

BRITT PROBABLY MOST EXPENSIVE

By H. E. C. Bryant.

Washington March 8.—Representative Henry T. Rainey, of Illinois, in a letter to Representative Weaver, asserting that former Representative Britt was the most expensive representative that ever served Congress and that his one vote defeated the Lane proposition for farms for soldiers and sailors.

Before starting for his home Mr. Rainey wrote Mr. Weaver to call his attention to the only result obtained by the seating of Mr. Britt.

"Owing to the absence of two or three democrats from the house Saturday, March 1," said Mr. Rainey, "your opponent was seated. There remained only one more legislative day in the last session of the 65th Congress, to wit: Monday, March 3, 1919; for his services on that one day your opponent, Mr. Britt received a compensation of something like \$18,000 so I am advised, and I do not think this includes the solicitor's fees which will hereafter be awarded him. Mr. Britt is undoubtedly the most expensive representative we have had in Congress in recent years. It, therefore, becomes important to see what service Mr. Britt rendered his district and his state on the third day of March in return for the very large compensation he received. On the third day of March you were not entitled to vote in the house of representatives. Late in the evening of that day a filibuster was being conducted by the republicans for the purpose of defeating any consideration of the Lane land bill. This was an exceedingly important measure, a great reconstruction measure, the object of the bill being to provide farms and farm homes for the young soldiers who participated in our war with Germany. The district he represented in Congress was undoubtedly for this bill. He was one of the members of the United States House of Representatives from the district which furnishes the full quota of men and of money. Soldiers from your district fought gloriously on the battlefields of northern France. It is inconceivable that the sentiment in your district should be against this bill. I was present in the house through the entire day of March 3 and during the entire night of March 3. As we approached the consideration of the Lane bill the filibuster on the republican side commenced, led by Representative Moore, of Philadelphia, who is prominently mentioned as the republican floor leader in the next Congress. At that time the house was in committee of the whole and was considering a bill which I myself had charge of and which ought not to have occupied over five minutes of time. As soon as the filibuster commenced I tried repeatedly to rise in order to abandon my bill and to go back into the house again so that we could go ahead with the consideration of the Lane measure. Finally, at an early hour of the morning of March 4, I succeeded in getting recognition for that purpose and I moved that 'the committee do now rise.' Upon that motion there were tellers appointed and I was one of the tellers. You, of course, at that hour was not a member of Congress. Fortunately, however, for the tenth district of North Carolina, your services as representative from that district commenced again 10 hours after the incident I am about to relate.

"In response to the demand for tellers there were 96 men passed between the tellers and were counted as being in favor of rising and going back into the house in order to consider the Lane bill. There were 98 members in the negative who passed between the tellers and your opponent, Mr. Britt, was one of the 98. If you had been a member of Congress at that time you would have voted aye and the vote would have stood 97 aye and 97 nays. This would have left the casting vote to the chairman of the committee of the whole, who was in favor of the Lane bill, who would have had the right to

THE SUPREME COUNCIL TO SEND TO GERMANY ALL THE FOOD NEEDED

Paris, March 9.—(By Associated Press).—Stephen Pichon, the French foreign minister, in his talk with the correspondents today, discussed the bearing of the food situation in Germany on the speedy conclusion of peace. He said that the urgent need of supplying Germany was recognized by all governments represented at Paris. The hunger with which Germany was confronted, he added, was a bad counselor. No one could be dead to the inhumanity of continuing present conditions there and the supreme council had resolved to send to Germany all the food that country required.

On the other hand, however, this could not be done if the Germans ceased working and did nothing to make certain that the expense caused to the entente countries by the destruction and damage of the war should be met.

In signing the armistice last January, Germany agreed to hand over her commercial fleet, to be used in revictualing Europe generally, and Germany particularly. Yet, continued the minister, at a recent meeting at Spa the German delegates declared that the arrangements were unsatisfactory and that they would "absolutely refuse to part with their ships."

