

Controversy Is Gathering About Universal Draft Sponsored By Veterans

American Legion Favors Conscription Wealth and Labor as Well as Fight- ing Men in Wartime

OPPOSITION IS STRONG

And While Advocates More
Numerous and Powerful
Opponents Can Delay Ac-
tion Just Now

By DAVID LAWRENCE
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Washington, Jan. 12.—To
make war so unattractive and
unpopular that the people of
all classes in the United
States will hesitate a long
time before permitting them-
selves to be plunged by Con-
gress into hostilities with a
foreign country is the avowed
purpose of the universal draft
law about which a controver-
sy is gathering.

The American Legion, mindful
of the fact that its members went
to war on 30 months while day
laborers and others drew excellent
wages much in excess of \$30 a
week, is determined that Congress
shall enact some law now cover-
ing the universal draft of war-
time, so that all laborers and
workers of all kind may be con-
scripted and paid military wages
if necessary, and so that all manu-
facturing plant and other in-
dustries may be taken over by the
Government and compensated for
within the Government discretion.

President Coolidge received a
thundering ovation in Omaha at
the Legion Convocation when he
espoused the principle behind the
universal draft. Leading Democrats
as well as Republicans are
favorable to the measure. Senator
Capper of Kansas, Republican and
Representative Royal Johnson,
Republican, are sponsoring the
bill. Mr. Capper says he has been
corresponding with men who had
actual experience with the prob-
lem during the war, men like
Bernard M. Haruch, chairman of
the War Industries Board, and
they all think the problem should
be tackled with a view to a rea-
sonable distribution of war burdens.

Mr. Baruch has contributed
money to Johns Hopkins University
for a special investigation of
war profiteering.

In answer to the critics who say
war legislation should properly be
left to war times and that a war
is at least 20 years away anyhow,
the proponents of the measure say
they think a universal draft law
would act as a constant deterrent.
In other words, if wealth knew
that conscription of wealth was
certain, there would be little mo-
mentum from that quarter toward
entering a war. There still is a
belief among some classes of peo-
ple, particularly in the West, that
the temptation of war profits or
rather the investments of Ameri-
can banks and manufacturing
concerns in the supply of munitions
in the two years before the
United States entered the war,
had much to do with the decision
of Congressional representatives
from those sections of the country
in voting for war.

Whether ill-founded such theo-
ries may be, there are other crit-
ics in Congress who have been
contending that war profits were
entirely too great and that the
men who did the fighting suffered
by comparison. Labor, of course,
has pointed out many flaws in the
proposed bill arguing that the
measure would be unconstitutional,
but while there are differences
of opinion as to method, there
is no question as to the desirability
of the idea of equal distribution
of war burdens.

Secretary Wilbur of the Navy
Department is quoted as doubting
the constitutionality of certain
provisions of the Capper-Johnson
bill, believing it would set up a
war dictatorship, while Secretary
Davis of the War Department,
takes the opposite view.

In any event, the principal dif-
ference in the method. Therefore
it has been suggested that a special
committee be appointed to in-
vestigate the problem and report
recommendations to Congress so
that there can be no doubt of the
validity of the legislation finally
adopted. It's an easy compromise,
as Congress doesn't hesitate to
appoint a commission whenever a
troublesome problem comes long,
but in this case there is a feel-
ing that little would be accom-
plished in the debates unless the
proponents of the measure can
bring forth comprehensive data
covering all points that will be
raised. Hearings are to begin
soon before the Senate military
affairs committee which will de-
termine some of the points at issue,
but at the American Legion
will have to keep pushing hard
for action; for the opposition to
any draft law enacted in peace
time is unquestionably strong
enough at the moment to delay
action.

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MODERN MOTION PICTURE HOUSE HERE ASSURED

Carolina Bank Stockhold- ers Approve Project With- out a Dissenting Vote; Plans Being Completed

READY NEXT SUMMER

Several Ask Privilege of Taking More Than Pro- portionate Share Stock, Financing Under Way

This city is to have a modern
fireproof theater, to cost approx-
imately \$100,000, and to be erect-
ed in the heart of the downtown
retail district. It was announced
today following approval by the
stockholders of the Carolina Bank-
ing & Trust Company, without a
dissenting vote, of a proposal to
erect such a theater on the half
square at the rear of the Carolina
Bank Building, formerly the Hinton
Building.

