

TWO BILLIONS ARE PLANNED FOR THE FIRST BOND ISSUE

Tentative Program Under
Consideration May Be
Revised.

ISSUES TO BE MADE IN INSTALLMENTS

May Divide the First Issue
Among Allies For Sup-
plies Bought Here.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Tentative plans under consideration by administration officials call for the issue of \$2,000,000,000 in bonds as the first public offering under the \$7,000,000,000 war revenue law, signed today by President Wilson, to be followed by a second issue in from four to six months and possibly a third thereafter.

While the whole program is subjected to revision, it is understood that officials are seriously considering the advisability of collecting the proceeds of the first issue in installments, thirty days apart and lasting over a period of from four to six months.

Should the first issue be \$2,000,000,000 and the installment feature be adopted, it is likely that subscribers will be given four months in which to pay for the bonds. This would bring revenue into the treasury at the rate of \$500,000,000 a month, ample, it is believed, from preliminary estimates to meet the needs of the allies in this country, as well as American military and naval expenses until the new taxation measure should begin to produce revenue.

Divide Issue.
Indications are that the first issue will be divided among Great Britain, France, Russia and Italy, and that some portion of it will be reserved for American military needs, the big proportion, however, going to the allies.

In this connection, it was pointed out tonight that virtually the entire load to the allies will be spent in this country for foodstuffs, munitions and other supplies.

The subject will be discussed in conference tomorrow among Secretary McAdoo and federal board officials and Lord Cunliffe, of the British commission. Lord Cunliffe will be the guest of the board tomorrow at a luncheon which probably will develop into a conference concerning the details of the proposed loan to Great Britain. It is also likely that Lord Cunliffe will confer with Secretary McAdoo during the day.

In finally determining the amount of the first bond issue, the government will be guided largely by what the representatives of the chief entente governments indicate as their pressing needs. Italy, it is said, is especially desirous of being among the first considered, as her needs are understood to be pressing at the moment.

Increase Announced.
Subscriptions to the first offering made under the \$7,000,000,000 measure—\$200,000,000 in treasury certificates of indebtedness expiring June 30—have passed the \$250,000,000 mark, resulting in a decision by Secretary McAdoo, announced today, to increase the issue to \$250,000,000. The proceeds will be called for tomorrow. Subscription books were closed at 10 a. m. today by the federal reserve.

(Continued on Page Two.)

FRENCH MERGE ATTACK CAPTURE BIG GERMAN GUNS

Four of Famous 105 Milli-
metre Howitzers Taken
in Recent Fighting.

BRITISH AGAIN WIN IN RENEWED DRIVES

Turks on the Tigris River
Suffer Reverses at Hands
of the British.

There was a diminution in the intensity of the fighting between the British and German armies Tuesday, although battles of great fierceness continued at several points. In these, according to the British official communication, the advantage rested with Field Marshal Haig's forces.

Southwest of Arras the British made progress between the Senese river and Monchy-Le-Preux, driving their lines to within a stone's throw of the villages of Fontaine Les Croiselles and Chorsay and straightening out the sharp salient that had existed there.

French Take Guns.
No infantry attack was developed from the artillery preparations the French have been making all along their front for several days. Tuesday the Germans were heavily bombarded on various sectors from St. Quentin to the Champagne. Among the booty captured by the French during the recent heavy engagements on the plateau of the Chemin-Des-Dames, northeast of Soissons, are four of the famous 150 millimetre German howitzers. These guns now have been brought into the French lines and doubtless soon will be used in the operations against their former owners.

The British royal flying corps is taking full advantage of the beautiful spring weather for operations against German aviators. Monday in fights in the air, fifteen German aircraft were shot down by the Britishers, while twenty-four others were last seen after being driven earthward, completely out of control. Only two British machines failed to return to their base.

Maudsill Still Busy.
General Maudsill's troops have captured the railroad station of Samarra on the Tigris river, some seventy-five miles northwest of Bagdad, and with it sixteen locomotives and 224 railroad cars. Heavy casualties were inflicted by the British on the Turks and many prisoners were taken during the advance from Irtabiat to Samarra.

