Morning Oregonian.

VOL. LVII— NO. 17,602. PORTLAND, OREGON, SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1917. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

AUTHORITY TO LIMIT FOOD PRICES ASKED

Supervision of Distribution Desired, Too.

PROGRAMME UP TO CONGRESS

Administration Would Operate Factories in Emergency.

$25,000,000 IS REQUESTED

Power to Take Complete Control of Concerns Handling Necessities and Govern Transportation Is Contemplated.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—The Government's programme for food control during the war was put before Congress today by Secretary Houston in a communication to the Senate asking power for the Department of Agriculture to take direct supervision of food production and distribution in the United States and requesting a $25,000,000 appropriation for putting the plan into operation.

Authority was asked for the Council of National Defense, in an emergency, to buy and sell foodstuffs and to fix maximum or minimum prices.

As outlined to the Senate the Government's plan is first to make a complete survey of the country's food supply to determine its ownership and distribution, if necessary to license and control the operations of all concerns engaged in the manufacture of food or feeds, agricultural implements and all materials required for agricultural purposes.

Operation Is Considered.

Authority is sought for the Agricultural Department to take over and operate the concerns if that course is demanded by the public interest.

Giving the Government power to deal directly in foodstuffs probably would make its application unnecessary, Secretary Houston declared, as its very existence would tend to keep conditions normal. He proposed that the Government should have full discretion, saying it might be wise if an emergency arose to fix prices on a single commodity. Market grades and classes for farm products, Secretary Houston said, form one of the chief needs of the country to insure proper conditions in producing and marketing farm products.

Transportation Supervision Asked.

Authority also was asked for the department to require of transportation companies preference for the movement of farm machinery, seeds fertilizers and materials that enter into the processes of food production.

Enlargement of the market news service of the department was recommended as a means of insuring equitable distribution to prevent undue food shortage in any consuming center and to provide against wastes, due to temporary over-supplies of food in some communities. The department wishes to allow the market service division to assist in obtaining re-routing of foodstuffs to relieve congestion on transportation lines.

In its plan for an investigation of the present food supply, the Agricultural Department has arranged for the help of the Federal Trade Commission, which, with the department, was directed by President Wilson early in the year to make an inquiry to ascertain the amount of food stocks and to determine if the anti-trust laws have been violated in food production, storage and distribution. That inquiry has been halted for lack of an appropriation. The present Congress, however, has voted money for conducting it—the House the $400,000 asked and the Senate $250,000.

Congressmen Are Consulted.

The two houses are expected to get together on an amount to be appropriated for this specific inquiry and as soon as it is available the Trade Commission will proceed. The Commission already is laying plans for the inquiry and today called into conference more than a dozen Senators and Representatives for suggestions. The concert of opinion, it was said afterward, was that the Commission should interpret the act creating it in the most liberal fashion and should get down to basic facts concerning the handling of food resources.

Some believe the Trade Commission has enough power to make unnecessary the use of extreme legislation in regulating the control of food, although additional powers should be given for an emergency.

The Senators and Representatives with the Commission today were chosen from among the large number that have introduced food legislation in Congress and others who are particularly interested in the food situation. Many of them had suggestions to offer as to the scope of the investigation. As outlined tentatively by the Commission, the inquiry would go into every phase of food production and distribution.

Data on Food Are Lacking.

Officials of all departments and divisions of the Government realize that the facts of the situation existing must be learned before remedies can be planned. Now, no one knows how much food there is in the country and how it is distributed. Of certain foods the Government has exact knowledge, but of others it has virtually none.

Suggestions that the Government is

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 1.)

HUNGER NOT FIRST, SAYS HINDENBURG

STRIKE ON SUCH GROUNDS DECLARED INCONCEIVABLE.

Severely Pressed Armies Cited as Necessary Explanation Why Workers Should Resume.

LONDON, April 21.—A message sent by Field Marshal Von Hindenburg to General Groener, head of the German Munitions Department, with reference to strikes in industrial communities, has been received here by wireless from Berlin. Field Marshal Von Hindenburg says he recognizes that the population has been hit hard by the reduction of the bread ration, but that undoubtedly the increase in meat and the regular delivery of potatoes will compensate therefor. While he is convinced that the authorities will see to the proper distribution of foodstuffs, the Field Marshal said:

"I am, therefore, quite unable to see how the food situation can be made the ground for strikes by workmen while our present position on the western front, which must be fought out there, demands an undiminished production of war supplies of all kinds. This is the first task and takes precedence over all others.

