THE WEATHER FORECAST.
Fair to-day; to-morrow fair; fresh south to southwest winds.
Highest temperature yesterday, 78; lowest, 63.
Detailed weather reports on page 6.

The Sun.

IT SHINES FOR ALL

VOL. LXXXIV.—NO. 300. NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 1917.—Copyright, 1917, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association. ONE CENT In Greater New York | Elsewhere TWO CENTS.

CALLS COCCHI WHITE SLAVE GANG'S AGENT

Blackwell's Island Prisoner Tells Police of Acts in Shop.

CARRIED AWAY DIRT

Story Is Corroborated by Office Boy and a Policeman.

PRIEST ENTERS A DENIAL

Father Moretto Asserts He Did Not Shelter Suspect Before Flight.

With news from Bologna, Italy, yesterday that the authorities had begun to doubt certain parts of the confession of Alfredo Cocchi there came local developments which tended to show several new features of the crime. These were brought out in an investigation of the story told by Stephen Smith, a half-breed Indian, who is serving a term on Blackwell's Island for larceny. If his story is fully verified—and salient points of it have stood the test—it will be shown that:

Cocchi was a local agent for a white slaver and together they held a woman on February 13, the day Ruth Cruger disappeared.

The two men and the girl were seen driving away from Cocchi's shop that night in a taxicab a fact which bears out to some extent a story told to the police at that time.

Through the subsequent presence of the white slaver with Cocchi up to February 15 it is suspected that he was an accomplice in the crime.

Smith reported to the Sixth detective branch in Brooklyn after the disappearance of Cocchi that he had carried away several loads of dirt from Cocchi's shop and asked them to make an investigation.

"On February 12," said Smith, a man named Trease took me to Cocchi's shop. I noticed when we got there that Cocchi had a girl in the back room. Shortly afterward Cocchi and Trease took the girl away in a taxicab. On February 15 I got a message to go to Cocchi's shop. He handed me a letter to Trease. He instructed me to deliver this letter to a man whom I would meet at Twenty-first street and Broadway. It was not Trease. This man apparently had got a description of me, because he accosted me at once and I turned the letter over to him.

Asked to Move Dirt.

"After delivering this I went back to Cocchi's shop. The back door was open and there was a big bundle on the floor covered with a blanket. I had noticed before that this blanket had been laid over the basket car of a motorcycle.

"Cocchi said he would give me $5 if I would dispose of a pile of dirt for him. He asked me to take it to the nearest city dump. I loaded the dirt that night into a motorcycle side car and made three or four trips.

"A day or so after that Trease left for El Paso. Cocchi advised me to go with him. I refused. I did not see Cocchi after he had paid me the $5. When I saw his name in the newspapers I went to the Sixth branch detective bureau and told them what I knew. I even offered to take them to the place where I had got the dirt and where I had dumped it. As I remember, I talked to acting Detective Sergeant Matthew Ward and another detective named Christie. They would do nothing. I was arrested soon afterward and on April 8 was sent to the penitentiary."

Detective Ward in reporting to his superiors said that Smith's story so far as it related to his telling him what he knew of the crime was false.

Verification of Smith's story comes from two opposite sources, Henry Roemmele, an errand boy for Cocchi, a week ago told Assistant District Attorney Fitzgerald that when he went into Cocchi's shop between February 13 and 15 he found that one of the motorcycles in the rear of the shop had a basket car attached, covered with a big blanket.

Patrolman Thomas P. Garigan of Traffic E said that one night in February he found a man carting dirt in a motorcycle car. This was close to Cocchi's shop. He said he questioned the man. The explanation was satisfactory to him, said Garigan, so he permitted the man to go.

"It was somewhere around February 20 I should imagine," Garigan said.

Priest Enters Denial.

Father Gaspar Moretto of St. Raphael's Society for Italian Immigrants at 10 Charlton street, accompanied by Father Anthony Demo, went to the District Attorney's office yesterday and branded as false that part of the Bologna confession of Cocchi in which he said that he had been sheltered by a priest for two days and aided in his escape from this country. It was explained that Cocchi made his confession in the ecclesiastical and not in the criminal sense. Of the confession the veil of silence which the church throws around the rite makes it impossible for any man made law to penetrate its secrets.

Father Moretto said his acquaintance with Cocchi dated from 1907, when he married Cocchi and Maria Magrina on Ellis Island. He could not recall the day in February on which he met Cocchi. He thought it was about the middle of the month. He said:

"I left Ellis Island on the 4:40 boat and got home at 5:30. There were eight or ten persons waiting for me. Cocchi was the first to talk to me. I didn't recognize him until he mentioned the circumstance of our other meetings. He said he had waited for me for two or three hours.

