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AMERICAN TROOPS TO DELIVER FINAL BLOW.

U. S. Troops not Enter Big Offensive Against Germans Until Victory is Assured.

Washington, Oct. 7.—American troops will deliver the final blow on the western front next year, in the belief of many military experts here. There is no expectation that Pershing's forces will "go over the top" in any important numbers this year, although it is likely that many of them will be in the trenches. American war plans at this decisive one.

The idea of the military authorities in the United States is this: That American troops shall not, save in extraordinary emergency, be employed in a big offensive against Germany until they are in sufficient force to produce not only an important military, but a psychological effect. In the judgment of military men here, the end of offensive on the western front, for the winter period, must come soon. Haig's great drive cannot continue indefinitely. With the coming of winter, there must begin a long interval of waiting.

General Assault Next Spring. But by 1918, in the early spring, as soon as conditions are favorable for a general assault on the German lines, it is believed that the United States will play a large and probably decisive part in land warfare, just as it is already playing a most important part against submarines.

There are already enough American troops in France to deliver a big punch into the German lines, if it were considered good strategy to do so. They could not cover a wide front, it is true, but they could make a serious dent. But to undertake such an operation at this time, in the judgment of military experts here, would be a useless expenditure of men.

Allies Holding Their Own

The military plans of the United States contemplate the use of forces in France, when they can be decisive effect, and not before. This means, in the present stage of things, no immediate offensive is concerned.

Only one consideration can upset this understanding. That will be the inability of the French to hold their own until next spring. Viewed in the light of recent events, this is regarded as a remote contingency. France at this time is holding her own with reasonable ease, in the view of American experts. England is more than holding her own. There is absolutely no prospect that England need ask anything from the Pershing forces.

No matter what the fortunes of war on the western front during the next two months, they will not involve any American forces, to an appreciable degree. It is the intention of the Washington government that when Pershing's men actually take part in a drive, they will be numerous enough to produce an important effect. For the purpose of relieving the French, if needed, they may take over a few miles of the front line this year—perhaps—if only with the idea of giving them actual experience with trench conditions, so they may be able to teach their comrades, as they continue to arrive.

No Foolishness Allowed.

But there is absolutely no foolishness in the handling of America's forces abroad, and will be none. All present work both here and in France, is being conducted chiefly with reference to the 1918 campaign. One big blow next year, as Washington experts view it, in the light of their information, may settle the issue on the western front. It is too late to deliver such a blow this year, and while the British and French are more than holding their own, they probably lack the necessary reserve to accomplish the feat. But in 1918 the time will be ripe.

Military co-operation between the United States and the allies is just as close as naval co-operation. The latter is already effective, because this country was better prepared for war on sea than on land. The former will become effective far more rapidly than many pessimists believe. Pershing today commanded an army of no mean size. It is a good army, too, and one that is well equipped. It grows steadily larger. And it is an army that is not living on France, but on the United States. Every soldier who goes abroad or who is already there is being supported from the United States. That is one reason why the American army will be tremendously effective, when it begins to strike. It will involve no economic drain on France or England or any of the allies. It will be self-

sustained, despite all the submarines that Germany can put into the Atlantic Ocean.

Building Up Great Machine.

If France were cracking, American troops would have been in the trenches before this. But France is far from cracking, according to the information here. France can easily go through the winter on the western front and hold what she now has. England meantime, is expected to register further gains. And while this situation maintains the United States will build up on European soil a military machine that will be able to hit the line hard in 1918.

Broadly speaking, that is the present military policy of the American government. It is subject to change, of course, if conditions demand a change, but otherwise the American people must not expect any immediate operation by Pershing. How many soldiers the United States can throw into a spring campaign it is impossible to guess, even if it were wise to attempt an estimate. But the result may surprise Germany. Perhaps it will not surprise the great headquarters of the imperial German army, whose sources of information concerning the enemy's strength along the front are generally good; but it is almost certain to be a shocking revelation to the privates in the German trenches and "pill boxes" who are not allowed to know much about how the war is progressing.

