

WILSON INSISTS ON CENSORSHIP CLAUSE IN BILL

Desire for Some Sort of Press Regulation Emphasized to Congress.

CAUSES SURPRISE AROUND CAPITOL

Had Been Thought That the Administration Had Accepted Senate's Vote.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The newspaper censorship fight was reopened in congress today, following President Wilson's action in personally intervening to insist upon inclusion of some form of press regulation in the administration espionage bill.

Desire Emphasized. The president's desire for censorship power of some sort, outlined in a letter yesterday to Representative Webb, chairman of the house judiciary committee, was emphasized today to senate conferees on the espionage bill, who were called to the white house for the purpose.

Whether the administration will attempt to force through a censorship organization was said tonight to depend upon soundings being made by leaders among the house and senate membership, especially the former.

Probable Plan. Should the house leaders accept a modified censorship plan the conferees will likely present the following provision:

"In time of war the president is hereby authorized to prescribe and promulgate rules and regulations for the purpose of preventing the disclosure to the public and thereby to the enemy, of information with respect to the government, numbers, description and disposition of any of the armed forces of the United States in naval or military operations, or with respect to any works intended for the fortification or defense of any place, and whoever, in time of war, shall willfully violate any such rule or regulation shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment for not more than five years, or by both, such fine and imprisonment: Provided, that nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or restrict, comment or criticism of the acts or policies of the government or its representatives, or the publication of the same."

President Wilson is said to have accepted the principle of this provision, which was offered during recent senate debate by Senator Overman, of North Carolina, and rejected.

AMERICAN DELEGATES TO PEACE CONFERENCE LIABLE TO PUNISHMENT

Socialist Agitation is Regarded as Having Been Incited by Germany.

PASSPORTS DENIED.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Emphatic disapproval of the peace propaganda of European socialists was expressed today by the American government, which denied passports to American delegates to the Stockholm conference and issued a warning that any American taking part in the negotiations would be legally liable to heavy punishment.

No formal announcement of purpose was issued, but officials explained that the government's course would have the two-fold effect of discrediting generally any peace moves by unauthorized persons and of condemning in particular those peace moves which are incited by socialist agitation, regarded since its inception as inspired by Germany.

In making known the decision not to give passports to the American socialists designated to take part in the Stockholm conference, Secretary Lansing cited the Logan act, of 1878, as defining the punishments which might be expected by any American now in Stockholm or who might go there without a passport and participate in the peace discussions. Under this law unauthorized persons who directly or indirectly treat with foreign agents regarding controversies of the United States, may be imprisoned for three years and fined \$5,000.

The American delegates to the conference, authorized to represent the American socialist party over the protest of some of its foremost members, are Victor L. Berger, of Milwaukee, and Morris Hillquit and Algernon Lee, of New York. They were selected by the party's executive committee after a notable group of socialists, headed by Charles Edward Russell and Wm. English Walling, had condemned the movement in a joint statement as "the most dangerous of all the Kaiser's plots."

PRINCE OF UDINE BRINGS MESSAGE TO ALL AMERICANS

Heads Italy's War Mission, Which Includes Wireless Wizard, Marconi.

DELIGHTED TO BE HERE AT THIS TIME

Expresses Comradeship of Italy for United States in the World War.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The Prince of Udine, member of the royal house of Savoy, and cousin of the king of Italy, delivered a message of greeting and comradeship to the American people, on his arrival here today as the head of Italy's war mission. Accompanied by some of the kingdom's leading scientists, including Wm. Marconi, inventor of the wireless, the prince expressed his delight at being in America at this time, and at the opportunity to express Italy's appreciation of America's active championship of the common world struggle against autocracy.

Given Every Honor. The Italian mission, met on arrival in this country by Italian Ambassador Di Celleri and Third Assistant Secretary of State Breckenridge Long, was received with every honor when its special train reached the capital today at noon. The prince of Udine and his fellow members were presented in order by the Italian ambassador to Secretary Lansing, Counselor Polk, Assistant Secretary Phillips and Lieutenant Colonel John C. Gurney, of the army, and Lieutenant-Commander Wm. N. Jeffers, of the navy.

