

THE WEATHER:

Increasing cloudiness Friday followed by rain at night and Saturday.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 11, 1918.

NO FURTHER COAL FAMINE, RAILROAD DIRECTOR STATES

Assistant in Charge of Transportation Says Situation is Improved.

LOCAL SHORTAGES STILL INEVITABLE

Government Control of Express Companies is Now Being Considered.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—The railroad situation has improved under government operation sufficiently to guarantee that there will be no further coal famine in any part of the country this winter, Director-General McAdoo was informed today by A. H. Smith, assistant in charge of transportation on eastern lines.

Local shortages will be inevitable under existing abnormal conditions, Smith said, but indications are that no important industries will be forced to shut down because of lack of fuel, and householders will be supplied reasonably well. He added that this applied to New York and New England, where the coal shortage has been most marked in the east.

Express Companies.

Whether operation of express companies shall be assumed by the government was discussed with the railroad administration today by heads of the four principal express companies, and it was said Director-General McAdoo's advisory board in a few days would recommend that government control be extended to them. The express company executives were represented today as not opposing such a move, inasmuch as their earnings this year have fallen rapidly, and the government would provide more than their probable income, even if the interstate commerce commission should grant the pending request for ten per cent increase in rates.

The director-general expects to name tomorrow the board of four men to investigate the wage demands of the railway brotherhoods. The labor representatives have submitted a list of about fifteen men, which is acceptable to them, it was said tonight, and two will be chosen from the list.

Mr. McAdoo has been summoned to appear before the senate interstate commerce committee tomorrow to explain the administration railroad bill. A. F. Thom, general counsel for the railroad executives' advisory committee, has been granted permission to make a legal argument on the bill before the committee early next week.

Would Limit Control.

Frank Trumbull, chairman of the railway executives' advisory committee, testifying before the committee today, urged that the railroad bill be amended so as to definitely limit the duration of government control.

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SPEECHES EXPRESS THE WILL OF THE WORKERS OF BRITAIN AND AMERICA

So Declares Gompers, Praising President and Premier Lloyd-George.

SENDS MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—In a message of greeting cabled to W. A. Appleton, secretary of the British Federation of Trades unions, and other English laboring men who soon are to visit the United States, Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, declared today that the recent utterances of President Wilson and Premier Lloyd-George regarding the war aims of the United States and the allies have expressed the will and purpose of the workers of Great Britain and America.

The message follows: "Am gratified that you and a number of other representative British labor men are coming to the United States. You and they will find hearty greetings and co-operation.

"The declaration of the December British labor conferences at Westminster in its essential principles identified with the declarations of the November convention of the American Federation of Labor at Buffalo. The Lloyd-George declarations last week to the man power conference and those of President Wilson yesterday to the American congress are in accord upon the vital issues and aims in this war. Thus the official representatives of our governments and of the labor movements in these two countries have expressed the will and purpose of the people, the governments and the workers of Great Britain and America.

"If any call should be issued for an international conference of workers of all countries of the world, the American Federation of Labor will not participate. The people of Germany must establish democracy within their own domain and make opportunity for international relations that life will be secure and that people of all countries may live their own lives and work out their own salvation, and unless this has been accomplished by the German people themselves the allied democracies in this struggle must crush militarism and autocracy and bring a new freedom to the whole world, the people of Germany included. Until these essentials are accomplished an international labor conference with the representatives of the workers of all countries, Germany included, is prejudicial to a desirable and lasting peace."

TROTSKY INSISTS THAT PEACE NEGOTIATIONS BE REMOVED TO STOCKHOLM

Reported that Germans Want Sweden to Act as Intermediary to Allies—American Army Forming Rapidly—No Infantry Activity on Any Main Front.

LONDON, Jan. 10.—Unofficial reports received here concerning the first session of the peace conference at Brest-Litovsk, which was resumed Tuesday with Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, at the head of the Russian delegates, says that Trotzky in a speech insisted on a removal of the conference to Stockholm. Trotzky declared the Russians came to Brest-Litovsk not as the representatives of a conquered country and did not intend to ask for pity, but would continue to act as true revolutionists. He is reported to have told the German and Austrian delegates that if they did not accede to his request they would feel the weight of the voice of the democracies of the central powers and the weight of arms of the Russian democracy.

Did Not Decline.

The Evening Post asserts that the Germans replied that they did not decline to carry on the peace negotiations, but that they failed to specify where.