Plans for the theater are to be
completed at once, and contract is
to be let with a view to having
the structure ready for occupancy
by late summer according to H. P.
Brad, vice president of the Caro-
lina Banking & Trust Company.
The theater already is under ten-
tative lease by the Carolina Thea-
ters Corporation, of Asheville, at a
rental of \$1,000 a month for a
period of 15 years, he stated.

The theater will have a hand-
some arcade entrance from Main
street through the center of the
Carolina Bank Building, and will
be flanked by several modern
stores. The project will be fi-
nanced by a new company to be
formed by the stockholders of the
bank, each of whom will be of-
fered his pro rata share of the
stock. Several of the stockholders
have expressed a wish for more
than their proportionate share.
Mr. Brad stated. It will be fi-
nanced entirely separately from
the bank, however, he explained.

The entire Hinton block, com-
prising the Carolina Bank Build-
ing and the half square at the
rear of it which will be the site of
the new theater, was purchased
recently by the Carolina Banking
& Trust Company for \$300,000.
The former are: W. P. Duff, president;
Ben L. Banks and C. W. Galtner,
vice presidents, and Graham W.
Bell, cashier.

N. C. OFFICER DIES AT NAVAL HOSPITAL

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 12.—Cap-
tain Lyman Atkinson Cotton, com-
mander of the scout cruiser Rich-
mond and a native of Wilson,
North Carolina, died of pneumonia
at the Naval hospital here this
morning.

He was stricken Saturday when
his vessel put in here en route to
Cuban waters for winter maneu-
vers with the Atlantic Fleet.
The body will be shipped to-mor-
row under naval escort to Green-
ville North Carolina, where fun-
eral services will be held Thurs-
day. Captain Cotton was 51
years of age and a graduate of
the Naval Academy.

ITALY COMPLETELY BLANKETED IN WHITE

Naples, Italy, Jan. 12.—Follow-
ing a night of the bitterest cold
for many years, Neapolitans woke
today to find snow covering the
roofs and mere falling. Mount Ve-
suvius was completely blanketed
in white.

SIX PERSONS KNOWN DEAD RESULT FIRE

Ferriday, Louisiana, Jan. 12.—
Six persons are known to be dead
and a score injured in a \$100,000
fire which swept a block in the
business district here early today.

Movie News Man Hastens To Musical Bonfire Here

Elizabeth City to Receive Nation-Wide Publicity Through Novel Stunt Arranged by Duff Piano Company; Flat's Orchestra Helps

It isn't every day that some-
body makes a bonfire of a stack of
organs and pianos. Thus reasoned
F. J. Conway, of the Fox News
Company, when he read a news-
paper account of the Duff Piano
Company's intended funeral
pyre of ancient musical instru-
ments, scheduled for last night.
And as a result, Elizabeth City will
receive a lot of valuable publicity
through news films flashed on sil-
verscreens in movie theaters
throughout the country.

Mr. Conway promptly got in
touch with W. P. Duff, president
of the Duff Piano Company, after
reading of the proposed "musical
bonfire" and with Secretary Job,
of the Chamber of Commerce.
Then, accompanied by his son,
Francis, he hopped into his auto-
mobile and motored down to Eliza-
beth City via the George Wash-
ington Highway.

The movie news man found a
huge pile of antiquated pianos and
organs awaiting him when he
arrived. Flat's Orchestra, well
known aggregations of colored
melodians, was pressed into ser-
vice, his camera clicked and while
one of its ticklers of the ivories
"piled his stuff" on one good piano
he had found in the lot. Another
member of the orchestra, sadd-
ened by the music or grieving to
see the low estate to which the
once handsome instruments had
descended, wept realistically be-
fore the swift moving camera
shutter.

Mr. Conway and his son re-
mained over until today, in order
to snap a few more pictures of the
last stages of the bonfire. He had
been in Elizabeth City before, hav-
ing snapped a number of scenes
of a life saving demonstration put
on in the harbor by members of
the Coast Guard at a convention
of the Surfmens Mutual Benefit
Association several years ago. He
is enthusiastic over Elizabeth
City, and says he'll be delighted
to come again whenever something
interesting is to be pulled off.

Secretly had the movie man
finished taking his new reels yester-
day afternoon, when the busi-
ness of carting away the smashed-
up musical instruments began. Mr.
Duff had decided that morning to
give the resulting kindling wood
to indigent families here, instead
of burning the pile, and there
were many on hand for it. Dis-
tribution was arranged through
the assistance of the Rev. A. H.
Outlaw, County Welfare Officer.

