

CONGRESS STAGE SET FOR BIG BATTLE OVER TWO RIVER MEASURES

Lines Drawn for Fight Between Humphreys-Ransdell and Newlands-Broussard

FIGHT ON "PORK" BARREL

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Lines were drawn in Congress today for a battle over river regulations between the supporters of the Humphreys-Ransdell bill and the advocates of the Newlands-Broussard bill.

The Newlands-Broussard bill, drafted along lines recommended to the President by Secretary of the Interior Lane, Secretary of Commerce Redfield and Secretary of Agriculture Houston, was introduced in the Senate today by Senator Newlands, of Nevada, and in a condensed form in the House by Representative Crosser, of Ohio.

The total appropriation made in the bill is \$60,000,000, of which \$35,000,000 goes to the lower Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. The bill also appropriates \$5,000,000 to the Ohio; \$5,000,000 to the upper Mississippi; \$5,000,000 to the Missouri, the Arkansas, Red Rivers and other tributaries of the Mississippi; \$5,000,000 to the Atlantic Coast and Gulf Rivers; \$5,000,000 to the Columbia and Snake Rivers; \$5,000,000 to the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, and the Colorado River.

The measure also would create a National Waterways Council, putting river regulation in the hands of the War, Interior, Commerce and Agriculture Departments, with the design of eliminating the "pork" in river improvement appropriations by Congress.

After failure to agree with Senator Ransdell and Representative Humphreys on the river regulation legislation, Senator Newlands today gave out a statement denouncing the Ransdell-Humphreys bill as a "pork-barrel" measure.

BERLIN MAY REPLY TO U. S. IN 24 HOURS

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arrival of the latest American note. They now argue that Germany may gain by limiting her submarine operations in accordance with President Wilson's demands. They take the view that if Germany yields, President Wilson must then of necessity take sharp action to bring England to look for violations of international law.

The Tagessblatt, commenting in a late edition on the return of the Chancellor, says it may assume that the conference have been concluded and that officials will now turn their attention to drafting Germany's reply.

The Local Anzeiger by special arrangement has reported the exclusive interview granted by Admiral von Holtzendorff and printed in the EVENING LEDGER on Friday, but withheld comment.

Though the Tagliches Rundschau, Count von Reventlow in the Tages-Zeitung and a few other harsh critics of America demand that Germany go no further in her concessions to America, the majority of the influential papers, as well as practically all the Liberal and Socialist organs, urge the Government to avoid a break. The Vorwaerts informs its readers that "this time the American note is by no means an American bluff."

Maximilian Harden prints a remarkable article in his weekly magazine upholding President Wilson's stand, both with regard to munition shipments and to the submarine controversy. Harden quotes President Wilson's German critics with the reminder that in all modern wars Germany, though neutral, supplied war munitions to the side that had the money to buy.

None of the newspapers published regular editions today on account of the continuance of the Easter celebrations. The streets were thronged, but the public was most calm. There were no anti-American demonstrations whatever.

TENOR OF GERMAN REPLY KNOWN AT WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, April 24.—There were indications in official quarters today that the tenor of Germany's forthcoming reply to the United States demand concerning submarine warfare is known. A long message from Ambassador Gerard is believed to have contained information on this point.



SUPPORTS WILSON'S STAND

Maximilian Harden, editor of Die Zukunft, in Berlin, under the caption "If I Were Wilson," has written an editorial endorsing the President's last note to Berlin.

The fact that the German Government has permitted this editorial to pass uncensored is considered significant.

It is accepted everywhere as a fact that if there is a single violation of the American rights while the present negotiations are on, that so soon as the proof is in the hands of the State Department, a diplomatic break will be ordered.

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ARMY AND NAVY LINES ARE BEING TIGHTENED

All Leaves of Absence Cancelled and Secretaries Prepare for Any Emergency

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Activity in army and navy circles is growing increasingly feverish.

Today leaves of absence of 43 naval officers were canceled by direct orders of Secretary Daniels. At the same time instructions were issued that no additional applications for leaves will be considered at this time.

In addition the two departments are in touch with all retired officers, so that in the event of need they can be called to active service immediately.

SLAVS ON WEST FRONT MAY BE SENT TO VERDUN

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the attack of the French, although very determined, broke down under the fire of the Germans.

The War Office report indicated that the counter-offensive of the French on the Verdun front is becoming stronger.

Another attack was delivered by the English at St. Eloi, West Flanders, but it was repulsed by the Germans.

