

FOOD GAMBLERS ALLIES OF KAISER

BRANDED AS SUCH BY AGRICULTURE SECRETARY.

LOBBY EXISTS IN WASHINGTON

Declares Men of Immense Wealth Seek to Block Legislation; Tells People of U. S. to Scorn and Condemn Speculators.

Washington.—Sensational charges that a lobby of "food gamblers, some of them men of immense wealth," already is at work in Washington to defeat the administration food control bills, were made in a formal statement by Assistant Secretary Vrooman of the Agricultural Department.

"Allies of the kaiser—unpatriotic and disloyal—who should be made to feel the loathing and contempt of every patriotic American," are some of the characterizations applied by Mr. Vrooman to "food speculators, food cornerers and food gamblers" who, he promises, will in time be touched by appropriate legislation.

Secretary Vrooman's statement follows:

"Never in the history of the world have businessmen shown as much patriotism and unselfishness as have been manifested since the war began by the businessmen of America. An overwhelming majority of them have been as ready to place their business organizations and their personal services and their wealth at the disposal of the federal government in this crisis as the young men have been to do the actual fighting.

"However, this attitude has not been universal. There are food speculators, food cornerers and food gamblers, some of them men of immense wealth and others of very small means, who are today taking advantage of war conditions to exploit their fellow citizens to the full extent of their ability. These men are allies of the kaiser and are doing their utmost to defeat the patriotic purposes of the nation. Wherever they are seen, in high places or in low, they should be condemned and made to feel the loathing and contempt of every patriotic American.

"These men will be taken care of in due time by national, state and municipal legislation, but until such legislation can be enacted the only effective power that can be brought against them is the power of an outraged public sentiment, and that should be used vigorously and mercifully."

"I am told that some of these men are actually in Washington today conducting a lobby against the request of President Wilson that congress empower him and his cabinet to take the necessary means to economize the agricultural products for victory. They are urging every specious theoretical and imaginary argument against the granting of war powers to the president and his cabinet and they are at present directing their principal attacks against the laws which have been introduced by the agriculture committee of the house with a view to putting the department of agriculture on a war basis. That step should have been taken several weeks ago. The bills now before congress were drawn up before the department of agriculture had consulted with every agricultural college in the United States, with every state department of agriculture, with every agricultural paper or magazine, and with experts familiar with the experience of Europe during the last three years. The additional powers asked for are powers which are possessed and exercised by the governments of every European nation now at war. They have been demonstrated to be absolutely essential for war powers."

Conscription to Report in September. The long deadlock of conferees on the selective draft military bill was broken late last week with agreement on a compromise measure under which a great war army would be raised by selective conscription of men between the ages of 21 to 31.

Authorizations for Recruiting Colonel Roosevelt's proposed volunteer division written into the bill by the senate and defended stubbornly by the senate conferees, finally was thrown out on the insistence of committee men representing the house. In return the house yielded to the senate's proposal for prohibition at military posts.

In less than two weeks after the law is effective registration of those eligible for conscription will be under way throughout the country. The war department has erected a vast machine for assigning and organizing the conscripts. They will be assembled at training camps in September. The compromise bill is understood to be generally satisfactory to the administration and to the army general staff on whose advice the original measure was framed. The age limit named in the conference agreement is 21 to 30, inclusive, making the draft applicable to all male voters under 31.

No Chance to Evade Duty. To dispose of any fear that county and city registration boards will exercise favoritism in enrolling soldiers under the selective draft act, Provost Marshal General Crowder issued a statement declaring such practices would be virtually impossible, because of the explicit terms in which the act is drawn. He warned registration officials that favoritism easily could be detected and would be punished with heavy penalties. "Every precaution," said the statement, "will be taken to make it certain that the registration will be conducted with exact justice."

"The law is specific and allows no latitude to the boards, either in the matter of registration or in the later matter of exemption from service. The law is self-executing. Every man within the age limits fixed by the selective service act must register, and the penalty of the law in evasion of registration will fall not only on the man who fails to appear, but on any member of a registration board who may be shown to be in collusion with the person who attempts to escape his duty."

