

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

FINAL EDITION

WEATHER FORECAST. North Carolina—Rain tonight...

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 23, 1918.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

NINE MORE SHIPS SENT DOWN BY THE UNDERSEA BOATS

British Steamer of Over Three Thousand Tons Among Today's Victims.

ANOTHER NORWEGIAN STEAMER INCLUDED.

Paris Makes Known Long List of Vessels That Have Been Sunk — American Vessel Runs The Gauntlet From New York to Bordeaux.

Nine vessels aggregating 9,000 tons and two others of unknown tonnage were reported sunk today in the Teutonic submarine campaign.

The largest was the British steamer Wathfield, of 3,012 tons. The Norwegian steamer Doravore, of 2,760 tons, ranks next. Another British vessel, probably the British bark Invercauld, of 1,416 tons, the British steamer Ape, of 500 tons; two British fishing smacks and three Italian sailing vessels, aggregating approximately 1,200 tons, are added.

Advices from France indicated that the steamer Orleans was probably through the submarine zone and expected to reach Bordeaux today.

David Lloyd-George, the British premier, announced in the House of Commons today a programme of drastic measures for dealing with the submarine menace to Great Britain's food and other supplies.

The plan probably is for the stimulation of British food production and the curtailment of imports, chiefly luxuries. The demands on cargo space thus are expected to be reduced by several million tons. He expresses his conviction that if all the plans were carried out and every one helped who could, the nation could face the worst its foes could do.

No important military operations are reported.

British Report. (By The Associated Press.) London, Feb. 23.—The sinking of two fishing smacks was announced by Lloyd's today.

The sinking of the British steamer John Miles of 987 tons, reported in a news agency announcement last night, was confirmed by the shipping agency.

The British steamer Wathfield of 3,012 tons gross, built in 1905 and owned in West Hartlepool has been sunk says another Lloyd's announcement. The crew was landed.

The Invercauld Goes Down. Queenstown, Feb. 23.—The British steamer Invercauld has been sunk by a submarine. The crew was landed.

No British steamer Invercauld is listed in available records. A British bark Invercauld of 1,416 tons gross sailed from Gulfport, Miss., December 31, for Fleetwood, England.

French Gives A List. Paris, Feb. 23.—An official list of vessels sunk between February 20 and February 22, issued today contains the following:

Doravore, (Norwegian steamer 2,760 tons).

Ape, (British steamer 500 tons).

Sun Michael, (Italian three masted bark 583 tons).

Circenani, (Italian brigantine 105 tons).

Adrian, (probably the Italian sailing vessel Adalina of 528 tons).

The Dutch steamer Ambo, of 3,998 tons previously reported sunk, may have been taken in tow.

Wathfield, (3,012 tons, sinking, reported by London's Lloyd's).

Monarch, (not identified).

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ROBERTS AGAIN FORWARD WITH A LIVE WIRE BILL

House Gets Its First Initiative and Referendum Measure of Session.

SENATE CONCURS ABOUT CONSTITUTION

Would Provide For Election on Question of Constitutional Convention—Sampson School Board Bill Up.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 23.—Robertson, of Buncombe, today offered the initiative and the referendum in the House, the first bill of that character presented this session.

Its late presentation is argued as an advantage because the House has spent itself in killing the other Progressive bills of the Buncombe representative. The committee will report on it Saturday.

The Senate's passage of the chiropractors' bill today made it law, only sixteen of the upper House men having voted against this measure. Twenty-nine supported it. It went through as written, save the Penzler amendment, which gives the Governor the power of appointment of examiners from the profession. Senator Allen failed in two amendments, placing prominent physicians on the board.

The Senate passed the constitutional convention resolution, and completed the House measure. At the regular election the question will be submitted to popular vote, and, if carried, a convention to amend the constitution will be called here. Only four votes were cast against it.

Eight Democrats today voted to give Sampson county the right to elect its county school boards. They were Blue, Holderness, Jones, Linn, Person, Scales, Thompson and Tucker. It was observed that this broke all precedent of a similar nature.

In the House the Warren Senate bill creating four new judicial districts and providing as many emergency judges, was lost by forty to sixty-one after the most interesting parliamentary fight of the session. Western men, unwilling to vote for the sought amendments that would have given the East relief, but Ray of Macon, fighting all increases by destroying the compromise measures through parliamentary tactics, put the main question and on second reading the Warren bill was lost.

Representative Doughton introduced a new bill providing for two emergency judges, was lost by forty to sixty-one after the most interesting parliamentary fight of the session.

