WEATHER.
Increasing cloudiness Friday, followed by rain Friday night or Saturday.

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VIRTUALLY NO HOPE LEFT FOR AVOIDING BREAK WITH AUSTRIA

Unfavorable Reply to American Memorandum as to U-Boat Policy Expected Any Time.

CABINET WILL MEET TODAY

Arrangements for the President to Again Address Congress Expected to Follow.

NO NEW MOVE YESTERDAY

P. A. S. Franklin in Conference With Navy Officials.

Washington, Feb. 23. — No move was made here today in the crisis in relations between the United States and the Central powers. The indications still were that tomorrow's cabinet meeting would be followed by arrangements for the President to address Congress with a request for authority to deal with any emergency that may arise after adjournment.

Yesterday Was Uneventful.

There was no announcement of important dispatches received at the State Department during the day. The government is awaiting official confirmation of news dispatches telling of the release by Germany of the American prisoners of the Yarrowdale, a report from Ambassador Penfield at Vienna on Austria's attitude and definite information about Americans in Turkey.

There virtually is no hope here of a favorable reply to the memorandum recently presented to the Austrian foreign office asking whether the pledges concerning submarine warfare given the United States in the Ancona and Persia cases were still in effect. An answer that will make severance of diplomatic relations with Austria inevitable is expected at any time.

President Wilson had no conferences on the holiday. He attended a Washington's birthday celebration, pledged anew allegiance to the flag and listened to a speech by Senator Pomerene, of Ohio, who vigorously denounced Germany and American pacifists.

P. A. S. Franklin, president of the International Mercantile Marine, called at the Navy Department and talked with Secretary Daniels and Assistant Secretary Roosevelt. It is understood that they discussed the arming of American merchant ships, a question on which the government has not yet announced a decision.

BREAK IS INEVITABLE SAYS CORRESPONDENT AT BERLIN.

Berne, via Paris, Feb. 22.—Austria's reply to the United States defining her position in the war is known in Berlin, according to the Frankfurter Zeitung which predicts that a breach of relations between Washington and Vienna is inevitable. The paper's Berlin correspondent says:

"The memorandum which President Wilson has sent to the Vienna government leaves no doubt that the breach of relations between the United States and Germany soon will be followed by a breach with Austria-Hungary. President Wilson wishes to be clearly told whether the Austro-Hungarian government has withdrawn its earlier declaration regarding the conduct of submarine warfare. Really one ought to think the explanation given by Austria-Hungary at the beginning of the unrestricted submarine warfare to the effect that from February 1 all ocean traffic in the blockaded zones will be prevented by all means, should not be capable of misconception, but in his dealings with the Central Powers President Wilson is always painfully exact.

"It is true that we have not heard that he ever sent cautions, let alone warnings, to the Entente for torpedoing Austrian or German ships without warning, but when Germany or Austria do the same thing President Wilson raises his voice in the name of humanity and civilization. The Austro-Hungarian government will answer President Wilson's memorandum and what this answer will be is known."

DR. TAYLOE, OF WASHINGTON, N. C., ELECTED PRESIDENT.

Officers Chosen at Final Session of Tri-State Medical Association.

Durham, N. C., Feb. 22.—The Tri-State Medical Association, representing Virginia and the Carolinas, concluded its annual meeting here today and adjourned to meet in Spartanburg, S. C., in 1918.

Dr. David T. Tayloe, of Washington, N. C., was elected president to succeed Dr. J. Allison Hodges, of Richmond, and Rofleed Hughes, of Laurens, S. C., was re-elected secretary-treasurer. The vice presidents are A. G. Brenizer, Charlotte, N. C.; K. C. Hall, Richmond, and J. P. Young, Anderson, S. C. A. L. Gray, of Richmond, and E. G. Moore, of Elm City, N. C., were elected to the executive council, and William W. Fennell, of Rock Hill, S. C., was re-elected.

Dr. William H. Bainbridge, of New York, gave an illustrated lecture on cancer, which he said was becoming more prevalent in the United States.

Would Have Churches Repent for America's "Share" in the War

Chicago, Feb. 22.—A call on all churches of all denominations to make Sunday, February 25, a day of repentence and prayer, to supplicate God to avert war by the United States, was issued today by the executive committee of the Association of German-American Pastors.

