

AMERICANS WIN BATTLE ON VAGA

Heavy Losses Inflicted on Bolshevik Forces in Archangel Sector.

ENEMY WAS DRIVEN BACK AFTER HARD FIGHT

Chinese Troops Are Fighting With the Bolsheviks.

Archangel, Feb. 5.—By the Associated Press.—Heavy losses were inflicted on the Bolsheviks by the American forces Tuesday and the enemy was driven back in disorder from the village of Vistavka, on the Vaga. The American casualties were five killed and several wounded. Many Bolshevik soldiers were taken prisoner by the Americans.

The enemy early in the morning began a bombardment with field guns and howitzers, and under cover of a shrapnel and pompan barrage essayed a frontal attack with infantry in the Arctic twilight at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The American troops, who were rested after their retirement from Shenkursk and were now established in a good position, poured a heavy fire from the artillery and machine guns into the charging Bolsheviks, whose ranks broke and fled into the woods.

Captured Bolsheviks declared that the enemy had planned a flank attack simultaneously with the frontal movement, but this was abandoned when the Vistavka attempt failed.

Chinese and Manchou troops are now included in the Bolshevik forces opposing the Americans on the Vaga. So far these have been held in reserve, but the Americans are preparing a warm reception for the yellow soldiers if they appear in the fighting line, in view of stories reaching them of the Manchou treatment of prisoners in the Baltic provinces.

Yesterday's defeat of the enemy on the Vaga, together with his failure on the Dvina, typifies the spirit of the American and other allied troops, who are fighting with the utmost determination to hold their positions until reinforcements can reach them. These defeats have considerably lowered the enemy morale, but the Bolsheviks are being constantly reinforced, and while their offensive has been temporarily checked, there are indications that it will be renewed when fresh Bolshevik forces reach their line.

Details were received at headquarters today of the bravery displayed by a little squad of about 15 Frenchmen, who were victims of an enemy raid on the village of Bolshie Ozera Monday. Mistaking the enemy for returning Russian prisoners of war, the French detachment permitted the Bolsheviks to advance close to their position. Then they found themselves surrounded by a force of 150 of the enemy. Called upon to surrender, the French refused and tried to fight their way out. Two were killed, three were wounded and six were unaccounted for for a time. Four of these six turned up today, two of them wounded, apparently having escaped from their captors.

The situation is unchanged on the Dvina and railroad fronts. Allied troops were again forced to retire in the face of Bolshevik attacks along the Pinega river, but the positions of the Americans at the town of Pinega have not been attacked.

Attacks World League

Senator Reed Refers to Plan as "Witches Cauldron."

Washington, Feb. 5.—Another address attacking the proposed league of nations was made in the senate today by Senator Reed, of Missouri, Democrat, who criticized the plan as a "witch's cauldron" which might involve the United States in untold foreign complications. He referred to the Bryan arbitration treaties, adding: "While we were swinging incense to the God of peace, Germany was forging her weapons for war."

"Today at Paris," Senator Reed declared, "we are dreaming the old dream of a super nation, a brotherhood of man, a common control of all the races of the world."

Referring to reports that the United States might participate in the mandates over Turkey, Senator Reed declared that imposition upon "the unspeakable Turk of American institutions would be just as much a violation of freedom as imposition of Turkish institutions in this country."

Delay in making peace with the enemy was criticized by Senator Reed who estimated the loss by holding armies in the field at about \$100,000,000 daily.

"All are awaiting peace," he added, "and what is peace awaiting? Not the settlement of disputes with Germany and Austria; not the conditions of this war, but is dependent on glorious dreams that have to do with South Sea Islands and remotest quarters of the globe—conditions that can not be accomplished in ten thousand years."

Paris, Feb. 6.—A meeting of the supreme inter-allied war council will be held Friday to decide the question as to the strength of forces to be maintained in service by the different entente armies.

BEEF TRUST HAD BIG INFLUENCE

Big Five Controlled Policy of Food Administration by Having Employes on Board.