"Every strike, however small, may be the means of an unjustifiable weakening of our defensive force, and is an inexcusable crime against the fighting forces, especially the men in the trenches who bleed in consequence."

A Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam says that Von Hindenburg concludes his message by asking General Groener to see that all means are employed to continue the production and dispatch of arms and munitions, and also to have the necessary explanation given the armament workers to that end, which "in my opinion appears the principal condition for attaining our great aim."

BOY SCOUTS GET CALL

National Planting Day Is Set; Bean-Growing Is Advised.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—A call to observe April 21 as "National planting day" by the Boy Scouts of America was sent out today by the 218,000 members under the plan that "every scout feed a soldier."

NEW YORK, April 20.—On the ground that beans are the best of foods for war emergencies, Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the National Food Commission, urges the Boy Scouts of America to devote their energies to the cultivation of this crop.

IDAHO GUARDSMAN SHOT

Charles K. Overton Wounded When He Orders Prowler to Halt.

SPOKANE, Wash., April 20.—Charles K. Overton, a member of the Idaho National Guard, whose home is in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, was shot in the leg tonight while patrolling a Great Northern railroad bridge. Overton ordered the man to halt, according to word reaching here, and received two shots as an answer, one of which entered the leg. The prowler escaped.

MADGEBURG IS RIOT-TORN

Ten Thousand Strikers Try to Burn Town Hall; Soldiers Kill Many.

LONDON, April 21.—Ten thousand strikers, mostly munition workers, tried to burn the town hall at Madgeburg Friday, according to a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Oldenzaal, Holland.

Soldiers fired on the rioters, killing and wounding many and the town now is in a state of siege.

ARCHBISHOP BLENK IS DEAD

Prelate at New Orleans Is Victim of Complication of Ailments.

NEW ORLEANS, La., April 20.—The Most Rev. James Hubert Blenk, since 1906 Catholic archbishop of the ecclesiastical province of New Orleans, died here tonight, aged 62 years.

Physicians announced death was due to a complication of ailments superinduced by heart trouble. He had been in poor health about two years.

MARYLAND GETS ITS QUOTA

Women Help in Effort to Recruit 800 for Service in Navy.

BALTIMORE, Md., April 20.—After a spectacular campaign in which women took a leading part, Maryland's total of 800 men for the United States Navy was completed tonight. It was said this was the second state to get the quota asked, Oregon being the first.

More than 150 men were recruited today.

HOPE FELT FOR BERNHARDT

Physicians Say There Is Every Reason to Believe Actress Will Live.

NEW YORK, April 20.—While Sarah Bernhardt still is in a serious condition, her physicians said in a bulletin tonight that there is every reason to hope for her recovery.

Whitlock Reaches Havre.

HAVRE, April 19.—(Delayed.)—Brand Whitlock, United States Minister to Belgium, arrived this evening to assume his duties at the present seat of the Belgian government here.

BRITAIN PRAYS FOR AND SINGS TO U. S.

Tribute Paid America Without Precedent.

KING AND QUEEN PARTICIPATE

St. Paul's Rings With Two Nations' Patriotic Airs.

STARS AND STRIPES FLOAT

Vast Audience Celebrating New Ally's Entry Into War Includes Nobility, Men From Trenches and Diplomatic Corps.

LONDON, April 20.—The entry of the United States into the world war on the side of the entente allies was celebrated in St. Paul's Cathedral today.

King George and Queen Mary and numerous members of the royal household, the Mayors of the 26 boroughs of London, dressed in their official robes of scarlet; Peers, Cabinet Ministers, the Ambassadors and Ministers of the entente countries, with their staffs; high army and navy officials and many Americans, including Walter Hines Page, the American Ambassador, and his staff, were present. Not a seat in the vast edifice was vacant.

King Deeply Interested.

The service was an impressive one and King George evinced the deepest interest in it. The sermon was preached by the Right Rev. C. H. Brent, Episcopal bishop of the Philippine Islands. The archbishop of Canterbury delivered the benediction.

The entire congregation arose near the end of the service, when the band played "The Star-Spangled Banner," and there was audible throughout the cathedral the sound of subdued voices singing the anthem. Even King George's lips moved as he followed the lines, and at the end of the stanza the words, "the home of the brave," brought a smile to the monarch's face and he turned and nodded to the Queen.

King Refrains From Singing.

"God Save the King" was a great vocal chorus, in which everyone participated except King George.

A large American flag and the Union Jack were the only decorations in the cathedral.

