

FILIBUSTER BROKEN AT MIDNIGHT; DEMOCRATS NOT TO TAKE VOTE ON REVENUE BILL UNTIL WEDNESDAY

TRUCE FOLLOWS BITTERLY FOUGHT SENATE STRUGGLE

Majority Faced Republican Attempt To Break Down Administration Program... CHARGE YIELDING TO MUNITION MAKERS

Row Breaks Into Flames When Fall Introduces Bill To Authorize President To Use Armed Forces; Republicans Claim President Does Not Want Congress' Assistance

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 24.—One of the most spectacular filibusters the capitol has seen in years kept the Senate in session until midnight tonight and was broken down only when the Republican leaders yielded to the Democratic leaders' pledge that a vote on the revenue bill would not be taken until next Wednesday.

The Democrats facing what they declared was a Republican attempt to break down the administration program and force an extra session of Congress after March 4 had threatened to keep the Senate in continuous session over Sunday if that was found necessary to secure passage of the revenue measure.

During the afternoon and evening the debate went far afield from revenues and hot exchanges between the Democrats and Republicans led into a dramatic discussion of the international situation and of President Wilson's policy in the war.

For a time it seemed certain that the parliamentary struggle would prolong the session at least well into Sunday, but late at night some of the leaders on the Republican side let it be known that they did not favor carrying the fight to the extent of embarrassing the country by killing the revenue bill and thus weakening its preparation for defense of the nation.

The Democrats accepted, believing this would give them a chance to save enough of their legislative program to avert an extra session.

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DEMOCRATS READY FOR LONG CONTEST

Simmons Gives Warning Majority Will Stay By Bill To The Limit... DECISION FOLLOWS POLL

Accepts Challenge of Republicans and Undertakes To Break Up Filibuster; Points Out Pressing Need For Passage of Revenue Measure. Republicans Stubborn

(News and Observer Bureau, 406 District National Bank Building. By H. E. C. BRYANT. (Special Leased Wire.) Washington, Feb. 24.—Senator Simmons, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, announced today when he called up the revenue bill that the Democrats were ready to stay in continuous session until the measure is passed.

"I wish to give notice," said Senator Simmons, "speaking not for myself alone, nor for the Finance Committee, but for the majority represented in this body, that after a poll we have decided if we can do it that this session of today shall continue, if we have the strength, until there is a final vote on this bill."

In that statement Senator Simmons accepted the challenge of the Republicans and began the fight to break down their filibuster.

Democratic leaders of the Senate were informed today that the purpose of the revenue measure was to carry out an order from Wall Street bankers and large munition manufacturers to kill the excess profits tax.

Senator Simmons did not succeed in getting his bill before the Senate until late this afternoon. After the conference report from the legislative committee had been passed, Senator Simmons had to fight for five hours on that legislation.

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WILLIAMS SCORES G. O. P. LEADERS

Brilliant Mississippi Senator Denounces Republican Filibuster... SAYS IT WAS PLANNED

"You Have Received Orders From Ammunition Manufacturers To Defeat This Bill," He Boldly Charges. Munition Men Large Contributors, He Asserts

(News and Observer Bureau, 406 Dia. Nat. Bank Bldg. By H. E. C. BRYANT. (Special Leased Wire.) Washington, Feb. 24.—In a brilliant defense of the administration today, Senator John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, denounced the Republican leaders for their filibuster on the revenue bill.

"The papers this morning stated that there was a filibuster on by the Republicans to prevent the passage of the revenue bill," said Senator John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, after Senator Miles Poindexter, of Washington, had finished a five-hour speech.

"You have received orders from the ammunition manufacturers of the United States to defeat this bill, which carries an excess profits tax. They are large contributors to the Republican party and you are members of that party."

"I raise the point of order," said Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts. "I don't think the Senator has a right to charge corrupt motives against members of the Senate."

"Very Much Like Filibuster" "I was charging the Republican party," Senator Williams said. "If you are not engaged in filibustering against the business of the Senate," Mr. Williams continued, "I don't know what you are engaged in. We have just heard a lot of denigratory remarks about nothing in particular. We remember the old story that Nero fiddled while Rome burned."