The allies were willing, M. Pichon went on, not only to supply food, but to accord credit to Germany, but Germany must first declare her willingness to live up to the conditions of the January armistice.

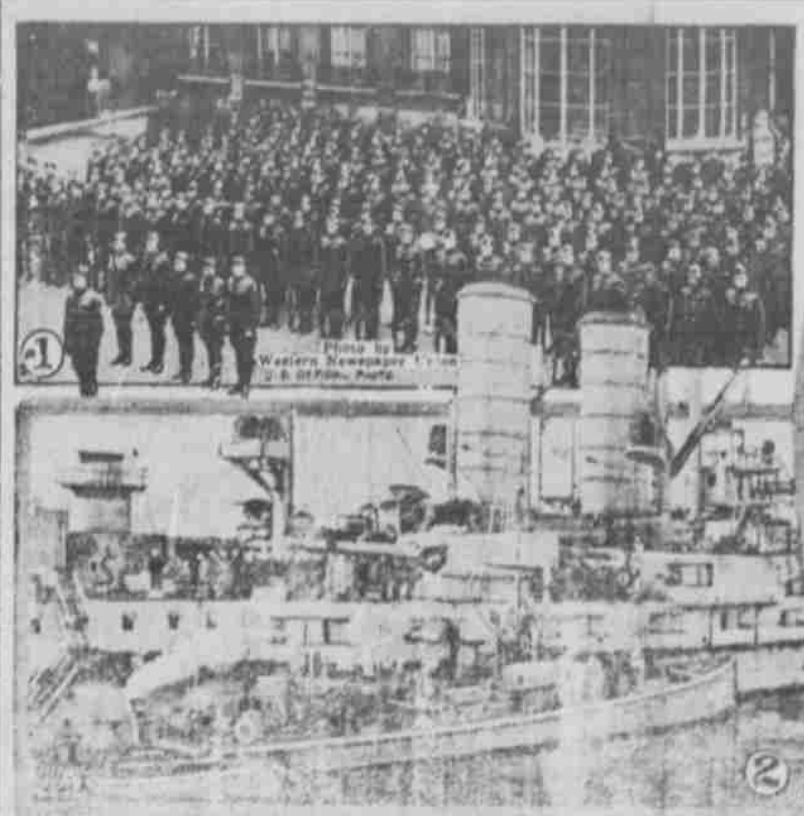
The foreign minister defended the peace conference against the charges that its work had been slow, saying:

"It may have seemed slow at first, but there has been much progress during the last few days. It should be borne in mind that the instructions to the commissions to report on March 8 did not apply to important commissions which have been accredited since February 15 and which have been granted another week's time."

As soon as the terms of the German peace have been concluded, M. Pichon said, the council would take up the Austrian peace which would involve the future boundaries between Italy and former Austro-Hungarian territory. The subject had already been discussed recently, but had not yet come before the council.

The council has adopted Premier Lloyd George's plan for regulating the future military strength of Germany, according to the minister, who confirmed the fact that this involves the abandonment of conscription in favor of a small professional army.

vote under the rules and would have voted aye. The house would then have assumed its session and the Lane bill would have been in order and would have been considered. As a result of the fact that your opponent had been seated, the filibuster went on until the hour of 7:30 o'clock on the morning of March 4. The gentlemen who were opposing the Lane bill at that time abandoned their filibuster, knowing that it was too late to do anything with this most important measure. There remained at that time only four hours and 30 minutes of the life of the 65th Congress, and therefore, as the result of the fact that your opponent was seated, the Lane bill was defeated. This was the only vote he cast during the few hours he was a member of Congress. I am wondering if your district thinks it was worth \$18,000 to defeat the consideration of this soldiers' measure. You will find the report of the tellers as to the vote to which I called attention in the first column on page 5210 of the temporary edition of The Congressional Record for March 4, 1919."