"Further than this, the registration boards will never act as exemption boards except in certain specific cases, such as where a young man who has registered shall claim to be employed in a federal, state, or local office and thereby does come within the exemption clause of the statute. In a case like this the facts must be entered officially and attested."

"So far as the other reasons for exemption under the law are concerned, exemptions for men engaged in pursuits in which their work is more valuable at home than in the service, the authority will lie with a board of higher discretion. "The law provides the penalty of imprisonment with no alternative of a fine for any official or any registered man who shall make a false return or connive at such a practice. The safeguards against favoritism or evasion are ample."

Men Named For Russian Mission. Washington.—The State department announced the personnel of the American commission to Russia as follows: Elihu Root of New York, chairman. Charles R. Crane of Illinois, Chicago manufacturer and business man. John R. Mott of New York, general secretary international committee of Young Men's Christian association. Cyrus McCormick, president of the International Harvester company. Samuel R. Bertrou, banker of New York. James Duncan, vice president American Federation of Labor. Charles Edward Russell of New York, author and socialist. Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff, U. S. A. Rear Admiral James H. Glennon, U. S. N.

Food Control Will Avert Famine. New York.—Herbert C. Hoover, who recently came from Europe to advise the government on food conditions in Europe, says that without control we may see flour at \$20 a barrel before the year is over, but that with control "the present price of flour can be reduced 40 to 50 per cent and at the same time the producer be treated in a liberal manner."

Mr. Hoover, in commenting on the situation told newspaper men that there is absolutely no occasion for food panic in this country nor any justification for outrageous prices unless the opposition of special interests defeats the president in obtaining the necessary powers to control the nation's food adequately. He said that America's problem is not one of famine, for this country has now and will have next year a large surplus. Mr. Hoover asserted that the great problem of the United States is, after the people of this country are properly fed and protected, to give to the allies the last ounce of surplus of which America is capable.

Rigid Food Measure Essential. Rome.—With last year's world food crops poor and those of this year poorer, it is necessary, even if the war end this summer or fall, for the United States to apply rigid food measures, according to David Lubin of California, founder of the International Institute of Agriculture here and American representative to it.

Oregon Gives Her Share. Washington.—Oregon has filled its quota in regular army recruits. With a quota of 1,344 the Pacific state has supplied 1,349 men to the government since April 1.

Historic City Hall Damaged. New York.—New York's historic city hall, built more than 100 years ago, and considered architecturally one of the most beautiful buildings in the country, was badly damaged by fire several days ago. The entire building was threatened.

General Victim of Assassin. Riga.—Major General Kurtzoff, commander of the Siberian rifles division, has been assassinated. The soldiers deny the possibility that the assassin was one of their number.

Awarded 6 Cents Damages. Washington.—By agreement on both sides the local supreme court awarded a verdict of six cents damages and costs to Henry Lane Wilson, former ambassador to Mexico, in his libel suit against Norman Hapgood, former editor of Collier's.

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Italian Envoys Coming. Washington.—The Italian war mission, which is to arrange with the United States a program of special co-operation, will arrive in Washington within the next few days.

Pilot and Pupil Killed. Newport News, Va.—Victor Carlstrom, aviator-instructor of the Atlantic coast aeronautics station here, and Carey B. Eppes of Newport News, an army student aviator, were instantly killed when their machine fell 3,500 feet.



1—The 1918 class of France, young men born in 1898, just called to the colors, marshaled in front of the Gare Montparnasse, Paris, to be taken to training garrisons. 2—Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, new commander of the department of the Northeast, and his aide, Lieut. N. S. Simpkins, in headquarters at Boston. 3—British officer leading a raiding party amidst the bursting of German shells. 4—Princess Maude of Fife, who is to marry her cousin, the Prince of Wales. 5—Lieut. Com. D. C. Bingham, fleet gunnery officer on staff of commander of Atlantic fleet.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

War Revenue Measure to Raise \$1,800,000,000 Introduced in the House.