HOOVER SUBMITTED TO PACER DICTATION

Packers Appealed to President to Call Off Investigation Without Result—Packer Attorney Says They Never Asked for Hearing.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Edward C. Lasater of the National Live Stock Association's executive committee charged before the house interstate commerce committee today that the policies of the food administration were determined by the five big packing concerns and carried out by employees of the packers serving the government for \$1 a year. Mr. Lasater formerly was chief of the administration's live stock and meat division and this was his third day on the stand at hearings before the committee on legislation for government regulation of the meat industry.

In testifying before the house committee Mr. Lasater said that when Herbert C. Hoover first was appointed food administrator he had told the witness that he would not in a single packer to "sit at his council table because they had a reputation that stunk to heaven."

"But such an influence was brought to bear on him," said the witness, "that he chose to disregard their odor. Within three weeks he had arranged to have the packers take sole charge of the meat end of the industry."

J. P. Cotton, described by the witness as "a packer lawyer from New York," was appointed head of the meat division, Mr. Lasater said, and Harry A. Wheeler, a "packer banker of Chicago" was appointed to sit with the packers at their meetings. Mr. Lasater declared that in addition \$1 a year men in the packers' employ served the food administration in many departments and that, not a thing was done which was not known of and approved by the packers.

Henry Veeder, counsel for Swift & Company, was the witness today before the senate committee. He read letters and telegrams relating to the unsuccessful efforts of the packing companies to bring about a change in the federal trade commission's method of conducting its inquiry.

Mr. Veeder said he failed to obtain a personal interview with the president and thereupon Louis F. Swift, president of Swift & Company, wrote the president, protesting that the commission's investigation was unfair. Secretary Tumulty replied under date of February 27, saying the president had "looked into the matter" and that "his inquiry had convinced him that there would be no warrant for him interfering with the judgment and action of the commission."

Repeated efforts were made to influence other officials to obtain a change in the manner of the investigation. Mr. Veeder said, but they were unsuccessful. These criticisms brought from Francis J. Heney, conducting the cross examination a challenge for the witness to name a single case in which the packers had been denied the right to be heard. Mr. Veeder said they had sought no hearing because they believed it would be useless.

Paupers Now Rich

Discovery of Oil in Drouth Ruined Farmers.

Dallas, Texas, Feb. 4.—Some of the West Texas farmers who "deserted their homes last summer in pitiful white lines of old prairie wagons are now going back in automobiles. Driven out by a three years drought, they are going back as oil men.

Stretches of land where the drought had virtually withered every leaf of vegetation and from which the disheartened farmers departed for the cotton fields and other more prosperous sections, are within the new oil district.

Some of the farmers who struggled, almost penniless, from the "barred zone" a few months ago can qualify as oil magnates, according to Vance Muse of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, who has just completed a tour of Ranger, Eastland, Cisco, Breckenridge, DeLeon, Moran, Gorman and other towns in the heart of the new oil district. He says the population in many counties, almost completely deserted last summer, has reached unprecedented figures.

Leases are being sold for a few acres at vastly larger sums than entire farms would have brought a year ago and enormous investments have been made.

The legislature had expected to adopt measures for relief of drought sufferers, but since the discovery of oil little interest has been shown in the proposed action. There have been abundant fall rains that assured crops in districts outside the oil territory.

As soon as the price of steel and other material reaches a normal level steps should be taken to build the new jail which was authorized by legislative action several years ago, and for which bonds were issued.

WAR REVENUE BEFORE HOUSE

House Leader Kitchen Presents Measure for Consideration.

LAW WILL RAISE SIX BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR

Burden Will Be Borne by Corporations and Individuals With Big Incomes.

Washington, Feb. 6.—With the submission to congress today of the long delayed war revenue bill, the American people were presented with their prospective federal tax budget for 1919 and ensuing years. The bill will raise something over six billions this year, and four billions thereafter, subject to future revision. The bill was presented by Majority Leader Kitchen. It is regarded as assured of adoption by both houses.

The bulk of the taxes are levied upon war excess profits of corporations, and on incomes of individuals and corporations.

The important income tax section of the bill retains all the senate rates, normal and surtaxes, including that of twelve per cent on corporation incomes of last year, in excess of credits previously allowed, but fixes the rate for subsequent years at ten per cent.

Must Sell on Credit

Not Enough Cash Available Says Expert.