In Palestine, the Turks apparently purpose to make a stand against a further advance by the British through the Holy Land.
From Gorizia to the head of the Adriatic sea, violent artillery duels are in progress between the Austrians and the Italians. At several points in the region during a let-up in the fighting the Italians sallied forth and by surprise attacks occupied advanced Austrian positions and made prisoners of the defenders. In the sugana valley extensive Austrian troop movements are being carried out, possibly with the intention of opening an offensive in this region. The guns here are roaring in a mighty duel.

Along the entire Macedonian front reciprocal bombardments are taking place.

ARMY BILL DEBATE IS CONTINUED IN HOUSE AND SENATE

Leaders Cannot Predict
When Vote Might Be
Reached.

CLARK IS OPPOSED TO THE DRAFT PLAN

LaFollette Introduces Sub-
stitute For Administra-
tion Bill in Senate.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Debate on the war army bill continued in congress today with the desire to talk about the methods the United States should use in raising her millions of fighting men unabated. Leaders in neither house could predict with confidence when a vote might be reached. The house hopes to vote by Friday, but there are more than sixty members waiting to speak. In the senate, only a few senators have been heard and Chairman Chandler, of the military committee, said tonight many had indicated their intention to discuss the bill before agreeing to a vote. He probably will sound out sentiment tomorrow, however, on unanimous consent arrangement for a vote as soon as possible. The way the senate takes this suggestion may have much to do with the position of administration leaders. They are loath to resort to the senate's new cloture rule, or to appear in any way anxious to curtail debate.

Opponents of the administration's selective draft plan found new hope during the day when Speaker Clark let it be known that he shared their views and would make a speech tomorrow in favor of the majority house committee volunteer amendment.

Discussions today in both houses came largely from the friends of the volunteer system. It was not heard by large crowds either on the floor or in the galleries. The longest speech of the day was made by Representative Fields, of Kentucky, a democrat, of the military committee, who argued for the volunteer plan and declared that the war department's proposal to draft youths under twenty-one years of age, instead of a principle which he would not be guided by the military experts of this or any other nation.

BOYS TO AID.
BOSTON, April 24.—The mobilization of five thousand high school boys of Suffolk, Essex and Middlesex counties to work on farms in this state from May 1 to harvest time, was provided for at a conference held at the state house today. The boys who enlist for this service will be paid \$7 a week with quarters and clothes provided, and at the end of their service will be given honorable discharges, that will make them eligible to special privileges in college entrance requirements.

COSTLY BLAZE.
ERIE, Pa., April 24.—More than 200,000 bushels of wheat and a large wooden grain elevator known as "elevator A" of the Western Transportation company, owned by the Great Lakes Trust, were destroyed by fire here tonight, with a loss estimated at \$600,000. The grain, it is said, was consigned to the allies. Officials of the company asserted that the fire started from an overheated pulley in a tower on the lake side of the elevator.

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS PLEGE THEIR SUPPORT OF GOVERNMENT'S EFFORT

Entire Country Represented
at Annual Meeting of As-
sociated Press.

WIRE FROM WILSON.

MODIFICATIONS LATER

WASHINGTON, April 24.—In a statement today amplifying its recent action on the labor standards bill, the National Defense Council declares it recognizes that adjustments may become necessary and suggests that the council itself may find it advisable to propose modifications.

"It is not the purpose of the council," it is stated, "to undertake to determine the wage rate that will be sufficient to maintain the existing standards of living. That should be referred to the mediation agencies of the government or to such other constituted agencies as may exist to the end that such questions may be adjusted in an orderly and equitable manner to avoid the stoppage of industries which are so vital to the critical times of the nation at this critical time."

It is the judgment of the council, says the statement, that the federal, state and municipal governments should continue to maintain the usual hours of labor and standards of safety, sanitation and inspection.

