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HUNS FAIL BEFORE FRENCH

WILSON IN CHARGE OF WAR TAX

President Induces Congress to Remain in Session and Provide Revenue for Carrying on War.

Washington, May 27.—President Wilson today ended discussion over whether congress shall remain in session this summer to enact new revenue legislation by appearing before the house and senate in joint session and calling upon members to put aside politics and all other considerations, to provide money for growing war expenses and to advise the country in advance of the tax burdens it must meet.

As President Wilson was leaving for the capitol today word came that the German drive against the west front had been renewed. He gave his visit a dramatic touch by announcing this news as he concluded his prepared speech, saying it strengthened the purpose he had tried to express. "The demand that with the war at its 'peak and crisis,' congress do its duty, 'at home as the soldiers are doing their duty in the trenches overseas'" brought instant acquiescence.

No Summer Adjournment. There still was reluctance in some quarters to believe immediate legislation imperative, but plans for mid-summer adjournment were abandoned and both democratic and republican leaders expressed their determination to go at the task of passing a revenue bill.

A suggestion by the president that most of the new taxes probably would fall upon income, excess profits and luxuries and that profiteers could be reached in this way, was greeted with cheers. Congressmen said later that the money needed would come from those sources.

To initiate the bill it was announced that public hearings would be begun early in June by the house ways and means committee, to be followed by co-operation in its drafting with the senate finance committee. Presentation of the measure to the house in July was regarded as assured.

Problems to be Worked Out. One of the problems to be worked out first is the proportion of new taxes to bond issue authorizations. About \$20,000,000,000 must be provided to meet expenses of the coming year. In a memorandum recently given to members of congress, the president suggested that 40 per cent should be raised by taxation. This would mean bond issues for some \$12,000,000,000, and doubling of the approximately \$4,000,000,000 levied in taxes this year.

Representative Kitchin, chairman of the ways and means committee, the entire membership of which will participate in the framing of the bill, said the increases from the income and excess and profits taxes will be effected by readjusting excess profits and income surtaxes and that the bill would double the aggregate received from these sources without doubling the rates. He said there is little room to lower the \$1,000 and \$2,000 incomes now allowed single and married persons, respectively. Those who have made large profits as the result of the war, he declared, will be especially aimed at.

Public Hearings Planned. At least weeks of public hearings are planned, and Mr. Kitchin said he did not see how the bill could be a law until November 1. Speaker Clark said that if there were joint sessions of the house and senate committees, congress could get away by October. Committee members said no joint sessions were contemplated.

Acting Republican Leader Gillet announced that republicans of the house had no idea of attempting partisan tactics. "I have no idea," he said, "that the republicans will caucus on the bill or attempt any partisan action. I wish I could feel that democrats' aid is nonpartisan as the republicans will be. I am sure we would have a later bill if we passed it after election, because, now, inevitably, there will be a desire to avoid unpopular taxes and the action of members will be influenced by the thought of their re-election campaigns. I am fully in accord with what the president said."

Appeal to Patriotism. "An intense and pitiless light beats upon every man and every action in the tragic part of war that is now upon the stage," said the president. "The president concluded with an appeal to congress to do its work ungrudgingly and said he could not guarantee a proper administration of the treasury unless the question were settled at once."

When he had finished his address the president unexpectedly made a brief extemporaneous statement, in which he said that just as he was leaving the White House for the capitol he had heard that the new German drive apparently had just begun, and that it added to the solemnity of his contention of the country's duty.

RED CROSS FUND OF U. S. SOARS

Washington, May 27.—The American people answered Germany's renewal of the offensive on the western front today with an outpouring of more than \$2,000,000 mercy dollars, swelling the American Red Cross second war fund to \$144,000,000. Reports still were coming in from some districts at midnight and the final total of the drive, which ended today, will not be known until tomorrow.

The over-subscription was much larger than to the first \$100,000,000 fund last year and was believed by officials to have reflected the determination of the people of the nation to see that the Red Cross work, not alone among the American troops, but among the civilians of France, should be extended.

Every Red Cross division except the central and every state in the union except Illinois, went over its quota. The central division lacked \$300,000 of reaching its \$13,800,000. Over-subscriptions in Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan could not offset the \$2,800,000 by which Illinois failed to achieve its \$8,000,000 goal.

The foreign division rolled up the greatest percentage against its quota, reporting four times its \$300,000 minimum. The Gulf division continued to lead home divisions in percentage, with something over 200. It was the only division to double its quota.