London and many other cities and towns throughout the United Kingdom were bedecked today with the American flag in honor of the occasion. Even on the Victoria tower of Westminster Palace the Stars and Stripes were flung to the breeze beside the British flag. Never before has any flag except the Union Jack or the royal standard been flown from the tower.

After the services in St. Paul's, King George greeted Ambassador Page and Rear-Admiral Sims, U. S. N., who is on

(Concluded on Page 3, Column 1.)

'DYNAMITE JOHNNY,' 80, ENJOYS PARTY

CUBAN OFFICIALS COMPLIMENT BLOCKADE RUNNER.

"Captain Unafraid" O'Brien Recalls Landing "Fred" Funston in Cuba in Early Days.

NEW YORK April 20.—"Dynamite Johnny" O'Brien, a famous filibuster, celebrated his 80th birthday here today at a reception arranged in his honor by the government of Cuba. It was a happy day for "Captain Unafraid," as the Cubans call him.

His one regret, he said, was that "Fred" Funston, the late Major-General, could not be among his guests.

It was "Dynamite Johnny" who, on one of his numerous blockade-running trips through the Spanish patrol fleet, landed Funston on the coast of Cuba, in the days of the revolution, and ever since then Funston has been his hero.

The old man who did so much to make the Cuban revolution possible by smuggling arms and ammunition into the island enjoyed every minute of his reception. In the morning he received cablegrams of congratulation from President Menocal and Vice-President Nunez, of Cuba.

O'Brien now is a Captain in the Cuban navy at full pay.

TURKS ROUTED BY BRITISH

Passage of Shatt-el-Adhem Is Forced; 1244 Captives Taken.

LONDON, April 20.—General Maude, commanding the British forces in Mesopotamia, has forced a passage of the Shatt-el-Adhem, attacked the Turkish main positions and completely routed the Turkish forces, says an official statement issued today by the British War Department.

So far 1244 Turks have been taken prisoner.

HOTELS SAVE POTATO EYES

Distribution to Backyard Gardeners Is Promised.

COLUMBUS, O., April 20.—After a conference with Governor Cox, Columbus hotel proprietors announced today that in the future they will save the eyes of the potatoes they use.

These will be distributed to backyard gardeners as seed.

SEED POTATOES ARE SHORT

Supply Is 25 Per Cent Under Normal, Chicago Mayor Learns.

CHICAGO, April 20.—Mayor Thompson said today on authority of an expert of Armour & Co., that if every seed potato now in this country were planted the crop would be 25 per cent under normal.

1500-FOOT FALL SURVIVED

Aviator at San Francisco Slightly Hurt in Ocean Plunge.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—Lyman Doty, aviator, fell 1500 feet into the ocean here today and escaped with a wrenched shoulder and scratched face. His biplane was wrecked.

SENATE DECIDES ON PRESS CENSORSHIP

President Empowered to Regulate Papers.

RULES MUST BE REASONABLE

Enemies of Measure Declare It Is Unconstitutional.

SECRECY TO GUARD TROOPS

Administration Bill Is Modified, but Party Lines Are Ignored in Determination to Control Newspapers During War.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—The Senate recorded itself today in favor of press censorship during the war.

A censorship clause of the Administration's espionage bill, after decided modification, was retained in the bill by a vote of 43 to 33, in which partisan division was disregarded. The vote came after three days of sharp debate and was regarded as definitely forecasting final retention of the censorship provisions.

Later the bill, still far from completed, was laid aside indefinitely to permit consideration, beginning tomorrow, of the war Army measure. The House judiciary committee has completed its draft of the espionage bill, also with a censorship clause, and will report it Monday.

News of Troops Forbidden.

The provision as finally accepted by the Senate follows:

"Whoever in time of war, in violation of reasonable regulations to be prescribed by the President, which he is hereby authorized to make and promulgate, shall publish any information with respect to the movement, numbers, description, condition, or disposition of any of the armed forces, ships, aircraft, or war material of the United States, or with respect to the plans or conduct of any naval or military preparations, or with respect to any works or measures undertaken for or connected with, or intended for the fortification or defense of any place, or any other information relating to the public defense calculated to be useful to the enemy, shall be punished by a fine of not more than $10,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 10 years, or by both such fine and imprisonment, provided that nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or restrict, nor shall an, regulation herein provided for limit or restrict, any discussion, comment or criticism of the acts or policies of the Government or its representatives or the publication of the same."

Act Held Unconstitutional.

Advocates of the provision admitted that it would confer wide powers upon

(Concluded on Page 2, Column 3.)

GYPSIES ROB UNDER NOSE OF OFFICERS

CARAVAN HERDED ACROSS HOOD RIVER COUNTY BY SHERIFF.