The call sets forth that the United States is responsible for the prolongation of the war through having furnished weapons to belligerents.

The prayer programme suggested by the call is:

"Firstly, to repent for America's share in the blood-guiltiness of war, and, second, to call upon God in earnest supplication to hinder and destroy all evil counsel and base machinations, which are at work to plunge our nation into the European world war; and that He graciously endow our government and our President with wisdom and a firm determination to lead our nation through these perilous days and to preserve to our people the blessings of peace."

FIGHT EXPECTED SOON IN CAMAGUEY PROVINCE

Cuban Government Troops Believed Concentrated There.

Several Small Encounters Reported — Gomez, Rebel Leader, is Said to Desire Giving Up Campaign and Fleeing.

Havana, Feb. 22. — With the government troops believed to be concentrated in Camaguey province, the Cuban public is expectantly awaiting the announcement that a battle between them and the rebels under Ex-President Gomez for Camaguey, the capital city of the province, is on.

The strength of the opposing forces is not known. The government has been sending all available troops and new militia units to unknown destinations, supposedly to Camaguey. Gomez's strength is variously stated as between 1,500 and 5,000 men.

Several small encounters were reported today, in which one or two men were killed, and horses and arms captured, but nothing in the way of a real battle occurred, so far as known here.

Newspapers here are printing stories to the effect that Ex-President Jose Miguel Gomez, leader of the rebels, and his next in command, Ex-Colonel Quinones, have quarreled because Gomez wished to abandon his followers as soon as he reaches the coast, and flee the country.

Information has been received here that the commander of the American gunboat Petrel, lying off Santiago harbor, forced the rebel commander at Santiago, Rigoberto Fernandez, to set free Francisco Diaz Quibus, second officer of a Cuban gunboat, and three marines whom he was holding prisoner.

Honoring the memory of George Washington on this his birthday anniversay, the American supply ship Dixie, in port here, fired a 21-gun salute, which was followed by a salute from the guns of Fort Cabanas. All Cuban war vessels and American ships in the harbor were decorated.

Charges of sedition and rebellion were filed today against General Ernesto Asbert, former governor of Havana province, who with a number of officers of the national police, was taken into custody about a week ago.

FEARS JAPANESE PEOPLE WILL GET BEYOND CONTROL

Dr. Iyenaga Warns Against Further "Pin-Pricking" by United States.

New York, Feb. 22. — Dr. Toyokhchi Iyenaga, one of the most widely known Japanese in the United States, in an address on the relations between Japan and this country at a dinner of the World's Court League tonight, asserted that the people of Japan may get beyond the restraint of their government should further anti-Japanese legislation be enacted here.

"It is reported," he said, "that one of the states of the Union is contemplating enacting the same kind of law which once strained the Japanese-American relations. If this kind of pin-pricking is often repeated, I fear the time may come when Japanese rulers cannot restrain the people and Japan, you know, is becoming more and more democratic and the power of the people is daily increasing.

"The Japanese residing in this country number about 80,000, of which a good percentage is made up of transient travelers and business men. This forms but an insignificant part in the population of 110,000,000. To find the way of handling this small portion of population ought not to be a hard job to Uncle Sam."

Gives the Vote to Women.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 22.—The women's suffrage bill passed in the lower branch of the Indiana legislature late today and now goes to Governor Goodrich. The bill gives women the right to vote for presidential electors and practically all state officers except governor and secretary of state.

MUCH DAMAGE IS DONE WHEN WOMEN START FOOD RIOT

Parade Philadelphia Streets, Upsetting Food Displays and Overturning Push Carts.

KEROSENE POURED ON FISH

In New York Women Shoppers Were Severely Beaten by Members of Own Sex.

Philadelphia, Feb. 22.—Shouting protests against high food prices, thousands of women in the southern section of this city, where the residents are largely of foreign birth, today paraded in unorganized fashion, upsetting food displays and overturning push carts. Stores were entered and damaged in some instances.

A crowd of women rushed a fish store and upset a tank of live carps. Kerosene was poured on other fish and the store fixtures were badly damaged. The police forced back the crowd and arrested three women.