RAIL RATES IN LINE FOR STILL GREATER BOOST

Average Increase to Be More Than 25 Per Cent When Changes Have All Been Worked Out.

Washington, May 27.—Examination today of Director General McAdoo's order raising freight rates on a basis of 25 per cent and passenger fares to 3 cents a mile, and abolishing all lower intrastate freight and passenger rates, indicated that the average increase will be higher than 25 per cent.

Many changes and readjustments will be made by the railroad administration, either on its own initiative after receiving suggestions from supporters and state or local authorities, or by order of the Interstate Commerce commission, which has power to review and modify the schedules. This will not prevent the new rates from going into effect, however, passenger fares June 10 and freight rates, June 25, for the commission today gave its approval to the rate order without hearings. This action was perfunctory and is not intended to cut off later complaints and hearings on them.

State railroad or rate commissions have no authority to change the rates, the railroad administration holds, even though many provisions of the new order more than double the charges for short hauls within states.

Will Welcome Suggestions. The director general explained in a telegram to chairmen of state commissions, however, that he will welcome suggestions for readjustment of rates on intrastate traffic, and these will be referred to the Interstate Commerce commission for its consideration in passing on specific complaints. State commissions may also enter formal protest direct to the Interstate Commerce commission.

These complaints are expected to result in hundreds of modifications affecting specific commodities or classes, and rates between certain communities, but probably will not reduce to any great extent the total revenue to be derived from the sweeping increase, which is estimated at from \$800,000,000 to \$900,000,000.

The additional charges eventually must be absorbed in higher prices of commodities. It was asserted today by shippers' interests and this effect may be noticed particularly for coal, brick, lumber, meats and grain, and for materials shipped only a short distance. Analysis of the new schedules showed that for hauls of from five to 50 miles, particularly in states which have their own intrastate classifications, rates will be raised by varying amounts ranging from 25 to 100 per cent.

Higher Excursion Rates. Local excursion fares to summer resorts will be raised generally about (Continued on Page Two, Column Three)

URGES MORE FOOD SAVING Men and Women of Allied Countries Make Sacrifices and Up to Americans to Do Part SO ALLIED PEOPLE MAY EAT

Washington, May 27.—Greater food conservation so that the allied people and armies may be fed is urged upon the American nation in a statement by the American Labor mission, appointed by President Wilson to make a comprehensive study of conditions in England and France. The statement, which was cabled to the food administration and announced tonight, was made just before the mission started back to America. "We feel it is our duty to impress

BOCHES WITHER AS MAKE NEW DRIVE IN FLANDERS; RISK WHOLE ARMIES IN BLOW AT CHEMIN DES DAMES

GERMANS SEEK TO SMASH ON BEFORE SAMMIES GET IN

Washington Hears Reports and Many Officers Believe That Offensive Is Simply Move Preparatory to Attack On Center Sectors of the Western Front, Where Americans Are Stationed.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 27.—Germany apparently has launched a desperate attempt to smash her way through the allied armies to victory before American troops can reach the battlefields of France and Flanders in force.

Associated Press reports from the British and French fronts, telling of the new assaults, which may mean that the supreme test of power is at hand, were conveyed to President Wilson just as he was leaving the White House for the capitol to ask congress for legislation to provide more money for the war.

Army Men Study Battle. No official information had come tonight to supplement press dispatches from the front. General Pershing's daily communique made no reference to the strong drives against the British and French, as the communique deals only with the activity of the American army.

Army officials studied the press accounts closely for signs of the German purpose. The fact that one blow was launched at the southern end of the Picardy-Flanders battle theatre and the other a almost the extreme north end of the 200-mile battle front was taken as direct evidence that today's attacks were only preliminary moves in the German strategic designs.

Extends Battle Front. Extension of the battle front to the Aisne sector to the southward means the adding of 50 miles to the fighting line at a time when the German army needs every unit it can get together in centralized positions within the wide salient driven into the allies' line by the first rush. Officials here agree with French critics that the most probable place for the real renewal of the drive to develop will be in the Albert sector of the Amiens front.

An advance there would menace both Paris and the channel ports. One explanation of the long delay of the Germans in renewing the offensive has been found in the 40-mile stretch of shell-torn roads over which they had to move up guns and munitions before they could resume the pressure at the Amiens line with unimpeded power.

Many officers believe an extension of the offensive to the Aisne theater was merely a feint preparatory to a later attack in the Albert region or near Amiens, the point of maximum penetration, and where American units now block the road with their British and French comrades.

Menace to German Position. It was pointed out that the long sweep of the French line from Montdidier, southeast to Pinon, the northern flank of the new German thrust, has constituted a great menace to the whole German position in the Picardy sector. Some officers thought the real purpose of the Germans was to crush in that French line by breaking through behind it and forcing a withdrawal. Others contended that the new blow was struck directly at Paris and the long range gun brought into action against that city again in order to force General Foch to mass reserves on that side.

From the French point of view the road to Paris must be defended at all costs. The British attach supreme importance to the channel ports and the German thrusts appear to be cunningly planned to exert the greatest popular pressure on the allied leaders to draw their reserve strength to south and north, gradually weakening the line in the center.

Some observers are convinced that if the blows to the north and south prove effective for a few days, compelling reinforcement of both lines, the situation will change overnight at the psychological moment and the real weight of the German might be hurled at the weakened center, north of Amiens, near Albert.

University of Omaha Commencement Tonight. Commencement exercises at the University of Omaha will be held in the John Jacobs Memorial gymnasium at 8 o'clock tonight. Eleven students will be graduated from the Liberal Arts and Science college and two from the law college. Seven first grade state teachers' certificates will be granted.

John L. Kennedy will deliver the commencement address. Pioneer Brick Maker Of Omaha Is Dead. William H. Gatewood, a pioneer brick manufacturer of Omaha, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Richard Hoye, 3042 Spring street, Monday morning. He was past 80 years of age. He had been a resident of Omaha more than 60 years. About 12 years ago he retired from active work.

Harry Lauder's Own Story of War Zone Experiences Will Be Found on Page 12.

OFFICIAL WAR STATEMENTS

From Marshal Haig. (By Associated Press.)

London, May 27.—The official statement reads: "Strong hostile attacks, preceded by a bombardment of great intensity, developed early this morning on a wide front against the British and French troops on the line between Rheims and Soissons, and against French troops between Loire and Voormezele."

"There was considerable hostile artillery activity yesterday and last night on the British front." "On the Loire-Voormezele front, the French troops repulsed the enemy with great loss."

This announcement was contained in Field Marshal Haig's official report tonight. British Heavily Attacked. The attack against the sector of Berry-au-Bac, held by the British, was partly successful by reason of the intense bombardment of gas shells and the use of tanks, and after heavy fighting the British on the left were pressed back to prepared positions constituting the second line. The text of the statement reads:

"At 3.30 o'clock this morning the British divisions holding a sector of the French front astride the Aisne at Berry-au-Bac, between Berncourt and Craonne, were heavily attacked."

"At the same time, hostile attacks in great strength were made against the French troops immediately on the right and French divisions on the left along the high ground traversed by the Chemin des Dames."

"In the British sector the enemy's attack was supported by tanks and accompanied by an intense bombardment with gas shells."

"On the right our troops maintained their battle positions and are in close touch with the French. On our left the enemy succeeded after heavy fighting, in pressing our troops back to the second line of prepared positions. Severe fighting has taken place along the front and is continuing."

"In the Lys battle front strong attacks made by the enemy this morning on the Loire-Voormezele front have been repulsed by the French troops after fierce fighting, with great loss to the enemy."

Huns Pay Dearly. Paris, May 27.—A battle was fought from the region of Vauxaillon to the outskirts of Brionot (Rheims sector), says the official report from the war office tonight.

The enemy at the end of the day had reached the region of Pont Ayr. The Franco-British troops retired methodically and in perfect liaison, making the enemy pay dearly for his futile success. The text of the statement reads:

"The battle continued throughout the day with extreme violence on a front of more than 40 kilometers from the region of Vauxaillon to the outskirts of Brionot. Masses of the enemy attacked our troops in the first line and pushed ahead without regard for their losses into the valley of the Aisne. Certain of their elements reached at the end of the day the region of Pont Ayr."

"The French and British troops, co-operating magnificently, retired methodically and in perfect liaison, making the enemy pay dearly for his first successes, which were inevitable, and assured that foot by foot resistance would prove efficacious."

"The activity of the opposing artillery was maintained on both banks of the Meuse, in the region of St. Mihiel and on the Lorraine front."

German Report. Berlin, via London, May 27.—The battle for possession of Chemin Des Dames has been raging since early morning. Troops of the German crown prince have taken the ridge by storm along the whole of its extension and now are fighting on the Aisne."

