ASHEVILLE, N. C., MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 7, 1918.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

LEGISLATION TO AID OPERATION OF RAILROADS ASKED

President Wilson's Requested Legislation Heads Week's Program.

OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS COMING UP

Woman Suffrage to Settled in the House Next Thursday.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.-Legislation asked by President Wilson in connection with government operation of the nation's railroads heads the program of congress this week.

Interstate commerce committees of the senate and house meet tomorrow to begin consideration of the administration railroad bill and the membership of both bodies appear desirous of its early disposal. The senate committee tomorrow will hear prominent railroad executives and the house committee meets to map out a program and decide whether hearings will be held. Representative Sims. chairman and other members of the committee are inclined to favor hearings and they may ask Secretary Mc-Adoo to take charge of testimony for the government.

Other Legislation.
Other important legislation also is in the making for early consideration at the capitol. The senate democratic steering committee meets temorrow to

steering committee meets tomorrow to map out a program and also to fill the vacant chairmanship of the interstate commerce committee. The leaders generally expect the selection of Senator Smith, of South Carolins, over Senator Pomerene, of Ohio.

Woman suffrage is to be settled in the house next Thursday, when a vote on the resolution for submission of the Susan B. Anthony amendment to the constitution is scheduled. The result is in doubt with a very close vote indicated. Hearings on the resolution will be closed tomorrow by the pew house suffrage committee.

The principal business before the senate this week is disposal tomorrow of the Walsh-Pittman coal and oil and leasing bil, designed to open up vast western natural resources.

erations will continue and on Tuesday

the sonate privileges and elections committee will resume consideration of Senator LaFollette's alleged disloyal St. Paul speech and make plans to begin hearings, probably with former Secretary Bryan as the first wit-

The war inquiry of the senate mili-tary committee will continue tomor-row with further investigation of (Continued on Page Two.)

FOOD SITUATION IN THE **ALLIED COUNTRIES IS GRAVE AT PRESENT TIME**

Giving America More Concern Than at Any Previous Time.

GRAVE ANXIETY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The food situation in the allied countries of Eu-rope is graver than it has been at any time since the beginning of the war, and is giving American government officials deep concern. Official reports picture extreme food shortages in England, France and Italy.

The fact that conditions in Germany

and Austria are far worse offers the only reason for optimism in viewing the situation.

In England and France the situa-tion is described as critical in a cablegram to the food administration today from Lord Rhondda, the British food controller, which concluded "I view the situation with grave

anxiety."
Yesterday a cablegram from the French government said that the wheat crop had been requisitioned and that the bread ration would be but to allow only seven ounces of bread daily to all persons except the very poor and those doing hard man-ual labor. In Italy conditions are not good perhaps as in either England France.

Compulsory rationing will be started in England immediately with means the first commodity to be put under control. Distribution of butter and margarine will be taken in hand next and other foods will be added as they become scarcer. All of the principal foodstuffs will be rationed by April.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS ARE 'TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED' BY THE GERMAN DELEGATES

Demands of Russians that Conference Be Resumed At Stockholm Instead of Brest-Litovsk Is Rock on Which Conference Was Split.

The peace negotiations between the central powers and the Bolshevik government in Russia have been 'temporarily suspended,'' by the Germans.

From the meagre advices received, it appears that

the rock upon which a continuation of the pourparlers split, was the demand of the Russians that the conference be resumed at Stockholm, instead of at Brest-Litovsk. Dissatisfied with the proposals for peace made by the Teutonic allies before the recess of the Brest-Litovsk conference, Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, had been insistent on the deliberations being held on neutral soil instead of at the German eastern headquarters. The Germans, however, had been equally as firm in their determination not to treat with the Russians

of the Teutonic allies were at Brest-Litovsk awaiting them, had started for this town, but nothing has come through to show that these had any foundation in fact. The decision of the Germans to discontinue the sittings was arrived at during a crown council held in Berlin Satrday which was attended by Field Marshal von Hindenburg and General von Ludendorff, first quartermaster-

A belated dispatch from Berlin gives as the reason for the refusal of the Germans to consider Stockholm a place where peace might be advantageously discussed, the fear that British, French and American diplomats in the Swedish capital would by intrigue render all endeavors

Dispatches from Berlin indicate that although the reichstag parties in the main are supporting the government, considerable political unrest is prevalent and that strong efforts are being made to hold the socialists in

The socialist organ in Berlin characterizes the situan as extraordinarily serious.

