



MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



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Daily—Fifth Year.

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NO. 42

ARMY BILL DRAFTS MEN FROM 21 TO 30

ROOSEVELT CANNOT GO TO TRENCHES

Conferees Agree Upon Army Bill—No Volunteer Regiments Permitted—Age Limit for Selective Draft From 21 to 30 Inclusive—Sale of Liquor at Army Camps Prohibited—General Staff Officers Much Pleased With Bill Agreed Upon.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Conferees on the army bill reached an agreement today and the measure will be reported to the two houses for confirmation as soon as possible.

The amendment put in by the senate permitting Colonel Roosevelt to raise four divisions for service in France was eliminated as was another authorizing the raising of three volunteer regiments for border patrol duty.

The conferees made the age limit of those subject to the selective draft 21 to 30 years, inclusive, in place of the 21 to 27 limits in the senate bill and 21 to 40 in the house bill.

The senate amendments prohibiting the sale of liquors at army camps and otherwise safeguarding the morals of the troops were retained.

Oppose Conference Report.
Representatives Kahn and Anthony, republicans, announced they would not sign the conference report. Anthony was opposed to eliminating the Roosevelt amendment and Kahn opposed the prohibitory sections, maintaining he could not approve provisions making the United States appear to be either a drunken or an immoral nation.

Chairman Chamberlain of the senate committee said he expected to report the agreement today but because the house must first act, the bill may not be finally agreed to until later in the week.

Elimination of the Roosevelt amendment is expected to arouse some opposition in the senate where it was put in by a large vote. An agreement, however, is expected. The prohibition amendment was modified so that while liquor, wine or beer cannot be sold or possessed on military reservations or camps, it will not be unlawful to furnish or give them to men in uniform.

General Staff Pleased.

One of the difficulties in reaching an agreement was over the tribunals which shall pass on exemptions from selective draft. The provision accepted gives right of appeal from a first tribunal to a second. No military men are to be on either and they are to be distinct from the courts of the United States or states.

General staff officers were much pleased at the agreement of the conferees.

VAWTER ACQUITTED ON UNWRITTEN LAW

CHRISTIANSBURG, Va., May 10.—Charles E. Vawter, who shot to death Stockton Heth, jr., wealthy clubman and society man, in the Vawter home at Blacksburg March 13, is a free man today. He was acquitted of murder last night by the jury before which he was tried in the Montgomery county circuit court.

Vawter, who is a former professor at Virginia polytechnic institute, had returned today to his home at Blacksburg.

WAR EXPENSES 1917 TO TOTAL \$5,000,000,000

Debate Over War Tax Bill Opens in House—Those Who Stay at Home Ought to be Willing to Pay Says Kitchin—Rich to Pay Half the Cost—Everybody Helps Foot the Bill.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—At the opening of debate in the house today on the war tax bill, Chairman Kitchin of the ways and means committee, predicted that the war expenditures for this year and the next fiscal year would reach \$5,000,000,000 rather than the \$3,800,000,000 his committee had estimated. Those who stayed at home in war time, he said, should be glad to pay the bills. Demands of war necessitated prompt and decisive action, he declared, and patriotism called for passage of a measure which in peaceful and normal times would never receive his vote.

Rich Must Pay the Bill.

"Men whose boys are conscripted for the army," he said, "have a right to expect that the money of the nation would be conscripted to support that army. If I were not ready to fight, I would be willing to tax every dollar in my pocket. They say that this bill, by raising half out of the wealthy, is going to raise a howl throughout the country. We have heard that howl in our committee. I believe that the business men, the manufacturers and the wealthy class are patriotic and that they are going to stand by this bill. Everybody should do that. We have heard more protests, complaints and kicks from every tax in this bill than any other tariff I have helped to write. There is not an item in it that has not been protested by the men who have got to pay something."

Mr. Kitchin explained the bill in detail and the necessities for the various taxes.

All Given Chance to Help.

"This bill will let every human being in the United States know that he is helping to finance this war," said Mr. Kitchin. In explaining the reasons for increasing all existing tariff duties 10 per cent and putting 10 per cent on the free list the majority leader declared: "It was because we needed the money."

