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WHOLE NUMBER 1962.

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

ADD MILLIONS TO NAVAL BILL IN THE SENATE

ADMINISTRATION MEASURE IS REPORTED OUT WITH MANY ITEMS ADDED

IS NOW NEARLY HALF A BILLION

Provides for Immediate Completion of Warships and Submarines Under Construction

Washington, Feb. 21.—Increased by \$128,000,000 since it passed the house, the administration's naval bill—the biggest in the history of the country—was reported to the senate this afternoon by Senator Tillman, chairman of the naval committee.

The bill, as revised, carries a total of nearly a half-billion dollars and authorizes the president to commandeer private shipyards and munitions plants in time of war.

The naval committee struck from the bill the Mann amendment, reaffirming it to be the policy of the United States to settle international disputes by arbitration or mediation.

The \$128,000,000 increase—a giant appropriation in itself—was added after greatest pressure from the navy department and after President Wilson and Secretary Daniels appeared in person at the capitol while the bill was in committee.

The biggest item of increase is \$115,000,000 for the immediate completion of war vessels now under construction. This is a reduction of \$35,000,000 from that asked by the navy department.

It is stipulated that \$35,000,000 be expended for completion of the submarines.

ITALIAN TRANSPORT SUNK BY GERMANS

Berlin, via Sayville, Feb. 21.—Sinking in the Mediterranean of a "crowded Italian transport steamer" two armed steamers of 3,000 tons and 4,500 tons, the Italian steamer Oceana, 4,200 tons, the French steamer Moventaux, 3,200 tons and the French sailing ship Aphrodite, 600 tons, was announced in an official press bureau statement today.

The statement also added: "Papers observe that real submarine successes are undoubtedly much larger, since a majority of the submarines have not yet reported, besides the paralysis of neutral navigation must be taken into consideration."

According to the press bureau, the two armed steamers were loaded "with an important cargo for Saloniki," and the French sailing ship with iron for Italy.

Lloyd's does not list an Italian steamship named Oceana, but there is a steamship Oceana of 4,217 tons, owned by L. Pittalugna, of Genoa, which probably is the one specified in the Berlin statement. Neither of the other ships are listed, nor is there any name in Lloyd's register which might be mistaken for them.

MOVE ART TREASURES FROM ALSACE AND LORRAINE

The Hague, Feb. 21.—Many art treasures in Alsace and Lorraine have suddenly been removed to the German cities of Stuttgart and Munich, on orders from German military headquarters, according to German newspapers received here today. The reasons were not stated.

PHILANDER CHASE KNOX.

Former Secretary of State Elected Republican Senator From Penn.



Photo by American Press Association

HOUSEWIVES WILL INSTITUTE BOYCOTT

San Francisco, Feb. 21.—Agitation by housewives of Los Angeles in favor of a boycott against vegetables which, some allege, have been held for a rising market, may spread to other Pacific coast cities. It was believed today. Although prices of perishable foodstuffs in San Francisco and elsewhere in California do not compare with those in the east, they have still reached unprecedented figures.

Potatoes today were selling at five cents a pound, retail, and some fancy grades at that figure wholesale. Onions sold at from 12½ to 15 cents a pound, wholesale and lima beans at 10 to 11 cents. Wholesale potato prices have advanced 50 cents a hundred pounds in 36 hours.

Eggs are among the few articles showing a decline and are now selling at 32 cents. Butter was unchanged at 35 cents. Other prices are:

String beans, 30 to 35; peas, 12½; sweet potatoes, \$4 per cwt.; squash, 3½ cents a pound.

ORDER IN COUNCIL AFFECTS SHIPPING

London, Feb. 21.—An order-in-council, announced today, provides that vessels carrying goods to and from enemy ports, are liable to capture and condemnation, unless they call at an allied port en route to permit examination of their cargoes.

The blockade of Germany is apparently made complete by the order-in-council, which is evidently directed at shipping in the Baltic sea and the North sea, where commerce between Scandinavian nations and Germany has been more or less unrestricted in the past. From now on such shipping must put into British or Russian ports for examination.

It was explained that the order was issued as a result of the German blockade, which the order itself characterized as a "flagrant contradiction of international law."

HENEY WILL BE IN CHARGE OF INVESTIGATION

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION NOT TO AWAIT APPROPRIATION TO START PROBE

IS GRAVEST PROBLEM OF DAY

Large Packers Announce Willingness to Co-operate, and Will Open Books to Commission

Washington, Feb. 21.—Declaring the food situation constitutes "one of the gravest problems of the day," the federal trade commission announced today it will not wait for the \$400,000 appropriation from congress to probe charges of extortionate food prices.

The commission began today the actual preliminaries of the probe. It is said Francis J. Heney, who forced the news print paper manufacturers into line, will have charge of the commission's investigation.

Coincidentally with the facts coming to light, the commission today received "assurances" from many large packers of the country that they "are willing to co-operate in every way with the commission."

The packers wrote the commission that their books would be thrown open to that body.

Portland, Feb. 21.—Potatoes, once known as the poor man's staple food, were up to the highest prices on record in the Portland market today. On account of a great demand from the east, the growers in some instances received as high as \$3.25 to \$3.40 per cental, an increase of ten to twelve cents over recent prices. This rate was paid for the spuds in the fields. Purchasers are shipping potatoes to Stockton, Cal., in ordinary freight cars and sacking them in refrigerator cars there.

Hogs were up to record-smashing flights in the North Portland yards. The high price for the week was \$12.60, the stiffest ever known here.