When America entered the war, Germany discounted the fact by proclaiming that it was of small consequence, because America possessed no army. When America proceeded to raise an army of important proportions, Germany attempted to discount that fact by proclaiming that, no matter how many soldiers might be raised over here, it would not be possible to send many of them to Europe. The preliminary job of the United States has been to dash German hopes in both respects. It is being carried out. It reveals no military secret to say that the United States has already done much better than its army experts believed to be possible.

line officers and her soldiers still have a contempt for American military prowess is understood in Washington. It is expected that such contempt will continue until some time next year. But along in 1918 it is also expected that there will be a gradual, perhaps a sharp, change in German opinion. The psychological effect may be as great as the military effort. Meantime the American drive can wait. It is not a case of England, with her original little army, rushing to the rescue of France, or of Canada and other British colonies rushing to the rescue of England. As things stand on the western front the allies need no rescuing. Germany does. Thus when America actually gets into the war it will be as an entirely fresh unit against Germany, and not merely as reinforcement of a line that is tottering for want of it.

Standing Behind our Soldiers.

You are undertaking a great duty. The heart of the whole country is with you. Everything that you do will be watched with the deepest interest and with the deepest solicitude not only by those who are near and dear to you but by the whole Nation besides, for this great war draws us all together. * * *—From President Wilson's address to the soldiers of the National Army.

If the heart of the whole country is with our soldiers of the National Army, and it is believed that it is, the money of the Nation will be back of them. The Liberty Loan is to be used to arm, equip, and maintain our soldiers, to prepare them for the conflict in France, and make them as effective and powerful as possible, and safeguard them in every way possible. In addition, it will be used to give them life and indemnity insurance and provide for their dependents. The uses of the Liberty Loan appeal to every patriotic American, for it is used for our soldiers and sailors and the principles which they uphold, which the heart of the whole country is with. The foundation of our great country is liberty; its superstructure, peace.—William McKinley.

"I have had more or less stomach trouble for eight or ten years," writes Mrs. G. H. Smith, Brewerton, N. Y. "When suffering from attacks of indigestion and heaviness after eating, one or two of Chamberlain's Tablets have always relieved me. I have also found them pleasant laxative." These tablets tone up the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. If you are troubled with indigestion give them a trial, get well and stay well.

TIGHTENING EMBARGOES TO NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

U. S. Government Refuses Coal to Ships Bound For Northern European Neutrals.

Washington, Oct. 4.—A final move to prevent supplies from reaching Germany was taken today by the American government in deciding to refuse coal to neutral ships carrying supplies from South America to the northern European neutral countries unless their cargoes are inspected in American ports.

In making known the decision the export administrative board announced that it would apply provisions of the exports control act, which gives the government the same supervision over bunkers it has over the exportation of goods generally.

The step was taken with the approval of all the allies who will co-operate by enforcing similar regulations. It follows closely Great Britain's declaration of a complete embargo against the northern European neutrals, which was designed to strengthen the embargo already but into force by the United States.

In a statement accompanying the announcement the board makes it clear that the present absolute embargo against the European neutrals is not necessarily permanent and that a final decision as to a policy will not be made until information as to the neutrals' actual requirements is obtained. The general understanding has been that the neutrals will be fed, but that they will receive no more supplies than actually are necessary and that none will go forward until proper assurance are received as to neutral exports to Germany.

"No final policy has been yet decided on," the statement said, "because the board has not been able to obtain information from the governments of the northern neutrals, repeatedly requests, as to their resources and requirements and other information necessary for intelligent action."

Some Latin-American countries are exporting freely to the European neutrals, in defiance of the embargo.

The United States is within its rights under international law, as it can do what it will with its own commodities. For some time there has been a tightening up on the export of coal to South American countries in an effort to cut off supplies to German-owned concerns, which it has been charged have supplied funds for German propaganda in this country.

