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FRANCE SENDS BEST OF DIPLOMATS HERE

War Commission Comes to Confer With President on Conflict in Europe and Possible Results

Washington, April 24.—The French war commission, which landed today at an American port, will be welcomed at noon tomorrow at Washington when they reach the capitol.

War conferees of France, headed by former Premier Viviani and General Joffre will be greeted by Secretary of State Lansing, Mr. Balfour, and other officials.

The way has been paved to bring the French, British and American officials together quickly for actual war conference.

The French commission is being brought to Washington aboard the President's yacht, *Mayflower*, and will be escorted by troops of cavalry. Already the city is in a flutter with stars and stripes, Union Jack and the tri-colors.

This official statement was made early today by the government: "The department of State is advised of the safe arrival of the French commission."

The commission which includes Marshal Joffre and former Premier Viviani, arrived early this morning on board a speedy steamship of the French line, which was convoyed across the Atlantic.

CONSCRIPTION ON GAIN IN CONGRESS

BOTH HOUSES LEAN TO OPINION OF PRESIDENT. DEBATE IS NOT LIMITED

Washington, April 24.—The conscription bill is rapidly gaining ground in Congress today. Hearing the course of debate both the Senate and the House shift of opinion and support was evident.

The present military problem was regarded so modern in its scope, that the system of other days must be discarded.

Supporters of the administration's contention for selective draft tonight gave encouragement and gratification at the turn which affairs had taken. No effort to limit debate in the Senate was made, but leaders anticipate a vote by the end of the week.

REASONS AGAINST HOARDING. Kansas City Star. Here are four reasons for not buying food in unusual quantities to hoard it:

WANT TO BE CITIZENS. Seven more aliens applied for citizenship in the United States District court yesterday. They were Israel Lubin, 422 Bourbon street, German; Joseph Dittmar, 4308 Esplanade avenue, Russian; Louis Piliawsky, 903 Alvar street, Russian; Leon Sarrat, 5703 North Rampart street, French; Otto Haake, Mandeville, La., German; Antoine Popich, Buras, La., Austrian, and Frank Felmann, 2302 Rousseau street, German.

TWO SOLDIERS HURT BY THEIR HORSES. Two soldiers were injured yesterday when they were thrown from their horses. The condition of either is not considered serious.

French Soldiers in Trenches Praying for Success of War

SOMEWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES—French soldiers are fighting in the trenches with an American flag pinned on their breasts, and French Mothers and children praying for America and their own land.

This statement was made by General Joffre, Commander in Chief of the French army, who arrived at Hampton Roads today with the French Commission.

The voyage from France was uneventful. Officers of the steamer said Joffre wept when first told of America's entrance into the war. He expects to discuss with American officials the necessity of quick action.

PRICES FALLING IN CHICAGO MARKETS. Chicago, April 24.—The anomaly of grocers selling fresh vegetables at retail considerably below prices quoted for the canned counterparts of the same products was presented in this market and many dealers predicted that the next few days would see a lowering of prices and a halt in the scramble to hoard certain staple foodstuffs which has prevailed recently among householders.

MISS GORDON'S APPEAL GOES TO MR. NEWMAN. Commissioner of Public Safety Newman will decide the controversy between Miss Jean M. Gordon and Recorder J. J. Fogarty. This was the decision reached yesterday by the city council following the appeal of Miss Gordon to have Recorder Fogarty investigated for refusing to hear certain alleged testimony in connection with a case in which Miss Gordon was interested.

WOMAN LOSES WATCH; COLORED SERVANT ARRESTED. Miss Clara Jacoby, a pharmacist living in the Presbyterian hospital complained to police that Sunday someone stole a gold watch from a dresser in her room. Miss Jacoby left the room unlocked so the servant could clean the room and returning discovered her loss.

FALLS OFF WATER WAGON. William McKnight, 25, 2719 South Prior street, was injured about the back Tuesday when he fell from a water wagon at Hospital and Bourbon streets. McKnight is employed as driver by the department of public works and while attempting to mount the wagon slipped and fell to the ground. He was taken to the Charity hospital, where his condition is not considered serious.

GREATEST BATTLE OF BIG EUROPEAN WAR IS RAGING

English and German Soldiers Engage in Man to Man Conflict on the Western Front

London, April 24.—The Germans and the British are engaged in what, it is believed, will be the decisive battle of the European war.

The first great open battle since the Marne is raging in the west between the British and the Germans in the front of the now famous "Wotan Line" and southward as far as St. Quentin.

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PARIS SENDS RESPONSE TO ORLEANS BOARD. In response to a cablegram sent by Ernest Lee Jahneke, president of the New Orleans Association of Commerce to David Menet, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Paris, in which Mr. Jahneke expressed the good wishes of the New Orleans business men to the business men of Paris, he yesterday received the following answer:

LOCKE LAW CASE HAS ECHO IN COURT ROOM. Testimony of William R. Veale in the case of the officers and racing officials of the Business Men's Racing Association, charged with violating the Locke law, will be taken Friday. This was announced yesterday by Judge Frank D. Chretien, of the criminal district court, after sustaining an objection by Attorney John P. Sullivan and John J. Reilly, counsel for the defense.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 24.—Christian Lucke was sentenced to one year in the Atlanta federal prison, following a plea of guilty of threatening the life of President Wilson.

36 MILLION EGGS IN GOLD STORAGE

NO EFFORT MADE TO SELL BIG STOCK.

Chicago, April 24.—The government started an investigation today to storage and manipulation of eggs. Charges are made that thirty-six million eggs are held without an effort to sell.

GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE. Two Hundred Car Loads Reach Market, But Prices Continue to Go Higher.

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BOY IN FIGHT HURT UNDER WAGON WHEELS. Ten-year-old Felix Jistall, 1113 Calatine street, became involved in a fight with an unknown white boy near the former's home yesterday, and was thrown under a wagon belonging to Frank Humphrey, truck farmer.

U. S. DAILY WEATHER REPORT. Wednesday, April 25, 1917. Forecast till 7 p. m. Wednesday: For New Orleans and vicinity: Cloudy, warmer, light southerly winds.

LOCAL METEOROLOGICAL RECORD. Yesterday's temperature record at New Orleans, as shown by the thermograph of the U. S. Weather Bureau, on the roof of the Postoffice building, was as follows:

RIVER FORECAST. The Mississippi River, below Vicksburg, and the Atchafalaya will rise on account of recent rains, crest stages are indicated as follows: Natchez, about 50.1 feet, April 24; Baton Rouge, 37.6 feet; Donaldsonville, 29.7 feet; New Orleans, 18.7 feet, April 28; stages of 11.8 feet at Sumnersport and 39.5 feet at Metairie by April 28; the Red River, below Shreveport, and the Ouachita will rise during the next 48 hours.