Although the weather continues cold and much snow lies on the ground in northern France, there has been considerable activity by the infantry in the Arras sector, in Flanders and on the eastern part of the front along the Moselle river. Near Bullecourt the British have recaptured in a counter-attack the sap taken from them Saturday by the Germans. There were intermittent artillery duels Sunday along the entire battle front.

In the Italian theatre the big guns of both sides are

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.)

VIRGINIA ASSEMBLY TO CONSIDER PROHIBITION AS NATIONAL MEASURE

Put State on Record on Question.

GOVERNOR RETIRES.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 6 .- The general assembly of Virginia will convene here Wednesday for a sixty-day session, at which prohibition leaders are planning to put the state on record as favoring national prohibition. Perfection of the present liquor laws and and hardly known nation." a proposition to change the state tax!

Garden, Russell county, will retire from office during the present session. being succeeded by Westmoreland Davis, of Leesburg. The inauguration, which will take place at the state house February 1, will be characterized by a somewhat elaborate ceremony. The retiring governor is a nephew of General J. E. B. Stuart. means the first commodity to be put under control. Distribution of butter and margariae will be taken in hand ext and other foods will be added as they become scarcer. All of the principal foodstuffs will be rationed by April.

"I have repeatedly exid in public and private that there is no reason for immediate alarm airhough there is every reason for strict concerny and pressuriour pressures," said Lord Rhondda's message, "These statements in some instances have been twisted into a declaration that there is plenty of food in Engiand and Pessice.

"The food situation in this country, and I understand in this country, and I understand in the sain seems of the state of the sentition of the state of the sentition o the noted confederate cavalry leader. and like Governor-Elect Davis, is one

SERBIAN WAR MISSION PLACES WREATH ON TOMB OF GEORGE WASHINGTON

Prohibition Leaders Plan to Tribute From "a Small and Hardly Known Nation."

SPLENDID RECORD.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 .- In the presence of a gathering representa-tive of official Washington, Mileko Vesnitch, head of the Serbian war

a proposition to change the state tax system, which it is claimed now works as a hardship on cities and towns, also will be taken up.

Governor Henry C. Stuart, of Elk Garden, Russell county will retire (Carden, Russell county will retire)

"With God's help we will triumph even as he triumphed," said the secretary. "As America was made free from tyranny and injustice, so shall the world be made free from the sinister forces which threaten the freedom and prosperity of mankind." Dr. Vesnitch spoke of his people's love of liberty.

love of liberty.

"This, alas," he said, "has brought us misfortune. The autocrats and despots surrounding us, the Teutons and the Turks, have rushed upon us and have crucified Serbia, nay more, our whole race, the Yougoslavs. We have believed in the moral and in the political gosped which Washington preached and which he confirmed by his life. We shall rise again. The Argonaute whom General Pershing commands in Europe will complete the work of our liberty.

"Your beloved land stands at the

Ever Try to Quit Smoking?



German advices Saturday were to the effect that the Bolshevik delegates, on finding that the representatives of the Teutonic allies were at Proof Lit. BY M'ADOO ARE EXPECTED TO HASTEN LOADING AND UNLOADING OF FREIGHT

Charges Are Increased From Fifty to 100 Percent and McAdoo, in Addition, Issues Appeal to Shippers to Release Cars as Rapidly as Possible—Says Imperative Necessity for Releasing Freight Cars Exists.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6. WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—To promote more prompt unloading of freight cars. Director General Mc-Adoo today established new railroad demurrage rules for domestic traffic, effective January 21, continuing the present two days free time but providing for increases ranging from fifty to one hundred per cent in charges thereafter.

The director-general appealed to shippers and consigness to co-operate in releasing cars is made the pational americancy and to take special efforts

in releasing cars meet the national emergency and to make special enterty even before the higher demutrage charges go into effect to clear terminals as a contribution to the success of the war. The necessity for action was emphasized today by a report from A. H. Smith, assistant director general in charge of operations east of the Mississippi river that accommulation is increasing at points east of Pittsburgh and Buffalo."

Mr. Smith reported that the situa-

Mr. Smith reported that the situa-tion was due largely to cold weather, but that sickness among trainmen and engineers and scarcity of labor has ecessitated extensive curtailment of the supplying of fuel, food and necessaries service.

New Demurrage Rates.

"On these accounts I have feit

The new demurrage rates, approved by the interstate commerce commis-sion on request of the director general are \$3 per car for the first day after the two free days, \$4 for the second day and \$1 additional for each suc-ceeding day until the charge per day reaches \$10. This maximum then will be charged for every day or frac-tion thereafter. Existing demurrage rates in most sections of the country are \$1 for the first day after the two days free time, \$2 for the second day, \$3 for the third day, \$5 for the fourth

day and for each day thereafter.

