

### VICTORY WILL COME IN AIR IS OPINION OF FRENCH AVIATOR

Aircraft Has Revolutionized Warfare Today as Gunpowder in Early Days.

### AMERICA'S GREAT DUTY

By Supplying Aircraft to Allied Armies the United States Can Perform Greatest Service.

Lieutenant de La Grange is a typical French aviator. He served two years in private work before he went through non-commissioned positions and then, after competitive examination, was made sub-lieutenant in the cavalry. Lieutenant de La Grange participated in the battle of Verdun in 1916, and during the battle he was practically shot out of existence and he began his flying. He has chased Zeppelins over Belgium and has won a score of flights in the 18 months he has been in the flying corps.

By J. P. Yoder. (United Press Staff Correspondent) Washington, June 23.—"Put out the enemy's eyes! Blind him and he is lost!" That is the message Lieutenant Amaury de La Grange, French pilot extraordinary, wants carried to the American nation.

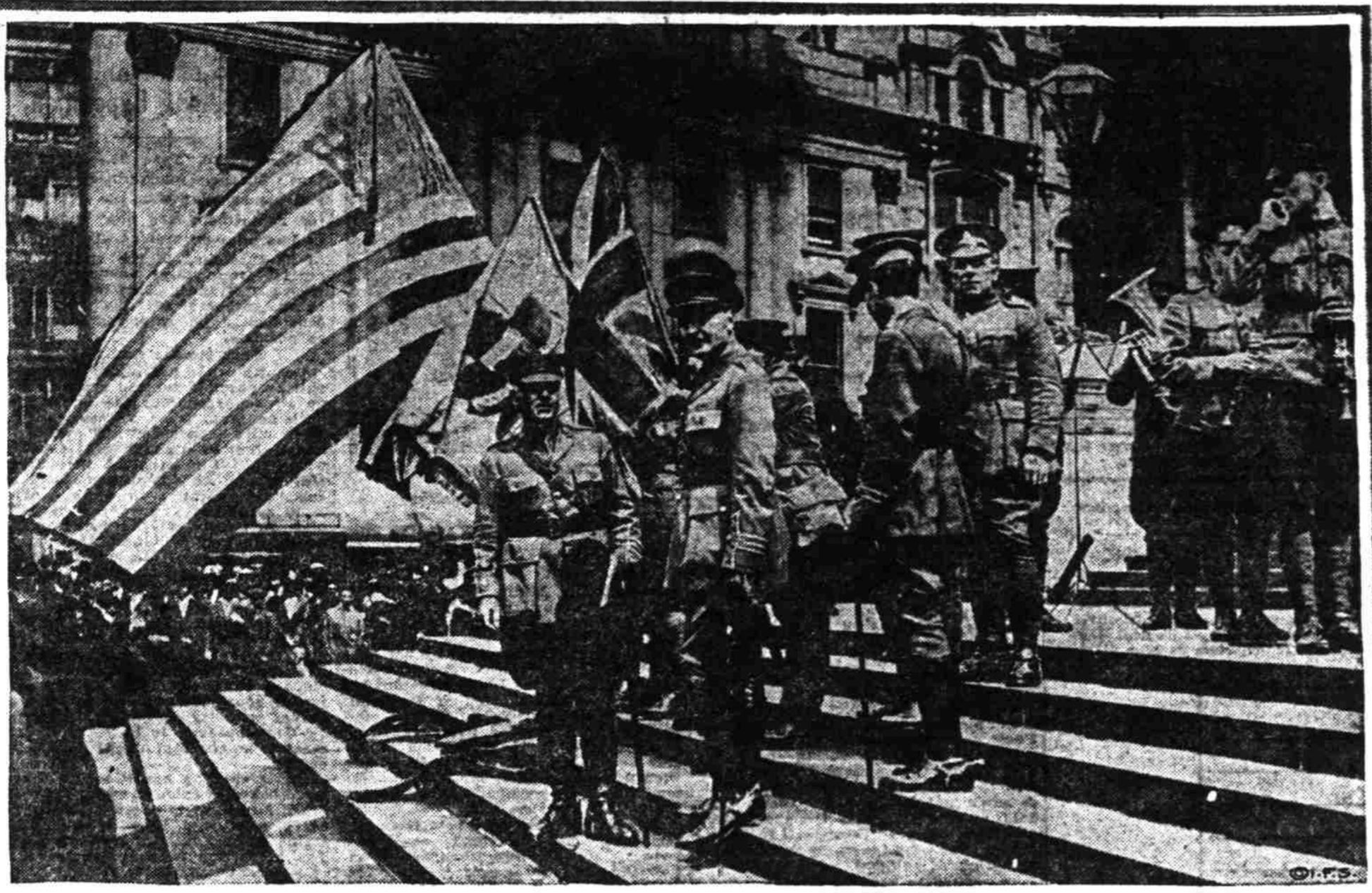
He told the United Press today in an eloquent plea to the American people to get behind the proposed program of the aircraft production board of the council of national defense and make possible speedy appropriations by congress of the sums necessary to send 5000 machines to the French battlefields by March—and 10,000 machines by August, 1918. This would mean a total of training and fighting machines at the front and building of approximately 50,000.