South American countries are the only nations in the world left in which Germany has a chance to obtain foodstuffs and other necessities through the border countries. With this source cut off allied statesmen feel that the ring around Germany is drawn so tightly the economic pressure, reinforcing the allies' ever growing military superiority, will make the German people see their cause is hopeless.

The Second Liberty Loan.

The bonds of the second issue of the Liberty Loan are to be issued under the act of Congress approved by the President September 24, 1917.

The amount of the issue will be \$3,000,000,000 or more; \$3,000,000,000 will be offered, and the right is reserved to allot bonds in excess of that amount to the extent of one-half of the oversubscription. That is, if \$5,000,000,000 is subscribed the right is reserved to issue \$1,000,000,000 more than the \$3,000,000,000.

The bonds will be open for sale on October 1, 1917, and subscriptions will be received until the close of the business day of October 27.

The bonds will bear date of November 15, 1917, and will mature November 15, 1942. But the Government reserves the right to call in and pay the bonds in full, with accrued interest, any time after 10 years after their date.

Road Sentences for Maniacs.

A magistrate at Greensboro and the police justice at Albemarle announce that, fines having proved ineffective in checking excessive speed of automobiles, hereafter road sentences will be imposed. The Greensboro man began by fining the owner of the car \$50 and his son, the reckless driver, was given a road sentence to begin the first day the boy is found driving a car. That is to say, the young man must ever after forego the pleasure of driving automobiles unless he wants to serve 30 days on the roads. The Greensboro and Albemarle officials are right. Fines will never effectively check the reckless speeders.—Statesville Landmark.

WAR TAX NOW IN EFFECT.

Within two Months the Buying Public Will be Paying a Tax on Practically Everything Purchased—Some of the Many Articles Taxed.

Washington, Oct. 4.—The war tax toll on the American pocketbook began today. Within two months the buying public will be paying over the counter, through ticket windows of various kinds, and almost everywhere else the levies under the \$2,535,000,000 revenue bill, now a law.

Throughout the land today the high cost of drinking mounted higher with additional taxes on hard, soft and medium beverages effective immediately. Everything from fountain syrups is hit by the new taxes.

Drinking costs about 25 per cent. Smoking may also be more costly within 30 days when added taxes on tobaccos cigars and cigarettes are clamped down, ranging from \$1 to \$7 a thousand on cigars and from 80 cents to \$1.20 a thousand on cigarettes. Even snuff users will suffer.

On November 1 also the tax on freight and express packages 1 cent for each 2 cents charged becomes effective, together with a 10 cent levy on the comforts of berths, seats and on state rooms or parlor cars. Every telephone, telegraph or wireless message costing more than 15 cents after November 1 will bear a five-cent tax, and taxes of 8 cents on each \$100 of life insurance also begins.

With a tax on "movies and legitimate" theaters after November 1 of one cent on each 10 cents admission charged, the cost of "looking them over" either on the screen or in the "pony" row promises to mount. The usual new year outbreak will on table reservations. It will cost a tax toll equivalent to 10 per cent of the dues to join a club after November 1.

Congress Adjourns Saturday.

Stamp taxes on bonds, promissory notes, bills of sale, and playing cards become effective December 1, as does the one cent tax on parcel post packages costing 25 cents or more.

The additional one cent on letters in effect November 1, but the additional second class postage is not effective until July 1, 1918.

Automobile owning, with a tax of 3 per cent on the sale price, becomes more costly immediately. Also such beautifiers as jewelry and cosmetics or reliefs in the form of pills, patent medicines, and chewing gum are hit also.

Sporting goods, motor boats, estates, inheritance, incomes, war profits, and other luxuries of the wealthy are taxable immediately.

Money raising bills being disposed of, Congress will adjourn Saturday.

The house and Senate are to pass the adjournment resolution resolution today. The senate also will pass the soldiers' and sailors' insurance bill, which will go to conference with few changes from the house bill. Conferences over it are expected to take less than a day.