"'I would be glad for you to hear my confession,' he said to me. I told him to wait until I had attended to the others. Then he went to confession to me and left immediately afterward. He didn't tell me where he was going. I didn't see him or hear from him after that time. I never gave him any money, nor did he ask me for any.

"I did not know of the Cruger girl's disappearance at that time. Not until two days afterward did I learn of it through the newspapers. About a month

Continued on Fourth Page.

Won't Loosen Hold Until Peace Is Won, Says Kaiser

AMSTERDAM, June 26.—Emperor William in reviewing troops on the western front on June 21 made a speech in which, according to a Berlin telegram to-day, he said:

"I express to the troops gathered here my fullest appreciation of their conduct and my firm confidence that they, as hitherto, whenever they may be employed, will, trusting in God, do their duty and succeed in gaining the peace for the fatherland which we need for its further development."

In conclusion the Emperor is quoted as saying:

"I am especially delighted to be able once more to congratulate the well tried dragoon regiment of Bayreuth, of Hohenfriedeberg fame. When in the late summer of 1916 I sent the Borecki squadron to Rumania I gave it on the way my order to maintain at all costs the old tradition wherever it might be and to gain fresh laurels if possible. The regiment fulfilled the expectations of its supreme war lord and accomplished deeds which will please 'Old Fritz' up there in the Elysian fields. May it keep this up. We shall not let loose our hold until a happy peace is gained."

MARTIAL LAW RULES IN SPAIN

Government Suspends Constitutional Guarantees Following Disorder.

MADRID, June 26.—The Government yesterday decided to suspend constitutional guarantees. Premier Dato went to the palace to obtain the King's signature to the decree authorizing the suspension. The reason for this action is outlined in the following official note issued to-day by the Cabinet:

"Following reports from various provinces, according to which campaigns of agitation have been conducted by well known persons, who have excited violence and provoked disorder, and outbursts on the part of a certain section of the press, which has been publishing deplorable articles attacking the fundamentals of social order and tending to destroy military discipline and to present Spain as a country undermined by the passion of revolution and ripe to afford a spectacle of violence and crime, the Government, after an examination of all the circumstances that menace public order in various ways, believes it indispensable to tranquillity to decree the suspension of the guarantees."

Count Romanones has written a letter to the President of the Senate resigning from his position as Director of the Liberal party and asking for the appointment of a committee to take his place.

The suspension of the constitutional guarantees has been followed by the announcement of a new and rigid censorship on all military information, the movement of troops, the attitude of Spain toward the war, the movement of warships, as well as strike meetings and the agitation of political societies.

The Cabinet headed by Marquis Prieto resigned on June 9 because of inability to cope with the various internal difficulties confronting the country. Widespread labor troubles, high prices of necessities, the cutting off of a large part of the country's export trade by the submarine campaign, leading to industrial depression; dissatisfaction in the army and irritation over the persistent pro-German propaganda which has been carried on, combined to produce a dangerous situation, and at times there has been fear of a revolutionary movement.

The Dato Cabinet was formed on June 12, and subsequent press despatches from Madrid said the situation had improved considerably and that the crisis had been passed.

VON TIRPITZ SERIOUSLY ILL.

German Grand Admiral Seeks Relief in Black Forest.

GENEVA, June 26.—Admiral Alfred von Tirpitz, formerly German Minister of Marine, has arrived at St. Blaise, in the Black Forest. He is suffering seriously from diabetes.

Grand Admiral von Tirpitz has been Germany's chief advocate of unrestricted submarine warfare. He had much to do with the building of Germany's great fleet and is known as "the father of the German navy." He retired as Minister of the navy in March, 1916, ill health being given as the reason.

LOANS TO ALLIES PASS BILLION.

Total $1,008,000,000, With New Advances to Britain and France.

WASHINGTON, June 26.—American loans to the Allies passed the billion dollar mark to-day when the Treasury placed $15,000,000 to the credit of Great Britain and $10,000,000 to France's account.

Credits to all the Allies to meet their expenditures in this country now total $1,008,000,000, of which Great Britain has received $550,000,000 and France $210,000,000.

CZAR'S DANCER SUES FOR PALACE SEIZURE

Kshesinska Asks 2,000,000 Rubles Damages.

PETROGRAD, June 26.—Mlle. Kshesinska, the dancer and favorite of the former Emperor, has instituted suit against the provisional Government for 2,000,000 rubles.