The House committee on the regulation of the liquor traffic reported the loss of the Page bill providing a prohibition commissioner at a salary of thirty-five hundred dollars. Henry Page alone voted for the bill, and sixteen against it.

The Senate—Thursday. The House was convened at 10 o'clock by President Gardner, prayer by Rev. J. E. Underwood, presiding elder. Numbers of the committees made reports of bills with favorable reports and some with unfavorable reports. There was received a message from the House transmitting a big batch of bills to go through the Senate in their progress toward enrollment. These were referred to various committees. Thereafter, the Senate took recess to 7:30 o'clock tonight in order that the Senators might spend the day at the A. & M. College for the ceremonies inaugurating President Riddick.

The House—Thursday. This House was convened at 10 o'clock by Speaker Murphy. New bills were introduced as follows: (Continued on page seven.)

WILL CALL EXTRA SENATE SESSION

President Decides On This For The Purpose of Considering Nominations.

(By The Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 23.—President Wilson, it was officially announced at the White House, has decided to call an extra session of the Senate for March 5 to consider nominations. The President's decision to have the Senate in extra session, it was said, paved the way for the customary inaugural ceremonies in the Senate chamber of the Vice President, including the swearing in of new Senators.

AMERICAN MISSIONARY PERISHED ON FRENCH SHIP

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 23.—Robert Allen Haden, an American Presbyterian missionary, stationed at Foo Chow, China, perished when the French liner Athos was destroyed by a submarine 210 miles east of Malta, on February 17.

Consul Kelingar at Malta cabled a report of Haden's death to the State Department today and said that the missionary's address was given as in care of the Presbyterian Mission Board at Nashville, Tenn.

The report from the Malta consul is the first mention received here of the sinking of the Athos. The vessel was of 7,525 tons net and sailed from Yokohama December 26 for Marseilles, stopping at Haiphong January 8.

WOLGAST SUFFERS NERVOUS BREAKDOWN.



AD. WOLGAST.

Chicago, Feb. 23.—Ad Wolgast is closely confined in a hotel here, attended by his physician and a trained nurse. The former lightweight champion is a very sick man, according to his physician, who states that the fighter has a bad attack of "nerves."

Although his manager won't admit it, it is understood Wolgast's career as a fighter is about over. He was brought to Chicago from Hot Springs, Ark., where he had been for some time trying to shake off the malady which has beset him.

BOYS SHOULD BE TRAINED A YEAR

The War Department Makes Known Its Desires For Universal Military Service.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 23.—The War Department made public today a synopsis of the army general staff universal service and training plan which was also sent to Congress with estimates of cost and a detailed outline for a bill to carry it into effect.

The main essentials of the plan are: "One year of military training for all boys in their 19th year except those exempted for specified reasons. Exemption to be extended to those physically or mentally unfit, and those who are the sole support of otherwise destitute dependents.

Training to consist of 11 months during the first year and two weeks, during the second and third years of a reservists' liability.

War service to be required of all who have been trained in the first and second reserve, the first reserve duty to extend over a period of four years and one month after training and second reserve duty for seven years. At the conclusion of service in the organized reserve the men would remain liable for duty until they reached 45.

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MUST HUNT SUB. FROM DEEP, SAYS LLOYD-GEORGE

English Premier Declares Problem at Present in the Tonnage Shortage.

GRAVE MEASURES ARE NOW REQUIRED.

Can Cope With the Menace by Taking Drastic Steps, He Tells House of Commons.

(By Associated Press.) London, Feb. 23.—Premier Lloyd-George said in a speech in the House of Commons today that the success of the allied cause depended upon the ability to solve the tonnage shortage, which was now affecting the ordinary needs of the nation and military exigencies.

The situation, he declared, called for the gravest measures. The Premier said there was no sure way to victory without hunting the submarines from the deep.

Enormous sacrifices were necessary from the British public, said Mr. Lloyd-George. He stated the government proposed to dispense with all non-essential importations to save tonnage.

There was a crowded house at the special meeting held today to listen to the Premier's statement on the restriction of imports and the encouragement of agriculture. Among those in the diplomatic gallery were Premier Borden of Canada, Premier Massey, of New Zealand, and many representatives of allied nations and the dominions.

The Premier said the ultimate success of the allied cause depended on the solution of the tonnage difficulties with which they were confronted. Before the war British tonnage had been just adequate and since that time there had been an enormous increase in the demand for tonnage.

