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BAMBERG, S. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1918.

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EIGHTEEN TO FORTY-FIVE

WILL BE PROPOSED TO CONGRESS AS DRAFT AGES.

View to Prompt Consideration When House and Senate Take Up Regular Business Later.

Washington, Aug. 3.—Draft ages of from 18 to 45 years will be recommended in congress in the bill embodying the war department's new man power programme which will be introduced in both houses of congress Monday and expedited by committees with a view to prompt consideration when regular sessions of the senate and house are resumed later on this month.

After formally announcing the new draft ages today, Secretary Baker said all the possible combinations of age limits were carefully studied and it was found that in order to get the men into class 1 for the programme, 18 to 45 was necessary. He said, however, that the bill as recommended to congress will contain a provision authorizing the president to call men out of class 1 by classes according to ages, so that if it is found possible the men between 18 and 19 will be called out later than the older men who are found eligible to class 1.

The war department programme, the war secretary said, is purely a military one and can not be called a conscription of labor, although it naturally will have the effect of putting at useful labor or in the army all able bodied men within the age limits as they finally will be fixed by congress. In recommending this extension of the age limits, Mr. Baker continued, the department had it in mind simply to get for the army the number of men which it believed necessary to defeat Germany. The secretary was not prepared to say how many that would be nor to give any estimate as to the proportion of males between the ages of 18 to 45 inclusive which would be found eligible. In making up the list and classes the same rule will be followed that has governed in the first draft, with the same exceptions from the first call of married men with dependents and those engaged in essential industries.

Mr. Baker gave it as his opinion that so far about 1,600,000 have been drafted from the existing list. There has been considerable opposition in congress to lowering the minimum age, many members being reluctant to draft youths before they attain their majority and come into full citizenship. Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the senate military committee, said today that he expected opposition on that score, but expressed the opinion that there would be no unusual delay in passing the bill.

Some members of congress believe that the man power bill will be taken up immediately after congress resumes sessions and disposed of before the new war revenue legislation is considered.

BAG HUNS AND GUNS.

Americans Alone Capture Over Eight Thousand Prisoners.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Allied troops in the Aisne-Marne salient reaped "the full fruits of victory" Saturday when the enemy, who met his second great defeat on the Marne was driven in confusion beyond the line of the Vesle. General Pershing reported in his communication for yesterday, received today by the war department. American troops alone have captured 8,400 prisoners and 133 guns.

The text of the statement follows: "Section A.—The full fruits of victory in the counter-offensive began so gloriously by Franco-American troops July 18 were reaped today when the enemy who met his second defeat on the Marne, was driven in confusion beyond the line of the Vesle.

"The enemy, in spite of suffering the severest losses, has proved incapable of stemming the onslaught of our troops fighting for liberty side by side with the French, British and Italian veterans. In the course of the operations 8,400 prisoners and 133 guns have been captured by our men alone.

"Section B.—There is nothing to report in this section."

From an Arkansas Paper.

Zeke Barrows has accepted the appointment of revenue officer from the district. He will leave a wife and three children.

LEON GREEN HELD.

Former South Carolinian in Serious Trouble.

Washington, Aug. 3.—United States Commissioner Richardson today fixed at \$5,000 each bail bonds for Edward L. Travis, member of the corporation commission of North Carolina and one of the most prominent lawyers of that State; Selim Barnett Joseph, of Chicago, and Leon Myer Green, now of New York, formerly a colonel on the staff of Cole L. Blease, former governor of South Carolina.

The three men were taken into custody late yesterday afternoon on warrants sworn out before Commissioner Richardson by a special agent of the department of justice on a charge of conspiring to evade the draft law.

Green is within the draft age and the warrant charges that the three men conspired to obtain for him a deferred classification. In furtherance of the alleged conspiracy the warrant charges that Green entered into a contract to be employed by the Perth Amboy Dry Dock Company and to devote all his time to such employment, "Whereas, in fact, he was to be free from obligation to devote his time thereto."

It is also charged in the warrant that Green made oath before his draft board in New York that he was engaged in an industrial enterprise necessary to the maintenance of the military establishment.

