

BILL PROPOSES WAR DIRECTOR FOR MUNITIONS

Military Committee Approves Radical Change in Federal Machinery

SINGLE DUTY OUTLINED

Council Would Form Broad Policies and Settle Bureau's Disputes

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Radical changes in the government's war-making machinery are proposed in bills to establish a war council of three members, all powerful under the president, and to create a director of war munitions, approved today by the senate military committee. The bill for a director of munitions was placed before the senate today and that for the war council will be introduced by Chairman Chamberlain Monday. Both measures have virtually the unanimous support of the committee. So far there has been no intimation of what may be the attitude of President Wilson. Proposals to have the secretaries of war and navy as ex-officio members of the war council were rejected by the committee. The bill proposes that the three members of the war council shall be appointed by the president, with confirmation by the senate, and be directly under the president and above the cabinet in authority, with power to supervise, control and direct all departments, bureaus and agencies of the government in the prosecution of the war. It is proposed that the council members shall have no other duties than to form and to execute with the president's approval and cooperation

broad war policies and decide priorities and disputes between the different department and bureaus.

Lansing-Ishii Treaty Curbs German Intrigue

A PACIFIC PORT, Jan. 18.—"The Lansing-Ishii treaty is a fitting rebuke to the efforts of the German intriguers to estrange Japan and Americans," declared Dr. Almaro Sato, Japanese ambassador to the United States, who is here on his way to Tokyo. "The treaty in regard to China has met with universal approval in both Japan and America," the Japanese diplomat declared. "Ever since the beginning of the war, insidious German influences have been attempting to disrupt the friendship of Japan and America. The treaty has checkmated this German intrigue and removed any misunderstandings that may have existed between the two countries."

ALIEN PROPERTY HELD VALUABLE

Mitchell Palmer, Custodian, Submits Report on Enemy Holdings

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—In his first report submitted to congress today, A. Mitchell Palmer, alien property custodian, says he has received so far 11,167 formal reports of enemy property and has opened 1,378 separate trust accounts of which 1,236 are estimated to be worth \$124,665,231. No value has been placed upon 142 of the accounts pending further investigation. The gross assets of fourteen enemy insurance companies undergoing liquidation under license of the secretary of the treasury, amount to \$33,544,261. Three other insurance companies incorporated in enemy or ally of enemy territory, which are in process of liquidation, but without licenses, place their gross assets at \$7,968,626, making a total of \$40,612,887. Upon the final liquidation of these companies, the net proceeds of assets over approved liabilities, will be delivered to the alien property custodian.

New Political Party Formed in Germany

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 18.—The Tagliche Rundschau of Berlin, learns from Munich that a new political party has been formed there, under the name of the "free committee" and that it has sent a telegram to the reichstag saying: "Notwithstanding its partiality President Wilson's recent message contains a practical basis for the inauguration of negotiations toward a general peace." The committee represents the ideas of Prof. Friedrich Forster of the University of Munich, who was obliged to leave the Bavarian capital for Switzerland because of his unorthodox views about the war.

GOVERNMENT IS ASKED TO RUN PACKING PLANTS

Mediation To Be Tried Before Other Alternatives Are Considered

SITUATION NOW SERIOUS

President's Labor Commission Undertakes to Settle Differences

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Settlement of differences between the meat packers and their union employees was undertaken tonight by President Wilson's special labor commission, headed by Secretary Wilson after representatives of the men had submitted their case to the president in a two-hour conference at the white house. Spokesmen for the unions pictured a critical situation in all of the meat packing centers and asked that the government interfere and, if necessary, take over the operation of the plants. The president said mediation would be tried first before considering alternatives. Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, accompanied the labor delegation, which was headed by John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago federation. Secretary Baker, as chairman of the council of national defense, and Secretary Wilson were called into the conference. The president was told that the packers had repudiated a mediator agreement to settle questions of wages and working conditions as were discharging union men in groups apparently with the purpose of bringing on a strike. Of the thousands employed in the plants, the union men said, sixty per cent are foreigners without union affiliations and of whose loyalty standards no one can judge. If the government takes over the plants, Mr. Fitzpatrick said, the union men were ready to enlist as the first members of America's industrial army, to guarantee full-handed equipment for every packing plant, work in continuous shifts if necessary and leave all questions of wages, hours and working conditions to the president or the person to whom he might delegate the duty. The president's committee will arrange as soon as possible for meetings with representatives of the employers and of the men. Its members, who recently returned from an investigating and mediating tour of the west, are Secretary Wilson, J. Spangler, J. H. Walker and Felix Frankfurter.

