

CONGRESSMEN FACE WEEK OF BIG TASKS

Action Expected to Be Taken on Many Vital War Measures

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—A whirlwind week in winding up big war legislation is ahead of Congress today.

The railroad control bill was expected to clear the Senate and be ready for House action by the end of the week.

Close on the heels of the measure to control the McAdoo war finance was the Finance Committee report.

The Senate Military Committee will vote again on its war cabinet bill, which today apparently was deadlocked in a committee.

Deep in constructive work the Senate was prepared to read in the near future while Senator Reed's report on investigation into sugar and coal is presented to it.

The price-fixing bill—now promised by President Wilson and cited by opposition elements as the most startling and drastic move yet proposed—was undergoing its final revision in the House and Senate Agriculture Committee.

The big navy bill was to emerge from committee soon, as were the executive, legislative and judicial and the rivers and harbors budgets.

FIVE HELD AT SHORE FOR THEFTS OF AUTOS

Suspect Wounded in Battle at Chelsea as Fugitives Resist Arrest

ATLANTIC CITY, Feb. 18.—In the City Hospital with a bullet hole through his shoulder, and into Curtis, William Stout, and Brown and Augustus Collins, all negroes, are in jail as a result of a midnight battle between detectives and automobile-thief suspects on the Meadow Boulevard and in Chelsea.

An automobile owned by Elmer Dean was reported stolen late Saturday night. Dean procured another car and started out with Detectives Farver, Eustis, Black and Dagnell to seek the thieves.

The search party started for Pleasantville a mile from that place they heard a machine approaching at high speed. The detectives sprang into the roadway and directed the party to stop.

Jeering was the only response and the detectives drew revolvers and emptied them after the fleeing machine. One shot found a mark. The detectives gave chase and caught up with the car at Atlantic and Montclair avenues, Chelsea.

The five occupants leaped out while the machine was in full flight and attempted to hide. All included a woman who was armed by the bullet wound, gave battle and had to be beaten into submission. Discovering that the front tires of the alleged stolen machine were in bad condition caused them to return here rather than take the chances of being stranded in the woods.

BLAMES "COST PLUS" FOR WAR PROFITEERING

Director of Housing Tells Congressional Committee He Opposes Plan in Contracts

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The "cost-plus" system for Government contracts is responsible for much war profiteering, Otto M. Edlitz, newly appointed director of housing, told the House Public Buildings Committee today.

Edlitz said he would let no housing contracts for this work on the cost-plus system.

"Too many men holding big contracts are still in the state of the best beyond what it actually is and then by adding the standard profit are able to make fortunes," Edlitz said.

The General Electric Company, at Erie, Pa., offered outright \$200,000 in cash, \$200,000 in land and asks the Government for a loan of \$1,000,000, all of which is to be used in the next few years," Edlitz said.

The Bethlehem Steel Company, at South Bethlehem, Pa., and old Sparrow Point, has made a similar offer to the Government in Newport News has helped the Shipping Board.

Edlitz said the Government would get virtually all the money back that it put in the houses from rents and sales after the war.

HIRAM PARKER DEAD

Retired Manufacturer Served in Navy During Civil War

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Feb. 18.—Hiram Parker, seventy-six years old, is dead at his home here. He was a retired iron manufacturer, in which industry he had been engaged for many years in this city.

He spent over twelve years in the United States navy covering the entire period of the Civil War. He enlisted in 1861 as assistant engineer and was assigned to duty on the gunboat *Albatross*, on which he completed his Civil War service.

Mr. Parker was a Mason, Dr. Jabez Sparks Parker, of Philadelphia, is a son.

Notables Arrive From Europe

Among arrivals on a Norwegian steamer here today were Mrs. Ira N. Morris, wife of the United States Minister to Sweden; Prince and Princess Michael Cantacuzene of Petrograd; members of the Grand Prince and General William

LUNCH TIME AT THE HOG ISLAND SHIPYARD



Nourishing lunches are served to thousands of workmen at Hog Island in the shipyard lunch rooms. Such lunches are to be had for thirty cents.