1. President Wilson's guard of honor in Paris, composed of 250 picked men commanded by Capt. Burton F. Wood. 2. American battleship Badger, turned over to the United States naval forces at Spalato, Dalmatia, by the Austrians. 3. A steamer, a close friend of Trotsky, who is in charge of the anarchist propaganda headquarters in New York.



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TO TAKE HUN VESSELS IN PAYMENT FOR FOOD.

Paris, Saturday, March 8.—The plans adopted by the supreme war council tonight under which negotiations with the German authorities regarding the turning over of the German merchant shipping will be resumed, after their recent interruption at Spa, provide for the holding of the session of the negotiations at Brussels. The allied delegates will leave Paris next Wednesday for the Belgium capital and the first session in the resumption of the negotiations will probably be held Thursday in one of the government palaces there.

The plans determined upon by the council, as already stated, provide for taking over the German merchant ships in return for a food supply for Germany until the next harvest. The chief difficulty thus far has been over the manner of payment for the food supplies, but new proposals are expected to meet the former objections.

It is understood that the payments will come from three sources—first, in the form of products such as coal and potash; second, from credits which Germany has in neutral countries which thus far have been unavailable because of the financial blockade; and, third, from foreign securities held by Germany.

It is estimated that these three sources will readily yield about \$500,000,000, which is the sum required to pay for food relief to an extent considered adequate to carry the Germans until the time of their harvest.

From the nature of the exchanges during the negotiations at Spa the allied delegates have reason to expect that the new proposals will be acceptable to the Germans, and the belief generally prevails that an adjustment will be reached under which German ships will soon become available to move American troops homeward.

One of the main influences in bringing about the decision of the supreme council was said to be a letter read by Premier Lloyd George from a British general setting forth the extreme seriousness of the food conditions in Germany. It was also stated that British soldiers in German territory were protesting against seeing women and children about them dying of starvation.

Marshal Foch, the allied commander-in-chief may not attend the Brussels session, but all the other delegates of the allied and associated powers appointed to conduct negotiations will be present. The Havas agency's report in Saturday's meeting of the supreme war council says:

"The greater part of the session was devoted to the discussion of the situation created by the interruption of the Spa negotiations. It was decided to notify Germany that she must execute the conditions of article 8 of the supplementary armistice signed at Treves on January 16, which stipulated that in order to insure the provisioning of Germany and the remainder of Europe, Germany must place her merchant fleet under control of the allied and associated powers for the period of the armistice, this arrangement to have no effect upon the final disposition of the ships."

U. S. ARMY NOT TO BE REDUCED BELOW 509,909

Washington, March 8.—Retention within the army of about 200,000 men, obtained originally through the drafts and by transfer from the national guard, is planned by the war department in building up the temporary establishment of the nation. This was definitely made known today by General March, chief of staff, who announced the decision of the war department that the army would "not be reduced under any circumstances" below 509,909 until some law was passed fixing the permanent force.

"All the military problems that confront us have been carefully considered determining the number of men necessary," General March said, "and we cannot get along without that number—509,909—and they will be held."

Under existing legislation, the maximum war strength of the permanent army is around 298,000. The exact figure, officers explained, cannot be stated since some of the staff corps, as the quartermaster corps, for instance, are permitted wide latitude in their expansion.

Voluntary enlistment to fill the regular army has been inaugurated both in this country and in France. General Pershing having been authorized to transfer recruits obtained from the expeditionary forces to the regular organizations and to release an equivalent number of drafted men. There will remain, however, a deficiency of 200,000 from the total declared by the military authorities to be the minimum consistent with the responsibilities of the United States. These men, therefore, will have to come from the forces which the war department had planned to demobilize.

Secretary Baker, several days ago, in explaining the position of the war department as a result of the failure of the Sixth-fifth Congress to pass the army reorganization and appropriation bill, said his greatest regret was a "large number of men will have to be retained in the service."

