

SENATE CLEARS DECKS FOR OVERMAN BILL

Measure Enlarging President's Powers Will Be Hard Fought

AMENDMENT IS CERTAIN

Administration Wants It Passed as Prepared, but Many Senators See Need of Change

Washington, April 2.—The decks were cleared in the Senate today for the beginning of what promises to be the most stubborn contest of the present session—the fight over the Governor bill granting the President broad powers to reconstruct America's war government.

The ultimate passage of the measure was declared certain by Administration leaders today after canvassing the situation. It seemed equally certain, however, that it would be amended in some important respects before a final vote is reached.

Even the members of the Judiciary Committee, which reported the bill favorably, have reserved the right to support certain amendments to be offered on the floor.

Votes against the bill will be largely governed by the amendments made. The measure is so changed as to curtail its sweeping nature and to specify the departments to which the proposed reorganizations must be confined.

Indications are that it will go through by a large majority. The Administration, however, is unwilling to accept any restriction upon the power granted by the bill in its present form.

It is argued that necessity for reorganization, unforeseen just now, may arise from time to time, and that limitations upon the President's powers might tie his hands at a critical time.

Senator Hoke Smith, of Georgia, has offered the amendment around which the hardest fighting will center. He intends to confine the proposed reorganization to the War and Navy Departments, the shipping board and the Bureau of Mines.

The Administration forces will have to contend with a formidable insurgent movement on the Democratic side, in which Senator Smith and Senator Reed are the chief figures.

On the final rollcall, however, a majority of the military committee will support the measure in the hope that under its present provisions a vote will be reached.

Senator Overman declared today he would keep the measure before the Senate continuously to the complete exhaustion of all new business until a vote is reached.

SPRUCE OUT EQUAL TO AIRPLANE DEMANDS

60 Million Feet Needed This Year Assured When Soldiers Oust Northwest I. W. W.

Washington, April 2.—Of the 60,000,000 feet of spruce timber needed by the Government for the construction of airplanes this year, 30,000,000 feet already have been produced.

Representative Fordney, of Michigan, said today, and the total will be furnished to the Government before July 1.

Two thousand feet of spruce lumber is required in the construction of one airplane, he said. Therefore 60,000,000 feet of spruce lumber will enable this Government to produce 30,000 airplanes of the largest and most efficient size.

The labor question in the Northwest has been a very troublesome one. The Government is sending to the lumber camps of Washington and Oregon about 10,000 men, who are being distributed and are aiding the proprietors in getting out the spruce lumber.

The coming of the soldier in soldier's uniform has made the I. W. W. men like bees from a hive when you pour tobacco juice on him.

The soldiers in the lumber camps and saw mills are paid the wages paid to other men for that class of work.

Representative Fordney's son, who enlisted as a private, is now in service in the Northwest, adding the Government is getting out the lumber.

Every moment in the country is running to fullest capacity to give the Government every stick of timber required, Fordney added.

HOUSING BEFORE COUNCILS

Appropriation of \$115,000 for City's Part of Work Asked

The Finance Committee of Councils will meet this afternoon to take up the pending ordinance providing funds for the city's part of the work in connection with the building by the Government of houses for Hog Island workers in the Polish Ward.

The sum of \$115,000 will be asked of the city to meet the lowest bid for the work, that of Mansfield & Cummings.

The city recently received a request from the Emergency Housing Corporation asking that funds be provided at once so that the work may be started without further delay.

AIRPLANE FAIRY TALE MYSTERY IS CLEARED

High Officer in Signal Corps Dietated Yarn, Senators Learn

SAID SHIPMENT STARTED

Secretary Baker Assumed Responsibility for Statement Given Out and Printed Broadcast

Washington, April 2.—The mystery surrounding the misleading aircraft statement issued under the authority of Secretary of War Baker a day or so before he left Washington for France, which has been the subject of Senatorial attack for more than a week, is no longer a mystery to the Senate Military Affairs Committee or to a number of officials in the War Department.

To the latter the facts have been known right along, but they have chosen to remain silent so far, even while Mr. Baker was subjected in the Senate to the accusation of doling out false statements to the American people.

Within a day or so several War Department officials are expected to be called before the committee and the whole story, as are several of its members, it is believed Secretary Baker will be shown to have merely assumed responsibility for statements supported by the word of at least one army officer of high position.

It seemed a shipment of aircraft to France already had been made, and that future shipments would be regular and frequent.

The statement created the very definite impression that all the difficulties of aircraft production had been overcome and that it was now only a question of ships to transport the planes to the other side.

The newspapers of the country eagerly published the statement. This statement was not only "perilously misleading," as it was described by Senator New, Indiana, but it was also false.

