

HISKEY, 50 CENTS; BEER, 20, MAYBE

Distillers and Brewers Discuss Possibilities of Proposed War Tax

BIG BLOW AT BOOZE

Proposed Tax on Liquor; Its Effect in "Boozeland"

Table with 2 columns: Item, Price. Includes 'New amendment before Congress calls for increasing tax on each bushel of grain, weighing 56 pounds, used for manufacture of distilled liquors, from \$20 to \$60.00'.

Distillers and liquor dealers of Philadelphia today announced that retail prices of liquors would increase should Congress pass the new amendment increasing the tax of \$20 on each bushel of grain weighing fifty-six pounds used in the manufacture of distilled spirits to \$60 per bushel.

The advance in prices, however, it was pointed out, would not come for at least another two years should Congress pass the amendment. This will be because, distillers say, the present supply in the bonded warehouses will last that period.

Free lunches will also become a thing of the past. This will be due to the proposed tax on beer which amounts to \$2.20 a gallon. The magnitude of the coming increases, for example, in a particular favorite drink, will be:

Regular bar whiskey now selling for ten to fifteen cents will be increased to as high as thirty to fifty cents.

Another illustration of what may happen is "doped" out by liquor people as follows:

A glass of beer now retailing across the bar for five cents may now be selling for twenty cents.

This advance will be due to the new tax rate of \$2.20 on each gallon of beer. Saloon men figure that in each pint of beer there are about two glasses of a few drops over. The \$2.20 tax means that there will be a tax of 27 1/2 cents on a pint, and figuring two glasses to the pint, a tax of 13 3/4 cents on each glass.

A case of beer containing twenty-four pint bottles, or three gallons, now retailing at \$1.10 will be selling at \$7.20, which will include the extra \$6.10 tax on three gallons.

John C. Groome, of the firm of Groome & Company, 1214 Walnut, said: "I don't care to make any comment on the adoption of the new amendment, or predictions and then find out in the next twenty-four hours that I was wrong in my prediction."

PASSING OF THE FREE LUNCH A saloonkeeper at Eighth and South street, said:

"They were moving things swiftly in Washington. I suppose I will have to be satisfied if the amendment is adopted, because I am not the only saloon man who will feel the effect. I haven't as yet increased my prices for whiskey and beer. But if they go through with it in Washington I am afraid the good free lunch with that glass of beer that tastes so good to the workmen will be done away with."

"The tax of \$2.20 on a gallon of beer will also increase the retail price of beer. But the increase won't come right away. A member of the brewery firm of John F. Betz & Sons said there was no need for becoming excited over the probable increase of prices of beer and other liquors owing to the high war taxes on beverages. He said things should be permitted to take their natural course."

TOPE FOR ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION The Rev. Homer W. Tope, superintendent of the Philadelphia branch of the Anti-Saloon League, said:

"We are opposed to any tax whatever on liquors. We are fighting for war-time prohibition and for nothing else. This taxing of liquors will only serve to give the liquor dealers a strategic hold on the Government after the war."

"High taxes will not prevent the slaves of the rum curse from getting their poison. Though the price of whiskey may be raised to fifty cents per glass, the slave will give his last fifty cents to get it, and will beg, borrow and steal to obtain his poison."

"During the Civil War Lincoln was opposed to a tax on rum. He said he would rather lose his right hand rather than sign the bill providing for such taxation. But he reluctantly signed the measure when Stanton and others told him that the nation needed the revenue to run the war. Lincoln signed only after he exacted the promise that the bill be repealed after the war. The trail of the rum serpent was seen after that. Lincoln was assassinated by the rum-crazed Wilkes Booth, and Garfield went to his death at the hand of a man whose brain was inflated and distorted by liquor. During the war the liquor dealers organized at Chicago and entered politics. They have been in politics ever since."

"The liquor dealers are more than willing to be taxed, for such taxation gives them an excellent after-the-war plea to continue the nefarious traffic. They are after the war that they were patriotic and that their money was the price for victory. We know, however, that the revenue from booze comes out of the pockets of the consumer."

