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PLANS FOR ARMY AROUSE CONFLICT

CONGRESS AND WAR DEPARTMENT CLASH AT FIRST MEETING OF HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE TO DRAFT APPROPRIATION BILL. CHAIRMAN PREDICTS THAT BIG CUT WILL BE MADE.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Sharp conflicts between congress and the war department over the amount of money to be appropriated this year for the military establishment developed today at the initial meeting of the house subcommittee to draft the 1922 army appropriation bill.

Representative Anthony of Kansas, chairman of the subcommittee, predicted that the army appropriation for the coming fiscal year would be cut approximately to \$300,000,000. He advocated restriction of the size of the army to 175,000 enlisted men, abandonment of half of the camps maintained by the war department, and immediate sale of the army's surplus supplies.

Secretary Baker and Major General March, chief of staff, appearing before the committee urged the appropriation this year of approximately \$700,000,000 for army expenses. The war department was allowed \$392,000,000 for the present year. Secretary Baker estimated that the war department would incur a deficit of \$60,000,000 during the present year. Of this amount, he said, \$38,000,000 will be needed for the pay of enlisted men. Chairman Anthony, however, said members of the committee were convinced the war department's deficiency would total at least \$100,000,000.

The war department secretary was asked to submit a report showing what camps were being manned and for what purpose they were being used.

"We must close at least some of our camps. Those located in more central districts, which can not be kept up as cheaply as those closer to supplies," said Mr. Anthony. "It has been shown that it costs much more to maintain troops on the Mexican border than at centralized posts. The committee for the sake of economy intends to provide for the withdrawal of many of the troops now on the border."

Another policy of the committee Mr. Anthony indicated, would be to provide for the full strength maintenance of only two divisions instead of nine, as the war department favor. The remaining divisions would be maintained in skeletonized form and would be increased to full strength only in emergencies under Mr. Anthony's plan.

Immediate sale of between 30,000 and 40,000 motor trucks now held in reserve was said by Representative Anthony to be favored by the committee.

Secretary Baker was questioned particularly as to the present size of the army and in reply said it consisted of approximately 216,000 enlisted men and 14,000 officers.

Members of the house military committee have charged the war department with breaking faith with congress in recruiting more than the 180,000 men for which provision was made in the army appropriation bill.

"This year," said Representative Anthony, "we will appropriate for an army of not more than 175,000 men and in addition will put a mandatory provision in the appropriation bill that the war department is not to exceed that number."

PLOT TO ASSASSINATE KING CONSTANTINE?

Paris, Dec. 14.—Two Greeks carrying passports for Lucerne and in possession of bombs have been arrested at Milan, says a dispatch to the *Matin*. It is believed in the Italian city, the dispatch says, the men had plotted to attempt to assassinate former King Constantine of Greece.

TON OF SUGAR FOUND AT STILL

Costly Equipment Captured Near Camden—Two Under Arrest

Camden, Dec. 14.—One of the largest whiskey raids ever pulled off in this county occurred during the early morning at a point about 18 miles southwest of Camden in the Betty Neck section of West Wateree. In the raiding party were Sheriff G. C. Welsh, Deputy Henry McLeod and Policemen Hollis Hilton, and L. E. Barnes all of Camden.

Thirty or 40 gallons of whiskey was found, about 20 barrels of mash and 20 sacks of granulated sugar, weighing 100 pounds each. The still was of immense capacity and was well located in a dense section of the Wateree swamp. Signs pointed to it having been in operation for a long while. It was substantially built with a brick foundation and it is thought many are implicated in its operation, though only two white men were captured in the raid. They have been placed in jail and refuse to divulge their names and are said to be men who have been long at the business. They were captured without a fight, as Officers Barnes and McLeod got the drop on them as they were nearing the still. Most of the output is thought to have been disposed of around Columbia in recent months. The officers say it must have cost several thousand dollars to erect a plant such as this.

DEATH OF F. M. CROWTHER

Mr. Fleetwood M. Crowther, one of older citizens of the county, died at the home of his son-in-law, Mr. George E. Mann, near the city, Monday evening, December 13th, after a long illness. Mr. Crowther was about 67 years of age.