Ranchers Report Losses of Milk, Chickens and Horse Feed, While One Pocket Is Picked.

HOOD RIVER, Or., April 20.—(Special.)—With half a dozen deputies sworn in to assist them, Sheriff Johnson and City Marshal Carson have experienced today the busiest hours of their official lives escorting across the county a band of more than 50 gypsies who arrived at the west edge of the valley at an early hour over the Columbia River Highway.

On opening their offices this morning the Sheriff and marshal were greeted by telephone calls from ranchers, who reported thefts of milk, chickens and horse feed. Deputizing the first citizens they met, the officers hurried to meet the nomads, preventing them from scattering over the orchard districts and carefully herding them until the Wasco County line was reached at the top of the Mosier ridge. Officials of the neighboring county were warned of the advance of the gypsies. Despite the vigilance of the corps of officers, half a dozen of the Romany women this afternoon, at the intersection of the dock road and the main trunk highway, held up and robbed A. E. Willard, a prominent citizen of The Dalles, who had just arrived on a river steamer.

The money, in bills, was extracted from Mr. Willard's vest pocket by one of the women while others jostled him and demanded to tell his fortune. The currency was recovered by Marshal Carson.

SLAVS REJECT PEACE IDEA

Council of Workmen and Soldiers Tells Armies to Fight On.

PETROGRAD, via London, April 20.—Delegates from seven of the Russian armies conferred today with the council of workmen's and soldiers' delegates and asked the council whether it favored a separate peace. M. Soyoloff, on behalf of the council, replied:

"The council rejects any idea of a separate peace."

COLONEL'S SON TO FLY

Quentin Roosevelt Joins Reserve and Goes to Aviation School.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Quentin Roosevelt, youngest son of Theodore Roosevelt, ex-President of the United States, has enlisted for the signal officers' reserve corps.

He received his papers at the War Department today and will be sent immediately to the aviation school at Mineola, L. I.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.

YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 54 degrees; minimum, 44 degrees.
TODAY'S—Showers; south to west winds.

War.

Authority to limit food prices asked by Administration. Page 1.
American Embassy at Berlin infested with German spies before break in relations. Page 2.
British, including royal family, sing to America. Page 1.
French gain in three districts. Page 4.
Hindenburg puts public hunger secondary to need for munitions. Page 1.
Government ready to arrest 3000 German suspects in 24 hours. Page 2.
First call on banks for war funds to be made soon. Page 3.
Senate to begin fight on Army bill today. Page 4.

Mexico.

Villa loses 200 killed and wounded in action, and 100 hanged. Page 5.

Foreign.

Strike of German munitions workers continues. Page 3.

National.

Senate decides on censorship of press. Page 1.
Opposition develops to McAdoo's plans for raising revenue. Page 2.
Shippers divided as to necessity for freight rate increases. Page 4.

Domestic.

"Dynamite Johnny" O'Brien, Cuban filibuster, observes 80th birthday. Page 1.
Beauty, once society leader of Denver, dies in poorhouse. Page 2.

Sports.

Pacific Coast League results: Portland 5, Oakland 6; San Francisco 3, Salt Lake 0; Vernon 2, Los Angeles 1. Page 14.
Both Pinkman and Bronson talk confidently of winning. Page 14.
"Patsy" Cardiff, famous boxer, dies at Salem. Page 14.
Multnomah Club sends 18 athletes to O. A. C. relay meet. Page 14.

Pacific Northwest.

Billingsleys making determined fight against serving sentence. Page 6.
Gypsies rob wayfarer under nose of officers in Hood River. Page 1.
Boy walks 100 miles to enlist. Page 8.

Commercial and Marine.

Advance in wheat checked by course of Eastern market. Page 19.
Government plan to fix food prices breaks Chicago market. Page 19.
Speculation stocks sold at declines by professionals. Page 19.
Oregon can build 150 ships a year for Federal Government. Page 1.

Portland and Vicinity.

Social Workers' Club calls idle women to task of increasing food production. Page 8.
Spectacular film play will aid recruiting. Page 15.
General White rejects offer of Dr. Parrish's property. Page 15.
Mayor moves to stop alleged crooked boxing bouts. Page 8.
More young men are wanted for officers' reserve training camp. Page 8.
Car shortage grows less, Southern Pacific report says. Page 7.
Oregon's quota of 800 men for Navy in 20 days is exceeded. Page 8.
Portland's men teachers quit posts to go into more profitable vocations. Page 8.
Portland is past bonded debt limit. Page 15.
Portland banks to take $1,000,000 of Treasury certificates. Page 16.
W. F. Woodward asks Welfare Commission for right to employ women after 6 P. M. Page 15.
Food conference to be held today. Page 16.
Hamilton Holt urges international co-operation instead of competition. Page 5.
Students of Benson Polytechnic School display handicraft. Page 2.
Summer of "melting pot" is seen at Ladd night school graduation. Page 16.
Weather report, data and forecast. Page 19.

