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MANY BILLS ARE TO LOWER FOOD COSTS

NATION-WIDE INTEREST IN EFFORTS TO REDUCE COST OF LIVING.

EMBARGO IS NOT FAVORED

President Wilson Will Likely Deal With Subject in a Special Message.—Speeding up of Program is Urged By All.

Washington.—The high cost of living and what steps the Federal Government can take to control it, assumed proportions as a national question with the convening of Congress, which overshadowed all other issues in the first day's proceedings.

Possibility that President Wilson will deal with the subject in a special address grew stronger.

Eleven bills and resolutions, seeking to check the soaring prices of food by stopping shipments to Europe, reducing parcel post rates on foodstuffs or controlling cold storage, were introduced in the house.

President Gompers and a committee of the American Federation of Labor called on President Wilson and asked him to appoint a special commission to investigate the food question. The President assured them that the government would take some steps to meet the situation. He is understood to prefer not to appoint a commission as it practically would be without authority to compel testimony; while a congressional investigation probably would mean a protracted delay.

Reports being gathered by the Department of Agriculture are being laid before the President as fast as they are compiled and upon them he is expected to decide on any action, which undoubtedly will be prefaced by a special address to congress.

One report submitted by Secretary Redfield and held confidential as yet, is understood to show a wide margin between prices paid to producers and those paid by consumers. In a recent address the President virtually charged the middlemen with responsibility for the high cost of living.

RESIGNATIONS OF THREE U. S. DIPLOMATS TENDERED WILSON

Washington.—The first resignations from the diplomatic corps, which are expected to be the forerunners of others as a consequence of President Wilson's re-election and the closing of his first term, were announced.

Dr. Henry Van Dyke, minister to the Netherlands, has resigned and probably will be succeeded by John W. Garrett, of Baltimore, formerly minister to Argentina. Dr. Van Dyke it was explained, has been concerned over his health for some time and also desired to return to his literary work after being abroad nearly four years.

The resignation of Thaddeus A. Thompson, minister to Colombia and William M. Hornbrook, minister to Siam, also were announced. Mr. Thompson was appointed in 1913. Mr. Hornbrook was appointed in 1915.

Some time ago it became known that the government was expecting that members of the diplomatic corps would in accordance with custom, forward their resignations.

AMERICANS IN CHIHUAHUA SAFE SAYS LATEST REPORT

El Paso, Texas.—Reports telegraphed by government agents to Washington that a number of foreigners had been killed in Chihuahua City when Villa handits occupied the town, were met with a statement by General Trevino, commanding Carranza forces that recaptured the capital that only a few Chinese were killed during the time Villa occupied the city.

General Trevino's statement telegraphed in response to an inquiry by Andres Garcia, inspector general of Carranza consulates, was taken by Garcia to mean that no other foreigners were killed. The information telegraphed Washington was said to have been obtained in Juarez.

Villa's bandits were retreating north toward the border the night before Chihuahua city was evacuated by Carranza troops.

WIVES OF MISSOURI FARMERS FIGHTING BAN ON EGGS

St. Joseph, Mo.—Wives of the farmers in the vicinity of Harmony, Mo., have combined to fight the boycott on butter and eggs declared by the housewives of St. Joseph and Maryville, Mo. It is said they would refuse to sell butter and eggs for use in either of the towns.

COUNTESS VON BERNSTORFF



The Countess von Bernstorff, wife of the German Ambassador, his returned to Washington, after an absence of several years in Europe.

ROUTED CARRANZA'S MEN

BRING THE STORY OF FIVE DAYS FIGHTING BEFORE RETIREMENT FROM CITY.

Piles of Dead in Chihuahua Covered With Oil and Burned When Villa Enters City.—Bandits Sing and Shout in Santa Rosa Hill Charge.

Juarez, Mexico.—The remnants of a Carranza army that fled from Chihuahua City after a battle with Villa troops are in camp on the plains south of Juarez. They fought with them the story of the evacuation of the city after four days and nights of fighting. The dead were piled high in the streets when they left and had been covered with oil and burned, they said.

The troops brought back many of their field pieces. Women camp followers shared in the retreat. Some of them had children said to have been born on the battlefield.

Refugees said that between the cemetery and Santa Rosa hill the dead covered the streets. Along the streets near the railroad station and surrounding the station, one of the refugees said he saw many cavalry horses with carbines and sabers attached to the saddles. The Carranza cavalymen abandoned them in order to leave the city on the troop train. Along Zarco avenue the fighting had been fiercest and many civilians had been killed there and in other parts of the city by shell fire and rifle balls. Many houses were damaged.

