

The Weather:

Partly Overcast Today; Thunder Showers Saturday, Cooler.

THE MORNING NEW BERNIAN

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Wilson Opens His Personal Campaign For Selective Draft

President is Determined The Measure Shall Go Through Congress Unaltered And At Once—Addresses Public Letter to Helvering.

ONLY WAY TO PICK THE RIGHT MEN TO SERVE IN VARIOUS WAYS

Points Out Law Would Prevent Men Leaving Factories and Farms to Take Up Arms—Must Avoid Mistakes Made By England.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 19.—President Wilson today opened his personal campaign to force the administration selective draft bill through Congress.

The President, in a public letter to Representative Helvering of Kansas, declared that service with the army and navy was perhaps not the most vital thing necessary in war and stated that only by selective draft can a large army and navy be built up without running the danger of taking away large numbers of men whom the country needs kept at their present vocations a great deal more than it needs them on the firing line.

In the letter the President said the volunteer system provides no way whatsoever to prevent men from leaving factories and farms in such large numbers that the nation would shortly be reduced to want.

"When men choose for themselves they sometimes choose without due regard to their other responsibilities," the President wrote. "The principle of selective draft has at its heart this idea, that there is a universal obligation to serve and that public authorities should choose those upon whom the obligation of military service shall rest and also in a sense choose those who shall do the rest of the nation's work."

The letter is the first in a series of public appeals to be made by the President to prevent the United States from making the mistakes that hampered the British armies at the beginning of the war. Just what the next step would be no one ventured to say tonight. It is still considered probable, however, that the President will make a personal appeal for the selective draft bill on the floor of the House, where the greatest opposition has arisen, or at a special joint session of Congress.

The administration is determined to force the bill through Congress just as it was recommended by the general staff, and President Wilson was said tonight to have firmly and unalterably made up his mind that the bill must go through Congress unaltered and at once.

They were looking at the motion pictures of the war. "Oh should I think Scotchmen would be cold with the kill," remarked Pat. "Oh should I think they'd be killed with the cold," replied Mike.

GERMANS BRING UP FRESH UNITS TO FACE FRENCH

Vain Attempts to Stem French Tide on Front Between Soissons and Amberive.

GAINS ALL ALONG THE LINE, SAYS PARIS

LONDON, April 19.—Part of the famous Hindenburg reserves were thrown into the battle early today to head the southern part of the line against the ceaseless French onslaught. Twelve divisions took the places of the battered front line troops who had been hammered further and further back ever since Gen. Neville began his big drive Monday. But they were of no avail. Irresistibly the republic's army swept on, itself reinforced and replaced by fresh troops, many of them boys of the class of 1917.

And still the Hindenburg line retreat keeps on, but no longer voluntarily, even the Germans now admit. Two hundred and forty thousand Teuton soldiers—for this is the war strength of twelve divisions—made heroic but vain efforts to stem the French tide on the 60-mile front between Soissons and Amberive. "Success everywhere," was the keynote of the French day communique.

On the Anglo-French front there were no infantry actions up to a late hour this afternoon.

North of the Aisne and in the Champagne the French pushed forward, beating off all counter thrusts. By nightfall Gen. Neville had pressed his line from Chavonne on the Aisne more than three miles north of the river. For the first time since the battle of the Marne the Germans have been compelled to yield ground on this line. Meanwhile in the Champagne the French have driven a powerful wedge into the Teutonic defense system between Rheims and Auberive—a wedge more than three miles deep. In the last 24 hours they stormed another series of fortified heights in the Meronvillers sector.

Two additional German batteries fell to the French today, bringing the total number of guns captured since Monday close within the hundred mark. The toll of the Germans taken on prisoners by British and French since April 9 is now approximately 31,000. The defeat of the 12 German fresh divisions is counted by military experts among the most glorious achievements of the French army since the outbreak of the war. The figure given also indicates the gigantic proportions of the battle now raging. It shows that an average of 4,000 new troops were sent to every mile of the 60-mile front, making, together with the three units left there, probably ten thousand men to a mile. This gives a total of one and a half million Germans on the 150-mile front on which the Anglo-French drive is being made, or a grand total of 3,000,000 soldiers engaged in this fight on the western front.

