

SOLDIERS SENT FROM AMERICA FULLY EQUIPPED

Secretary Baker Refuses to Discuss Number of Troops in France, Save That They Exceed Half a Million—No Shortage of Light or Heavy Guns and None in Prospect.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—Secretary Baker's statement announcing that his prediction that more than 500,000 American troops would be in France by early this year had even been surpassed, was widely discussed in congress today as some members were skeptical when the secretary made his statement before the senate military committee in January.

How many more than 500,000 have been sent abroad may not be disclosed for military reasons and in making his statement Secretary Baker specifically requested that it be carried to the public in exactly the terms in which he gave it. Under these circumstances it permits of no amplification.

Neither is it possible to state how many troops actually have been transported during the first four months of the calendar year 1918, as this would disclose to the enemy the rate at which troops are moving.

Rushing Men Across.
The repeated official announcements that the government is bending every energy to rush men across to back up the allied lines in France and officers directly in charge of transportation have expressed satisfaction with the progress being made.

There are indications, too, that the war department has adhered strictly to its policy of equipping fully before his departure, every man sent across. That is the first consideration in checking off supplies of clothing and arms.

Plenty of Guns.
As a result of the personal investigation of machine gun production during the past few days, the secretary announced that there is no present shortage of light or heavy types of these weapons either in France or America, and no shortage is in prospect.

Mr. Baker's study of the whole ordnance program was founded on his desire to see just what the situation was in this slowest element of the war preparations.

His conclusions as to machine guns follow on the heels of pessimistic statements by members of congress in this regard. In discussion of the production of Browning machine guns, contracts for other types both here and abroad apparently have been lost sight of. These contracts preceding the placing of orders for the Brownings and that supply was designed to meet the emergency until the new gun was available in quantities.

The present practice of brigading American units with French and British divisions, it is pointed out, makes the artillery question less pressing as the artillery independent supply.

COSTA RICA REGRETS BREAK WITH AMERICA

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, May 9.—The Costa Rican congress by a vote of 28 to 3 has voted confidence in the government of President Frederico A. Tinoco, and at the same time passed a resolution expressing regret at the attitude of the American government toward Costa Rica.

The Tinoco government came into power January, 1917, after the deposition of President Gonzalez. The United States refused to recognize the government.

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ASQUITH FACES DEFEAT IN CLASH WITH PREMIER

British Press Hold That Reluctance to Oust Government During War Will Result in Upholding Lloyd George, Regardless of Merits of Controversy Raised by Maurice.

LONDON, May 9.—The intense interest in the crisis brought about by the letter of Major General Maurice is reflected in the morning newspapers. They give much prominence to the prospects of today's doings in the house and the attitude of political parties toward the government and General Maurice, respectively, and speculate upon the probable outcome.

Opinion is general that if former Premier Asquith forces his motion to have a select committee investigating the charges made against the government by General Maurice to a division, the government will obtain a majority which some commentators believe will be substantial. However, views differ as to how far this will satisfy the public.

Vindication Perhaps.
Some hold that perhaps by the house of commons in support of the government will completely vindicate the government and crush what they call the intrigue of the Asquithian opponents. Others say that such a verdict will prove nothing except reluctance to oust the government at such a critical moment, leaving the main question unaffected.

The latter view is voiced by the Daily Chronicle, which, while predicting a parliamentary victory for the government, possibly by a large majority, says this would indicate nothing more than reluctance by the commons at a moment of national peril to overthrow the ministry, while no definite and acceptable alternative exists. It adds that such a victory cannot be a straight forward verdict on the merits of the case. The charges, it declares, ought to be disproved conclusively or the affected ministers ought to leave office.

The Daily Telegraph, on the other hand, has no doubt that the ministerial reply will be complete and crushing.