Washington, Feb. 5.—If the United States is to sell its surplus wheat to the allies this year, the transaction must be on a credit basis, Julius Barnes, head of the food administration grain corporation, told the house agricultural committee today at hearings on legislation to provide a method for carrying out the government guaranteed price of \$2.26 a bushel for the 1919 wheat crop.

The allies have not the financial ability to pay cash for the wheat, it was explained, and the United States government will have to extend a credit. At present the treasury has no power to make loans to the allies after peace is declared, although congress is considering a treasury request to be permitted to extend the unused portion of about \$1,500,000,000 of credits already authorized for war loans to allies for peace time purchases in this country.

In this connection Representative Young of Texas commented that he understood Great Britain was going to South America for grain because Argentina was "adding money to finance the deals." Mr. Barnes told the committee that the allies had agreed to surrender their resale option on 100,000,000 bushels of wheat contracted for in this country and would take the grain, the treasury having advanced \$200,000,000 to finance the transaction.

Hubert J. Hogan of Philadelphia said the flour trade was much exercised over present conditions because a sudden break in the wheat market would mean bankruptcy to dealers carrying large stocks.

Ships Strike Mines

Three Vessels Believed to Have Been Sunk.

Southshields, Eng., Feb. 5.—The British sloop Penarth is reported to have been sunk by a mine 23 miles off the Tyne River. Two trawlers have picked up 40 members of the crew.

Two ships, a Norwegian fishing steamer and a Swedish steamer have been sunk by mines with the loss of 25 lives, according to reports received here.

The Norwegian vessel was blown up outside the Norwegian port of Stavager and eight fishermen were killed. The Swedish vessel sunk was the steamer Sphynx of 1,572 tons. It was on its way from England to Sweden with coal and went down near Coquet Island, off the east coast of Scotland with the loss of 17 members of its crew.

Sympathy for Ireland

House Committee Asks Peace Conference to Consider Claims of Irish People.

Washington, Feb. 6.—The house foreign affairs committee today ordered favorably reported a resolution expressing the hope that the peace conference would "favorably consider the claims of Ireland to the right of self determination."

Cotton for Switzerland

Cargo Space Obtained for Twenty Thousand Bales.

Washington, Feb. 6.—Switzerland has obtained cargo space for the immediate exportation of twenty thousand bales of cotton, it was learned today.

Chicago, Feb. 4.—Mrs. Leonora Meder, a lawyer and club woman and former city commissioner of public works, today announced her candidacy for mayor. She said she would run as a non-partisan.

HOUSE KILLS LABOR MEASURE

Bill to Fix Forty-Eight Hour Day for Cotton Mills Voted Down.

GOV. COOPER SIGNS ALLEN COUNTY BILL

Committee Appointed to Arrange for Welcome of Thirtieth Division.

Columbia, Feb. 6.—South Carolina now has forty-six counties. Allen county having come into existence at 12.30 o'clock today, when Governor Cooper signed the bill passed at this session, creating the new county with Allendale as the county seat. It was the first bill signed by the new governor.

The house by a vote of 69 to 21 today killed the bill providing for a 48 hours week work in the cotton mills of the State. This bill had a long discussion.

The house also killed a bill requiring dealers in gasoline to measure gasoline sold to consumers openly. This bill was aimed at measuring contrivances used by most dealers.

Speaker Cochran and Representatives Hamblin and Crews were appointed a committee from the house to arrange for South Carolina's welcome to the 30th Division, North Carolina and Tennessee legislatures are asked to appoint committees.

Neutrals to Get Ships

Shipping Board Arranges to Permit Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Holland to Increase Imports.

Washington, Feb. 5.—As a result of negotiations conducted at Paris, Norway, Sweden, Holland and Denmark are to be permitted to import increased quantities of essential commodities from the victorious associated nations and a large part of the 910,079 tons of Danish, Swedish and Norwegian shipping now under charter to the shipping board is to be returned.

Simultaneous announcements of the outcome of the negotiations were made tonight by the war trade board and the shipping board. Under the economic agreement the four northern European neutrals will be enabled to increase materially their imports of cotton, wool and leather and their manufactures as well as petroleum and products, edible and inedible animals and vegetable oils, tobaccos and coffee.