Adoption of the conference report on the \$8,000,000,000 urgent deficiency bill is expected today. The senate passed it late yesterday without debate.

The civil rights, suspending legal action on debts of soldiers and sailors in foreign service have gone through, although its chances in the senate are slim.

Some of the Things Taxed

Here are some things upon which the average citizen will pay taxes from time to time under the new war tax bill.

Approximately 2 per cent increase on incomes of \$5,000 or less.

Letter postage, except local letters, increased to 3 cents and postcards to 2 cents beginning November 3.

One cent for each 10 cents paid for admissions to amusements. Five cent shows and 10 cent outdoor amusement parks exempted.

Ten per cent on all club dues at \$12 a year or over.

One cent for each 25 cents paid for parcel post.

One cent on each two cents express package charges.

Three per cent on all freight charges.

Eight per cent of passenger fares by rail or water, except trips of less than 30 miles.

Ten per cent of charges for seats, berths and state rooms on parlor cars or vessels.

Five cents on each telegraph, telephone or radio message costing 15 cents or more.

Three per cent on jewelry.

Tree per cent on checker boards and all kinds of games.

Two per cent on perfumes; toilet waters, toilet soaps, etc.

Two per cent on proprietary medicines.

Two per cent on chewing gum.

One cent on each dollar or premium for fire and casualty insurance.

Three per cent on graphophones records.

Eight cents on each \$100 life insurance.

The tax on whiskey is increased from \$1.10 a gallon to \$3.20. The tax on beer is increased from \$1 a barrel to \$2.75.

Increased tax on cigars, cigarettes and manufactured tobacco and snuff.

UNITED STATES' OCEAN FLEET.

Sixteen Hundred Vessels to be Ready in Year, Says Shipping Board, With Large Additional Tonnage Under Contract.

Washington, D. C.—A statement by the Shipping Board shows that nearly 1200 merchantvessels of about 6,000,000 tonnage will be completed within a little more than a year under the Government's shipbuilding program. Completion of ships commanding in shipyards and of vessels actually or about to be contracted for will give the country a fleet of 1600 ships with a total tonnage of more than 9,000,000. In addition to this, the board will complete in 1919 vessels, already contracted for and under negotiation, of about 4,000,000 tons. A billion dollars has just been asked of Congress to complete the work.

The British, whose present ocean-going tonnage is about 15,000,000, are hampered in building by lack of men and materials. In all other countries except Japan building virtually is at a standstill.

America now has a total overseas tonnage of 2,400,000 to which has been added about 700,000 tons of German and Austrian shipping. Japan has 2,000,000 tons; Italy, 1,950,000; France, 1,650,000; Norway, 1,650,000; Holland, 1,485,000; Sweden, 860,000; Denmark, 690,000; Spain, 750,000; Russia, 550,000; Portugal, 290,000 and all of South America, 800,000.

The progress of the Emergency Fleet Corporation in getting vessels constructed was outlined in the statement as follows:

"During the last two months there have been awarded contracts for 118 wooden vessels of 3500 tons capacity each of 27 yards. They had previously been awarded contracts for 235 vessels of the same type and 58 composite ships, a total of 411, with a tonnage of 1,460,900. Great difficulty has been experienced on the Atlantic Coast in obtaining suitable lumber, and it is anticipated there will be a greater delay in their completion than was expected.

"Since Aug. 1 there have been awarded contracts for 155 more steel cargo vessels of 1,076,800 tons to six yards. Previous to Aug. 1, 70 steel cargo vessels of 587,000 tons had been contracted for with 10 shipyards. Therefore, at the present time the total number of steel vessels under construction is 225, with a tonnage of 1,663,800.

"The Fleet Corporation has requisitioned 403 vessels of about 2,000,000 tons."

The Shipping Board is making every effort to obtain engines, boilers and other equipment for the vessels to be built and in most instances contracts have been placed.