Fear Old Gang.
Fear is expressed by a section of the press most hostile to Mr. Asquith that if the government fails the "old gang" will regain power. The Tory Morning Post, which votes this fear editorially, says elsewhere: "The house of commons will not kill Lloyd George to make Asquith premier. This has been Lloyd



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George's safeguard and it will be his safeguard now." The Daily Mail, although not withdrawing its support of the government, says editorially that the government have themselves partly to thank for the position in which they stand, having repeatedly shown timidity and weakness in dealing with high military and naval officers who have failed at their posts. It adds that the government might explain why General Maurice was removed from the war office and whether he had a grudge to avenge.

76 NAMES ON CASUALTY LIST

WASHINGTON, May 9.—The casualty list today contained 76 names divided as follows:

Killed in action, 10; died of wounds, three; died of accident, two; died of disease, six; wounded severely, 13; wounded slightly, 41; prisoner, one.

Officers named were: Lieutenant Harold Sydney Morgan, Vancouver Barracks, Wash., killed in action; Cadet Ivan D. Livingston, Pullman, Wash., died of accident; Lieutenants Adam P. Danbrackas, Philadelphia; Kosta Mudd, La Plata, Md.; Thomas H. Reagan, Canton, Ill.; James J. Sheeran, Chicago; Paul R. Stewart, Warren, Pa., slightly wounded, and Captain Andrew S. Robinson, Columbus, Ohio, previously reported missing, now reported prisoner.

CAPTAIN HOBSON SPEAKS AT PAGE NEXT SUNDAY

Capt. Richard P. Hobson of Santiago de Cuba fame and one of the most brilliant and forceful speakers before the American people to



day will speak at the Page Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Capt. Hobson is speaking under the auspices of the National Anti-Saloon

League in the interests of a dry nation. Many of our people will remember Capt. Hobson's great address some two and one-half years ago in this city, and will not wish to miss this opportunity to hear him again.

The theme for Sunday afternoon will be "America at War." The only road to safety and peace for America and for the world is to exert our full national power to win this war. A nation is a vital living organism and like every other living thing must make adequate provision for self defense if it is to survive.

MISS TOWNE SEEKS PAYMASTER'S JOB

Miss Marion Towne, who organizes as a member of the Oregon legislature from Jackson county, has applied for a commission to be assistant paymaster in the United States navy.

Miss Towne is a chief yeoman and assistant to Captain Wiley, head of the bureau of naval intelligence at the Bremerton navy yard. She enlisted from Medford, Ore., shortly after war was declared, and was one of the first women in the northwest to join the navy.

Miss Towne's application to be allowed to take the examination for an assistant paymastership involves the question of whether the navy will

grant a commission in the reserves to women. So far as known, only one other woman has applied for a commission. She is Miss Sue Dorsey, who has applied for a commission to serve in the office of the paymaster general.

Miss Towne is highly intelligent,

and there is no question that she would give able service in any capacity to which the naval authorities may admit her. A Bremerton news dispatch to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer says Captain Wiley is anxious for Miss Towne to receive the coveted commission.

PAGE--TODAY-TOMORROW

The Kaiser

Verdict of the Medford audience last night:

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1 Big lot of New Dress Ginghams | See Window | at 25c.
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SILK AND WOOL DRESSES \$27.50 Dresses \$21.50 \$25.00 Dresses \$19.75 \$22.50 Dresses \$18.00 \$18.50 Dresses \$12.50 \$15.00 Dresses \$12.50 \$7.50 Dresses \$4.50	LADIES' WOOL SUITS \$39.50 Suit \$32.00 \$38.50 Suit \$31.00 \$35.00 Suit \$29.50 \$34.00 Suit \$29.00 \$32.50 Suit \$27.50 \$28.50 Suit \$25.00	WOOL COATS \$45.00 Coats \$35.00 \$39.50 Coats \$33.00 \$37.50 Coats \$29.50 \$27.50 Coats \$22.50 \$25.00 Coats \$21.50 \$22.50 Coats \$19.50 \$21.00 Coats \$15.00 \$18.75 Coats \$16.50 \$16.50 Coats \$14.50
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