

CHAMBER APPROVES NEW BUREAU PLANS

Organization Will Devote Attention to Public Economy and Efficiency.

SUPPORT TO BE VOLUNTARY

Board of 15 Directors to Be Chosen Five Each From Employers, Professions, and Wage-Earners of Portland.

Plans for a bureau of efficiency and economy that shall extend its activities through various branches of local government were approved by the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce at their regular meeting last night.

The tentative constitution for such an organization, as drafted by members of the legislative and taxation bureau of the chamber, was adopted without change.

The organization is to be supported by voluntary contributions from members. Management of the bureau is to be in the hands of an efficiency engineer to be elected by the directors.

The Portland Bureau of Efficiency and Economy is the name under which the new organization will be conducted. Its avowed objects are "the collection and promulgation of information for the advancement of the interests of the people of Portland and of Oregon."

Plans are proposed. Among the means to this end that the bureau proposes to adopt will be "investigation of various problems, the holding of meetings for the reading and discussion of public questions and the publication of such papers, discussions, communications and other information as may seem expedient."

Two classes of members are provided for—donating and subscribing members. The former class will pay a minimum of \$10 a year and the latter class a minimum of \$1 a year. Both classes have equal rights and equal voice and vote.

Fifteen members shall constitute the board of directors, five to be chosen each year for a term of three years. Five members of the board shall be chosen from the employees of the city, five from the professions of law, medicine, theology, engineering and teaching, and five from the wage-earners or employers.

Two members of any one group shall be elected in any one year. Elections are to be conducted by mail votes and will be effected on the first day of January in each year.

Officers Are Named. A president and treasurer are to be elected by the board from their own members. The efficiency engineer will not necessarily be elected from the board members.

It is intended to issue at least one annual printed report, covering the activities of the bureau for the year. Other reports may be issued, however, from time to time.

Members of the Chamber of Commerce are eager to organize the bureau and start it in operation as soon as practicable.

HILLO JAPANESE IS LOYAL

SOCIETY PRESIDENT DECLARES FOR AMERICANISM.

War on Own Parents, If Need Be to Uphold United States, Is Advised at Patriotic Celebration.

WEDNESDAY'S WAR NEWS

TROOPS belonging to seven German army corps, under Crown Prince Frederick William, are engaged along a 25-mile front north of Verdun in a desperate effort to drive back the French defending forces, probably with the capture of the great fortress of Verdun in view.

There has been heavy fighting for a considerable period in this district of the French war zone, but within the last few days the attacks of the Germans have taken on added strength. The battle line has been extended and now reaches from Malancourt, on the west, to Etain, on the east, with Verdun in the center, only a few miles southward.

The Germans claim to have made important advances, and to some extent these are admitted by the French War Office, which describes the battle as one of increasing intensity.

The German preparations were extensive, and the bombardment of the French positions with thousands of shells, was uninterrupted. As the French had foreseen this battle, all their available guns were called into action and responded in kind to the heavy shelling of the Germans.

While at various points the French were unable to resist the onslaught of the attacking forces along much of the front, according to the Paris communication, the attacks were well sustained and heavy losses were inflicted on the Germans.

Another British steamer, the Westburn, has put into port flying the German flag and with a German prize crew aboard. This vessel has reached Santa Cruz, Tenerife. She has on board 296 passengers taken from various British vessels which have been sunk by German raiders.

In the British Parliament Premier Asquith, in reply to questions concerning the possibility of peace, reiterated his former pronouncement that there would be no peace until conditions previously set down were met. These included restoration of Belgium and Serbia, and the overthrow of "Prussian militarism."

While President Wilson is said to be unopposed to any action by Congress with respect to warning Americans off armed merchantmen of the belligerent nations of Europe, agitation in Congress in this direction has grown to marked proportions and Washington advises say the Democrats of the foreign affairs committee have voted to carry the sentiment of the House on several pending resolutions bearing on that question.

NAY'S NEED TO BE SHOWN TO SECURITY

Admiral Badger to Tell of Possible Foes for Whom Nation Would Prepare.

BRITAIN IS NOT SUSPECTED

Question of Canal Blockade Also Is Deferred Until Meeting Behind Closed Doors With Committee Is Held Today.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—International considerations which moved the Navy General Board to change its time-honored policy last year, are recommended by the States Navy should equal the strongest action by not later than 1925 will be disclosed to the House naval committee tomorrow in executive session by Rear Admiral Badger, a member of the board.