Similar scenes were repeated in the northeastern part of city, also inhabited largely by foreigners, and scores of push cart venders lost their wares. Many grocers and butchers closed their shops. During an attack downtown on several teams loaded with food supplies, a boy was hit in the face with a milk bottle and severely injured.

A committee of Kensington housewives at a meeting tonight decided to appeal to Mayor Smith to intervene in an effort to lower food prices, while the leaders of the downtown boycott said that if the situation did not improve they would request the aid of Governor Brumbaugh. Prices, they declared, were higher today than yesterday.

VIOLENT METHODS CONTINUED BY THE WOMEN OF NEW YORK

New York, Feb. 22.—The presence of inspectors compiling a report on food prices for Mayor Mitchell today seemed to have no deterrent effect on housewives of the East Side who have proclaimed a boycott against high-priced eatables. In many instances women shoppers were severely beaten by members of their own sex, and arrests were made in various parts of the city.

A National board of food control, with powers to regulate farm labor conditions and the distribution of products by the railroads, was urged tonight in a statement by Joseph Hartigan, commissioner of the city's bureau of weights and measures, as a means of relieving the present situation and reducing prices. The commissioner said he did not believe an embargo on foodstuffs to foreign countries, or a commission invested with power to fix prices, would solve the problem.

With respect to the situation in the more congested tenement districts, Commissioner Hartigan said financial action by a small group of public spirited citizens could speedily bring relief. He added that he knew where large quantities of potatoes and onions could be purchased cheaply and sold here at cost.

About 500 carloads of foodstuffs, consisting mainly of meat, poultry and potatoes, were reported to be due here tonight.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS NOT CONNECTED WITH 'LEAK'

Vindication Unanimously Voted by the Rules Committee.

Is Understood Lawson's Sensational Statements Were Found Unsubstantiated and That Bolling Was Cleared of Any Blame.

Washington, Feb. 22.—Vindication of all public officials whose names were brought into the investigation of charges that there was a leak to Wall Street on President Wilson's peace note was voted unanimously today by the House rules committee. The report, now virtually complete, probably will be put in final shape Saturday after certain additional records of New York brokers have been examined.

It is understood the committee finds that Thomas W. Lawson's sensational charges were not substantiated; that R. W. Bolling, brother-in-law of the President, had nothing to do with a "leak" and that advance information concerning the note was furnished to brokers by J. Fred Essary and W. W. Price, local newspaper men, who connected deduction with facts obtained in conversations with other reporters who had been told in confidence by Secretary Lansing that a note was coming.

In connection with violations of newspaper ethics, the report says a subcommittee has been appointed to confer with the standing committee of

(Continued on Page Two)

ACUTE STAGE NOW BELIEVED PASSED IN CAR SHORTAGE

Fair Weather and Holiday Combined Enable the Sending of Many Empties Westward.

TIE-UP WORSE LAST YEAR

At No Point is There Actual Shortage of Food and Fuel Needed for Domestic Use.

Washington, Feb. 22.—Many empties rolled west at passenger train speed today from congested railroad yards of the East, according to Interstate Commerce Commission advices from its field force of investigators. Fair weather and a holiday combined gave the roads the first real opportunity in more than a week to exert their maximum energies to relieve the car shortage that has threatened near famine in some sections of the country.

Officials of both the railroads and the Commission expressed the conviction tonight that the acute stage of the shortage had passed and that steady improvement in the situation would continue. At no time, it was said, had conditions reached the acuteness of the tie-up a year ago.

At the same time, the number of cars involved in the tie-up, according to reports to the commission from virtually every road in the country, increased by more than one-third in the two weeks between January 27 and February 10 and on the latter date reached the grand total of 165,274.

The car service commission of the American Railway Association was today unable to say what steps had been taken to relieve the shortage of gas coal which threatens a "possible interruption" of service for light, heat and power companies in 18 towns and cities in six Middle Western states. It was assumed, however, that coal would be rushed to the points most needed.

The situation at Chicago, while causing some concern to government and railroad officials, was not regarded here as desperate. It was said that while relief was being afforded to Chicago as rapidly as possible, the needs of other communities could not be overlooked.

Statements that Chicago had been getting only four or five cars a day for the shipment of wheat for domestic use were met at the commission with the assertion that the records show that Chicago had been receiving approximately 200 cars a day and that about one-half of them were used to export wheat. The movement of export wheat east could bring no relief to sufferers from soaring prices in eastern cities, it was said.

