

# SPECIAL SESSION WILL CONSIDER WAR MEASURES

### Compulsory Military Training, Appropriation, Army, Spy and Censorship Bills Principal Items—Be Considered—Much Import Civil Legislation to Be Enacted.

By GILSON GARDNER  
WASHINGTON, March 27.—The question whether to adopt compulsory universal military training and service will be settled at the special session of congress soon to begin. It will be the principal business of congress, along with the passage of the appropriation bills, which failed, namely, the army, the sundry civil and the urgent deficiency appropriation bills.

The so-called "spy bill," which was rushed through the senate, but did not get any attention in the house will also be up for discussion.

A censorship bill will also be considered.

#### CIVIL Legislation.

These are the principal items of the military program. What might be called a civil legislative program embraces such legislation as the Webb bill, permitting American exporters to maintain co-operative foreign selling agencies abroad; the bill to increase the size of the interstate commerce commission; a bill to legalize compulsory arbitration in railway employees' strikes; and the ratification of the Columbian treaty.

President Wilson has not publicly signified his approval of the Chamberlain bill for compulsory universal military training and service. He is under the strongest kind of pressure to give official approval to this legislation and to put behind it the influence of his office. There are many who agree with Ex-President Taft who stated on February 5th that "now that the war is on us, why should we not take advantage of this state of public mind to put through conscription?" The resolutions drafted by Ethel Root and Colonel Roosevelt and passed by the Union League club of New York, voice this sentiment strongly. There are members of the president's cabinet who agree that now is the time to push the Chamberlain bill.

#### West Opposes Compulsion.

President Wilson seems to be hesitating for fear opposition will develop from the middle west and west. He has been told that polls made in Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska and even in Ohio show a vote of six to one against any form of compulsory military service, and even Congressman Augustus Gardner does not deny that there is a strong opposing sentiment manifested in all post card votes which have been tried in his district. President Wilson has always tried to respond to general sentiment as he understands it, and it may be taken for granted that if this legislation is brought to the front the administration will see that the subject is debated thoroughly.

Secretary of War Newton D. Baker is still hesitating to abandon the volunteer principle and does not approve the bill for compulsory service drawn by the army war college. Secretary Baker points to the fact that the government is now training under the volunteer system 300,000 young men a year. Advocates of the war college plan for conscription do not hope to train more than 500,000 a year. The rest of the available 800,000 get off by "exemptions."

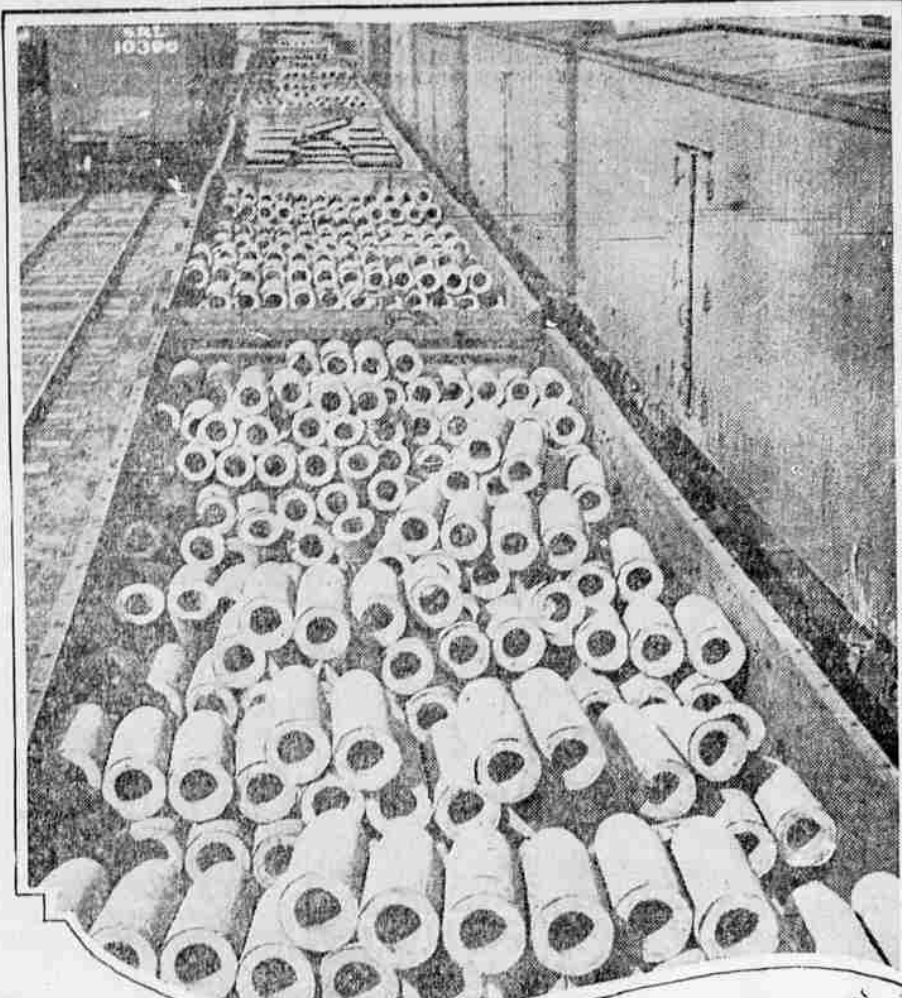
If the democrats succeed in organizing the house, Representative S. Hubert Dent of Alabama will be chairman of the military affairs committee. He is opposed to compulsory training and service.