Examination of Admiral Badger in open session was concluded today, the Admiral consistently refusing to discuss, except behind closed doors, the Board's views of dangers which may confront the Nation.

Attack From Two Sides Hinted. The question came up when Representative Stephens, of California, seeking to show that the Pacific Coast was inadequately defended, asked if the Board in altering its policy, did not have in mind the possibility that the country might have to face simultaneously enemies in the Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

Admiral Badger said he could answer that only in executive session. He explained, however, that a fleet capable of dominating the Pacific Ocean was the only sure protection for the Pacific Coast, and that the earth and atmosphere made it impossible, for the present and possibly for another year, the use of the fleet in both oceans.

Further discussion of the canal closure also was deferred to the closed session.

War With Britain Unlikely. Admiral Badger expressed the opinion that, should the United States adopt a two-power navy, such as recommended by the General Board, Great Britain would not alter her rate of construction at least until the gap between the two fleets had been closed.

Repeating to a question by Representative Calloway, the Admiral said that, in framing the \$235,000,000 building program it first proposed under the new policy, while the Board looked to get as many big ships as possible into the fleet in the shortest time, the country's building facilities would permit.

Admiral Badger repudiated a suggestion that military men viewed all international problems from the standpoint of force, while statesmen looked upon force as a means of diplomacy as equal arms of government.

"Ultimately, however," he added, "diplomacy depends on force."

Representative Badger asked if the General Board had not made a recommendation in 1914 which Secretary Daniels had refused to make public unless its remarks as to the personnel in the Navy were stricken out. Prefacing his reply with the statement that Secretary Daniels was the first Secretary to make public the Board's recommendations in full, and that in Navy regulations they were regarded as for the confidential use of the Secretary only, Admiral Badger said: "I think much more has been made of that incident than is justified."

WAR IS FEARED IN CRISIS (Continued From First Page.) even if it involved a repudiation of the Administration policy, if thereby they thought war would be averted, kept both houses in a state of tension that practically blocked business.

All the determination was in the Democratic ranks, and there was no open show of sentiment among the Republicans. It was indicated, however, that Republican Leader Mann sympathized with President Wilson's policy and that any outbreak would have to reckon with his forces.

From apparently authentic sources came statements tonight that the President was determined that the dispute pending with Germany be settled without prolonged negotiations. He is known to believe, however, that the breaking off of diplomatic relations with Germany means war, and there will be no undue haste in handling the situation involving such a possibility.

The Administration view is that a broad and important principle is involved in the right of Americans to travel on belligerent merchantmen and that this right must not be abandoned.

Developments to Come Rapidly. Developments are expected momentarily. Tomorrow will bring Germany's reply to the request of the United States made last week through Ambassador von Bernstorff for assurances that the notices to sink armed merchantmen after February 29 does not nullify previous pledges given in the Arabic and Lusitania negotiations. Official advices from Berlin have indicated that Germany will not be affected, but that they applied only to unarmed ships, and probably will ask the American Government for its definition of defensive armament which may be carried by merchantmen without sacrificing their peaceful character.

The State Department will take no action pending the receipt of the United States will inform Germany that merchant ships carrying arms for defense only are considered in the same class as unarmed vessels and that the right of American citizens to travel on them cannot be questioned.

The Cabinet is expected to review the situation Friday, and if it has agreed to continue the German reply. Democratic leaders will endeavor to prevent discussion of the question from breaking out at the Capitol tomorrow.

Representative Foster, of Illinois, has prepared a resolution to authorize the President to issue a proclamation against boarding armed vessels of belligerents, which it was said, he may offer from the floor. A similar resolution presented by Representative McLemore, of Texas, is before the foreign affairs committee.

Senator Gore has announced his intention of introducing a bill tomorrow which is far more drastic than any resolution made in the House, and would prevent Americans from procuring passports without making oath that they would not travel on armed belligerent vessels.

Republican Leader Mann and Majority Leader Kitchin held an extended conference after the House adjourned last night, but both sides there were inquiries for a definition of the President's exact position. Soon Representative Flood was being called to the House lobby talking earnestly, but apparently without any definite plan for precipitating the excitement which followed in the day.

