

Battle Over H.C. of L. Due In Congress

Democrats Plan to Submit Minority Report Monday on War Department's Handling of Its Food Surplus

Bitter Contest Expected

Republicans Will Try to Place Blame for Present Prices on Administration

WASHINGTON, July 25.—(Rebuffed in an effort today to get the committee to reopen the army food hearings with a view to reopening the report regarding the disposition of surplus foodstuffs made public yesterday, Democratic members of the select committee of the House investigating War Department expenditures, announced that they would submit a minority report next Monday.

Members of the committee of both parties think this split in the committee will result in the beginning Monday of a bitter contest over the cost of living, in which the Republicans will seek to place a measure of responsibility for it on the Administration.

The Administration Theory They declare that the course of the War Department in dealing with surplus foods is in line with a general theory of the Administration that wages must stay up for all time and that the cost of goods must in consequence be made to stay up likewise.

Taking a half turn around the circle, the Republicans say, the Administration then says that because the cost of living is up wages must go up. The Republican view is that, far from continuing the "vicious circle" of the increasing cost of living and higher wages, it is the business of the government to try to smash it.

How to smash it permanently, they say, is really the greatest problem before Congress, and they claim that before Congress, and they claim that surplus foods in the hands of the War Department can be used in the smashing process.

Minority Criticizes Majority Representative Flood, on behalf of the minority, submitted yesterday to Chairman Graham of the investigating committee a long statement in criticism of the majority report, and asked that that report be withdrawn from the House, that further evidence be taken, and that the proper report be made to the House.

Mr. Flood alleged that the report was inaccurate, contradictory and drafted without hearing evidence tending to confirm its conclusions. After pointing out the numerous errors and omissions in the report, Mr. Flood asked that Secretary of War Baker and nine army officers who have not previously been called to testify before the committee, be called to testify before subcommittee No. 4.

After lively debate the committee rejected, by a strict party vote, Mr. Flood's minority report, and asked that further testimony be taken. Mr. Flood then said the minority would make a separate report, incorporating the testimony the majority had voted to exclude.

City Plans to Sell Surplus Army Food Edwin A. O'Malley, Deputy Commissioner of Public Markets, setting under authority given by Mayor Hylan, made another attempt yesterday to obtain for New York City consumers a portion of the surplus army supplies held in warehouses in this zone.

Although the War Department officials failed to act favorably on his plea for a group of merchants purchasing some of the surplus, Mr. O'Malley is confident that his new suggestion, in which the city will act as consignee, will meet with approval.

As outlined in a letter to Captain Stewart, the surplus supply of deer, Mr. O'Malley's new plan provides for the delivery of large stocks of the game to police stations, firehouses, public schools and public markets.

City Departments Offered "Confirming my conversation with you yesterday," he wrote, "I am authorized by his Honor the Mayor to lend you information on the prices and variety of the surplus supplies. The first shipment of army food to a municipality will begin today. Captain Stewart announced, when 30,000 pounds of extra bacon will be sent to Newark. The sale was consummated yesterday. Newark will purchase \$100,000 worth of army food, the money being raised by an issue of city bonds.

Newark Gets Food Today Officials of Ridgewood, N. J., visited Captain Stewart yesterday and obtained information on the prices and variety of the surplus supplies. The first shipment of army food to a municipality will begin today. Captain Stewart announced, when 30,000 pounds of extra bacon will be sent to Newark. The sale was consummated yesterday. Newark will purchase \$100,000 worth of army food, the money being raised by an issue of city bonds.

Tons of Canned Foods Burned by Government BALTIMORE, July 25.—Great quantities of deteriorated canned foods are being burned at a refuse at the Quartermaster's Corps, near Riverview, and Government officials say they are powerless to prevent the waste. Thousands of cans have been taken from four big storage houses to this

dump. A swamp near by is filled with thousands of empty cans. Colonel H. M. Merriam, in charge of the local quartermaster's corps organization, said the destruction is entirely due to the fact that the contents of the goods unit for use, much of which is defective, due to hasty packing, and that almost the entire loss is falling on the packers who sold it to the government.

Colonel Merriam produced correspondence with the War Department and with packers from many sections of the country to show that much of the goods never could have been used.

Regulation of Packers May Increase Cost of Living, Tinkham Says

WASHINGTON, July 25.—(Washington Bureau) The passage of the Kenney amendment bill, placing the packing industry under strict government control, before thorough investigation is made of the problem of living, was urged today by Representative Tinkham, of Massachusetts, in a letter to Miss Jessie R. Haver, of the National Consumers League. Passage of the bill, he said, might disastrously increase the cost of living.

