

OFFICERS CLAIM SYSTEM IS FAILURE

DESCRIBE MOBILIZATION OF THE STATE GUARD AS MILITARY FAILURE.

MILITARY TRAINING BILL

Major General Scott, Chief of Staff of Army and Major General Wood, Commanding Eastern Department, Both Favoring Universal Training.

Washington.—The mobilization of the National Guard for border service was described as a military failure, emphasizing the urgent necessity of abandoning the volunteer system as the nation's reliance for defense, in statements by Major General Scott, chief of staff of the army, and Major General Leonard Wood, commanding the Eastern department, before the Senate sub-committee considering the Chamberlain universal military training bill.

Both of the generals advocated universal training. General Wood declared that the country now was utterly defenseless against a well organized foe; that the mobilization was a tragedy, that if the guardsmen had met good troops they "would never have known what hit them." General Scott told the committee that lessons drawn from the present war proved that in case of war with a first-class power the United States would need immediately a trained force of 1,500,000 men, with another 1,500,000 available within 90 days.

General Wood, from whose department went 85,000 of the guardsmen sent to the border, said of the men enrolled when the call came, an average of 30 per cent of each company had to be dropped for physical defects and the organizations went to the border filled up with green men.

"It's been a tragedy," he said, "but worth all it cost if we only profit by it. It was not the fault of the officers or men, but of a defective system. If we had been compelled to meet good troops down there it would have been a scene of carnage. The guardsmen would never have known what hit them."

"What should we do with the National Guard, general?" Senator Brady asked.

"It should be replaced as rapidly as possible with men trained under a universal service system," General Wood replied. "When the system has been well started, I would drop the National Guard entirely from any scheme of national defense, although we want every officer and man of them in the new plan. But it must be a straight-out Federal force."

NATION-WIDE PROBE INTO HIGH COST OF PRINT PAPER.

Federal Trade Commission Co-Operates With Publishers in Effort to Formulate Plans to Decrease Cost of Commodity.

Washington.—The Federal Trade Commission, in conference with committees of newspaper publishers, paper manufacturers and jobbers in an effort to work out a plan for relieving the newsprint paper situation, addressed inquiries to all the interests concerned throughout the country to ascertain if an actual newsprint shortage exists.

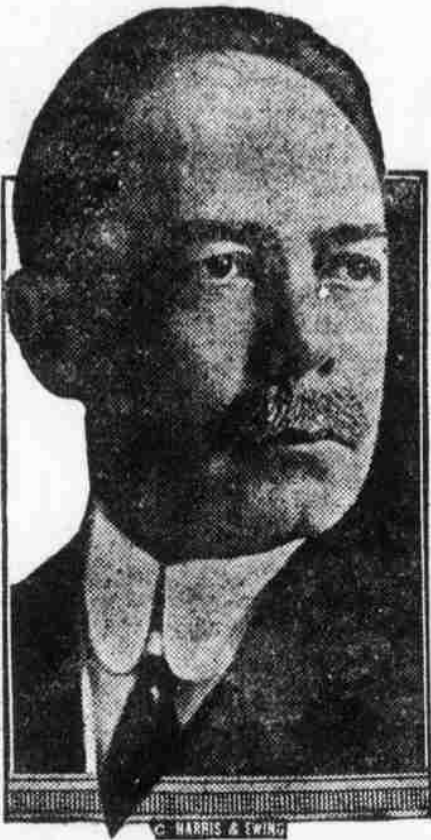
Publishers of the larger papers were asked if they will relinquish some of the paper they have contracts for during 1917; small publishers were asked the extent of their 1917 needs, they will handle.

The conference discussed a plan proposed by manufacturers in which large publishers would give up five per cent of their 1917 contract supplies to fill the needs of small publishers, to which there is a growing objection on the part of the large publishers. Plans of the publishers for financing paper mills to help take care of newspaper needs, it was said, are taking rapid shape. Some publishers are of the opinion that the publishers of the country must arrange to take care for their own needs or go out of business.