The German delegation in Petrograd is reported to have expressed the desire to the Swedish legation that Sweden act as the go-between with Great Britain, France and Italy.

The Russian delegation at Brest-Litovsk includes, in addition to Trotzky, who is serving as its president, one woman, Madame Bithenko, a former exile, and M. Joffe, M. Kameneff, M. Pokrovsky and three counsellors.

Nikolai Lenine, the Bolshevik premier, has gone to a Finland sanitarium for several days' rest.

AMERICAN ARMY GROWING.

The American army which is to be sent into the battle to make the world safe for democracy is rapidly being formed. In the nine months since the United States declared that a state of war existed with Germany the army has risen from 212,034 officers and men to 1,539,506 officers and men.

This statement has been made by Secretary of War Baker, who declared that no other army in the history of the world had ever been raised, equipped or trained so quickly. The secretary added that a "substantial" force of Americans already was in France and fit for active service and that full equipment is on hand for every man who will be sent to Europe during 1918.

Infantry Inactive.

On the fighting fronts the infantry is inactive, except for small raiding operations, but the artillery duels continue intense on various sectors. In northern Italy snow has fallen to a depth of from three to five feet, bringing the operations to a halt. The movement of supplies to the enemy armies in the hills is being greatly impeded and the indications at present are that fighting of great intensity will be impossible while the snow lies on the ground.

Unofficial dispatches dealing with the deliberations between the Bolshevik and the Teutonic allies at Brest-Litovsk indicate that for the present peace is not being discussed, but that the proposition of the Bolshevik to change the scene of negotiations to Stockholm is the paramount issue. Trotzky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, is

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SELECTIVE SERVICE QUESTIONNAIRE GIVEN APPROVAL OF FARMERS

Want Skilled Farm Laborers Defined Differently by Boards.

PASS RESOLUTIONS.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 10.—Resolutions adopted at a meeting here late today of the Association of State Presidents of Farmers' unions approved the general plan of the selective service questionnaire, but asked that exemption boards define a skilled farm laborer as "any man who understands and knows how to do farm work," rather than as a graduate of an agricultural school. The government also was asked to apply the same exemption rules to town and city young men who will work on farms as to those who will work in shipyards.

Another resolution called upon all cotton farmers to continue diversified farming and increase food and feed crops, even though it should be necessary to decrease cotton acreage. In an "address to the public," the association alleged that "the demand for fixing prices on cotton originates with those interested in low prices." "We protest against any interference with the price of cotton," said the address, "because in 1914 when cotton was as low as five cents and the farmers asked for help they were told that the law of supply and demand must regulate the price. Now we ask that the same law be allowed to rule in 1918. A committee was appointed to remain at Washington during the present session of congress and look after the interests of the cotton farmers. John A. Simpson, of Weatherford, Okla., was elected president and H. A. Morgan, of Alva, La., secretary.

At It Again



WOMAN SUFFRAGE BY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WINS IN THE HOUSE BY EXACT NUMBER OF VOTES REQUIRED

By Vote of 274 to 136, House Adopts Resolution Providing for Submission to the States of the So-Called Susan B. Anthony Amendment For National Suffrage—Congressman Weaver Only North Carolinian Supporting Measure.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Woman suffrage by Federal constitutional amendment won in the house tonight with exactly the required number of affirmative votes.

While members in their seats and throngs in the galleries waited with eager interest, the house adopted by a vote of 274 to 136 a resolution providing for submission to the states of the so-called Susan B. Anthony amendment for national enfranchisement of women.

But for the promise of Speaker Clark to cast his vote from the chair for the resolution if it was needed, the change of a single vote to the opposition would have meant defeat. Republican Leader Mann, who came from a Baltimore hospital where he has been under treatment ever since congress convened, and Representative Sims of Tennessee, just out of a sick bed and hardly able to walk to his seat, brought the votes that settled the issue.

Start Fight in Senate.

The house hardly had adjourned before the suffrage champions began their fight for favorable action on the senate side of the capital. Recent polls there have indicated that the necessary two-thirds could not be mustered, but encouraged by the house victory and counting upon the influence of President Wilson, who came to their support last night, the suffragists hope to swing the senate into line so as to have the amendment before the state legislatures during the year. They were not opposed from any quarter, according to advocates of the amendment had been supremely confident of the result in the house after President Wilson advised the members who called upon him last night to support it. They were so confident that the close vote was received with amazement, and some of the opponents were almost as much surprised. When the first roll call was finished unofficial counts put the result in doubt, and before the speaker could make an announcement there was a demand for a recapitulation. Then the name of each member and the way he was recorded was read.