### The Way to Berlin

Carry out the proposed program, Lieutenant de La Grange declared at opening of the way to Berlin is made possible—even if it costs the lives of all the men in the world. Carry out the program, he said, and the thing so far impossible of achievement—actual breaking of the German lines, is rendered well nigh certain. "This war," said Lieutenant de La Grange, "as has been so often told, is one of artillery fighting at long range. Blinded artillery, obviously is helpless. Air supremacy means blinded artillery—for the other side. "Again this war has developed into a war of maneuvering. No maneuvering means no surprise. Victory is impossible without an element of surprise. Given two sides where a deadlock exists, where there is even a near equality of men and metal and aviation and surprise, yes, even victory, is well nigh impossible. "But give one side a preponderance in aviation, even though that side is weaker in men and metal, and it is a stronger blind man fighting a weaker man who can see."

Both sides about equal. As it is now, both sides, as regards aviation, according to Lieutenant de La Grange, are fairly equal, with a slight balance favoring the allies. Both sides are feverishly working out their maximum output—approximately 4000 machines monthly, including thousands of training machines. "Let America, with its vast resources and its unlimited manufacturing possibilities, turn herself quickly to giving us air supremacy," said de La Grange, "and victory is near at hand in countless numbers will be saved and millions in money will be unspent. It will take you time, yes to start, but start quickly. Once it is started, time! Time! Every week lost now means months lost next spring. And you Americans know what is lost each month in lives and money. This

### UNITED STATES OFFICERS DISPLAY FLAG IN LONDON



The Stars and Stripes have been placed alongside the British Union Jack in historic St. Paul's cathedral, London. The photograph shows the first American flag to be sent to England from this country after the declaration of war, carried by officers of the United States on the steps of St. Paul's.

is the most important job aside from that of food. Aircraft Greatest Need. "I doubt if you could produce heavy artillery within a year. Start now on the aircraft production board's aeroplane program and you give us the greatest help. You may make a 1918 victory possible—even probable. "The most powerful weapon with the largest future is the aeroplane. "The aeroplane has revolutionized warfare more than gunpowder did. Germany cannot equal the air preponderance you can furnish and your allies in democracy's fight, unless she weakens herself elsewhere in a military way. Germany's Air Resources. "Germany has probably about 4000 machines on the western front. The allies are slightly superior. If America turns her available resources into building aeroplanes Germany, to maintain her equality in the air, would have to diminish her submarine output or something else of military use. And even then she could not equal the enormous American output. "The fact that America was building aeroplanes would put Germany in a defensive position. We do not know how she would meet this problem, but we do know what it would mean to us if we had to produce 50,000 more aeroplanes than we are now planning. It would lessen our man power. Supply Wanted by Spring. "By next March or April you should be able to send sufficient machines to the front to make a great difference. It would take you four months more to produce an overwhelming number—that is, four machines to one German machine, which is what the allies need. "Produce your first thousand ma-

chines and you can then produce 50,000 with as little trouble and in far shorter time than it took to build the first 5000. "The matter of aviators is comparatively simple. Here, where flying can be done the whole year around, you could have the men ready and well trained by the time the machines were ready—in any quantity!" Postmaster for Pleasant Home. Washington, June 23.—Miss Mary O. Shaw has been appointed postmistress at Pleasant Home, Multnomah county, Oregon, in place of Mrs. C. J. Britton, resigned. Extension of rural route No. 8 out of Salem has been authorized from June 16. Representative Hawley has been advised. He presented the request of residents for additional service some time ago.