Funeral services were conducted at Shiloh Church, near Antreville, of which Mr. Crowther had long been a faithful and consistent member, Wednesday at 11 o'clock and the body of the deceased rests in the cemetery of that church.

Mr. Crowther was one of the best farmers who ever lived in the county. He was a man who attended strictly to his own business, and by hard work and strict integrity in his business dealings, he accumulated a comfortable fortune for his old age. In early life, Mr. Crowther was married to a Miss Harkness, of the Antreville section. They had two children. One of these and Mrs. Crowther preceded the deceased to the grave, leaving Mrs. Mann as his only surviving child.

A good man goes to his rewards.

CAPT. SHAW HERE

Capt. W. C. Shaw, of Lowndesville, one of the men who told you so, was here today. He found out how much taxes amounted to, which did not surprise him. He tells us, though, that some of his neighbors who voted for good roads' bonds are complaining about high taxes. Had they listened to a neighbor who knew what he was talking about they might not now find themselves bombarded with such steep requirements on the part of the county and state.

The Captain wrote some letters last year and the early part of this year in which he gave the people timely notice of what was coming. They paid no attention to him, but elected to follow those who thought taxes could not get too high. He promises to write us again shortly and give the people some more good advice. We hope they will give it more attention this time.

THE COTTON MARKET

The cotton market advanced about 35 points yesterday over Monday's closing figures. The future market today was at one time up about 25 points, but the close was the same as yesterday. New York spots remained at 15.80.

The prices in this market remained about the same figures, 17 cents being offered for fancy cotton and 16 cents for good cotton.

FARMERS RELIEF PLAN ADOPTED BY SENATE; BILL GOES TO HOUSE

Directs Secretary of Treasury and Others to Revive War Finance Corporation—Liberal Credits Plan is Favored

Washington, Dec. 14.—The Senate yesterday passed the agriculture resolution directing the revival of the War Finance Corporation as a measure of affording relief to farmers.

The second section of the resolution which as introduced would have directed the extension of liberal credits to farmers by the federal reserve system, was amended to make the desirability of such a course only an expression of opinion of the Congress.

The amendment making the change in the section of the resolution relating to the federal reserve system was proposed by Senator Norris, Republican, Nebraska, and was accepted by a vote of 47 to 16.

Duties Are Broadened

Another change made in the resolution on suggestion of Senator Smith Democrat, Georgia, broadened the status of the finance corporation to include the financing of exportation of products other than those produced on the farm. Amendments submitted by Senator Harris, Democrat, Georgia to make the rate of discount on loans to farmers 5 per cent, and by Senator McKellar, Democrat, Tennessee, to make cotton factors' paper eligible for discount, were rejected by overwhelming votes. A substitute for the resolution presented by Senator Spencer, Republican, Missouri met a similar fate.

Final action on the resolution was without a record vote. The measure now goes to the House, where a number of similar farmer relief measures are pending.

The section of the resolution directing revival of the War Finance Corporation, as adopted, reads:

"The Secretary of the Treasury and the members of the War Finance Corporation are hereby directed to revive the activities of the War Finance Corporation, and that said corporation be at once rehabilitated with the view of assisting in the financing of the exportation of agricultural and other products to foreign markets."

The resolution as adopted refers to the extension of credits as follows:

"It is the opinion of Congress that the Federal Reserve Board should take such action as may be necessary to permit the member banks of the federal reserve system to grant liberal extensions of credit to the farmers of the country upon the security of the agricultural products now held by them, by permitting the rediscounting of such notes of extension at a fair and reasonable rate of interest."

The Senate agriculture committee during the day continued its hearings with a view to framing other measures looking to the relief of the farmers from the conditions brought about by falling prices.

The House received an addition to its collection of relief measures in a bill offered by Representative Young, Republican, of North Dakota, proposing an embargo on imports of grain and grain products, livestock and their products for one year.

INJURED IMPROVE.

Ernest McKee and the others who were injured in the collision between the McKee automobile and a Piedmont & Northern car at a crossing near Greenwood church Sunday continue to improve. Ernest was taken to his home from the Greenwood Hospital yesterday, and while suffering considerably from his injuries, he is on the road to recovery. No serious complications are now feared, and it is hoped that time and patience will restore him to his accustomed good health.