LACHMUND IS RUNNING FOR STATE SENATOR

Continued from page 1) esting situation is presented in the state senatorial status for that county. Senator Fred Stetler is in the army and it is announced that Roy W. Rittner, a member of the lower house at the last two sessions, is seeking to fill the place. Senator C. A. Barrett, representing Umatilla, Union and Morrow counties, is a hold-over for the 1919 term, but there appears to be some question whether his health will permit him to return. Senator Barrett has not been in good health since the last session and recently he has been in Portland for medical treatment. McArthur Has Opposition. Charles Howard, president of the Portland Central Labor council, is being urged by friends to oppose C. N. McArthur for congress and A. W. Lafferty has declared that he will be in the running. In Portland there is a feeling in some quarters that Lafferty might withdraw in How-

ard's favor, but those who know Lafferty best do not think this will happen. The labor vote will be an important factor in the next election and both men count on labor for large part of their support.

Berlin Paper Suspects African Base for U. S.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 18.—The recent extension by Germany of the barred zone to the waters around Azores and Cape Verde Islands is presumed by the Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin, in a recent issue to be due to the possibility that they might serve as assembling places for American troop transports and supply ships, while good harbors and useful cable stations on a part of the African mainland were also included in the zone for the same reason. The newspaper expressed the expectation that from the new extension of the zone will come a weakening of effort to Germany's enemies because of the necessity of spreading the anti-U-boat defense measures over a much larger area.

Aberdeen Explosion Kills One and Injures Another

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 18.—George Porter, filler at the Wishke shingle mill, was killed, and Ben Richardson, fireman, was badly injured when the boiler of the plant blew up late today. No cause for the explosion is known. The mill was partly wrecked, with damage estimated at \$5000.

Camp Lewis Private Is Sentenced for Desertion

CAMP LEWIS, TACOMA, Jan. 18. Private Charles G. McDonald, first company, 166th depot brigade, Camp Lewis, has been dishonorably discharged from the army, stripped of his pay and allowances and sentenced to ten years at hard labor at the United States military prison at Alcatraz. This is the penalty for desertion meted out to him by a court-martial held and approved by Brigadier General Frederick S. Foltz, commanding the 91st division. After pleading guilty, McDonald told the court-martial that he had been informed by a friend, and believed, that he would be shot at sunrise because he left Camp Lewis on November 10 last, without permission. He then went to San Francisco, made a trip to Alaska and was preparing to leave for Seattle to ship on a steamer for Japan when arrested. McDonald's case, the military authorities say, is the first clear-cut case of desertion since the establishment of the camp. Fifty sets of boxing gloves have been distributed at Camp Lewis for the benefit of the enlisted men. They were donated by the national committee on training camp activities.

MINERS DISCUSS GARFIELD ORDER

Convention May Approve Move as Factor in Stabilizing Industry

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Jan. 8.—There was an all day discussion in the miners' convention today over the ratification of the Washington agreement negotiated by the soft coal operators and approved by Fuel Administrator Garfield, opposition to its approval being due to the insertion into the contract of the automatic penalty clause. Bitter speeches were made against the adoption of the clause, but many delegates urged its approval as one of the best things the miners can do to assist in stabilizing the coal industry. Failure to ratify the agreement, leaders said, would bring about chaos and endanger a maximum output of bituminous coal. It was the general opinion of influential officers of the union tonight that it would be ratified by a large majority. The Washington agreement gave the bituminous men a substantial increase in wages. It contains a clause which provides that miners shall be fined \$1 a day for each day they violate the agreement by going out on unauthorized strikes or for other violations of contracts. It also calls for a fine against mine owners of \$2 for each man employed in their mines for failing to enforce the clause against the workers. The agreement now is in effect subject to the approval of the convention. Patriotism and loyalty to the United States figured in nearly every speech. Alex Howat, president of the Kansas miners, who led the opposition to the clause, told the delegates they should not be deceived when they are told that they are disloyal to the nation if they vote against ratification. Those who favored ratification said the miners should approve the agreement as a patriotic duty. It appeared from the arguments of the opponents of the agreement that there was a fear the operators would abuse the clause and unjustly fine men. It was claimed the clause gives the workers no opportunity to be heard in case the employers decide to withhold part of their wages as fines. Among those who spoke for the agreement were International President Hayes and President M. J. Flyzik, Washington state. SOMETHING HE COULD USE. Minority Leader Gillett of Massachusetts received the following from a constituent lately: "I wish you would send me one of your safety razors this year instead of my usual allotment of free seeds. My garden doesn't grow half so fast as my beard, so I prefer the razor, if it's all the same to you."—Capper's Weekly.

