

DEMANDS THAT U. S. MAKE ITS MUNITIONS

Rep. Tavenner Leads "Labor Group" Fight on Gun and Powder Makers.

MAKES BITTER SPEECH

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The opening gun in the fight that is to be made by the "labor group" in Congress to force the adoption of a policy under which the Government will build all its battleships and manufacture its munitions of war was fired in the House today when Representative Tavenner of Illinois charged that the munition makers were heavy contributors to societies organized to further the cause of preparedness.

Mr. Tavenner criticised retired army and naval officers for having accepted employment with corporations engaged in making munitions, intimating that such relations were improper and insisting that they should be prohibited by the Government. He advocated the construction of Government owned munition plants, making the argument that it would practically be impossible for the United States adequately to expand its military establishments as long as it had to rely on the high prices exacted for such products by private corporations.

The speaker charged that the munition makers operated under a community of interest system and that all were anxious to secure the Government to extraordinary expenditures for the army and navy.

Agreement With Germany.

In the course of his speech Mr. Tavenner referred to an agreement alleged to have been made by the du Pont Powder Company to supply its products to Germany. He charged that in this agreement the du Pont corporation was pledged to impart to Germany any secrets that might come into its possession relative to the science of powder making.

At the same time, according to Mr. Tavenner, the du Ponts had relations with the United States which give the company the benefit of any secret knowledge that American naval officers might have as to powder processes.

Mr. Tavenner said the agreement with Germany was signed by a man who is now sitting in the United States Senate, meaning Senator du Pont of Delaware, member of the Committee on Military Affairs and former chairman of the committee.

Mr. Tavenner was called to order by Speaker Clark for referring to the Senator in violation of House rules.

Mr. Tavenner then withdrew his remarks concerning Senator du Pont.

Scolds Navy Officers.

The speaker referred to Major-General Charles W. Humphrey as an officer of the du Pont Powder Company and to the connection of Rear Admiral Brownson with the International Nickel Company. Discussing Rear Admiral Brownson's relations with the so-called "nickel trust" Mr. Tavenner said he maintained his home in Washington, "where he is no doubt of more value to the International Nickel Company through his contact with naval officials than he would be any place else."

Mr. Tavenner charged that the "war magnates" were making "millions and millions" out of the trouble in Europe.

"It is not to the interest of these men that the war shall be brought to a speedy close," he said. "It is not to their interest that the United States shall not become involved in the European war, but that it shall become involved. The more that war the more profits. To the war trust backers peace would be a calamity. War is unprofitable to the Government, but profitable to the war magnates. Why not make war unprofitable even to them by taking all profit out of war and preparation for war? Congress can manufacture munitions, turning all of its own munitions and ships."

AERONAUTIC BOARD REPORTS.

President Sends Results of Year's Study to Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The first report of the aeronautical advisory board created in the last Congress was forwarded to the House today by President Wilson.

The report, which bears the signature of Gen. George V. Serrin, chairman, shows that the board has collected a mass of scientific data. It is recommended that the importance of air craft to the Army and Navy Departments in view of the utilization of such craft in the present war in Europe is so evident that further comment is unnecessary. It is strongly recommended that adequate facilities be provided to conduct the important experimental work necessary for the efficient development of both branches on aeronautical lines.

YUAN FORMALLY ACCEPTS.

Taking Crown, Says His Patriotism Is Keen as Others.

PEKIN, Dec. 15.—Yuan Shih-k'ai has formally accepted the offer of the imperial crown of China. The following Presidential mandate was issued here today:

"The acting Li Fu Yuan (China's temporary Parliament), representing the National Citizens Representative Convention, has accepted the offer of the crown. I should not refuse their request and has again presented the people's offer and pressed me further to ascend the throne. It should be understood that my patriotism is as strong as that of any others. But now the citizens' demand is so pressing and their expectation so keen that it is impossible for me to excuse myself and shirk the responsibility which has devolved upon my shoulders.

"Still in laying the foundation for great things, an emperor must be as this, numerous important considerations present themselves. Therefore while avoiding dilatoriness this thing should not be done hastily. Thus it is ordered that all the Ministries and departments shall assemble among themselves and make detailed preparations, and when completed that these be presented for examination. The petitions received are ordered filed at the state Department."

CANADIAN CABINET SHAKEUP.

Sir Richard McBride Quits as British Columbia's Premier.

MONTREAL, Dec. 15.—Sir Richard McBride, Premier of British Columbia, resigned today because of a disagreement with the Canadian Government on railway and submarine policies. He had held the post twelve years.

Mr. Rowell, Minister of the Interior, and both as Premier and leader of the Conservative party. He has been Attorney-General for many years.

Sir Richard was born in London in a few days to become Agent-General for British Columbia.

REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC LEADERS IN CONGRESS



WAR POURS GOLDEN STREAM INTO MINT

\$126,224,600 Came Into New York Assay Office Alone in Four Months.

\$50,000,000 FROM FAR EAST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Complete data as to the movements of gold to and from the United States in the critical days following the outbreak of the European war and in the later period in which Europe has become debtor to us, are given in the annual report of Director of the Mint Woolley, made public today.

The Director announces that since July 1, 1914, the volume of business has increased so steadily and rapidly that the records show the total value of the deposits at the New York Assay Office for the first four months of the year 1915 to be \$126,224,600, nearly as much as the total deposits for the entire fiscal year 1914, which heretofore has been the banner year for the New York Assay Office.

Director Woolley characterizes the fiscal year 1915 as the most eventful in the history of the mint service. The mint at San Francisco, he says, received between April 1 and November 1, 1915, more than \$50,000,000 in foreign gold coins and bullion from Australia, Japan and China, as compared with \$4,346,000 during the calendar year 1914.

Very little of the foreign gold received has been in the form of bars, according to the report, but the major portion has been in the form of gold coins and silver pieces, chiefly British sovereigns and Japanese yen. The prompt melting and storing of this coin presented problems calling for extraordinary energy and some ingenuity says Mr. Woolley.

The Director of the Mint points out that since July, 1915, there has been an unprecedented demand for subsidiary coins. In preparation for this demand he purchased 4,375,000 ounces of silver in July, 1915, the stock of the metal on hand at that time being very low.

The total coinage of the Government for the fiscal year amounted to \$46,458,458, of which \$40,533,317 was gold, \$3,252,032 silver, \$1,718,776 nickel and \$481,331 bronze.

PERU RATIFIES NEW COINAGE.

Percentage of Silver to Paper Money Restricted.

LIMA, Dec. 15.—The new coinage recently passed by the Peruvian Congress has been put into effect by a decree issued by the Government today. The law provides Government coinage of 200,000 soles, or \$100,000, each month in fractional silver coins and also permits the making of coins for use as money by private persons at a small charge for coinage.

A. G. McLAUGHLIN IN RACE.

Brooklyn Democratic Club Head May Get Postmastership.

Word reached Brooklyn yesterday from Washington that Alonzo G. McLaughlin, president of the Democratic Club, was under consideration for the postmastership, which is temporarily filled by ex-Senator Walter C. Burton. Mr. McLaughlin's name has been presented to President Wilson, and it is reported that the appointment will be made until he returns from his honeymoon.

A Christmas With No Gifts--

no tokens of the day, no remembrances from friends, barely enough food to sustain life, no winter clothing, and the constant threat of a "dispossession."

Left to themselves, such will be this Christmas in some 3,000 homes known to us—most of them with little children—where recent death or sickness cause the distress which winter now makes acute.

Will you join us to bring a little Christmas brightness to these homes?

Send your gift to GEORGE BLISS, Treasurer, Room 311, 105 East 22nd Street.

NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR

CORNELIUS N. BLISS, Jr., President.

SENATORS BANKHEAD AND UNDERWOOD, OF ALABAMA

WHERE DO THEY GET THEIR IDEAS THAT WOULD DRIVE OUT DRINK BY HYPNOTISM?



SENATOR WEEKS OF MASS.

By FRANK WING.

MAY JAM THROUGH WAR TAX BILL TO-DAY

Republicans to Protest Measure Extending Special Revenue Another Year.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Plans have been perfected by the Democratic leaders of the House to pass the Administration bill to reauthorize the special revenue act from December 31 next to January 1, 1917. Many Democrats have crumpled over a proposal to continue the war taxes, but indications are that the measure will be passed by a comfortable majority.

NEED OF \$120,000 MAY DELAY BIG NAVY PLAN

Unless Congress Grants Funds for Draughtsmen, Building Won't Begin Until 1917.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Unless Congress appropriates an additional sum of \$120,000 for draughtsmen in the navy none of the warships proposed in the Administration's naval building program can be started before April 1, 1917. If the appropriation is granted the Navy Department will be in a position to let contracts within six weeks after Congress passes the program.

MANCHESTER A BANKRUPT.

Duke, III in Paris, Says He Wants to Pay All His Debts.

LOANING, Dec. 15.—The Duke of Manchester, son-in-law of the late Eugene C. Zimmerman of Cincinnati, was adjudged a bankrupt today. The plan which was promised last week would be presented to the creditors was not ready. His counsel asked for a further adjournment, but the court refused and appointed F. S. Salaman as trustee of the Duke's estate.

5 BATTLESHIPS NEED CREWS.

Can't Take Part in Manoeuvres Because of Lack of Men.