Discussion continued and then Chairman Flood, Majority Leader Kitchin and Representative Harrison of Mississippi held a conference with the majority leaders' office. Simultaneously came word that a delegation of Missouri, Congressmen who favored the resolution, had called on Senator Stone and insisted that a vote of the two houses be taken on it. The floor buzzed with rumors of an impending outbreak from the advocates of the resolution.

Congress Hums With Excitement. Representative McLemore, author of the resolution, now before the committee; Chairman Webb, of the judiciary committee, and Representative Flood of Alabama, were centers of groups seeking information. The cloakrooms fairly hummed with conversation, while members rushed on and off the floor every few minutes.

Mr. McLemore had promised Mr. Flood and another that the resolution would be reported soon created a wave of excitement. Chairman Flood hastened to Mr. Flood, only to find the reports were untrue. When the conference in Mr. Kitchin's room ended the majority leader hurried over to Speaker's office.

Return of the Missourians, Representatives Igoe, Decker, Hensley, Russell and Shackelford, from their view of the situation was the signal for another stir. "I fear we are on the brink of war, and we should avoid it if possible," Representative Decker, a Democrat, is more willing to uphold the hands of the President than I, but I think this is a step that should be taken to avoid it."

HUNGARIANS ARE LOYAL

WILSON ASSURED OF ALLEGIANCE TO ADOPTED FLAG.

President, in Reply to Delegation, Says He Has Confidence in New Citizens Who Are Thoughtful.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—President Wilson told a committee of Hungarians today he had never doubted their loyalty to the United States of the great proportion of foreign-born American citizens, and that he recognized that they were just as much Americans as anyone born in the United States.

Headed by Alexander Konta, of New York, the committee presented resolutions passed at a mass meeting of Hungarians in New York last month urging allegiance to the United States, and declaring that they had been misinterpreted and slandered by attacks represented and slandered by attacks on their loyalty. Konta told the President they represented citizens of Hungarian birth in all parts of the country.

The President said: "So far as my own feelings and opinion are concerned, this errand was unnecessary. I have never myself doubted for a moment the feeling that gentlemen such as yourselves have toward America. I recognize you just as much Americans as anybody born in this country."

"I deplore, and I am sure you have united with me in deploring, the spirit which has been manifested by some who have misrepresented those for whom they professed to speak."

"So I welcome this occasion as an opportunity of expressing my unqualified confidence in those thoughtful citizens, like yourselves, who have identified themselves in heart as well as in fortune with this great country, which is so dear to all of us."

The committee informed the President the mass meeting in New York was a protest against the denial to them of the right of opinion and the right of freedom of speech. They said their ancestors in Hungary had fought long for those rights.

CABLE SERVICE RESTORED Western Union Now Handling All Classes of Foreign Messages.

The Western Union announces that improvement in its transatlantic cable facilities enables it to reinstate its cable-letter service, which has been suspended since January 3. Some time ago the Western Union re-established the deferred half rate

RECALL PAPERS ON SOON

Mayor Mason Explains Stand in Defense of New City Ordinance.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Feb. 23.—

(Special)—It is stated by those behind the movement for the recall of Mayor J. B. Mason and four Councilmen that the petitions will be in circulation within a few days. In the meantime the work of lining up candidates to oppose the officials is under way. It is understood that the recall election will be held in conjunction with the regular election early in the year.

Mayor Mason defends the new city ordinance regarding which there has been some comment. He says the liquor ordinance passed is not for the purpose of taking up the county's work, but to make it possible for the city to take action when the county officials will not do so. "We do not want to use this if we can help it," said the Mayor, "but wish to work with the state on the matter of law enforcement, and wish to be empowered to use this authority only when the state does not investigate violations. Under the old regime, the police were powerless to make any action in the case of violations."

JUNKET TO COOS ARRANGED Portland Business Men to Aid in Celebrating New Railway.

Portland business men will conduct an excursion to Marshfield and other towns on Coos Bay in July in celebration of the completion of the Southern Pacific's new line to that territory.

The Chamber of Commerce directors last night authorized the trip and will have official representation in the party. A special train will be operated out of Portland. It is probable that other cities and towns between Portland and Coos Bay will join the party.