In explanation of its statement that the council may find it necessary to make adjustments, the council says: "While the council does not mean to intimate that under ordinary circumstances the efficiency of workers is the only element that should be taken into consideration in fixing the hours of labor, safety, sanitation, woman's work and child labor standards, it is the object that must be attained during the period when the nation's safety is involved."

GERMAN DESTROYERS ARE ROUTED BY SEAPLANES OF BRITISH OFF ZEBRUGGE

Three Flyers Engaged With
Five Enemy Torpedo
Craft.

ONE PROBABLY SUNK.

LONDON, April 24.—A British admiralty statement reports an attack by three British naval machines on five enemy destroyers, which were seen at 4:10 p. m., Monday, steaming between Blankenberghe and Zeebrugge in a northeasterly direction five miles off the coast.

"The leading machine," says the statement, "attacked, dropping six ten bombs, one of which was seen to explode in the water. The remaining four destroyers scattered and were attacked by the two remaining machines, thirty-two bombs being dropped. The leading destroyer was observed to take a list to port and remained stationary after all the bombs had been dropped."

"The four destroyers, closed in on the disabled craft. A hostile seaplane attacked our machines, but was easily driven off. At 6:10 p. m., the four destroyers were reported by a reconnaissance machine as entering Zeebrugge harbor. It is considered most probable that one destroyer was sunk."

NEGRO MUST DIE.
CHARLOTTE, N. C., April 24.—At a special term of court at Monroe, N. C., today, Bunk Mabe, a negro, was sentenced to be executed May 25 for killing Patrolman Edgar Williams at Wingate, near Monroe, March 17. The officer was killed while trying to arrest the negro, who later was wounded several times by shots fired by a posse he held at bay several hours.

The Wise Old Bird



VIVIANI, FRENCH MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND JOFFRE, VICTOR OF THE MARNE, ARE ON PRESIDENT'S YACHT MAYFLOWER

French's War Commissioners Reach Hampton Roads In Safety and Will Arrive at Washington Today—Commission Will Have Full Authority to Act at Forthcoming Congress—Viviani's Greeting to America—Stirring Scenes in the Harbor.

PORTSMOUTH, Va., April 24.—France's war commissioners to the United States, reached Hampton Roads today, and tonight they are bound up Chesapeake Bay for Washington on board the presidential yacht Mayflower.

The mission, of which Rene Viviani, vice-premier and minister of justice, is the official head, and Marshal Joffre a member, brings no written instructions from the French government, the ministry having decided to give its members unlimited powers to negotiate with the United States on all subjects, military, naval and financial. It is prepared to discuss the sending of an American expeditionary force to France, Marshal Joffre and other military members will indicate they are to confer, several important military reasons which they consider renders the sending of such a force advisable. The most important of these reasons is found in the moral effect to be had from the presence of American troops and the American flag on the battlefields of France.

What Allies Need.
The French idea of an American expedition calls for a fighting force supported by auxiliary services, such as railway staffs, railway material, base repair shops, telegraph and telephone lines, automobile transport and a strong aviation section. The French government is ready to offer whatever may be considered necessary to assist in sea operations, including the use for naval purposes of any or all ports in France. The ministry of marine has worked out for submission to the American government a comprehensive plan for overseas transports for both army and navy to the regular quarterly dividend of 1-4 per cent, on that issue and 1-4 per cent, on the preferred. The disbursement on the common accounts to more than \$21,500,000.

The three per cent extra is an increase of 1-4 per cent, over the previous quarter and an increase of two per cent, over those of the second and third quarters of last year, may be set aside for one per cent, to spare for the deferred dividends on the common stock during the period between the fourth quarter of 1914 and the same quarter of 1915, when poor earnings caused complete suspension of disbursements on the common stock.

COSTLY GARDENS.
WILMINGTON, N. C., April 24.—Land valued at \$1,000 per foot front, adjoining a ten-story office building, was broken here today for planting vegetables as a part of the city's campaign for vacant lot gardening. A mule-drawn plow was used in breaking the soil.

**RECORD OF U. S. STEEL
EARNINGS IS SMASHED**

Extra Quarterly Dividend
on Common Stock is De-
clared.