Even these rates are several times higher than those which prevailed a year ago and which were raised last spring when congestion on eastern railroads became acute. Much higher rates are charged on the Pacific coast and in several other districts. and in several other districts.

and in several other districts.

No changes will be made for the present in demurrage rules or rates on export freight. The new regulations, said Mr. McAdou's order, "apecifically contemplate the cancellation of all average agreement provisions of existing rates." Deliverage agreement provisions of existing rates." tion of all average agreement provis-ions of existing tariffa." Railroads are instructed to file tariffs embedying the new rates with the interstate commerce commission and state commi

"An imperative necessity exists for "An imperative necessity exists for releasing freight cars for further service and for relieving teguninals which are now badly congested," said Mr. McAdoo in a statement accompanying the order. "These unfavorable conditions are injuriously affecting in a vital way the government's conduct of the war, its aid to the allies, and the supplying of fuel, food and necessity."

compelled to issue an order will take effect throughout the United States on the 21st day of January, 1918, providing for heavy increase in demurage charges unless cars are loaded and unleaded with promptness. In making this order I have fully considered the embarramments of shippers and consignees on account of the scarcity of labor, the inevitable weather, the irregularity of transpor-tation and the consequent frequent bunching of cars. Nevertheless, I am convinced that the total inconven-

iences and hardship on these accounts will be far smaller than the inconvenience and hardship which our people as a whole are suffering on account of the undue tying up of railroad equipment, and will be very small indeed compared with the menace which the widespread tying up of equipment causes to the health and comfort of the people and the successful conduct of our war operations.

ful conduct of our war operations.

"I therefore appeal to every citizen to accept in a spirit of hearty co-oneraction the increased charges which will be imposed, and I especially appeal to every shipper or consignee as a patrictic duty, to employ every possible effort and expedient (even though it involves unusual and special arrangement and additional cost) to load and unload freight cars with the least possible delay in order that the existing congestion may be cleared up before the new demurage rule goes into effect."

In approving the filing of new de-

In approving the filing of new de-murrage tariffs, the interstate com-merce commission took action for the first time on a request of the directorgeneral for higher rates.

About one-fifth of the through pas-senger trains on eastern railroads were withdrawn from service today with the director-general's approval and within a week or two, many other passenger schedules will be curtailed. Disarrangement of passenger sche-dules in the last week, Assistant Di-rector Smith reported, was promoted largely by the number of persons re-turning home from holiday visits, he added:

"A shortage of labor at engine house (Continued on Page Two.)

ULTIMATUM ISSUED TO UNITED HEBREW TRADES

Must Not Harbor Independent Bodies, American Federation Says.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6 .- The American Federation of Labor virtually has issued an ultimatum to the United Hebrew Trades forbidding the latter from harboring independent bodies of workers or supporting unions that secede from the federation, it was announced tonight. Samuel W. Gompers, presided here today at a conference of committees representing the United Hebrew Trades and the Central Federated Union to consider a resolution adopted at the recent national convention of the federation, which required the Hebrew trades to cease from aiding independent and seceding President Compers announced that

the A. F. of L. executive council, to be held in Washington, February 11, will make public the decision of the United Hebrew Trades the latter or-ganization having asked for time to prepare its report.

DR. VENABLE CHOSEN.

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CHAPEL HILL, Jan, 5.—Dr. F. P.
Venable, head of the chemistry department, has recently been chosen as one of six distinguished chamists by Secretary of the Interior Lane to act as an advisory board to the United States bureau of mines. The constantly increasing war work of bureau necessitates these appointments. The board is composed of Dr. Wm. H. Nichols, New York, chalman; Dr. Wm. Hoskins, Chicago; Dr. E. C. Franklin, Leland Stanford, California; Dr. C. L. Parsons, Washington; Dr. H. P. Talbot, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and Dr. F. P. Venable, University of North Carolina.

PEACE NOT QUESTION OF TERMS, TAFT DECLARES

Are Convinced Military Conspiracies Must Fail.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—Peace can come only after every nation is convinced that all military conspiracies against the peace of the world are foredoomed to failure, former President Taft declared in an address on "The Great Wat" in Brooklyn today. "The Great War" in Brooklyn today.

