

The Knoxville Independent

GEO. W. FORD, EDITOR.

718 GAY STREET.
OFFICE PHONE (OLD) 296
RESIDENCE PHONE (OLD) 686



Your Flag and My Flag

By WILBUR D. NESBIT

YOUR Flag and my Flag! And oh, how much it holds—
Your land and my land—secure within its folds!
Your heart and my heart beat quicker at the sight
Sun-kissed and wind-tossed, red and blue and white,
The one Flag—the great Flag—the Flag for me and you—
Clarifies all else beside—the red and white and blue.

YOUR Flag and my Flag! And how it flies today
In your land and my land—half a world away!
Renewed and blooded—the stripes forever gleam!
Snow-white and soul-white—the good forefather
dreams:
Sky-blue and true blue, with stars to gleam bright—
The gloried guidon of the day; a shelter through the night

Your Flag and my Flag! To every star and stripe
The drums beat as hearts beat and fifeers shrilly pipe!
Your Flag and my Flag—a blessing in the sky!
Your hope and my hope—it never hid a lie!
Home land and far land half the world around,
Old Glory hears our glad salute and ripples to the sound!



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"No man living is more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

SARGENT SAID HE WAS ASLEEP

Troop Train Conductor Testifies to Conversation With Engineer That Wrecked Circus Cars.

Hammond, Ind., June 26.—"I was dozing—I fell asleep."

Engineer "Lon" Sargent made this statement to Louis Johnson, conductor of the troop empty which crashed through the Hagenbeck-Wallace circus train Saturday, leaving a trail of horror, according to the latter's testimony. Johnson's testimony followed the appearance of Sargent before the coroner's jury, where, on advice of counsel, he stood upon his constitutional rights and refused to answer questions.

As Johnson told his story Sargent broke down and sobbed. Asked if he had seen Sargent after the wreck, Johnson said:

"Yes; I saw him standing by the debris, and he said 'This is a horrible mess,' and I agreed with him and said, 'How in the h—l did it happen?'"

"He replied, 'I was dozing and fell asleep.'"

"Did you make an investigation?" he was asked.

"There was nothing to investigate," was his reply. "I know such an accident could not happen unless the engineer was dead or asleep—and I know Sargent wasn't dead, and he himself told me he was asleep."

Sargent, listening in a near-by room, collapsed.

To Organize Slavic Legion.

Washington, June 26.—The senate agreed to the amendment to the \$12,000,000,000 army bill providing for the organization of the Slavic legion and for the training of Pan-American troops in the United States.

To Speak at Washington's Tomb.

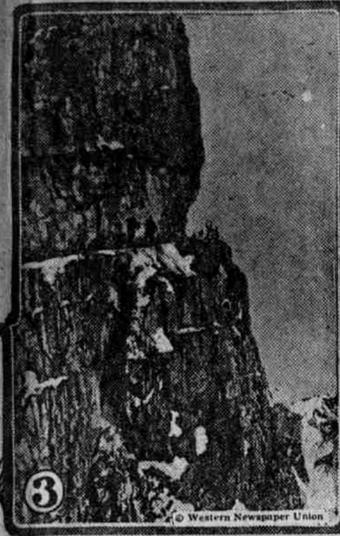
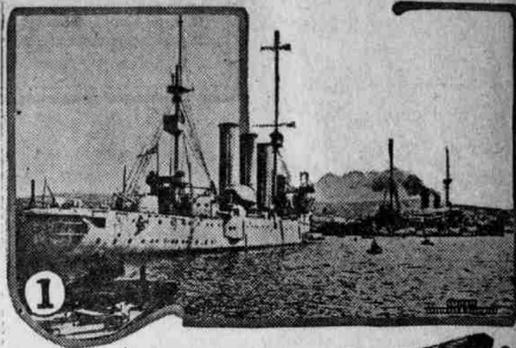
Washington, June 26.—President Wilson will speak on Independence day at the tomb of George Washington at Mount Vernon, Va., it was announced at the White house.

