

# THE RICH GRINDS THE POOR

### LaFollette's Allegation Against War Revenue Bill.

### Senate Speeds Up Consideration of Measure; Less Than a Dozen Members in Seats.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The senate today speeded up consideration of the war revenue bill. With less than a dozen members in their seats, miscellaneous provisions of the measure designed to raise about \$522,500,000 of the \$6,000,000,000 estimated for next year were adopted without objection or discussion as clerks read the text of the bill.

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Capital, \$75,000.  
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We have a variety of styles and prices.

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**Banner Furniture Co.**  
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We have many other things you might like to give to him.  
When you are shopping come in and let us show you some of the things that will make the boys at home feel better on Christmas morning.

work on the principal and controverted features, including the income war excess profits, beverages, inheritance, insurance, luxury, child labor and postal tax sections.

Provisions approved today constituted practically all of those which are undisputed and included the finance committee's revision downward of the tobacco, amusement admission, club dues, excise or semi-luxury, special and stamp tax sections. The senate also approved the committee's action in eliminating taxes on gasoline, users of motor vehicles, mail order houses, and many articles classed as semi-luxuries.

In view of the rapid progress made today, Chairman Simmons, in charge of the bill, expressed increased confidence for early passage of the measure in the belief that the republicans will not cause great delay in a vote. The bill as now framed, said Senator LaFollette, in his report, "favors the rich and grinds the poor."

Quoting the estimate made by Secretary McAdoo that government expenditures in 1919 would be \$18,000,000, the Wisconsin senator declared that the bill should be raised by taxation.

The argument that the war is over and taxes consented should be decreased has little or no weight, he said, when applied to the taxes on incomes and war-excess profits.

The bill as now constituted, he said, will take by taxation only \$2,400,000,000 of the five billion dollar profits made by corporations through the war, or 48 per cent, although it has been widely heralded as taxing the country as a bill which will levy an 80 per cent tax on war profits.

"The principle that should guide us in framing this bill," the report says, "is that no man should be allowed to retain a dollar of profits made out of this war when thousands of our people have been called upon to give everything, including their lives, for its prosecution, and millions must suffer great hardship on account of it, and generations must sweat and toil for the cost. It is intolerable that a favored few should be allowed to amass great fortunes by reason of this war."

Senator LaFollette concurred in the republican minority finance committee report opposing fixing of the rates of taxation in 1920 at this time.

### WILSON LANDS IN FRANCE AMID BIG DEMONSTRATION (Continued From Page One.)

The President, and turn his presence to a party advantage. This is a small under current. Today the unanimity of France as well shown by the manner of welcome, issued by the conservative Ligués patriots, radical socialist party, also the presence on the landing stage, of socialists such as Longuet, Koffins and Dugons and syndicalists, such as Jouhaux.

The fine seaport of Brest is an admirable stage for such a historic landing. Its hills and ramparts give a fine view and the crowded docks a wide roadstead. Long before noon the people gathered at commanding points, gazing seawards, each trying to catch out of the lifting mist the first sight of President Wilson's vessel and its escorts of American battleships. In the forenoon, the French warships, Montcalm, Admiral and Auro, and half a dozen destroyers left the port for the roadstead where they lined up in readiness to salute with 21 guns and the regulation seven fold cheer of french naval courtesy.

It was under a grey Breton sky, but without Breton rain, that the crowds assembled on the shore from the roadway to the railway station. Color, which the sulky sun refused to give, was provided by the masses of peasant folks in gay country costumes, many wearing embroidered upon their blue and red silk dresses and aprons lace caps, covering collars which hairdressers are unable even to attempt. Throughout the day, peasants were flocking to the town from the whole department of Finistère. President Wilson left the George Washington at 3 this afternoon aboard the Packet Pans De Calais. Long before the Packet reached the landing stage, crowds, massed on the ramparts, which formed a magnificent natural grandstand, burst into cheers. The land batteries roared a reply to the warships salute. The French marine band played the "Spangled Banner" as the Packet in its war paint, was warped into the inner dock. The crews on the warships had given ringing applause as the Packet passed through the lane of warships. Wilson landed at 3:15 o'clock.

Thousands Waiting. The scene was rendered visible to the waiting thousands by the sudden lifting of the mist, which showed the George Washington as it came to its moorings at about 11 o'clock. Slowly out of the haze the great battleships moved to their stations followed by the swift torpedo craft.

Pinchon, Loygues, Tardieu, Miss Wilson, Pershing, Tasker, Bliss, Sims and Colonel House proceeded aboard the Pans De Calais, and boarded the George Washington, where official greetings were exchanged amid the salutes of guns. Further salutes were exchanged as the President embarked aboard the Packet with the French hosts. A few minutes after, the cheers from the heights of the landing stage, that the President was in sight. The tender drew alongside and President Wilson was seen standing aft with his wife, daughter and General Pershing. His hat in his hand as the Marsellaise was played by the French marine band. Cheers at the landing stage announced that President Wilson had stepped ashore, preceded by Pinchon of the French ministerial party, who again formally received him and led him to a pavilion where the mayor of Brest briefly expressed to the President the happiness France feels in welcoming him, and the dwelling hopes of peace they placed in him.