The tariff provision, he asserted,

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ARMY DESERTER PROVES GERMAN SPY IN DISGUISE

SAN FRANCISCO, May 10.—Lieutenant Frank F. Wolf, alias Frank Fels, a deserter from the United States aviation corps at San Diego, and said to be a lieutenant in the German army, was arrested and interned here today by federal authorities.

Wolf was arrested at the German hospital where he has been employed as a dishwasher since last January when, according to federal authorities, he deserted from the aviation corps at San Diego, believing he would be able to get back to Germany.

In his effects, federal officers said, were found maps of roads and highways about San Francisco and the bay cities and complete plans of fortifications on San Francisco bay.

According to the federal authorities, Wolf, who is 23 years old, was wounded in the earlier fighting about Verdun while an officer in the German aviation service. After recovering he was sent to America, it was said, by the German secret service. He enlisted in the aviation corps at San Diego last October and is understood to have made a splendid record. He was taken to Fort Winfield Scott, where he will be held in close confinement awaiting a full investigation of his activities.

BILLINGSLEY SURRENDERS TO U. S. OFFICIALS

Convicted Leader of Bootleggers Syndicate Who Escaped Prison in April Telephones to Federal Officers to Come and Get Him—Expects to Give Bond for Appeal.

SEATTLE, May 10.—Local Billingsley, confessed head of a gigantic liquor selling ring operating on Puget Sound, and who escaped from the immigration detention station on the morning of April 22, surrendered himself to United States District Attorney Clay Allen this morning, representatives of the district attorney's office having been summoned to the office of Billingsley's attorney to get him.

Gives Bail of \$7000.

On Billingsley's arrival at the district attorney's office, and while he was engaged in conversation with Mr. Allen, deputy United States marshals burst into the office, arrested Billingsley and took him to the immigration detention station, where he was locked in a cell. In less than a minute Billingsley was taken out again on an order from the district attorney to the marshal to produce him in federal court. Upon Billingsley's arrival in the court room Judge Neterer fixed his appeal bond to the court of appeals at \$7000, to be furnished by himself and Fred Billingsley jointly, and the brothers were given until 2 o'clock to perfect the bond. It is understood that the bond was arranged yesterday and lacks only signatures.

Billingsley, who was indicted together with his two brothers, Mayor Hiram C. Gill, Chief of Police Charles L. Beekingham and others on a conspiracy charge, pleaded guilty, turned states evidence and swore that he paid a bribe of \$4000 to Mayor Gill for permission to import and sell liquor.

Brother Also Released.

On the acquittal of Gill the Billingsleys sought to change their plea of guilty to not guilty, but their motion was overruled and the three brothers were sentenced. After Logan Billingsley had broken from his cell Judge Neterer granted an appeal from his decision.

Fred Billingsley, who served a six months term in the Whatcom county jail, furnished bail several days ago. Ora, the younger brother, serving 30 days at Bellingham, did not appeal, and will be released next week on the expiration of his term.

After his escape Logan Billingsley wrote almost daily letters to the Seattle papers. He busied himself largely in misleading the police and causing them to make unsuccessful raids on various supposed hiding places.



"BUY A BABY! BUY A BABY! \$36 A PIECE"

Photos of French orphan children from which selections may be made by persons "buying babies."

(Staff Special.)
NEW YORK, May 10.—Do you want to "buy" a child of a dead French soldier?

The little blonde and brunette boys and girls are "for sale" at the Woman's Exchange, Madison avenue and 43d street.

That is, for \$36 you may buy the up-keep of one of the children for a year. That amount will keep a French orphan in its own home with its own mother.

Americans who wish to do more

may contribute toward the complete education of one or more of the children.

Those wishing to "buy" babies make selections from photographs. Some are children of officers, but many are the sons and daughters of "simple soldiers."

War orphans whose fathers have gone down under the tri-color, also may be adopted and brought to America, but to obtain those it is necessary to go to the headquarters of the Fatherless Children of France at 655 Fifth avenue.