The selective service act under which many of the men to be retained were inducted, fixes four months after the presidential proclamation of peace as the maximum for the retention of members of the temporary forces. Military authorities foresee no complication as a result of this limitation, however, feeling certain the final peace treaty cannot be agreed upon before May, at the earliest. This will extend the enlistment period of the draft contingents to September, before which they feel certain, Congress will have acted to relieve the situation.

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SCARCITY OF FOOD A SERIOUS PROBLEM.

London, March 6.—Discussing the food situation in central Europe in the house of lords today Marquis Lansdowne asked how long the process of "turning the screw" was to continue. He said he regarded the position of central Europe "with dismay."

"We seem to be rapidly approaching a catastrophe which may prove the most disastrous in the history of the world," he declared. "If the blockade is not relaxed," said Baron Parmour, "famine will seize the people of central Europe and that would be the most fearful crime in history."

The Earl of Crawford, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, replying for the government, said that the problem is in the hands of the supreme economic council at Paris which has taken steps to send food to Germany.

"The tonnage demanded from Germany by the allies has not been forthcoming, however," he said, "and this is significant." He made no attempt to explain the failure of Germany to turn over the ships asked for, but said he hoped that within a few weeks measures will be taken to stay off the impending disaster.

Analysis of Unrest.

Berlin, Wednesday March 5.—The present unrest, terror and crime are diseases of the social body, which it is unable to resist because it has become weakened thru privation and loss of blood, says the North German Gazette. "The German people can recuperate only when it receives raw products that will permit it to work and food and in order that it may live."

"Our enemies are denying us both. Their attitude is the real cause of the present crisis and the prevalent criminal activity. In view of these events they should realize it is contrary to the international law of humanity to permit a fallen foe to lie helpless on the ground. They should not overlook the fact that the successive weakening of Germany also reduces also its resisting powers against Bolshevism and that it is a dangerous thing to be a neighbor to a house in which the plague is raging."

ONE REGIMENT OF THE THIRTIETH MAY PARADE

Washington, March 6.—A promise that at least one regiment of the 30th division will be permitted to go to Raleigh for a parade and home-coming celebration was given by Secretary Baker today to Senators Overman and Simmons. The secretary of war wrote both senators that the department would arrange to send a part of the North Carolina troops to their state capital before demobilization.

Although definite advices have not been received since the 30th was told to prepare for sailing the impression at the war department is that the division will leave Brest within the next three or four days. The final units of the 27th division are understood to have sailed and

DISCHARGED SOLDIERS TO RECEIVE \$60 BONUS

Discharged Officers, soldiers, field clerks and nurses of the United States army are now entitled to a bonus of \$60, according to section 1406 of the revenue act approved February 24, which authorizes the payment of this amount. This applies to all who have been honorably separated from the service by discharge, resignation or otherwise. It is not payable to the heirs or representatives of any deceased soldier.

Men now in the army will receive the bonus on the same roll or voucher upon which they are given their final pay.

Those who have been discharged and have received their final pay without the \$60 bonus, should write a letter to the zone finance officer, Lemon building, Washington, D. C., stating their service since April 6, 1917, the date of last discharge and their present address by which they desire their bonus checks to be sent and certificate or military order for discharge and both, if both were issued.

Upon the receipt by the Zone Finance Officer, Washington, D. C., of this information and the soldier's discharge certificate, this officer will cause checks to be drawn and mailed to the claimants in the order in which their claims were received by him. The discharge certificate will be returned to the soldier with the check.

It is estimated that at least one million and a quarter persons have been discharged from the service who are entitled to the benefits of this act and while payments will be made as expeditiously as practicable, it will manifestly take considerable time to write and mail this many checks.

ships are reported ready to load the 30th, which is next in line.

Secretary Baker's letter to Senators Simmons and Overman reads:

"With further reference to the question of sending some of the troops of 30th division to Raleigh, N. C., for a parade and review, I beg to inform you that we expect very shortly to receive a statement from France which will give detailed information concerning the present composition of the units of the 30th division.

"Upon receipt of this information a study will be made of it and a program outlined for sending units to the various places which has requested parades.