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HOUSE CONSIDERS A LARGE NUMBER IMPORTANT BILLS

Prohibition, Child Labor, Judicial Districts and Education All Have Inning... THE BREECE NURSE RELIEF BILL PASSES

Another Prison Reform Measure Introduced by Mr. Beasley and The Roberts' Initiative and Referendum Bill Gets Before The House. Municipal Finance Bill

(By The Associated Press.) The Hague, Feb. 24.—Consternation was caused here by the announcement of the torpedoing and sinking by German submarines of seven Dutch cargo vessels, two of which, the Noorderdijk and the Jaacatra, grain laden and bound for a home port belonged to the Holland-American Line.

The bill of Representative Breece, of Cumberland, drafted after an exhaustive study of hospital conditions in the State, yesterday came up for consideration and passed the House on third reading. It had no opposition, but Chesterfield tactics alone made this possible.

The bill of Representative Grier to shorten the hours of women employed by mercantile establishments and to make it unlawful for boys under 14 years of age to be employed more than eight hours a day, received a favorable report from the committee and was calendared.

Representative Stubbs yesterday introduced a new bill to create two judicial districts in the State embodying the substance of his amendment that failed to get before the House Friday. It would carry practically the same provisions as the Doughton bill introduced Friday, but for the creation of emergency districts, one for the eastern and one for the western part of the State.

Mr. Beasley, who started the investigation of prison conditions at the State Farm, yesterday offered his fourth bill looking to a betterment of prison treatment of convicts. This time his measure seeks to abolish corporal punishment. It is modeled after laws that have been enacted in other states and embodies some of the recommendations of the Social Service Commission.

The House yesterday passed on final reading a bill that has been pending for some time, affecting only Franklin County, but introduced to repeal a local act passed during the rush moments at the beginning of the session, that would give to Franklin County a distinct system of assessing property and collecting taxes. Governor Doughton and Representative Page strongly supported the repeal bill.

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HOLLAND AGHAST AT RUTHLESS ASSAULTS ON 7 CARGO VESSELS

Consternation at The Hague Caused By Announcement of Torpedoing Ships... CLAIM PERMISSION WAS GIVEN TO SAIL

Declare Germany Agreed That No Dutch Ships En Route To or From Dutch Ports Should Be Victims of New Policy; Widespread Indignation Throughout Holland

(By The Associated Press.) The Hague, Feb. 24.—Consternation was caused here by the announcement of the torpedoing and sinking by German submarines of seven Dutch cargo vessels, two of which, the Noorderdijk and the Jaacatra, grain laden and bound for a home port belonged to the Holland-American Line.

Two others the Eemland and the Gaasterland were en route for the United States for grain while the Jaacatra was grain laden. The Bandong was coming from the Dutch East Indies with a cargo of piece goods. All the vessels left Feb. 22. (Probably Falmouth) February 22, it having been given to understand by the German authorities that that date would be "relatively safe" for the so-called safe period for neutral ships sailing from British ports which originally expired February 8 having been extended at the request of the Dutch government.

The ships sunk aggregated more than 40,000 tons. The foreign ministry today made the following announcement: "When unrestricted submarine warfare was proclaimed the Netherlands government not only protested against it but insisted that the German government should take care that no Dutch ships then en route to or from Dutch ports should be victims of the new measure. Germany declared her willingness to do this, but added that it was impossible to guarantee absolute safety."

The statement says further the seven ships which have been torpedoed avoided themselves a German offer to sail on February 22. They were to sail together on a westerly course out of the danger zone and then proceed to their destinations. The report also mentions the dispatch received from the Dutch minister in London announcing the disaster, which adds that the ships were torpedoed without examination of their papers. The communication ends with the statement that it is believed that all the crews were saved.

Crews Landed. London, Feb. 24.—Lloyds announced the following crews were landed yesterday, the vessels having been torpedoed on Thursday: Noorderdijk, Dutch, 4,189 tons gross. Eemland, Dutch, 3,770 tons gross. Jaacatra, Dutch, 5,373 tons gross. Bandong, Dutch, 5,874 tons gross. Gaasterland, Dutch, 5,851 tons. Eemland, Dutch, 2,447 tons. It is believed all of the men on these vessels were saved.