The shipping board announced its readiness to immediately begin releasing to the Scandinavian governments the shipping now under charter or to cancel the contracts and return the vessels direct to their owners. It was specified, however, that such vessels as might be required for the use of the commission for relief in Belgium or European civilian relief or of the governments associated with the United States in the war be retained until the contracts expired.

Dutch ships seized by the United States already are being released as rapidly as their present voyages or commitments are completed and the same procedure will be followed with respect to the other ships. There are now under shipping board control 81 Danish ships of 373,246 deadweight tons; 61 Norwegian ships of 273,495 deadweight tons; 46 Norwegian sailing ships of 118,429 tons and 31 Swedish steamers of 44,911 tons.

The war trade board's announcement called attention to the fact that the limits as to the quantity of imports by the northern neutrals of many commodities, including clothing, machinery and rubber tires, had been entirely removed some time ago and said that licenses to export those commodities, as well as cotton, wool, leather and the others on the list made public tonight, would be granted freely to American exporters.

The new arrangement provides, however, that all guarantees against reexportation of the commodities to enemy countries, are to be strictly enforced.

Hun Assembly Meets

First Session Held at Weimar This Afternoon.

Amsterdam, Feb. 6.—German Chancellor Ebert will open the first session of the German national assembly at Weimar at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Berlin advices state that many members for Alsace-Lorraine have presented themselves for the first sitting.

Strike in Seattle

All Business Suspended This Morning When Union Ordered Big Strike.

Seattle, Feb. 6.—A general strike was called promptly at 10 o'clock this morning. First reports from the downtown section said the street cars were started for the barns, elevator operators in large buildings abandoned their cars, and many restaurants were forced to close their doors when the union cooks and waiters left.

WHY GERMANS QUIT FIGHTING

When American Army Was Thrown into the War Huns Were Outclassed.

LACKED THE NERVE TO FIGHT ORGANIZED ODDS

When Armistice Was Signed United States Had Nearly Four Million Men Under Arms

Washington, Feb. 5.—The total strength of the United States army on November 11th when the armistice was signed was 3,703,273 officers and men, including the Marine Corps on duty with the army in France, according to the war department figures issued today.

This showing indicated that the allies on July 1st for the first time exceeded the Germans in rifle strength and that on November 1st the allied rifle strength of 1,485,000 represented odds of upwards of two to one.

Side-Step Suffrage

Democratic Caucus Failed to Get Record Vote on Question—Pollock for Suffrage.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Strategy of opponents of equal suffrage was said to have prevented a record vote in indorsement of the Susan B. Anthony suffrage constitutional amendment resolution at a conference tonight of Democratic senators.

After more than two hours of debate Senator Jones of New Mexico, proposed indorsement of the constitutional amendment measure. Twenty senators voted favorably but all of the opponents refrained from voting and Senator Martin, the Democratic leader, who presided, declared that the resolution was not adopted because a quorum was not present.

Before the vote on the Jones proposal a motion of opponents of the resolution to adjourn was defeated, 23 to 17.

After adjournment, Senator Jones, chairman of the woman suffrage committee, said the conference action left the matter open for further consideration and would not affect his plans to call up the resolution in the senate next Monday.

"When we came to final action," said Senator Jones, "there was not a majority of the conference present and therefore no quorum with which to act on the resolution. A larger majority of those present, however, were in favor of the resolution."

The political expediency of acting on the suffrage amendment was the principal theme of debate, which was marked by its vehemence. At times senators spoke so loudly that their voices reverberated through the thick doors of the conference room and echoed through the corridors.

Advocates of the resolution argued that the fortunes of the Democratic party would be aided by favorable action on the equal suffrage question and said if it was defeated future political benefits would be received by the Republican party. Opponents were said to have contended that political expediency should not be a factor in so serious a matter as amending the constitution.

The meeting, the first held by the Democratic senators during the war, broke up in a roar of laughter over the ruling of Senator Martin on the point of no quorum on the final vote.

It was announced that one more recruit for the suffrage resolution had been gained in Senator Pollock of South Carolina, who spoke in its support.

Friends of the resolution said privately that it will be brought before the senate next Monday with at least 63 of the 96 votes assured in its favor. This would be one short of the required two-thirds but advocates expressed confidence that the one additional vote necessary for its adoption could be secured.