NEW YORK, April 24.—All previous high records in the history of the United States Steel corporation, both as to earnings and dividends, were surpassed in the first quarterly report for the current year, issued today.

Earnings reached the enormous total of \$11,121,918, more than the corporation has earned in a full year in some instances, and an extra dividend of three per cent, was declared on the common stock, in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 1-4 per cent, on that issue and 1-4 per cent, on the preferred. The disbursement on the common accounts to more than \$21,500,000.

The three per cent extra is an increase of 1-4 per cent, over the previous quarter and an increase of two per cent, over those of the second and third quarters of last year, may be set aside for one per cent, to spare for the deferred dividends on the common stock during the period between the fourth quarter of 1914 and the same quarter of 1915, when poor earnings caused complete suspension of disbursements on the common stock.

**ROOT MAY HEAD AMERICAN
DELEGATION TO RUSSIA**

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Elihu Root will head the American commission to Russia if he will consent to undertake the duty. It became known today that the president has completed the selection of the principal members of the mission.

The names of men tentatively chosen to make up the commission will not be made public until they have been formally requested to serve and have accepted.

It was said today that the men whom the president has in mind are all distinguished in their particular lines, and together will make up a commission which will indicate to the Russian government and people the deep interest in their welfare held by the American government.

Among those besides Mr. Root who have been mentioned in the preliminary discussions, are Oscar Strause, former secretary of commerce and labor; Edward N. Hurley, former chairman of the state commission, and Henry Morgenthau, former ambassador to Turkey.

Charles R. Crans, of Chicago, business man and personal friend of President Wilson, has arrived in Russia, and will keep the government in touch with business conditions there pending the arrival of the commission.

THE WEATHER.
WASHINGTON, April 24.—Forecast for North Carolina: Overcast and cool; Wednesday, Thursday unsettled.

BALFOUR HONORED WITH RECEPTION AT WASHINGTON

President Wilson, Cabinet
Officers and High Of-
ficials Attend.

FORMAL CONFERENCES WILL START TODAY

British Representatives De-
sire Closest Harmony
With the French.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—A reception given at the Pan-American building tonight by Secretary Lansing, in honor of Foreign Minister Balfour, brought to a close the series of official entertainments marking the welcome of Great Britain's war commissioners to the United States. President Wilson and all the cabinet officers attended, while members of congress and scores of the higher officials of the government came to meet the distinguished foreigners.

Informal conferences have been held during the past two days, and some of the serious business for which the visitors crossed the Atlantic has been taken up, but the formal discussions have been so generally well received that it is generally expected that the formal discussions will begin tomorrow with the arrival of the French commissioners, which reached Hampton Roads today. The British representatives desire to work in the closest harmony with the French, consequently most of the great questions to be discussed await the coming of Vice-Premier Viviani, Marshal Joffre and their associates.

Officials Entertain.
Before the reception tonight, the diplomatic members of the British commission were entertained by Secretary Baker; the naval officers by Secretary Vinton; and the financiers by Secretary McAdoo.

In a sense the British will present, not so much their own particular situation, as that of the whole entente alliance. The allied interests in all that has been so generally pooled that it has been found impossible to deal in the affairs of one nation alone. England, for example, has very largely supplied some of her allies with both finance and shipping facilities without examining their reflex on the other co-operating nations.

Profit by Mistake.
The mistakes that England made in a military way early in the war were explained today by Lieutenant General Bridges, veteran of nine wars, and the first British officer to meet the Germans. The volunteer system, he said, had cost England thousands of her best lives, demoralized her whole industrial mobilization, and set the country back immeasurably in the prosecution of the war. Now, he added, conscription had come to be regarded with almost fanatic devotion by the people as the only democratic way of distributing the duties of war and allowing a scientific marshalling of the nation's resources.

Tomorrow is expected to be devoted largely to greeting the French commissioners, who are due at 12 noon. Mr. Balfour, after a morning at his office, finishing the co-ordinating of the work, expects to be on hand to welcome the French leaders and to leave the rest of his day largely to their disposal.