MAKES ENTIRE NATION HELP

Compromise Reached on Army Conscription Bill—Nine Regiments of Engineers Going to Europe Soon—Desperate Fighting in Northern France and Macedonia.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The house of representatives received from the ways and means committee on Wednesday the completed war revenue bill designed to raise \$1,800,000,000, which is additional to the normal revenue of \$1,500,000,000. The measure is so drafted that every home, every individual, will share in the burden. Under its provisions the American people will be paying direct taxes of \$33 per capita for the year 1917. The people of the British Isles now pay per capita taxes of \$60.

The principal features of the levy are the increases in income and profits taxes, in internal revenue rates and in customs duties, but the householder and indeed everyone is hit, for light, heat, and telephone bills, admission tickets to amusements, fire and life insurance, railway tickets, automobiles, automobile tires and tubes, soft drinks, postage rates, golf clubs and baseball bats, club dues, and a host of other everyday necessities or luxuries come under the taxation. At the last minute the committee added a paragraph placing a tax of 2 cents a pound on tea and 1 cent a pound on coffee, and an additional tax was placed on sugar.

The bill proposes a normal tax of 2 per cent on individuals having incomes between \$1,000 and \$3,000, if single, and \$2,000 and \$4,000, if married or the head of a family. An additional normal tax of 2 per cent would be added in the case of larger incomes. At \$5,000 an additional surtax, graduated until at \$50,000 and over it reaches 33 per cent, would be imposed.

All articles of import now on the free list will be taxed 10 per cent, and an additional 10 per cent tax is placed on all articles now on the dutiable list. The tax on excess profits is 16 per cent on profits over 8 per cent and \$5,000. Heavy taxes are placed on beer, spirits, whisky and tobacco and its manufactures. The first-class mail rate goes up to 3 cents and the second-class rate is increased according to the zone system.

Army Bill Compromise. Spurred to action by the president, the senate and house conferees compromised the differences over the army conscription bill. The amendment authorizing the Roosevelt expeditionary force of volunteers was eliminated. The age limit for the draft was set at twenty-one to thirty years inclusive. Liquor is barred from the training camps and immoral resorts from their vicinity. The pay of enlisted men is raised \$10 a month to \$25, and that of other grades proportionately. The machinery for draft exemption is provided.

It is estimated that under the bill more than 10,000,000 men are liable for war service. From these will be taken the first 500,000 recruits for the conscription army, the second 500,000 when the president decides to call for them, and the men necessary to bring the regular army and National Guard up to maximum war strength if volunteers do not come forward in sufficient numbers.

Reports during the week concerning the submarine warfare were conflicting and confusing. Germany claimed its campaign was still successful beyond its expectations, while Great Britain issued figures showing a considerable decrease in the number of U-boat victims. Great Britain reported the sinking

ENORMOUS OUTLAY FOR WAR

British Chancellor of the Exchequer Gives Facts When Introducing Measure for New Credit.

London.—Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, in the commons discussed most of the main features of the war. Some of them, he said, could be viewed with great satisfaction by the British. Others were of a most disturbing nature. One encouraging point made was the

of two more hospital ships by the Germans. The news also came of the torpedoing of the British steamship City of Paris in the Mediterranean early in April. The vessel carried 206 passengers and a large crew and only 23 were saved.

American inventors by the thousand are seeking means of combating the submarine, and Chairman Saunders of the naval consulting board made a statement which, though deprecated by navy officials, gave assurance that some of the devices submitted would solve the problem in the near future.

The war department announced on Monday that nine regiments of engineers, made up largely of railroad men, would be sent to France as soon as possible. These men and doctors and nurses will be the first to reach the war zone.

Members of the French war commission, after their trip through the central West, were received enthusiastically in Philadelphia and New York; some of the British commissioners addressed congress, and all of them prepared to return home, confident that the arrangements made with America ensured the prosecution of the war to a victorious conclusion.

The finance committee of the French chamber of deputies, in reporting on a bill, asserted that France must have a "peace that pays," in restoration of Alsace-Lorraine, compensation in kind for thefts and damages in the invaded region, rebuilding of the ruined towns and villages by German hands, ships to replace those sunk, and guarantees for annual payments.

It was stated authoritatively in Washington Thursday that President Wilson had informed Mr. Balfour that the United States will make war and peace in common with the allies.