Back of the arrest is said to be an allegation of the conspiracy to defraud the United States of vast sums of money in connection with contracts, which the three men are said to have declared they were able to negotiate with the shipping board. According to reports reaching the department of justice, Travis, Joseph and Green had been negotiating with the dry dock company for several months to procure contracts totaling \$40,000,000 under which the Perth Amboy Dry Dock Company, of New Jersey, was to build ships for the United States shipping board.

It is reported that Travis, who was a former law partner of Representative Kitchin before the latter came to congress, expected to receive a fee of \$100,000. Joseph, it is asserted, looked for \$1.50 a ton each ship built under the proposed contract, and Green was to be employed by the shipbuilding concern.

Richard F. McDonald, a Chicago banker, connected with the Perth Amboy Company, is said to have discovered the details of the alleged agreement and to have advised the federal authorities, it is stated.

Bond is being arranged so that the three prisoners may be released. They are confined in three different city jails here, the idea being to prevent them from having further intercourse with each other or otherwise discussing their plans, which are considered as being exceedingly disadvantageous to the government's best interests in the present crisis.

Difficult to Get Casualties.

Washington, Aug. 2.—Replying to a request that he expedite the lists of American casualties in the heavy fighting on the Soissons-Rheims salient, Gen. Pershing today cabled Secretary Baker that the task of assembling the names of the men was an extremely difficult one because of the fact that American troops are brigaded with French and British units.

Secretary Baker said no estimate of casualties was contained in Gen. Pershing's cablegram. There was nothing to indicate today when the increased casualty lists resulting from the present severe fighting would begin to come in.

Widely Separated.

"I have received a cablegram from Gen. Pershing in regard to reports of casualties," said Mr. Baker. "He points out that our troops are still widely separated, serving in many places, and that our wounded are taken to French and British hospitals as well as our own, causing great difficulty and complication in securing accurate information.

"In addition to this, the troops are separated from their records while in the area of conflict and must depend upon very inadequate and temporary telegraph lines which are subject to frequent interruption and must, for the most part, be devoted entirely to the urgent business of the battle itself.

"Gen. Pershing assures me that he is making every effort to collect casualty lists, have them confirmed and verified and that they will be transmitted promptly."

THE PRESIDENT DEFENDS BYRNES AGAINST ATTACKS OF HIS OPPONENTS

Expresses Absolute Confidence in His Loyalty to the Administration.—Says Byrnes is One of the Strongest and Most Dependable Men In The House.

Because of embarrassment the president has suffered by reason of letters written to South Carolina during this campaign the president some time ago announced in a letter to Mr. L. D. Jennings that he would not interfere in local party contests. However the attacks made upon Congressman Byrnes by his opponents have given such genuine regret to the President that he has sent a message to the voters of the second district through Congressman Glass, of Virginia. Mr. Glass is the chairman of the Banking and Currency committee of the house; he is the author of the Federal Reserve Bank Act and also of the Federal Farm Loan Act. Mr. Glass is also the secretary of the National Democratic committee, and is regarded as the mouthpiece of the president in congress. His letter was read by Congressman Byrnes at the campaign meeting in Aiken, and is as follows:

House of Representatives, Committee on Banking and Currency, Washington, July 30, 1918.

Hon. James F. Byrnes, Aiken, S. C. My Dear Byrnes:—I had occasion to go to the White House today and in conversation with the president I mentioned the fact that you were being assailed as disloyal to the

administration. I suggested that it might not be inappropriate, in the circumstances, to require your devotion by writing a letter in commendation of your course. His reply was that if he could do this for YOU, and stop right there, it would give him genuine pleasure to attest, in that way, your loyalty; but the difficulty he said, arises from the fact that he has scores of such requests in behalf of other members, compliance with which would involve him unpleasantly in local party contests all over the country.

The president genuinely regrets that you are being bothered by criticisms of disloyalty AND EXPRESSLY CHARGED ME TO TELL YOU SO. He does not doubt your fidelity for an instant. He stated to me today that while he disagreed with the judgment of those congressmen who voted for the volunteer section, he never for a moment thought them less loyal than those of us who voted against it. The President highly regards you as one of the strongest and most dependable men in the house. "Byrnes is a splendid fellow" is the exact expression he used in talking to me about you today.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) CARTER GLASS.

KILLED HER HUSBAND.

Put the Body in a Well.—Homicide is Veiled in Mystery.