"Our object is to stop the use of food-stuffs for the manufacture of a poison which will be used to undermine the health and morals of the great army which the nation is now engaged in raising. We are first fighting for a saving of man-power, and secondly for a saving of foodstuffs. The grains used now for the manufacture of booze would furnish 11,696,000 loaves of bread annually for our army."

HAIK SMASHES FOE ON 7-MILE FRONT

British Gain to Depth of 500 to 1000 Yards South of Messines

HIT HARD IN ARRAS SECTOR

LONDON, June 15. Blows struck by General Haig in the offensive along the Belgian border during the night advanced the British lines to a depth of 500 to 1000 yards along a seven-mile front, the British War Office announced today.

The attack carried the British into German front line trenches between the River Lys and the River Warnae.

Redoubling the force of his attack he had taken important positions on a one-mile front, from which the German defenders had successfully repelled all previous attacks.

"South and east of Messines, outside the Ypres-Comines Canal, enemy were quickly overthrown," the report said. "Our whole objective was gained and 150 prisoners, a number of howitzers and seven machine guns were taken."

"As a result of these operations and the constant pressure maintained by our troops since June 7, we now occupy the German front line trenches from the River Lys to the River Warnae and have advanced our line 500 to 1000 yards on the whole front from the River Warnae to Klein Zillebeke."

"We made a successful raid last night north of Lens. Many Germans were killed in hand-to-hand fighting and a few prisoners were taken by us."

The Ypres-Comines Canal, along which Haig has achieved the "follow-up" victory to that of Messines ridge, forms the northern angle line of a triangle, of which Comines is the apex. At Comines the canal joins with the River Lys, along which Haig has already been steadily advancing. The two advances make a slowly converging bottle neck and cut the isolated German troops off from quick mobility.

This latest victory more than ever convinced military experts of another "strategic" reversal by Germany around what used to be the Ypres salient. It was accepted as a foregone conclusion that with Field Marshal Haig's lightning sweep of the triangle of ground between the Ypres-Lille canal on the one side and the River Lys on the other, the Germans would be forced very soon to evacuate all this territory up to Comines.

Some battle front dispositions today hinted such a retreat was already accomplished in part. This is the section in which Haig reported a reorganization of front-line positions by the enemy yesterday. It included news that virtually the only German artillery fire was from very long-range guns, indicating that most of the German pieces have been moved back.

London expects now to see another powerful offensive thrust by the British along the River Lys. It has been part of Field Marshal Haig's strategy in recent months to drive along the course of one great artery—the Scarpe and the Seneze. The valley of the Lys is likewise peculiarly adapted to Haig's operations.

BENSON NAILS CHARGE AGAINST NAVY POSTS

Report to Daniels Says Conditions at Training Stations Are "Very Good"

WASHINGTON, June 15. Charges that health conditions in the Great Lakes naval training station are intolerable, made by national legislators in published statements and on the floor of the Senate, were answered today by Admiral William S. Benson, chief of naval operations.

A report on conditions at the North Chicago station made by Admiral Benson to Secretary Daniels following a personal inspection of the "general conditions are very good. The men are well fed and well cared for."

"Certain features incidental to the rapid increase in the naval strength," Admiral Benson said, "are being rapidly remedied."

"Taking them all together," he added, "I have never seen a healthier or finer looking lot of young men."

CARDINAL MERCIER SENDS BELGIUM'S THANKS TO U. S.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—The gratitude of the Belgian nation for the relief work of America was expressed by the President today in a letter from Cardinal Mercier, delivered in person today by the Rev. John B. De Ville. The letter said:

"Often since the commencement of the war I have had the desire to express to the people of the United States, of whom you are the highest representative, my grateful sentiments. You have been prodigal with us of your sympathy, of your help, of your devotion. At the very moment when you see your country compelled to break off the diplomatic relations of your country with Germany you have had still an exquisite thought for our poor country; to the fifty delegates of the Commission for Relief in Belgium you have given the advice not to abandon us as long as the power of occupation left them free. May you be thanked for your magnanimity, Mr. President, and may you accept as well, I pray you, the thanks of the whole Belgian nation. Permit me to say that we shall pray to the good God and ask Him to bless your noble country."