"I am glad to inform you that at least one regiment of North Carolina troops of the 30th division will be sent to the demobilization camp via Raleigh and will be permitted to stop over in Raleigh for the reception and parade there."

AMERICANS DISABLED IN WAR PLACED AT 100,000

Washington, March 8.—Present estimates of military authorities put the number of Americans disabled in the war at 100,000. Of this number it is estimated that 80,000 will be able to return to their old occupations, leaving 20,000 who need re-training for work suited to their maimed condition.

The federal board for vocational education appealing to the country today for aid in the campaign to make disabled soldiers independent by making them self-supporting, announced that so far 13,000 injured men have registered for re-training.

STATESVILLE FARMER HELD AS BLOCKADER

Statesville, March 8.—Will Bell, a well-to-do farmer residing about 12 miles east of Statesville on the Winston-Salem post road, was arrested Thursday afternoon by Sheriff M. P. Alexander and Deputy Sheriff O. L. Woodsides while in the act of operating an illicit distillery near his home. The officers came on him while he was at the plant and watched him from their hiding place for some time before closing in, in the hopes that they might apprehend others who were supposed to be connected with the plant. Bell had only been operating

FATHER RECEIVES SON'S HERO MEDAL.

Raleigh, March 7.—From the hands of Maj. General Henry C. Sharp of the United States army Mr. James B. Blackwell, Person county Confederate veteran yesterday received the Congress Medal of Honor, posthumously awarded to his son, Private Robert L. Blackwell, Company K, 119th Infantry, "for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action with the enemy near Saint Souplet, France, October 11, 1918." The presentation took place in the office of Governor Bickett and in the presence of state officials and other prominent citizens of North Carolina.

Major General Sharp arrived in Raleigh from Charleston S. C. where he is stationed as commanding general of the Southeastern department yesterday morning, with Maj. Thomas W. Davis of Wilmington, Mr. Blackwell, member of his family and friends, arrived later, and the presentation followed at noon.

Mr. Blackwell, a veteran of three and a half years of the Civil War, is seventy-six years of age and far from strong. Keenly suffering the loss of his son, he bore his grief silently. Visibly moved, he received the first Congress Medal of Honor conferred upon a North Carolina soldier, with merely a murmur of word. Around the room in a circle for the ceremony were thirty-five or more interested spectators.

The citation accompanying the award to Private Robert L. Blackwell, follows:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action with the enemy near Saint Souplet, France, on October 11, 1918 when his platoon was almost surrounded by the enemy, and his platoon commander asked for volunteers to carry a message calling for reinforcements. Private Blackwell volunteered for this mission, well knowing the extreme danger connected with it. In attempting to get thru the heavy shell and machine gun fire this gallant soldier was killed."

STEPS TAKEN BY AMERICAN FORCE.

Coblenz Thursday, March 6.—The disturbances in Berlin and other parts of European occupied Germany have resulted in such an increase in the number of civilians eager to reach the bridgehead area where conditions are more normal than the American forces of occupation have been compelled to take steps to prevent Germans from all parts of the country from over running the occupied zone along the Rhine.

Within the last few days since the strike began in Berlin the number of applicants desiring to reach Coblenz or other parts of the American district has more than doubled those of the previous week. To prevent civilians coming in merely to take advantage of the food situation and to get away from the center of disturbance the American authorities have had to tighten up on the privileges. Only those desiring to travel on urgent business or are returning to their homes will be allowed to pass within the American occupied area.

The Germans within the occupied zone are already laying their plans for the days after the Americans have withdrawn. For instance, application were made recently for the privilege of holding public meetings to urge the organization of volunteer forces to take over affairs when the Americans left the district.

about a week and had just completed his first "run." The still was of copper and of 30 gallons capacity. More than 3,000 gallons of beer were poured on the ground, and in addition all the other property around the place was destroyed. Bell was given a preliminary hearing before a local magistrate and bound to the next term of court in a \$300 bond, which he readily gave, and was released.