Although the new road doubtless will be completed and opened for operation some time before July, the Portland excursion probably will mark the first formal celebration of the work.

PACKING STRIKE EXTENDS More Than 2300 Men Idle in Cudahy and Armour Plants.

SIoux CITY, Ia., Feb. 23.—The strike of about 100 butchers in the Cudahy packing plant on Tuesday spread to other departments and to the Armour Company today, and tonight about 2300 men are idle.

None of the employees of the independent packing companies have joined the strike tonight. So far officials of the two companies have made no move toward a conference with their employers.

Both plants are tied up completely.

War Trade Minister Named. LONDON, Feb. 23.—In the House of Commons today Premier Asquith officially announced the appointment of Lord Robert Cecil, parliamentary under-secretary for foreign affairs, as war trade minister.

Only One "BROMO QUININE." To get the genuine, call for full name, LAXATIVE, Emergency Laboratories, 32 West 25th St., New York City. Sold by all Druggists.

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Misses' and Spring Suits Women's Fine Spring Suits Revealing Fashion's Trend—Moderately Priced From \$12.95 to \$35.00. Today—thanks to the development of our splendid organization—you are brought in touch with fashion's favored ideals a full month ahead of usual. Authoritative models in the season's favored fabrics, poplins, serges, gabardines, etc.; also black and white checked materials. The coats come in a variety of belted effects that flare from shoulder or waist and the skirts in every instance correspond with the new ideas. All sizes for misses and women in navy, black, Copenhagen, green, etc. You are very welcome to view these handsome new Suits; you'll find them most moderately priced from \$12.95 to \$35.00.

Sale Dainty White, Cream and Ecru CURTAIN SCRIMS Plain, Open and Colored Bordered Styles—in 35c, 40c and 45c Qualities, All at the 29c One Price, Yard. At this great price reduction we are closing out a big overstock of the finer Curtain Scrims just at this opportune time, when housekeepers are planning Spring housecleaning. The assortment includes a great variety of styles, plain or with open or colored border. They come in white, cream and ecru. Regularly 35c, 40c and 45c a yard, now 29c. 100 Styles in New Cretonnes at 25c Yard. Cretonnes are in great demand this season, and we have provided an unusually large and varied assortment for your selection—more than 100 different styles in beautiful colorings, and all priced at 25c. Lace and Scrim Curtains at 98c Pair. An extensive variety to select from, both Lace and Scrim Curtains in white, cream and ecru. Those in scrim are finished with lace edge. All are 2 1/2 yards long and in good width. Regular \$1.25 lines, at 98c. Neat Scrim Curtains at \$1.98 Pair. Fine White, Cream and Ecru Scrim Curtains in hemstitch'd styles, with lace edge and insertings. 2 1/2 yards long and in good width. The kind regularly sold at \$2.50 a pair, priced for this sale at \$1.98.

BELL-ANS Absolutely Removes Indigestion. One package proves it. 25c at all druggists. Fifteen years ago the total annual cost of the British army was only a little more than \$85,000,000. The present war is costing Great Britain \$10,000,000 a day.

FOR THE FINAL OF OUR SEMI-ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE Which Closes Tuesday, Feb. 29. We offer the greatest value in broken and discontinued lines of up-to-date Lace and Button Shoes. We have divided them in lots regardless of cost and former retail prices, which ranged from \$4.00 to \$8.00, now selling at \$1.95, \$2.95, \$3.95. Evening Slippers Included. These are the greatest values we have ever offered. Please call and at least take a look.

Knight Shoe Co. MORRISON STREET, NEAR BROADWAY. CABLE SERVICE RESTORED Western Union Now Handling All Classes of Foreign Messages. The Western Union announces that improvement in its transatlantic cable facilities enables it to reinstate its cable-letter service, which has been suspended since January 3. Some time ago the Western Union re-established the deferred half rate

EMPRESS TONIGHT SECOND SHOW PROFESSIONAL TRYOUT ACTS DON'T FAIL TO SEE KAR-MI WORLD'S GREATEST ILLUSIONIST. The Guide to Pure Gasoline. Wherever you see this sign, in front of garages or at our SERVICE STATIONS, you know you can get Red Crown, the straight refinery gasoline—not a mixture. Standard Oil Company (California) Portland. Use ZEROLENE, the Standard Oil for Motor Cars.