

## NEW CABINET POST

SENATOR CHAMBERLAIN INTRODUCES MEASURE PROVIDING SECRETARY OF MUNITIONS.

### WOULD ELIMINATE RED TAPE

Proposed Act Has the Backing of the Senate Committee and Will Be Strongly Pressed—In Force Only During War.

Washington, Jan. 7.—A department of munitions under a new cabinet head known as the secretary of munitions is proposed in a bill introduced on Friday by Chairman Chamberlain of the senate military committee as a result of the committee's investigation of war operations. The new department would operate during the war and one year thereafter. The bill has the backing of the senate committee and will be strongly pressed.

The new secretary of munitions would have power under the president's direction to control arms, ammunition, food, clothing, equipment, tentage, transportation and any other materials the president shall designate as munitions of war.

Government bureaus, agencies and funds necessary to a munitions administration would be transferred to the new department which contemplates control of naval as well as army supplies.

"The bill is intended to increase and expedite the supply of munitions of war," said Senator Chamberlain. "One great trouble with the war establishment as disclosed by the investigation has been a lack of co-ordination and the seeming impossibility of getting rid of circuitous methods of doing business. Until there can be co-ordination and methods more direct the United States will be groping in the dark for many months before we can place ourselves in proper fighting trim."

## INCOME TAX MADE PLAIN

New Revenue Will Be Collected Under Laws to Support Fighting Men Abroad.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The amount of income taxes payable under the present revenue laws are given below. Every unmarried person having a net income of \$1,000 or more, and every married person or head of a family having an income of \$2,000 or more must file a return before March 1, 1918. Failure to make a correct return within the time specified involves heavy penalties.

Annual Income	Married man's tax	Single man's tax
\$ 1,000	.....	.....
1,200	.....	.....
1,400	.....	.....
1,600	.....	.....
1,800	.....	.....
2,000	.....	.....
2,200	.....	.....
2,400	.....	.....
2,600	.....	.....
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19,000	.....	.....
19,200	.....	.....
19,400	.....	.....
19,600	.....	.....
19,800	.....	.....
20,000	.....	.....

## TO CUT PASSENGER TRAINS

Director General McAdoo to Issue Order Soon—Will Relieve Freight Congestion.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Hundreds of passenger trains on railroads east of the Mississippi will be withdrawn from service under orders soon to be issued by Director General McAdoo, based on specific recommendations made by a committee of Eastern passenger traffic officers.

## Dynamite Found in Coal

Streator, Ill., Jan. 5.—A stick of dynamite 14 inches long was found in a car of coal by a workman at the plant of the American Bottle company. Had the dynamite gone into the gas producer a severe loss of life and property would surely have resulted. Officials of the bottle company profess to believe that the dynamite was loaded with the coal by chance at the mine.

## Teutons Bombard Italy's Hospitals

Rome, Jan. 5.—The Teutons have begun bombing hospitals on the Italian front. The official statement reported enemy airmen directly attacked two hospitals at Castelfrance and Yenets, killing 18 patients by aerial bombs.

## China Has 25,000 Men at Front

New York, Jan. 5.—China already has 25,000 men behind the firing lines in Mesopotamia and France. Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese ambassador to this country, said in an address here before the Chamber of Commerce.

## RAY BAKER



Ray Baker, who has been director of the mint for about a year, is likely to be appointed United States senator from Nevada by Governor Boyle, to fill out the unexpired term of the late Senator Newlands.

## PLOTTERS FIRE CITY

TWO BLOCKS IN NORFOLK SWEEP BY FLAMES.

German Conspiracy to Destroy the Town Is Suspected—Martial Law Is Declared.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 3.—Norfolk was swept by a series of mysterious fires on Tuesday which did \$5,000,000 damage. German agents are blamed.

Hugo Schmidt and H. K. Lessing, suspected of starting the fire, have been arrested, charged with incendiaryism. A German plot to destroy the city is suspected. Schmidt claimed to be an employee of the department of justice.

Norfolk is under martial law. The fire wiped out two blocks in the heart of the business section.

Fifteen persons, suspected of complicity in a plot to destroy the city, are examined by agents of the department of justice.

Federal authorities have established special offices and secret service men were rushed from Washington.

The fires destroyed houses, hotels and apartments. Several explosions marked the progress of the conflagrations. The Monticello hotel, which was destroyed, was headquarters of army and naval officers. A thousand bluejackets from the navy yard, 500 Home Guard troops and many volunteer special officers are patrolling the streets.