The judiciary committee of the house will be presided over by Edwin Yates Webb of North Carolina, who is opposed to the spy bills in the form in which they passed the senate.

#### Censorship Plan.

Secretary Daniels has an excellent plan for handling the matter of press censorship. It is his idea—and in this Secretary of War Newton Baker agrees—that the civil authorities should be kept supreme in the censorship. It has been demonstrated many times that no military man is capable of passing judgment on the difference between a military fact and a newspaper policy. The secretary suggests that the navy department furnish a naval expert, the war department an army expert, and the newspapers organize themselves and select a newspaper man, some experienced and trusted correspondent, who shall handle all matter, which must pass the government's censorship. A board of appeal to be made up of five newspaper editors, selected by the newspaper fraternity,

## "SOMEWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES"



Trainloads of shells and other ammunition are being hurried to arsenals throughout the United States, as part of our preparation for war. The shell cases shown here are being taken to a powder factory to be loaded, then will be taken into arsenals. No information is given as to where the shells are or are going to.

would be the last resort from the journalist member of the censor board.

The secretary feels that the details of this censorship plan should be undertaken and worked out by the newspapers themselves. He is willing to co-operate.

### VILLA HEADED FOR CHIHUAHUA CITY

JUAREZ, Mexico, March 27.—Fighting was in progress all day yesterday at Bachimba canyon, thirty five miles south of Chihuahua City, Mexicans who arrived today on a refugee train reported. Villa troops attacked a troop train going south, they said, and a general engagement followed.

An attack upon the state capital was expected, the refugees said.

### GAMBLING QUARREL CAUSE DEATH OF TWO MEN

CLEVELAND, O., March 27.—Two men were killed and a third was wounded in a pistol battle in the street this morning. Eight or nine men participated in the battle, which is believed to have resulted from a gambling quarrel.

### ROMANOV F SHGVELS SNOW.

(Continued From Page One.)

When he heard of his father's death he cried bitterly, not, in my opinion, from appreciation of the situation, but merely because he was affected by his parent's misery. The other children are better, except Grand Duchess Marie.

"All letters and communications to the court are brought here first. I am the censor."

#### Censor All Mail.

Here Captain Kotzebe showed the correspondent a tremendous pile of envelopes awaiting censorship. Many, judging by the handwriting, were from illiterate peasants. The captain also exhibited bottles of a solution used for revealing invisible ink.

The correspondent then visited Rasputin's grave, on the edge of a ravine beyond a desolate and roadless plain, covered with deep snow. The grave is surrounded by an unfinished log chapel which adherents of the monk, with the monetary assistance of the former empress, planned to raise over Rasputin's dust. Beside the chapel have a half a dozen tiny wells for pilgrims and near the end is the ten foot hole from which the revolutionists disinterred the body. The chapel was filled with soldiers, some of whom were inscribing ribald remarks on the log walls. One of the inscriptions reads:

"Here lay Rasputin, foulest of men, the shame of the Romanoff dynasty, the shame of the Russian church."