AGREEMENT WAS NOT SIGNED BY CARRANZA

Philadelphia.—General Carranza's representative on the Mexican-American joint commission made "to the American members the admission that the protocol signed three weeks ago at Atlantic City had not been ratified. They supplemented that admission, however, with a declaration of the attitude of the Carranza Government and assured the Americans that the delay in ratification did not signify the rejection of the agreement.

CHARLES C. M'CHORD



Interstate Commerce Commissioner McChord, after investigating the railroad car shortage that is choking the industries and rail movements of the West, put in operation a plan of relief by which all cars are to be returned to their home lines as soon as possible.

RECOMMEND PROHIBITION

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE VOTE TO PROPOSE PROHIBITION AMENDMENT.

"Dry" Advocates Jubilant Over Victory Scored in Congress.—Congressman Webb Will Ask Passage of Bill By Special Rule.

Washington.—Nation-wide prohibition took a long stride toward congressional consideration when the House Judiciary Committee unexpectedly voted to recommend adoption of the proposed constitutional amendment to forbid the manufacture and sale of liquor for beverage purposes in the United States. Even the most enthusiastic champions of the amendment had not expected favorable action so soon.

How far the resolution will progress is problematical, and Administration leaders doubt that it will reach the senate in time for action at this session. Prohibition advocates are jubilant, however, and predict ultimate adoption of the resolution and its reference to the legislatures of the various states at a much earlier date than they heretofore had hoped for. A two-thirds majority in both houses is required.

Coincident with the committee's action, the Sheppard bill to prohibit the manufacture and sale of liquor in the District of Columbia became the unfinished business to be kept before the senate until disposed of. As an amendment, Senator Underwood has proposed a referendum to the male voters of the District. Senator Kern of Indiana, has added a proposal that women should participate in the referendum.

During discussion of the Sheppard bill, several Senators, among them, Sheppard, Vardeman and Owen, predicted triumph for the cause of nation-wide prohibition in near future.

Hardly any one doubted that prohibition will be a dominant legislative issue before the new Sixty-fifth Congress if the constitutional amendment does not reach a vote this winter. In the house, before the amendment can be taken up for consideration, a special rule must be adopted giving it right of way. Representative Webb, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, will ask for such a rule early in January, and endeavor to press the resolution to an early vote.

ANOTHER IMMENSE CREDIT VOTED BY HOUSE OF COMMONS

London.—The House of Commons unanimously passed a vote of credit of 400,000,000 pounds sterling, moved by a Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, who made a lengthy speech, explaining the nation's financial situation, and touching on the German peace proposals. He announced that the daily average expenditure of Great Britain for the war now amounts to 5,710,000 pounds sterling and that this vote of credit would probably have to be supplemented February 24 with another vote of 200,000,000 pounds sterling.

This would make the total voted for the year 1,950,000,000 pounds sterling, or 350,000,000 pounds sterling more than the estimates made some months ago by Reginald McKenna, then chancellor.

CONGRESS TO TAKE CHRISTMAS RECESS

DESPITE EFFORT OF SPEAKER CLARK AND OTHERS TO CALL OFF VACATION.

DEFER RAIL LEGISLATION

Leaders do Not Hope to Accomplish Much Before Adjournment Except to Pass Few Appropriation Bills.—May Dispose of Prohibition Bill.

Washington.—With a holiday recess planned to begin Saturday and extend until January 2, congressional leaders do not hope to accomplish anything before adjournment except the passage of a few appropriation bills in the House, and possibly the disposition of the Sheppard prohibition bill for the District of Columbia in the Senate.

Consideration of railroad legislation and corrupt practice election measures, having been deferred until next month, members already are planning their Christmas vacations, despite the effort made by Speaker Clark and others early in the session to do away with the usual 10-day recess.