She is suing because of the Government's failure to eject the followers of Nikolai Lenine, the radical Socialist leader, from her palace, which they occupied during the revolution, and the refusal of the military authorities to send troops to evict the Leninites.

The legal period for the evacuation of the villa expired to-day, but the Leninites decline to leave.

A despatch from Petrograd May 29 said that after a long process in the courts the keys of the palace had been delivered to Mlle. Kshesinska. At that time Kshesinska complained that furs to the value of 237,000 rubles were missing.

CANADIANS GET TOWN WITHIN MILE OF LENS

Germans Fall Back Along Line as Allies Drive on City.

TEUTONS ADMIT LOSS

Roads Are Turned Into Craters in Effort to Check Advance.

LONDON, June 26.—Canadian troops occupied the village of La Coulotte, one mile immediately south of Lens, this morning, drawing tighter and closer the line which is slowly encircling the great mining city. Near La Coulotte the Germans were forced to withdraw from a line about a mile and three-quarters long.

South of the Souchez River the British first took railway embankments just east of the Lens electric station, whence they continued the advance toward the village last night. Patrols sent out opposite Mericourt this morning discovered that the Teutons have made huge craters at all cross roads leading to Lens. These craters were not in evidence forty-eight hours ago.

Meanwhile Gen. Petain, resuming his dashing operations on the Aisne front, scored a brilliant success with his French troops in a surprise attack northwest of Hurtebise to-day. He carried the entire first line of the strong German position and held it against counter attacks, the Germans suffering heavy losses and leaving more than 300 men as prisoners. Through this sector, between Craonne and Cerny, lies the most feasible route to the German fortress of Laon, the vital support of the whole German line on the French front.

German Prisoners Taken.

The official reports follow:

British (Night)—In the operations carried out by us last night northeast of Fontaine-les-Croiselles all our objectives were gained with little loss. Twenty-seven prisoners were taken. Two hostile counter attacks delivered with considerable strength were driven off.

During the day our progress south of Lens continued. Our troops extended their gains. Enemy positions astride the Souchez River, on a front of two miles to a depth of 1,000 yards, passed into our possession. We have occupied the village of La Coulotte.

In the air fighting yesterday two German airplanes were brought down. Three other hostile machines were driven down out of control. One of our machines is missing.

British (Day)—There was a successful local operation last night northwest of Fontaine-les-Croisilles, resulting in the capture of a number of German prisoners. A hostile raiding party was repulsed in the night west of La Bassee.

French Night Statement.

French (Night)—The day was calm save in the region of Moulin de Laffaux, where the artillery fighting was quite active, and in the region of Rheims, which was violently bombarded.

After a short bombardment last evening our troops made a brilliant attack northwest of Hurtebise against a strongly organized position of the enemy. All our objectives were attained. In a few moments we carried the German first line. Counter attacks delivered by the enemy at both ends of this position, supported by violent artillery bombardment, were broken up by our fire. The enemy, surprised by the rapidity of our attack, suffered heavy losses and left in our hands more than 300 prisoners, including ten officers.

Several enemy surprise attacks on small posts in the region of Tahure and in the Argonne were broken up by our fire.

Belgian—The enemy shelled our roads of communication, while the artillery actions were especially spirited in the neighborhood of Ramscapelle, Dixmude, Reninghe and Pypegaale. There was lively bomb fighting near the Ferryman's House.

WATER DEFENDS LENS.

Germans Flood Plains in Hope of Saving City.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, June 26 (by the Associated Press).—Realizing his danger, the German commander is fighting for Lens like a wolf in a corner. Lens gone means that a large sector will have to be abandoned. So, inside a salient somewhat resembling the shape of a dog's head, the Germans are hanging on, apparently determined to hold until the last hope goes glimmering.

The Germans have extended the floods with water from the River Souchez until the plain between Avion and Lens is well covered. The mill city on the western fringe of Lens has been razed by order of the German higher command, so that the machine guns may have a clean sweep at the British as they approach. Lens itself is a mass of ruins. The entire city has been converted into a German fortress, in which each ruined house is a machine gun emplacement and every cellar and subcellar a refuge.

The German losses in the Lens salient are heavy and new drafts are constantly demanded. Prisoners say that they had been promised peace definitely by September.

FRENCH REPEL BULGARS.

British in Macedonia Carry Out Successful Raid.

LONDON, June 26.—The repulse of a Bulgarian reconnaissance, which attempted to enter the French trenches in the region of the Vardar and the Cerna bend, is reported in the official communication from Paris. Allied aviators bombarded a number of encampments. The Berlin report credits the Bulgarians with holding an advantage in forefield engagements in the Macedonian theatre. The French statement follows:

"Intense cannonading on both sides took place in the region of the Vardar and the Cerna bend, where a strong Bulgarian reconnaissance which attempted to enter our trenches was dispersed with rifles and grenades. The British troops carried out to the east of Lake Doiran a successful raid in which they made about a dozen Bulgarian prisoners. Allied aviators successfully bombarded a number of enemy encampments."

CRUISER OLYMPIA WRECKED ON ROCKS OFF BLOCK ISLAND

Dewey's Old Flagship Strikes During Fog and Lies in Dangerous Position With Much Water in Hold—One of Crew Killed.

The United States cruiser Olympia, flagship of Admiral George Dewey's fleet at the battle of Manila Bay and recently assigned as the flagship of the coast patrol fleet of the Second Naval District, ran ashore on the rocks off Block Island during a heavy fog early yesterday morning. Only one fatality had been reported to the naval authorities late last night, that of Chief Machinists' Mate William M. Babb, a son of Mrs. Sarah Babb of Reading, Pa., who was killed by a falling hatch as he was coming up on deck.

At midnight last night the cruiser was reported to be in a dangerous position, with considerable water in her hold and serious damage done to her plates. The sea remained calm, but as a precautionary measure the crew abandoned the vessel and were taken to the naval station at Newport late yesterday afternoon. Immediately after the Olympia had flashed out word of her accident other vessels of the patrol fleet and wrecking tugs went to her assistance. They were standing by last night, but there appeared to be no immediate danger of the vessel breaking up.

Career of the Olympia.

The career of the Olympia—the last word in fighting ship construction when she was launched on November 5, 1892, but which would be as helpless as a rowboat in battle against the mighty warships of the present—has been almost entirely without incident aside from the events in the battle of Manila Bay, but she gained enough glory in that engagement to make her immortal in the annals of the American navy.

Every schoolboy in the United States knows the story of the famous ship that carried Admiral Dewey into the bay in the face of a furious fire from the Spanish fleet in the harbor and the land batteries that dotted the shores—the ship from which Flag Lieut. Brumby disembarked to hoist the Stars and Stripes over the Fortress of Manila after the city had surrendered before a combined land and sea attack by the navy under Admiral Dewey and the army under Major-Gen. Merritt.

The Olympia was authorized by Congress in 1888, but was not launched until four years later. She was modelled after the Spanish cruiser Reina Regente, the ship that came to this country in 1893 towing the duplicate of the caravel Santa Maria, the flagship of Christopher Columbus. The original design of the Olympia gave her a length of 320 feet and a displacement of 5,300 tons, but Secretary of War Tracy authorized an increase of several hundred tons in her displacement and an increase of some feet in her length.

Made a Schoolship.

When she was launched she was 340 feet in length, with a displacement of 5,870 tons and had a sustained sea speed of 20 knots. She was unarmored but built of steel throughout, and carried a main battery of four 8 inch guns and ten 5 inch rapid fire guns.

The Olympia was placed in commission on February 5, 1895, and prior to the Spanish war had done most of her service on the Asiatic station, of which she was the flagship. She led in the first round of the fighting at Manila Bay, and her last part in active warfare was on August 7, 1898, when she led the fleet in the attack on the shore batteries of Manila while Gen. Merritt's forces attacked on land. She remained at Manila until May 20, 1899, when she brought Admiral Dewey home by way of the Suez Canal. In 1907 she was retired from fighting service and made a schoolship of the Annapolis cadets and has been in the school and training service since that time. Since the war with Germany started she has been taken from reserve and put on patrol duty on the Atlantic coast.

PLOT AROUSES SOCIALIST IRE

Scandinavia Will Resent German Bomb Conspiracy, Branting Says.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN from the London Times

STOCKHOLM, June 26.—A great sensation has been caused by the seizure by the police of Christiania of bombs and infernal machines in the baggage of the supposed German diplomatic courier, Baron von Rautenfels. M. Branting, the Socialist leader, in an article says that the treacherous plot against a neutral country will cause the gravest indignation in Scandinavia. He continues:

"No one can have a doubt where the authors are to be found. A Berlin telegram stating that the German Minister in Christiania is to be recalled is a sufficient indication that it is a case similar to that in America, where dynamiters were discovered and the official representative had to disappear.

"An imperialistic policy which discards all principles of humanity and honesty must lead to such moral catastrophes, but what must not be lost sight of is that the German people, in spite of all, cannot justly be held responsible for such crimes. How high the responsibility for them reaches will perhaps be made evident when the inquiry reaches completion.