RUSH OF VOLUNTEERS 20,000 BRITISH IN U. S. "TRAITORS," CRIES BILL FOR MERCHANT SHIPS SOUGHT FOR THE ARMY OF SHIPYARD WORKERS

Many Men Leave Lucrative Positions in Response to the Nation's Call

The call for volunteers to man the new American merchant marine, now in process of building, is being answered in large numbers by trained men, who are leaving lucrative positions in civil life to equip themselves through courses in navigation and marine engineering to become deck officers and marine engineers, according to a statement made by John Frederick Lewis, who is in charge of the schools established by the Shipping Board between the Connecticut River and Cape Charles for the training of marine officers.

"One of the most gratifying things to me in connection with my work of conducting the government schools," said Mr. Lewis today, "is the splendid way in which graduates of the school, ship starters and Adams are coming forward and offering themselves as navigation officers. Even men of mature years, graduates of the first class on the Saratoga, are applying for admission to the school, and indeed almost every class from last training ship has been enrolled. In one case a former Saratoga boy has entered the school and applied for a license as deck officer of \$10,000 a year as president of a large manufacturing company, but proposed to go on his salary and put his knowledge of navigation at the service of the Government.

"There could be no more complete demonstration of the vast advantage of these two training ships than the splendid way in which their graduates are acting. The money expended in maintenance of these ships has been and will be, repaid by the devotion and self-sacrifice of the graduates many times over. They recognize the need of trained men for the merchant marine and are offering their services without regard to their personal benefit, but solely for their country's good.

"I hope the Alumni Association of the Saratoga and the Adams will urge upon the Government the assignment of these trained young men in seamanship and navigation. Such a step would be filled without difficulty with desirable young men from eighteen to twenty-five years of age. What the merchant marine needs are native-born Americans or naturalized Americans to officer its ships. The man behind the gun is as vital to the success of the merchant marine as the man behind the gun is to the army."

MANUFACTURERS DON'T LIKE TO PAY WAR WAGES

Can't See Why Labor Should Cost More, Though Patriotic Otherwise, Says Babson

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—In many ways manufacturers are more liberal than wage-earners, they cheerfully pay heavy taxes, give generously to the Red Cross, are willing to work in Washington for \$1 a year and permit their wives to knit from morning to night; but they will not give up one of their so-called "inherited rights of the employing class," according to Roger W. Babson, newly appointed statistician in the United States employment service of the Department of Labor. He has just ended a tour of manufacturing cities in the West. Mr. Babson said:

"Manufacturers in some localities need as much missionary work as do the workers. The labor difficulty at present is one of improper distribution. The complaints of manufacturers, I found, have arisen not from the fact that they can't obtain labor, but in obtaining it at the prices which the manufacturers desire to pay. My principal difficulty was in convincing manufacturers that the increase in the cost of living to the wage-earners and in the reasonableness of advancing wages corresponding to the advances in the price of materials."

"Manufacturers who are not complaining about paying advances of 100 per cent or more for materials which they must use, are strenuously objecting to paying a fraction of this advance in wages."

CUTS HIS THROAT IN BATHTUB

Retired New York Banker Found Dead in His Country Home

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—Having slashed his throat with a razor while sitting in a bathtub, Robert V. Van Courtland, member of one of the oldest New York families and a retired banker, was found dead today at his country home near Mt. Kisco by his male nurse.

Van Courtland had been in ill health for some time.

Lewistown Suffers Fire Loss

LEWISTOWN, Pa., Feb. 18.—Fire of unknown origin destroyed E. E. McMeen's department store and the Gues hardware store, with the restaurant owned by Mrs. G. Duncan, at Middletown today. The flames broke out between the two store buildings and the interior of both was a mass of flames when the firemen arrived.