Lafayette, Ga., Aug. 3.—Additional statements by Mrs. William Cornish, whose husband's mutilated body was found yesterday in an old well near Estelle Mines, Ga., led to the arrest today of Wes Hobbs, a neighbor of the family and widower of Mrs. Cornish's sister. Mrs. Cornish has told several conflicting stories relative to the crime, according to the police, her latest confession stating that Hobbs committed the deed, while she assisted. Hobbs is being held pending investigation.

According to the woman's latest story the murder was committed on the night of May 19, about 10 o'clock. The police summarized her story as follows:

Cornish had beaten her severely on several successive days and that she determined to end his life.

On the night of the killing she got an axe and, with Hobbs, entered the room where her husband slept. At one stroke Hobbs severed her husband's head from his body. She assisted Hobbs in cutting off the limbs of the dead man and then placed the limbs in one sack, the trunk in another and the head in a third; that they hid the three packages above the fireplace until morning.

After the four children of the family had gone to school the sacks were removed, weighted down with rocks and dropped into the well. A few days later Mrs. Cornish left her home and went to reside with the Hobbs family. Another family moved into the abandoned house. Portions of the body rose to the surface of the water in the well last week, leading to the discovery of the crime.

When Cornish first disappeared it was reported that he had killed a man named Avery and left the country. Avery later appeared and neighbors began to suspect Mrs. Cornish of having knowledge of her husband's fate. Another man named Cotts was arrested in connection with the case today, but was later released. The fourteen-year-old son of the Cornish family insisted that he knew of the killing, but the mother said he was asleep at the time. The former Cornish home was inspected today and dark spots were found on the floor of the bed room, which, on analysis, proved to be blood stains. In one of the spots was a footprint.

Popular Science.

"I suppose you understand the science of government?" "To be frank," replied Senator Sorghum. "I'm not as strong on the science of government as I ought to be. I have meant to take it up, but I have been tied right down to my studies in the science of how to get re-elected."—Washington Star.

BYRNES CARRIES THE CROWD.

Congressman Gets Splendid Reception at Aiken Meeting.

Aiken, S. C., Aug. 1.—The joint debate of the candidates for congress in the Second South Carolina District at Aiken today developed little that was new. There was a flicker of excitement when G. L. Toole pronounced as a malicious falsehood any statement that might be made that he had during the campaign distorted facts or transgressed the record by any utterance or printed matter.

Congressman Byrnes was speaking at the time this occurred, and had referred to the fact that, while having been called an aggressor, Mr. Toole and his other opponents had all three been jumping on him. For months there had been appearing in county papers articles which were attacks on him (Byrnes). He had not been the aggressor. Some of these printed articles twisted the facts.

Mr. Toole in making his declaration, did not discuss the articles, but asserted that he had printed no articles which were not fair discussions of public records of public men. Mr. Byrnes, during the afternoon, said that Toole's articles in the papers were as frequent as Tanlac advertisements. He made no direct reply to Mr. Toole's declaration other than to say that he was not to be drawn into a quarrel at a time when he was hard beset by three earnest and active opponents. He then launched into a reply to attacks that had been made on his record and his political acts.

After Him Hard.

It appears that Mr. Byrnes has on hand the fight of his life. So far as yesterday's meeting was concerned, he won hands down. The audience appeared to be with him, else he captured them wholly by his address. He handled himself excellently in the debate. He was the last man up. Mr. Toole had jumped on him in hammer and tong manner. The eloquent T. G. Croft had arraigned him on the record. The courtly N. G. Evans, of Edgefield, had cleverly arranged pitfalls for the incumbent. Each had (with no sign of concert of action) attacked Byrnes from this point or that. But, closing the meeting and on the defensive, he turned every thrust that had been made at him to his advantage, and won cheers upon cheers from his hearers.

Played a Strong Card.

One of the points against him was that he was out of whack at Washington, this being principally based on the statement that he had not wholly supported the administration's selective draft bill, but had first gone off after the volunteer selective draft measure. Having defended himself by declaring that he had co-operated on the army measure, he met the statement that he was not in harmony with the White House by reading a letter received by him this morning, in which President Wilson spoke not only in the highest terms of his loyalty to the administration, but referred in the most intimate and kindly manner to the congressman.

Mr. Toole is a hard fighter. He has done excellent work within the State, and he has a splendid following, especially in Aiken county.