"We, however," concludes M. Branting, "cannot help asking ourselves how long such modes of warfare, which sink to the moral level of bandits, combined with technical perfection, will be allowed to continue before from the honest German people there will arise a unanimous outcry which will sweep away those who by such means dishonor the German name."

CHRISTIANIA, Norway, June 26.—The discovery of the German plot to destroy Norwegian steamers by explosives has appalled the whole nation. The newspapers demand publication of all the facts in the case and of the steps which are being taken to bring the matter to the attention of the German Government. In all a ton of explosives has been discovered, concealed in artificial lumps of coal, which presumably were to be placed in ships' bunkers, and in bombs fitted with the most ingenious mechanism.

A trunk full of explosives was brought to Christiania in February by a courier of the German Foreign Office, whose official seal was on the trunk. The trunk was addressed to the German Embassy here and, according to international usage, it was admitted without examination. After the discovery of the explosives the German Embassy declared the trunk was destined for Finland. The explosives were found in all manner of articles, including glass vials, fountain pens, pencils, cigarettes and tobacco.

At the examination of Baron Rautenfels and others arrested in connection with the case it was admitted that explosives were also to have been placed on steamers bound for America.

HINTS U. S. FORCE IS ALREADY AT FRONT

Member of Parliament Talks of "Americans in West."

LONDON, June 26.—Asked by Joseph King, Liberal member for North Somerset, in the House of Commons to-day whether "the American soldiers now on the western front are under the supreme command of the French Generalissimo or Field Marshal Haig or the American General," Henry William Forster, Financial Secretary of War, replied:

"The American Government will doubtless make suitable announcement as to the disposal of their forces when they consider it opportune to do so."

Continuing to question the Secretary, Mr. King asked:

"Does that imply that he doesn't know what the answer is?"

"No, it does not imply that," Mr. Forster answered. "It means I do not think it desirable to say."

MINE SWEEPING NETS ON LINERS

First Ships to Arrive With Device Got No Chance to Test It.

The first American passenger steamship equipped with a mine sweeping net arrived at an American port yesterday after an eventless nine day trip.

She brought 286 passengers, of whom 68 were in the first cabin. Among them were Lieut.-Col. R. H. Hutchinson and Col. B. R. Hepburn of the British army, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Gaston, Miss Ruth L. Whittier, who went to the British front with a Harvard unit of nurses two years ago; Dr. Henry B. Potter, Capt. F. A. White and Mrs. Edgar Saltus.

The ship's officers would say nothing about the effectiveness of the mine sweeping net, under instructions. Passengers said that so far as they knew no mines had been encountered and no submarines sighted.

The liner was held up a day north of Ireland waiting for word from patrol boats that the course was clear.

Several hours before the passenger ship got in another merchantman, also a liner, but running as a freighter now, came in fitted with a mine sweeping net similar to that of the American vessel. She reported she had seen no enemy craft and had not caught any mines.

The only visible evidences of the existence of the mine nets on either merchantman are chain cables about two inches in diameter suspended a few feet abaft the stem. Attached to the upper part of each cable is a steel line used in hauling the cables and the net, under water, aft. While not in use the nets are bunched under the bow of the ship out of sight.

Both liners were laid up in dry dock in a British port several weeks for repairs necessitated by hitting mines off the Irish coast. It is said the device was suggested by American naval experts and the impression of the officers of the merchantmen is that it will save them from serious damage by contact mines.

HUNGER STRIKE IS SUFFRAGIST THREAT

Nine More Pickets Arrested at White House

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Militant suffrage hunger strikes and much of the radicalism that featured the activities of the suffragette movement in England before the war threaten to become a reality in this country as the result of the arrest to-day of nine suffrage pickets before the White House. The pickets refused to observe the police injunction "to keep moving."

Held in $25 bail for appearance in police court to-morrow, they announced to-night through the Woman's party headquarters here that they would refuse to accept any disciplinary sentence and would institute a hunger strike if committed to jail. In all twenty-five cases against suffragist pickets will come up for trial to-morrow.

The women arrested were Mrs. Annie Arnell, Wilmington; Miss Maud Jamison, Norfolk; Miss Lavinia Dock, Fairfield, Pa.; Miss Hazel Hunkins, Billings, Mont.; Miss Gladyce Greiner, Baltimore; Miss Virginia Arnold, Asheville, N. C.; Miss Mabel Vernon, Nevada; Miss Catherine Morey, Brookline, Mass., and Vivian Pierce, San Diego, Cal.