"Peace is not a question of terms," he added. "Mr. Lloyd-George says Germany must cede Alsace and Lorraine before the war can end. There is much to support what he says, because the forty years' rule of the provinces by Germany has failed to swerve the people's allegiance to France. We must convince Germany that she is beaten and it may be that the ceding of Alsace and Lorraine would be a marked standard of her defeat. But, after all, terms are secondary; we must be sure that democondary; we must be sure that democracy shall be protected from militaristic conspiracy for the future."

CARDINAL GIBBONS PREACHES.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 6 .- In the presence of a great throng of persons, Cardinal Gibbons preached in the ca-thedral this morning. After the mass he held his annual New Year's recep-

ne need his annual New Year's recep-tion in his home.

The cardinal presched on "The per-petuity of the Christian republic," and declared that the people of the coun-try have an abiding faith in President Wilson.
"Let us pray that divine assistance

guide, direct, mold and fashion the actions of the president of the United States and that the way will be shown to a speedy permanent and honorable

VOLCANO UNEASY.

Technology; and Dr. F. P. Vensble, University of North Carolina.

STORM WARNINGS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Storm Warnings have been ordered displayed along the Atlantic coast from Wilnington, N. C., to Jacksonville, the reather bureau announced tonight.

SAN JUAN DEL SUR, Nicaragua. Jan. 6.—Irazu, a volcano 11,200 feet high, near the city of Cartago. Costa Rica, is manifesting signs of cruption. The old crater is vomiting immense volumes of smoke. The populations of Ja San Joes, the Costa Rican capital, Cartago and the neighboring town as a costage uneasy.

CHICAGO AND THE WEST IN GRIP OF SNOW STORM

Will Come After Nations Traffic of All Kinds Is Seriously Delayed-No Abatement in Sight.

> CHTCAGO, Jan. 6.—Falling snow driven by a thirty-five mile gale over the central west today has very se-riously impeded traffic of all sorts. Railway transportation officials re-Railway transportation officials reported tonight that trains operating between Chicago, St. Louis, Omaha, and Kansas city were "100 per cent delayed" with danger of total tie-upe becoming more imminent every hour. In Chicago, where the snowstorm was declared to be the worst that had visited this city for many years, street car traffic virtually was abandoned by the surface lines. Snow began falling at 10 o'clock Saturday night and by nightfall today the wind had by the surface lines. Snow began mally good with clear days and nights and by nightfall today the wind had blown it into drifts seven feet and more high in all thoroughfares.
>
> Weather bureau officials held out little hope of an early abatement of the storm.

RUSSIANS FAIL TO MOVE CONFERENCE TO SWEDISH CITY

Germany Contends That Her Delegates Have Reached Brest-Litovsk.

ROUMANIA WANTS TO CONTINUE THE WAR

French Government Protests Against Seizure of Banks in Petrograd.

LONDON, Jan. 6.—Dispatches re-ceived here from Petrograd dated Friday, and Saturday confirm the previous reports that the Russian peace delegation, including Leon Trotsky, the Bolsheviki foreign minister, returned to Brest-Litovsk in no deavor to arrange dor a tra the negotiations to neutral territory The German refusal to acquiesce in the Russian demand, according to these dispatches, was based on the fact that their delegates already had arrived at Brest-Litovsk.

Armistice Declare, An armistice has been declared in the Ukraine region, the rada, Ukrainian legislative body, and Bolsheviki having agreed to a promise of their differences. The r is said to be ready to decline support to General Kaledines Cossacks in return for the with of the Bolsheviki troops from

The Petrograd Post says the king of Roumania has cabled the extente allies that the Roumanians are demanding to continue the war, nowith-standing the desires of the troops on the Russian-Roumanian front, and

BEATING OFF THE ENEMY

Teuton Airmen, Reaching Padau, Meet Unexpected Surprise.

BOMB OTHER CITIES.

ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS IN NORTHERN ITAL, Saturday, Jan. 5.

—(By the Associated Press.)—Padua was spared another air raid last night largely through the daring of Italian aviators who went into the air an hour before moon rise and formed an aerial cordon around the city, meeting anomy machines as they advanced. enemy machines as they advanced.
The enemy aviaters, seeing the heavy concentration, diverted their course, going to Mestre, Bassano and Castelfrance where they caused some casualties and considerable loss at the last place. British aviators are doing especially good work. Their latest exploit was the destruction of an en-emy balloon at Susegana and the bringing down of an enemy airplane by gunfire. The artillery action along the moun-

tain and Plave fronts is intermittent and no longer shows the intensity of a big offensive. Along the upper Plave enemy batteries have been silent for a week, indicating either a shortage of ammunition or a possible movement, of forces westward to

other fronts.
Weather conditions continue about

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THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN
