

ITALY'S FORCES TIGHTEN LINE TO REPEL FOE; TAX TO RAISE WAR COST IN EFFECT TODAY

U. S. WILL START TODAY TO COLLECT TAX TO HELP PAY HUGE COST OF WORLD WAR

No One to Escape When Government Starts to Levy Its New Tax to Help Raise the Funds Necessary to Keep Armies in Field and to Help the Allies.

Yesterday was the last day of grace for many new war taxes. Omaha is interested in the entire list. With the exception of increased letter rates and tobacco taxes which go into effect Friday, the special stamp taxes on documents, legal instruments and parcel post packages which go into operation December 1, all special taxes began to apply at midnight last night. They include:

- WHAT IS TAXED. One cent on each time paid for amusement admissions. Three per cent on payments for freight transportation. Eight per cent on passenger fares. Ten per cent on payments for Pullman and similar accommodations. Five per cent on oil pipe line transportation. One cent for each 20 cents or fraction paid for express packages. Five cents on each telegraph, telephone or radio message costing 15 cents or more. Various taxes on cigars, cigarettes, tobacco and products. Ten per cent on club dues. Eight cents on each \$100 of new life insurance and 1 cent on each dollar of fire, marine, casualty and other insurance policies. BOOST TOBACCO PRICES. Although the tobacco taxes do not become operative until Friday, many Omaha dealers have already advanced retail prices in anticipation of the tax levies. Other taxes of the new law, including those on hard and soft drinks, incomes and war excess profits, have been in effect since the law was approved October 3, but in indirect form. December 1 the new stamp taxes, including those on parcel post packages, will be payable, putting the entire law into complete operation, except for increased rates on second class mail, postponed until July 1 next. Increases in first-class mail rates probably will be most generally felt. The law provides that the postage on letters, except "drop" or local letters, shall be 3 cents; and that on post cards, including private mailing cards, shall be 1 cent more than heretofore. This increase includes so-called picture post cards. The advances were made effective 30 days after the passage of the law, and are construed by the Postoffice department to begin with letters and post cards postmarked November 1. The increases also have been extended by department order to first-class mail to many foreign countries, which, under postal conventions, have enjoyed the domestic rates. The new 3-cent letter rate, therefore, will apply to letters to Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Panama, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the Bahamas, Barbados, British Guiana, British Honduras, Santo Domingo, Dutch West Indies, Leeward Islands, Newfoundland and New Zealand. The post card increase will extend to Canada, Cuba, Mexico and Panama, the only countries which have enjoyed the domestic post card rate. For consumers' convenience, books of postage stamps containing 3-cent

STATE RED CROSS WORKERS GATHER FOR CONFERENCE

More Than Two Hundred Register Up to Noon; Central Division Heads From Chicago Attend.

Nebraska State Red Cross conference, with more than 200 registered up to noon, assembled at the Hotel Fontenelle yesterday morning. The conference will continue until tonight. Eleven speakers were scheduled to make addresses during the day. The morning session of the gathering opened an hour late. Mayor James C. Dahlman delivered an address of welcome, Dr. E. H. Jenks delivering the invocation address. Heads of the various branches of the Red Cross in the central division from Chicago are attending the conference. Among those present are: Mrs. Charles G. King, superintendent of general supplies; Woman's service; Bruce D. Vismann, manager of the central division; and Miss Ina Taft, superintendent of hospital supplies, Chicago.

Women Red Cross workers from practically every town and city in the state are in attendance at the conference. The conference, coming at this time, was declared by F. W. Judson, Nebraska director, to be, perhaps, the most important in the history of the Nebraska chapter. Many new ideas will be brought up before the conference with the view of working as directly with the European battlefields as possible. Social entertainments and other amusements for the visiting Nebraska women will be sharply curtailed during the conference, if not entirely eliminated. No night sessions will be held.

Urges Constant Effort. Bruce D. Smith, manager of the central division, in his speech on "The American Red Cross Organized for War" laid particular stress on the great strides the Red Cross had made since the declaration of war with Germany. Perfect as it was, Mr. Smith urged the women to push on even harder in their money work, declaring that "practically the entire world needs a helping hand." Mrs. Z. T. Lindsey, assistant state director, was a very busy woman during the day. Mrs. Lindsey assisted the delegates in getting placed for the session. Clarence Hough, director of publicity for the Red Cross, central division, was also a very busy delegate.