It was said both at the Interstate Commerce Commission and the car service commission that there was nowhere in the country at the present time an actual shortage of food or fuel needed for domestic consumption. Every city in the East, so far as known, has plenty of food for immediate requirements and rising prices could not be justly attributed to shortage.

The 165,274 cars involved in the general tie-up are distributed in every section of the country and include all classes, loaded and empty, which, for reasons due to congestion, are tempo-

(Continued on Page Two)

U-BOAT WEAPON WILL NOT BE RESTRICTED

Dr. Kaempf Says it Will be Employed Until Peace is Attained.

President of the Chamber Opens the Reichstag With Address—German Policy Defended in the Hungarian Chamber.

London, Feb. 22.—Telegraphing from Amsterdam Reuter's correspondent says the German Reichstag opened today with a speech by the president of the chamber, Dr. Johannes Kaempf. In his address Dr. Kaempf declared that Germany and her allies now were taking refuge in a weapon "which would be employed without restriction until our aim in the war, namely, the defense of the independence and freedom of our countries, is attained."

HUNGARIAN PREMIER WARMLY DEFENDS THE GERMAN POLICY

London, Feb. 22.—Replying in the chamber at Budapest to attacks by a member of the Karolyi party on the German policy of colonial expansion, Count Tisza, the Hungarian premier, warmly defended the German policy. He declared, says a dispatch from Budapest received by Reuter's, that since 1871 Germany had pursued a policy of peaceful economic expansion, and reiterated that war had been forced on the central powers by France and Russia.

"We intend to wage the war," said

(Continued on Page Two)

ALLIES WILL NOT RESTORE TO GERMANY HER COLONIES THAT HAVE BEEN CAPTURED

Representatives of Great Britain, Japan, New Zealand and Australia Almost Simultaneously Announce Intention of Retaining the Conquered Territory Permanently—Lloyd-George Reverses Asquith Government's Policy.

(Correspondence of Associated Press.)

London, Feb. 10.—The death knell to Germany's colonial possessions has been sounded, so far as the Entente Allies can effect that result, by the almost simultaneous announcement of the British minister of colonies, Mr. Long; the Japanese minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Montono, and the prime minister of New Zealand, Mr. Massey, who voiced the view of Australia as well as New Zealand. Together these statements declare there will be no return to Germany of her colonies in Africa, Asia or the Pacific.

This attitude is not only held by Japan and the British colonies chiefly concerned, but it has the backing of the British and French governments, which have the largest interest in colonial Africa and Asia. It develops the fact also that the late Asquith government was opposed to any extension of British colonial possessions in Africa, whereas the new Lloyd-George government approves this extension as in line with the aspirations of the British colonies in Africa. This in turn has established that there will be a general re-shifting of African colonies, so that the possessions of England, France, Portugal and Belgium will be made more homogenous, instead of being as at present, scattered and irregular in outline.

Japan's attitude towards holding the German colony of Kiao Chau in China and the Pacific islands, occupied by the Japanese fleet, came up when the French draft of the reply to President Wilson was being cabled to the various Entente governments for approval. Japan approved the terms as far as stated, on Serbia, Belgium and in other respects, but pointed out that the terms omitted any reference to the German colonies of Kiao Chau and the Pacific islands in which Japan had established an interest.

France and England thereupon replied to Japan that it had been deemed desirable, in answering Mr. Wilson's request for terms, not to make these terms embrace everything which might come up later, but to confine them for the present to the readjustment of territory in Europe. Later on, it was pointed out, the future of German territorial possessions outside of Europe would be considered, so that Japan's rights would be properly safeguarded and secured for future determination. This was satisfactory to Japan, which then gave its approval to the joint reply to Mr. Wilson, stating the Allies' main terms.

The Japanese embassy here has given Japan's understanding of the arrangement, as stated by Foreign Minister Montono. He said:

"The absence of any allusion to the future disposal o fthe German colonies has justly attracted the attention of

(Continued on Page Ten).

ASKS MORE TIME FOR WHISKEY MEN

Representative Moon Proposes a Postponement of Effective Date of "Bone Dry" Law.