Would Promote Farm Ownership. Washington, June 23.—Senator Shepard of Texas has introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution to give congress power to purchase, hold, improve, subdivide and sell land, and to make loans, "for the purpose of encouraging and promoting farm ownership in the United States."

Watchless Kansas Townships. Satina, Kan., June 23.—Four townships in this county, according to the assessor's returns, have only one silver and one gold watch each, while in four other townships there is not a watch. There is nothing in the reports to show what became of the watches reported for taxation in former years.

### AIRPLANES, VESSELS AND MONEY VITAL FACTORS IN BIG WAR

By Providing Plentifully Along These Lines America Can Render Most Effective Aid.

### THE ROAD TO VICTORY

Highway to World Democracy Has Been Built on Foundation Comprising Three Agencies.

Washington, June 23.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL.)—With the plans for the mobilization of America's power well under way, the first and heaviest strokes to be made in the war will not be in the big army soon to be called, nor in the fleet of destroyers and warships already patrolling in foreign seas. In three great fields the United States is given the opportunity to strike terrifically at German autocracy. Opinion is gaining strength that the best way to win the war is to build and man a myriad of airplanes, the nation can do the greatest service quickly.

Weather Is Unfavorable. "It must be made plain that the struggle for the supremacy of the air is perhaps the most vital of all the methods of fighting in which the United States can take part," says Howard E. Coffin, chairman of the aircraft board of the council of national defense. British and French authorities have declared that if this country will turn to manufacturing airplanes on a large scale it will do more than by the sacrifice of thousands of lives of soldiers in the trenches. Then ships, to carry the food and the materials of warfare to the allies. While the plans for control of the submarine go forward, there must also go the greatest possible speeding up of construction of vessels to replace the tonnage destroyed in the waste of war.

Ships Guarantee of Victory. "The road to victory," said Lloyd George, "the guarantee of victory, the absolute assurance of victory, has to be found in one word, ships, and a second word, ships, and a third word, ships."

After airplanes and ships, money. Out of a plentiful store America has already loaned approximately one billion dollars to the allies, so that the activities of war may not slacken. Other billions are to be loaned. For this contribution America asks no money changer's profit, but the war loans are not robbing the country of its wealth. The money is being returned to the mills, the factories, the farms and the shippards.

Hindenburg's Misguided Utterance. If the country plays its full part with airplanes, ships and money, it may not have to make a large contribution in men. Von Hindenburg said that America has no weight. He was thinking of masses of men gathered along the Hindenburg line, where the addition of a few hundred thou-

### Allied Aircraft in Numbers Could Put Speedy End to War

So Writes Marion Kyle, Portland Boy, Who Is Serving in France With American Field Service; Football at the Front Is One Diversion.