Ferment in Germany.

Of the greatest interest and importance were the events of the week in Germany. Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg finding himself between two fires, maintained silence concerning Germany's aims in the war. On the one hand, the peace-without-annexation socialists attacked him and the government fiercely, virtually demanding that he step down and out. On the other hand, the conservatives and Pan-Germans assailed him for apparently yielding to the other faction, and also boldly blamed his hesitant policy for the long duration of the war. Sweeping internal reforms in the empire are demanded by the radicals, and some of them—but not enough yet—venture to urge the wiping out of Prussia's baleful predominance and even the deposition of the reigning dynasty.

A logical result of these agitations was the reported attempt of an assassin to shoot the kaiser in Berlin. Had his aim been truer his bullet would have removed not alone Wilhelm, but the whole house of Hohenzollern.

Closely related to events in Germany were the developments in Russia. The provisional heads of the new republic were forced to agree to form a coalition government with the delegates of the soldiers' and workmen's councils. This quieted the disturbances for the time being, but the German socialist emissaries continued to spread their propaganda. Borgjerg, Danish socialist, who is in Petrograd, made known the peace terms proposed by the German socialist democratic party, the majority faction. They include recognition of the right of nations to freedom of development, the introduction of compulsory international arbitration, the restitution by Germany of all conquered territories, a plebiscite in Russian Poland, with freedom to choose between independence or annexation by Russia or Germany; the restoration of independence to Belgium, Serbia, and Rumania; the restoration to Bulgaria of the Bulgarian districts of Macedonia, and the granting to Serbia of a free port on the Adriatic.

The radical socialists of Petrograd at once declared that their party should have nothing to do with Borgjerg and his propositions, which they asserted were wholly pro-German. Stand of American Socialists. Leading American socialists gave out a statement denouncing the international socialist conference called for Stockholm early in June as "the most dangerous of all the kaiser's plots for

figures represented a total daily expenditure of \$37,250,000. Between April 1 and May, the chancellor said, there was a daily advance of \$10,000,000 to the allies of Great Britain and to the dominions.

The credit brings the total since the outbreak of the war to \$22,210,000,000. America, however, continued the chancellor, had acted with promptitude, for which the nation could not be too grateful. The present vote would carry the government on until about August 1.

small losses, comparatively, suffered by the British in the Arras offensive. He placed them at 50 to 75 per cent, less than those of the Somme, while the enemy losses were tremendously larger.

The U-boats, he said, had taken a large toll, but they were at a greater cost to Germany because they had aligned against the Germanic allies the greatest neutral, the United States. Mr. Law was introducing the new vote of credit of \$2,500,000,000, which he said was disturbing, because the

cashing in his military victories," and characterizing the American socialist delegates, Morris Hillquit and Algenon Lee, as radically pro-German.

In Greece matters moved rapidly toward a climax. The king is losing supporters daily in large numbers, and on Sunday 40,000 persons assembled in Saloniki and with great enthusiasm adopted a resolution proclaiming the deposition of King Constantine and his dynasty.

Germany is attempting to start in Italy the same campaign of disintegration she is carrying on in Russia. Baron Sonnino is the object of attack by radical journals in the southern country, as is Miluyoukov in Petrograd. A war mission from Italy is now on its way to America. It is headed by the prince of Udine, and Marconi is one of the members. The Italians are coming to discuss especially the problems of transporting food and munitions from America and the purchase of coal and railway rolling stock. The submarine warfare has caused a grievous shortage of coal in Italy.

The Food Problem.

Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the food committee of the Council of National Defense, strongly advocated the government measures that give the president and the department of agriculture direct control of the country's food resources. He also urged a more limited use of wheat in this country, and his talk on that topic was followed immediately by a government report showing that the winter wheat crop will be only about 366,000,000 bushels, the smallest since 1904. The acreage abandoned is the largest on record.

In Great Britain the "meatless day" was abandoned because Baron Devonport, food controller, found a diminution in the consumption of breadstuffs was of more importance.