Prohibition for the District of Columbia will be before the Senate again with amendments providing for a referendum and Senator Smoot's substitute, which would not only bar manufacture and sale of liquor for beverage purposes, but also prohibit importation of liquor for personal use.

The judiciary committee's favorable report on the Webb nation-wide prohibition measure probably will be submitted at the end of this week by Representative Carlin of Virginia, a member of the committee who recently became converted to the dry cause. A rule for consideration of the resolution will not be asked until after the recess. The Federal suffrage amendment resolution has been received by the House and a rule probably will be asked on it early in January also.

ANTI-LIQUOR BILL GIVEN FIRST PLACE ON CALENDAR.

Sheppard Bill Gets First Place on Senate Calendar by Margin of One Vote.

Washington.—By a margin of one vote the Sheppard bill to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the District of Columbia, was put into first place on the Senate calendar to be taken up this week and debate until it is disposed of. Senator Townsend sought without success to keep the volunteer officers retirement bill before the Senate as unfinished business.

Senator Martine of New Jersey, opposing the bill, said the saloon should not be abolished until some other form of club for the poor man could be established.

The Senate Commerce Committee deferred action on the \$50,000,000 flood control bill for the Mississippi and Sacramento rivers.

Debate was then resumed in the District of Columbia prohibition bill, and Senator Sheppard finally succeeded, by a margin of one vote, in having it given first place on the calendar for this week.

In the House, Chairman Adamson, of the Interstate Commerce Committee, introduced a joint resolution extending the time for the railroad investigation until January 14, 1918.

WILSON GIVES \$2,500 TO MAKE UP DEFICIT.

Washington.—President Wilson has sent a check for \$2,500 to Treasurer Marsh of the Democratic National Committee, as his contribution toward meeting the deficit in the committee's campaign fund.

SUFFRAGETTE PEACE MEETING BROKEN UP.

London.—Sylvia Pankhurst, the militant suffragette, and a number of sympathizers, endeavored to hold a "demonstration" at the East India dock gates to demand peace, but a big crowd prevented.

U-BOATS RESPONSIBLE FOR BIG SHORTAGE OF WHEAT.

Washington.—German U-boats are playing a large part in increasing the wheat shortage. British vessels carrying hundreds of tons of wheat are being sunk by submarines. How extensive is the damage wrought to British shipping by submarines was learned from a Briton in the United States on an important mission and in receipt of constant advice regarding the real state of affairs.

HIPOLITO IRIGROYEN



Hipolito Irigoyen is the new president of the Argentine Republic.

BRITAINS MAY CONSIDER

CRITICISM CAUSED BY FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT SUPPLANTED BY CALMER JUDGMENT.

French Premier Warns Nation to Guard Against Trap.—League of Nations to Enforce Peace May Be Suggested By President Wilson.

Information contained in newspaper reports in London leads to the belief that the political leaders of Britain will give the peace proposal from the Central Powers to the Entente Allies sober consideration, which might possibly lead to a further note from Germany and her allies setting forth definite terms upon which they would agree to end the war.

Criticism heard on the streets of London as the news of the peace move became public, seems to have become less severe with a feeling that some consideration should be given the note when it arrives there. Premier Lloyd-George and the members of Cabinet are maintaining a strict silence until they have an opportunity to study the text of the note.

An entirely different reception was given the peace announcement in Paris as Premier Brainin in a speech to the Chamber of Deputies, which voted to sustain the activities of the new Cabinet, sounded a note of warning against taking the German proposal for what it appeared to be on its face.

In a stirring address, he referred to the conditions as they exist at present. However, in his words there seemed to be a sentiment reflected for consideration.

Announcement of the resignation of the Austrian Government in a Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam may be the forerunner of internal political dissension in Austria which would have an important bearing on the progress of a peace move.

Announcement comes from Washington that the President is seriously considering submission of a proposition to organize a league of nations to enforce peace in the event there is discussion of peace terms by the European Nations. A waiting attitude has been adopted by the Administration until the note arrives and the heads of the Entente Allies give some expression of their attitude.

BERLIN PRESS CAUTIOUS AGAINST TOO MUCH HOPE

Tenor of Opinions Shows Belief Prevails Allies Are Not Prepared to Act Hastily on Peace Plan.

Berlin, via London.—The Kreuz Zeitung expresses the fear that any peace which to the Entente Allies does not bear the aspect of defeat would prove a great danger for Germany and be only an armistice.

Die Post doubts the expediency of the peace offer, but says it is glad no neutral has been asked to mediate. The Taegliche Rundschau fears that the Entente Allies will draw out the negotiations by making impossible counter proposals, hoping to enlist pressure from "neutral America."

The Tages Zeitung says it wishes Doctor von Bethmann-Hollweg had emphasized more strongly the fact that Germany offered peace as a victor and that the peace terms must adequately reward Germany for the sacrifices she has made.

The Tageblatt surmises that Germany's peace terms will be reasonable, for "an offer of peace can mean nothing unless wise moderation accompanies the conciliatory act." The newspaper warns the people against having too optimistic expectations.

WILSON WILL SEND NO OFFER WITH NOTE

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ACTING AS INTERMEDIARY OFFERS NO MEDIATION.

IS ALWAYS READY TO SERVE

President is Holding Himself in Readiness to Serve in Any Way Possible to Bring Warring Nations Together.

Washington.—President Wilson has decided that the notes of the Central Powers proposing a discussion of peace to the Entente Allies will be sent forward by the American Government, acting as intermediary, without any accompanying mediation offer of its own. He has not determined whether any action in behalf of peace will be taken later by the United States on its own account, but is holding himself in readiness to serve in any way possible toward bringing the warring nations together.

The course to be pursued was made known after the President had conferred with Secretary Lansing, and after a prolonged Cabinet meeting. It was stated that the delay in forwarding the notes to the Entente capitals was due to the fact that messages received from Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey, identical in substance, differed slightly in phraseology as a result of different translations.

Since the first note arrived, the one from Germany, the President and his closest advisers have been absorbed in study of the situation. The Austrian note followed, and the one from Turkey came later. Those from Germany and Austria have been gone over carefully by the President and Secretary Lansing to make certain of their meaning, and so that they may be sure to represent properly the intent of the Central Powers.

ANTI-LIQUOR BILLS FLOOD TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS

Webb Sure Nation-Wide Prohibition Will Win at Next Session.

Washington.—Legislative measures aimed at destruction of the liquor traffic continue to accumulate in Congress as both houses are deluged with petitions from all parts of the country urging adoption of the national prohibition constitutional amendment and passage of other anti-liquor measures including the Sheppard bill to prohibit the manufacture and sale of liquor in the District of Columbia.

The House Postoffice Committee opened the door to another phase of the problem in reporting favorably a bill designed to close the mail absolutely to advertising of any intoxicating liquors and to deny mail to houses the right to go into either wet or dry territory to solicit sales through the medium of the mails.

No move was made by prohibition leaders in the House regarding the constitutional amendment reported from the judiciary committee, but Representative Webb, chairman of the committee, plans to ask the rules committee for a special rule to get the resolution before the House soon after the holidays.

CONFIDENT OF VICTORY, PEACE OFFER IS MADE.

London.—"Confident that we are completely the victors, I yesterday made a proposal to the enemy to discuss the question of further war or peace," said the German Emperor in addressing the troops in Alsace recently, according to a despatch published in The Cologne Gazette, says a Reuter's dispatch from Amsterdam.

"What will come of it, I do not yet know," the Emperor is reported to have continued. "It is a matter for the enemy now to decide if the fighting is still to go on. If the enemy still thinks he has not had enough, then I know you will"—here the Emperor, says the correspondent, made a "warlike" gesture, which "produced a fierce smile on the faces of all his men."