Young Pet Brissey who was also in the car and who was so badly injured that he too was taken to the Greenwood Hospital is also out of danger though painfully and seriously hurt. He is still in the hospital but hopes to be discharged in a few days.

MORE THAN BILLION IS OUTSTANDING IN UNPAID TAXES

Because of Complex Nature of Internal Revenue Laws Bureau Has Not Checked Up Tax Returns for 1917.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The Treasury Department estimates that "more than a billion dollars" is outstanding in unpaid taxes because of the government's inability to audit the returns, Dr. Thomas S. Adams, of the Treasury staff, testified today at a hearing on taxation before the House ways and means committee.

Because of the complex nature of present revenue laws, he added, the internal revenue bureau has been unable to complete the checking up of tax returns for 1917. He saw no immediate hope of making the audit current with the tax returns filed.

Auditing a Stupendous Task.

The task of auditing the tax returns and of tracing evasion and other causes of failure to pay all taxes due, Dr. Adams said, has become so stupendous that the internal revenue bureau sees no way out at present. He declared he would "thank God" if the revenue machinery does not break down in two years, under the burden of any addition to its job of tax collection.

The treasury representative's statement was made in connection with an explanation of his attitude in opposition to a general sales tax. He believed that a general sales tax would yield great returns, but that the administrative burden entailed would be too great to carry.

Dr. Adams urged the committee to simplify the tax laws so as to insure a greater and more thorough collection, and make the administrative work easier and more efficient. He also said the tax collection work could be more effectively performed if congress would enact into laws the regulations which the Treasury Department has made for enforcement of the present revenue act.

HOUSE RECEIVES BILL FROM SENATE

Measure to Revive War Finance Corporation Referred to Banking Committee.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The bill of the senate agriculture committee directing revival of the war finance corporation and favoring the extension of more liberal credits by the federal reserve system as a measure of relief for the farmers was referred to the banking and currency committee upon its arrival in the house today after its passage yesterday by the senate.

The committee immediately began hearings, at which representatives of wool growers appeared in support of the bill. At least \$200,000,000, the committee was told, should be made available for the relief of farmers, live stock growers and business interests.

The senate also continued its consideration of the farmer relief problem in a discussion of the Capper-Herrman bill, which was passed by the house last May, to authorize cooperative marketing by agricultural associations under regulation of the federal trade commission.

Senator King, Utah, attacked the bill on the ground that it would exempt farmers' organizations from the Sherman law. The bill was supported by Senator McCumber, Republican, North Dakota.

BOILERS AND TANKS REDUCED IN PRICE

Kewanee, Ill., Dec. 14.—The Kewanee Boiler company, one of the largest steel boiler producers in the country, today announced reductions of 10 per cent on all firebox heating boilers and 20 per cent on steel tanks used for pneumatic water supply purposes. This announcement is said to be the first in these lines.

A statement from the company said production costs had advanced, but that cuts were made, nevertheless, in an effort to bring down build-ings costs.

WAGES IN COTTON MILLS TO BE CUT

Reduction of 22 1-2 Per Cent. Will Become Effective Monday.

Boston, Dec. 14.—A reduction of about 22 1-2 per cent in the wages of approximately one-third of the 300,000 textile workers in New England was announced today. The notices were posted in Lawrence, Lowell, New Bedford, and other centers of the industry in Maine and Rhode Island. For the most part they applied to mills making cotton goods, but in a few instances operatives on worsteds were involved.

Other cotton manufacturers have indicated that they will enter into line but whether the woolen and worsted mills will take similar action at this time is uncertain. William Wood president of the American Woolen Company, said he had no word to add to his statement of several days ago that the directors of that company which operates fifty mills, had not yet considered the matter.

The reduction which is made effective in most places next Monday in effect cancels two increases made during the last year and restores prices approximately to the figure obtained before a 12 1-2 per cent increase last December. The manufacturers of Lowell announced that the average wage of the mill worker there under the new schedule could be at \$21 a week.

The question of reducing wages in the extensive cotton mills at Fall River is under negotiation by manufacturers and labor leaders. Most of the other centers of the industry in this section were represented in the announcements of today.

HARDING GETS IMPORTANT DATA

Information and Advice Well Worth While—Seeks Common Basis. First Comment on Conferences Now Under Way

Marion, Ohio, Dec. 14.—With his conferences here on an association of nations only fairly begun, President-elect Harding let it be known that he already had gathered information and advice which greatly encouraged him.

