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PRESIDENT URGES HASTE ON FOOD CONTROL BILL

House Already Has Begun Debate and Senate Will Start Later Today--Lever Explains Measure--Opposition Plans Hard Fight in Both Houses.

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—The Food Control Bill was introduced in the House today. With the personal influence of President Wilson behind it, it is expected to be passed promptly. While the bill was being explained to the House by Representative Lever, a motion picture showing the effect of the bill on the food supply in the United States was shown. The bill would "drag down" the price of foodstuffs to a level which would "bring back" the food supply to the conditions in the United States before the war. The bill would also prohibit the export of foodstuffs to other countries. The bill is expected to pass the House today and the Senate will start its debate later today. Opposition is expected in both Houses.

OUR INTEREST IN RED CROSS WORK

I am asked to write a word commending the work of the Red Cross. This I can most cheerfully do. It is the one organization which commands the unstinted commendation from all mankind and receives it from the divine approbation. From the time Florence Nightingale in 1854 organized her nursing department with 32 nurses to administer to the suffering soldiers in the Crimean war, until the present day, the nurse has been recognized as an angel of mercy. The Red Cross appears to be the only organization today, aside from the Christian church, which tempers its work with the divine attribute of mercy. The combined wealth and energy of the world today seem to have conspired to produce suffering, infirmity, wounds, and death. It is the mission of the Red Cross to relieve suffering, bind up wounds and nurse to life again those who are dying. Is it not such an organization worthy of our most hearty support? It should have our moral, prayerful and financial support. There is work to be done and money to be raised.

£7,000 is the amount allotted to be raised in Hickory. It can be raised, it must be raised. Garments for emergency cases must be made. They can be made; they will be made.

Mrs. W. B. Council whose contribution to this war can not be measured by any monetary consideration is in charge of the work. Let the good women of the town rally to her support and not forget the hours for sewing and other work. Let the men contribute freely of their means. It is possible that some of our own sons may be the soldiers suffering on the field of battle, and that it may be the gentle hand of the Red Cross nurse which will bathe his fevered brow, moisten his parched lips and nurse him back to life. If it should be our boy, no price would be too great to pay. If not our boy, it will be somebody's boy, just as sweet, just as dear to his mother's heart as ours is to us. Let us contribute of our money and dedicate our time to the work of this God-sent organization. As we have ministered unto these suffering ones, the smiles of Heaven may rest upon us and the divine approval may be "ye have done it unto me." J. L. MURPHY.

CONTRACTS LET FOR THIRTY-FOUR SHIPS

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—Contracts for 10 more steel merchant ships complete and for 24 additional wooden hulls today by Major General Gotchals, in charge of the shipbuilding commission of the government. The ships are to be delivered in 1918.

FUNERAL SUNDAY OF MARY CATHERINE GROVES

The funeral of little Mary Catherine Groves was conducted at the residence on Tenth avenue in the presence of a great number of friends and neighbors. A group of little girls carried flowers behind the beautiful casket. Favorite hymns of the family were sung. Mrs. Groves brother, Mr. J. Henry Weller of Hartford, Conn., general manager of the Hartford Mfg. Co. and Mrs. Groves' sister, Mrs. Emma Ridenour, of Hagerstown, Md., with her little daughter Charlotte, were here for the funeral. Mr. Weller left on No. 16 to return to his home, while Mrs. Ridenour will remain for a short visit to her sister. Appropriate remarks at the funeral were made by Rev. J. G. Garth of the Presbyterian church, of which the family are attendants. Mr. Garth read the following obituary: Mary Catherine Groves was born August 7, 1917 and died on Friday, June 15, 1917. She was a child of unusually sweet disposition, who won all hearts by her artless thoughtfulness, and her natural goodness. Though a child she beyond her years, causing those around her to feel she was marked for another world long before she was called home to be with God. Her talk and her manner both indicated a quite spiritual nature that prophesied for her either an early call to be with God, or a career of one on whom the Lord might lay a great charge for himself. These dealings of God are hard for us to understand, but we know He doeth all things well. He is ever mindful of His covenant. The sorrowing parents and family are assured of the deep sympathy of those who know their loss, and for them prayers go up to God for His sustaining grace.