### TWIN CITY MERCHANTS PROTEST "FLU" RULING

Special to The Observer. Winnipeg, Dec. 13.—A number of the members of the Retail Merchants' association met this morning and entered a strenuous protest against the order issued by the board of health yesterday afternoon, closing all stores at noon Saturdays, except groceries, meat markets and drug stores on account of the influenza epidemic. A committee was appointed to appear before the board of health this afternoon and ask for a modification of the order.

De Carlson this morning wired General Rupert Hines of the United States public health service at Washington, advising him of actual conditions in this city, and requesting him to wire suggestions as to what action should be taken. This reply was received this afternoon. "Public health service recommends discontinuance of public gatherings and avoidance of crowding where influenza is epidemic."

The city health board this afternoon modified its order closing the stores Saturday at noon, to avoid afternoon crowds in the stores. The merchants agreed to station officers at their doors to permit only 25 persons to each 2,000 square foot of floor space, or one person to each 80 square foot.

# NITRATES TO BE SOLD AT COST

### Government Stock to Be Offered Farmers Without Profit.

### Senator Simmons and Representative Small on the Job for North Carolina.

BY H. E. C. BRYANT.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Senator Simmons and Representative Small are working to alleviate the critical situation relative to the distribution of nitrate of soda to the farmers of North Carolina and of the country generally. Numerous inquiries are coming in from North Carolina. Congress passed a law about two years ago authorizing the secretary of agriculture to purchase nitrate of soda, and to sell the same to farmers at cost. This plan was in great advantage to the planters. Recently the agricultural department has been unable to secure any nitrate of soda because of lack of ships with which to transport the commodity to this country, and also because the available supplies were required by the government for the manufacture of munitions.

The armistice finds the government with large stocks of nitrate of soda stored at Wilmington, Charleston and other ports. The war industries board is willing to dispose of the larger part of the soda, but the point has been raised that under the law it must be sold at cost. The article was purchased by the government at figures far in excess of what the farmers have been paying and it is a question whether it can be disposed of at less than the war price, which the farmer would consider exorbitant.

In order that the government be protected against loss, the war trade board has had under consideration the stoppage of further importation of the commodity until the stocks on hand are sold. Senator Simmons has insisted that one of two courses be pursued, to wit: That no prohibition be placed upon importation and give the farmers the advantage in price of the reduction in the demand of the present surplus, or that the nitrate now on hand be sold by the government directly to the farmers at the prices for which they could purchase it on the open market.

Secretary of War Baker today assured Senator Simmons that the nitrate stored at Wilmington and other South Atlantic ports will be distributed to the farmers at cost, to the extent that it can be used by them. The war department also takes the position that none of the soda will be sold at a profit to the planters.

### CAROLINA DEATH RECORD.

**MRS. LAURA M. S. HOWAN.** Salisbury, Dec. 13.—Mrs. Laura May Shaver Howan, wife of C. A. Howan, a leading grocer, died early this morning at her home on North Main street, death being caused by influenza and complications. Besides her husband, a little son, about two years old, survives. Mrs. Howan was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Shaver. She had been desperately ill for a week. The funeral will be held from St. John's Lutheran church Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. The interment will be at Chestnut hill.

**W. M. HARRIS.** Salisbury, Dec. 13.—W. M. Harris, aged 59, a retired grocery man, died last night at his home on West Bank street, as result of stroke of paralysis. A widow and five children survive. Mr. Harris was a native of Cabarrus county, but had lived in Salisbury a number of years. The funeral will be from the residence, Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. The interment will be at St. Mary's church.

**W. D. PUGH.** Wilmington, Dec. 13.—William D. Pugh, for 25 years popular and widely known traveling man for the Murchison Hardware company of this place, is dead following an attack of indigestion, which seized him Monday at Maxton. He was brought here for treatment, but died in a few hours of pneumonia, which rapidly developed. As "Bill" Pugh, big, jovial and large hearted, he was known all over this territory. He was a son of the late Rev. George W. Pugh and a brother of Mrs. T. W. Wooten of Kinston; and of Capt. G. Deems Pugh, A. C. L. superintendent in the Savannah district. The funeral was held today.

**GEORGE W. THOMPSON.** Wilmington, Dec. 13.—George W. Thompson, of Bladenboro, died in a hospital here following an operation. The funeral was held today at Bladenboro. He was 44 years of age.

### TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

Wanted—Colored dancers and vaudeville performers for stage. Also piano player. Write or call 425 S. Church St. 14-15

### LADIES

We want you to see some really pretty American Dolls \$1.75 to \$6

### MECCANO

Construction Sets... \$4.50 to \$12  
Desk Blackboards... \$1.35

### NOVELTY TOYS

are fine for the stocking \$5 to \$1

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# IT'S SEVERELY GASSED IN FRANCE

In planning over The New York Times last night, Mr. Ralph Van Landingham saw an article in regard to Colonel E. L. Butts, who was at Camp Greene last winter, which will be read with keen interest here. It said: "Col. E. L. Butts, of the 30th Infantry, said to be the regiment mentioned in General Pershing's report, that killed two German divisions in the confusion at Chateau-Thierry, thus preventing the crossing of the Marne at several places, was severely gassed at Montfaucon, but is now recovering in a base hospital in France. He is a graduate of West Point, class of 1890 and was sent with the 12th Infantry to the Mexican border. His manual is the official text for the regular army. He lives at the Hotel Iroquois, New York."