The artillery was more active all along the front. At several points the Germans carried out successful patrol operations.

GERMAN HUMANITY LEAGUE BITTERLY ATTACKS BERNSTORFF

ROTTERDAM, April 24. Dutch papers print the contents of a circular issued by the German Humanity League in which a bitter attack is made against Count von Bernstorff, German Ambassador to the United States, and others. In part, it follows:

The speech of President Wilson in the American Congress and the pastoral letter of Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines, constitute evidence whereon every German caring for honor and justice may strike a blow against such infamous scoundrels as Admiral von Tirpitz, Count von Bernstorff and General von Bissing, the German Governor General of Belgium, as well as their agents, who have disgraced the nation and branded us with crimes without parallel in ancient or modern history.

The international law codes, the laws of hospitality and the usages of war as well as every decent obligation of human society have been set at naught in the United States by Count von Bernstorff.

DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY WON'T SHIELD VON IGEL

Attaches Can Be Arrested if Criminal Offenders, Attorney General Rules

WASHINGTON, April 24. Attorney General Gregory today ruled that diplomatic immunity from arrest does not extend to cases in which a diplomat is guilty of criminal offenses against the Government of the United States.

The ruling was made at the request of the Department of Justice, who are handling the case of Wolf von Igel, arrested on charges of being involved in the plot to destroy the Welland Canal.

Secretary of State Lansing today sent to the Department of Justice a formal request that the Department return to Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, the papers seized when von Igel was arrested in his New York office.

RUSSIAN ATTACK ON VILNA FRONT FAILS, SAYS BERLIN

Petrograd Claims German Scout Party Was Annihilated in Forest

BERLIN, April 24.—"South of Lake Narocz (east of Vilna) an attack by a Russian battalion broke down in front of our obstructions," says yesterday's official report on the eastern campaign.

The enemy suffered heavily. Elsewhere, with the exception of local outbursts by artillery and some patrol encounters, there is nothing to report.

PETROGRAD, April 24.—"In the course of the day," says yesterday's official report on the European campaign, "a party of German scouts north of Lake Vygonokoye (near the center of the line between the Niemen and the Pripiet) crossed the River Schara (tributary of the Niemen) and plunged into the forest, where they were surrounded by our troops and all killed or taken prisoner."

"On Friday we destroyed an Austrian post near Khreish, north of Czartorysk (on the Str. in Volhynia). In the region of Sopotnik, north of Kremenets (on the Galician-Volhynian frontier), the enemy exploded three mines and attempted to occupy the craters, but were driven away by our fire. We occupied the craters without suffering any losses."

Will Try to Fly Across Nation

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Apr. 24.—Oscar Brindley, instructor at the United States Army aviation school here, announced today he would attempt a flight from either San Diego or Los Angeles to New York city to demonstrate an electric automatic stabilizer. The flight will begin about May 15.

DREER'S Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Success depends very largely upon the quality of seed sown. Our stock of Vegetable and Flower seeds is extensive, and we can supply your every want in this line.

GERMANS REINFORCE TURKS IN KUT BATTLE

Moslems Claim Repulse of Russians on the Caucasus Front

BERNE, Switzerland, April 24. An undated dispatch from Berlin contains the sensational announcement that the Turkish forces operating around Kut-el-Amara in Mesopotamia have been reinforced by a considerable number of Germans.

LONDON, April 24.—Russian defeats and repulses at many widely separated points along the battle front in Armenia and Taurus Mountains were officially reported by the Turkish War Office as follows:

Hostile forces in the sector of Mottli, south of Bitlis (in the Upper Tigris Valley) were compelled to retreat toward Bitlis, fighting rear-guard engagements, says the report.

After four hours' fighting the enemy was driven east from Kozma Mountain, east of Mush. In engagements on Kop Mountain, near Height 2600, as far as Aschaka (about 31 miles west of Erzerum) we stopped Russian attacks and by our counter-attacks drove the enemy from heights and slopes north of this mountain. The Russians lost heavily.

In the Tchoruk region there have only been skirmishes. In the Djavlik sector (the Black Sea coastal mountains) we stopped a hostile detachment which was trying to advance south from Trebizond. Engagements are proceeding between our coast-guard detachments and a Russian detachment landed at Platana (ten miles west of Trebizond).

Petrograd, however, claims that all the desperate Turkish attacks on the Caucasus front have been repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. The latest Russian report adds that the Grand Duke Nicholas' forces launched a surprise counter-attack and captured an important enemy position.