**GREAT CANADIAN WHEAT
SURPLUS IS DENIED IN
AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT**

No Wheat Held by the
British Government Has
Been Sold.

ESTIMATE TOO HIGH.

LONDON, April 24.—Referring to published statements that there was a surplus of 8,000,000 bushels of wheat in Canada available for export and that the British government had sold five million bushels in the United States, an official statement issued here tonight declares that the latest official estimate of the surplus in Canada is much below the figure given. The statement adds that no wheat held by the British government has been sold.

A recent Chicago dispatch, so a New York newspaper said today, stated that the British government had turned over 5,000,000 of May wheat at above two dollars a bushel with a profit of sixty cents a bushel. It added that while selling out their May holdings they bought July wheat at \$1.55 a bushel, and sold 8,000,000 bushels of the July delivery at \$1.96 1/2 to \$2.07 1/2, making a profit on the two turns of nearly \$13,000,000.

**NATIONAL PROHIBITION
MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED**

Believed That War Revenue
Legislation Will Occupy
Entire Session.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—In laying their plans for raising nearly \$2,000,000,000 for war expenses from new taxation, house leaders are proceeding upon confident belief that there will be no national prohibition legislation at this session of congress. Even many of the most optimistic prohibition champions now are hoping for no more than a law forbidding the sale of liquor to soldiers or sailors.

The case against any attempt at general prohibition legislation has been based upon the arguments that a constitutional amendment could not be adopted and put into effect in less than a year or more, and that the government needs the revenue from liquor taxes for the war chest.

The ways and means sub-committee, which is drafting a preliminary revenue bill, is being urged to increase the levies on whiskey and beer to the highest possible figure. The proposal is being seriously considered, it is learned, and big advances in the present tax of \$1.10 a gallon on whiskey and \$1.50 a barrel on beer are certain to be recommended to the full committee.

Some committee members have gone so far as to suggest that the tax on whiskey should be raised to \$5.41 a gallon, the present English rate. The whiskey tax, according to a reliable authority, is certain to be more than \$2 a gallon, which was suggested to the committee by Secretary McAdoo, in a recent communication.

RECORD OF U. S. STEEL EARNINGS IS SMASHED

Extra Quarterly Dividend
on Common Stock is De-
clared.

ROOT MAY HEAD AMERICAN DELEGATION TO RUSSIA

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Elihu Root will head the American commission to Russia if he will consent to undertake the duty. It became known today that the president has completed the selection of the principal members of the mission.

The names of men tentatively chosen to make up the commission will not be made public until they have been formally requested to serve and have accepted.

**NATIONAL PROHIBITION
MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED**

Believed That War Revenue
Legislation Will Occupy
Entire Session.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—In laying their plans for raising nearly \$2,000,000,000 for war expenses from new taxation, house leaders are proceeding upon confident belief that there will be no national prohibition legislation at this session of congress. Even many of the most optimistic prohibition champions now are hoping for no more than a law forbidding the sale of liquor to soldiers or sailors.

The case against any attempt at general prohibition legislation has been based upon the arguments that a constitutional amendment could not be adopted and put into effect in less than a year or more, and that the government needs the revenue from liquor taxes for the war chest.

The ways and means sub-committee, which is drafting a preliminary revenue bill, is being urged to increase the levies on whiskey and beer to the highest possible figure. The proposal is being seriously considered, it is learned, and big advances in the present tax of \$1.10 a gallon on whiskey and \$1.50 a barrel on beer are certain to be recommended to the full committee.

Some committee members have gone so far as to suggest that the tax on whiskey should be raised to \$5.41 a gallon, the present English rate. The whiskey tax, according to a reliable authority, is certain to be more than \$2 a gallon, which was suggested to the committee by Secretary McAdoo, in a recent communication.

**THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN
Circulation Yesterday**

City 4,762
Suburban 4,497
Country 1,724

Net paid 10,983
Service 223
Unpaid 102

Total 11,308