

# WILSON ORDERS DUTCH SHIPS IN THE U. S. SEIZED

### Action Taken by President Defeats German Coercion.

### HAS SYMPATHY FOR HOLLAND

### Executive Declares America's Action is Necessary to Overthrow Small Nation's Fear of Kaiser—Allies Take Similar Action.

Washington, March 21.—The president issued his proclamation on Wednesday night taking over 400,000 tons of Dutch shipping within the territorial waters of the United States.

At the same time similar action was taken by the allied governments on 200,000 tons of Dutch ships in their respective ports.

#### Under Navy's Control.

The navy department, as announced by Secretary Daniels, takes over the vessels. He intimated that for the present they will remain under the navy's control.

This action indicates that the ships will be immediately put into service in the most vital war work of the moment—getting men to France and food to the allies.

The Netherlands flag fluttered down at sunset Thursday from the jackstaves of vessels throughout the world, totaling 600,000 of sorely needed tonnage.

On Thursday the Stars and Stripes, the red ensign of England and the tricolors of France and Italy were hoisted and the ships will start their service in democracy's cause.

#### Action Ends Foe's Grip.

This action ends the German grip on some of the finest ship tonnage in the world, held idle because of Germany's coercive measures against her little neighbor.

Had Holland carried out the propositions she made to this country, which she did not because Germany forbade it, these ships would not have been used in the war zone. As it is there are no strings on them and American troops and American munitions will form most of their cargoes.

There are about 400,000 tons of Dutch shipping in American ports and about 200,000 in the ports of Great Britain.

#### Holland Unable to Act.

In discussing the negotiations, following the submission of our final proposal, President Wilson made this comment:

"A reply has been received which, while in itself unacceptable, might under other conditions have served as a basis for further negotiations. But the events to which I have alluded had served to demonstrate conclusively that we have been attempting to negotiate where the essential basis for an agreement, namely, the meeting of free wills, is absent."

#### Has Sympathy for Holland.

"Even were an agreement concluded, there is lacking that power of independent action which alone can assure performance."

"I say this not in criticism of the Dutch government. I profoundly sympathize with the difficulty of her position under the menace of a military power which has in every way demonstrated its disdain of neutral rights. But since coercion does in fact exist, no alternative is left to us but to accomplish, through the exercise of our indisputable rights as a sovereign, that which is so reasonable that, in other circumstances, we could be confident of accomplishing it by agreement. Steps are accordingly being taken to put in our service Dutch ships lying within our territorial jurisdiction."

#### Enough for Own Needs.

"This action on our part and the similar action which is being taken by governments associated with us leaves to Holland ample tonnage for her domestic and colonial needs," says the president. "We have informed the Dutch government that her colonial trade will be facilitated and that she may at once send ships from Holland to secure the bread cereals which her people require. These ships will be freely bunkered and will be immune from detention on our part."

"Amply compensation will be paid to the Dutch owners of the ships which will be put into our service and suitable provision will be made to meet the possibility of ships being lost through enemy action."

"It is our earnest desire to safeguard to the fullest extent the interests of Holland and her nationals. But, exercising in this crisis our admitted right to control all property within our territory, we do no wrong to Holland."

"The manner in which we propose to exercise this right and our proposals made to Holland concurrently therewith, cannot, I believe, fail to evidence to Holland the sincerity of our friendship toward her."

### U. S. STOCK OF WHEAT LOW

#### Holdings in Mills and Elevators Outside Cities 20,000,000 Bushels Less Than in 1917.

Washington, March 18.—Wheat holdings at country mills and elevators on March 1 were estimated by the department of agriculture at 68,972,000 bushels. That is about 20,000,000 bushels less than was held March 1 last year and 88,000,000 bushels less than in 1916.

### LIEUT. COL. KREGER



Lieut. Col. Edward A. Kreger is on his way to France to assume charge of the office of judge advocate general for the American expeditionary forces. His work heretofore in the war has been in the office of the provost marshal general.

### FOUR TITLED SPIES TAKEN BY U. S. MEN IN NEW YORK

#### Women and Men Will Be Turned Over to French Authorities—Given Money by Bernstorff.

New York, March 19.—Four persons, two men and two women, claiming French citizenship, but who both American and French authorities say have been intimately connected with German espionage activities in the United States, were arrested on Monday in their handsomely appointed suites in prominent New York hotels by agents of the department of justice.

They will be turned over to immigration authorities for deportation to France.