"Please accept, Mr. President, together with a renewed expression of gratitude, the homage of my very high consideration."

"WAR BRIDE" BECOMES HOME DEFENSE WORKER

Mrs. Anthony F. Molleret, a young "war bride," who left her home in Cleveland, O., to follow her husband here, he having followed the call of Uncle Sam, has now become an active worker in the home defense committee at City Hall.

Molleret, a former newspaper man, is a yeoman at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. When the colors came to him he was the first to leave the Cleveland leader. A score or more men have since left the editorial department of that paper. Although the date for his marriage had been set for June 10, it was moved to April 8. Mrs. Molleret, who was Miss Doris Hegner, was a newspaper woman in Cleveland. They live at 223 South Fifty-first street.

FIRST SUBSCRIPTION TO RED CROSS FUND



E. T. Stobbsbury, head of Drexel & Co., is handing to Ben Boyden, of the EVENING LEADER staff, a certificate attesting the subscription of \$50, made by Mr. Boyden and John J. McLaughlin and Allen Davis, fellow newspaper men, who stand beside him, to the \$100,000,000 fund which the Red Cross Society is trying to raise in America. This donation was the first subscription received by the Drexel firm, treasurer of the fund, and marks the beginning of the \$3,600,000, which is stipulated as Philadelphia's allotment in the amount it is hoped to obtain.

WILSON ASKS FOOD LAW; MAY ADDRESS CONGRESS

Plans to Go Before Joint Session if Lever Bill Is Not Passed by July 1

WASHINGTON, June 15. President Wilson will make a new and more determined effort to have the Administration food legislation written into law before July 1.

As a last expedient, if drastic action is found necessary, the President will lay the whole case before the country in an address before Congress assembled in joint session.

The President is convinced that unless the Lever food bill is passed by the end of June its benefit will be negligible. His efforts to quell the result of Democratic Senators and to straighten out the tangled legislative situation through White House conferences with legislative leaders, thus far have not met with success.

He laid the whole situation in all its details before his cabinet this afternoon. Senator Chamberlain of Oregon, introduced the food-control bill in the Senate this afternoon. The Senate Agriculture Committee will consider the bill tomorrow. This measure, which has already been introduced in the House after coming from committee, empowers the President to name Herbert Hoover food administrator.

Attack on the Administration food-control bill was opened in the House today by Representative Haugen, of Iowa, Republican, who filed a minority report alleging that the proposed measure discriminates against the farmer. Haugen complains that the original bill contemplated control of all necessities of life, whereas the bill finally reported from the committee by Chairman Lever aims only at the control of foodstuffs, thus singling out the farmer for special attack.

Haugen is the first member of the House Agriculture Committee to attack the Lever bill. Representatives Young, of Texas; Ward, of New York, and Wilson, of Illinois, also members of the same committee, are formulating dissenting views. They will either file separate reports or join in the gathering opposition which will find vigorous expression in the House when the food bill is brought up for debate Monday next.

Russian Mission on American Soil A PACIFIC PORT, June 15.—The Russian mission to the United States set foot on American soil today. The representatives of the new provisional government of Russia, here to cooperate with the officials of the United States, were met by a party of State Department representatives and Baron Chergentberg, secretary of the Russian embassy at Washington, and escorted to their special train for Washington.

The Red Cross campaign for \$100,000,000 is scheduled to open next Tuesday, but owing to the success of the Liberty Bond campaign in this city it was thought best to launch the campaign today.

Philadelphia's allotment in this national campaign is \$5,000,000 and the first contribution in the form of a \$50 Liberty Bond was presented to Mr. Stobbsbury by a delegation of newspaper reporters.

The reporters who have covered the Liberty Bond campaign bought the bond during the morning.

Ben Boyden, of the EVENING LEADER, Allen Davis, of the Bulletin, and John J. McLaughlin, of the Evening Telegraph, were appointed to act as a committee. This committee went to the Drexel & Co. banking house and announced the contribution.

