

WILL ELIMINATE LUXURY TAXES

Senate and House Conferees Agree to Measure to Repeal Them

MANY OTHER CUTS MADE

Original Eight Billion Total Is Now Reduced to \$5,500,000,000

Washington, Feb. 2.—House and Senate conferees on the revenue bill have reached an agreement to recommend no change in the so-called luxury taxes...

A nationwide campaign against the luxury taxes, aimed at certain grades of clothing, etc., costing above a stated amount, has been in progress for some time...

The conference committee has also agreed to make provision for depreciation in stocks in computing the profits of corporations...

The elimination of all the items that have been agreed on will leave the bill one that will yield less than \$5,500,000,000...

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GAS AND FLAME UNIT IS PRAISED

Philadelphia Officer Says Regiment Did Most Effective Work

OTHERS OF CITY BACK

Veterans From Here Among Those Brought by Transport to New York

Gripping stories of thrilling achievements under the fire of German guns are told by Philadelphians returned from the battlefields of Europe.

The first returning Philadelphia soldier in the only American gas and flame regiment to see service in France has arrived in New York and pays glowing tribute to the men in that organization.

He is Lieutenant Edwin Smiley, 5202 Haverford avenue, of the First Gas Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel William Taylor, medical detachment, has also arrived.

The gas and flame troopers achieved wonderful results in France and would have worked even greater havoc after getting into German territory where the fear of killing civilians would not have been so great, according to Lieutenant Smiley.

"When the infantrymen advanced our men protected them under the enveloping clouds of smoke projected by the smoke shells and cleared the way of much of the opposing units by the liberal use of gas and flame," the officer said.

Scattered throughout France "Then men of the gas unit saw action every time the men of the American army got into the fighting."

The lieutenant continued, "and that meant that details from our organization were scattered throughout France.

"The gas and flame men had to go in advance of the first line trenches out into the machine-gun swept No Man's Land to lay the pipes and prepare their offense, designed to shield the doughboys in their attacks, and when I tell you that 30 per cent of our regiment of 1500 men are casualties, you will appreciate the caliber of work done by them."

Lieutenant Colonel Taylor is a veteran of Base Hospital No. 10, in the Pennsylvania Hospital unit sent from Philadelphia in May, 1917, and tells some stirring tales of the nerve of soldiers under the fire and the accomplishments of the Philadelphia surgeons attached to the unit.

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CARL BUTCHER Son of Charles M. Butcher, of Hadron Heights, N. J., after a varied and dangerous experience on the sea on the oil tanker Hisko, died in the Willard Parker Hospital, New York.

BROTHER TO SOLVE PACKWOOD MYSTERY

Thinks Grief Caused Sister's Suicide—Burial Today in Trinity Churchyard

Englewood, N. J., Feb. 2.—George H. Packwood, Jr., brother of Azele E. C. Packwood, the Philadelphia mystery victim, came here from St. Louis yesterday. He identified the body which lies in the Greenleaf morgue as that of his missing sister.

After arranging for her burial in the Packwood vault in Trinity Cemetery yesterday, he announced his determination to solve the mystery.

After a conference with Arleigh Polham, of 149 Broadway, lawyer for Azele Packwood, Mr. Packwood went to Englewood. With him was Mrs. Lavethia Deale, of East Saguinaw, Mich., a sister of the suicide, who arrived in New York city yesterday.

"It's my sister," said Packwood after he had looked at the body with Prosecutor Thomas Hooker of Bergen County. "I was informed by the prosecutor that since the police were satisfied Miss Packwood met death by her own hand they would conduct no further inquiry into the case."

"I will not rest," said Packwood. "until I have cleared up this matter. I am still mystified about it. I realize that there is considerable public interest in this case, and I intend to get at the truth if I have to stay here indefinitely and then give to the press."

"I cannot state definitely whether my sister was married or single. I never heard personally of the late Dr. Clarence Fahnestock, who has been mentioned in connection with the case. Nor do I know the identity of the man known as 'Major Penton,' whom she is reported to have married."