OREGON'S CAPACITY PUT AT 150 SHIPS

Builders Meet to Plan Government Work.

LUMBER REPORTED AVAILABLE

Committee Named to Send Report to Shipping Board.

LABOR TO BE ASSEMBLED

11 Yards in State Are Ready to Aid in Federal Programme of Constructing Wooden Vessels, and More Will Open.

Yards operating in Oregon and more than can be opened may build 150 wooden ships annually for the Government, each of 3600 tons dead weight.

Sawmills on the Willamette and Columbia rivers and in the Willamette Valley can cut lumber in abundance for the work, probably 20 per cent of their output being used for ships.

Government departments will help provide additional labor forces from the interior, as well as facilitate delivery of iron and special material, so builders can depend on orders being filled promptly.

Builders Hold Meeting.

Those and numerous other points were brought out at a community shipbuilding meeting held in the Oregon building yesterday afternoon, the quarters of the Acacia Club being filled at 3 o'clock with men representing wooden shipbuilding concerns, lumber mills, banks and forces expected to lend their aid in the present emergency confronting the Federal Shipping Board, in turning out an adequate number of vessels in the next year that will meet requirements in fighting against the German submarine warfare and to care for certain lines of commerce other than the trans-Atlantic routes.

One of the important actions growing out of the discussion was the appointment by President Corbett, of the Chamber of Commerce, of a live committee to take charge immediately and shape a definite report for the Shipping Board as to the quota of new vessels Oregon is prepared to undertake.

Members Are Named.

On that committee are L. J. Wentworth, of the Portland Lumber Company; George B. McLeod, of the Hammond Lumber Company; R. L. Donald, of the Willamette Valley Lumber Association, and Kurt H. Koehler, of the Eastern & Western mill, while the shipbuilding force on the rivers will be represented by H. E. Pennell, chairman of rivers, harbors and navigation committee of the Chamber, as well as being a lumberman and vessel operator; G. M. McDowell, Oregon manager for A. O. Andersen & Co., and in direct charge of the McEachern Ship Company at Astoria, and I. N. Day, superintendent of the Kiernan & Kern Shipbuilding Company. Alfred Tucker, in the general shipping business, was named a committee to delve into the feature of supplies, and on the financial end are J. C. Ainsworth, of the United States National Bank, Emery Olmstead, of the Northwestern National Bank, and E. A. Wyld, of the First National Bank.

Data to Go to Washington.

A motion, responsible for the naming of the committee, was that the men obtain all detailed data and forward it to Washington. C. F. Swigert, of Portland, who went from Dayton, O., to Washington at the request of Portlanders and has been there for a few days in the interest of the new construction, is to receive the information to be presented by him direct to Major-General Goethals, who has taken full charge of the management of the Federal Shipping Board's most extensive programme.

O. M. Clark, of the Clark & Wilson Lumber Company, and former president of the Chamber, spoke on the preparatory details and said he did not believe this region would be confronted by graver labor features than other sections of the United States.

H. B. Van Duzer, of the Inman-Poulsen Lumber Company, said the percentage of lumber cut by the mills that would be available for shipbuilding might run 20 to 25 per cent of the cut, depending on Government requirements, which, if rigid, might lessen the percentage.

Mobilization Report Prepared.

R. L. Donald, chairman of a special committee of the Willamette Valley Lumbermen's Association, had prepared a special report covering mobilization methods for ship construction. He said 1,000,000,000 feet of lumber would be required to build 500 ships on the Pacific Coast, and if 200 ships were built on the Willamette and Columbia rivers 500,000,000 feet would be needed, while he said there should also be on hand 1,000,000 feet of assorted material and 25,000 ship knees. Mills should start cutting at once, Mr. Donald advocated, so the material could be assembled and air-dried, to facilitate which he suggested that land be rented or leased on the river in South Portland or the old fair ground property, where the lumber could be stored and graded by the inspection bureau of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association.

Mr. Donald favored a fund being made available with which to handle the material storage, and that it be

(Concluded on Page 3, Column 2.)

CONCERNING THE FOOD SITUATION.