HOFFMAN'S DEFEAT CHEERED.

French Swiss Acclaim Ador's Election as Allied Victory.

GENEVA, June 26.—The election of Gustave Ador to the Federal Council to succeed Dr. Hoffman was celebrated in French Switzerland as no other event of the time since the beginning of the war. It is regarded not only as a condemnation of the policy of Dr. Hoffman, but as a success for the Allies. Hoffman resigned when his efforts to promote a separate peace between Russia and the dual empires was exposed.

M. Ador addressed the Federal Assembly at Berne and stoutly promised to observe the strictest neutrality. He said he would assume direction of the country's foreign affairs July 1.

MESOPOTAMIA MARCH CALLED ARMY BLUNDER

English Board of Inquiry Puts Blame on All Campaign Leaders.

LORD HARDINGE SCORED

Reforms in Indian Government, Aiming at Cooperation, Recommended.

LONDON, June 26.—The most scathing and outspoken official report of the investigation of any military operations since the war began, not even excluding the report of the ill fated Dardanelles expedition, was made public in a Blue Book issued to-night. This was the report of the commission which has been investigating the Mesopotamia expedition.

Put briefly, the report finds that the expedition was a justifiable military enterprise, but was undertaken "with insufficient forces and inadequate preparation," and that its initial failure, with the loss of Kut, was due to lack of foresight, mistakes and miscalculations. The report frankly declares that the shortcomings revealed reflect discredit upon the organizing aptitude of all concerned, and apportions the chief responsibility on Gen. Nixon, former commander of the British forces in Mesopotamia, and upon the Viceroy of India, Lord Hardinge, and the Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir Beauchamp Duff. J. Austen Chamberlain, Secretary for India, and Gen. Barrow, Military Secretary of the India Office in London, and the War Committee of the Cabinet itself also share the responsibility.

Plans Reluctantly Approved.

With regard to the Government's military and naval advisers, the report says they approved the advance, but the papers submitted suggest that their approval was reluctant and perhaps partly induced by the natural desire not to disappoint the hopes of advantage to the general situation which the Government entertained. They appeared to have anticipated no difficulty in an advance on Bagdad, but only in holding it.

The report largely attributes the shortcomings to the policy of indiscriminate retrenchment pursued for some years before the war by the India Government under instructions from the home Government. Transport and medical services are indicated as the weakest spots in the expedition, the lack of transport preventing reenforcements from reaching Kut in time. For "the lamentable breakdown" of the technical services the responsibility is attributed to Surgeon-Gen. H. G. Hathaway, who "showed similar unfitness for the high administrative office he held."

In a general review of the operations under adverse conditions the report says:

"In our judgment no praise can be too high for the gallantry and spirit shown by officers and men of all walks of the British and Indian armies under this accumulation of difficulties."

Reforms Recommended.

The report recommends as most desirable that the governing machinery of the Indian army should be so reformed as to enable it to be a help to and not a drag on the fighting capacity of the armies it controls, and that the aim of administrative reform in India, certainly in the military departments, should be the devolution of responsibilities and duties from the overcentralized bureaucracy of the supreme Government at Simla.

The signatories to the report are Lord George Hamilton, Earl Donoughmore, Lord Hugh Cecil, Sir Archibald Williamson, Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, Gen. Sir Neville Lyttleton and John Hodge, Minister of Labor. In a separate report Josiah C. Wedgwood, commander in the Royal Naval Reserve, recommends putting the Indian army under control of the War Office in London.

Scope Was Undefined.

The report finds that the expedition was a justifiable military enterprise, but contends that it required during its inception and development the most careful watching and preparation. The division of responsibility between the India Office in London and the Indian Government, the former undertaking the policy and the latter its management, was, the report declares, in the circumstances unworkable. The scope of the objective of the expedition was never sufficiently defined in advance to make each successive move part of a well thought out and matured plan. Briefly, the report shows the mistakes and miscalculations incident to the attempt to advance on Bagdad, which involved the surrender of more than a division of the finest fighting troops, while the casualties incurred in the ineffective attempt to relieve them amounted to about 23,000 men.

The report says that the general armament and equipment were not up to the standard of modern European warfare and were quite insufficient for the purpose. Up to the end of 1915 the efforts made to rectify the deficiency in river transport were wholly inadequate.

Chief Blame on Hardinge.