WILL PLOW UP THE VANDERBILT LAWNS

Potatoes to be Raised on Long Island Estate of New York Millionaire.

To help in the food supply campaign William K. Vanderbilt has ordered that eight acres of the beautiful lawns of Idlehour, his Long Island estate, be plowed and planted in potatoes. Under earlier instructions Superintendent P. J. Premm already prepared to cultivate almost every foot of the eight hundred acres in the estate outside the lawn. Plowing of the lawns will start at once.

HOUSE PASSES BILLS DESIGNED TO AID THE NAVY

Maximum of Age for Officers of Naval Reserves Increased to Fifty Years.

PROVIDES INCREASE OF PAY FOR SAILORS

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 19.—Five bills designed to promote efficiency of the navy in wartime and introduced by request of Secretary Daniels, were passed by the House of Representatives today.

The first of these bills provided for increasing the maximum age for officers of the naval reserves from 35 to 50 years. The second provided for extension of enlistment for blue-jackets whose original enlistment was for period of their minority, to enlistment terms of four years.

The bill authorized increased pay for sailor men who avail themselves of the opportunity for this extended enlistment.

The third bill provided that the navy detail officers to the hydrographic office for the period of the war.

The fourth bill provided that recruits for the naval service may be trained at land stations. The fifth measure provided for increasing the number of men at the United States naval academy by 533.

Perhaps the highest compliment ever paid by one girl to another came to our ears yesterday, when we overheard the former say, "Why, she'd look pretty in a flannellette nightgown."—Ohio State Journal.

LEADERS TAKE UP FIGHT AGAINST CENSORSHIP BILL

Revert to Civil War For Exemplification of Attitude Toward Restrictions Upon Press.

CONDEMN DRASTIC PENALTIES PROPOSED

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 19.—Censorship provision of the spy bill came under barrier fire from all leaders of the Senate and House of both political parties today. Condemnation of the restrictive provisions of the proposed law and of the drastic penalties which it carried was voiced by Republicans and Democrats alike. For the Republicans, Senators Borah, of Idaho, and Johnson, of California, led the opposition and the Democrats were, Senators Reed, of Mississippi, and Thomas, of Colorado.

In his opening attack on the censorship, Senator Borah reverted to the days of the Civil War for exemplification of the attitude of Republicans towards the restrictions upon the freedom of the press.

MRS. GUERNSEY IS ELECTED PRESIDENT

"Insurgent" Candidate for G. A. R. Head Received Overwhelming Vote.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 19.—The Daughters of the American Revolution had almost in a body broken away from the leadership of Mrs. William Cummings Story and by an overwhelming majority elected Mrs. George T. Guernsey, of Independence, Kan., their new president. Mrs. Guernsey, the so-called "insurgent" candidate, carried every member of her slate to victory. She received 677 votes, more than her three competitors combined. Mrs. James Hamilton Lewis, of Chi-

HOUSE CAUCUS VOTES TO LEAVE PROHIBITION IN WILSON'S HANDS

Approves Bill to Authorize The President to Stop Manufacture or Sale of Alcoholic Beverages for The Period of The War.

TAMMANY HALL GROUP LEAVES THE MEETING

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 19.—The question of nation-wide prohibition as a war measure was left in the hands of the President tonight by the action of the Democratic caucus of the House of Representatives. Efforts of the adherents of the prohibition movement were successful in the earlier deliberation of the assembly. On the motion of Representative Howard, of Georgia, the caucus voted 87 to 60 in favor of Howard's own bill wherein it was provided that the President be authorized to decree or proclaim prohibition of the manufacture or sale of all forms of alcoholic beverages for the period of the war.

Immediately following this action twenty Democrats, led by Representative Riordan, of New York, and consisting practically of the Tammany Hall group in Congress, renounced their obligation to be further bound by the caucus' action and left the meeting.

PREPARED TO RECEIVE BRITISH COMMISSIONERS

Balfour and His Staff to Dine With The President at The White House.