Defenders Routed Fifth Day. All of the refugees agreed that Carranza troops were winning during the first four days of the fighting, but either because of a shortage of ammunition or lack of morale, they abandoned the city early on the fifth morning of the battle, fleeing in all directions. The taking of Santa Rosa hill, which always has been known as the "key to Chihuahua," was said by one foreign refugee to have started the retirement of the Carranza forces, which he said, resembled a rout before the last train left.

One civilian refugee claimed that General Gonzales Cuellar was responsible for the taking of Santa Rosa hill, where he was in command as he allowed the infantry line to be weakened.

It is believed by the refugees and Carranza officers that General Trevino left first for Tabalopa, south of the city and from there moved to Aldama, about 20 miles from Chihuahua City. One Mexican civilian refugee declared he had seen Villa in the city Monday morning. He said Villa was walking with crutches, as if to inspire his men with fortitude. He looked much thinner than of old.

To obtain medicines for his wounded, Villa is said by this refugee to have broken into two drug stores in the city. Thinking this action meant the beginning of looting Villa bandits broke into stores and private homes. Villa is said to have shot two of his followers and succeeded in stopping the pillaging.

WILSON OBSERVED DAY QUIETLY WITH FAMILY.

Washington.—President Wilson spent Thanksgiving Day quietly with members of his family but at night he accepted an invitation to attend the Navy Relief Society ball at the Washington Navy Yard.

With Mrs. Wilson, he attended his regular Presbyterian Church, having declined invitations to the Pan-American mass at St. Patrick's Church and to a joint celebration of Methodist Churches

NEW RAIL LAWS URGED BY WILSON

HOUSE LEADERS CLARK AND KITCHIN CONFER WITH PRESIDENT.

LEADERS TO SUPPORT BILL

High Cost of Living is Likely to Receive Attention.—Leaders Want No Holiday Recess as Time is Short For so Much Work.

Washington.—Speaker Clark and Representative Kitchin, Majority Leader of the House, assured President Wilson at a White House conference that they would do all they could to hasten the passage of railroad legislation at the short session of Congress which began Monday.

The President summoned the House leaders to talk over with them the legislative program and to secure their co-operation in expediting important measures. Legislation to supplement the Adamson law, he said, was of the utmost importance and he asked that this be given precedence in consideration over all other general legislation.

Realizing that three months is a short period for consideration of general measures when appropriation bills also must be passed, the President asked the House leaders if they thought there would be time for enactment of new railroad laws before March 4. Both told him they thought there would be, and promised to exert every effort to economize time on other matters.

Speaker Clark reminded the President that Congress would have to pay strict attention to business, and him to help at the outset to eliminate the usual two weeks' holiday recess.

President Wilson spoke briefly regarding other important measures, among them the Webb bill to permit domestic corporations to maintain collective foreign selling agencies, the corrupt political practices bill and conservation measures. Proposed embargo legislation and issues raised by the high cost of living were not mentioned at the conference, although the House leaders believe the subject is bound to demand attention of the congress.

WILSON TURNS FLOOD OF LIGHT ON STATUE OF LIBERTY.

Roar of Salute Sounded From Great Guns of Atlantic Fleet.

New York.—At a wireless signal flashed by President Wilson from the yacht Mayflower in the harbor here the Statue of Liberty was bathed in light. Bartholdi's famous symbol of American freedom, which for 30 years has been a token of welcome to the United States to millions of immigrants from every land, will be illuminated every night hereafter from top to bottom. Funds to install the permanent lighting system for the Statue, the gift to the United States of 400,000 citizens of France were provided by subscription in this country.

"I light this Statue," said the President, "with the thought that it may always stand as a symbol of our purpose to throw upon liberty, out of our own life as a nation, a light which shall reveal its dignity, its serene power, its benign hope and spirit of guidance."

Grouped around the President upon the Mayflower's deck as he flashed the signal were Mrs. Wilson, Jules J. Jusserand, Ambassador of France, Madame Jusserand, high officers of the army and navy and representatives of several nations.

The great guns of a division of the Atlantic fleet anchored in the harbor as a guard of honor, boomed a salute as the statue flashed into view, outlined in white light. The whistles of countless harbor craft shrieked in unison and flares of red light blazed up along the shore.

There was a flash of flame high above the statue and Ruth Law in her airplane added a spectacular touch to the ceremonies of illumination. Spouting sparks and fire from the tail of her machine, she circled the lower end of Manhattan Island.

PREMIER OF BRITAIN NOW FAVORS NEW WAR CABINET.

London.—Premier Asquith has decided to advise the King to the reconstruction of the Government. The statement reads:

"The Prime Minister, with a view to the most effective prosecution of the war, has decided to advise his majesty the King, to consent to the reconstruction of the Government." The political crisis has become acute. It is stated that David Lloyd-George has tendered his resignation.