John Banton is a Medford visitor for a few days from Coquille, Ore.

### TONNAGE SUNK DURING MARCH IS OVER 420,000

LONDON, March 27.—Losses of merchant vessels amounting to more than 420,000 tons thus far in March have resulted from war measures of the central powers, Lord Charles Beresford said in the house of lords today.

Figures given out in London on March 3 placed the amount of tonnage destroyed by German submarines in February at about 400,000. No mention was made at this time of ships destroyed by mines. The German admiralty announced on March 16 that the aggregate gross tonnage of merchant ships destroyed through war measures of the central powers was 781,500. On the basis of the figures given by Lord Beresford in the house of lords and taking into account the lesser number of days in February the indicated average daily loss of tonnage for this month is about ten per cent less than in February.

In a debate in the house of lords on the British blockade, Lord Beresford said that with longer days and calmer weather the losses would increase and that the public ought to have the facts brought home to it. The number of vessels destroyed so far this month was given by him as 255.

Lord Beresford expressed the opinion that captures of submarines by the British were not at all equivalent to the new submarines the Germans were launching. He believed the Germans had more men and more food than had been imagined in England. The foreign office, he said, had too much power over the navy to the detriment of the navy. The losses of British, allied and neutral vessels for February, he said, amounted to 281 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of more than 500,000.

### AMERICAN MONEY FOR CANADIAN LOAN

OTTAWA, Ont., March 27.—American subscriptions to the latest Canadian war loan were estimated today at from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000.

Canadian subscriptions will be considerably beyond the \$150,000,000 asked for.

The Canadian finance minister declared he was "much pleased at the friendly interest of the citizens of the United States in the loan."

It is estimated that out of the revenue from the loan Canada will be able to advance the British government at least \$50,000,000.

With Medford trade is Medford made.

## GERMANY IS NOT FACING DANGER OF STARVATION

STOCKHOLM, March 27.—Dr. Albert O. W. Suedekum, one of the best known leaders of the majority socialists in the reichstag, in an interview here with the correspondent of The Associated Press, said whoever thought the submarine war was going to bring England to starvation in six months was deceiving himself. He added, however, such a result was not necessary for German victory which he declared was certain with indemnity.

Dr. Suedekum said he was convinced that England hitherto had been sending only enough troops to the continent to keep her allies contented but that now it was necessary for her to change her course. He declined to hazard a prediction on the result of the possible participation of America in the war on the side of the entente but added:

#### America Virtually in War.

"America has been virtually in the war practically since the beginning. If it had not been for American ammunition the war would have ended in 1915."

In reference to a statement attributed to former Ambassador Gerard that the food situation might affect Germany's military strength, Dr. Suedekum said:

"There is not the slightest danger of that, even in the improbable event of the war lasting a year or two more. If other foods fail, we can increase our meat rations. We have 17,000,000 swine today and the normal number before the war was only about 19,750,000. We have about 7,500,000 cattle against a peace normal of about 8,500,000 or 9,000,000. If necessary we could butcher all but a minimum number of brood animals."

#### Germany Not Starving.

"The extreme cold of the last weeks made it impossible to transport potatoes and we had only one or two pounds weekly for each consumer in the big cities. If the people had been required by regulation thus to limit consumption they would have considered it impossible, but when faced by hard necessity they did it, with the result that we have an additional month's supply of potatoes on which we never reckoned. It is true

### TWO DESTROYERS ARE TORPEDOED

LONDON, March 27.—Two British torpedo boat destroyers have been sunk, one by striking a mine and another after a collision with a steamer, it is officially announced tonight. The admiralty statement reads: "A British destroyer recently struck a mine in the channel and sank. Four officers and seventeen men were saved."

"Another of these vessels sank today after a collision with a steamer. One man was lost. There were no other casualties."

LONDON, March 27.—The British hospital ship Asturias was torpedoed without warning, it was officially announced today. Thirty one persons were killed and twelve are missing. The German admiralty yesterday announced the sinking of the Asturias.