Triumphs STATE ENGINEER FOR SAND-PILING ROAD TO CAMDEN

T. B. Wilson, in Charge of Construction in This Di- vision, Heartily Approves Ford's Idea

COST NOT EXCESSIVE

"Only Salvation That I Can See," He Declares, in Discussing Proposed Solution of Problem

"It's the only salvation of the
road, so far as I can see. I
think it would hold, because it
would give the effect virtually of
having settled piling before the
concrete was poured."

Thus does T. B. Wilson, resident
engineer of the State Highway
Commission, in charge of con-
struction work in the district com-
prising Currituck, Camden, Pas-
quotank and Dare Counties, favor
a recent suggestion by County
Highway Engineer Jesse R. Ford
for the bolstering up of the three-
mile concrete "floating road" be-
tween this city and the Camden
County mainland, traversing one
of the deepest marshes in this part
of the county.

The road was built by the State
Highway Commission on the
theory that concrete thus laid over
a stretch of several miles would
float. Practice worked theory.
The road began to sink a few
months after it was completed,
and has been sinking ever since.
How to stop the process at any-
thing like a reasonable cost has
kept more than one State highway
engineer awake o' nights more or
less regularly these last two years.

Ford's suggestion was that the
road be sand-piled by a method
found effective in supporting sag-
ging warehouses along the Balti-
more and Chicago waterfronts.
Sketched briefly, it embodies the
idea of sinking four-inch metal
casings to a depth of 25 to 30
and pumping in a dry concrete mix-
ture under pressure of 80 pounds
to the square inch. As the pump-
ing went on, the casing would be
lifted gradually by a ratchet de-
vice. In such fashion that the con-
crete would spread out widely
where little resistance was en-
countered.

At the level of the concrete
roadway, the piles thus driven
would be "locked" into place.
They would be driven probably
in parallel rows, as far apart as
tests of the road foundation in-
dicated they were needed.

"I believe it would be worth
while to put in these sand piles,"
Highway Engineer Wilson stated
in an interview today. "The cost
would not be prohibitive; and
I'm convinced they would hold the
road in place. I don't see any
other way that offers such prom-
ise of proving a success."

"The parts of the road that are
already under water could be
filled in with some light material,
like slag or oyster shells, at a
nominal expense. These could be
allowed to spread out on either
side. In order to keep motorists
from driving off the road into the
swamp, white marker posts could
be set at the edge of the concrete
paving."

Mr. Wilson stated also that the
sand-piling process would be far
less expensive than to undertake
to build another road connecting
Elizabeth City and Camden Coun-
ty.

ANTHRACITE STRIKE IS STILL UNSETTLED

New York, Jan. 12.—The anthracite joint conference, which
resumed negotiations today, Septem-
ber 29, adjourned today without
setting any date for the renewal
of negotiations. The conference
had been hopelessly deadlocked.
The operators insisted to end up
complete arbitration while the
miners insisted that, if they ac-
cepted any arbitration, it should
be so only on the basis of increas-
ing wages and without any reduc-
tion.

SEES CHEAP NITRATES AT MUSCLE SHOALS

Washington, Jan. 12.—Material
reduction in nitrate costs can
be made by operating the Govern-
ment's Muscle Shoals properties,
R. F. Bower, of the American
Farm Bureau Federation, told the
House Commerce Committee today.

TO PROBE HEALTH OF EX-GOVERNOR

Washington, Jan. 12.—An in-
vestigation of the health of former
Governor McGray of Indiana, who
is serving a prison sentence at At-
lanta, has been directed by Presi-
dent Coolidge to determine wheth-
er he should be granted executive
clemency.

MCFADDEN BILL IS OUT OF COMMITTEE

Washington, Jan. 12.—The
McFadden bill to authorize na-
tional banks under certain restric-
tions to do branch banking was re-
ported today by the House Bank-
ing and Currency Committee.

Presentation of "The Rat" Proves Remarkably Good

Elizabeth City Audience Delighted With Initial Appear- ance at the Alkrama Theater of Charles Kramer Players in Drama of the Underworld

An appreciative audience wel-
comed the Charles Kramer Play-
ers on their initial visit to Eliza-
beth City last night, in the pre-
sentation of "The Rat," a drama
of police and the underworld in
New York. The crowd enjoyed
the show, too, and heard with en-
thusiasm the announcement that
this company of North Carolina
show folks traveling by motor
car-nah would return again two
weeks hence. They will present
"Charley's Aunt," a comedy, on
Monday night, January 25.