Food riots took place in many cities and towns of Sweden, and according to an official statement, the vast majority of Germans are underfed. Sweden's predicament, however, was lessened greatly on Wednesday when England agreed to release the Swedish ships laden with food and other necessities that had been detained in British harbors. In return Sweden agreed to release 900,000 tons of allied shipping that had been tied up in the gulf of Bothnia since the beginning of the war.

Desperate Struggle in France.

The desperate battle for possession of the coal fields of Lens in northern France continued unabated through the week. Crown Prince Ruprecht of Bavaria brought up great masses of reserve troops and every available gun to check the unceasing British attack, and on Tuesday he succeeded in retaking Fresnoy village and wood. But that night and the next day the British returned to the assault and again took possession of most of the lost ground. There was heavy fighting at other points along the Drocourt-Queant line, which evidently is regarded by the Germans as of vital importance. Bad weather lessened the severity of the fighting along the French front.

The expected general offensive by the allies on the Macedonian front began after several days of intense artillery activity and according to London advices it was fairly successful. Between Lake Ochrida and Lake Doiran there was fierce fighting, the British capturing Bulgarian trenches for a stretch of two miles. In the Cerma river bend the Russians took several enemy trenches, and in the upper Moglenia river valley the Serbians, fighting to regain their own land, hit the Teutonic allies hard blows. As usual, Berlin claimed that all these attacks by the entente allies were repulsed.

An interesting development of the week was the announcement that Japan had been asked to supply ships for the transportation of American troops and supplies to Europe, and the resulting discovery that Japan itself was planning to send a large number of soldiers to the Russian front this summer.

President Wilson on Thursday created a war council of the Red Cross and Henry P. Davison of J. P. Morgan & Co. was placed at its head. In accepting that post Mr. Davison said all the vast facilities of the Morgan firm would stand behind the Red Cross for the duration of the war.

Portland, Ore., restaurants and hotels are printing "ham and egg" on their menus, instead of the usual "ham and eggs," as the result of the increase of the cost of food.

On the basis of one slice of bread wasted daily by each American family (believed to be a very low estimate) it is shown that 365,000,000 loaves of bread—or 1,500,000 barrels of flour—equal to 7,000,000 bushels of wheat, go to utter waste each year.

President Ban B. Johnson of the American Baseball league announced that in case the war continued until next spring, there would be no attempt to open the 1918 pennant season.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

CONDENSATIONS OF GREATER OR LESSER IMPORTANCE.

A BOILING DOWN OF EVENTS

National, Political, Personal and Other Matters in Brief Form for All Classes of Readers.

U. S.-Teutonic War News.

Government agents are investigating a rumor that freighters of the American Transport company, flying the American flag, have been carrying supplies to German submarines at sea.

High praise for America's foreign born citizens is given by Attorney General Gregory in a statement revealing that only 125 alien enemies have been arrested under the president's proclamation.

At the rate of \$28,830,600 an hour, or \$480,508 per minute, the rank and file of America is subscribing to the "Liberty War Loan" the cash America is to spend as her part in the war to establish world's democracy.

Newton D. Baker, secretary of war, indicated while on a visit to Cleveland, Ohio, recently, that the war department is making preparations for a three-year war at least and that he has little hope of an early peace.

The government has made known that nine new regiments of army engineers, to be composed exclusively of highly trained railway men, will be the first American troops sent to France. They will be sent at the earliest possible moment.

The American government has assumed the immediate financial burden of Belgian relief by arranging to lend to the French and Belgian governments jointly \$75,000,000 to be expended for food to go to Belgium and northern France.

More than 200,000 men, five times as many as can be accommodated, have applied for admission to the sixteen officers' training camps, which opened May 8 to begin developing the men who will lead new American armies to be raised within the next four months.

The United States is to have an official gazette for the war period. It is to be edited by the censors recently appointed under the direction of President Wilson. Postmasters throughout the country are to display this paper giving official government news.

That 127 Americans still are held prisoners in Germany, probably removed from captured armed merchantmen, has been revealed by government officials. It is assumed that the men were brought to Germany by raiders operating in the south Atlantic.