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 15.—It is announced in naval circles that the battleships Vermont and New Hampshire will go to Vera Cruz with the Atlantic fleet in January to participate in winter manoeuvres. These two ships are short several hundred men of having their regular crew complement.

YEAR'S FARM YIELD TOPS TEN BILLION

Wheat and Corn Are Worth \$2,686,161,000, Cotton \$602,393,000.

MANY NEW RECORDS SET

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The final estimate of crop values by the Department of Agriculture shows that this year's principal farm crops were worth \$5,668,773,000, on a basis of December 1 prices. This compares with \$4,974,527,000 last year, \$4,986,497,000 in 1913 and \$4,787,478,000 in 1912.

With the wheat crop passing the billion bushel mark for the first time in the nation's history, total production reaching a 2,000,000,000 bushel total for the second time, and record crops of oats, barley, rye, sweet potatoes, hay and rice, the year has been an extraordinary one. The value of some of the crops is the largest ever recorded.

Table with columns for Crop, 1915, and 1914. Rows include Wheat, Corn, Spring wheat, Oats, Barley, Buckwheat, Rice, Potatoes, Sweet potatoes, Hay, Tobacco, and Sugar beets.

Further details of the report show: Corn production, 3,054,525,000 bushels, against 2,672,804,000 last year.

Winter wheat production, 655,045,000 bushels, against 615,930,000 last year.

Spring wheat production, 356,406,000 bushels, against 306,027,000 last year.

Barley production, 237,009,000 bushels, against 194,933,000 last year.

Rye production, 49,190,000 bushels, against 42,779,000 last year.

Sweet potato production, 74,250,000 bushels, against 65,574,000 last year.

Cotton production, 11,161,000 bales of 500 pounds gross, excluding linters, against 16,135,000 last year.

Sugar beet production, 4,663,000 tons, against 4,662,000 last year.

Buckwheat production, 15,769,000 bushels, against 16,811,000 last year.

Flaxseed production, 13,845,000 bushels, against 15,559,000 last year.

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The doubters

Columbus was doubted when he steered westward, Galileo was gaoled when he said the earth was round, and a lot of people said the Equitable Building would not be a success.

Look the Equitable proposition over and you will know why.

Equitable Building Corporation 120 Broadway

DIRECT TAX DUE TO ERROR, SAYS TRAVIS

Comptroller Admits Increase in State Revenue Was Not Foreseen.

CASH SURPLUS IN 1917

ALBANY, Dec. 15.—Eugene M. Travis, State Comptroller, does not share the expectancy of Gov. Whitman that the State is on the verge of a heavy direct tax, approximately \$5,000,000. This was made plain to-night when the Comptroller's communication to the Governor and legislative leaders forecasting the possibility of the State being relieved of a direct tax.

In his report Comptroller Travis says that "only a small direct tax will be necessary next year and that perhaps such a tax may be entirely avoided." In his advisory to the Governor and other State officials he is obeying the provision of the State finance law which requires him to furnish such information to those responsible for the State's finances.

The legislative leaders will look upon the Travis statement as a much rosier outlook than the one given recently by the Governor. The State revenue for 1917, based on existing laws, is \$2,531,800, but adds that with the favorable action of the Legislature there should be a surplus in the State treasury on September 30, 1917, of \$4,298,193.

Governor Is Silent.

Gov. Whitman did not discuss the statement to-night, but probably will do so in a day or two.

In his report, Comptroller Travis says: "It is estimated that the aggregate expenditures for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1917, will exceed the revenues for the same period by about \$2,000,000, if the revenues from recommendations are taken into account. In addition to the revenues, there will be available a cash surplus at the beginning of that fiscal year of probably \$4,298,193."

Woman Centenarian Drops Dead.

Mrs. Emily Mayhew Osborne, a centenarian, died of heart disease yesterday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Victor C. Smith, 660 East 164th street, The Bronx. She was born in Spencer, N. Y., April 29, 1815. Her paternal grandfather was Thomas Mayhew, the first Governor of Martha's Vineyard. She leaves two daughters, three grand-children and six great-grandchildren.

For Christmas

Plashers Mead

by COMPTON MACKENZIE

"He has done the unexpected and almost amazing thing. He has written a story about love that is as fascinating as love itself. It is revealed to us certain men and women that we would like to know more about. Their charm and the novel's charm alike irresistible." Boston Transcript.

Author of "Youth's Enemy," "Smiler," "Street."

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The Coward Shoe

A Practical Gift A Coward Shoe Gift Certificate is the most useful gift you can give. It is redeemable any time at its face value in Coward Shoes, those comfort-giving friends to the feet.

The Coward Shoe

Resolve this year to make your gifts PRACTICAL by presenting Coward Shoe Certificates to your friends and relatives.

Certificates on Sale Now at James S. Coward 864-974 Greenwich St., N. Y. (Near Warren Street)