CONVICTS ESCAPE FROM PENITENTIARY

SALEM, May 10.—S. A. Thurber and W. J. Flood, convicts at the state penitentiary here, took advantage of their privilege as trustees and escaped last night. Today Flood telephoned from Pudding river, 20 miles distant, that he was returning to prison. He said he accompanied Thurber in the hope of inducing him to return, but failed. Thurber was sent from Pendleton for burglary, and Flood from Portland for larceny.

SENATE LEADERS FIGHTING ESPIONAGE

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Senate leaders today had not abandoned hope for a final action on the administration espionage bill by Saturday night, despite failure yesterday to get the senate to agree to a vote at that time.

Consideration of the bill was resumed with the censorship section still under debate. Several amendments to the section were pending.

CROP OUTLOOK ENGLAND MOST DISCOURAGING

Reports of Agricultural Prospects Disheartening—Fall Planting a Failure—Cold Spring—Retards Growth—Small Acreage Results—Italy Faces Condition of Famine.

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)

LONDON, May 10.—Reports of the agricultural outlook in Great Britain are almost uniformly discouraging. Not even the oldest farmer recalls a more trying time than that through which he has just been passing. A late sowing, a poor yield, a wet autumn and a severe winter have been followed by a spring with all the marked characteristics of December. The state of the fields is called in all the agricultural "sons" although it is still possible that a period of warm weather might change the situation considerably by the end of May. The history of many of the best of the British crops this year is a story of sowing in November and re-sowing in April. In many cases the autumn sowing was destroyed completely and some fresh scheme had to be hastily devised.

The wheat area, it is said, cannot be large this year. Oats cannot yet be estimated and barley for some reason is in disfavor.

In the middle of April potato farmers were still awaiting a favorable moment to push ahead their planting.

Italy's Outlook Poor.

ROME, April 24.—With last year's world food crop poor and those of this year poorer, it is necessary, even if the war ends this summer or fall, for the United States to apply rigid food war measures, according to David Lubin of California, founder of the International Institute of Agriculture here, and American representative to it. Mr. Lubin has already submitted to President Wilson and other officials plans for the regulation of food distribution.

"The mobilization of our agriculture sources comes next in importance to the handling of our army and navy," said Mr. Lubin, outlining his plans to the Associated Press. "The war problem is not one of production, but of distribution. We have seen how the Russian government was overthrown because people were starving in a country that has had ever since the beginning of the war immense supplies of surplus wheat which the closing of the Dardanelles prevented from going to market."

Shut Off Speculation.

"There is more manipulation of food products in the United States than in the belligerent countries of Europe, so the first thing to do after we have quit throwing away food, wasting it and have begun to plant locally in each state and county more heavily, is to shut off manipulation through an effective national food distribution organization. "Our remedy for high prices, so speculation, for providing enough food to eat, lies in the application of the German system of organizing the farmers an din the proper adaptation of our parcels post service to family food deliveries."

The great importance of the position is due to the fact that it forms the last important defense to the northern end of the Drocourt-Queant line and also covers the only remaining railroad to Lens, connecting the city with the main German line to the south. The Drocourt-Queant line traverses one side of a railroad triangle which has Lens, Arras and Vitry at its respective angles. All of one side of this roughly equilateral triangle is in the hands of the British and about one-half of its base. Fresnoy must be held if the whole triangle is

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SENATOR FORAKER OF OHIO, DEAD

CINCINNATI, May 10.—Joseph Benson Foraker, former United States senator from Ohio, orator, soldier and citizen, died at his home here today, aged 70 years. Former Senator Foraker has been in poor health since his retirement from the senate in 1909, but it was not until two weeks ago that he was forced to his bed and his condition was not considered critical until last night.

Mr. Foraker was twice elected and likewise twice defeated in races for the governorship of Ohio, while he served two terms in the United States senate, from 1897 to 1909.

TIGHTENGRIP OF NIPPERS UPON LENS

Coal Center Being Surrounded by British—Bloodiest Battle of Present Drive Raging About Fresnoy, but Allied Forces Make Good Progress Along Other Portion of Line—Men and Artillery Drawn From Russian Front to Check British.