BRITISH AGAIN BEATEN IN ATTACK ON THE TIGRIS

Brigade Gains Ground Near Kut, but Turks Retake It

LONDON, April 24. Further efforts by the British to advance on the Tigris toward Kut-el-Amara have been futile, the failure of an attack yesterday on the Turkish lines at Saunabat being attributed in an official statement issued yesterday largely to flood conditions which necessitated an advance over a very contracted front.

Another official statement says that last week's fighting on the south bank of the Tigris, which also was of a serious character and varying fortunes, had given General Keary's forces a net advance of about two miles, and it had been hoped that this success would help General Goring break through on the north bank.

According to the latest official dispatch, General Keary's forces were unable to make much progress in the present battle.

RESTRICTIONS ON VISITORS ENFORCED AT NAVY YARD

Three Thousand Who Go to League Island See but Little

A secretiveness never before shown at the Philadelphia Navy Yard greeted 3000 persons who journeyed to League Island yesterday to look over the big ships.

In the past visitors have been allowed to roam almost at will about the yard. Yesterday, when they attempted to go to the most interesting parts, they were "not permitted."

The southern end was prohibited ground, and no one except friends of officers or men on board was allowed to go on the big warships. Men were stationed on the gang planks to find out the business of all who attempted to board.

It was learned yesterday that small boats are prevented from approaching the wall from the river side. It was reported that searchlights are to play over the waters at night in the future, and guards will be stationed along the river.

The Kansas, with a crew of but 800 will sail May 16 unless the commanding officer receives other orders. The Kansas is short-handed.

The Oklahoma, the new superdreadnought, is being prepared for service, if necessary. Her crew is being collected and trained at the Navy Yard. First Lieutenant Edward A. Osterman, of the Marine Corps, who has been home on sick leave, returns to duty today.

All officers leaving the Navy Yard are requested to leave their telephone numbers with the commanders.

Thornton for Ordnance Board

WASHINGTON, April 24.—It was learned at the White House today that President Wilson had decided to appoint former United States Senator John Randolph Thornton, of Louisiana, as the civilian member of the Board of Ordnance and Fortification of the War Department.

He will succeed the late Senator Francis M. Cockrell, of Missouri.

SUBMARINES BUSY; FOUR SHIPS SUNK

French and Italian Vessels Torpedoed—Vessel Which Left Philadelphia Lost

LONDON, April 24. The sinking of four Allied merchant ships was reported yesterday. Two are known to have been victims of submarines, and it is presumed the others also were sunk by German raiders.

The vessels reported torpedoed are the Italian steamships Joseph Asoel Tcheraz and the French bark Chanard, of 2746 tons gross, which was sunk Saturday morning. The crews of both are believed to have been saved.

The captain and 16 hands of the British steamship Felicitas, 4277 tons gross, were picked up by a steamer, according to a Lloyds' report. Search is being made for the remainder of the crew. The Felicitas is a total loss. Another report says that all of the crew have been saved.

The British steamship Tregantia, of St. Ives, 2091 tons gross, has been sunk, a Lloyds' announcement states. All the crew were saved.

A steamship Jozsef Agost Foherczeg, owned by the Hungarian Levant Steamship Company, Limited, of Fiume, is listed in the maritime records, which, however, do not report her recent movements. She was a vessel of 2680 tons gross, built in 1904.

The steamship Felicitas arrived in London on March 11 from Philadelphia, which port she left on February 22. There is no record of her subsequent movements.

Advertisement for Sport Oxfords—New and Chic. Includes an image of a shoe and the text: 'With white leather sole and heel. In white buckskin, trimmed with green, red or blue. Especially designed for wear with the trotteur suits. CLAFLIN, 1107 Chestnut'

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Let's Put the American Flag Ahead of Political Patronage

Why not have a president—a government manager—with enough knowledge of business to exact efficient service from the country's employes; to obtain maximum value from the nation's tremendous expenditures? The blame for existing evils all rests with the people, of course. They have permitted the orators to have their way. Principles have been smothered in speeches, and the real task of running the country has been lost in the confusion of party rivalry.

Business Men's Presidential League

Suite 1615 165 Broadway New York City

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Form for Business Men's Presidential League. Text: 'I favor a Business Man for President of the United States. Name Address City State Business Men's Presidential League Suite 1615 165 Broadway, New York City'