"We must pull together" was the comment of E. T. Stobbsbury, "to meet the needs of the Red Cross on this mission and errand of money, and we must raise a huge sum to raise the fund of \$100,000,000—and double that if it is necessary. Except this Liberty Bond, the first contribution to the fund not only in Philadelphia but for the United States."

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\$3,340,000,000 WAR BUDGET BILL SIGNED

Huge Appropriations for Army and Navy Made Available by President's Approval

WASHINGTON, June 15. The \$3,340,000,000 war budget, long delayed by congressional controversy, because a law today when President Wilson affixed his signature to the measure at the White House just after 11 o'clock.

The war budget, known as the urgent deficiency bill, appropriated the greatest sum ever voted in a lump by any legislative body. Its appropriations total a sum far greater than the total cost of any year in which the United States has heretofore engaged.

The principal appropriations are for putting the army and the navy in fighting trim. One of these—the provision for the purchase of the Jamestown Exposition site—threatened further serious delay until a compromise was reached between the two branches of Congress.

The most important single provision of the measure is the appropriation of \$10,000,000 for the construction of an American merchant marine to carry food and munitions to the belligerent nations.

The delay in making this money available threatened for a time seriously to delay the building of the "food fleet" under the direction of General Goethals and the shipping board.

SPECIAL JUNE SALE \$100 Western \$100 Electric Washing Machine \$85 Cash \$90.00—\$10 on Delivery, \$5 Per Month FREE Benjamin Plug with each washer. CENTRAL ELECTRIC & LOCK CO. Everything Electrical 12 N. 13th St.

LAWRENCE PERIN COMMITS SUICIDE

Scion of Widely Known Maryland Family Ends Life in Washington Hotel

WASHINGTON, June 15. Lawrence Perin, son of Mrs. Nelson Perin, one of Maryland's oldest and best known families, committed suicide at the Hotel Belvedere here by shooting himself this afternoon.

Perin became noted for his many court trials here and in West Virginia to decide as to his sanity. At one time he was declared insane by a West Virginia court, and when released on bail came to this city, where he was again arrested and tried on an insanity charge brought by his mother. He was declared sane by the courts. Perin was wealthy.

READING CANDY MAN'S DAUGHTER TO MARRY

Engagement Announced of Miss Dorothy Luden and Ralph Edenharter

The engagement of Miss Dorothy Luden, of Reading, daughter of the millionaire candy manufacturer of that city, was announced today to Ralph Edenharter, a Philadelphia lawyer with offices in the Liberty Building. No definite date has been set for the wedding.

Miss Luden is well known in social circles in this city. Mr. Edenharter was graduated from the law school of the University of Pennsylvania in 1916. He is a son of Dr. George F. Edenharter, of Indianapolis, who is head of the Hospital for the Insane in that city. The romance of the young people dates back to the "boy and girl" period.

PATRIOTS HOIST SIGNAL OF DANGER TO NATION

Conference of National Committee on Defense Hears What Confronts America

MEN, MONEY AND SHIPS People Must Be Made to Realize This Is War and U. S. Is in It, Says Baker

WASHINGTON, June 15. "Awaken the people to realization of the danger confronting the country," this was again today the keynote of speeches at the conference of the national committee of patriotic and defense societies.

Only by throwing in more ships, more men, more money and more supplies, all within the next eight months, can defeat for our cause be averted, according to Raymond B. Price, chairman of the committee on inventions of the Aero Club of America.

"We have so far failed," said Price. "If fuel becomes increasingly scarce the British fleet next fall will be so restricted that the German fleet can escape. Then, indeed, will the foe be lost on our own unprotected shores."

"If not another ship were destroyed by mine or submarine from now on we could not send 1,000,000 men to France and maintain them one year from today. Our ship-building preparations for the next eight months are pitifully inadequate."

Lack of true realization of the grave danger which the nation faces was declared by Secretary of War Baker, who said:

"Your real work is to spread among all the people a definite comprehension of the problems confronting the nation today. The people must be made to understand that we are in this war."

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