FITTS EXPLAINS PRICE OF FISH

Local Dealer Shows No Profit-eering Exists in His Establishment

(By W. C. COWGILL.) By special request of W. F. Fitts, the wholesale fish merchant of Salem, who has been in business for more than sixteen years, a thorough inspection of his plant was made yesterday afternoon, from the basement where fish are packed for shipment, to the retail blocks and oyster counters, with the result, in a nutshell, that if any kind of dirt is in the shop from top to bottom, it could not be found. And at the time the inspection was made Mr. Fitts was down in the basement packing a special order for a whole salmon to be shipped to a point in Colorado or some other state, far from Oregon. When asked about the high prices of salmon and halibut this winter as compared with last season, with Newport, Oregon, is only a few hours run west of Salem, Mr. Fitts replied that in the first place he inspected his plant and all by anyone invited inspection of his store could even his books would be open to any "doubting Thomases" to prove, if necessary, in the first place, that there has not been a single pound of halibut to be had in Newport since the first of last October, even at one dollar the pound, for the simple reason that the only available halibut boat, the Seafoam, a grueling launch, has been laid up at Elk City the head of navigation, since October 1. There will be no more halibut fishing at Newport until next April. "It is true," Mr. Fitts said, "that there might appear to be a profit of more than 1200 per cent in handling such fish as gray fish and whale which is now urged by the government to be used, but last year it was not on the market, as it is a cheap fish usually thrown out by fishermen. "At the time last summer, when 6 cents a pound was paid for halibut in Newport, with 1 cent for ice and trimming and another cent for boxes, or 8 1/2 cents all told, I was selling that same fish here in Salem for 9 1/2 to 11 cents, a pound at retail, not a very big profit, adding rents, lights and cold storage charges here. "At that same time the same class of fish in Seattle was wholesaling at 12 to 13 cents a pound, and we had to express from there if we used any of that fish. "Today I am getting a little halibut in Portland at 23 cents f. o. b., and am selling it here for 27 cents, cash on the counter, or 30 cents delivered. "Here you see three different grades of salmon, the Royal Chinook costing us 26 cents in Portland and trimmed here 30 cents, selling at 33 cents cash, or delivered for 35. Another grade for 22 and one for 23. "If there is any so-called 'profit-eering' in these prices, with 8 cent smelts selling trimmed for 11 to 12 1/2, I am willing to be called down hard by the government."

Portland Wins Hockey Game From Seattle, 5-2

SEATTLE, Jan. 18.—Portland won over Seattle, 5 to 2, in the Pacific Coast Hockey association here tonight. The visitors displayed some dazzling skating and appeared masters of the Seattle seven in every department. The game was snafu and clean and there were few penalties and little rough play.

Armistice Negotiation Is Now at Standstill

PETROGRAD, Jan. 18.—The negotiations surrounding the details of the armistice and the exchange of prisoners, which have been dragging for weeks in Petrograd between Teutonic allied officers and Russian officials are at a standstill. The Germans have flatly refused to agree to the Russian demand that Russian officers who are prisoners of war in Germany and Austria shall lose all the special privileges usual accorded officers and be treated the same as privates. "No one said a word. The pause was awkward. Several started to speak and stopped. It was one of those moments when everyone is wishing to say something and no one has a thing to say. They all felt that suddenly the little old lady had gone completely out of her mind. She was the only one not embarrassed by the pause. "Yes," she went on after a minute, a most painful minute, "you see I was a girl in the days of the Civil war. If it hadn't been for the war there would have been enough men so that someone, I think," she said a little shyly, "might have asked me. But there weren't enough left over and I never was asked. Still, I call myself a widow of the Civil war." "So—there's an excuse in plenty of time!"—Mary Graham Bonner in Judge.

