

ARE YOU FOR A "GREATER RALEIGH?" THEN ATTEND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE HEARING TONIGHT AT 7:30 AT THE COURT HOUSE

The News and Observer

WEATHER
Fair Monday, somewhat colder in central and east portions; Tuesday fair.

Best Advertising Medium in North Carolina

VOL. CIX. NO. 55.

RALEIGH, N. C., MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 24, 1919.

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

WILSON SPENDS NIGHT ON SHIP IN BOSTON BAY

President And Party To Come Ashore Some Time Before Noon

CEREMONIES TO BE BRIEF; SPEECH BY PRESIDENT

Whole Party Will Leave For Washington by Special Train At 4:30 This Afternoon; President Still Plans To Return To France, Sailing About March 5

President Wilson arrived in Boston Harbor all the Presidential party remaining aboard. Tomorrow some time before noon the President and those accompanying him from the Paris peace conference, will come ashore for brief ceremonies of welcome and a short speech by the President in Mechanics Hall. The whole party will leave for Washington by special train at 4:30 in the afternoon, arriving Tuesday morning. The President still plans to return to France on the George Washington, sailing from Hoboken about March 5 unless something unforeseen occurs. The condition of the French Premier, Mr. Clemenceau, may prove to be a large factor. The possibility of a change in the French government should the Premier not respond to treatment for his wound, and the further possibility of a delay in the peace conference or even a change in the delegation of France, complicates the situation.

Although the President held several conferences during the return voyage he did not give any expression on the work of prospects of the peace conference further than to indicate he feels a certain justification of his position in insisting that the making of peace and the creation of a league of nations are inseparable propositions, not to be dissociated.

Has Confidence In Plan.
Mr. Wilson has told friends and advisors that with the draft of the league constitution on the table before the conference he considers the first great step an accomplished fact and he is not disturbed by the possibility that it undoubtedly will be worked over, changed in many respects, and probably in the end be quite a different document. Despite all this the President is known to feel that in the end the underlying principles he has proposed will be accepted in the conference. The ratification of the document in other countries, and in the United States the President considers as another step to be dealt with the league of nations plan is perfected.

While he has been following keenly the opposition and adverse criticism of the plan in Congress, the President told Representatives Helvering, Norton and White, who made the return trip with him, that he was sure he could convince Congress leaders that there were no fundamental objections.

After an explanation of the plan at some length to the three Congressmen, they expressed the opinion that the President could gain much support for his plan by close conferences with a few leaders who in turn could give an intimate view of the President's explanation to members generally.

This is probably one of the methods which will be adopted by the President when he gets back to Washington, besides undoubtedly making some sort of address to a joint session and conferences with the members of the foreign affairs committee of each house.

Depends Upon Conditions.
The question of an extra session of Congress, the President feels, depends wholly upon in what condition the present Congress leaves public business. If the President's hope is realized that the principal business of the peace conference will be finished by mid-summer as that he is able to return to the United States some time in June or July, the probabilities are that at least an extra session of the Senate or possibly the whole new Congress might be called in the early fall to get a start on reconstruction legislation and take up the ratification of the peace treaty.

The President had luncheon today with Ambassador Francis, discussing the Russian situation at length and hearing the diplomat's recommendations as to the course the United States should pursue in Russia.

Also with him at luncheon was Franklin D. Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, who gave Mr. Wilson many new details of the navy's activities in Europe, showing how the United States spent more than \$30,000,000 laying the North Sea mine barrage. The United States actually had more than 300 ships based in Europe and more than 200 seaplanes hunting submarines.

Return Trip Rougher.
President Wilson had a much rougher trip coming home than he did going over. Some of the days half the party was confined to cabins but the President proved himself an excellent sailor and surrendered only once, when the waves and spray were dashing over the bridge and got a wetting while watching the coast.

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PRESIDENT'S SHIP NEAR GROUNDING

Vessel Loses Bearings In Heavy Fog Off Massachusetts Coast

On Board the U. S. S. George Washington, Feb. 23.—The President's ship and its destroyer escort, the Harding, ran off the Massachusetts coast this afternoon while running for Boston Light and came within perhaps one thousand yards of grounding off the beach at Thatcher's Island, Cape Ann.