BONE DRY BILL MEETS FAVOR IN CONGRESS

REED AMENDMENT TO THE POST OFFICE MEASURE CONCURRED IN

NO ORDERS THROUGH MAILS

Would Forbid Sending Liquor Into Dry States for Any But Medical Purposes

Washington, Feb. 21.—The house, 321 to 72, today concurred in the Senator Reed "bone dry" amendment to the post office appropriation bill. Six members voted "present."

The house previously had defeated an amendment by Congressman Small which would have stricken out all of the Reed amendments applying to individual orders for whiskey sent through the mails.

Many wet men and many members from wet states voted for the Reed amendment. Many wets claimed the Reed amendment was so stringent that it would retard the cause of prohibition. In this view some prohibitionists concurred.

The Reed amendment forbids the sending of liquor into dry states for any but medical purposes. The effect is, according to the congressional view, to make impossible a "near dry" state.

With the Reed amendment there was also adopted the Bankhead amendment, which forbids the use of mails for solicitation of liquor by mail in such states as prohibit liquor advertising.

Although the Columbia river salmon catch is unusually small, practically all the fish are going east. Packers offer to pay almost any price demanded and are willing to take salmon in any quantities, on account of the east's demand. A short time ago salmon sold in Portland at 10 to 12 cents a pound. Now it costs 18 cents.

ADMIRAL BENSON.

Succeeds Dewey as Head of General Board of Navy.



Photo by American Press Association

VIENNA CONFERENCE PUZZLES GERMANS

Amsterdam, Feb. 21.—German officialdom is intensely interested—and puzzled—by the conference at Vienna between American Ambassador Penfield and the Austrian foreign minister, according to Berlin reports today. Astonishment is expressed that there should be any doubt in the United States that Austria-Hungary does not fully approve and support Germany's declaration of relentless submarine warfare.

On the contrary, it is semi-officially declared that Emperor Carl's determination is to accord the most emphatic support to his allies.

Participation of Austrian officials in the conference which decided upon the submarine warfare was also cited as evidencing Austria's full sympathy with the use of a weapon demanded by the allies' starvation blockade of the central powers.

Semi-official Vienna dispatches received today, in detailing the text of the note presented by Ambassador Penfield, holds the American inquiry whether Austria still affirms her promises in the Ancona and Persia cases "as vague." Officials take the position that the statements made in the notes mentioned, were intended to cover those specific cases only, and not to mark out a future course.

CHICAGO PORK PRICE SMASHES ALL RECORDS

Chicago, Feb. 21.—Hogs smashed all previous high prices by nearly a quarter of a dollar today, when the market opened at \$12.95 per hundred pounds. Pigs sold at \$11.00 per hundred weight. The prices are the highest since the civil war.

SAYS THE STARS PREDICT WAR WITH GERMANY

Portland, Feb. 21.—Dr. C. Boasne, Fellow of the Royal Society of Oxford, who has made a study of astrology, declared today that the stars indicated war between Germany and the United States would be inevitable by tonight.

BEET GROWERS HUNT ACREAGE FOR PLANTING

COMPANY ORGANIZED AMONG CITIZENS NOW GETTING LAND READY FOR SEED

ACREAGE IN VALLEY IS LARGE

Farmers Are Readily Signing up Contracts, and Are Increasing Own Plantings

The board of directors of the Grants Pass Beet Growing company met in the Commercial club rooms last night, and transacted such business as there was upon the table. Manager Winetrot reported on the progress of the campaign for acreage, stating that there was not the amount of acreage available for leasing that had appeared likely earlier in the season, as the land owners were increasing their plantings, and would farm their own lands as far as possible. Mr. Winetrot has arranged for a number of tracts, however, of the best lands to be found, and these will be added to later. Some land was being leased in the Applegate valley, and the planting there would be quite extensive.

Work is in progress upon the lands now under lease. One tract of 23 acres upon the Eismann ranch down the river will be ready for planting in a few days, having been plowed during the week. It will be the aim of the company to get its beets planted as early as possible. Seed for the season is available at the sugar company offices. The secretary of the Beet Growing company was instructed to notify all delinquent subscribers to stock of the call for the 20 per cent assessment, and to proceed to get it collected in at once. Only about a third of the subscribers responded voluntarily to the published call, and under the law it is necessary that payments be made upon all the stock without delay. The cash is also needed to cover the costs of leasing the lands and getting the crop in the ground. Parties having lands for lease are requested to notify Manager Winetrot, when the offerings will be examined and leases made where the lands are found suitable.

HELFFRICH SEES SUCCESS OF DIVERS

Berlin, Feb. 21.—"We are sure of success and shall allow nothing and nobody to wrest this success from us," declared Secretary of the Treasury Helffrich to the German agricultural council, discussing the submarine war.

"Already the navigation which links the British isles with the rest of the world, has been depressed to the danger point," he continued, according to the official press agency report.

The tonnage which arrived in British ports, Helffrich continued, "was in December last only 2,200,000 tons, net, while the monthly average of the last year of peace were 4,200,000 tons."

"Already England's reserve stocks of the most important things needed for life and warfare are reduced to such a point that England, more than ever before, realizes the necessity for replenishment of her stores."

"This sapping of England will continue until the day dawns for which every German heart ardently waits. But already today we are close to knowledge that England more than ever has to rely upon her own soil. German soil is now fighting English soil."

AN UNMANAGEABLE INFANT.



—Fitzpatrick in St. Louis Post-Dispatch.