"The problem of the cost of living is one which involves the entire industrial, mercantile, financial and transportation structure and their interrelations," said Representative Tinkham. "Before any legislation is passed which attempts to reduce the present cost of living, such questions as the following must now, after the experiences and experiments of the last four years, be authoritatively answered:

"Whether government control increases or decreases costs and efficiency; "Whether fixing of prices by the government increases or decreases the cost of living; "Whether horizontal increases of wages meet the problem, or increase the cost of living, without final benefit to the producer, as well as the consumer; "What relation the present inflated currency has to the cost of living; and many general questions of like vital importance.

"These questions can be answered by such a committee as I propose, and with these answers there can then be legislation which will be intelligent, equitable and with some fixed principles.

"The passage of legislation not soundly based on correctly ascertained facts, and not based on sound fundamental principles cannot reduce the cost of living and may disastrously increase it."

"The terms of the proposed agreement were not given out. H. H. Raymond, president of the Ship Owners Association, who presided at a meeting held earlier in the day, said the ship owners had obtained a waiver on the demand for a closed shop. It was indicated that the union had compromised on its claim for union recognition. Mr. Brown denied this before going into the meeting. Mr. Carlson, leader of the firemen, said:

"We waive the closed shop question if they can show us a compromise proposition. The seamen are seeking, first, preference to American seamen for the handling of the cargo on the union men, as a substitute for the closed shop."

"Only a Few Hitches" Indications that the agreement was being reached were evident late last night when Mr. Brown explained to his friends, waiting outside the meeting room:

"There are only a couple of hitches left. We hope to have the terms on the floor for ratification by the next day. If the ratification is carried, we can return to work. This could not be done until after Saturday noon at the earliest."

Union leaders were of the opinion that the only hitch in the proceedings would be the three-watch system and some details of the increased pay demanded by the seamen. The men want a general increase of about \$15 monthly.

Passport Restrictions Lifted at Washington Ban Off for Persons Having Business Abroad, Except to Russia and Enemy Nations

WASHINGTON, July 25.—(Washington Bureau) Passport restrictions which have prevailed since the outbreak of the war, were lifted today by the State Department.

"Hereafter no person desiring to visit European countries, except enemy countries and Russia, will be required to show a passport, unless he is a citizen of the United States, or he is restricted as to age," Secretary Lansing announced. Applicants for passports will merely be required to show that the object of the visit is legitimate and reasonable.

"For the present, Mr. Lansing's announcement said, 'passports will not be issued to persons desiring to visit European countries for pleasure solely, but the department after November 1 will issue passports to such persons, unless reasons now unforeseen compel a continuance of the restriction."

"In view of the crowding of transatlantic steamships, all reasons for refusing to issue passports are being eliminated to the extent possible. The department is advised, before submitting their applications for passports, to inquire of the consuls of the countries which they propose to visit whether they will be able to have their passports issued therefor."

Berger's Wife Reads Book to Committee WASHINGTON, July 25.—Investigation of Victor Berger's fitness to sit in the House as representative of the 33rd Congressional District, because of his conviction on charges of disloyalty, did not proceed very far today.

Berger brought his wife with him and she spent two hours reading to the committee a book on Socialism, while the Representative-elect frequently interrupted her to explain exactly what he meant.

"Hands Off" Party Is Formed in Cuba HAVANA, July 25.—A new political party was formed in Cuba yesterday with "non-interference of other nations in Cuba's affairs" as its principal platform. The sponsors for the party are prominent Liberal and Conservative leaders who have always been outspoken in their opposition to the Platt amendment and have endeavored unsuccessfully to persuade their respective parties that they should not permit Americans to interfere in any way with Cuba's internal matters.

French Army Reduced PARIS, July 25.—All reserves of the French army, including the class of 1917, will be demobilized by the middle of October, according to plans completed by the government and published today. There would remain in service the classes of 1918, 1919 and 1920.

Before the meeting of the new Parliament, it is understood, Premier Clemenceau, as Minister of War, and Marshal Pétain will draft a plan for the reduction of military service. This, it is said, may reduce the active army to the equivalent of two classes or less.

Germans Favor Free Trade Policy Urged at Weimar as Curb on Monopolies BASEL, July 25.—A dispatch from Weimar says that the German National Assembly yesterday discussed an interpellation of the President concerning the adoption of free trade, with the view of curbing monopolies and improving German exchange.

Ship Strike Ends Today, Say Leaders

Local Unions Expected to Ratify Agreement, Drawn Up and Wired Broadcast, by This Afternoon

Closed Shop Compromise Terms Not Given Out, but Both Sides Say Definite Settlement Is Reached

WASHINGTON, July 25.—Legislation to provide punishment for persons who furnish State Department code messages or translations of secret dispatches to any one not entitled to the communications is under consideration by Secretary of State Clegg and may be suggested to Congress soon.