The four spy suspects have been under surveillance for several weeks, but not until two of them, a woman styling herself Mme. Despino Davidovitch Storch, and an associate, designated as Baron Henri de Beville, departed for Cuba a week ago after a mysterious two-day junket to Washington, did the authorities consider their apprehension advisable.

The other two suspects are known as Mme. Elizabeth Charlotte Nix and Count Robert de Clairmont.

When Mme. Storch and Baron de Beville were taken into custody at Key West, while en route to Cuba, a half-bushel basket of papers was seized from a safe deposit box in this city which one of them had rented. A number of cable messages in code were among these papers.

Although each stopped at a different hotel or apartment, they were said to have been associated in activities objectionable to the government. Mrs. Nix is said to have admitted receiving \$3,000 from Count von Bernstorff, although she claims it was a loan.

### GEDDES GIVES SHIP LOSSES

#### Lord of the Admiralty Says 6,000,000 Tons is Year's Loss—42,000,000 Tons Lost.

London, March 21.—Figures on the shipping output and tonnage losses of Great Britain will be published regularly hereafter, it was announced in the house of commons by Sir Eric Campbell Geddes, the first lord of the admiralty, in the course of debate on the navy shipbuilding bill.

The amount of tonnage sunk in the last 12 months was 6,000,000, said Sir Eric. Instead of 9,500,000, as the Germans claim. World's tonnage exclusive of enemy ships had fallen 2,500,000 from the beginning of the war to the end of 1917, Sir Eric said. The total of allies' and neutral tonnage is now 42,000,000. Sir Eric stated, the fact that it is at this figure being largely due to the new construction by the United States and the seizure of German ships. During the last quarter of 1917, said Sir Eric, the allies were averaging within 100,000 tons monthly of making their losses good and were then replacing 75 per cent of their lost tonnage.

### U. S. STEAMER SINKS DIVER

#### American Tanker Halts After Being Pursued and Sinks Submarine to Bottom With Shell.

An Atlantic Port, March 18.—At the end of an hour's battle between a German submarine and an American tank steamship, the Paulsboro of the Vacuum Oil company, which arrived here, the U-boat was sunk, according to officers of the American vessel. One of the crew on the tanker was wounded by a shell fired by the submarine. The fight took place in the Bristol channel on February 24. The tanker tried to escape and was pursued.

The tanker halted and gave battle. The officers said the straggle shells fired by the American gun crew either fell short or passed over the U-boat for a time, but finally one struck the submarine fairly in the center and she disappeared immediately.

# U. S. MEN BLOW UP MINE THROWERS

### Troublesome German Batteries Destroyed by Artillery.

### PATROL ENTERS FOE TRENCH

#### Yankees and French Have Short Skirmish With Teutons—Gas Shells Hurlled Into Chemin Des Dames Sector.

With the American Army in France, March 20.—It is now permissible to announce that American artillery in the Luneville sector has located and blown up a battery of mine throwers, one of which a few days ago obtained a direct hit on a dugout in which were a number of American soldiers, most of them Irish descent.

The battery had been causing a great deal of trouble for several days and the Americans were determined to put it out of action. It was located after considerable trouble and the artillery concentrated high explosives on it.

A patrol of 24 men, half Americans and half French, went into the German lines at night from an isolated portion of the sector. It completed its mission of reconnaissance, bringing back the desired information. The patrol had a short skirmish, but obtained no prisoners.

During the day extraordinary artillery activity developed in the Chemin des Dames sector, where some troops from New England are in training. The enemy began a gas bombardment late Saturday night and continued it until Monday.

A vigorous reply was made by both American and French batteries, which gave the Germans about four times as much as they sent over.

Six thousand shells were fired from the sector in which the Americans are stationed, a large proportion of them being gas shells.

#### Three Heroes Cited.

Citation of three more American soldiers, carrying with it the French war cross, was announced at American army headquarters, while on the Luneville sector six officers, six sergeants and two privates were receiving the war cross at an impressive ceremony just back of the fighting line.

Among the men decorated near Luneville were Col. Douglas MacArthur, Lieut. Col. Matthew A. Tilly, Maj. William J. Donovan, Capt. Thomas Handy, Lieut. W. Arthur Cunningham.

#### Throws Self on Bomb.

Private A. A. Crawford of Alabama, Corporal Harry W. Fanning of Baltimore and Private Bernard Black of Baltimore were the men cited.

Private Crawford was killed when carrying dispatches through a German barrage.