The Resolution.

Announcement of the vote was greeted with wild applause and cheering. Women in the galleries literally fell upon each other's necks, kissing and embracing, and shouting "glory, glory hallelujah."

The resolution as adopted follows: "Joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women. Resolved by the senate and house, etc., two-thirds of each house concurring therein, that the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several states as an amendment to the constitution of the United States which when ratified by three-fourths of said legislatures shall be valid as part of said constitution, namely: "Article.—Section One. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex. Section Two. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

Every attempt made to amend this language was beaten. Representative

Gard, of Ohio, tried unsuccessfully to put on it the same limitation carried by the resolution for the prohibition constitutional amendment, that it must be ratified by the states within seven years from the date of its submission. Representative Moore, of Indiana, sought to have a referendum or special convention in each state required. The Gard amendment was rejected 159 to 246 and the Moore amendment 131 to 272.

When the final vote came on the resolution Representative Austin, of Tennessee, explained the vote of Representative Denmark, of South Carolina, who appeared late in the roll call and said he had not heard his name called. Dominick told the speaker he was in the hall and listening and did not hear his name called. His vote was then recorded.

The speaker watched the vote and prepared to cast his own into the breach if necessary. "One more negative vote," he explained afterward, as he chuckled over the victory, "would have changed the situation and the amendment would have been lost, in which event I would have directed the clerk to call my name and that would have been just sufficient to carry it. Of the total membership of 435, there 410 members who voted. Their line-up follows: "The Line-Up. For the resolution—Democrats, 104; republicans, 155; miscellaneous, 5. Total, 274. Against the resolution—Democrats, 102; republicans, 33; progressive, 1. Total, 136. Urgent orders had been given by (Continued on Page Two.)

WEBB'S CONFIRMATION HAD NO OPPOSITION

Asheville Man's Reappointment as U. S. Marshal Had Unanimous Support.

(By S. R. Winters.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—The nomination of Charles A. Webb, of Asheville by President Wilson to serve four years more as United States Marshal for the western district of North Carolina which was confirmed by the senate Tuesday, was not opposed from any quarter, according to a statement made today by Senator Lee S. Overman. Recent reports to the effect that confirmation would be opposed were without foundation, said the senator. Neither was the nomination of William T. Dorch to be marshal in the eastern district opposed. In the vote on the woman suffrage amendment in the house of representatives tonight Congressman Zebulon Weaver was the only North Carolina congressman to vote for the women. Congressman Weaver recently announced his intention to vote for the amendment, stating that he thought that the right of women to vote could not be disputed.

WILL BE HOSPITAL.

HAMPTON, Va., Jan. 10.—The southern branch of the National Soldiers' home here, will be taken over by the war department as an army base hospital. The many buildings will be remodeled and additions built. Negotiations are said to be in progress for additional lands. The present inmates, about 3,000 will be transferred to other stations. Three buildings and all improvements will revert to the board of managers at the close of the war.

SAILORS LOSE LIVES.

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Jan. 10.—Reports reaching here tonight said that a host of sailors from a United States battleship lost their lives a few nights ago while attempting to make their way through a field of ice from the ship to the shore. Details and official confirmation of the accident cannot be obtained here.

ARMY'S TOTAL PAY DURING DECEMBER IS LARGE AMOUNT

Figures Show Cost of Nearly Billion a Year for Fighting Men.

DOES NOT INCLUDE FAMILY ALLOWANCE

Service Pay and Extras Raises Total by Large Sum.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—The total pay of the United States army in December was approximately \$78,550,000, the committee on public information announced today in the second of its series of statements on the pay of the army and navy and the operation of the war risk insurance bureau. This is at the rate of nearly \$1,000,000,000 a year.

The total does not include family allowances or compensation for disability of soldiers provided for in the insurance act and paid through the war risk bureau.

Base Pay. The base pay of enlisted men ranges from the \$30 a month received by a private on entering the service to the \$81 per month received by senior grade quartermaster sergeants of the quartermaster corps, band leaders, master electricians, master engineers of the senior grade and master hospital sergeants.