VILLA IS MAKING OVERTURES TO U. S.

El Paso, Texas.—Francisco Villa through representatives here, has made overtures to the United States and has promised to cease his depredations upon American property and discontinue killing Americans in Mexico. The report that representatives of Villa are working to have Villa spare Americans lives and property in return for assurances that his movements in Mexico would not be interfered with by the United States army

COLLEGE DEBATES TO BE IN RALEIGH

WAKE FOREST WILL CONTEST WITH RANDOLPH-MACON EASTER MONDAY.

THE QUERY AND SPEAKERS

Debate Council Announces Queries and Respective Sides For the Two Inter-Collegiate Debates.

Wake Forest.—The debate council of Wake Forest College has announced the queries and the respective sides for the two inter-collegiate debates which have been arranged for next year with Randolph-Macon College of Ashland, Va., and Baylor University of Waco, Texas.

The debate with Randolph-Macon College will be held in Raleigh Easter Monday night at the Academy of Music. Wake Forest will defend the negative side of the question, "Resolved, That our Federal Constitution should be so amended as to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors," while the Virginians will uphold the affirmative side of the question.

Baylor University will be debated in Waco, Texas, on April 2, 1917. The query selected is, "Resolved, That the United States Government should own and control all railroads in the United States, constitutionality waived." Baylor has chosen to speak on the negative side of the question, and Wake Forest will uphold the affirmative.

Of last year's six inter-collegiate debaters, E. B. Cox, I. L. Bennett, J. G. Boone, R. H. Taylor, B. M. Boyd and J. B. Rucker, only three are back in college, Messrs. Boyd, Rucker and Booe. In addition to these three debaters there are a number of other experienced speakers that will enter the preliminaries, among them being A. C. Reid, D. C. Hughes, H. E. Olive, I. E. Carlyle, J. B. Edwards, C. P. Herring, E. D. Banks.

\$220,992 Balance in Treasury.

Raleigh.—Affixing their signatures to their endorsements on the books of the state treasury as found in order and correct the legislative committee for the examination of the books and vouchers of the treasury and the state auditor made the following entry showing status of state financial affairs at the close of this fiscal year.

Balance general fund last year \$130,008; receipts to December 1 this year, \$4,970,878; total receipts \$5,100,887; disbursements \$4,879,965; balance December 1, \$220,922.

Board of education fund total receipts \$126,343; disbursements \$122,562; balance \$3,781. Grand total all funds in treasury \$224,628.

The committee report is signed by Chairman Laughinghouse of Pitt, Representative Greer of Iredell, Senator Thompson of Iredell, Representative Harry Stubbs and Senator Faircloth are absent.

Enclose Pisgah Forest Animals.

Asheville.—Officers of the American Steel Wire Company have notified Secretary George S. Powell of the Appalachian Park Association, that the wire donated for the fence to enclose the elk and bison park in Pisgah forest has been shipped and may be expected any day now. Forester Verne Rhodes states that the locust posts for stringing the wire are already in place, and experts will be sent with the shipment of wire to build the fence as soon as possible. This is another step in the movement to stock the Southern Appalachians with elk and buffalo. The Park Association, of which Gov. Locke Craig is president, has already secured the promise of a herd of elk and another buffalo will probably be placed in the park by February 1, at the latest.

The presence of a herd of elk and another buffalo in Pisgah forest, both of which will be located in sight of the road, is expected to enhance the value of the forest as an attraction for tourists, who will be able to watch both herds in practically their natural haunts.

Teachers Broke Attendance Record.

Raleigh.—Attendance records were broken by the recent session of the North Carolina Teachers' Assembly. A total of 1,023 registered or 53 more than that of the 1915 session, the biggest registration up to that time. The executive committee of the assembly is to be called by President A. T. Allen of Salisbury, to meet here early in January to take action as to the time and the place for the 1917 session. Indications are that the contest as to place will be between Charlotte and Raleigh.