An industrial service department has just been established by the Fleet Corporation which, with the Department of Labor, will assist shipbuilders in obtaining labor. It also will establish a system of vocational schools to train workmen.

Help Organize.

Raleigh, October 5.—Food Administrator, Henry A. Page enthusiastically welcomed today the announcement of the organization of the "War Mothers" for service at home in carrying out the program of the Food Administration. "I desire to suggest through the press that every War Mother of this state attach herself as a volunteer to the school district committee which will have charge in her district of the food pledge campaign, October 20-28th. No one will be able to resist their appeal, and the work that will be done during that campaign will mean the bringing back of thousands of their boys who might otherwise find their last resting place under the green sod of France."

SLAUGHTER OF CALVES CAUSE OF ORDINANCE.

Commissioners of Greensboro Attempt to Reduce the Killing of Young Cattle.

In order to discourage the slaughter of young cattle in Guilford county, the commissioners of Greensboro have decided to deny the local market to meat from "male calves under six months old or heifer calves under 18 months old when killed." An ordinance embodying this provision has been drawn and passed with the unanimous vote of the board. The measure was offered by Commissioner of Public Safety J. Henry Phipps, and met with the full approval of his associates.

Hundreds of young cattle are being killed in the general section serving Greensboro, Mr. Phipps said, and this causes a drain on the meat supply which cannot but have a serious effect on the future. The commissioners' action is in harmony with the attitude of the men of the community having an interest in the welfare of the country people, as well as of the city. The growing of more cattle in Guilford is advised by authorities, and great difficulty has been experienced in getting the farmers to take kindly to the idea.

The ordinance against meat from young calves will go into effect in 20 days, as provided by the city charter, and thereafter any violation of its provisions will be punishable with a penalty of \$10 for each offense. This applies to any "person, firm or corporation." By making a penalty for the violation, the city treasury can benefit from infractions of the law, for whereas fines go into the school fund of the state, penalties accrue to the city.

The two principal sections of the ordinance are one and two, as follows:

Sec. 1. That it shall be unlawful to sell or offer for sale within the corporate limits of the city meat from male calves under six months old or heifer calves under 18 months old when killed.

Sec. 2. That any person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of the foregoing ordinance shall be subject to a penalty of \$10 for each offense.

The state had a general law covering slaughter of young calves but this has been repealed. Objection is raised to the city law now instituted, by some, who claim that the veal can be sold on the edge of town and used by people of the city as heretofore. It is contended that the law will merely cause discrimination against the up-town meat dealer, but the commissioners feel assured that their action will help to some extent in the reduction of the premature slaughter.

Eat More Fish.

Raleigh, Oct. 8.—Several million pounds of good North Carolina fish will become available as a result of the action which has just been taken by the State Fisheries Commission in removing temporarily the restrictions upon the catching of good fish.

This action was taken at the solicitation of the Food Administration, it being recognized that the public interest demanded a larger supply of fish for substitution for beef, pork and mutton which must be exported to Europe for the maintenance of our armies and the armies and civilian population of our Allies.

The fisheries of eastern North Carolina are among the most important on the Atlantic coast and the removal of the restrictions on Tar Heel fishermen means not only that the people of this State will be more largely supplied with fresh and salt fish at much lower prices than has prevailed recently, but that hundreds of thousands of pounds of fish will be supplied to other states.

Food Administrator, Henry A. Page believes that with this larger supply of fish available; with the season for rabbits, squirrels and other game opening; with the increased use of poultry and eggs; with a vastly increased supply of home-grown pork in the State, North Carolina will be able to release for export to Europe practically all of the millions of dollars worth of pork and beef which has been imported into this State each year heretofore.

The program of the Food Administration calls for the substitution in hotels, cafes, and homes, of fish, poultry, game and other meat products for beef and pork; the substitution of other cereals and vegetables for wheat products; and rigid economy in the use of fats and sugar, the need for which is desperate with all of our Allies.