The work of fighting the flames was seriously handicapped by low pressure on the fire mains and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, which the restaurant system and must be given the credit of saving an entire business block. Lewistown was appealed to for aid, but were unable to reach the scene promptly, owing to the temporary structure across Jack Creek on the State road, which had been condemned for heavy equipment.

E. E. McMeen's loss will reach \$60,000, E. M. Gues, \$50,000, Mrs. Duncan, \$10,000 and the Elmer Scott estate \$100,000. Only about \$5 per cent is covered by

READING IRON PLANT DAMAGED BY FLAMES

Fire Spreads to Adjacent Properties, Suffocating Seven Horses

READING, Pa., Feb. 18.—Flames originating early this morning in the forge of the sheet mill of the Reading Iron Company destroyed a portion of the big plant and the stable of Charles Armstrong, at Canal and Chestnut streets. Seven horses in the Armstrong stable were suffocated, while seven other animals were gotten out safely. Several residences were threatened. The Schuylkill Navigation Company warehouse was badly damaged. The loss will reach at least \$25,000.

It is believed that the fire started in the sheet mill coke plant. Men were at work in the latter building setting some of the furnaces ready to start work today. The plant was a two-story brick structure and was burned to the ground.

Fire Menaces Sharples Home

WEST CHESTER, Pa., Feb. 18.—The million-dollar home of F. M. Sharples, city engineer, in West Godwin township, narrowly escaped destruction from fire last night. A fire started in the basement among some wood for the farmhouses and spread to the woodwork. A call for help was sent here and three chemical motor engines were sent to the scene, and soon had the blaze under control. The loss may not exceed \$200.

Cop in Fight With Robbers

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 18.—After they had looted a jewelry store on West Market street, Victor Clark of Western Mills, N. Y., and Eugene Parks of Baltimore, Md., in a pistol fight with Patrolman Switzer, Clark was arrested but Parks escaped. More than \$100 worth of goods was recovered by the patrolman.

K. of C. Exceed Allotment

MOHNT CARMEL, Pa., Feb. 18.—Mount Carmel's Knights of Columbus war fund campaign has closed. The local council had been asked to raise \$2000 toward the \$1,000,000 fund. They exceeded their allotment by \$200.

U. S. AGAIN TAKES LEASE ON ALLENTOWN GROUNDS

Fair Site Will Be Used as Site for Ambulance Corps—U. S. Pays \$30,000 Rental

ALLENTOWN, Pa., Feb. 18.—The executive committee of the Lehigh County Agricultural Society has entered into a lease with the Government whereby the fair grounds have been rented for another year to the War Department as a site for the ambulance camp. The rental is \$30,000.

According to Edwin K. Kline, attorney for the society, the War Department does not desire the fair grounds for a permanent cantonment, because it is located in a city, and that on account of its size it is also suitable only for a medical camp, with not enough ground for infantry, cavalry or any other branch of the service.

As planned at present, after the departure of the ambulance service troops it is to be transformed into a sanitary camp for the training of drafted men into sanitary units for service both at home and abroad.

Rules for U. S. Ships NOT REQUISITIONED

Bunker Regulations to Be Same as for Neutrals Unless Under Shipping Board

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—The war trade board announces that the rules governing the issuance of licenses for bunker fuel and ship's stores have been amended so that American vessels not requisitioned by the shipping board are brought within the regulations prescribed for neutral vessels in paragraphs IV and V of the "General Rules No. 1," which were published on January 19 to go into effect February 1, 1918. Paragraphs IV and V as amended read as follows:

IV. No application for "bunkers" by any neutral vessel or by any vessel of American registry not requisitioned by the United States Shipping Board shall be approved unless the person or persons managing, owning, chartering or controlling such vessels shall have reported to and filed, in duplicate, with the war trade board the names of all the vessels and masters and any changes that may from time to time have occurred respecting said vessels and masters, managed, owned, chartered or controlled by him or them.