W. U. CO. REFUSES OFFER

Wire Head Says Its Employees Are Not Members of Konenkamp Organization.

New York, June 19.—In reply to the letter of President Wilson urging the Western Union Telegraph company to accept the decision of the national war board in the controversy between the company and the telegraphers' union, Newcomb Carlton, president of the company, reiterates its opposition to allowing its employees to join the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America.

Mr. Carlton accuses the union in waiving its right to strike during the war under the labor board's plan of proposing to carry on propaganda to enable it to make use of the strike after the war.



1—Battleship in Vindivostok harbor from which the Japanese had just landed a force of marines. 2—Arrival at the front in France of a train with heavy American guns. 3—Italian soldiers on a road on the side of a mountain precipice where severe fighting has been going on.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Austria's Great Offensive in North Italy Proves to Be an Utter Failure.

STOPPED WITH HUGE LOSSES

Revolt Spreading Fast in the Dual Kingdom—Powerful German Attack on Reims Completely Repulsed—Draft Age Limit to Be Extended.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Austria's record of never winning when she goes into battle unaided by the Germans was magnificently sustained last week. Starting the long heralded offensive with nearly all the forces at his command, Field Marshal von Borevic made a desperate effort to force his way across the Piave and down into the Venetian plains, with Treviso, Bassano and then Verona as his objectives. His men were given postcard maps with the route and schedule marked, and were urged to do their utmost in order that they might get the plentiful food in the "promised land." Approximately a million Austrian soldiers assailed the Italian lines from Asiago to the Adriatic, but King Victor Emmanuel's splendid army was everywhere ready to meet them. At the western or mountain end the enemy made no progress at all, being mowed down in masses that fairly blocked the roadways and passes. All attacks on the Asiago plateau, which is of great importance because of its easy approaches from the Austrian side, were beaten off by the British under Lord Cavan, and the enemy's attempts on Monte Grappa were no more successful. It was between these points, down the Brenta and Frenzela valleys, that the Austrians hoped to push the west point of a pincer's movement that should flank Treviso and the entire line to the coast.

The high land at Montello was the scene of most sanguinary fighting and the enemy made some headway there for a day or two, but gained little save a shocking casualty list. Further east, at various points, the Austrians were able to force crossings of the Piave by means of bridges constructed under cover of gas and smoke shelling, but after getting across the troops found themselves in traps from which they could not escape with their lives, for the batteries of the allies on the higher ground had them at their mercy. Only near the extreme eastern end of the line, between the Zenson loop and the Adriatic, did Borevic's forces achieve anything that resembled success. There they pushed far enough south of the Piave to reach the Fossalta canal, and Vienna claimed this was crossed. Here the enemy was about ten miles from Venice, but the resistance of the Italians was so determined that no anxiety was felt for that city's safety. Before the week closed the enemy in that region had been driven back. Most of the pontoon bridges were swept away by the swollen Piave.

In a word, the great Austrian offensive, up to the close of the week, was an absolute failure and was admitted to be such by captured officers and by some of the Vienna newspapers.

The Italian army, never in better condition than now, fought with the utmost gallantry and spirit, and was ably aided by the British and French contingents. Mention must be made, too, of the Americans, for an esca-drille of American aviators, trained in Italy, went to the front and gave notable help in driving the Austrian aviators from the air.

Defeat in Italy may mean absolute disaster to the Austro-Hungarian empire, for its heterogeneous peoples already are beginning to rebel against the rule that has brought them to the verge of starvation, has claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands of their men, and has given them nothing but false promises of victory. In

many parts of the empire the distressed people are rising against the authorities, and in Vienna itself on Wednesday a great and hungry mob looted shops, stoned the residence of the premier and even attacked the Hofburg palace, in protest against the reduction of the bread ration. The food controller is helpless, admitting that the empire's wheat is exhausted and that the grain supplies from Roumania are small and of inferior quality. In Lemberg, Budapest and Prague also there were serious food riots, and all through the empire signs were plentiful that the people were ready to revolt if they were not given a speedy peace and bread.