The visitors passed out through a cheering crowd in the station, to awaiting automobiles, which were driven under escort of two cavalry troops past the capitol, up Pennsylvania avenue, between the treasury department and the white house and out to the Joseph Leiter house, where they will make their headquarters. Another crowd greeted them as they drove up beneath the trees in front of the house with the cavalry standing at attention, and the horns of scores of automobiles tooting.

Formal Calls Today. The commissioners tomorrow will call formally on Secretary Lansing and then on Secretary of the Navy Daniels, the prince being a captain in the royal navy. Thence they will go to the white house and be presented to President Wilson, who will entertain them at dinner in the evening.

The presence of Wm. Marconi, the wireless inventor, with the mission, to report to the famous scientist has found a solution of the submarine difficulty. It was stated on behalf of the mission that Marconi has brought to this country several devices developed by the Italian admiralty.

(Continued on Page Two)

WEATHER BLOCKS BRITISH ACTIVITY ON WESTERN FRONT

Task of Clearing Out Last of Hindenburg Line is Delayed.

INFANTRY FORCES REMAIN INACTIVE

Submarine Campaign Falling Short of Mark Set by Germany.

Inclement weather is holding Field Marshal Haig's men to their trenches along the Arras front, and the expected re-commencement of the offensive with the object of clearing out the Germans from the little sector of the Hindenburg line they still hold west of Bullecourt, has not yet started. It is probable that with the lifting of the clouds the big guns will start razing again and the infantry will be loosed against the Germans in an endeavor to complete the tactics which will place the entire British front in alignment for the next step on their program, the smothering of the Drocourt-Queant switch line and an advance eastward toward Douai.

Infantry Inactive. The infantry also remains inactive Wednesday along the French front where the Germans bombed heavily the new positions captured by the French Tuesday night east of Chevreus and on the Calonne and Valenciennes plateaux. The number of prisoners taken by the French in this region has now reached more than 400.

In the Isonzo sector of the Austro-Italian fighting the infantry activity apparently has given way to artillery duels of the greatest intensity. The Rome war office reports the Italians have re-captured positions the Austrians had wrested from them Monday night in the Tragnolo valley on the Trentino front.

Submarines Falling Down. Germany's submarine campaign apparently is still falling far short of the expectations placed in it by the German admiralty. The report of the British admiralty on tonnage sunk last week shows that eighteen merchantmen of more than 1,500 tons and nine of less tonnage were sent to the bottom. The number of prisoners taken by the British in the second category, they are four more.

This is far below the million tons a month average expected by Germany. There seems to be a likelihood that Germany soon will have two additional enemies ranged against her—Brazil and China. The president of Brazil has requested congress to revoke Brazil's declaration of neutrality.

(Continued on Page Two)

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT MAY POOL PURCHASING RESOURCES WITH ALLIES

Would Mean Making One Man Super-Buyer of the World.

HUGE SUM INVOLVED.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—A program under which the American government virtually would pool its purchasing with that of all the allies, including the British, French, Italian, which would place in many hands the purchase of goods and services in many lines would be a cog wheel and place one man in charge of the whole globe's purchases, is fast assuming final outline.

This man would be the world's super-buyer. Into his hands the nations at war with Germany would place approximately \$10,000,000,000 a year, a store of money exceeding the fabled fortunes of the ancient Incas and with no parallel in modern history.

So far has the program progressed that the officials entrusted with its execution already have a definite idea as to whom they will choose. While no final decision has been reached as to whether one man or a small committee should be chosen, indications are that it will be one man, his selection to be announced shortly.

Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy, Japan, Belgium—virtually all the nations linked with America in the war—have agreed to the essentials of the scheme, and will sign an agreement making it effective as soon as the necessary financial and technical details can be adjusted. At present the program hinges on the extent to which the United States will participate in the pool arrangement.

Plans are being formulated under which the needs of the American army and navy would be placed in the hands of the commission. Heretofore the navy has been supplied by its own buyers, and the army, similarly, has been furnished everything it requires, from brass buttons to heavy artillery through contracts placed by the war department.