TO PUNISH GERMANY FOR THOSE AIR RAIDS

By the Associated Press. London, June 18.—Replying to a series of questions in the House of Commons today on whether the British government had decided upon reprisals for German air raids on England, Andrew Bonar Law said the government intended to take steps not only for punishing the enemy, but for preventing air raids on England.

BAKER APPEALS FOR REGULAR VOLUNTEERS

The secretary of war has issued a statement to all recruiting officers urging them to express upon young men of spirit who desire to enlist in the regular army to do so at once, as valuable time has been lost for preparation and training. Registration is so far in hand now who will volunteer.

RED CROSS DRIVE IS BEGUN IN EARNEST

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—The big drive for the \$100,000,000 Red Cross war fund began at sunrise today everywhere in the United States with elaborate organization plans for making it a reality within the next few days. In big cities and towns organized machinery began gathering in funds which will provide not only for the populations in France, Belgium and Serbia. The great fund will be dispersed under the direction of the Red Cross War Council, recently created by President Wilson, to which some of the country's best organizers have been called.

SEEKING ACTION FOR WOUNDED NEGRO EMPLOYE

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—A verdict of \$225,000 in favor of Miss Mahora O'Brien, 28 years old, in her breach of promise suit against John B. Manning a retired banker and millionaire, 85 years old, was awarded by a state supreme court in Long Island City today. The plaintiff's secretary told a New York newspaper man that the defendant, the father of grown children, broke his promise to marry her.

ARCANUM RECEIVER HAS BEEN DISMISSED

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—Unless there are unforeseen developments to hurry construction of the 16 new cantonments for the national army, the first increment of 600,000 troops will not be in training by September 1, or six weeks thereafter.

ELLIOTT LOT IS ACCEPTED FOR LIBRARY

By the Associated Press. Schenectady, N. Y., June 18.—Two thousand machinists at the plant of the General Electric Company struck today as a protest against the employment of a negro. Last week Robert Dixon, a negro student at Dickson College, was given employment during vacation. The men protested on the ground that his employment was the entering wedge to replace white men with negroes. On Saturday the union notified the management that unless Dixon was dismissed they would strike today. The company declined and this morning the men left their benches.

BRITISH FLAG GOES UP BUNKER HILL

By the Associated Press. Boston, June 18.—The British Union Jack was taken up Bunker Hill for the first time today in a military demonstration commemorating the battle of Charlestown between the British regulars and the minutemen 142 years ago. It flutted ahead of the highland kilties returning to the war from Canada where they had been on recruiting duty. The parade was the principal feature of the celebration of Charlestown. Thousands of sailors, marines and national guardsmen were in the procession.

NEGRO EMPLOYEE IS CAUSE OF STRIKE

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DELAY EXPECTED IN SECURING CAMPS

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MORE WATERMELONS PROMISED IN SOUTH

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—Watermelon and cantaloupe acreage in the principal producing states show an increase over last year, the department of agriculture announced today. The watermelon acreage is 98,100 an increase of 12 per cent, and the cantaloupe area at 4,600, an increase of 17 per cent.

NAVY TO BUY FUEL AT ITS OWN PRICE

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—Secretary Daniels has ordered coal and oil purchased to supply the enormous supply used by the navy at prices which the federal trade commission will name. The navy will use 150,000 tons of coal and 50,000 million barrels of oil purchased under the authority of congress.

WHAT WOMEN ARE DOING IN NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh, June 18.—"Let the women do the work" is far from being the slogan of the men of North Carolina. The fact that the good women of the state have quickly realized the emergency that confronts the country and in the great war is very readily seen by anyone who has any power of observation at all. North Carolina women, particularly those in the cities, are doing a wonderful work through the Red Cross societies, but an even greater force, not only in the country but in the cities and towns as well, have just been revealed and energetically assumed their share of the burden in the campaign for food production and conservation.

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BRITISH FALL BACK FROM NEW POSITIONS

By the Associated Press. London, June 18.—The British have fallen back from some of their advanced posts in northern France, according to an official statement today. The main new positions are still held.

ROTARIANS GATHER IN ATLANTA TODAY

By the Associated Press. Atlanta, Ga., June 18.—Delegates to the eighth annual convention of the International Association of Rotary Clubs were formally welcomed to Atlanta today for a session that will last five days.