One fireman was killed and three seriously hurt.

Cold weather, freezing hydrants and bad weather conditions generally interfered with the work of the firemen.

Because of the importance of Norfolk in connection with war preparations, officials are making a general roundup of all suspicious characters.

## HOOVER CUTS PRICE OF SUGAR

Food Administrator at Washington Fixes Hundredweight Charge at \$7.45.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Arbitrarily fixing the price of refined sugar, cutting it far below prices that have been charged for it by many retailers, the food administration on Friday night issued this order:

"The price of Cuban raw sugar being 6 cents, duty paid, as from January 7, at New York, the price of refined sugar will be \$7.45 (per cent), less 2 per cent to wholesalers.

"The Atlantic seaboard area thus comes into the interior price basis, or a reduction of about 1 cent per pound, or \$20 per ton."

## FAIR SUGAR SUPPLY—HOOVER

Question of Beet and Cane Sugar Again Threshed Out Before Senate Committee.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Herbert C. Hoover, food administrator, wound up his stormy session before the senate manufacturers subcommittee with the declaration that America will have a fair sugar supply this year with reasonable prices.

The question of Cuban, Louisiana beet sugar and Hawaiian sugar prices was thrashed out again.

"The whole foundation of the food administration," Hoover continued, "is based on co-operation of the American people."

Third Liberty Loan February 15. Washington, Jan. 7.—The third Liberty loan campaign will be opened February 15, it was learned here. What amount is to be raised could not be ascertained. Preparations for advertising are nearing completion.

Will Succeed Newlands. Reno, Nev., Jan. 7.—Charles Belknap Henderson, banker, and attorney of Elko, Nev., was appointed United States senator from Nevada to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Francis G. Newlands, by Gov. Boyle.

## RUSS SCORN PEACE

TROTZKY SAYS SLAVS WILL NOT CONSENT TO PROPOSALS OFFERED BY GERMANS.

### 3,000,000 READY TO FIGHT

Declares if Central Powers Do Not Agree to Free Disposal of Destiny of Poles It Will Be Necessary to Defend Revolution.

Petrograd, Jan. 5.—The bolshevik foreign minister, Leon Trozky, declared that the government of the Russian workers would not consent to the German peace proposals.

M. Trozky's declaration was made before the central committee of the council of workmen's and sailors' delegates, during an address in which he denounced in scathing terms "Germany's hypocritical peace proposal."

Asserting that the government of Russian workers would not consent to such conditions, he said that if the central powers did not agree to free disposal of the destiny of the Polish and Lithuanian nations, it would be urgent necessary to defend the Russian revolution. He said the needs at the front would be satisfied, whatever efforts might be necessary.

Representatives from all the fronts who attended the meeting declared the troops would defend the revolution, but said bread and boots were necessary.

The Russian peace delegation officially has suggested to the central powers that the meeting place of the peace delegates be transferred to neutral soil.

The halt in the negotiations and indications of a German refusal to remove the conference to Stockholm have revived universal discussion in Petrograd of a resumption of fighting, with a greatly reduced army, probably 3,000,000 men.

## NATION'S BIG FOOD INDUSTRY

Duties of Holders of Foodstuffs Outlined by Charles J. Brand, Chief of Bureau.

Washington, Jan. 1.—All dealers in and holders of foodstuffs in quantities substantially greater than family supplies should report in the war emergency food survey of the United States to be made as of January 1, even though they do not receive inquiry blanks by mail, according to a statement made here by Charles J. Brand, chief of the bureau of markets of the United States department of agriculture, who has the big war inventory in charge.

"We have attempted to send schedules from Washington to each of the hundreds of thousands of firms and individuals who handle the food supply of the country, but obviously it has been physically impossible to reach them all," said Mr. Brand. "All dealers, manufacturers and warehousemen having any food in their possession, and all other concerns, such as hotels and institutions having more than \$250 worth of food on hand, should arrange to report their holdings of December 31, whether schedules have been delivered to them or not. In case they do not receive schedules by January 2, they should write for copies to the bureau of markets, United States department of agriculture, at Washington, or should call at or write to one of the many branch offices throughout the country."

As a result of his personal investigations into the bootlegging traffic, Attorney General Reed has secured affidavits and other evidence, proving the violation of federal laws in the bringing of liquor into Nebraska from Missouri. He is placing the facts in possession of United States District Attorney T. S. Allen as a basis for federal prosecution. This is being done because some of the principal offenders are not in Nebraska and cannot be prosecuted.