Corporal Fanning received his cross for the following act:

"During a heavy bombardment a bomb fell on a trench parapet. Corporal Fanning threw himself upon it and prevented it from falling into the trench, thus saving his comrades by his presence of mind and preventing a very grave accident."

### LENROOT 3,000 IN THE LEAD

#### Victory for Loyalist Candidate Assured in Wisconsin Senatorial Primary—Davies Nominated.

Milwaukee, March 21.—Congressman Irvine L. Lenroot at a late hour had a lead of approximately 3,000 votes over James Thompson, La Follette entry in the state senatorial primary.

His nomination as the Republican candidate for the Wisconsin junior senatorship is now assured.

Latest revised figures give Lenroot 68,532; Thompson, 66,206; Berger, 36,645; Davies, 54,173; McCarthy, 13,026. The total number of votes so far tabulated is 238,812 of a possible 275,000 votes cast.

The Socialist vote already shows an increase of more than 300 per cent of that recorded in the 1918 senatorial primary, when Eisner, Socialist, polled only 11,479. Incomplete returns now give Berger 35,347.

The nomination of Joseph E. Davies on the Democratic side effected a better than 4 to 1 victory over his opponent, Charles McCarthy.

### THREAT OF DRIVE IS BLUFF

#### War Department Says Enemy Talk Fails to Impress Yankees—Wait for Allies' Attack.

Washington, March 19.—Germany's threat of a great spring offensive on the western front no longer impresses American military men.

In its weekly review, issued on Monday, the war department records conclusion that the enemy, in spite of his vast preparations, will not take the offensive unless forced into it. This confirms the opinions many officers have expressed for weeks in the face of official forecasts to the contrary from both sides of the Atlantic.

"While hostile preparations for an offensive in the west are not slackening," the review says, "it is becoming more evident that the enemy will launch the offensive only if compelled to do so by the exigencies of the general situation."

### HARRY L. ROGERS



Harry L. Rogers, who had charge of the transportation and supplies of the American expeditionary force into Mexico several months ago, is chief quartermaster of the American forces in Europe. He has just been promoted from the grade of colonel to that of brigadier general.

### BAKER VISITS U. S. MEN IN TRENCHES AT FRONT

#### German Shell Bursts Less Than Fifty Yards From His Motor Car—War Head Has Exciting Day.

With the American Army in France, March 21.—Secretary Baker had his baptism of fire in the front line trenches, and while he was returning a German shell burst within less than fifty yards of his motorcar. He was not injured.

The secretary went into the trenches in a sector the location of which must not be revealed, where American troops face the enemy nearby. For half an hour he plodded over the duckboards. The Germans maintained an active fire with heavy pieces and machine guns. Nevertheless, Mr. Baker made his way to an advanced sap, entered a listening post and talked for several minutes with the soldier on duty there.

But the narrowest shave was on his return to headquarters. The German shell, of 105 millimeters, roared down and burst cleanly less than fifty yards from the automobile containing the secretary of war and the escorting officers. The shell hit a roadside dugout, digging a big crater. Mr. Baker wished to stop and ascertain whether there were men in the dugout, but the chauffeur, realizing the danger, opened the throttle and made his best speed until the danger zone was passed.

This was the secretary's hardest and most exciting day in France.

The secretary was first put through the regular gas mask drill. He carried his mask slung at the prescribed position when he went in. A sentry halted the party as it was entering the trench and demanded a pass.

"Division commander and secretary of war," replied the general.

Often the secretary stopped to speak to the men, asking homely questions such as: "Well, how is it going?" or "Where are you from?"

"Fine, sir," or "Going very well, sir," was the usual reply. Once the secretary asked a private if much was going on.

"It's pretty quiet, sir," came the easy response.

Finally, notwithstanding the protests of the officer, Mr. Baker made his way through the sap to the listening post. Peeping over the parapet into "No Man's Land," he said:

"Now I am on the frontier of freedom."

### BIG SHIP STRIKE IS ENDED

#### Six Hundred Workers Who Quit at Baltimore Return After Being Out One Day.

Baltimore, Md., March 20.—The 600 shipworkers who laid down their tools at the Baltimore Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company plant here on Monday returned to work on Wednesday.

Local No. 35, boiler-makers, iron ship builders and helpers, issued a statement announcing that the lay-off was due to a misunderstanding of the wage adjustment board scale, but that it had been properly explained at a meeting last night and the men had voted unanimously to return to work.