More than 1,000,000 tons of British shipping had been transferred to France alone and a very considerable amount had been set aside for Russia and Italy. In addition a considerable amount had been sunk.

Mr. Lloyd-George said that for sometime there has been a shortage of tonnage required for the general needs of the nation and even a slight shortage in the tonnage for military purposes. The nation should realize absolutely what the conditions were.

"If we take drastic measures," he continued, "we can cope with the submarine menace, but if the nation is not prepared to accept drastic measures for dealing with the menace disaster is before us."

"The Government is hopeful of finding means of dealing with the submarine, but we should be guilty of folly if we rested tranquilly upon the expectation of realization of that hope. We have to deal ruthlessly and promptly with the tonnage problem by measures which impose great sacrifices upon the country."

"There are three sets of measures: "First by the Navy as ascribed by Sir Edward Carson (first lord of the admiralty); second, the building of merchantships; third, dispensing with unnecessary commodities from abroad, and production of as much food as possible at home."

The stock of food in Great Britain at the present time is lower than it ever has been before, Mr. Lloyd-George said. It was essential for the life of the nation, he declared, that every possible effort be made to increase home production.

The opinion was expressed by the Premier that food prices were not likely to decrease for a long time after the war, inasmuch as Germany would then be a heavier purchaser than ever before. Therefore it was safe to grant to the farmers a minimum price over a definite period of time, which was the only way to bring about immediate action.

The Premier also proposed a minimum wage of 25 shillings weekly for agricultural workers.

The importation of apples, tomatoes and fruits will be prohibited entirely. For wheat the government will guarantee the farmer the following minimum prices per quarter:

For the present year, 60 shillings; for 1918 and 1919, 55 shillings; for 1920, 1921 and 1922, 45 shillings.

Brewing will be cut down to ten million barrels annually. A similar reduction will be made in the output of spirits, affecting a saving of 600,000 tons of foodstuffs.

The importation of aerated, mineral and table waters will be prohibited. Powers will be given to the board of agriculture to compel land owners to cultivate their ground.

The minimum wage for farm labor announced by Mr. Lloyd-George is 25 shillings a week, representing an increase of 50 to 80 per cent, over the present prevailing payment.

The importation of paper, the Premier announced, must be curtailed by a further 640,000 tons annually.

The Premier announced that the government would guarantee at a price of 38 shillings six pence for oats this year, 32 shillings for the next two years, and 24 shillings for the three following years. The price of potatoes (Continued on Page Eight.)

ORDNANCE CHIEF UNDER GOES OPERATION.



BRIGADIER-GENERAL W. CROZIER.

Baltimore, Feb. 23.—Brigadier-General William Crozier, chief of the Ordnance Bureau of the United States army, has entered the hospital at Johns Hopkins University here to undergo a skin-grafting operation of an unusual nature.

Fifteen years ago while under the X-ray he was severely burned and the tissues of his skin have become so thin that it was found necessary to graft new skin over the burned area.

Washington, Feb. 23.—It was definitely decided today that President Wilson will take his new oath of office in private in the White House, on Sunday, March 4.

Whether he will take it again at the public ceremony on March 5, or merely make that the occasion for delivering his inaugural address has not been decided.

"There is no interregnum between the expiration of the term of one President and the beginning of the term of his successor," said the State Department's ruling, "although there may be a slight interval when the executive power is suspended."

The opinion is given in a circular letter made public by Assistant Secretary Adee.

President is cited showing that President Hayes, who was elected for the term beginning with March 4, 1877, which day came on Sunday, was sworn in at 7:05 p. m., March 3, at the White House by Chief Justice Waite, and that the oath was again taken by President Hayes on March 5, after his inaugural address.

The letter also cites an opinion by Chief Justice Marshall given at the time when a Presidential term first commenced on Sunday, in which the Chief Justice and his associates advocated postponing the oath 'till Monday "unless some official duty should require it being taken on Sunday."

As the Constitution only provides that the President shall take the oath it prescribes "before he enter on the execution of his office," and as the law is silent on the subject," says the Department's ruling, "the time seems to be in some measure, at the discretion of that high officer. There is an obvious propriety in taking the oath as soon as it can conveniently be taken and thereby shortening the interval when the executive power is suspended. But some interval is inevitable. * * * This interval may be unavoidably prolonged. * * * If circumstances should render it unfit to take the oath on the Fourth of March, and the public business would sustain no injury by its being deferred till the 5th, no impropriety is perceived in deferring it till the 5th."

No attempt is made to forecast the action of President Wilson.