Answering to a telegraphic inquiry, Attorney General Reed today gave out an opinion that German language instruction in parochial schools could be legally stopped. The inquiry came from W. C. Johnson of Scotia. Mr. Reed did not specify what legal provisions could be employed to prevent German language instruction. It has generally been accepted heretofore that the state council of defense could do no more than request its discontinuance, which has already been done.

Col Phil Hall of Lincoln, who lost out as commander of the Sixth Regiment, N. G., when it was broken up at Camp Cody some months ago and used to piece out other organizations, has been assigned as colonel of the old Fourth Nebraska, now the 127th field artillery, in camp at that place. News of this assignment for the former Nebraska adjutant general and head of the Sixth regiment is contained in a telegram received by Governor Neville from Colonel Hall at Deming, N. M.

All records of the first draft are to be returned by the district appellate boards to the local boards, under instructions given by Captain Walter Anderson, draft administrator of Nebraska. The time for the transfer is at the discretion of the district boards. The instructions are to return the records when convenient and at a time when the work on the new draft system becomes slack. Secretary Frye said it would be some time before the South Platte board could accomplish the transfer. The board will again take up its duties January 7.

## HURLEY ASKS CASH FOR SHIPS

Seeks \$82,000,000 of Congress for Acquisition or Establishment of Shipbuilding Plants.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Chairman Hurley of the shipping board asked congress for \$82,000,000 for acquisition or establishment of shipbuilding plants. In addition to the \$105,000,000 heretofore asked for the next fiscal year. He also asked for increase of authority for construction of ships from \$1,234,000,000 to \$1,935,000,000.

F. A. Brown, purchasing officer for the Emergency Fleet corporation, told the committee that within 60 days the shipping board hopes to have delivered from Oregon the heavier timbers for the construction of 200 wooden ships at a price of \$15 less a thousand than that of pine timbers which the South was unable to deliver.

## WISCONSIN SOLON ENDS LIFE

Assemblyman Carl Hansen, Leader and Humorist in Last Session, Shoots Self to Death.

Manitowoc, Wis., Jan. 7.—Assemblyman Carl Hansen, a leader and humorist in the last session of the legislature, committed suicide by firing a bullet through his brain in his insurance office on Friday.

Held on Disloyalty Charge. St. Louis, Jan. 7.—Henry C. Koenig, former member of the St. Louis board of education, was bound over to the federal grand jury after a Red Cross solicitor testified as to disloyal utterances he had made.

## Austrian Flyers Defy Pope

Rome, Jan. 7.—In the face of the note of protest from the Vatican, Teutonic aviators on Friday again bombed inhabited parts of the cities of Treviso and Padua, a war office statement announced.

## COST OF EDUCATION

Value of School District Property Now Exceeds \$28,000,000

The public schools of Nebraska, during the year ending July, 1917, spent nearly \$12,000,000, according to a compilation made by State Superintendent W. H. Clemmons from reports filed by county superintendents. The total enrollment of pupils was 292,362 and the average daily attendance was 219,246. The cost of education per pupil on an enrollment basis was \$40.77 for the year, and the cost, based on the daily attendance, was \$54.33.

There are 12,697 teachers in Nebraska schools and only 1,448 of that number are male teachers. The average monthly salary of male teachers was \$75.80 and for female teachers the average was \$53.10. The compilation of the state superintendent contains the following statistical matter.

Nebraska School Statistics

Counties	.....	93
School districts	.....	7,250
School houses	.....	7,699
Teachers employed	.....	12,697
Males	.....	1,448
Females	.....	11,249
Total	.....	12,697
Average monthly salary—	.....	
Males of school district prop.	.....	\$75.80
Females	.....	\$53.10
Teachers' wages—	.....	
Males	.....	\$1,657,104.67
Females	.....	5,794,657.67
Total	.....	\$7,451,762.34
Buildings and sites	.....	1,486,439.36
Repairs	.....	515,649.13
Fuel	.....	539,111.82
Library books	.....	25,747.57
Text books and supplies	.....	436,240.92
Furniture	.....	174,614.69
For all other purposes	.....	1,881,294.32
Total	.....	\$11,921,859.65
Amount in hands of district	.....	
Treasurers	.....	\$2,675,848.28
Value of school district property	.....	28,428,589.11
Total indebtedness	.....	\$9,763,742.48
Children of school age (6-21)	.....	387,394
Total enrollment	.....	292,362
Average daily attendance	.....	219,246
Cost of education per pupil on enrollment	.....	\$40.77
Cost of education per pupil on daily attendance	.....	\$54.33
Graded schools	.....	654
Teachers in graded schools	.....	5,962
City schools organized under Article 22	.....	91
High schools organized under Article 6	.....	225
Village schools organized under Article 3	.....	237
High schools accredited to the University of Nebraska	.....	368
Agricultural high schools	.....	18
County high schools	.....	14
Normal training high schools drawing money	.....	142
Students in normal training high schools	.....	4,560
Non-accredited high schools reported for approval	.....	256