The two vessels were proceeding on dead reckoning, about 3 o'clock with the Harding as a guard ship ahead. Suddenly the Harding's lookout discovered land and the destroyer gave five quick blasts on her whistle and made a quick turn across the Washington's bow. The wind was landward and the sound was carried away from the George Washington instead of toward her. The Washington's deck officer, however, saw the five jets of steam from the Harding's whistle and giving three short blasts of the big liner's whistle signalled the engine room for full speed astern. The big ship trembled and quivered with the throbbing of the mighty engines as they churned the water, and that was the first intimation any of the passengers and most of the crew had of what was going on.

President Wilson noticed the motion at once and with Admiral Grayson went on deck. He was quite unconcerned, however, and his attitude was more one of curiosity and interest. Troops and passengers piled on decks at the same time and saw the rollers on the sandy beach and the summer cottages. A motion picture show going on in the main dining salon, however, continued to hold the attention of many of the passengers.

Although going full speed the Washington stopped quickly and easily and began backing away, while the destroyer turned to following about the big liner. The lead was not going quickly and deep water immediately was reached. Passengers, crew and troops did not seem to regard the incident as a possibility of danger, many of them thinking it rather a good joke played by the fog on the navigators. After backing a short distance Captain McCauley dropped anchor to make observations and get bearings, while the destroyers formed a semi-circle about the President's ship. The wind whipped up a bit and snow flurries swept down on the port quarter. The destroyer Paulding came close alongside and the Helweghs were not going. Captain McCauley lashed a heliograph message to the Paulding, to proceed cautiously and attempt to identify the signal of fog horns.

Through the dissolving mist the two lighthouses of the Cape Ann station became visible and the suspense was over. The Washington and her convoy had been headed toward shore just above Eastern Point, Gloucester, and still further north from Marble Head. The weather continued to clear every moment and before an hour had quite passed, it was possible to see from four to six miles. The Washington then backed out and turning south, headed for Boston Light, where a pilot was waiting at the buoys at the mouth of the channel.

GEN. BENNET H. YOUNG DIES AT LOUISVILLE

He Won Considerable Fame During Civil War As a Cavalry Leader

Louisville, Ky., Feb. 23.—General Bennett H. Young, commander in chief of the United Confederate Veterans from 1913 to 1916, died at his home here this afternoon following a short illness. He returned to Louisville Saturday night in a dying condition from Florida where he went several weeks ago to recuperate.

General Young served with Morgan, J. E. B. Stuart and Mosby during the Civil war and won considerable fame as a cavalry leader. In 1914 he wrote "Confederate Wizards of the Saddle," describing the operations of the Confederate mounted force during the war.

NAVAL DIRIGIBLE SMASHES INTO A TREE AT MIAMI, FLA.

Miami, Fla., Feb. 23.—The naval dirigible A-236, returning to Key West from a flight to Tampa and Jacksonville, struck a tree of Miami early today and is believed to be a complete loss. Ensign D. P. Campbell, pilot, and Chief Quartermaster J. H. Collier, the only persons aboard, were rescued unharmed. The dirigible had been forced to attempt a landing because of engine trouble which developed within twelve hours after leaving Key West. The airship, however, had been in the air 37 hours before the accident and was trying for a new record for continuous flight. The airship left Key West Saturday afternoon going to Jacksonville via Tampa and was heading down the east coast on its return.

PEACE COUNCIL IS TO SPEED UP WORK ON LEADING POINTS

Plan To Have Preliminary Peace Treaty Ready Upon Wilson's Return

THIS ACTION RELATES ONLY TO GERMANY

Conclusion of This Preliminary Peace Treaty Regarded As of Chief Importance; Balfour And House Call on Clemenceau Where Plans Were Fully Agreed Upon

Press.—Results of far-reaching character were obtained at the meeting of the council of the great powers today when resolutions were adopted requiring such a speeding up of all important branches of the work of the Peace Conference as to permit the formulation of a preliminary peace treaty by the time President Wilson returns to Paris in the middle of March. To accomplish this all commissions dealing with the big questions of reparations, boundaries and economic and financial issues must report to the supreme council within the next two weeks or by March 8 at the latest. These reports, in turn, will form a basis for the drafting of the treaty.