Question Box. A question box, anchored in a prominent place in the convention hall, seems destined to an eventful career. The first question, dropped by a delegate from upstate, would be sufficient to provide argument for and con for the remainder of the convention. The question read: "Will the war last until 1920?" The question box officials have decided to leave the question until the final hour of the convention Thursday night. Numerous pamphlets are being provided by women directors of the various branches of Red Cross work. Mrs. Charles G. King, superintendent of general supplies, women's service, has issued instruction for knitting sweaters from light wool, that will make them heavy and serviceable for foreign service. The inability of Mrs. Joseph M. Cudady of Chicago, formerly an Omaha girl, to attend the conference caused much regret among Omaha members. A telegram from Mrs. Cudady arrived during the morning, expressing deep regret and declaring that the Red Cross work in Chicago had grown to such volume that she could not attend the Omaha meeting.

Gulf Coast Oil Fields Workers Out on Strike. Houston, Tex., Oct. 31.—Nine thousand workers in the gulf coast oil fields struck, beginning at midnight tonight and continuing as each shift thereafter concluded its work, according to W. A. Campbell, chairman of the grievance committee, and Ed Cunningham, president of the Texas Federation of Labor.

"WAR ON AUSTRIA" CRY IN PETITION TO PRESIDENT

American Defense Society Addresses Wilson, Urging U. S. Open Hostilities on German Allies.

(By Associated Press.) New York, Oct. 31.—President Wilson was urged to call a special session of congress at an early date to declare war on Austria in a resolution adopted by the board of trustees of the American Defense society, at a special meeting here today. A copy of the resolution was telegraphed to President Wilson. Prior to its adoption, the trustees of the society adopted a minute which declares that an inconclusive peace would be an insult to those who had fallen in the war and a "betrayal to the living." The sending of an overwhelming force to France because it says, "the more we send the fewer will be slain," is counseled in the minute which declares that, considering the great numbers of men poured into the war in the last three years by England and France, the sending of as many as 10,000,000, would be no more than this country's proportionate share.

Declares War on Turkey. The minute urges that congress at its next session be asked to declare that a state of war exists also between the United States and Bulgaria and Turkey.

The resolution further urges the transportation to Italy of a contingent of American troops and war materials, using all ships possible, including seized Austrian ships for the purpose. It sets forth that "the complete defeat of Italy's armies will endanger its national existence and imperil the issue of the war for democracy" and that "to preserve Italy's existence and to maintain its efficiency as a fighting force immediate moral, military and economic aid from its allies is imperative." The resolution declares that "German agents throughout Italy have steadily been endeavoring to effect the United States has never yet seen fit to declare war against Austria-Hungary, Italy's great and neighboring enemy, and that it is patent to the entire world that German and Austrian troops are working as a unit for the same end which America has declared it will not endure."

Bank Clearings In October Beat All Past Records

For the first time in history Omaha bank clearings passed the \$200,000,000 mark. Clearings for October totaled \$203,149,237.75. The previous record was hung up in March this year when the clearings were \$164,058,917.62. Clearings for October a year ago were \$132,240,393.29.

Slackers Get Twelve Months in Bluffs Jail. One indictment for alleged threats against the president and two indictments for failure to register for the selective draft was the federal grand jury's answer to Judge Wade's patriotic instructions on their responsibility, at the close of the grand jury's first day's work at the Council Bluffs. Henry Simmons, Pottawatomie county, was indicted for making threats against President Wilson. Albert Slack of Des Moines and Albert Walter, from nowhere, were indicted as alleged slackers. Both slackers were given 12 months in jail by Judge Wade.

Mrs. Minor Hull Morris Is Burned to Death. Washington, Oct. 31.—Mrs. Minor Hull Morris, whose forcible ejection from the White House during President Roosevelt's first term caused an uproar of national proportions, was burned to death today in the rooming house where she lived. No one seems to know how it happened. She was discovered wrapped in flames.