NOT KNOWN WHEN THEY WILL ARRIVE

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 19.—Arrangements were almost complete tonight for the reception of the British commission, headed by former Premier Balfour. A program already has been laid out for conferences between the visitors and the officials of this government, although nothing has been revealed as to when the commissioners will arrive.

Shortly after his arrival Minister Balfour and several members of his staff will dine with President Wilson at the White House. On the following evening dinners will be given by Secretaries of State, War, Navy and Treasury. Each of the secretaries will have as his guests the members of the British commission with whom his department will have dealings.

Secretary of State Lansing will entertain Minister Balfour; Secretary Baker, General Bridges; Secretary Daniels, Admiral DeChair; Secretary McAdoo, Lord Cunliffe, governor of the Bank of England.

OVER 2,000 SINNERS 'HIT SAWDUST TRAIL'

Billy Sunday Makes First Call in New York for Recruits to Banner of Jesus Christ.

NEW YORK, April 19.—With every fibre of his body tense, with every word issuing from his mouth strangled in emotion, Billy Sunday made his first call for recruits to the banner of Jesus Christ tonight. And between 2,000 and 2,400, most of them men, out of a tumultuous throng of 30,000 persons "hit the sawdust trail." The administration candidate to succeed Mrs. Story, ran at the foot of the list.

WARNS AGAINST STAGNATION OF BUSINESS LIFE

U. S. Threatened With a "Disastrous Stampede of Misguided Patriotism," Says Coffin.

PROSPERITY MORE NECESSARY NOW

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 19.—The Council of National Defense tonight announced that the United States was threatened with a "disastrous stampede of misguided patriotism."

The council made public a statement by Howard E. Coffin, automobile manufacturer, of Detroit and member of the advisory commission of the council, urging all business men and corporations to "keep prosperity going."

Following the appeal of all departments for conservation of food and such necessities, great numbers of business houses, municipalities, counties and states have halted or discontinued improvements, threatening to bring about stagnation of business life that would result in disaster, the council announced.

"We need prosperity in war time even more than when we are at peace," Coffin said.

"It is true that the President has said that this is the time to correct our habits of wastefulness. Certainly! But the keynote of his recent message to the people was this paragraph: "It is evident to every thinking man that our industries, on the farm, in the ship yards, in the mines, in the factories, must be more patriotic and more efficient."

MORRIS PLAN BANK HAS GOOD OPENING HERE

Volume of Business on First Day Gratifying to Officials of Institution.

WILL APPEAL TO THE WAGE EARNERS

The New Bern Morris Plan Bank, which is one of New Bern's new business enterprises, was opened for business yesterday, and Mr. John Dunn, secretary-treasurer and general manager of the bank, stated last night that the business transacted yesterday was very satisfactory for the opening day. There were a large number of applications for loans received and quite a number of loans made.

This institution will be a great benefit to the laboring class of people in New Bern, if they take advantage of the purpose of the bank.

The banking office is located in the building on Pollock street occupied by the New Bern Building and Loan Association and the officers of the company are: President, W. W. Griffin, vice-president, Dr. F. W. Hughes; secretary-treasurer and manager, Mr. John Dunn.

RUSSIAN ARMY, LOYAL, CONFIDENT OF VICTORY

Premier Asserts Conditions At The Front Have Vastly Improved.

LONDON, APRIL 19.—A Petrograd despatch says that Premier Lvoff and some of the other Ministers, who have been visiting army headquarters, reported on their return that conditions at the front had considerably improved, especially in regard to the supply of the principal food products. They say that food and transport conditions are satisfactory. Premier Lvoff declared that the unrest which the army had showed during the first stage of the revolution had completely disappeared. He

Mexicans Fire On Americans; Shots Returned; 1 Killed

LABOR TROUBLES IN RUSSIA MAY CAUSE CIVIL WAR

Provisional Government Having Great Difficulty in Preventing Internal Upheaval.