An extensive program has been carefully matured within the past few days and it was brought to a culmination this afternoon when A. J. Balfour, British foreign secretary, and Col. E. M. House, of the American delegation, called on Premier Clemenceau in his sick room shortly before the council convened. Each found the wounded statesman dressed and sitting up and keenly alert concerning the work of the conference and fully agreed on the plan for rapid acceleration of work on all subjects.

This brought together the British, American and French viewpoints for a rapid course of action assuring the earliest possible peace. Shortly afterward the supreme council met and ratified the program. The official statement issued after the meeting announced: "The meeting decided on proper steps to be done in order to accelerate as much as possible the labors of the conference."

Back of the formal announcement is the speeding up of the plan, which now goes into effect, for an early drafting of the peace treaty. The main feature is to embody all subjects, both non-military and military in the preliminary peace soon to be framed and to have this broad general document take the place of a separate military treaty for disarmament which had been prepared by the Supreme War Council under the direction of Marshal Foch who was to present it within the next few days.

But instead of this limited action on military questions today's decision broadens the action so as to include all important subjects within the scope of the preliminary peace treaty, thus making it embrace economic, financial and all other essential subjects, including reparations, in addition to disarmament and other military and naval features. It will be this broad general plan which will be drafted by the time the President returns and which will soon thereafter go before the peace conference.

The foregoing action relates only to Germany as the conclusion of this preliminary peace treaty is regarded as of chief importance. But similar action may proceed at the same time concerning Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey, although it is not certain that action on these countries can be effected within the same period.

Although the proposed document is designated as a preliminary peace treaty, it is expected to embody virtually all main questions and to correspond to the treaty of Versailles which closed the Franco-German war, although a supplementary treaty was signed later at Frankfurt.

PRESIDENT WILSON HAS A FOURTH GRANDCHILD

Son Born to Mrs. Francis B. Sayre, at Philadelphia.

(By the Associated Press.) Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 23.—A son was born to Mrs. Francis B. Sayre, daughter of President Wilson, at the Jefferson Hospital here early today. Mother and child are doing well. This is the President's fourth grandchild. The first, Francis B. Sayre, was born in the second, Eleanor Arson Wilson the White House on January 17, 1915. Sayre was born at Jefferson Hospital March 26, 1916. Another grandchild is Ellen Wilson McAdoo.

The President, of course, has been notified, and it is possible he may stop at Philadelphia on his way from Boston to Washington to see his daughter and her second son.

ARMY REFRIGERATOR SHIP SUNK AT PIER IN HOBOKEN

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Feb. 23.—The army refrigeratory ship Sitatola was sunk at her pier in Hoboken tonight to save her from flames raging in her holds. Two members of the crew, an officer and a boatswain's mate, who were helping fight the fire, are missing and are believed to have perished. The vessel was loaded with beef and was about to sail for Brest.

CONSTITUTION OF NEW GERMANY IS ASSUMING SHAPE

National Law Supercedes The State Laws of Various German States

EXECUTIVE POWER LIES WITH PEOPLE

States To Be Represented In Government By a National Council; Full Freedom In Religion, Art And Science Is Provided; Labor Is Especially Protected

The German National Assembly has been holding open meetings several committees have found time to discuss the draft of a new German Constitution as prepared by Hugo Uebers, a member of the cabinet. The draft has now passed on second reading. The original few paragraphs have been cut up and expanded into 109 paragraphs which cover every point carefully.

The new draft consists of seven divisions. The first division, entitled, "the nation and its component states," provides that the national territory shall consist of the former German states as well as other states that may, after a plebiscite, desire to be incorporated with Germany. The flag of the new republic will be black, red and gold.

The second article of the first division provides that the executive power lies with the people.

The third article says the generally accepted rules of international law shall be a basic part of the German law.

Succeeding articles provide for the defense of the nation and cover colonial questions, customs duties and public transportation.