While for three days official reports have thrown little additional light on the situation around Fresnoy where the heaviest fighting in the Arras battle occurred this week, they reveal important gains for the British and French at other points on the front in northern France.

London's announcement of British progress south of the Souchez river means a further pushing back of the German lines immediately south of Lens, tightening the hold of the nippers which the British are applying to important industrial town and coal district.

Thrusts Delivered.

Further inroads also have been made upon the German positions near Bullecourt, on the Hindenburg line, just west of its point of junction with the Queant-Drocourt switch, where the Germans, although reported nearly surrounded, are stubbornly clinging to the town.

Far to the south on the British front, two miles north of St. Quentin, General Haig's troops have pushed eastward from Gricourt. They are right atop the St. Quentin-Cambrai road at this point.

The French, like the British, have made no new general attack, but they likewise are delivering a thrust here and there and making valuable headway in preparing the ground for the next push.

Battle of Fresnoy.

LONDON, May 10.—Progress was made by the British last night in the neighborhood of Bullecourt east of Gricourt and south of the Souchez river, says today's official announcement.

The battle for Fresnoy continues to rage with a fury which recalls the bloody struggles for Forts Douaumont and Vaux in the days of the battle of Verdun. Thousands of lives are being poured out for the mastery of the little heaps of ruins that was once a village and the blackened, blasted stumps that were once a wood until Fresnoy threatens to rank with Vimy in the price paid for its possession.

Reason for Struggle.

The great importance of the position is due to the fact that it forms the last important defense to the northern end of the Drocourt-Queant line and also covers the only remaining railroad to Lens, connecting the city with the main German line to the south. The Drocourt-Queant line traverses one side of a railroad triangle which has Lens, Arras and Vitry at its respective angles. All of one side of this roughly equilateral triangle is in the hands of the British and about one-half of its base. Fresnoy must be held if the whole triangle is

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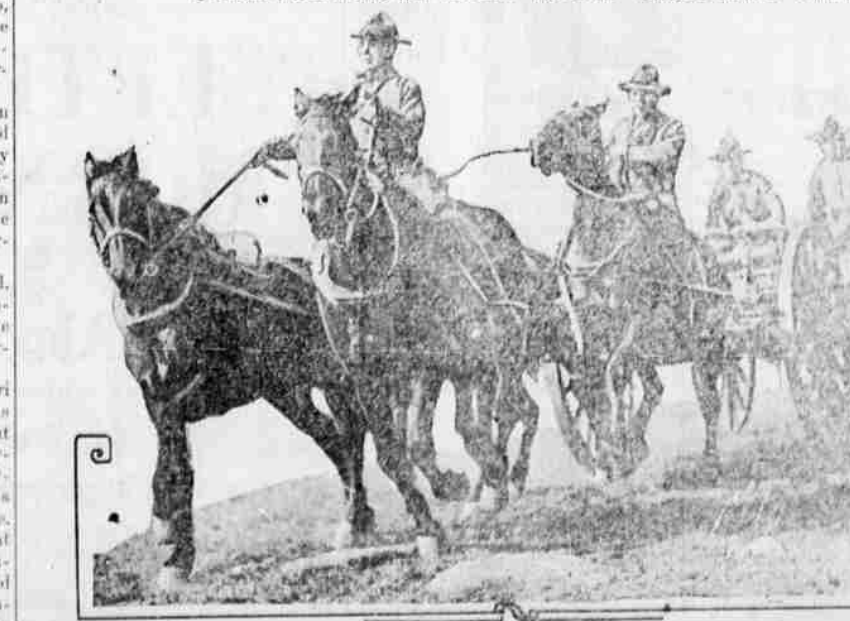
OREGON'S QUOTA OF ARMY IS FILLED

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Oregon has filled her quota in regular army recruiting. With a quota of 1344, the Pacific state has supplied 1349 men since April 1.

Nevada, first state to fill its quota, now has 344 men accepted on a quota of 162.

A grand total of 61,282 men have been recruited since April 1.

STUDENT RECRUITS REPRESENT YALE IN UNCLE SAM'S ARMY



Yale men are here shown as recruits in a battery corps of the United States army. After going through the regular army training course, taking examinations, they will be officers.