UNTIL FIRST OF OCTOBER

Would Give the Dealers "Reasonable Time" to Dispose of or Remove Stocks from States Affected—Measure to be Pushed.

Washington, Feb. 22. — Postponement of the effective date of the "bone dry" prohibition amendment to the postoffice bill adopted yesterday, until October 1, 1917, is proposed in a concurrent resolution introduced late today by Representative Moon, of Tennessee, chairman of the postoffice committee. Mr. Moon announced he would press it through as soon as the postoffice bill itself is finally disposed of.

During debate on the amendment in the House there were urgent appeals on behalf of liquor dealers who ship into dry territory that they be given time to dispose of stock and readjust their business. Prohibition leaders turned deaf ears then, fearing that any change in the provision as it passed the Senate might mean its defeat, but many of them are disposed to vote for a postponement once the bill has been sent to the President for his signature.

The preamble of Chairman Moon's resolution says:

"The states which have passed laws prohibiting the manufacture and sale of liquors and the storing of the same within their borders have recognized the fact that such business had heretofore been legal and have, in view of this, by their enactments, given to dealers a reasonable time within which to dispose of their stocks or remove the same from the state before the becoming effectiveness of such laws. The course followed in this respect is clearly right and just and it would be a manifest injustice and would work a great hardship for the Federal government to deprive these parties of the rights guaranteed by the states, by immdiate denial of interstate commerce for the shipment of such liquors, which effect will, in its present aspect, automatically follow the enactment of the prohibition amendment."

Differences between the House and Senate on other fatures of the bill will be taken up in conference tomorrow.

The House rules committee agreed today to consider tomorrow a special rule to bring up in the House and Senate a bill fo rprohibition in the District of Columbia. The committee will first have a hearing and then an executive session to determine its action. It is said to stand 8 to 3 in favor of the rule.

Representative Gallivan, of Massachusetts, introduced today a bill for a prohibition referendum to the people of the district. It is identical with the Underwood amendment rejected by the Senate.

Seventy-Seven Men Arrested.

Evansville, Ind., Feb. 22. — Seventy-seven men were arrested here today by United States marshals on indictments returned by the Federal grand jury at Indianapolis, which investigated alleged election frauds in Indiana. Among those arrested were city and county officials and a number of negroes.

SEEK TO RELIEVE ROADS OF BLAME

Figures Show That Congestion is Due Largely to Decreased Sailings of Steamers.

FOOD SITUATION BRIGHTER

Railway Association Claims That With Better Weather in the West There Has Been Improvement in Distribution.

New York, Feb. 22.—The effect on the export trade from Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York of Germany's proclamation of unrestricted submarine warfare is revealed in figures made public here today by the American Railway Association on behalf of its car service commission, which is co-operating with the Interstate Commerce Commission in efforts to relieve the car shortage situation.

The statistics show that from February 1 to 14 the grain delivered to vessels at the four ports amounted approximately to only 8,000,000 bushels. This compares with 29,000,000 bushels throughout January, and 58,000,000 throughout December. The deliveries have been regulated, the association says, to correspond as far as possible to the reduction of cargo space caused by the U-boat campaign.

The statistics show further that permits were issued between February 1 and 14 for transportation of 7,000,000 bushels to seaboard to fill future cargo space promised. This compares with 25,000,000 moved on the permit basis throughout January and 45,500,000 throughout December.

Stored at the terminals in the four ports were 12,500,000 bushels during the first half month of U-boat activity, as compared with accumulation of 16,500,000 in January and 47,400,000 in December.

A decrease in carload movements of all other export freight in about the same proportions also is shown.

The purpose of the figures, it is understood, is to show that the decreased number of sailings from Eastern ports was responsible, as well as the severe Western weather, for inland congestion of shipments.

It was claimed on behalf of the roads that the general situation as regards food movement was brighter today than during recent weeks owing partly to more favorable weather, but due also to new car service rules which went into effect on Wednesday. It was announced that virtually all the large roads in the country had signed an agreement to return cars at once direct to the roads owning them.