Aircraft shipments had not begun on February 26, and save for one plane that now may be in France or still en route, the signal corps has not yet begun to send airplanes to France.

These facts were exposed in several hearings last week, particularly when the committee investigated the false photograph captions announcing that "hundreds of planes have already gone across," which were disseminated to the press by the committee on public information.

It was learned that an officer of the signal corps dictated the February 26 statement in an attack upon the committee on public information, who, after writing it, returned it to the officer for correction.

Such corrections as he chose to make were made and attached his initials to it. Then it was placed before the Secretary of War, who ordered it to be issued.

WOMEN SAVE TOWN MENACED BY FIRE

Rescue Invalid Minister When Blaze in Brush Spreads to Parsonage

New York, April 2.—Women in the town of Huguenot, L. I., yesterday formed a volunteer fire brigade and for hours fought a brush fire which threatened destruction of the town.

The fire started at 4 p. m. 200 yards from the church. A fire alarm was sounded at 10 o'clock.

The women saved the life of the Rev. De Witte Snyder, an invalid. They carried him from the parsonage, which adjoins the church.

The fire started at 4 p. m. 200 yards from the church. A fire alarm was sounded at 10 o'clock.

After the roof of the parsonage had been thoroughly dampened, the bucket brigade climbed to the roof of the post-office, on which sparks had fallen.

They repeated operations on the roofs of four other buildings where sparks from the burning church were falling.

INDIANA REALLY "BONE DRY"

Can't Even Send Boozie Catalogues Into State Under New Law

Indianapolis, April 2.—Indiana goes "bone dry" for the first time in more than 100 years tonight.

The new law repeals all local option laws, defines intoxicating liquors as beverages containing to exceed half of 1 per cent of alcohol.

It is announced that most of the men will recover.

FOOD POSTER MAKES POTENT PLEA



Victory is a Question of Stamina Send—the Wheat Meat·Fats·Sugar the fuel for Fighters UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION

U. S. WILL UPHOLD DUTCH SHIP SEIZURE

Framing Answer to Holland's Protest in Which Legal Precedent Is Quoted

Washington, April 2.—The United States will support the legality of its seizure of Dutch shipping by quoting Dutch and German international law authorities.

The Dutch protest against requisitioning, as printed in the Holland official gazette and forwarded here, is being framed today and the Government will use these quotations among other points to offset the Dutch view of the problem.

The answer will probably be made public before night. Unofficially answering Holland's objection to American refusal of bunker oil for Dutch ships in our ports, a special board official said today:

"Had we furnished this coal it would have been more than a friendly act, for as the ships were loaded with grain, they could have given Holland a wheat supply which would have permitted other supplies to go to Germany.

HIGHER COAL RATE URGED

Colorado Midland Petitions Commission for Increase

Washington, April 2.—The Colorado Midland Railroad has applied to the Interstate Commerce Commission for an increase of from twenty-five to fifty cents a ton on bituminous coal from points on its line in Colorado to destinations in Kansas, on the Rock Island.



Do Road Work and General Hauling

Many a business house finds more than one job for motor trucks. The Barrett Company is a case in point.

"For five months in the year," they say, "we use our ten Autocars with tank bodies, for Tarviating city and state roads, running into millions of dollars a season.

Motor trucks are doing more work today than ever before—find out about the Autocar in your line of business at the Autocar Sales & Service Company, 23d & Market Streets, Philadelphia.

"The Autocar Motor Truck" The Autocar Co., Ardmore, Pa. Established 1897

ITALIAN WAR PLANTS SEEN AS AUSTRIAN AIM

Threatened Drive at Lombardy Would Surround Army on Piave

AIM TO FORCE PEACE

May Attack Brescia and Push Wedge into Lombardy and Piedmont

Washington, April 2.—The Italian command is expecting the Austrian army to start soon a double attack with two distinct objectives, one upon Brescia, to the west of Lake Garda, the other to the east of Lake Garda.

The first would have as its objective the smashing of the Italian lines protecting Lombardy, the attack on the east being planned to cut off the Italian army operating on the lower Piave.

If the enemy should break through the Italian positions west of Lake Garda he would come down through the valleys of Lombardy and Piedmont, invading the industrial areas, making it impossible for the Italians to continue the production of the war materials they are now manufacturing.

A successful drive on Brescia, it was declared by an Italian authority, would put the Italians in a virtually the same position occupied by Rumania just before that country was compelled by circumstances to enter into peace negotiations.

The Italian view is that the German army has failed to break through the British and French positions in France, and while the enemy has obtained vast quantities of war booty, the spoils do not compensate them for their losses in men, and that the only way in which they can repair their present situation is by a further advance against Italy.