V. No application for "bunkers" by any neutral ship or by any vessel of American registry not requisitioned by the United States Shipping Board shall be approved unless the person or persons

DEMOCRATS WATCHING

Appointments Here Held Up Until State Situation Is Cleared

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The failure of the President to reappoint John M. Thornton, postmaster at Philadelphia, is taken by Democrats here as a move on the part of the Administration Democrats to extend the spirit of watchfulness to appointments, until some action is taken on the State political situation.

The Palmer Democrats are making a bid, for the support of the Old Guard in Philadelphia, and feel that the appointment of a postmaster there, not yet made, will be an inducement to hold that faction of the party in line. There are other small appointments being held up.

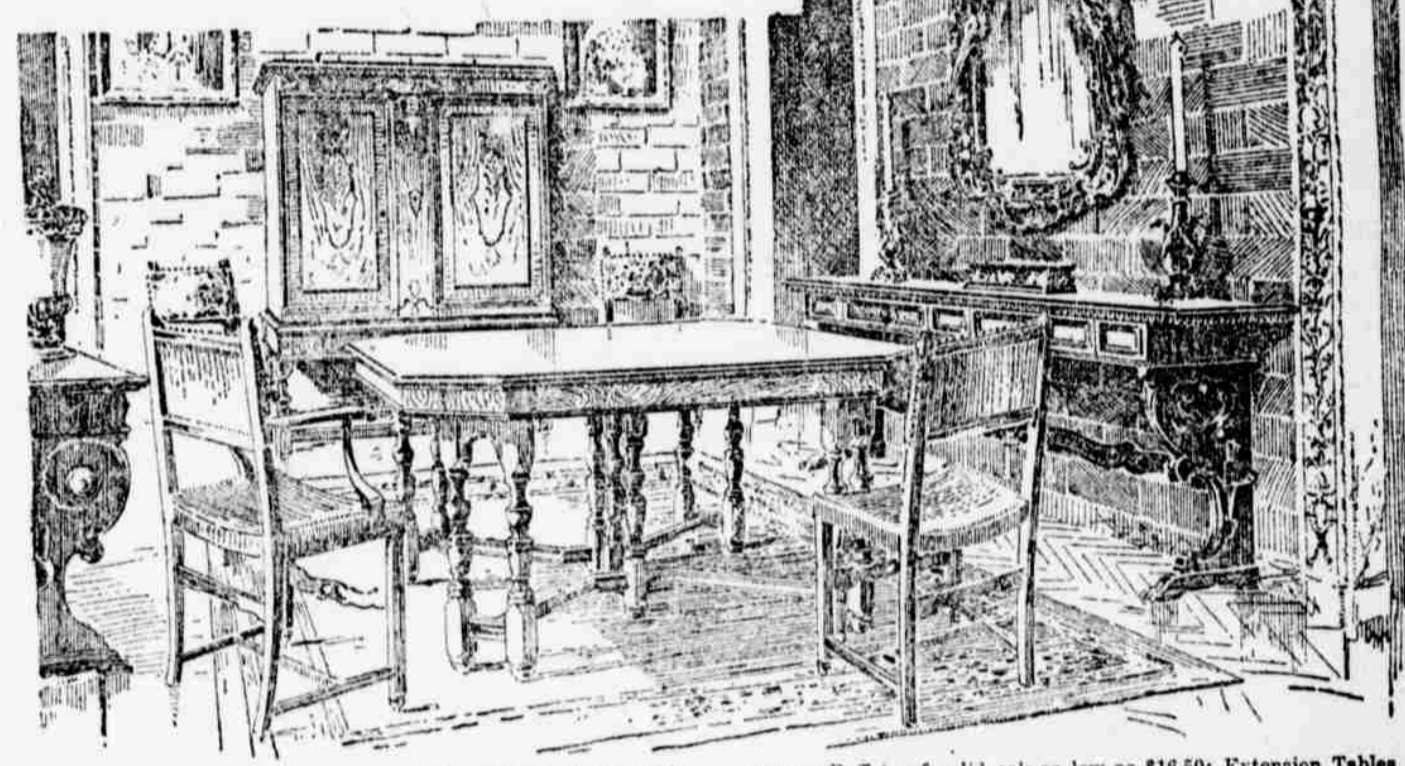
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Self Expression, Self Confidence, Public Speaking, Etc., and all-around Self-Development. The course Monday Evening commencing March 4th, at 8 P. M. Both sexes. Send for instructive literature. Call.