JOSEPH P. KENNEDY



Joseph P. Kennedy is the youngest bank president in the world. He is just past his twenty-fifth birthday and is head of the Columbus Trust Co. of Boston, considered one of the strongest financial institutions in the world.

TEUTONS MAKE ADVANCES

FIELD MARSHAL MACKENSEN'S ARMY HAS CAPTURED GIURGIU IN ADVANCE.

Forces of Central Powers Are Now in Possession of Curtea de Arges, 90 Miles From Bucharest, and Giurgiu, 40 Miles From the Capital.

London.—With the forces of the Central Powers in possession—according to German official reports, which hitherto have proven accurate with regard to the recent events in Rumania—of Curtea de Arges, an important railway terminal 90 miles from Bucharest, and Giurgiu, on the railway 40 miles southwest of the Capital, anxiety as to the fate of Bucharest is greatly increased.

Field Marshal von Mackensen's capture of Giurgiu, shows that his army has advanced 30 miles in a single day. Further, a Bulgarian official communication claims that the Danube has been crossed near Lom Pelaka and Vidin and the town of Kalafatu, opposite Vidin, captured.

Nothing is yet admitted by the Rumanians of these enemy advances, but it is assumed that the Rumanians are continuing their orderly retirement toward the line of the Argeș River. A danger, however, lies in the possibility of this retirement not being effected quickly enough to prevent an attack on their flank from von Mackensen's forces at Giurgiu, from which point there is both rail and direct communication to Bucharest.

It is impossible to doubt that the situation is viewed here with the greatest misgivings. The question is being frankly asked whether the accession of Rumania to the Entente Allies cause his brought strength or weakness, whether Russia has rendered the assistance which might have been expected from her and whether the Allies might not have shown more initiative in attack from Saloniki whether the collapse in Rumania is due to any lack of unity in the Allies' plans of strategy or whether it is due in large part to Rumania's hasty invasion of Transylvania.

BUY LAYING HENS AND EAT CORN TO CUT LIVING COST!

Speaker Champ Clark Advises This as Quicker Than Governmental Remedies to Combat High Prices.

Washington.—If the high cost of living bothers you, don't wait for government remedies, but buy some laying hens and eat more corn products and rice, says Speaker Clark. Not that he does not think the government can help bring down the price of foodstuffs by legislative or other action, but he pins greater faith in more direct methods.

Thus the speaker expressed himself on the high cost of living problems, which he regards as one of the greatest facing the nation. Referring to Representative Fitzgerald's embargo bill, he said:

"There may or may not be a chance for Mr. Fitzgerald's proposed bill. It might do some good I don't know."

GENERAL PROBE OF HIGH COST OF FOOD

GEORGE W. ANDERSON WILL DIRECT INVESTIGATIONS BEING MADE BY FEDERAL AGENTS.

ARE PROGRESSING RAPIDLY

Will Use All Power to See That Interstate Commerce Moves Unlogged and Unchecked by Any Illegal Combination in the Restraint of Trade.

Boston.—Investigations of the high cost of living which are now being made by Federal officials or agents throughout the country will be directed by George W. Anderson, the United States attorney for this district, it was announced here. Attorney General Gregory, according to a statement issued by the United States attorney's office, has asked Mr. Anderson to take charge of the investigations, so "that the work may be coordinated and made as effective and rapid as possible."

"While technically the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice is only to deal with illegal restraints of interstate commerce, the investigation will take a rather wide range, and all pertinent facts and informations will be used as effectively as possible to bring about a co-ordination between government and business forces.

"Undoubtedly other departments of the government, like the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Federal Trade Commission and the Interstate Commerce Commission will have data and views which will be of the greatest assistance in this matter.

"Of course the Department is under no delusive notion that it can make short crops long or manufacture or repair needed freight cars but it does propose to use all power within the government's control to see that interstate commerce moves unlogged and unchecked by any illegal combination in restraint of trade."

BANDITS IN CHIHUAHUA LOAD TRAINS WITH SPOILS

Carranza Officers Believe Villa is Preparing to Evacuate City After Looting It.—Chinese Refugee Reports Massacre of Many Chinamen.

Juarez.—Villa bandits were reported to be loading two trains with loot from the stores and residences of Chihuahua City and preparing to follow these trains west on the Mexican Northwestern Railroad, according to a message received at military headquarters from General Uznua's scouts at Sauz.

General Uznua's cavalry column is at Cullty, the first station south of the state capital, the report said. This news was taken at headquarters to indicate the intention of Villa to evacuate the city after looting it as he did at Parral, Santa Rosilla and Jimenez.