Late today it was announced that of the seven Dutch steamers torpedoed only three were sunk while the other four were severely damaged but remained afloat. Those sunk were the Gaasterland, Jaacatra, and the Noorderdijk.

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EVENTS MULTIPLY TENDING TO BRING CRISIS TO A HEAD

No Evidence of Change in President's Plans, But Eventualities Seem Nearer... NEUTRAL INTERESTS BEING DISREGARDED

This Fact Emphasized By Ruthless Onslaught On Dutch Shipping; Not Much Anxiety Over Fall Resolution Which Will Be Replaced By Another

(By The Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 24.—President Wilson's plan for meeting the crisis with Germany gave no outward evidence of change today but there were several developments which appeared to be hastening eventualities.

Another apparent violation of international law was added to the list accumulating from Germany's submarine campaign which officials believe sooner or later is virtually certain to make necessary further steps by the United States. The onslaught of Dutch shipping reported Saturday had the effect of strengthening the conviction in official quarters that neutral interests are to be ruthlessly disregarded under the new German policy.

In the Senate discussion of the international crisis broke out afresh and a Republican attack on the administration's failure to take more aggressive measures was followed by the introduction of a resolution by Senator Fall, a Republican, authorizing the President to use the armed forces of the nation to protect American rights against the German sea menace.

The Republican attack came in the midst of a filibuster which Democrats believe in itself is an effort to force an extra session of Congress so that the Senate will be sitting at the capitol and can demand a part in whatever action President Wilson may decide to take after March 4. The Republican Senators are said to feel that the President is anxious to have Congress off his hands.

Although three submarine disasters, in which three American seamen were involved, were reported to the State Department today, only one seemed on first information to constitute an invasion of American rights. American Consul reported that the Norwegian steamer Skrim and the Norwegian bark Blehems, each with an American seaman aboard, had been destroyed, but that in each instance provision had been made for the safety of the crews. A dispatch from Consul Osborne at Havre, however, said the Norwegian steamer Alice had been attacked and shelled without warning, and that Theodore John, an American negro, was among the survivors.

Complete information on the Alice case had not been received tonight, and for the present it takes its place with several others which the State Department is preparing evidence. President Wilson is said to be particularly anxious that any request that he may make for further authority have behind it incontrovertible proof that such authority is needed to protect American rights.

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REVENUE ACT PUT THROUGH ITS THIRD READING BY SENATE

Provision For Tax On Moving Picture Shows Remains The Same... STEP TO REPEAL LAND GRANT ACT OF 1915

The Senate at its session yesterday got rid of the revenue act. It now goes back to the House for concurrence in a few amendments made by the upper body. The counties and cities are allowed to tax moving picture shows as well as the State. The sub-committee had eliminated the county tax, but this was put back on amendment offered by Senator Thompson when the matter was considered by the Senate as a committee of the whole on Thursday night, thus allowing the session to remain the same as in the last revenue act.

The bill to repeal chapter 340 of the public laws of 1915, an act validating certain land grants when it came up for consideration opened up a bit of history. Senator Jones read a letter from an attorney of Asheville who does considerable abstracting of titles in which he said that he thought that the law should not be repealed.

Senator Person, then armed with information and law books, gave some interesting information to the Senate and declared the bill passed in 1915, which it was proposed to repeal, was a "sneak" bill rushed through the legislature on the day before it adjourned and by a man who sought to be the beneficiary of the act. He then explained that back in the 60's a man by the name of Hubbard secured some land grants which were not properly signed or issued and that this descendant of his was now in the legislature got this act through to validate these worthless grants. He declared that the bill before the Senate for the repeal of the 1915 act should be passed.

Senator Linn followed along the same line and related what witnesses had told the committee about the matter. Following the act of two years ago he said that certain speculators had gone over the territory embraced in these grants and had bought up the land for a few cents an acre for the purpose of disposing of the purchasers. The committee he said had reported the bill favorably because the act of 1915 smacked of fraud and would if allowed to stand work a great injury to people in Clay and Jackson counties.

Senator Jones said that he knew nothing about the situation referred to and that he did not wish to be a party to a fraud, neither did Mr. Adams, the attorney to whom he wrote, and whose reply he had read.

Senator Cramer said that without endorsing all the vigorous language of the Senator from Person he thought that the bill should pass.

The bill then passed second and third reading.

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