Mr. Lansing made this plain today when he expressed the hope that the results of the department's investigation of how Max Eastman and "The Nation" recently received copies of official government messages would be made public. The investigation is still in progress, Mr. Lansing said, but it has not yet resulted in any evidence disclosing the manner in which the secret documents became public.

The Secretary of State could not say whether the so-called "leak" occurred in the State Department or with the American peace mission in Paris.

Wilson Warns Against Sending Arms to Mexico LONDON, July 25.—(By The Associated Press)—The strike of approximately a quarter of a million men in the coal mines that threatened to paralyze many industries, was settled today. As one of the immediate results of the settlement, the order forbidding the export of coal has been withdrawn.

An official report issued after a conference held today between Premier Lloyd George and the executive body of the Miners' Federation, said that agreement has been reached and that the principle laid down by the government in its proposition had been adopted.

The government proposition, based on the interim report of the Sankey coal Commission, that the reduction of output to 10 per cent would be less than 10 per cent if a government assurance that piece workers should not suffer any loss in earnings, and that the piece rates would be increased by an amount which on the average was found necessary to correspond with the 10 per cent reduction in hours.

Before carrying out this agreement, the government said, it was necessary to fix a definite average of reduction in working time resulting from the introduction of the seven-day week after an examination of the figures it was decided to accept forty-seven minutes as the basis for this calculation.

The conference began in the afternoon and the Miners' Federation officials had accepted the principle of the government's offer for the settlement of the Yorkshire dispute. The conference was closed by Premier Lloyd George early this afternoon.

Late in the day, after the reaching of the agreement, Secretary Hodge of the Miners' Federation issued a statement, strongly urging all districts affiliated with the Federation to accept the settlement and resume work.

Herbert Smith, the leader of the Yorkshire miners, has kept aloof from all the negotiations, and it is not yet certain that he will accept the settlement.

There still remain other grievances of the miners which may be the cause of trouble. The first of these is the omission of the government to take steps to the direction of the recommendations in the recent Sankey report for the gradual nationalization of mines, and the second the government's refusal to grant the demands of the miners for an impartial expert inquiry into decreased output, which the miners assert is due to the reduction in the number of hours of working on the part of the miners, and to the failure of the mine owners to keep their mines in proper working order by the provision of needful timber, hauling equipment and other things.

The owners are deliberately neglecting to repair the equipment of the mines to discredit nationalization.

Complaints Not Expected In answer to one of many questions put to him by the committee, Mr. Doak said he did not consider that under the conference plan, with the railroads practically assured of a certain income, the employees of the adjustment board always would be complainant, knowing that whatever they yielded would have to be made up by increased rates. This had not been so under government control.

There was no trouble, Mr. Doak explained, in answer to a question in enforcing arbitration decisions on railroads, saying that one certain factor to take it without ratification, and the discipline of the organization was such that it infallibly held the men to agreements.

Mr. Doak's testimony concluded the presentation of the conference plan. Next Tuesday the committee will take up other proposed plans.

One Corset Strike Over; Other Trouble Grows EMPLOYEES WIN 44-HOUR WEEK, MORE PAY AND UNION RECOGNITION BRIDGEPORT, Conn., July 25.—With the granting of the 44-hour week, the strike at the Crown-Bacheller Corset Company factory was settled today. There is a pay increase and recognition of a shop committee to be chosen by the employees.

An agreement reached at the Birdsey-Somers Company's offices is expected to be made tonight at an employees' meeting. The La Resistencia Corset Company refuses to grant the 44-hour week and the strike continues.

Employees of the Hawthorne Manufacturing Company voted on today after their present demands. If the Columbia Graphophone Company does not come to an agreement with its 1,000 striking employees to-morrow the entire plant will be struck by the employees. Sixty weavers of the Raybestos Company left work today and the Bryant Electric Company plant and the Remington-Yost factory were closed pending conferences on wage and other demands.

Protestants of France Decried Plea for Kaiser Ask Their German Brethren Who Seek Clemency Why They Did Not Oppose Crimes PARIS, July 25.—The "Temps" today published a note which the Protestant Federation of France had addressed to President Poincaré in answer to a letter sent him a few days ago by the Protestant community of Berlin asking the democratic France to help the American Protestants in their fight against the Kaiser, by sparing their benefactors, the Hohenzollerns.

The note of the French Protestants expresses stupefaction that the Berlin Protestants, claiming to be Huguenots, should not have taken any steps in favor of the former German Emperor in an attempt to bring about a compromise having to face the verdict of the civilized nations.