NINE VESSELS YESTERDAY WERE REPORTED AS SUNK

Aggregate Tonnage of Over 21,000—Three of Them Neutral

Washington, Feb. 22.—The latest reports from London and Paris show that nine more vessels of an aggregate tonnage of more than 21,000 have been sent to the bottom by submarines or mines. The vessels sunk were four British steamers and a trawler, one Russian, one Swedish, one Dutch and one Norwegian steamer. The Swedish steamer had several Americans on board. All of them and the remainder of the crew were rescued.

VERY FEW CHANGES MADE BY SENATE IN THE REVENUE BILL

Contending Fisheries Interests to "Fight it Out" on Floor of House Tomorrow.

HOUSE PASSES CONVICT BILL

Grant Gets Proposal to Make Mercy Recommendations Mandatory on Judges Revived.

(By W. J. MARTIN).

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 22.—The Senate spent from 8 to 10:30 o'clock tonight in committee of the whole on the revenue bill as it came from the House. Very few changes were made, and when the committee arose and the Senate resumed the bill passed second roll call reading. Section 28 had been adjusted so the counties lost a special tax on moving pictures and vaudeville shows. This was voted into the bill on motion of Senator Thompson.

The Senate considered briefly the Justice bill for machinery for local school legislation, including the calling of special tax elections on petition of one-third of the freeholders. The bill was generally acceptable but went over for minor amendments.

PROHIBITION COMMISSIONER BILL KILLED BY COMMITTEE.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 22.—The House committee on liquor traffic voted almost unanimously tonight to report unfavorably the bill to create the office of State commissioner for enforcement of the prohibition law. Members of the committee were very much at sea as to just what the Federal situation really is.

Some, including Speaker Murphy, believed the new Federal law will prevent even bringing a quart or other package into the State in one's suit case or grip, its "transportation" in any way being prohibited in states where manufacture and sale are prohibited.

New Bills "Proposed."

Speaker Murphy proposed that the committee offer a bill to make it a felony to distill liquor and Representative Grant, of New Hanover, wanted to add that it be a felony to have a quart in one's possession. Several members of the committee indicated to the chairman that they would vote to report a "felony" bill favorably to apply to blockaders. Altogether the committee and legislators are very much at sea as to just what should be done, many claiming that the Federal government has now done all that needs to be done beyond enforcement of laws.

City Government Bill.

The committee having under consideration the Brenizer bill and others for the government of cities and towns gave a lengthy hearing this afternoon on Section 3, as to extension of corporate limits, there having been numbers of people here to oppose the feature that would have annexations of outlying territory be by majority of the combined vote of the municipality and the outlying territory involved. Insistence is that it will force suburbs over their opposition and work harm to all concerned. James H. Pou, Bernard Cone, of Proximity Mills; W. A. Erwin, Durham; R. R. King, Greensboro; A. W. McLean, Lumberton, and others, opposed the section, as especially unjust to cotton mill settlements.

Heriot Clarkson, Charlotte; C. C. Taylor, Greensboro, and others advocated and defended the section as drawn. The whole matter was left open for a later meeting.

STATE FISHERIES BILL CENTER OF FIGHT IN HOUSE SATURDAY

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 22.—The House has set the State fisheries bill by Grant, of Onslow, as a special order for Saturday morning, when the contending fisheries interests will fight out their differences on the floor. The bill contemplates the sweeping aside of the present Fish Commission and the creation of a new commission to be composed only of members proposed by the representatives of those counties having fishing interests as men acquainted with the fisheries problems.

Opposition to this bill advocate only minor amendments to the present fish laws and the retention of the Fish Commission as at present constituted or rather a commission selected by the Governor without reference to whether they are experienced in fishing interests or reside in the fishing counties.

The House passed today the Pharr bill to regulate the serving of time on the roads by convicts for abandonment and failure to provide for families, with an amendment by Pharr to permit support without residing with the wife where incompatibility is shown. The bill was opposed without this amendment because it required return to families within five days. Some representatives thought there might be cases where the man just could not endure life with the wife and mother.

What Bill Provides.

The bill that passed the House today for the relief of dependent families of State convicts provides that 10 per cent of the earnings of the convicts shall be turned over to dependents. It was amended by Representative Darden to apply only to convicts making good prison records. The bill was by Sawyer, of Graham.

Representative Grant, of New Hanover, has succeeded in getting his amendment to the Hoyle bill, for jury recommendations of mercy in cases where prisoners are convicted of offens-

(Continued on Page Ten).