It would appear that the time is about ripe for the long predicted uprising of the oppressed nationalities of Austro-Hungary—the Bohemians, the southern Slavs and the Poles. The Germans expect and fear this event, and of course would step in to suppress it by force of arms. But even if it were not wholly successful it would create a diversion in the midst of "Mittel Europa" that would do much to hasten the final victory of the allied nations over Germany.

Military experts in France believe another battle will be begun soon by the Germans, possibly on the road to Calais, or between Montdidier and Chateau Thierry across the Oise and Aisne to the Marne. If they select the latter sector the Americans will again be in the thick of the fighting. Those boys did not have a great deal to do last week, though they carried out some successful raids and repulsed every one made against their lines. From the south side of the Marne they sent several patrols across the river in boats, in each instance killing numbers of the enemy and bringing back prisoners. Moreover, not a single German patrol has ever been permitted to cross the Marne to the American side.

The war department in Washington was strongly urged last week to send a force of Americans to Italy, not only to help in the fighting but especially to demonstrate to the Italian armies that America is ready to aid their country to the limit, thus counteracting the extensive anti-American propaganda carried on of late in Italy. The diplomatic representatives of Italy here thought it would be a wise move, and Secretary Baker intimated Thursday that American soldiers would soon be fighting on the Piave front.

Appeals for an allied army in Siberia are growing louder daily, and conditions in what once was Russia are becoming steadily more favorable for such action. The bolshevik power is waning, though the Leninists still control the arms and supplies in most of the centers of population. In western Siberia the Czechoslovaks have joined forces with the counter revolutionists; Tomesk and other towns have been occupied and a government set up. At Kiev a great revolt has broken out; 40,000 armed and organized peasants are participating and the movement has spread to the Poltava and Tchernigov districts. There is much street fighting, and the revolutionists have destroyed artillery stores.

Doctor Masaryk, the Bohemian leader, conferred with President Wilson concerning the plans for getting out of Siberia the 50,000 Czechoslovaks

who wish to join the allies. Most of them are armed and organized. We may yet have the chance to see these sturdy fighters, formerly our foes by compulsion, passing in triumph through the United States on their way to join the other armies of freedom.

The senate committee on military affairs adopted an amendment to the army appropriation bill authorizing the president to raise a volunteer legion of Slavic residents of the United States for service in "any field of action." Mr. Wilson approved the amendment.

Word was received that the Turks on June 14 occupied and looted Tabriz, the second city of Persia, took possession of the American and British consulates there over the protests of the Spanish consul who was in charge of them, and sacked the American hospital, over which the Spanish flag was flying. If the report is verified, Turkey has committed an act of war against the United States, and a declaration of war by this country against the Porte may be the result. Many senators and representatives have favored such action for a long time and their position is strengthened by the recent occurrence. The formal inclusion of Bulgaria also among our enemies probably would follow immediately. Thus would come to an end the incongruous state of affairs which has permitted the Turkish and Bulgarian diplomats to remain in this country free to gather such information as they could and transmit it to their allies and our enemies. The well informed have given up the hope that Turkey might be induced to withdraw from the war, since she has been given part of the spoils of Russia.