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This Store Is the Home of Beautiful Furniture—This Sale the Home Lovers' Opportunity

YOU can spend many pleasant hours traversing the spacious furniture galleries in this Store, viewing hundreds and hundreds of suites and thousands and thousands of pieces, familiarizing yourself with every Period style, tracing step by step the development of modern craftsmanship from ancient and mediaeval sources. For this is the "Home of Beautiful Furniture"—the largest exclusive furniture and furnishings Store in America. More than that—it is the store which for nearly two score years has been proving that good furniture can be made and marketed at moderate cost. And the amazingly low prices in this February Sale are a further convincing demonstration of this fact.



The illustration shows one of the almost innumerable, unique suites that go to make this wonderful Store so interesting to visitors; a Dining Suite of the Renaissance Period, a reproduction of the work of the Florentine mastercraftsmen. A few steps farther and we come to a graceful 4-piece William and Mary Dining Suite in Jacobean Oak, priced at \$92.00; and we see Buffets of solid oak as low as \$16.50; Extension Tables beginning at \$7.75; Library Tables at \$4.50; Mahogany Dining Suites at \$75.00; Wing Arm Chairs in genuine leather from \$19.00 to \$15.00; Bookcases from \$2.50; Writing Tables from \$2.90 to \$35.00; and so on; an almost endless variety of goods and an all-inclusive price range.

Over Two Hundred & Fifty Thousand Dollars' Worth of Floor Coverings—at Sale Prices

With a stock valued at more than a quarter-of-a-million dollars (figured at wholesale costs of months ago), you can imagine how well equipped we are to take care of every requirement no matter how unusual. And, during this February Sale, regular prices have been marked down heavily—regardless of the fact that many of them were actually below present day manufacturing costs. We quote a few interesting, representative items, but so comprehensive a stock must really be seen to be appreciated.

- \$45 Best Axmin., 9x12... \$34.50
- \$42 Best Axmin., 8.3x10.6 \$32.50
- \$26 Best Axmin., 6x9... \$19.75
- \$36 Seamless Velvet, 9x12... \$24.50
- \$32 Seamless Velvet, 8.3x10.6 \$22.50
- \$67 Royal Wilton, 9x12... \$48.50
- \$62 Royal Wilton, 8.3x10.6 \$43.50

Choice Royal Wilton Rugs

Good selection in all styles and colorings.

- \$115 to \$125, 11.3x15. \$96
- \$92 to \$98, 10.6x12... \$78
- \$67 to \$75, 9x12... \$57
- \$40.00 Body Brussels, 9x12... \$26.50
- \$26.00 Tapestry Brussels, 9x12... \$19.85

THRIFT STAMPS ON SALE HERE—Every One You Buy Helps to Win the War.

J. B. Van Sciver Co.

Manufacturers, Importers and Retailers MARKET STREET FERRY, CAMDEN, N. J. Store Opens Daily at 8.30 Closes at 5.30 P. M.

Useful Gifts of Silver

Our large and varied stock of inexpensive articles offers many appropriate gift suggestions.

- Nut Bowls
- Casseroles
- Streak Sets
- Bread Trays
- Pie Servers
- Flexible Plateaus

S. Kind & Sons, 1110 Chestnut St. DIAMOND MERCHANTS—JEWELERS—SILVERSMITHS

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The coal problem plus the servant question is gone—forgotten—since our Sunday \$1 dinners have "swept the town."

Be a "regular" here on Sundays and save your wife many a dollar.

The New HOTEL MANOVER

Twelfth and Arch Sts. CLAUDE M. MOHR, Mgr. (Entrance on 18th St.)