Leaders deny that they received any message from the shipping board inducing them to resume work.

### BRITISH QUELL INDIA REVOLT

#### Natives of Baluchistan Put Down With Heavy Casualties—Property Destroyed.

London, March 21.—Uprisings on the part of natives in Baluchistan recently resulted in fighting in which many casualties were inflicted, the India office announces. The natives attacked British posts and were repulsed completely. Punitive measures are being undertaken.

#### Oil Plant Sustains Loss.

Bayonne, N. J., March 19.—The Constant hook plant of the Tidewater Oil company, sustained a \$50,000 loss when the plug of a high pressure still was blown out.

# ALLIED OFFENSIVE IS EXPECTED SOON

### Supreme War Council Holds Key to Situation.

### MAY HIT ON ITALIAN FRONT

#### Pooling of Army Reserves Will Permit Overwhelming Concentrations at Selected Points of Attack and Bewilder Foe.

Washington, March 20.—The key to the 1918 riddle of the western battle front is in the hands of the supreme war council at Versailles.

Decision as to the time and place of major offensives by the allies rests with that body.

It directly controls also, officials here believe, a new weapon forged during the winter with which to make effective its plans of grand strategy.

#### Foe Abandons Offensive.

That weapon is believed to lie in a pooling of the army reserves of all the allied armies, permitting overwhelming concentrations at selected points of attack.

American observers now are convinced the German high command plans a defensive campaign, and that the long-talked-of drive on Paris or the channel ports has been abandoned.

The initiative, according to this view, rests with the allied and American forces.

Communiqués are being closely scanned for the first indication of any offensive operations mapped out at Versailles.

#### Reserves Clew to Drive.

Decision by the war council, officers here believe, as to the field where these and similar forces from other armies are to be concentrated will show where allied blows at the German defenses are designed to fall.

If there is to be no German drive, as the war department predicted in its weekly war review, the council will not be forced to hold its reserves for defensive purposes, and can devote this new agency to attempts to smash weak points in the German line.

#### May Make Blow in Italy.

Opinion as to the sectors offering the best opportunity for allied assaults varies widely here. There is substantial agreement, however, that the Italian front may in fact become the main theater of war this year.

Drives with all the appearances of being the real offensives undoubtedly would accompany or precede the main thrust.

The pooled allied reserves under direction of the supreme council would make possible a campaign of such nature, designed to keep the German command perplexed as to which assault would be driven home.

### AIR RAIDERS CAUSE PANIC

#### Germans Thought Flyers Were Americans and Dashed for Cover, Says Traveler.

London, March 20.—Fifty persons were killed and great material damage was done by bombs dropped by allies' airmen when they raided Koblenz, Germany, March 12, according to a neutral traveler, who arrived at The Hague, the Times says.

"The people believed the raiders were Americans," the traveler said. "I was in the neighborhood of a big munition works at Mulheim (north of Koblenz and also on the Rhine) at ten minutes past noon, when suddenly all the factory whistles started blowing and the sirens were sounded."

"Many women rushed from the works for the bombproof shelters, while passing street cars were stopped as the crowds bolted into houses. Four or five airplanes were visible in the clear sky."

"Presently someone exclaimed: 'They are Americans!' Another person screamed aloud: 'The Americans are coming.' A Dutchman I knew rushed up to me and said: 'Didn't I tell you the Americans would come sooner or later?'"

### TRAIL SPY IN U. S. LINES

#### Sentry Shoots, but Fails to Hit Man Discovered Signaling the Hun Trenches.

With the American Army, March 19.—American intelligence officers report evidence leading to the conclusion that possibly a spy may be at work within the American lines northwest of Toul. Early in the morning an American sentry saw flashes of a signal light from a window facing in the direction of the enemy lines. He fired through the window and dashed into the house, but failed to find anyone.

Four hours earlier important telephone wires within the American lines were found to have been cut.

### FRENCH PENETRATE HUN LINE

#### Gain Half Mile in Reims Sector and Blow Up Fortified Shelters—Prisoners Taken.

Paris, March 20.—In the Reims sector on the Champagne front the German lines were penetrated to a depth of more than half a mile by French troops during the night, the war office stated. A number of fortified shelters were blown up and some prisoners were captured. The Germans attacked in the sector of Sillery, but were thrown back.