The Austrians were said to be confident that they can achieve this result. They now have all the food and materials they need for the enterprise against Italy.

Virtually the entire Austro-Hungarian army is concentrated on the Italian front. The Italian authorities have evidence that Austria is excellently provisioned and that her supplies have been obtained in Russia.

At the time of the Brest-Litovsk conference Austria was declared to be in a very difficult situation, owing to a shortage of foodstuffs, both for the civilian population and the army, and also a shortage of munitions.

The withdrawal of Russia from the war, however, and the yielding up consequently of vast Russian military and economic stores has benefited Austria most materially.

HARRISBURG GIVES DRAFTS

Capital City, Previously Exempt, Sends First Quota of 22 Men to Camp Meads

Harrisburg, April 2.—Twenty-two selected men from the three districts in this city left Harrisburg today for Camp Meads to begin training for service "over there."

This is the first time that Harrisburg has given any of her men under the draft. Under all previous calls the city was exempt.

In the early days of the war, Harrisburg gave so many volunteers that the credits allowed overwhelmed the quotas fixed for the district and the result was that no men had to be drafted.

In all, Harrisburg has given approximately 2500 men to the cause of democracy.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Self-Expression, Self-Confidence, Election and all-around Self-Development. Join the overflow class now forming. Own consecutive Friday Evenings, commencing April 5th, at 8 P. M., Rich Street. This is the class recently advertised to begin March 29th.

Send for descriptive literature. Call, write or phone. Rooms 27-14. NEFF COLLEGE 1730 Chestnut Street

GAMBLERS' PLOT BARE BY ARREST IN MURDER

Revelation of \$10,000 Plan to Stop Police Inquiry Is Promised

BARTENDER IDENTIFIED

Suspect With "Harry the Yott" Morning of Killing, Elevator Boy Testifies

New York, April 2.—Revelation of the details of a \$10,000 plan by gamblers of New York to stop police inquiry into their trade was promised today with the arrest of Morris Rotherberg, a bartender, charged with homicide, following the murder of Harry Cohen, informant.

Rotherberg was identified by Joseph Edney, elevator boy of Cohen's apartment building, as the man who left Cohen's apartment with him and shot him to death as he phoned from a booth in the building.

"We have the murderer," was the formal statement early today of James E. Smith, assistant district attorney, with whom Cohen had an appointment before his death yesterday to reveal all he knew of the gambling ring.

A fund of \$10,000 was raised by the gamblers to stop our John Doe inquiry and the killing was one result," Smith said.

Rotherberg made many conflicting statements which were checked up. He claimed not to know, admitted he had been out of work, without any plausible means of livelihood for four or five months, and that the gambler and burglar he is charged with killing had financed him to a considerable extent during this period.

He admitted further that he spent much of Sunday with "Harry the Yott" in a lower Sixth Avenue gambling den, that he stayed there all night with him and with another man, a foreman, whom he claimed not to know, had walked with Cohen to his home.

At the apartment, he said, the three waited. Awakening Monday afternoon and learning Rotherberg would be wanted as a witness, he claimed to know nothing of Cohen's movements after 6 o'clock Monday morning. The gambler was killed an hour later.

Edney, the elevator operator, picked Rotherberg out of sixteen men when the police lined them up for identification.

"You're the man, but you have on a different suit. You had a green suit on then," he said.

Rotherberg admitted he had worn a green suit Sunday, changing to gray yesterday, but in the face of Edney's statement, denied knowledge of the shooting.

Overman Bill Up Today

Washington, April 2.—Senator Overman has given notice in the Senate that today he will call up his bill proposing blanket powers for the President to coordinate Federal war-making agencies and keep it continually before the Senate until final disposition.

U. S. AVIATORS MAKE GOOD SHOWING IN FIGHT

Major Rice Declares First Squadron in Battle Works Wonders

With the American Army in France

April 1. American aviators are fighting on the Somme front under a son of a former governor of Minnesota. He is a major and commands the first American squadron, except the Lafayette Escadrille, to get into action in the big fight.

"The men of my command are making a magnificent showing," he declared today. "Americans should be proud of them."

The major has a magnificent physique and ordinarily ruddy cheeks, but when he emerged from the battle for a brief rest he looked thin and pallid.

"You would look thin, too, if you had been through that hell," he said. "Shells are continuously breaking beneath and around you. The machine guns and other planes are after you every minute and every time you stop in a village it is bombed and shelled."

The major referred to in the foregoing despatch is undoubtedly Major Cushman A. Rice, one of the finest pictureque characters in the American army.