The army and navy, experts estimate, will spend approximately \$2,500,000,000 during the first year of war. The allies will spend approximately \$6,000,000,000 more. If American credit and American producers can make it possible for them to spend more.

DECLARATION OF WAR AGAINST GERMANY IS NOW PRESAGED IN CHINA

President Removes Premier and Authorizes New Cabinet.

TO BREAK DEADLOCK.

PEKING, May 23.—President Li Yuan Hung has issued a mandate dismissing Premier Tuan Chi Jui from office, and naming Dr. Wu Ting Fang, former ambassador to the United States, as acting premier, and empowering him to form a new cabinet.

This action probably will end the deadlock in parliament and make possible a declaration of war by China against Germany.

The provincial military governors who were attempting to disband parliament left Peking before the president took action against Tuan Chi Jui as the president has positively announced that he would disregard their demand for a dissolution of the legislative body. The president declared that parliament must not be coerced in any way and announced his intention to conduct the government in accordance with the wishes of the national constitution at any cost.

The disgruntled military governors probably will instigate projects in the provinces against President Li Yuan Hung for his rebuke to the military power, but the president's firm stand is inspiring admiration in unexpected quarters.

The indications are that the military leaders, headed by Tuan Chi Jui, lost public sympathy through the demonstration of the mob the night of May 10, when after a riotous secret session in which the house of representatives refused to pass a resolution declaring war on Germany, the parliament building was surrounded by a large crowd which demanded war and made threats of violence.

General Wang Shin Chen, chief of the general staff, had been made commander of the emergency troops guarding the Peking-Tientsin railway to prevent the disgruntled military leaders from seizing the line.

***** ANOTHER PEACE EFFORT? ***** AMSTERDAM, May 23. (Via London.)—The Roman Catholic newspaper Tyd says it understands on good authority that in accordance with the wishes of Pope Benedict the Austrian court is initiating a new peace effort.

The Quickest Way to Finish the Kaiser!



WAR REVENUE BILL PASSES HOUSE BY OVERWHELMING MAJORITY IN ALMOST SAME FORM APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

All Votes Opposing the Measure in the House Cast by Republicans—Virtual Re-Drafting of the Bill in the Senate Is Regarded As Certain—Increased Taxes on Beer, Whiskey and Tobacco Among the Features of the New Bill.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The war revenue bill, framed to bring into the treasury \$1,800,000,000 through new taxation during the coming year, passed the house by a vote of 329 to 76, late today in almost the same form that it was presented by the ways and means committee two weeks ago.

All the opposing votes were cast by republicans, although there are many members on the democratic side strongly opposed to certain sections of the measure. Virtual re-drafting of the bill in the senate is regarded as certain. Material changes already are contemplated by the senate finance committee as a result of public hearings held during the long debate in the house. Final passage of the bill probably can not be accomplished in less than a month.

Outstanding features of the bill are the greatly increased income, inheritance, excess profits, liquor and cigar and tobacco taxes, virtual abolition of the present customs free list and a ten per cent addition to existing tariffs, new taxes on manufacturers, amusements, clubs, public utilities and insurance, a far-reaching stamp tax and a greatly increased mail matter rate based on the parcel-post zone system.

In only four particulars does the measure now differ substantially from the original draft. Surtaxes on incomes above \$40,000 have been in-

creased about one-fourth above the committee schedule. Several articles, including print paper and pulp and gold and silver, hitherto for a ten per cent duty, have been kept on the free list. Slight reductions in the second-class mail matter rate have been made. A proposed five per cent tax on all advertising, except newspaper and periodical is eliminated.

Attacks on the bill in the senate will center around the excess profits, income and manufacturers taxes and the second-class mail rate increase sections. Business men generally are protesting vigorously against the taxes and virtually every publisher in the country is opposing the drastically increased mail rate.

In a final effort to summon all of his party votes to support of the measure, Democratic Leader Kitchin declared that he had been informed personally by President Wilson today that he did not desire changes in the bill in the senate, as had been currently reported. Mr. Kitchin also appealed earnestly to all members to supply the president with money to carry on the war now that the country is in it.