Marion Kyle of the American Field Service is the son of Mrs. G. A. Kyle, 543 East Thirty-seventh street, Portland, and a former student at Jefferson high and Stanford university. By Marion Kyle. "Somewhere in France," May 11.—This afternoon I am on duty at another of the three posts we serve. It is much more exciting here than the one I wrote from last time. I have been out here since yesterday and will be away about two hours for our main headquarters as my time of duty will be up. We are comfortably ensconced here in a dug-out in a side hill and are very safe. The only inconvenience we suffer is from the rats. They make their appearance as soon as the lanterns are turned out and squeak and quarrel all night over our food. It is very disconcerting to wake up at 3 in the morning and find a huge rat calmly gazing at you about a foot away. We have declared war on them and are waging a huge drive, so imagine the confusion around here with two European wars going on at the same time. If French soldiers are as bold as the French rats there will be no need of American troops to finish the war. Where the shells break. The morning has been somewhat exciting in several ways. About 10 o'clock a German aeroplane came overhead and immediately their batteries opened fire on a French battery not far from us. The aeroplane kept directing the fire of the German guns notwith-standing a hail of machine directed towards it by the French anti-aircraft guns. They threw in 100 shells one after the other and so kept it up intermittently the rest of the day. One would think the French guns battered to nothing, but about five minutes ago they started replying as lively as ever. We kept close to our dug-out and were elated from the German shells would whistle by very often and a piece of shrapnel fell just over our heads from the anti-aircraft shell in the air above. There is not much chance for bravery here. The only thing you can do is to stay in the dug-out and hope the next one doesn't get you. Aeroplanes Are Needed. Only once here can one realize the importance of aeroplanes in modern warfare. If America would send over 5000 speedy aeroplanes the war would be over twice as quickly. It is by aeroplanes, chiefly, that all the artillery aiming is done. The anti-aircraft guns are very ineffective and only about one shot in 10,000 disables a machine. The only way to keep control of the sky is to have a great number up at all times that the German planes do not dare to come up. As it is now the allies have not enough machines. The other day the German aeroplanes bombarded the town where we stay and wounded three little boys and a woman. I think they were aiming for the railroad station but missed it a mile. The other day we heard the whistle of the bombs and the explosion in a field about 400 yards from us. A bombing aeroplane gives one the same feeling as an earthquake. There is no place you can go that is safer than where you are but still you are loath to stay there. The rest of the time here we eat, sleep and study French. We used to be frequent habitués of the pastry shops but now the manufacture of cakes is prohibited and we do without. I see in the papers that two sections from the University of California and one from Stanford are starting over here. There will be quite a California contingent when they arrive. Selligerents Span towns. The life in this town is one of the peculiar incidents of the war. We are within easy shelling range of the German batteries, but they never

### COMPETITIVE BIDS ARE NOT FEASIBLE FOR THE CANTONMENT WORK

Limited Time for Construction of Buildings Precludes Usual Procedure.

### FAIR PLAN IS FOLLOWED

Contracts Are Let on a 7 Per Cent Basis to Insure Fair Profit for Contractor and Fair Wage.

Washington, June 23.—The committee on public information has issued an explanation of the reasons which have governed in the decision to make contracts for construction of military cantonments without the usual process of competitive bids. "The work must be completed, in all essential respects within 13 weeks, ready for the training of the 500,000 men called for by the new army. Too much speed is required, it is said, for the usual process of full specifications and bids, so the percentage basis will be followed in order to insure the adoption of precautions and checks to insure honest and competent work. Profits Are Minimized. The contracts are on a 7 per cent basis, this 7 per cent to cover overhead cost and contractor's profits, with a limit of \$250,000 for each camp. Commenting upon this system, the official statement says: "Before anyone decides this is too much and quotes some contractor who says that he would be glad to do the work without profit, he should look closely into the case. On an average it is estimated that all of these contractors have an overhead charge of 3 1/2 per cent. This means that on a million dollar contract the contractor earns \$35,000, and certainly nobody ought to complain at that. Fair Wage for Labor. "It is not the policy of the government in this crisis to allow a man to do work of this kind without profit. Business must be kept stable and the worker must have his fair wage, and profit in the case of the contractor is his wage."

### America's Aims Outlined

In this address, and in his statement to Russia, it is felt that the president has given the fullest definition that it is now possible to give of the aims of America in the war. It may be that the chief executive had in mind some of those who have suggested that this country should state its objects. He has at any rate furnished a reply, and deftly turned the situation to the advantage of the nation. Exact terms it would be impossible to state in the midst of conflict, but the conditions the president has laid down are definite enough for the understanding of all peoples when he says: "No people must be forced under sovereignty under which it does not wish to live. "No territory must change hands except for the purpose of securing those who inhabit it a fair chance of life and liberty. "No indemnities must be insisted on except those that constitute payment for manifest wrongs done. "No readjustments of power must be established."

made exact such as will tend to secure the future peace of the world and the future welfare and happiness of its peoples. A Clear Future. The war message gave America's indictment of Germany, with a restatement of the principles of democracy. The message to Russia set forth the principles to be achieved in the conflict, as one democracy speaking to another. The flag day address set forth the plans of German domination and of threatening intrigue. Taken together, these three utterances of Woodrow Wilson will give history a clear picture of the purposes of what will be America's last war president, if the principles for which he fights are established.

### Latest Pathe News

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