It is provided the nation shall have the right to enact laws governing citizenship, crimes and penalties, judicial matters, the right of union, the relations between workmen and employers, the insurance of workmen, the promotion of labor and trade weights and measures, industry, mines, insurance, ocean traffic, freedom of the press, freedom of organization and meeting and the rights and care of war veterans and their relatives. The nation also shall have the right to enact laws concerning the regulation, production and distribution of economic products for the general good and for protection and education of children and youth.

The national law, it is provided, shall supersede the state laws of the various German states who are empowered to combine wholly or in part for the purpose of creating a more powerful membership in the nation. These states will be represented in the government by a "National Council." Each member of the council can introduce bills but a bill to be introduced to the assembly must have the assent of the council which however, possesses little veto power on the lines of the British House of Lords.

The second division contains eleven articles regarding the basic rights of man of belief, religion, art and science. Labor, as the greatest national wealth is especially protected. Personal freedom of dwelling and property are guaranteed, as is secrecy of the postal service.

The third division contains nineteen articles and provides that details shall be determined by the national government regarding the regulation of elections. The government will meet each year on the first Monday of December at the capital of the government. The president, it is provided can call the assembly earlier and must do so if at least one-third of the members demand it be called. A court to control the voting would consist of three members of the assembly and two members of the national council. The constitution may be changed by a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the assembly.

The election of a president is provided for in a fourth division. He must be at least thirty-five years old and a German citizen for ten years and will serve a seven year term. He may be recalled through a popular vote. The president cannot be a member of the assembly. It is provided the assembly can demand the presence before it of the chancellor and the cabinet.

The fifth and sixth divisions to do with finance, trade and transportation and a common postal system for the entire nation. The seventh division covers details of courts and other judicial organizations including a state court for the entire nation.

BAVARIAN DELEGATION LEAVES WEIMAR FOR MUNICH
May Postpone Further Consideration of New Constitution.
Weimar, Saturday, Feb. 22.—(By The Associated Press.)—The entire Bavarian delegation to the National Assembly left for Munich this morning upon receiving reports that Herr Auer, Minister of the Interior, had died from his wounds received in the shooting in the Landtag and that a state of chaos existed in Bavaria. Their absence may postpone still further committee consideration and debate on the new constitution which was scheduled for next Tuesday, as it is considered more important to restore order in Bavaria than to debate the proposed constitution on a date arbitrarily set.

Represents New Republic



Hon. Charles Pergler

Commissioner from Czechoslovakia, Who Speaks in Winston-Salem Today.

CONGRESS IN RUSH IN ITS FINAL WEEK

Leaders Have Abandoned Hope of Avoiding an Extra Session

APPROPRIATION BILLS HOPELESSLY TIED UP

President To Confer With Committee on Foreign Relations Tuesday

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 23.—The final week of the sixty-fifth Congress will be ushered in tomorrow with the busiest seven days in all congressional history in prospect.

Among the outstanding features of the final week will be President Wilson's conference at the White House Wednesday with the Foreign Relations Committee on the league of nations, prospective daily discussion of the league proposal in the Senate selection by the House Republicans at a conference Thursday of a candidate for the speakership of the next House and the final rush of appropriation bills and other urgent legislation. Decision regarding an extra session of the sixty-sixth Congress also may be reached during the week. With sine die adjournment at noon on Tuesday, March 4, and with more legislation remaining on the calendars than in the history of many Congresses, leaders of both Houses have abandoned hope of avoiding an extra session. The only question, it was said by some members today, is the time when it will be called by the President.

President Wilson will be advised soon after his return regarding the extra session. The nature of the advice, according to Democratic leaders, principally depends upon disposal of the pending House bill to authorize \$7,000,000,000 of short term treasury notes in the April loan campaign. If the measure is passed the leaders plan to advise the President to call the extra session about May 15. If it fails, it was said a request for a call of Congress, not later than April 1 would be substituted. The bill will be taken up in the House on Tuesday.

Hope of passing all of the appropriation bills promptly has been abandoned by both Senate and House leaders. Only two of the sixteen regular money bills have been enacted. A dozen money measures are awaiting action in the Senate, and Senate leaders declare several of them are certain of failure.