TEUTONS ATTACK IN INTENSE FURY ON WESTERN FRONT

After Artillery Preparation Two Blows Struck; One Southwest of Ypres and Other in Aisne Sector—Probable That American Troops Are Fighting in Both Battles.

(By Associated Press.) With the British in France, May 27.—Von Hindenburg's troops thus far have met with failure virtually at all points in their attack against the French in the Loire sector.

In the early stages the enemy succeeded in driving in the positions at some points, but counter attacks threw the Germans back at most of these places, and the French virtually reestablished their entire line.

Germany's greatest offensive on the western front has been resumed. With only brief artillery preparation, two blows have since disastrous losses were inflicted on them by the French and British during the Picardy and Flanders battles in March and April.

One attack was on the line from Voormezele to Loire, southwest of Ypres; the other on a 35-mile front, from Pinon, north of Soissons, to Rheims. This is known as the Aisne sector.

In Flanders the Germans have gained virtually nothing, but further south, the Berlin official statement claims that the German crown prince's troops have carried the whole ridge of the Chemin des Dames and now are fighting on the Aisne river.

The attack in Flanders is against positions taken by the French May 20, when they captured Bruffosse and Loire and strengthened their line on each side of Hill 44, which they had retaken a few days before.

Recalls Former Fighting. On the Aisne front the present battle recalls the fearful fighting of last summer along the Chemin des Dames, where for weeks the German crown prince hurled his men against the French positions, only to see them crushed and beaten. Last year 75 divisions were engaged in the German attacks along this line.

The attack here is really in the nature of a line-straightening operation. It is being launched from Loire as a center and is aimed at the elbow in the line formed during the fighting in Picardy in March and April. Here, however, the Germans must face permanent works, which have been occupied by the French for long periods and which can be defended easily.

Evidence that the allied supreme command was forewarned of the attack may be found in the fact that the British troops are fighting there. It has been believed that the British forces did not hold positions much south of the Somme, east of Amiens.

Crown Prince in Command. The German crown prince is in command in this sector, and this may indicate a serious effort to break the allied line.

Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria is the nominal commander in Artois and Picardy, and the German crown prince for dynastic reasons will strive to outdo whatever success was attained by his colleague further north.

It is probable that American troops are engaged in the fighting in both the battles on the French front. It is known that American troops are close behind the allied lines in Flanders, while some time ago it was reported that they were near Rheims.

Americans in the Fighting. The late official reports note severe fighting in the Apremont forest, where Americans are known to be holding positions. The reports say that the Germans were repulsed.

It is officially reported from Washington that American positions in the Picardy sector near Cantigny and Montdidier, have been subjected to attacks and that at places the Germans penetrated them. The enemy, however, was driven out later.

Almost coincident with the new German assault, the Italians launched a blow at the Austrian lines in the mountain region to the northwest of Lake Garda. According to reports, they have carried Monticello Pass, the village of Presena, Monteignon and the mountain spur to the east, and taken 800 Austrian prisoners. Before them lie parallel streams leading down into the Lagarina valley, and, if they successfully carry out their attack there, it is possible for them to outflank the entire Austrian position in the north of Italy.

The long-range bombardment of Paris has been resumed.

Guiou Elected on Board Of Ak-Sar-Ben Governors. Arthur Guiou, member of the lumber firm of Guiou & Ledwith and prominent Omaha booster, was elected a member of the board of governors of Ak-Sar-Ben at a meeting of the board Monday night. Mr. Guiou succeeds Charles Beaton, who has resigned on account of ill health.

State Republicans in Lincoln May Take Action Backing Regents. Lincoln, May 27.—(Special Telegram.)—Republicans are beginning to arrive this evening in large numbers for the big loyalty meeting tomorrow.

There appears to be a general feeling that the convention should take some action backing the regents of the University of Nebraska in their efforts to dig out pro-German professors and teachers connected with the state university. The regents will hold their meeting tomorrow at the same time as the convention and if Clark Perkins, chairman of the resolutions committee, has his way, resolutions

strongly backing the regents will be adopted.

Congressman Charles Sloan, candidate for the republican nomination for the United States senate, was here this morning, but left for his home in Geneva to bid good-bye to his son, Blaine Sloan, who leaves tomorrow for Camp Funston. This is the second son of the congressman to enter the service.

There is some talk tonight that E. M. Pollard may become a candidate for the republican nomination for governor.