Colonel Butts was very much esteemed in Charlotte, being popular with the citizenship of the place. The 30th Infantry was at Camp Greene from before Christmas until spring. Many of the 30th boys were among the most popular boys at the camp.

### AMERICANS IN FRANCE MAY VISIT ENGLAND

London, Dec. 13.—Thousands of American soldiers in France probably will be given leave to come to England with their transportation expenses being paid to places in the United Kingdom. In answer to a request of the American authorities in France if the men could be cared for in England, American army headquarters here has replied affirmatively. The men will be granted seven days dating from the time of their arrival in England.

### SWITZERLAND WRITES WILSON.

Berne, Thursday, Dec. 13.—(By the Associated Press.)—A formal invitation to visit Switzerland was extended to President Wilson by President Calonder and the Swiss parliament this afternoon.

### Look out for Spanish Influenza.

At the first sign of a cold take

**HILL'S CASCARA BROMIDE**  
Standard cold remedy for 20 years—in tablet form, safe, sure, no opiate—breaks up a cold in 24 hours—relieves grip in 3 days. Money back if it fails. The genuine box has a Red top with Mr. Hill's picture. At All Drug Stores.

WHEN YOU SEE IT IN THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER, IT'S SO.

**The Clothes You Want For Christmas**  
First you'll probably want a new overcoat or suit, possibly both. If you follow our recommendation, you'll buy Society Brand production—garments that evidence supreme style and superior tailoring—models that are distinctive, individual, refined, \$30, \$35, \$40 \$45, \$50 to \$65.

Possibly you intend attending some formal social event—and we'd like to have you consider our Full Dress clothes. They are thoroughly authoritative in style—and we've priced them to eliminate all extravagance. You'll feel comfortable when you wear them—they're built to produce that effect. . . . \$50 to \$65  
Silk Hats . . . . . \$8.00  
Possibly, too, you'll want a fur collar overcoat—your choice will reflect good taste—a fur collar overcoat is distinctly a De Luxe garment. We have a big stock—of big values at. . . . \$65.00 to \$175.00

**The Tate-Brown Company**  
Military Goods Half Price

# The Freedom of the Seas

## WHAT IT MEANS IN AMERICA, ENGLAND, AND FRANCE

There is a very interesting article in this week's LITERARY DIGEST—December 14th—bearing upon the most vital topic likely to be discussed at the great peace conference—the Freedom of the Seas.

While Lieutenant-Colonel Repington, the famous British Military Expert, remarks that "I have not the slightest idea what freedom of the seas means, nor have I met anyone who can tell me," London and French newspapers have quite definite ideas as to its meaning.

Much of the comment in the London and Paris papers emphasizes the fact that President Wilson has not yet defined what he means by freedom of the seas, but most of the French journals agree with the Paris *Matin* when it says "if this doctrine means any diminution of the power of the British navy, France will reject it."

Other articles of timely interest in this number of THE DIGEST are:

### Making War On Our Chief Peacemaker

Summarizing All Shades of Public Opinion in America Regarding President Wilson's Visit to Europe and His Presence at the Peace Table

- Turning to the Pursuits of Peace
- War Prices and Peace Wages
- Shall We Take German Africa?
- Russia's Chaos Laid to the Allies
- Abolishing the Private Kitchen
- Why Arc Light Globes Turn Purple
- New York's Arch of Thanksgiving and Welcome
- A Way Open for Shakespeare Cannon for Peace Bells
- Christmas a Time for Food Service (Prepared by U. S. Food Administration)
- Many Timely Illustrations Including Humorous Cartoons

### Just Ready—New Armistice Edition of The Digest Liberty Map

Every patriotic American will want to know just where the war was won and to follow the movements of the victorious armies of occupation. The wonderful NEW Armistice Edition of The Literary Digest Liberty Map of the Western Area of the war, now ready, shows you the German territory surrendered, the bridgeheads extending East of the Rhine, and the Neutral Zone. It gives the line reached by the Allied Armies at the moment when hostilities ceased, shows German Great Headquarters, the spot where Marshal Foch imposed the armistice terms, the boundaries of the recovered provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, and

12,000 towns and villages, with separate finding index; railways, highways, canals, etc. One special insert map shows the whole field of operations, including Russia, Mesopotamia, and the Balkans, and another the coal and iron areas in the belligerent countries. Strikingly printed in four colors on strong bond paper, size 4 ft. 4 in. by 3 ft. 6 in., \$2.75; on special Map Cloth, same size, \$4.50; latter style with Wall Hanger and Roller, complete, \$5.50. To be had at all book-stores or directly from THE LITERARY DIGEST, 354-360 Fourth Avenue, New York, on receipt of the price. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

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# The Literary Digest

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