat Heebey and Marion Heat. Seven Other Notable Features. Next Week—Lady Duff-Gordon's (Lucile) Fashion Revue, etc. Seats Now.

**LOEW'S COLUMBIA** Continues 10:30 A. M. to 11 P. M. **Now Playing** **PAULINE FREDERICK** in "Mrs. Dane's Defense"

## 600 FRENCH HOMELESS HOUSED BY RED CROSS

Six hundred repatriates of France are today being housed by the American Red Cross at the Hotel Hamilton in this city.

The repatriates, who were housed here for a few days, are being sent back to their homes.

## ELLIS H. ROBERTS DIES; FORMER U. S. TREASURER

UTICA, N. Y., Jan. 8.—Ellis H. Roberts, ninety years old, treasurer of the United States from 1897 to 1905 died here today.

## Vital Records of the District

**Births.** The following births were reported to the Health Department in the last twenty-four hours: George T. Clark, 21, and Helen R. Rhodes, 20, both of Eugene, Ore. The Rev. G. L. Stevenson. Eugene J. Lewis, 18, and Mary Elizabeth Black, 14, both of Washington, D. C. The Rev. W. J. Tynan. Raymond O. Ellison, 28, of Riverdale, Md., and Doris E. Nottel, 20, of Washington, D. C. The Rev. John A. Cowan. William G. Dyer, 34, and Copeland H. Rowlett, 31, both of Richmond, Va. The Rev. John M. Jeffries. Michael Francis Murphy, 24, of Camp Meigs, Schuylkill, Pa., and Mildred Schwartz Avery, 21, both of Nanticoke, Pa. The Rev. H. H. Rank. Ronald Albert Magill, 21, of Bay City, Mich., and Julia Elizabeth Irby, 21, of Washington, D. C. The Rev. Edward K. Hardin. Mike Pappas, 24, and Grace Fletcher Roberts, 19, both of Newport News, Va. The Rev. Howard F. Downs. Philip Capanus, 28, and Carmelina Marcelino, 18, both of Washington, D. C. The Rev. C. P. Thomas. Dent McMath, 19, and Letitia Ann Brooks, 20, both of Washington, D. C. The Rev. John A. Cowan. Stella Mazaraki, 42, and Regina Greenfelder, 41, both of Washington, D. C. The Rev. J. Alexopoulos. Silvio Mazaraki, 42, and Regina Greenfelder, 41, both of Washington, D. C. The Rev. J. Alexopoulos. Alden P. White, 22, and Fannie P. Baker, 20, both of Washington, D. C. The Rev. John H. Briggs. G. H. Left, 21, and Elizabeth A. Ahearn, 21, both of New York, N. Y. The Rev. John H. Briggs.

**DEATHS** WHITE—Suddenly, on January 7, 1918, at his residence, 61 Third street northwest. CHARLES E. WHITE, aged seventy-four years. Notice of funeral hereafter. 1-8

**UNDERTAKERS** J. WILLIAM LEE, UNDERTAKER and LIVERY. 222 Pa. Ave. N. W. Telephone M. 135. WASHINGTON, D. C.

**FLORAL DESIGNS**

**FUNERAL DESIGNS** Of Every Description—Moderate Prices. 124 F St. N. W.

## ART WORKS RUINED BY VANDALS WHO RANSACK SCHOOL

Western High School, at Thirty-fifth and R streets northwest, was ransacked from top to bottom some time Sunday by vandals who entered every room in the building, defaced valuable works of art and left a trail of ruin behind them, the police were notified today.

No door or window was found unbroken Monday morning, which leads to the supposition that the housebreakers, probably boys, were provided with a skeleton key.

What the school authorities resent most was the breaking up of so-called "honor board," on which were scores of cards with the names of Western alumni killed in the service of the United States. In one of the art rooms a bust of Minerva was drenched with ink while a smudge of red oil paint adorned the nose of a near-by statue. The room on the first floor, occupied by local draft board No. 7, was ransacked, but nothing taken.

Police of the Seventh precinct are making every effort to apprehend the vandals, and hope to make arrests within the next twenty-four hours.

**BRITISH DESTROYER LOST.** LONDON, Jan. 8.—The admiralty reports the sinking of another British destroyer by a torpedo in the Mediterranean sea. Ten members of the crew, the report says, were lost but all officers of the destroyer were saved.

## 2,000 Pairs of Army Shoes To Be Resoled and Heeled

By HAHN'S Goodyear Welt "SHOE-REBUILD" Factory

THIS and other big Army shoe-repair contracts from nearby Army posts have recently been awarded our "Shoe-Rebuild" factory—against all the big repair shops of this and neighboring cities.

Uncle Sam Is a Shrewd, Careful Buyer

After a careful investigation he found that WE are doing by far the best shoe-mending in Washington.

We Use Only the Best Materials.

We employ the highest skilled shoemakers—and the most modern Goodyear-welt Shoe Machinery.

We BUILD BACK into the old Shoes all their original COMFORT and SHAPENESS.

And all our work is REFINISHED to look practically "LIKE NEW."

Uncle Sam Knows That It Pays to Have Worn Shoes Properly Mended

Follow His Example Today

And send us some of your discarded shoes to be resoled and heeled.

Neolin Whole Soles, With Rubber Heels. Best Oak Leather Half Soles and Heels.

\$2.00 —Men's— \$1.60  
\$1.75 —Women's and Boys'— \$1.40  
\$1.75 —Misses' and Youths'— \$1.30  
\$1.50 —Children's— \$1.20

Phone Main 3862 All work called for and promptly delivered.

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