Senate discussion of the league of nations is one of the principal obstacles in disposal of legislation. Defense of the league on behalf of the administration will be opened tomorrow by Senator Lewis, of Illinois. Daily and protracted debate on the league thereafter is in prospect. Senator Owen, Democrat, of Oklahoma, plans to discuss the league on Wednesday. Minority Leader Lodge on Friday, and Senator Knox, of Pennsylvania, Republican, former Secretary of State, on Saturday.

The Speaker of the next House is to be chosen next Thursday night at the conference of Republicans, including members-elect. Friends of Representative Gillett, of Massachusetts, are confident of his selection, although supporters of Representative Mann, of Illinois, have not yet conceded defeat.

Congressional leaders today studied the legislative situation to determine which bills could be passed and which must go over for the extra session. Among bills said to be virtually assured of enactment were those appropriating one billion dollars to maintain the government wheat price guarantee.

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NEW HIGHWAY BILL ABOUT COMPLETED

Will Impose One-Fourth Cost of Construction on Counties of State

FURTHER INCREASE IN AUTOMOBILE TAX

Republicans Will Submit Program of 'Election Reform' Legislation This Week

Work on a new State highway bill is practically finished and it is now in shape to be introduced in the House of Representatives today or tomorrow. It will have the sanction of the special committee on highways, of which Representative O. M. Mail is chairman, and after a brief hearing in the House it is expected to be ready for discussion on the floor of the House by the middle of this week.

Road legislation still holds the center of the stage. The Stacy measure failed to meet the situation, many of the legislators think, and hence the effort to get something else.

Two Important Changes.
Increase of the license tax on automobiles to \$10, \$15 and \$20 instead of \$7.50, \$10 and \$15, as provided for in the Stacy bill is one of the important changes made in the new bill while the other is the placing of one-fourth the cost on the counties, in accordance with the idea of Governor Bickett, leaving the other fourth to the State. The new bill will leave the composition of the Highway Commission, as the Stacy bill has it.

Other Important Bills.
While the educational program has practically been decided upon, the plan for a State highway system is still in the process of being formed. The taxation program is more fully advanced, but most of it still remains to be discussed in the House and the Senate. The House has passed the proposed Doughton income tax amendment to the constitution and it is now on the Senate calendar with favorable report from the Finance and the Constitutional Amendment Committees.

The joint Finance Committee is due to report the machinery act this week which will contain the program for re-evaluating property, which is expected to make an extra session of the General Assembly necessary next year. The committee will adopt many of the principles contained in the Humphrey revaluation bill, but is not inclined to appropriate \$375,000 for the job nor does it look with favor on creating a new commission to have charge of the revaluation. It would rather increase the powers of the State Tax Commission and leave most of the cost to the counties.

How Program Stands.
It is recognized that there must be a strong central body to direct the revaluation program, but it is believed that this can be attained by giving the present commission more authority. With the income tax amendment on the way the adoption and the program of revaluation practically formulated, it is felt that the tax question is in a fair way of being cleared out of the way without great difficulty.

It has been recognized that the three constitutional measures that this General Assembly pass upon are those dealing with taxation, with roads and with schools. While the Bryant school bill, which has passed the House, does not meet the wishes of many people, it is felt to be the fairest that can be worked out.

Would Be County System.
The new road bill to be introduced in the House is intended as a substitute for the Stacy bill, which was passed by the Senate, but will be introduced as a new measure in order to expedite parliamentary procedure. If adopted by the House, it would then go to the Senate in regular course. The new bill is not favored by many legislators because it destroys the idea of a State system. It will be essentially a county system, it is held, if a fourth of the cost is fixed upon the counties. The authors propose to leave the provision affecting counties as flexible as possible as to the method of raising the tax. It is contemplated that in the thickly settled counties that most of the local assessed cost will be collected from the abutting property owners while in the counties less thickly settled, it would probably be collected through special tax levy or through the issuing of bonds.

To Avoid Bond Issues.
One of the avowed objects of the new bill is to avoid a State bond issue, but supporters of the Stacy bill hold that it simply shifts the burden, as it will be necessary for the counties to issue bonds and at a disadvantage because they cannot borrow money as cheaply as the State. Supporters of the new road measure think it would be necessary to borrow money to get the project started, but they would do this on short time notes that would not extend over two years.