Mr. Croft—one of the most able men in his section of the State, and a man who has served Aiken well in the assembly at Columbia—is a hard hitter on the stump. Many believe him very formidable in the present race for congress.

Mr. Evans, a finished speaker; harsh to no one; intense in his patriotism; a man of the highest ability, solidly backed by Edgefield and supported well in other counties, is a strong factor in the race. It is plain that Byrnes's friends regard him as the man they must finally lock horns with.

Mr. John E. Stansfield, who is making his way excellently at the Aiken bar, presided at the meeting yesterday. There was an immense gathering. The courthouse was far overflowed. Rain fell at intervals, and an open-air effort was impracticable. Mr. Stansfield conducted the meeting with ability and with marked fairness.—Augusta Chronicle.

Time-Saving in Business.

A Paris shopkeeper wrote to one of his customers as follows: "I am able to offer you cloth like the enclosed sample at 9 francs the meter. In case I do not hear from you I will conclude that you wish to pay only 8 francs. In order to lose no time, I accept the last mentioned price."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

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REAP FRUITS OF VICTORY

THE HUNS HAVE BEEN DEALT SMASHING BLOW.

Enemy's Loss in Men and Guns so Great Full Scope of Victory Cannot Yet be Gauged.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Evidence that the German armies ejected from the Aisne-Marne salient have been dealt a smashing blow came tonight from all quarters. Losses in men, guns and war material sustained by the enemy, it is indicated, are so great that the full scope of the victory cannot yet be gauged.

Gen. Pershing's official report covering yesterday's operation for the first time cast aside military reserve and declared "the full fruits of victory" has been realized. Even as his message was being given out, however, new reports from France showed that further advances had been realized today and the enemy's flanks again had been turned. It seemed certain, on the face of these reports, that he could not halt even at the Aisne unless he masses many more reserves to relieve pressure against the beaten and disorganized forces of the German Crown Prince.

Floods Bar Huns.

Flooded streams have again intervened in behalf of the allied armies, as at the Piave, in the Italian counter stroke. The rise of the Vesle behind the German rear guard apparently threw into confusion the whole German organization protecting the withdrawal of the main armies. It was not clear whether Gen. Pershing's message reporting that 8,400 prisoners and 133 guns had been captured by the Americans alone included those taken in yesterday's swift rush to Fismes, or only those of the preceding period of the counter offensive. It was regarded as probable, however, that the captures made yesterday were still to be reported. Other reports indicate large captures of both men and guns in the rush to the Vesle.

German Reserves.

Reports that the enemy was hurrying new reserves from the north to support his shattered lines now beyond the Soissons-Rheims front, attracted particular attention here. If the German reserves in Flanders and Picardy are withdrawn, it was regarded as certain that the nibbling tactics of the British on both the fronts would be extended without delay to an effort to force the enemy out of the salient he holds at these two points.

Significant Move.

The German retirement southeast of Montdidier may be significant. To some officers it appeared possible that Gen. Foch would hurl his victorious armies which have already crossed the Aisne near Soissons, north and east from that point toward the line of the Oise. Should the German disorganization prove serious enough to permit the allies to extend their victories northward, a flank attack might be projected against the Picardy front with hopes that the Aisne-Marne results could be duplicated. Standing again along the Oise and with sufficient forces available to continue on the offensive, the French would threaten the Germans in this whole great area from the south while a British advance from the Albert-Arras front would form the north jaw of the trap.

Question of Strategy.

Whether Gen. Foch will seek to carry his lines back to the Chemin-Des-Dames, north of the Aisne, cannot be foretold. Officers say it depends upon the plans of larger strategy that have been formed. Many of them believe however, that unless there should be a wholly unexpected collapse of the German military machine, it would not be wise to press beyond the Aisne until the other salients in Flanders and Picardy had been overcome.

Lieut. Osce Coleman Wounded.

Newberry, Aug. 3.—Mr. A. Pope Coleman, of Chappells, this county, has received a cablegram from his son, Lieut. William Osce Coleman, in France, stating that he had been wounded in action. No particulars were given in the message, but the young lieutenant assured his parents that he was getting along fine.

Lieut. Coleman, it will be recalled, was several months ago decorated for bravery in action, receiving the Croix du Guerre. He is a graduate of the Citadel and has many friends throughout the State who wish for him a speedy recovery, from the wounds received.