"I would feel like a miserable coward," he said, "to impose a burden on my children and my children's children to pay for something for which they were not responsible, and yet refuse to take out of my pockets money for my share of the burden."

Republican Leader Mann insisted

that the bill would raise too large an amount of money by direct and immediate taxes.

"This bill approaches killing the goose that lays the golden egg," he said. "Indeed, I am afraid we are killing that goose today."

Mr. Mann placed every possible obstruction in the way of the measure thenceforth, even insisting on a roll call on a motion to re-commit. It was defeated, 246 to 161.

Autos to Be Taxed. A fight on behalf of automobile manufacturers won temporarily yesterday by Representative Doremus, of Michigan, was lost today. After amending in the committee of the whole, the paragraph fixing a five per cent tax on automobile manufacturers so that only those earning a profit of \$5,000 and eight per cent would be effected, the house, by a vote of 233 to 174, reversed itself and the original paragraph granting no exemptions was restored.

The house voted down, 345 to 60, a motion to strike out the increases in the Lenroot income tax surtax amendment which, it is estimated will be productive of \$66,000,000 additional revenue.

An unsuccessful effort also was made to eliminate the committee second-class mail matter rate section, which would increase on next March 1, the present flat rate of one cent a pound.

(Continued on Page Two.)

JOFFRE AND VIVIANI ARE AGAIN SAFE IN FRANCE

Sailed Secretly May 15 and Reached Destination Without Incident.

PARIS, May 23.—Marshal Joffre and former Premier Viviani arrived at Brest, last night on their return from the United States.

SAILED TUESDAY. WASHINGTON, May 23.—Vice-Premier Viviani, Marshal Joffre and the French mission sailed from New York Tuesday, May 15. Unknown except to a few officials and many American newspapers which loyally kept the secret so the distinguished guests of the nation might not be unnecessarily endangered by German submarines, the party slipped away on the same steamer which brought them over, and conveyed by a French warship.

So well was the secret kept by the volunteer censorship under which American newspapers are co-operating with the government, that the French commissioners generally were supposed to be still in Washington and up to yesterday invitations to them to visit various sections of the country were received in great number.

THE WEATHER. WASHINGTON, May 23.—Forecast for North Carolina: Fair continued cool Thursday; Friday fair warmer.

OPINIONS DELIVERED BY THE SUPREME COURT

Two Buncombe County Cases in List Decided by Tribunal.

RALEIGH, N. C., May 23.—The Supreme court delivered opinions this evening in twenty-three appeals as follows:

Hunt vs. Jones, Chatham, affirmed; McNeil vs. Virginia Carolina Railroad company, Ashe, motion to reinstate denied; Kearns vs. Gray, Exeter, judgment reversed; Trust company vs. insurance company, Mecklenburg, no error; Ryder vs. Oates, Tuckersburg, affirmed; Granlin vs. Triplett and way company, Mecklenburg, no error; Freeman vs. Balfour, Randolph, reversed; Gauthier vs. Jones, Caldwell, modified and affirmed; Mining company vs. Snow Lumber company, Montgomery, no error; Wolf vs. Southern Railway company, Yadkin, affirmed; "randin vs. Triplett and Lumber company vs. Triplett, Watauga, no error; Brown vs. road commissioners, McDowell, affirmed; state vs. Killian, Buncombe, no error; McLenon vs. Ebbs, Madison, no error; Windlow vs. Gaiking, Edgecombe, affirmed; Clinton Hardware company vs. A. C. L. Railroad company, Sampson, affirmed; Johnson vs. McCleese, Pamlico, affirmed; Green vs. Norfolk Southern Railway company, Randolph, affirmed; Dan River Lumber company vs. Smith, Stokes, affirmed; Boyles vs. Electric Railway company, Mecklenburg, affirmed; Williams vs. Seaboard Air Line Railway company, Richmond, Adm. Inq.

BRAZIL'S ENTRY INTO THE WAR ONLY MATTER OF DAYS

Sinking of Tijuca Expected to Convert the Brazilian Pacifists.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Brazil's entry into the war is regarded here as a question merely of days. Those who have watched South American developments closely believe that the sinking of the steamer Tijuca may provide the incident required to place the more pacifist members of the Brazilian congress in the list of those willing to vote for active hostilities against Germany.