The report ends:

"Looking at the facts, the want of foresight and provision for the most fundamental needs of the expedition reflects discredit upon the organizing aptitude of all the authorities concerned. To Lord Hardinge as Viceroy belongs the general responsibility attaching to his position as head of the Indian Government. More severe censure must be passed upon the commander in chief, for not only did he fail closely to supervise the adequacy of the medical provision but he declined for a considerable time, until ultimately forced by the superior authority of the Viceroy, to give credence to rumors which proved to be true and failed to take measures which subsequent experience shows would have saved the wounded from avoidable suffering."

To Register Americans in Britain.

LONDON, June 26.—Robert P. Skinner, the American Consul-General, having received the necessary forms, has issued an appeal to all Americans in the United Kingdom liable to military service under the act recently passed by Congress, asking them to register. It is estimated that there are 3,500 American males of all ages residing in the United Kingdom.

Dairy and Poultry Men Yield Control to Hoover

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Representatives of the nation's chief dairy and poultry associations, after a conference to-day with Herbert C. Hoover, voted to put their industries under the supervision of the Food Administration.

A committee of seven, comprising three producers, two manufacturers and two distributers, will work out a plan for supplying the United States and the Allies with milk, cheese, butter, eggs and poultry. It will make an effort to increase production, will strive for conservation and will try to keep prices to a supply and demand basis. The committee will be charged with punishment of members of the industries who break the Food Administration's pledges.

CHICAGO, June 26.—Plans expected to add 1,000,000 head of sheep to the total of breeding stock and to increase the annual output of wool by 7,000,000 pounds were agreed to to-day by representatives of large packing concerns, the National Sheep and Wool Bureau and the United States Department of Agriculture. The details of the agreement based on saving ewe lambs from slaughter are to be worked out by the packers and railroads.

NEUTRAL FOOD PLAN PRAISED

English Say U. S. Will End Leak of Supplies Into Germany.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, June 26.—England is going to be mighty glad when the United States finally gets started rationing neutrals. Since the Ministry of Blockade started work through diplomatic channels there has been continual friction, bickering and outbursts of rage because of the holding up of consignments of food from America to all European neutral countries.

Until the United States entered the war this was a thorn in the side of the Blockade Minister. Now with the United States on the verge of imposing more strict regulations than Great Britain ever attempted there is jubilation. Despite all Great Britain's watchfulness there have been vast quantities of cereals and other foodstuffs going into Germany from America. Scores of cases are on the dockets of the prize courts involving neutral ships with cargoes from New York, but these seizures represent only a small proportion of the trade actually carried on indirectly with German consumers.

It is pointed out that the American diplomatic service is the youngest among the great Powers, but now holds the most important position. As a result of the widening American sphere of diplomatic policy Washington has an opportunity of establishing a great reputation in diplomacy, which will influence to a large extent future international negotiations. Her policy regarding food supplies to neutrals undoubtedly will go down in history as an example of what Great Britain has encountered in this regard.

A case in point was the proceeding in the prize court concerning consignments seized on thirteen vessels which had been bound for Copenhagen with 12,000 bags of coffee. All were shipped by Aron & Co., an American coffee house. Great Britain intercepted correspondence which the Government asserted showed that the destination of the coffee really was Hamburg, and not Copenhagen. The coffee was condemned. As a defence Aron & Co. said they had consistently tried to confine their trade to neutrals, but that after March, 1915, they discovered there had been leakage into Germany.

Travellers from Holland describe the food conditions there as excellent. The Dutch Government has issued bread cards, but each card entitles the bearer to buy more than any three people could eat. The whole fabric of the blockade will be greatly strengthened by early action from the United States.

TO ENFORCE BLOCKADE,

Council Agrees on Plan to Control Supplies.

WASHINGTON, June 26.—The exports council appointed by President Wilson to control all exports to neutral and allied countries met to-day for the first time. Recommendations have been agreed upon which will effect a complete blockade of the Central Powers, a blockade that has been only nominal in the past. The council also is disposed to force the shipment of the 200,000,000 bushels of wheat in Canada before the American supply is drawn upon.

Members of the council said to-day that the immediate action in prospect would be designed to prevent any American products whatever from reaching Germany, to conserve foodstuffs and war materials for the use of the United States and her allies and to bring about a market which would permit of prices more nearly normal.

Wheat and coal are the commodities which will receive attention at once. The proposal to limit the export of steel may receive consideration now or later. A proclamation by the President will probably be issued in a day or two designating the articles to be controlled and the countries to which the limitation of exports would be applied. As the situation develops the President will issue other proclamations, including other commodities in the partial embargo and possibly removing some which earlier were banned from export.