Villa made a speech against foreigners in Hidalgo Plaza, following his occupation of the city, a Chinese merchant who left Chihuahua City said upon his arrival here. In his speech, Villa warned all residents of the city against hiding any foreigners in their homes and declared he intended to kill them all, the Chinese added. Villa also said he intended to confiscate all foreign property and give it to the Mexicans.

WILSON JOINS EARLY CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS.

Washington.—President Wilson joined the early Christmas shoppers. Accompanied by several secret service men, he walked for more than an hour through Washington's downtown shopping district, stopping in various stores to make purchases.

MONTANA IS PROHIBITION BY LARGE MAJORITY.

Helena, Mont.—Prohibition carried in Montana by a majority of 28,886 at the election November 7. It was officially announced. The vote was: For prohibition 102,776; against 73,890.

BRYAN WILL BUILD A HOME IN ASHEVILLE.

Washington.—William Jennings Bryan said that he expected to spend his summers at Asheville, N. C., and next spring would build a home there which would be called "Mount Calm." He will continue to call Lincoln, Neb., his home. "By spending the summer in Asheville," he said, "I can remain home more and yet be near enough to come to Washington whenever it may be desirable to do so."

STATE TEACHERS ADJOURN SESSION

A. T. ALLEN ELECTED PRESIDENT AND W. N. WALKER AS VICE PRESIDENT.

GOV. BRUMBAUGH SPEAKER

Teachers Have Warm Sessions For Election of Officers.—Last Day Was Busiest of Convention.

Raleigh.—Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh, of Pennsylvania, in the closing address before the North Carolina Teachers' Assembly, told the teachers that in the next twenty years state legislatures and the congress of the United States will increasingly legislate to safeguard the people in their hours of leisure. He foresaw the passing of the saloon, the gambling den and the development of community amusement institutions to the extent that it will be said that the government makes it hard for men to do wrong and easy for men to do right.

Governor Brumbaugh's speech came at the end of one of the busiest days that the North Carolina Teachers' Assembly has experienced. It came, too, after the close of stormy sessions when the problems of elections of officers, constitutional amendments and teacher certification had been fought over in dead earnestness. Governor Locke Craig and Governor-elect Bickett, who were on the program for addresses, were not present. Governor Craig being out of the city and Governor-elect Bickett having to return home upon the advice of a physician. Pressed into service with fifteen minutes warning, Lieutenant-Governor Gardner did the honors for both, and presented the speaker of the evening.

All associations making up the assembly adjourned after the election of officers. Over nine hundred members had been registered and President Wright declared it the best session the Teachers' Assembly has ever had. Following Governor Brumbaugh's address, President Wright introduced the new president, A. T. Allen, of Salisbury, promoted from the vice presidency, according to the custom of the assembly. The other officers elected were Prof. N. W. Walker, Chapel Hill, vice president; E. W. Sams, Raleigh, secretary-treasurer; D. F. Giles, Raleigh, and J. D. Everett, Waynesville, executive committee.

The officers of the various associations elected were:

Association of Primary Teachers—Mrs. M. C. Gariessen, Goldsboro, president; Miss Eleanor Tusk, Fayetteville, vice president; Miss Ethel Terrell, Asheville, secretary; Miss Mamie Griffin, Greenville, treasurer.

Association of Grammar Grade Teachers—Mrs. C. P. Blalock, Fuquay, president; Miss Florence Fitzgerald, Rocky Mount, first vice president; Miss Margaret Ware, Asheville, second vice president; Miss Ida Etheridge, Kinston, third vice president; and Miss Maggie Holloway, Durham, secretary.

Association of City Superintendents—W. R. Mills, Louisburg, president; H. P. Harding, Charlotte, vice-president; Hoy Taylor, Greenville, secretary.

Association of High School Teachers and Principals—J. P. Henson, Dallas, president; M. B. Dry, Cary, vice-president; Miss Laura Jones, Franklin, secretary and treasurer.

Association of City High School Teachers and Principals—C. C. Horworth Wilson, president; Miss Minnie Lou Kelly, Washington, vice-president; Miss Irah Bagley, Asheville, secretary.

Association of Music Teachers—Miss Chellean Plixley, Henderson, president; Mr. Conrad Lasher, Greensboro, vice president; Mrs. W. J. Ferrill, Raleigh, secretary.

A. S. Huske has received from the Botanical Assistant in the Department of Agriculture at Washington, a fine specimen of dasheen, which he has on exhibition at his store in Fayetteville.

Gen. W. L. London Dead. Pittsboro.—Gen. William Lord London of this place died following a lingering illness of several months duration. He had not been seriously sick, however, and the end came suddenly and unexpectedly. He was in his seventy-ninth year and until recently had enjoyed the best of health and was remarkably well preserved both in mind and body and active in the extensive business in which he was engaged. He had been for fifty years a devoted and devout communicant of the Protestant Episcopal church.