There was one outstanding
characterization in "The Rat," as
presented here last night, Charles
Kramer, as the unfortunate in
the clutches of the dread narcotic
morphine, was thoroughly true to
type. His acting was of excep-
tionally high order, and in that
climatic scene in which, as a half
crazed addict, he vehemently pro-
tested the innocence of his broth-
er-in-law when police tried third
degree tactics on him, he held the
audience breathless.

William Triplett, as Commis-
sioner Garvey, head of the New
York police, also was good. In
the role of the driving, relentless
foe of the underworld, he demon-
strated acting ability of no mean
order.

And then, too, there was Eliza-
beth Sanderford as Daley Hallam,
flapper daughter of the boarding
house keeper. It may have been
that she was only "acting natu-
ral," since it is the nature of young
womanhood to fall in love read-
ily into a flapper, but her en-
ergy rate, she brightened the show
all the way through with her per-
tence, her amusing mannerisms,
and her merciless wit.

These three had a supporting
cast that deserves more than
passing comment. Walter X.
Price as "Whip" Fogarty made
the most of a difficult part—that
of a double-crossing sleazy who
stopped at nothing to gain his
ends. Rudolph Paul and Ruth
Elliott, as Mr. and Mrs. Chick
Hewes, the couples who met dif-

ficulty after difficulty in their de-
termination to go straight and live
down Chick's turbulent past, were
clean and convincing. Mrs. Tri-
plett as Mrs. Hallam, the first
boarding-house lady, was good,
too. And then there was Anita
Mae Edmiston, as Myrtle Sylves-
ter, who followed her lover into
the East River after a tense bit
of acting. LeRoy Marsh, as the
clean young detective who disap-
proved "Whip's" gunshoe meth-
ods, completed the cast.

The story is built around the
theft of a \$20,000 diamond neck-
lace from a prominent society wo-
man. Benny, the master safe
blower, is shot and mortally
wounded as he makes his getaway.
He flees to Chick for protection,
is admitted, and dies in the house.
Police are watching the place, and
disposal of the body becomes a
problem. It is finally crammed
into an ash barrel, hauled away
in a trash wagon, and dumped in
to the river.

Chick recovers the necklace
from "the rat," his dope addict
brother-in-law. Promised protec-
tion by the conscienceless "Whip,"
he surrenders it, and is promptly
formed that he'll do a 20-year
"stretch" up which Chick's wife
"shoots" the detective with her
brother's hypodermic, and puts
him to sleep. The couple flees to
the district attorney's office to
surrender the necklace. He isn't
at home, and they land in the
clutches of Commissioner Garvey.

All ends happily when the com-
missioner, touched by the young
wife's recital, in which she bares
a vital secret, tells them to go
their way without fear of prison
walls. It is a dramatic story all
the way through, and is put over
in a fashion such as Elizabeth
City theater-goers have not been
led to expect of what Mr. Triplett
described as "perambulating com-
panies." This city will welcome
the Charles Kramer Players when
they come again. Their home of-
fices are in Greenville.

Unusual Opportunity Afforded At Banquet Here Monday Night

An opportunity to learn of the
many outstanding achievements
of the Chamber of Commerce dur-
ing the past year, and of the vital
necessity for placing it on an ade-
quately financed basis to handle
essential projects during the year
ahead, will be offered at the
Chamber's annual banquet at the
Southern Hotel Monday night at
6:30 o'clock, President M. Leigh
Sheep reminds.

Besides, those present will have
the opportunity of hearing one of
the biggest men in America, Mr.
Sheep declares, through the com-
ing of J. Hampton Moore, of Phil-
adelphia, president of the Atlan-
tic Deeper Waterways Association
since it was formed in 1907.

"The general run of people here
have no conception of the many
things, big and little, which are
accomplished by the Chamber of
Commerce in this county each
year," Mr. Sheep says. "Scarcely
a day passes without the Chamber
being called upon to perform
some service affecting the welfare
of this city, and therefore of the
people living here."

"The organization stands like a
watchdog, ready to guard the in-
terests of the city and section. We
can't get along without maintain-
ing it on a properly financed ba-
sis."

"Many projects vitally affecting
this section are going ahead now.
Aside from a thousand other con-
siderations, the Chamber of Com-
merce should be kept in an effec-
tively functioning condition to
look after them. I don't need to
remind you that, if it hadn't been
for the Chamber of Commerce, the
Government purchase of the Dia-
mond Swamp Canal still would be
far off. The new Bridge like-
ly would still be a dream. Our fan-
gling system of inter-county high-
ways would be far behind
what they are today, and what
they give promise of being before
the year is over."