MARKETS

By the Associated Press. New York, June 18.—The cotton market showed renewed strength and activity early today. An advance of nearly two cents a pound in Liverpool was followed by a jump of prices here and inside the first half hour active months had sold 62 to 83 points net higher with all deliveries making new high records. The close was steady.

PEANUT ACREAGE SHOWS BIG INCREASE

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—Almost 61 per cent increase in the peanut acreage this year is indicated in the preliminary report of the department of agriculture. The total acreage is 2,010,000 acres. All the producing states except Virginia and North Carolina show an increase.

JAPANESE DESTROY TEUTON SUBMARINE

By the Associated Press. London, June 18.—An official statement issued today by the British admiralty says that a Teuton submarine was sunk by a Japanese steamer in the Mediterranean.

PERSHING IS BUSY IN MILITARY OFFICE

By the Associated Press. Paris, June 18.—Major General Pershing was hard at work in his office today. He has completed the round of social functions in connection with his arrival and has a busy week ahead of him. The general is preparing for the arrival of American forces.

PESSIMIST WITH LEAD PENCIL

New York Sun. Prof. Irving Fisher of Yale university has been correctly reported he said recently in Pittsburgh: "The Life Extension Institute has shown that 99 per cent of our population is below par. Our health ideals are low, far lower than those of Germany, Japan, Switzerland or Sweden and still lower than those of ancient Greece. Wasn't this understating the case? Are not our health ideals lower likewise than those of Rome, Carthage, San Marino, China, England and France? To say that 99 per cent of our population is below par is to state the truth but roughly. Who knows but the percentage may be 99.44? Let there be no concealment of the truth! An enfeebled nation with wretched caloric standards is about to fight robust and highly trained warriors who thrive on food substitutes. The outcome is certain. The only thing to be guarded against is the prevailing tendency of Americans to cheer up in the face of discouragements and to think that they have a chance of success notwithstanding appalling statistics."

FRANCIS X. BUSHMAN AT PASTIME TODAY

The following is a short synopsis of the 16th chapter of the Great Secret, featuring Francis X. Bushman and Beverly Bayne which will be shown at the Pastime this afternoon and tonight: Dr. Zulph goes to the home of "The Great Master," and comes away convinced of his death. The men under him are not satisfied with his report, however, and he takes them to "The Great Master's" tomb and shows them the body. Strong next sets another trap for the doctor. He is told that Jane Warren, before she became unconscious, asked that he perform the operation required by her assistant. Zulph sees a chance to put her out of the way forever, and eagerly consents. The incidents leading up to the scene in the operating room are full of suspense, and are played by the different members of the cast in the right tempo.

JUDSON CLEMENTS DIES IN WASHINGTON

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—Commissioner Judson Clements of the interstate commerce commission died here today. His home was in Rome, Ga. Commissioner Clements had served on the rate making body since 1892 and once had been chairman. He was 60 years old and a native of Georgia and before going on the commission had served five terms in congress, being appointed by President Cleveland and reappointed by President Taft and Wilson.

WAR REVENUE BILL IS SHIFTED ASIDE

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—Revision of the house war tax bill by the senate finance committee promises to proceed with less speed now that the food bill has precedence in the senate. Because of the absence of several senators, the committee today postponed action on Senator Penrose's motion to recommit the tax of five per cent on newspapers and other publications.

SHIPBOARD WILL PAY LESS FOR STEEL

By the Associated Press. Washington, June 18.—A basis of \$56.20 a ton was fixed for steel plates in contracts for 10 steel ships signed by Chairman Denman of the shipping board. Contracts earlier had been awarded at \$95 a ton.

THE WEATHER

For North Carolina: Probably fair tonight and Tuesday. Warmer tonight, gentle variable winds.

BAD EXPLOSION IN AUSTRIAN DEPOTS

By the Associated Press. Vienna, via London, June 18.—It is officially announced that an explosion occurred in the military munition depots at Steinfield, 31 miles from Vienna. The statement says that three of the depots have been destroyed thus far and that 100 persons have been injured. Unofficial reports say that six persons were killed and 300 wounded in the Steinfield explosion.

CHAPTER MASONS WILL HOLD BUSINESS MEETING

Catawba chapter No. 60, Royal Arch Masons, will hold a special meeting tonight. Business of importance will come up.