"But I mean to find out all these things and then give out the truth. Reports from those who knew her here show the high regard in which they held her. It could not have been otherwise. She was a Packwood, and I am proud of my family."

"I knew something had happened to her, for her letters stopped suddenly about November 1. But about a month ago I received an important paper home from her father. Those papers are now in Tampa and they have not yet been examined. I will find out what is in them, for it is necessary for me to go to Florida, and I believe they will contain important revelations."

"I believe Azele killed herself while mentally deranged, many of whom were recently discharged from hospitals, were forced to stand in line for hours for their food, he said, and the weather was such that in most cases the lines were formed in rain. Housing conditions, he said, were poor and the food bad. Conditions were worse than those of the trenches, he says. He was formerly a teacher at the Mount View School.

The Susquehanna left St. Nazaire January 17, and the voyage was uneventful, with the exception of some exceedingly rough weather which caused the vessel to pitch on the waves.

James E. Keefe, 1421 Westmoreland street; Corporal John H. Whiting, 8146 Nassau road; William P. Knight, 4625 Frankford avenue; Edgar O. Oeters, 1258 South Millcreek street; Sergeant Charles E. Hein, 1825 North Twenty-

Socialists Gather at Berne Congress Open This Week, With General Delegates Present

Paris, Feb. 2.—(By A. P.)—Refusal by Belgian and American Socialists to attend either the Socialist or Trade union congresses at Berne does not seem to have deranged the plans of the leaders there, who are going ahead with the drawing up of their schedule as if nothing had occurred, according to a dispatch received here from Berne.

The coming week will be taken up by a reunion of all Socialist delegations and plenary sessions will be held toward the end of the week, the German delegates will go to Winter to be present at the opening of the German National Assembly. The permanent committee will continue work while the Germans are away and upon their return will discuss the status of a new Internationale based on the league of nations, territorial questions and workers' charters. Hilmar Branting, the Swedish Socialist, will preside at the opening session and make an address.

MAY BAR U-BOATS AS WAR WEAPONS

Scrapping of Submarines Proposed as Initial Plank of World League

AGREEMENT REPORTED

Gradual Curtailment of Armaments of All Nations Considered

By the Associated Press London, Feb. 2.—The abolition of submarines as warships may be decided upon by the league of nations committee during the coming week, according to the Paris correspondent of the Mail.

It is said that this was one of the several understandings which were reached during the conference on Friday between President Wilson and Colonel House, General Smuts and Lord Robert Cecil, and will probably be proposed among the first planks of the platform at the sessions this week, during which it is hoped the league's constitution may be definitely formed.

British and American delegates, representing the biggest naval powers, are said to have sounded all naval opinion on this point. It was suggested by some that the submarine might be used defensively between the three-mile limit of territorial waters, but the overwhelming sentiment was that the U-boat must be abolished outright.

"After scrapping the submarine," the correspondent says, "it is understood that recommendation will be made that the economic weapon take the place of speeding armaments in future. The league will try to arrange this early enough to insure that the financial savings thus gained will pay the interest on the world's war debt."

By the Associated Press Paris, Feb. 2.—The Allied commission, which is to examine the situation between the Poles and Czechoslovakia over the Teschen coal fields, has been able to arrange a truce between the two nationalities, only pending the arrival of the commission and personal examination by it of the situation there.

Accordingly the arrangements prescribe the sections where the Poles and Czechs are to exercise civil administration and military occupation and regulate the operation and disposition of the output of the mines. As soon as possible after its arrival the commission will go to Teschen to examine the matter at issue. This, although not unknown to the outside world, has been a very important and dangerous factor affecting relations between the newly created States.

Title to the Duchy of Teschen is involved in the controversy. This duchy was formerly part of the crown lands of Austria-Silesia and has a population of less than 500,000. It is about the size of Rhode Island. It is valuable because the coal it produces is only coal within the boundaries of either Poland or Czechoslovakia which will be essential to them at the present time.