There are over 1,000 four minute men now enlisted in the various towns and cities of Nebraska.

The work of classifying the draft subjects in the state is progressing rapidly, and will soon be completed.

The state banking board, as a measure of conservation, has directed Secretary Tooley not to publish an annual report this year, but in lieu to publish a biennial report next year.

A two days war conference will be held at Lincoln, January 13 and 14, at which federal officers from Washington and army officers from France will deliver talks on the war situation as it affects Nebraska. The meetings will be under the supervision of the state council of defense.

All books printed in German are to be dropped from the libraries of the state institutions under the direction of the state board of control, according to an order sent out by the board. The action taken is in conformity with a request from the Nebraska state council of defense to abolish German language instruction.

As a result of his personal investigations into the bootlegging traffic, Attorney General Reed has secured affidavits and other evidence, proving the violation of federal laws in the bringing of liquor into Nebraska from Missouri. He is placing the facts in possession of United States District Attorney T. S. Allen as a basis for federal prosecution. This is being done because some of the principal offenders are not in Nebraska and cannot be prosecuted.

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## GOVERNMENT PLAN

PRESIDENT ASKS FOR POWER TO SETTLE THE RAILROAD PROBLEM

### TO SAFEGUARD INTERESTS

Urges Congress to Appropriate Funds for Protection of Stock Holders and the Public

Washington—President Wilson has called upon congress to give him full and unrestricted powers to conduct the federal operation of the country's railroads.

Before a joint session of the senate and house he outlined the initial steps necessary to success of Director General McAdoo's administration of the lines.

He explained that the action already taken was "necessary to secure the complete mobilization of the whole resources of America by as rapid and effective means as can be found."

The president asked for necessary means for protecting the interests of railroad stockholders.

Measures to protect travelers and safeguard private shippers.

Compensation for the railroads, based on the average net railway operating income of the three years ending June 30, 1917.

He added that "it is probably too much to expect that, even under the unified railway administration, sufficient economies can be effected to make it possible to add to their equipment and extend their operative facilities as much as the present extraordinary demands will render extra without resorting to the national treasury for funds," but he asked for no appropriation now, stating that Director General McAdoo will advise with the proper committees later on this point.

The president laid especial stress on the guarantees to the roads and their stockholders, saying on that point:

"I need not point out the essential justice of such guarantees and their great influence and significance as elements in the present financial and industrial situation of the country. Indeed, one of the strong arguments for assuming control of the railroads at this time is the financial argument. It is necessary that the values of railway securities should be justly and fairly protected and that the large financial operations every year necessary in connection with the maintenance, operation and development of the roads should, during the period of the war, be wisely related to the financial operations of the government.

It was a plain business message, taking but fifteen minutes to deliver, and was received quietly by the legislators.

The president obviously sought to quiet any possible unrest which might result from the sweeping action of the government.

"It is the utmost consequence to the government itself," he said, "that all great financial operations be stabilized and co-ordinated with the financial operations of the country.

"No borrowing," he added, "should run athwart the borrowings of the federal treasury and no fundamental industrial values should anywhere be necessarily impaired.

"Ten or eleven millions of dollars invested for sureties by many thousands of small investors as well as financial institutions of all kinds, constitute a vital part of the structure of credit and the unquestioned solidity of that structure must be maintained," he declared.

As the president concluded Representative Simms, chairman of the house interstate commerce committee, introduced a bill carrying out the president's recommendations. Simms expects a report immediately. He and others of the commerce and rules committees, will confer with the president relative to means of hastening action.

Immediately after the senate reconvened Senator E. D. Smith, of South Carolina, ranking member of the interstate commerce committee, introduced an exact duplicate of the house bill. It was referred to the interstate commerce committee, thus providing simultaneous action by house and senate on the president's recommendations.