# DAVIES IS CHOSEN, G. O. P. RACE CLOSE

### HEAVY VOTE CAST FOR CANDIDATES FOR U. S. SENATOR IN WISCONSIN PRIMARIES.

### LENROOT GETS EARLY LEAD

#### Congressman Denies Rumor That He Will Withdraw in Favor of Davies, Hoan, Socialist, and Braman Are Nominated for Mayor in Milwaukee.

Milwaukee—Joseph E. Davies, candidate for United States senator, had easy sailing against Dr. Charles McCarthy in the democratic primary. Incomplete returns from sixty-five of the seventy-one counties in Wisconsin gave Davies 54,173 votes and McCarthy 13,262, a majority of 40,911 for Davies.

The same counties in the republican senatorial primary gave Congressman I. L. Lenroot 68,532 and James Thompson, La Follette candidate, 66,206, a majority of 2,326 for Lenroot. Counties remaining to be heard from were in the northern part of the state and Lenroot supporters claimed these returns would increase the lead of their candidate.

Victor L. Berger, socialist candidate for U. S. senator, had no opposition for the nomination of his party. Incomplete returns gave him 36,645 votes featured by a heavy indorsement in Milwaukee county. The Milwaukee county primary vote on the senatorship was: Berger, 21,196; Davies, 13,285; Thompson, 12,960; Lenroot, 7,704; McCarthy, 3,915.

A rumor that Lenroot would retire in favor of Davies was exploded when Lenroot issued a statement denying that he entertained any intention of quitting the race. Republican leaders scout the idea that a considerable percentage of the Thompson vote might go to Berger in the final election.

The early returns showed that the trend in the so-called "Germanic" counties was for Thompson, and this trend became more pronounced as later returns were received. Counties where citizens of German descent predominate voted for Thompson and Berger, principally Thompson.

Dodge county, home of the late United States Senator Paul O. Husting gave its largest vote to La Follette's candidate, Calumet, Ozaukee, Washington, Sheboygan, Manitowoc and other so-called "Germanic" counties turned in the bulk of their vote for Thompson. One precinct in Dane county gave one vote to Davies, one to Lenroot and 152 to Thompson with not a single vote for McCarthy or Berger.

#### Big Vote in Milwaukee.

Final returns on the vote in Milwaukee for city candidates show Mayor Hoan, socialist candidate for re-election, obtained a total of 28,491 votes, as against 22,376 for Braman, 6,211 for Dammann and 1,577 for Park. Hoan, the returns show, ran far ahead of most of the other socialist candidates. Mensing for city attorney, getting only 20,355; Stroesser, for city treasurer, 22,512; Hampel, for controller, 24,041, and Rehfeld, for justice of the peace, 27,621.

The biggest vote for a city candidate went to Treasurer John I. Drew, who got 32,006 votes, with Comptroller Louis M. Kotecki a close second with 31,593. City Attorney Clifton Williams got 27,006 votes. All of these nonpartisan incumbents ran far ahead of their socialist opponents.

Hoan secured a plurality over the other candidates in seventeen wards in 1916, but in only fifteen in 1918. He lost the Eighth, Fourteenth, Seventeenth and Twelfth wards this year, but partly made it up by carrying the Second and Thirteenth, which were in the Bading column in the primary in 1916.

The total vote of the three nonpartisan candidates this year was 30,164, as against 30,230 in 1916. Hoan this year secured 28,491 votes, as against 22,247 in the 1916 primary; showing the nonpartisans polled their strength of two years ago, while the socialists increased their vote.

#### Oshkosh Minister Wins.

Oshkosh—The Rev. A. C. McHenry, Universalist, led the field of six candidates for nomination as mayor, piling up almost double the votes on his five opponents. McHenry's total is 2,104 and the next highest whose name will also go on the final ticket is Peter L. Marden, carpenter contractor. The other minister in the race, the Rev. E. H. Smith, was a bad third with 508.

#### Green Bay Nominees Unopposed.

Green Bay—Councilman John S. Farrell and Winford Abrams, nonpartisan candidates, were nominated to enter the final contest for city councilman. They were the only candidates.

#### Konkel Loses at Superior.

Superior—Mayor Joseph Konkel was eliminated from the mayoralty primaries in this city. State Senator Fred A. Baxter and Solon L. Perrin are the nominees. Baxter received 2,784 votes, Perrin 716, and Konkel 557.

#### Barnes Leads at Eau Claire.

Eau Claire—Councilman W. A. Barnes and Otto J. S. Boberg won out in the nomination for the city aldermanic posts in a field of four. Barnes got 1,700 votes and Boberg 491.