Even for the State to raise one-fourth of the revenue necessary to match the Federal fund and to provide for maintenance, would make it necessary to have a higher automobile tax than the Stacy bill provides for, and the increase has been made that it is believed will meet the needs.

No Tax On Gasoline.
The new road bill will not impose a tax on gasoline or on lumber wages.

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TAKING KINKS OUT OF REVENUE BILL WAS HEAVY TASK

Sen. Simmons Reviews Magnitude in Reaching Agreement By Senate And House

AWARDS APPROVED FOR COMMANDEERED LAND

These Aggregate \$271,149 for 284,000 Square Feet of Land Taken for Extension of Washington Navy Yard; Admiral Scales Will Make No Apology

(By Special Leased Wire.)

Washington, Feb. 23.—"The Senate aided over 600 amendments to the revenue bill as it passed the House of Representatives," declared Senator Simmons of North Carolina, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, in a statement reviewing the magnitude of the job involved in framing the National revenue legislation. "Of those amendments, the Senate conferred with from only 68. The House receded from its disagreement to 417 on the Senate amendments without change and from its disagreement to 117 of the Senate amendments with amendments."

"In order to bring the two Houses together upon these 600 amendments, it is observed that a vast amount of work was required. That the conferees were able to accomplish this result in a little over two weeks showed that their work was constant and diligent; but even with the greatest diligence, it would have been impossible to accomplish this result within so short a time had not every member of the conference been alive to the fact that the exigencies of the situation required the utmost speed."

"I am advised by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and the Secretary of the Treasury that Government obligations amounting to more than \$800,000,000 will mature and will have to be paid by the 15th of March next, and that the money which it is expected to realize from the first installment under this bill has been pledged for the payment of those maturing obligations."

"Early in the year 1918 the Secretary of the Treasury recommended to Congress the enactment of a new revenue law, framed to raise \$8,000,000,000 by taxation, to help meet the expenditures of the fiscal year 1918, estimated at that time at \$24,000,000,000. In response to this request the Ways and Means committee of the House prepared, and the House passed the bill providing for an \$8,000,000,000 tax levy. When the armistice came on November 11, 1918, the bill was still before the Finance Committee of the Senate, to which it had been referred."

No Purpose to Reduce Levy.
"There was no purpose upon the part of that committee up to that time to reduce the amount of the levy below the House estimate of \$8,000,000,000. Within a few days, however, after the signing of the armistice the Secretary of the Treasury, in a communication to myself as chairman of the Finance Committee, advised that the estimated expenditures would, because of the practical termination of the war, be reduced to \$18,000,000,000, and at the same time he recommended a reduction of the taxes to be imposed for the fiscal year 1918-19 from \$8,000,000,000 to \$6,000,000,000, and for the fiscal year 1920 from \$6,000,000,000 to \$4,500,000,000. Senators will recall that the President, in his message to Congress, delivered a short time after the armistice, joined the Secretary of the Treasury in these recommendations."

"The Senate did not change the individual normal income tax rate for the taxable year 1918. It did, however, change the surtax rates reducing the rates as to small and moderate incomes and increasing them somewhat as to larger incomes, especially those in excess of \$250,000. The result of these changes is a reduction in estimated revenue receipts from this source of about \$50,000,000. The House conferees agreed to these changes. The Senate reduced the individual normal income tax rate for the taxable year 1919 and subsequent years from six and twelve per cent to four and eight per cent, and the House agreed to these changes."

Case Cotton Manufacturers.
"Let me illustrate with the case of the cotton manufacturers. They have had in great stocks of raw cotton, the larger part of which was purchased at 30 cents or more than 30 cents a pound. The inventories for the year 1918 would have to be based upon those values. That cotton is today worth probably not much over two-thirds of the amount for which it was purchased. If they are required to pay their taxes without any rebate upon the basis of the cost of this raw material still in hand, it is easy to see that they would have to pay tax upon a value charged against them, but which will not, as a matter of fact, ever be realized."

"Coming to the excess profits and war profits tax, I may say in general that the House accepted the rates adopted by the Senate with but few modifications. The House conferees accepted

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