Russian, 42 Years Old, At Night School to Become U. S. Citizen

E. Vaks, 424 South Twenty-second street, 42-year-old Russian, is going to night school so that he may learn to become an American citizen. Vaks served four years in the Russian army when Nicholas II was czar. He was a radical and was not in sympathy with the government, so he fled to Austria. He was shot by a Russian guard as he dashed across the border. The bullet passed through his right side, but he ran on and eluded his pursuers by swimming across a river in the darkness. He finally reached a cottage, where Austrian peasants cared for him through the sickness that followed the loss of blood and the exposure. "I always have stood for the freedom of Russia," said Vaks. "Now that Russia is a democracy I could return, but I like the United States, and I am anxious to become a citizen." Vaks has taken out his first papers. He is intensely interested in the war. His native town, Lutzk, 50 miles from the Austrian border, has been taken twice by the Germans. He does not know whether his father is still living. He came to America on board the ship Arabic, which was later sunk by a German submarine. Vaks bought a Liberty bond and gives generously to the Jewish relief fund. Vaks can read Russian, Polish, Hebrew and German and he hopes to make rapid progress in English at the night school. His wife is in Russia. He had two children, but both have died during the war. Vaks earns his living as a junk



SUSPECT SPIES START BAD FIRE; SEVEN MEN DEAD

Loss of Four Million at Baltimore When Terminals and Ships Are Destroyed.

Baltimore, Md., Oct. 31.—A fire which wrecked two of the finest of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad terminal piers at Locust Point and spread to a British steamship broke out last night, causing the probable loss of seven lives and a financial loss estimated at between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000 before it was subdued. Five of the missing men were members of the crew of the steamship. Among them were two of the ship's officers and the chief gunner of the British naval crew aboard. Vice President J. M. Davis of the Baltimore & Ohio said it was the belief of the railroad officials that the fire was of incendiary origin as credible witnesses stated that they saw flames leap from piers No. 9 and No. 8 at five points almost simultaneously. Already the police in their investigation have arrested one man.

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Only Uncle Sam



U-BOAT SUNK BY U. S. GUNNERS ON LUCKENBACH

Shot Planter Fairly Between Periscopes of Enemy Craft Before Steamer Goes Down.

An Atlantic Port, Oct. 31.—Three hours before the American steamship Lewis Luckenbach was torpedoed and sunk by an unseen submarine October 11 naval gunners aboard the vessel planted a shot between the twin periscopes of an enemy submarine and sent it to the bottom, according to an officer of the Luckenbach who arrived here today. The officer, who hails from Brockton, Mass., expressed surprise that the fact had not become known in the United States and declared that American naval officers on the other side knew of the incident and conceded the sinking of the undersea boat. The Luckenbach, a steel screw vessel of 3,906 tons, was sunk while bound for Havre with a general cargo. It was built in 1903 at Camden, N. J. The captain, nine members of the crew and one of the naval gunners aboard were reported lost in the sinking of the ship. Washington, Oct. 31.—J. E. McNeil of Plainville, Mass., who was a member of the armed guard; seven members of the crew and a French pilot, all of whom were reported missing when the American steamer Lewis Luckenbach was sunk October 11, have been given up as lost.

Allied Airmen Drop Bombs On German Munition Plants

London, Oct. 31.—The British war office last night issued the following substitute statement on aviation activities: "Yesterday there were a few fine intervals during which our airplanes observed for our artillery and fired several thousand rounds from their machine guns at enemy troops in the trenches and on the roads. More than 100 bombs were dropped on hostile billets at Roulers and elsewhere during the day and again at night. In air fighting four hostile machines were driven down and one was driven down out of control. Two of our machines are missing. "Night before last our machines again attacked the railway station and lines around Saarbrücken (Rhenish Prussia, northeast of Metz), Germany. The bombs were seen to burst with good effect. All our machines returned, though the weather conditions were exceptionally bad. Yesterday morning at 11 o'clock twelve of our machines went further afield and attacked the munition works and gas works at Pirmasens, twenty miles beyond Saarbrücken. "Bombs were seen to burst on factories and the gas works with excellent results. Many photographs were taken and the weather was good. All our machines returned." Italian Situation Discussed at Conference. Washington, Oct. 31.—The Italian situation and the prospect of American aid were discussed at a conference late today between the Italian ambassador, Count Celleri and Secretary Lansing.