Service pay for enlisted men, including non-commissioned officers, ranging from \$3 to \$24 a month, is allowed for continued re-enlistment and in the coast artillery extra pay ranging from \$2 a month to \$9 a month is allowed men when on special assignments. Enlisted men in the signal corps, while on duty which requires them to participate regularly in airplane flights, if they have the rating of aviation mechanics, receive fifty per cent increase in their monthly pay.

Enlisted Men.

Enlisted men, if serving in a foreign country, receive twenty per cent increase in pay computed on the base pay and service pay estimated prior to June 1, 1917, when an act of congress was passed.

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RED CROSS WAR COUNCIL MAKES APPROPRIATIONS OF ABOUT \$75,000,000

Hundred Million Dollar War Fund is Being Put to Use.

COLLECTIONS GOOD.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Appropriations aggregating approximately \$75,000,000 had been authorized by the Red Cross war council since its creation May 10, last, up to December 25, the council reported tonight in a statement giving the condition of its finances as of the latter date. Of this sum, \$30,000,000 actually has been expended, while collections from the \$100,000,000 war fund subscriptions have amounted to about \$7,000,000. Officials estimate that at least another \$6,000,000 will be collected from war fund subscriptions and some \$3,000,000 from the fund retained by certain chapters on account of the twenty five per cent which each chapter was to receive for local war relief work will bring the total of the fund to about \$133,000,000.

From this sum must be deducted about \$13,000,000 for local chapters' war relief fund in addition to the \$3,000,000 already retained and an estimated sum of \$1,300,000 to be paid to chapters of the fund yet to be collected. This would leave available for expenditures out of the war fund about \$88,000,000.

The total amount appropriated for Red Cross work in France is about \$37,000,000. After certain deductions are made from appropriations already authorized, there will be available for further appropriations an estimated sum of about \$33,000,000. The estimated balance, including collections yet to be made is \$50,000,000, subject to outstanding authorizations for expenditure.

The Red Cross' membership has increased from less than 500,000 last May to an estimated total of 23,000,000 today, while in the same period the number of chapters has increased from some 355 to about 15,000. In addition to these chapters, the Red Cross is working through operating commissions in France, England, Italy, Serbia, Russia and Roumania.

CONVICTION OF FOUR GERMANS IS UPHELD

Were Found Guilty of Sending Supplies to German Cruisers.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Conviction of four officials of the Hamburg-American line, including Karl Buehn, managing director, on charges of violating the custom laws, by sending supplies to German cruisers early in the war, was affirmed by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals here today. The decision also upheld the conviction of the Hamburg-American line, which had been sentenced to pay a fine of \$1. Besides Buehn, who is more than seventy years old, and who is a former German consul general in this city, the defendants were Adolph Hachmeister purchasing agent of the Hamburg-American line, who died after his conviction in district court; George Kotter, superintendent engineer, and Joseph Poppenhause, a second officer. Buehn, Hachmeister and Kotter had been sentenced to eighteen months each in the federal prison at Atlanta, Ga., and Poppenhause to a year and a day in the same institution.

COAL DEALERS TESTIFY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

Declare Disregard of Regular Channels Responsible for Shortage.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—New York wholesale coal dealers testifying before the senate investigating committee today attributed much of the coal shortage in New York and other places to disregard of regular channels of distribution by the fuel administration in its efforts to get fuel to certain communities.

W. A. Marshall was on the stand most of the day. His diagnosis was concurred in by C. C. Harris. Both discussed the situation generally and touched only lightly upon the acute shortage in their own territory.

Mr. Marshall spoke of the labor problem as a factor in the production shortage and predicted a scarcity of coal for several years. He praised the work of J. J. Starrow, New England fuel administrator, saying Starrow had "raised the devil" for others but had made good for New England.

Prices fixed by the government for coal at the mines was too low in many instances, the witness thought, and had resulted in reduced production without diminishing statistics showing an increase this year.

MORE LAND BOUGHT.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Jan. 10.—The Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock company today purchased 200 acres of land just outside the northerly city limits and 500 houses will immediately be erected with an appropriation of \$1,200,000 set aside by the shipping board for this purpose, according to Homer L. Ferguson, president and general manager of the yard.

The houses will care for 1,000 workmen which number will be added to the 5,000 now employed by the yard as soon as the building are completed. Mr. Ferguson says he would put on 5,000 additional workmen in the next six months if housing facilities could be provided.