### GERMAN SAILORS INTERNED IN FORT OGLETHORPE

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., March 27.—The 383 sailors, Fort Oglethorpe's quota of the interned Germans from the German warship at Philadelphia, arrived here at two o'clock this afternoon and were at once taken to the fort.

#### THREE COURSES.

(Continued From Page One.)

the regular army and the National Guard, figures were withheld for military reasons. Long lines of applicants at the National Guard armories today, however, were pointed to by officers as telling the story. Navy recruiting stations were the scenes of activity unprecedented since the Spanish-American war.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 27.—Endorsement of universal military training was given by the state senate today in adopting without dissent a resolution urging Illinois members of congress to use all efforts to establish such a system.

#### Ohio Preparing.

COLUMBUS, O., March 27.—Governor James M. Cox issued a proclamation today calling upon the citizens of Ohio to prepare for war. "It is unnecessary to elaborate upon the turbulent conditions of the world. We are so closely related to them that any surrender to the free and easy ideas that things will turn out all right would be plain incompetence," the proclamation reads.

SALT LAKE CITY, March 27.—"I have no objection to seeing the stars and stripes flying beside the English and French flags in order that the United States shipping shall be protected," said United States Senator King last night and 10,000 people who filled the Mormon tabernacle in a monster patriotism rally burst forth in tumultuous applause.

### GIRL ETS LAW FOR MOTHER'S PENSIONS



LILLIAN PENDELL

While the Arkansas federation of women's clubs failed, Miss Pendell, a 19-year-old high school girl of Fort Smith, succeeded in obtaining passage of a mothers' pension law. Aided by Judge Henry Neil, father of the mothers' pension law, the girl induced every legislator singly to vote for the bill.

that we are short of food but we are not starving."

Dr. Suedekum is recognized as an expert on municipal problems and is well known in the United States where he delivered a series of lectures in 1910. At the outbreak of the war he went to Italy to try to persuade the Italian socialists to prevent intervention by Italy. Later he was decorated with the iron cross for his services at the front.

### EVACUATED FRENCH TOWNS LEFT IN RUINS

COMPIEGNE, France, Mar. 27.—The villages beyond Bibecourt, in the direction of Noyon, were completely destroyed on the eve of the rapid flight of the Germans. Of Bailly, there remains nothing but ruins. Only a few agricultural implements escaped the systematic destruction.

On leaving this little village, the first houses can be seen at Carlepont. With Medford trade is Medford made.

## BELGIAN WORKERS ARE THREATENED WITH STARVATION

WASHINGTON, March 27.—An appeal from Belgian workmen for organized assistance by neutral governments and laboring classes in neutral nations was made public at the Belgian legation today. It says that five hundred thousand men have been thrown out of work and kept in forced idleness which has led the Germans to decree that "either you must sign a contract for work in Germany or you will be taken as slaves."

As a result, it adds, the whole of the working classes of Belgium are threatened with slavery, starvation or death.

"Germany," the appeal says, "has condemned her victims to pay an immense war levy which already amounts to more than \$200,000,000 and which is increasing at the rate of \$10,000,000 monthly."

"She has carried off and transported into Germany by pillage, confiscation, requisition and forced sale, foodstuffs and merchandise to the value of more than \$1,000,000,000."

Of Fremont Chateau, only the western wing remains. The roads from Ribecourt to Bailly and Carlepont is encumbered with an inextricable mass of barbed wire. The woods in this vicinity, which are privately owned, have not been so badly damaged as those belonging to the government. Many apple and other fruit trees also remain standing.

At Huleu, all the houses still have their walls, gables, chimneys and roofs. The interiors, however, have disappeared; doors, windows, casings, stair beams, joists and floorings have been used for fires to warm the German soldiers.

The center of the village preserves its former appearance. The oven of the co-operative bakery is still intact, and the mechanical dough mixer was left untouched. The presbytery and postoffice are still standing. All the fruit trees in Huleu, as well as the telephone and electric light posts were destroyed. A fragment of a post bears the following description: "A great Russian revolt. Good-bye to Paris."

## CHARLIE PENN

Manufacturing Expert of The American Tobacco Company and a famous authority on chewing tobacco

**Chew it over!**