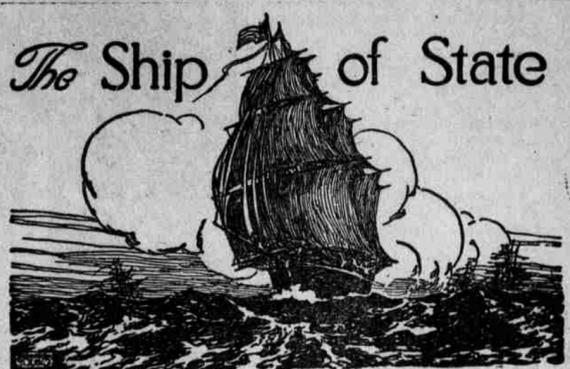
The submarines operating in the west Atlantic have sunk several more neutral vessels, but there is reason to believe that one or two of them have been destroyed in encounters with armed steamers. A Venezuelan journalist who was driven from Caracas admits there are German U-boat bases in Venezuela. The raids off the American coast are declared by American naval headquarters in England to mean that the submarine campaign is a failure, the enemy's only chance of employing the limited number of his U-boats successfully being to concentrate their operations on the focal points of allied trade. It was stated that today sufficient tonnage is available to meet allied demands and it is constantly growing larger.

The British make the welcome announcement that 21 German destroyers and a large number of submarines and other craft are penned up in the Bruges canal locks as a result of the recent blocking operations at Zeebrugge. These vessels are constantly subjected to bombing by the naval aviators.

The department of justice uncovered last week a gigantic conspiracy between manufacturers and contractors' agents to solicit government war orders under agreements to pay commissions illegally to the agents. Hundreds of offices throughout the country were raided and papers seized. The department said the commission agents would be prosecuted, and that all contracts made by them or with their aids were subject to annulment by the government.

So insistent is becoming the demand for a more complete mobilization of America's man power that extension of the draft age limits probably will not be postponed until the winter session of congress. Provost Marshal General Crowder urges that the law be amended immediately to take in all between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, and Secretary of War Baker says he will recommend such an amendment if submitted by the senate or house. General Crowder told the military affairs committees that the legislation is needed at once if we intend to do anything this year. He not only wants more fighting men, but also he desires to extend the "work or fight" order so that there will be virtual conscription of labor for war industries. His plans would assure the registration of four or five million men qualified for military service.

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The Ship of State
By Wilbur D. Nesbit
Author of "Your Flag and My Flag"
"Thou too sail on, O Ship of State,
Sail on, O Union, strong and great."

Proud before her sister ships she sails the seas of time;
Out, far out, upon the deep, all stately and sublime—
What of fearsome whisperings and what of doubting eyes?
She has stoutly held her course beneath the blackest skies,
She has fought the billows off and she has dared the gales
When her sister ships have drifted back with tattered sails.

*The old ship, the bold ship, the ship that we are sailing on!
Straight she goes and great she goes—her sister ships a-trailing on—
Riding out the bitter storms all steady, stanch and straight—
The old ship, the bold ship, the good ship of state!*

Other ships go wallowing uncertain to and fro,
Staggering and wavering against the winds they go;
Other ships go craftily in fear of warring fleets—
Proud before her sister ships she sails with straining sheets;
Out the course and on the course with compass pointing true,
She has tossed aside the bleakest winds that ever blew.

*The old ship, the bold ship! Full seasoned is each rib of her;
Honest thread and trusty seam from spinnaker to jib of her;
Ready for the storm or calm, all comely and sedate—
The old ship, the bold ship, the good ship of state!*

Sail before your sister ships the course that you must make!
Let them waste their whisperings of wonder in your wake!
We who sail aboard of you, full well we know your strength,
Know how sure you breast the waves that lurch along your length,
Know the times that you have met the shiver and the shock,
Racing in your royal rush by hidden reef and rock!

*The old ship, the bold ship, the ship that we are sailing on;
Great she goes and straight she goes, her sister ships a-trailing on,
Following and wallowing within her wake they wait—
The old ship, the bold ship, the good ship of state!*



"MADE IN AMERICA"
Now Is the Time!
You know the European war has temporarily stopped the flow of foreign goods to this shore. Now is the time to learn to use "Made In America" articles.
You don't have to buy anything made outside of the United States. This country produces what you want—or it soon will.
When you buy at home you keep your money at home and not in the coffers of the European markets.