Sick Report Issued

Nearly Hundred Thousand Ill Overseas.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Hospital reports from the expeditionary forces show there were 95,962 sick and wounded among the American soldiers on January 16. This was a net decrease of 97,486 from the total on December 19. The total for January comprised 67,293 soldiers incapacitated as result of disease and 28,669 from injuries.

Society of Nations

Magna Charter for World Peace One-Third Completed.

Paris, Feb. 6.—The society of nations commission of the peace conference has virtually covered one-third of its task, it was officially announced this afternoon.

GEN. BOLDEREFF SAYS

Russia Needs Moral and Material Support More Than Military.

Viadivostok, Dec. 20 (Correspondence of the Associated Press)—General Boldereff, member of the erstwhile Ufa directorate which was abolished

BOLSHEVIKI WILL ATTEND MEETING

Agree to Send Representatives to Princess Island Conference.

ENTENTE MUST NOT INTERFERE WITH RUSSIA

Anti-Bolshevik Agreements in Russia Will Not Agree to a Truce With Enemies.

London, Feb. 6.—Bolshevik foreign Minister Tchitcherine announces in a wireless dispatch from Moscow, picked up here, that the soviet government is willing to participate in the Princess Island conference if the entente powers will undertake not to interfere with the affairs of Russia.

Paris, Feb. 6.—When Boris A. Bakmetteff, a member of the council formed by the anti-Bolshevik factions here, was informed of the soviet acceptance he declared he was unable to say what the Russian committee in Paris would do pending a discussion. He expressed surprise however, saying that heretofore the Bolsheviks have indicated that they would not participate. He said the Bolsheviks would spread the report in Russia that the allies are afraid of them and are asking for peace. Members of the Russian committee maintain that the governments they represent will not consent to a truce with the Bolsheviks.

Conference With The Bolsheviks

Five Great Powers Will Send Committee to Princess Island.

Paris, Feb. 6.—The supreme council on receiving the acceptance of Russian Bolshevik government of the invitation attended Princess Island conference, immediately made arrangements to send a joint committee of two representatives from each of the five powers.

To Pay for Cotton

Claim Allowed for Seizure by Sherman in Savannah.

Savannah, Ga., Feb. 5.—United States court of claims has handed down a judgment awarding \$176,666.79 to stockholders of the old Importing & Exporting Company of the State of Georgia for cotton seized by Sherman in his memorable march to the sea in 1865. The litigation was instituted shortly after the War Between the States.

When Sherman's army entered Savannah the company had great quantities of cotton in warehouses. General Sherman ordered it confiscated. Some of it was used by the army, but the greater portion was shipped to Boston and sold there. The proceeds from the sale were deposited in the United States treasury and the money has been kept intact. The supreme court in the early days after the war held that the money belonged to the claimants. The loyalty test statute barred practically every Southern man interested. The loyalty test was removed by congress in 1905.

E. H. Abrahams, attorney for the claimants, announced the decision of the court of claims today.

Appeal Cotton Case

Government Objects to Paying for Cotton Sherman Stole.

Washington, Feb. 6.—An appeal to the supreme court will probably be taken by the government from the decision of the court of claims which awards \$251,592 in four cases of cotton seized after the close of the civil war. The award was made to the receiver for the Exporting-Importing Co., of Georgia, organized by Galloway B. Lamar and three other organizations in which Lamar was concerned. An appeal was taken from the award of \$1,419 to the administrator of Alexander McDonald, of Thomasville, Ga., in similar cases.

Refinery at Charleston

Standard Oil Takes Option on Several Tracts on "the Neck."

Charleston, Feb. 6.—For the purpose, it is reported, of erecting and operating a large oil refinery at Charleston, the Standard Oil Company has secured options on an aggregate of about 128 acres of land on the Meeting street road and the Cooper river, near the Country Club. It is generally believed that the great corporation will close its options soon and that no time will be lost in getting the refinery project under way.

ENGLISH STRIKE SPREADING.

Railroad Lines Outside Tied Up.

London, Feb. 6.—The first step in the threatened extension of the railroad strike beyond the local lines in London was taken last night when some of the engineers of the Brighton and Southwestern lines were called out. Early trains from the London terminus of the Southwestern were not started this morning.