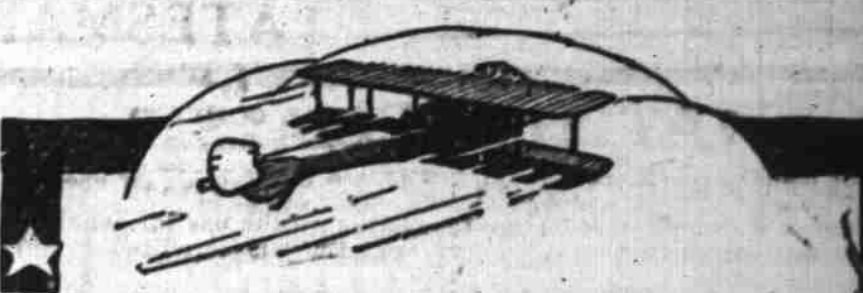
CONFERENCE TO BE CONTINUED

Trotsky Submits to More Discussion—Status Still Unknown

(Associated Press Summary.) Notwithstanding the apparently almost insurmountable barrier that was reported to exist between the Austro-Germans and the Bolshevik representatives at the Brest-Litovsk conference growing out of the demands of the Teutonic allies, Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, has agreed to a continuation of the discussions. Nothing was come through to show the trend they are taking. An agreement has been reached however, between the Teutonic allies and the Ukrainian delegates as to the future status of the Ukraine. According to an official German communication, this agreement was arrived at "during a private meeting" and marks a decisive step forward. Whether the ultimatum by Russia to Rumania calling for the instant release of members of the Bolshevik arrested in Rumania has been answered, is not known, but a Petrograd dispatch says a new crisis has arisen over an ultimatum sent by the revolutionary committee of the Russian army demanding the free passage through the Rumanian capital of Russian troops. The political unrest in Germany continues unabated, and Chancellor von Hertling again has postponed his speech to the main committee of the reichstag in answer to the war aims announced by President Wilson and Premier Lloyd George. On the fighting fronts no action of moment is taking place.

WAGES, PRICES SOARING UPWARD

LONDON, Jan. 17.—"High wages mean high prices. Fresh cycles of wage advances succeed one another. Each one results in further increases of prices or in preventing a reduction of prices. The producers are raising prices against themselves as consumers. We are deeply impressed with the seriousness of the situation and are convinced that if the process continues, the result can hardly fail to be disastrous to all classes of the nation." This is the summing up of a report just given to the house of commons by its committee on national expenditure, after long investigation into the rising cost of necessities of all kinds in Great Britain. "The whole thing is a vicious circle of rising wages followed by rising prices," asserts the report. The counter-



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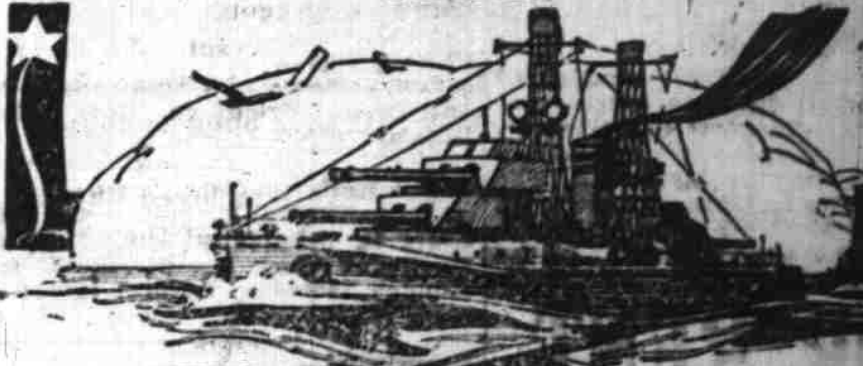
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trying hard to land a knockout as the bout finished. Miske fought strong. Fulton weighed 218 pounds and Miske 186.

WAR WIVES.

They were talking of war wives and war widows when a little old lady who had never been married startled everyone by saying in a high piping voice: "Well, I am a widow of the Civil war." "No one said a word. The pause was awkward. Several started to speak and stopped. It was one of those moments when everyone is wishing to say something and no one has a thing to say. They all felt that suddenly the little old lady had gone completely out of her mind. She was the only one not embarrassed by the pause. "Yes," she went on after a minute, a most painful minute, "you see I was a girl in the days of the Civil war. If it hadn't been for the war there would have been enough men so that someone, I think," she said a little shyly, "might have asked me. But there weren't enough left over and I never was asked. Still, I call myself a widow of the Civil war." "So—there's an excuse in plenty of time!"—Mary Graham Bonner in Judge.

Producers in England Raise Prices Against Themselves as Consumers

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FALTON AND MISKE BOX

Ten Rounds to Draw

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 18.—Fred Fulton of Minneapolis, and Billie Miske of St. Paul, boxed ten rounds here tonight to a draw in the opinion of newspaper men. Miske rushed his heavier opponent from the start, getting inside of Fulton's long left, and at times stood to toe and exchanged punches. Fulton's superior boxing ability held Miske at long range at times but the latter bored until he reached Fulton's stomach with some stiff punches. In two rounds Miske struck Fulton with a shower of rights and lefts, with the larger man unable to land telling blows. The last two rounds were particularly fast, Miske showing to advantage in the ninth, with Fulton

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