Making his first comment on the progress of the consultations, he said they had been "very interesting and gratifying."

"It apparently will not be so difficult as some people had supposed," he added, "to find a common ground for agreement."

The president-elect would not discuss specific conferences or detailed suggestions of association plans. He indicated that he had given considerable thought to the proposal for a world agreement not to declare offensive war except in response to a popular referendum, but he said he could express no opinion on the subject.

"It is understood that Mr. Harding has felt particularly pleased with the information regarding conditions and opinion abroad as described to him by Herbert Hoover, Elihu Root and others who have been seen by him here. Still more detailed surveys are to be given him in conference yet to come, it being taken for granted that among others Senator McCormick of Illinois, who now is in Europe, will see him within a few weeks. Mr. Harding tonight denied directly, however, published reports that Senator McCormick was acting as a representative in conference with European statesmen. The president-elect said he had "no agents in Europe, in the United States or in any other part of the world."

Today Mr. Harding saw few callers and held no conferences on the association plan. How long the president-elect will remain in Marion still is undetermined, and published reports of a definite plan to move to some Southern resort in the near future, all were denied today at Harding headquarters. Officials said many invitations had been received, but no definite action taken. The general understanding has been that a Southern trip probably will be taken some time in January.

DISARMAMENT STEP MUST BE CAUTIOUS

IS OPINION OF ASSEMBLY OF LEAGUE NATIONS—GEORGE NICHOLL BARNES, BRITISH LABOR LEADER, DECLARES THERE IS "TOO MUCH QUIBBLE AND NOT ENOUGH PLUCK"—SHARP CRITICISMS

Geneva, Dec. 14.—The limitation of armaments by the powers for the next two years by agreement among them was acted upon favorably today by the assembly of the league of nations. The matter came up in the form of the report of the disarmament committee, the limitations clause in which was amended to merely a recommendation before the report was adopted.

With respect to the limitations clause, Leon Bourgeois made the reservation that France was obliged to restore her armaments that had been worn out by the war. The Belgian and Spanish delegations at the afternoon session made similar reservations regarding the limitation of their armaments during the next two years, notwithstanding the reservations France together with Brazil, Chile, Greece, Poland, Rumania and Uruguay, voted against the limitations clause.

Hilmar Branting, Sweden, pointed out that the reservations did not change the situation since a resolution on that subject was only and could only be, a recommendation by the delegates voting therefore, who are not understood as committing their governments.

Geneva, Dec. 14.—The first step for disarmament of the nations must be cautious and deliberate, the assembly of the League of Nations declared today notwithstanding sharp criticisms by George Nicoll Barnes, the British labor leader and Christian Lange of Norway. Mr. Barnes said there was "too much quibble and not enough pluck" in the decision to go slowly.

The policy of the United States on this question was, by more or less veiled allusions, invoked as one reason why general disarmament can not be boldly grappled with at this time, Mr. Barnes said. H. A. L. Fisher of the British delegation referred to nationals with powerful arms and munitions making facilities that still are outside the league. The absence from the league of former enemy countries also as referred to by Mr. Fisher. This brought from Mr. Barnes the retort: "They now are practically disarmed and can not constitute a menace for years to come."

A curious manifestation of the session was the general applause of the delegates for the pleas made by Messrs Barnes and Lange for an immediate minimum effort, while at the same time accepting the conclusion of the disarmament committee. These are, briefly, an effort to prevent the future increase of armaments and propaganda in favor of a decrease as a steady means of bringing about eventual but remote, general disarmament.

France and Belgium accepted the committee's conclusions until limitation of armament during the next two years on the base of appropriations for last year. They added, however, that they could not consider the restoration of armaments destroyed during the war as increase expenditures but pointed out that measures were being taken to reduce the period of military service.

M. Poulet (Belgium), "Belgium has received no reparations. She can not spike her guns while the league of nations still is in the process of formation."

EVERY CLOUD HAS A SILVER LINING

The only thing that sustains our drooping spirits when we think of the pretty teachers leaving us Friday for the Christmas holidays is the fact that the lovely college girls will begin to come in on Saturday.