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Lansing Planning Law To Prevent Code "Leaks" Wants Measure to Prohibit Publication of Messages Like Those in "The Nation"

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Lloyd George Ends Danger of Labor Crisis

Coal Miners Are Granted Increase to Compensate Losses in Government's 7-Hour Day Programme

Britain Averts Disaster

Leader of Yorkshire Men Avoids Conference and May Still Cause Trouble

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French Parliamentary Election October 12

Six Hundred Deputies To Be Chosen; to Name Senators on November 23

PARIS, July 25.—Elections for a new French Parliament will probably be held October 12.

Six hundred Deputies only will be elected on October 12. In the municipal elections the first balloting will be held on October 13 and the second balloting a fortnight later.

The election of Senatorial delegates has been tentatively fixed for November 13, and the election of Senators for November 23. Many of the senatorial elections will be held November 30.

The radical Socialists who voted in favor of the government after Tuesday's debate in the Chamber of Deputies were sharply criticized today at the weekly meeting of the radical Socialist group.

Henri Franklin-Bouillon, Deputy for the Seine-et-Oise, violently attacked the ministry, declaring that the Cabinet ought not to be allowed to preside over the election of Senators, and that the radical Socialist party should endeavor by another interpretation to overthrow the government.

Tranmen Prefer U. S. Ownership to Conference Plan

W. N. Doak Appears for Men Before House Committee; Calls Boards of Employes and Employers Successful

WASHINGTON, July 25.—W. N. Doak, vice-president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, appearing before the House Interstate Commerce Committee today, said that he favored government ownership of the railroads rather than the plan presented by the Transportation Conference.

Mr. Doak said that the conference's suggestion for the adjustment of wages and hours of labor by boards representing equally employers and employees, with appeal in case of deadlock to the Federal Railroad Transportation Board. This method, he thought, would work equally well under government or private ownership.

Balanced Board Successful In view of the fact that this is substantially the method in operation under government control of the railroads, with the Director of Railroads as referee, and as one of those boards already has dealt with 40,000 cases without a single appeal, Mr. Doak said he believed that a "balanced" board, instead of one having one or more neutral members, would be best to settle differences between employers and employees.

When there are no neutrals both sides tend to lose something of their character as special representatives and seek to take a broad view of the question of the kind of work to be done, arrived at in their decision, and not that of the members who belong to neither faction.

Mr. Doak opposed compulsory arbitration, saying that one certain factor to take it without ratification, and the discipline of the organization was such that it infallibly held the men to agreements.

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7,647 Ex-77th Men Get Jobs With U. S. Aid

Most of 3,200 Others of Metropolitan Division Who Asked Help of Bureau No Longer Need Aid

Many Taking Vacations

Few Still Looking for Places; Nearly All Are Getting Higher Pay Now

How have the men of the 77th Division fared in the scramble for reemployment?

Gordon L. Sawyer, of the United States Employment Service, detailed to the 77th Division Employment Bureau, reports that of 10,842 soldiers of the division who wanted jobs when they were discharged he has placed 7,647. Here are his figures, as reported to Dr. George W. Kirchwey, New York State Federal Director of the Employment Service:

Table with 2 columns: Positions Wanted, Total. Rows include men registered in France, March 3 to July 19, men registered by mail, May 9 to July 19, estimated unregistered, but out of work, July 19, and Total.

Back in old jobs, May 9 to July 19, 3,200 in old or new jobs, May 9 to July 19, 4,447. Total 7,647. Men still unemployed, 3,195. Despite these figures, Mr. Sawyer does not believe there are 3,195 men of the division in New York looking for work now.

Many Taking Vacations "Some have found jobs without our aid and have not notified us," he said. "Many others do not want jobs now. Some are studying, others taking vacations. A number had no jobs when they entered the army, and don't want them now."

"A short while ago we had a call for fifteen men who were on our list as looking for that kind of work. Not one answered. This shows that not all of the 3,195 are looking for work. It is impossible to estimate just how many are looking for that kind of work. We still continue to place about twenty a day."

"Most of the men stay in the jobs we find, although some, of course, have star job offers. Some come back to us two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five, twenty-six, twenty-seven, twenty-eight, twenty-nine, thirty, thirty-one, thirty-two, thirty-three, thirty-four, thirty-five, thirty-six, thirty-seven, thirty-eight, thirty-nine, forty, forty-one, forty-two, forty-three, forty-four, forty-five, forty-six, forty-seven, forty-eight, forty-nine, fifty, fifty-one, fifty-two, fifty-three, fifty-four, fifty-five, fifty-six, fifty-seven, fifty-eight, fifty-nine, sixty, sixty-one, sixty-two, sixty-three, sixty-four, sixty-five, sixty-six, sixty-seven, sixty-eight, sixty-nine, seventy, seventy-one, seventy-two, seventy-three, seventy-four, seventy-five, seventy-six, seventy-seven, seventy-eight, seventy-nine, eighty, eighty-one, eighty