This will permit the inauguration of the vice president in the Senate chamber as is the custom, with all the attendant ceremonies.

President Wilson himself, it was also announced, will take an oath of office privately in the White House Sunday March 4. It was not made clear whether he has decided to take the oath at the public open-air ceremonies on the plaza at the capitol on March 5, or whether he will merely make the ceremony the occasion for delivering his inaugural address. It is probable, however, that he will take another oath then to make the inaugural ceremony complete in all its usual features.

WON'T ACT ON BRITISH ORDER AT PRESENT.

(By The Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 23.—Announcement was made at the State Department today that Great Britain's recent order in council widely increasing the scope of her blockade had been received but would probably not be acted upon under the circumstances but on the basis of official action by this government in view of the eventualities before this country.

HE WOULD EMPOWER PRESIDENT TO TAKE OVER FOODSTUFFS

Senator Lewis Introduces Bill to Give Such Power In Emergency Cases.

MARTINE WOULD HAVE FOOD EMBARGO

Fight to Lower Cost of Living Goes On — Philadelphia Housewives Propose to Establish a Co-operative Store. Going After The Middleman.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Senator Martine today introduced a bill to empower the President to declare an embargo on food exports. It was referred to the Foreign Relations committee without debate. Similar resolutions are pending without prospect of action.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Senator Lewis, Democrat, today introduced as an amendment to the Revenue bill, a provision to authorize the President to seize foodstuffs deemed to be monopolized in violation of the law. Foodstuffs so seized would be disposed of at public sale under government supervision.

The Lewis amendment would authorize the President whenever information to justify his action should be obtained, to proclaim "that the food and necessities of life of a citizen are being monopolized and wrongfully held by persons in the United States for the purpose of an unjust increase in price" and to provide for lawful seizure of such necessities in any United States court by processes that might be filed by any United States attorney.

Seizures might be made by any law officer of the Federal government or State officer authorized to act in conjunction with him, or by authority of the President through executive order.

Fight in Philadelphia. Philadelphia, Feb. 23.—Housewives of this city, tiring, they say, of protests in the abstract against soaring food prices and ineffectual remonstrances with dealers today announced they had determined on a concrete method of lowering prices, a co-operative store being the medium selected.

The individual pinching felt through high prices has broadened into a community sensing of the problem, public attention being sharply focused on the food situation by the sporadic rioting in the southeastern and northern parts of the city. These areas house a huge tenement population, of foreign birth for the most part.

Club women and housewives have joined forces to eliminate the profits of middle men. The Keystone co-operative company has been formed and is to open a store in the heart of the city where the general public may buy food at wholesale prices, plus the bare running expenses and a small percentage to the stockholders.

Housewives of Kensington, an industrial section of the city have allied themselves with the movement and yesterday through Mrs. Hugh Munroe, a settlement worker, sent a message to Mayor Smith, who is on a vacation in Florida, appealing for his aid in the fight for lower prices.

The New York Situation. New York, Feb. 23.—At the board of estimate meeting today Mayor Mitchell, in pursuance of his promise to Housewives, brought up their request that the city purchase food and re-sell it at cost to the needy.

The mayor prefaced his action by saying he did not believe the city had power to act but that the problem, was one properly for the State Legislature. Mrs. Jacob Pankin, one of the women spokesmen charged the mayor with prejudging their case before placing before the board their proposition that \$1,000,000 be appropriated as a relief fund.

"You learn, Mr. Mayor," she said, "that you cannot afford to ignore our cry for food. Do you prefer the people to take the law into their own hands or to provide us justice yourselves. We cannot wait two and a half years for the legislature to act. We want you to take up our cudgels for us. You cannot afford to ignore the cry of women and children for bread."

"It is not true we are ignoring you," the Mayor replied. "We are doing all we can."

Several hundred women gathered in an Eastside public square while the board of estimate meeting was in progress and listened to anti-high speech.

FRYE CASE CANT BE ARBITRATED

Sinking of Other American Ships Has Placed This Out of The Question.

(By The Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 23.—Arbitration of the case of American sailing ship William P. Frye, destroyed by the German commerce raider, Prinz Eitel Frederick, now is considered out of the question, it was said at the State Department today because of other sinkings of American ships.

The United States, it was said, agreed to arbitrate the case on the condition that no more American ships whether carrying full contraband or only conditional contraband were to be sunk. This condition is held to have been violated by Germany's recent submarine operations and the Frye case will have to await the developments of the general situation between the two countries.

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