On the same vessel were many other Philadelphians. Many were drafted men from Camp Meade and had been sent to the casual hospital at St. Agnan, because the coal it produces is only coal within the boundaries of either Poland or Czechoslovakia which will be essential to them at the present time.

The Czechs claim rents on suzerainty of Bohemia in the fourteenth century and the fact that coking coal is more essential to them than the Poles. They point out that the railroad running through the district is the only connecting link between two sections of Czechoslovakia.

The Poles, on the other hand, hold that the section should be divided along ethnological lines. This system would give them control.

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At Fritz & La Rue, 1124 Chestnut street, there is an enormous demand for all varieties of Persian, silk, velvet, mohogany, etc. goods, with very few exceptions, they are able to meet, having laid them in prior to the war, and though they have increased in value, they have not in price. Saruk rugs from the isolated northern part of Persia, with their soft, silken texture and firm texture, are great favorites.

One of Fritz & La Rue's rarest beautiful specimens has a field of pale olive rose, covered with a center medallion and four corner figures, interlaced with many flower forms in rich and harmonious hues.

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At the display set in Queen Anne pattern, consisting of seven pieces, and an Adam design four-piece dining room suit are also extremely attractive. Chairs, too, odd or in sets, are there. Finely upholstered wing chairs, comfortable chairs in ebony-finish frames, decorated with bouquets of flowers.

AS NEW mediums of expression of real art are few and far between, those who are esthetic in their tastes and appreciative of things beautiful, will enjoy the exquisite panels of Rookwood Ware at Bailey, Banks & Biddle Company. For years the French have excelled in delicate paintings on porcelain, but it remained for the Americans to produce the same effect in a less costly way in pottery, and no water-color or oil painting is more decorative or softer in appearance than the little framed Rookwood gems. The color qualities are remarkable, and there is the poetic charm and light silvery touch of a Corot in the woodland sunsets, glowing with rosy light, in the lake shimmering in the moonlight and in the snow-bound roads leading into the No-

AMILIARITY is said to breed contempt, but it is germs, not contempt, that the familiar old-style garbage pails breed. Fortunately, fewer are being used, and at the Housefurnishing Store of Franklin Miller, 1612 Chestnut street, there are many sanitary receptacles. The Sexton Sanitary Garbage Outfit is buried in the ground to within two inches of the top, and consists of an outer galvanized cylinder with an inner garbage pail, so arranged that the can is always centered. A chute directs the garbage into the pail, making it impossible to spill the refuse outside of this receptacle. The large receptacles are thus rendered the garbage pail to be taken out and emptied, but as long as the cover remains closed no prowling rats or dogs can get at the contents.

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MISSION TO POLAND ARRANGES ARMISTICE

Poles and Czech-Slovaks Agree to Truce While Commission Makes Inquiry

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PLANES TO RE-CROSS AMERICA

Special Masses and Services in Catholic Churches Today

Thousands of Catholics in Philadelphia assembled today in the churches and had their throats bleated in commemoration of St. Blasius.

There were special masses at all churches, and the throat blessing ceremony was performed at the conclusion of the service and at intervals during the day in many Catholic churches.

St. Blasius was revered because of his kindly nature and interest in the welfare of others. He gained especial renown through his ability in allying suffering. On many occasions he removed bones which had lodged in the throats of children.

Stokers whose suffering suffer from throat trouble went to him from distant points and he, as a rule, brought relief.

By the Associated Press Oyster Bay, L. I., Feb. 2.—Mrs. Roosevelt will sail for Europe on Wednesday, going on the French liner Lorraine. How long she will remain abroad is not known.

While in Europe Mrs. Roosevelt will spend several weeks with her sister, Miss Emily Carey, who is doing war work in a hospital in Italy. She has not seen her sister in several years, she will also see her two sons, Lieut. Col. Theodore and Captain Kermit, while in France. This part of the trip was contemplated by Colonel Roosevelt just before he died. Mrs. Roosevelt also expects to visit the grave of her youngest son, Lieutenant Quentin, who was killed in battle with a German aviator.

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