The council has determined that exporters must be entirely subservient to the wishes of the council during the period of the war. The members have endeavored to allay apprehension among the exporters by saying that the normal course of business will be disturbed as little as possible.

Exports which ordinarily have gone to neutrals will be withheld where it is found that the United States and the Allies need them more. Exports will be withheld in cases where certain neutrals are acting in a manner inimical to the interests of the Entente.

FULL DRY POWER GIVEN TO WILSON BY COMMITTEE

Senators Accept House Proposals, but Put Burden on President.

AFFECTS BEER, WINES

Executive Would Be Forced to Permit Manufacture or Prohibit It.

CONTROL IS EXTENDED

Inclusion of Food, Fuels, Iron, Steel, Petroleum and Machinery Is Urged.

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Upon President Wilson alone will devolve the decision as to whether the United States is to become and remain bone dry for the period of the present war, if an amendment adopted by a special subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Agriculture is adopted. This decision was reached to-night. The sub-committee voted to accept the provision for the prohibition of the use of foodstuffs in the manufacture of all alcoholic beverages practically as it had passed the House Saturday, with the exception that it placed it within the power of the President to decide whether such emergency exists as would make desirable the resumption of the manufacture of wine or the brewing of beers.

In so far as the manufacture of distilled alcoholic beverages is concerned no discretion is left. For the period of the war beginning thirty days after the approval of the proposed food control law the use of foodstuffs in the manufacture of potable distillates is forbidden.

Authorizes Seizure.

Another section would authorize the President to take over any or all distilled spirits now in bond, upon payment of a reasonable and just price to distillers, for redistillation into alcohol for war, industrial or other non-beverage purposes.

The thirty day provision is designed to give that time to the President to decide whether further manufacture of beer, wines and light beverages shall be permitted and for consumers and manufacturers to prepare for what the President may decide. Should the President not exert his authority so as to exempt malt, fermented and vinous beverages from the sweeping prohibitory provisions and should commandeer distilled spirits in bond "bone dry" national prohibition—of both manufacture and consumption—would result, entailing a loss of Federal revenue estimated between four and five hundred millions of dollars and new taxation measures, as well as local revenue reductions.

Besides the prohibition substitutes other radical changes made in the House bill included extension of Government control in addition to food, feed and fuels to iron and steel and their products, petroleum and its products, farm implements and machinery, fertilizers and hemp, sisal and jute.

Text of Amendment.

The phraseology of the newly adopted section is as follows:

Section 14A. That from and after thirty days from the date of the approval of this act it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to use in the manufacture of intoxicating liquor for beverage purposes any perishable or non-perishable feed, feeds, food or foods material.

B. Whenever the President shall find it necessary to conserve the perishable products referred to in the preceding paragraph he is empowered to permit the use of such products in the manufacture of vinous liquors and when the question arises as to whether a particular product is perishable or non-perishable or is suitable for foods or feeds the President is authorized to determine that question and his determination shall be conclusive for the purposes of this act.

C. Whenever in the judgment of the President the public interest will be subserved thereby, he is empowered to permit the limited use of the material mentioned in paragraph "A" of this section in the manufacture of malt or fermented liquor and to prescribe the alcoholic content thereof.

Lever Bill Redrawn.

The action of the sub-committee came at the close of the long session. Previously the sub-committee had practically redrafted the Lever bill, so amending it as to remove a great part of the provisions of the measure against which constitutional objections had been raised by Senators on both sides. One of the principal modifications was that which restricted the purchasing, storing and distribution of foods and foodstuffs under Executive authorization to purchases and stores for the use of the armies and navies of the United States and for other purposes directly necessary to the public welfare and incidental to the present war emergency.

Power is extended the President to purchase, in no case paying less than the minimum price, and to store and sell at reasonable prices foods and fuel if the public welfare shall demand such control.

In other words, the power of food control is restricted to just such emergencies as are engendered by the war itself and for the benefit of the Government in prosecuting the war.

Gore to Support Bill.

Following the session Chairman Gore, who has been opposing the food control measure for the last two months, announced that the bill as amended by the sub-committee, while not perfected to his own liking, would receive his support. He stated that he still adhered to the belief that the control over foodstuffs and all the other products which to-day's amendment has included should extend only to commodities which were the object of interstate commerce. He will urge this contention on the Senate.

The action of the committee with regard to the prohibition problem overshadowed all of its other activities of to-day. It was hinted freely that the committee in taking the action that it did in "passing the buck" to President Wilson actually was dodging the question. This, indeed, was admitted by one sub-committee as the reason for wig-