Mr. Sheep urges every one in-
terested to make reservations for
the banquet Monday night. "Come
merely to learn what we're plan-
ning, if for no other reason," he
urges. "Learn what the Chamber
is doing for your city—and for
you."

SIXTY DAY TERM GIVEN MOORE ON ASSAULT CHARGE

Assault on John Simpson, Colored, Characterized by Cohoon as Flagrant Violation of the Law

APPEALS SENTENCE

"I Shall Follow Up This Case, and See That the Superior Court Judge Gets Facts," Sawyer Says

Graham Moore, farmer living
on Perkins Lane, near this city,
was sentenced to 60 days in jail
in receipt of assault and battery
on John Simpson, colored, at the
close of an impassioned appeal by
Walter L. Cohoon, local attorney,
urging that the sanctity of the
courts be upheld. Moore appealed
to Superior Court, and was re-
leased under \$500 bond.

Testimony in the case was that
Moore encountered Simpson in
John Tuttle's garage, on East
Matthews street, late Saturday
afternoon and gave him a severe
beating. Simpson had appeared
as principal witness against Moore
in a liquor action in Superior
Court several months ago, in
which Moore was acquitted, the
jury thereby reversing the verdict
of a jury which had heard the
case earlier in recorder's court.

In the usual case today,
Moore pleaded guilty to the
charges against him, testifying
that his brother, Edward, in-
formed him that Simpson was in
the garage at the time.

"I don't guess anybody else
knew, but I knew what he had
done to me," was the only state-
ment Moore made in explanation
of the beating he gave the ne-
gro. C. E. Bell appeared in the
role of prosecuting attorney in
the absence of J. Henry LeRoy,
Jr., who is ill at his home on
West Main street.

"I have known the courts of
Pasquotank County for 40 years,"
Mr. Cohoon began in a bitter ac-
cuser's arraignment of Moore, "and in that
time, I have never before ob-
served a more high handed and
absolute defiance of the law. In
Moore has sold liquor long, in
defiance of the law, that he thinks
he can defy the law at will. He
thinks that if he beats up one
who testifies against him, he can
deter any other who might tell on
him."

The negro in this case was re-
luctant to tell where he got the
liquor. Upon being assured it
was the only course for him to
follow, he finally described the
man from whom he got it. Moore
had been convicted of selling li-
quor, and that added to the weight
of opinion against him.

"The negro himself pales into
insignificance before the issues in
this case. Men on the jury that
acquitted Moore were willing to
give him another chance, in the
hope that he might do better; and
I tell you, John Simpson bears a
better reputation in this commu-
nity than Graham Moore does."

"Indirectly, if not directly,
Moore's act in beating this negro
constitutes contempt of court,"
Mr. Cohoon concluded.

He did not usually follow up the
cases that are brought from the
court. County Judge P. G. Saw-
yer commented, in passing sen-
tence, "but in this case, I intend
to see to it that the Superior
Court judge has all the facts. It
is one case that I shall follow
up."

TRIAL OF J. J. DAVIS, BOHAVEN INSURANCE COLLECTOR, ON A CHARGE OF FALSIFYING PROPER AC- COUNTING OF HIS COLLECTIONS WAS CONTINUED TO 11:30 O'CLOCK TO PERMIT THE ARRIVAL OF WITNESSES.

BIG POWER MERGER STARTED IN FLORIDA

New York, Jan. 12.—Formation
of the Florida Power and Light
Company, which will embrace nine
operating utilities in that state
with aggregate assets of \$80,000,-
000 was announced today by the
American Power and Light Com-
pany, which will own the stock of
the new company.

REVENUE PROBLEMS FACE FOUR STATES

Atlanta, Jan. 12.—Revenue leg-
islation was the principal item of
business before three of the four
Southern legislatures meeting
this month. A fourth con-
templated action on the evolution
measure. South Carolina legis-
lators met today with the tax re-
form uppermost, while Virginia
assembles tomorrow with taxation

IMPROPER TREASURY ALLOWANCES CHARGED

Washington, Jan. 12.—Impro-
per Treasury allowances of \$216,-
665,000 in tax free reductions
from income for the amortization
of war facilities of manufacturers
and miners was charged in a re-
port submitted to the Senate today
by a special committee which in-
vestigated the Internal Revenue.

REICHSBANK LOWERS ITS DISCOUNT RATE

Berlin, Jan. 12.—The Reichs-
bank today lowered its discount
rate from nine to eight per cent
and the rate on loans and securi-
ties from eleven to ten per cent.