President Braz asked congress yesterday to revoke the declaration of neutrality and if congress accepts his suggestion, a formal declaration of war probably will follow immediately.

Brazil was one of the first South American countries to sever relations with Germany.

The president's message, emphasizing Brazil's traditional policy of continental solidarity and friendship for the United States, was received by cable today at the state department and at the Brazilian embassy.

GOOD CROP WEATHER. WASHINGTON, May 23.—Decidedly favorable weather for the advance of vegetation over almost all portions of the corn belt, in most of the western cotton states, and in several of the Atlantic coast states, prevailed during the week just ended, the National Weather service bulletin today announced. From Colorado northward and in much of the Pacific states the week largely was favorable also.

SUBMARINES NOT SO EFFECTIVE AS IN FORMER WEEKS

Work of the Allied Navies Reduces the Total of Ships Sunk.

AMERICAN UNIT IS PLAYING ITS PART

Germans Forced to Extend Date of "Starving England."

LONDON, May 23.—The sinking of eighteen merchantmen of more than 1,000 tons is reported in the weekly shipping statement.

Nine vessels of less than 1,000 tons and three fishing vessels also were sunk. The statement follows: "For the week ending Sunday: Arrivals, all nationalities, 3,644; sailings, 2,759. British merchantmen of 1,400 tons or over sunk by mine or submarine, eighteen; under 1,400 tons, nine; British merchantmen, unsuccessfully attacked, nine; British fishing vessels sunk, three."

Keeping up Work. This week's figures of vessels sunk by submarines show that the allied navies are keeping up the good work of the previous fortnight, and the American unit, although still a small one, shares the credit for excellent work. Not only are the sinkings being kept at a fairly low figure, but the offensive against U-boats also continues to show favorable results. The actual figures in this respect, however, are not known.

Admiralty Pleased. The British admiralty this week wears a pleased smile at the mention of the submarine campaign, for the results of the naval work in the past two weeks are regarded as really indicating an important victory over the Germans. The German naval people throughout the early months of the ruthless U-boat war freely predicted that England would be "on her knees" by June 1, and gloomy pictures were painted of grim famine certain by that date for the people of Great Britain and France.

June is almost here, and German victory in the submarine warfare seems as far distant as ever. There has been a constant improvement in the methods of the allies in opposing and suppressing U-boat activity, and these methods have become more and more successful with longer days and finer weather and increasing familiarity on the part of the skippers of merchant ships with the methods of naval control. An admiralty official said:

FIRST FOOD MEASURE IS BRIEFLY CONSIDERED IN UNITED STATES SENATE

Placed in Position for Continuous Discussion Until Disposal.

CONTROL OPPOSED.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The government's first food bill, providing for national foodstuff census and appropriating about \$15,000,000 for measures to stimulate production, was briefly considered today by the senate and placed in position for continuous discussion, beginning tomorrow, until final disposal.

In the house tomorrow, the second and more drastic administration measure, for control of foodstuffs, will be pressed for passage, subject to interruption only by conference reports.

This bill would authorize the creation of a food administration, price-fixing and prevention of hoarding.

The bill was brought before the senate today by Chairman Gore, of the agriculture committee. The brief discussion indicated some measure of opposition, even to the proposed conferring of power upon the secretary of agriculture to have agents inquire into business of food dealers and owners.

Opposition in the senate is largely centered upon the control measure. Senator Gore is said to oppose the price-fixing proposal and for that reason is not expected to sponsor or introduce the bill as introduced in the house by Representative Lever, of South Carolina, with the approval of the administration.

While congressional leaders plan to expedite both food bills, the senate leaders expect to await house action upon the control measure and possibly will postpone its consideration for several weeks until after the war revenue bill has been disposed of.

Table with circulation statistics for The Asheville Citizen. Circulation Yesterday: City 4,623, Suburban 4,575, Country 1,716. Net paid 10,914, Service 214, Unpaid 129, Total 11,257.