ITALIANS MOBILIZING TO CHECK INVADERS ALONG TAGLIAMENTO

Cavalry Covers Retreat of Shattered Armies; Cadorna Succeeds in Saving Bulk of Tolmino Forces; Enemy Attack in Carnia Region Not Considered Serious; Situation Improved.

Berlin, Oct. 31.—The number of Italians made prisoners by the Austro-German armies has increased to more than 120,000, says the official communication issued this evening. The communication adds that more than 1,000 guns also have been taken. Rome, Oct. 31.—There were various hill and canal engagements between the Italians and the invading Austro-German troops yesterday, says the war office announcement today. The Italian covering units and cavalry permitted the other troops to continue their move towards their new line.

PROUD DAY FOR CANADA: GREAT VICTORY IS WON

Army of Crown Prince Rupprecht Tastes Bitter Defeat on Flanders Front; Counter Attacks Futile.

British Front in Belgium, Tuesday, Oct. 30.—The forces of Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria today suffered another stinging defeat when the British reached out across a sea of mud and wrenched away still more of the few remaining defenses of the enemy's Passchendaele system. It has been another proud day for Canada. Its troops this afternoon were resting almost all the gates of Passchendaele, and from their positions astride the Broodseinde-Passchendaele highway along the ridge, they could see, only 400 yards away, the great church which stands in the center of the village. While the Canadians were battling their way forward here in the face of fierce resistance from the Bavarians, comrades on their left were hammering their way along the Meetechele or Bellevue spur to points which seem to have carried them well beyond the hamlet of Meetechele and the numerous machine gun defenses with which the elevation was covered. There was sanguinary fighting in both sections. The German losses were heavy and the men from overseas did not achieve their triumph without some cost in casualties. British Protect Flank. Meanwhile British troops on the left of the Canadians had undertaken the task of crossing the Paddebeek river and the morasses in order to bring their line forward and protect the Canadian flank. The men from the British Isles knew this must be done and they did it. The Canadians encountered a stiff opposition early in advance at Friesland copse, a machine gun defense lying in the valley of the Ravebeek, which runs down the slopes at the junction of the Meetechele spur and the Passchendaele ridge. The enemy turned a heavy machine gun fire on the advancing troops and when they closed in, fought bitterly to retain a hold on their concrete defenses. But

Americans Anxious To Do Patrol Duty; Officers Try to Go

With the American Army in France, Oct. 31.—Conditions in the sector in which the Americans are stationed were normal today. The artillery work continued. The weather was showery and much colder. For the last two days there has been considerable aerial observation; late yesterday three German planes flew over the American trenches. So great is the enthusiasm among the Americans to go on patrol, that the French commander has ordered that none of the higher grade officers perform other than their regular duties. It is the duty of the junior commissioned officers and the non-commissioned officers to go with patrols, but the officers of higher rank, such as majors, were anxious to go out. The quartermaster now has supplies for several days within reach of the American position as a precaution against any transportation difficulties with the base.

Germans Hide Windows To Prevent Their Loss

Amsterdam, Oct. 31.—The stained glass windows of the Cologne cathedral, according to German newspapers, are being replaced with plain glass as a precaution in case of air raids. The Cologne cathedral is one of the most magnificent gothic edifices in the world. Some of its stained glass windows date from 1508, but most of them are modern. The older windows are among the finest examples of early sixteenth century art.

4 Sundays In October

(Warfield Agency Measurements) The Bee 2173 Inches Gained Advertising In the Four Sunday Issues in October, 1917, over the same Sundays last year. World-Herald's 1172 Loss, In Inches Daily News' 32 Gain, In Inches.

Yes, We Thank You. Keep Your Eye On The Bee IMPROVING EVERY DAY.

Explosion in Powder Works Kills One and Injures Three

Carney's Point, N. J., Oct. 31.—One man was killed and three injured, one seriously, in an explosion at the Du Pont powder works here today. The accident occurred in the sporting powder plant.

The Weather

Table with weather data for Nebraska and Omaha, including temperature, wind, and precipitation.