His career reads like a page from fiction. He has fought in South American revolutions, is a veteran of the Spanish-American war, was chief of scouts for American war, was chief of scouts for General Lawton in the Philippines and also took part in putting down the Balmora rebellion in China. It is reported that the late Richard Harding Davis wrote his "Captain Macklin" after hearing of Rice's exploits in a South American revolution. Rice has hunted big game in all parts of the world, was an airplane auto race driver, and when in New York where he lived most of the time, he was one of the figures along the great wide way.

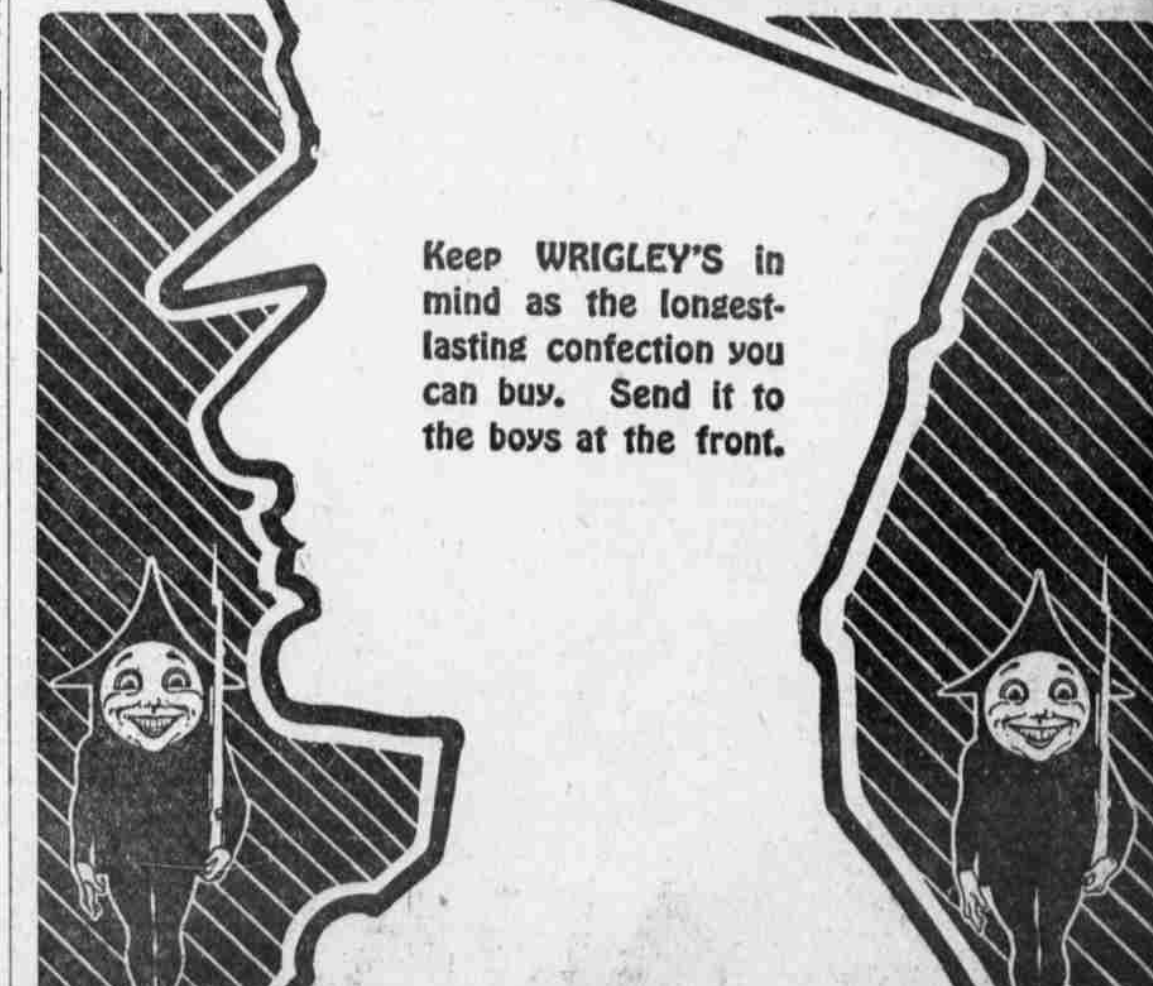
When America entered the war Rice immediately applied for a commission. He retired from the army after the Spanish-American war as a captain, returning into some delay in getting the commission. Rice, wanting to get "over there," enlisted as a private in the aviation corps. In a month he was a sergeant, and in a few more months he was made a major and given charge of a squadron.

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a 5-cent package of WRIGLEY'S will give you several days' enjoyment: it's an investment in benefit as well as pleasure, for it helps teeth, breath, appetite, digestion.

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