SITUATION GRADUALLY GROWING ALARMING

PETROGRAD, April 19.—Civil war stalks about in the Muscovite realm in the guise of patriotism. At any moment the loud smouldering sparks of discontent may be fanned into flames that may engulf the whole country burning it from within, while a foreign foe hammers down the gates and rushes in to reap the advantages of internal upheaval. So grave is the situation today, so constantly widening is the cleavage between the provisional government and the workmen and soldier delegates that those are no longer chided as pessimists and traitors who assert the March revolution was only the beginning of endless trouble.

The provisional government is combating the growing distrust of the workmen and soldier delegates. While both parties are continually appealing to the country for unity, they are engaged in unending quarrels for authority.

Meanwhile the workers throughout the country are making preposterous demands and all the while hundreds of factories are idle. These are some of the things which the workers claim they are entitled to:

A four-hour working day. Seven hundred percent raise of wages. A full month holiday. Two months' extra wages at Easter and Christmas. Virtually equal share in the profits.

"You can reach a man's heart through his stomach," quoted the Wise Guy. "Yes, but can you afford to pay the check?" retorted the Simple Mug, thinking of the high cost of living.

WAR RISK RATES WITHDRAWN NOW

Attack on United States Torpedo Boat Off Carolina Coast The Reason.

(Greensboro Record.) Attack of German submarines on a United States torpedo boat off the coast of North Carolina was reported at noon today, according to a telegram received here by J. S. Latham from a Wilmington underwriter, who stated in the message that all war risk rates in nearly every company had been withdrawn pending further notice. The battle occurred off Cape Hatteras, although the identity of the submarines and torpedo boat have not yet been learned.

The message follows: "United States torpedo boat attacked by submarine off coast Hatteras. All war risk rates withdrawn until further notice."

It is said unofficially that the presence of German submarines off the coast of North Carolina may result in immediate call to the colors of the Guilford Greys, third company C. A. C., of Greensboro. No orders have yet been issued to that effect, however, and the foregoing statement is no official foundation for these reports.

Rumor that torpedo boats of the United States Navy are running to shore German submarines has been circulated generally, although there is no official foundation for these reports. It is said that the fighting spirit was increasing daily, that the troops were ready to encounter the enemy and were confident of the outcome.

Carranzistas Openly Attack United States Border Patrols at El Paso—General Bell Orders His Men to Shoot To Kill When Attacked.

GARRANZA INCREASES EXPORT DUTY ON PETROLEUM

Considerable Concern at State Department Over New Developments—Carranza Newspapers Continue to Attack U. S. and Extol Germany.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 19.—Mexico bounced up again today to worry administration officials some more.

Receipt of the official news through the Mexican embassy here that President-elect Carranza had increased the export duty on petroleum and its products caused considerable concern in the State department tonight.

Coming on the heels of the announcement of the petroleum tax, news of the clash tonight at El Paso between Mexican and American forces caused concern here.

EL PASO, TEXAS, April 19.—A Carranza patrol openly fired on American border patrols in the western part of El Paso this evening. The fire was returned by a detachment of the Twentieth United States Infantry. One Carranza soldier was killed.

General George Bell, Jr., in command at El Paso, immediately sent a strong protest to the Mexican military authorities through the Mexican consul. At the same time orders were given to the American troops to shoot to kill when attacked by Mexican troops.

Investigations made by General Bell and Federal agents established the fact that the Mexicans were the first to open fire and that they aimed their shots directly at an American sentry. He rushed to cover at the first shot and this alone saved his life, as the bullets plowed up the ground where he had been standing. The Mexican papers controlled by Carranza continue to attack America and to extol Germany.

SUES FOR "HER WEIGHT IN GOLD"

Chicago Woman Demands Accounting for Dowry and Other Money She Advanced.

CHICAGO, ILL., April 19.—A bill for accounting, asking a judgment against her ex-husband for her weight in gold, has been filed in the Superior Court against Frank P. Blair by Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair, his former wife.

Mrs. Blair alleges that when they were married at Digby, Nova Scotia, in 1910, she received from her father, Edmund B. Barbour, a wealthy Boston man, as her dowry "her weight in gold." It amounted to \$32,558.