The American government has purchased seven Austrian merchantmen held in American ports, totalling 52,651 tons, for \$6,778,000. The price is about half the prevailing price for ships. The vessels will be repaired within a few months and placed in the war emergency trade.

General News.

The board of athletic control of the University of Minnesota announced that the institution will take no part in football this year because of the war.

Joseph Benson Forsaker, former United States senator from Ohio, lawyer, orator, soldier and citizen, died at his home in Cincinnati at the age of 70 years.

The Chicago Herald has raised the retail price of the paper to 2 cents in the territory where it has been selling for 1 cent, because of the increased cost of manufacturing.

Over 40,000 coal miners of Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas have received advances of 10 cents a ton for mining and a 20 per cent raise for men working by the day. The agreement was reached at a conference in Kansas City.

E. Jacob Crull of Roundup, Mont., who was defeated for the republican nomination for congress in his district by Jennette Rankin at the 1916 primary, committed suicide at Elkhart, Ind.

Star Daley, slayer of James Roy Gibson, a traveling salesman, was taken from deputy sheriffs at Phoenix, Ariz., and hanged by a mob of citizens. Before hanging Daley, the party asked him if he wished to pray. He sank to the ground sobbing and with members of the party recited the Lord's prayer.

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Ships destroyed by submarines during the week ending May 5 were considerably less than the previous week, according to British reports. Twenty-four British merchant vessels of more than 1,600 tons each were sunk during the week. Twenty-two vessels of less than 1,600 tons and sixteen fishing vessels also were sunk.

It is officially announced that 1,000,000 city children throughout Germany will be placed on farms this summer by the government.

The New York legislature has passed the Slater bill to repeal laws legalizing professional boxing in New York after November 15.

Since the Nebraska supreme court opinion that the State Banking board has no authority to deny applications for charters for state banks, Feb. 21, forty-three banks have been chartered.

Coal dealers of Davenport, Iowa, have sent the Iowa representatives in congress a petition asking that congress empower the government to take over all coal mines and fix prices.

Six hundred head of live stock are infected with anthrax in Carter county, Oklahoma, according to Carl Russell, federal farm agent. Desperate efforts are being made to check the disease.

Dan Shay of Kansas City, manager of the Milwaukee American association baseball team, shot and killed a negro waiter in a hotel at Indianapolis, Ind., in an argument over a sugar bowl.

Railroad reports show that in Iowa fully 25 per cent more land is being prepared for corn than was planted last year. Early sown fields of small grain are coming up nicely, of good color and strong growth.

October 8 is the date set for the trial in New York of five members of the News Print Manufacturers' association and two others charged with violation of the Sherman anti-trust law for alleged price fixing.

St. Louis housewives are asked now to serve more than three courses at any one meal, even when guests are present; to eliminate all kitchen waste; to have one meatless day a week and to limit food consumption.

Two student aviators who had never piloted an airplane before and who were said to have begun a flight without permission at the government aviation school at Mineola, N. Y., were killed after a fall of 1,000 feet.

Washington Notes.

The Louisiana sugar crop of 1916 was practically twice as great as the crop of 1915, figures compiled by the Department of Agriculture show.

American exports to Europe increased \$27,000,000 in March, the second month of Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare. Department of Commerce figures show.

The estimated yield of wheat for 1917 is 366,437,000 bushels, according to the government crop report, just issued, as compared with 481,744,000 for 1916, a decrease of 115,307,000 bushels.

Secretary McAdoo announced that the \$2,000,000,000 bond issue of liberty loan will be in denominations of from \$50 to \$100,000, and will mature in thirty years.

The house passed the espionage bill with a modified censorship provision after administration leaders had lost an insistent fight for retention of the original section aimed at the publication of news of value to the enemy.

European War News.

The British admiralty reports the destruction of a torpedo boat destroyer and of probably the loss of one officer and sixty-one men.

The Greek steamship Parthenon, which left New York on April 14 for Havre, has been sunk by a German submarine, with a loss of \$4,000,000 in vessel and cargo.

Casualties among the Canadian expeditionary forces from the time the war began up to May 8 had reached a total of 80,843 killed, wounded and missing, according to