

FOUR U.S. CONSULS BEING DETAINED IN GERMANY

While the Berlin Government Awaits Official Advices That All German Consuls In the United States Have Been Permitted To Go To Central Or South America

BILL TO EMPOWER PRESIDENT REPORTED

Amended To Prohibit Government War Insurance For Ships Carrying Munitions Of War And Strikes Out the Words "Other Instrumentalities" In Extending Power To President

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—Four American consuls are being detained in Germany while the Berlin government awaits official advices that all German consuls in this country, ordered to Central and South America, have been permitted to proceed.

It has been officially established that the American sailing schooner Lyman M. Law was not sunk by an Austro-Hungarian submarine. It had been presumed that the Law was destroyed by an Austrian submarine, because she was stopped on her way to Palermo, Italy, where it was thought there were no German U-boats.

The House foreign affairs committee to-day reported the Flood bill, designed to give the president power to protect the lives of United States citizens and American ships, after striking out the words "other instrumentalities" and amending the measure to prohibit government war insurance for ships carrying munitions of war.

YARROWDALE CASE STICKS.

Germany Continues to Procrastinate About Releasing Men.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—Germany's procrastination in complying with repeated American demands for release of the Yarrowdale prisoners is bringing the controversy to a stage of extreme gravity.

Accounted from the first perhaps the most serious difficulty between the two countries since the submarine issue itself, the Yarrowdale case has been a source of growing concern and indignation among officials, some of whom now are convinced that Germany's intention is nothing more or less than to hold the American seamen as hostages pending a decision as to peace or war.

Such an act would be regarded here as not only a flagrant violation of international law and treaty rights, but an open insult to the dignity and good faith of the United States.

Although no official advices reporting the detention of the seamen has reached the state department, another inquiry regarding them was sent through the Spanish ambassador in Berlin as soon as officials saw news dispatches saying they would not be liberated at present because of disease at their camp.

SITUATION IN CONGRESS GIVEN AT A GLANCE

The situation in Congress fell into a tangle again to-day, and the prospects that there would be no extra session were not so promising as last night. The House foreign affairs committee reported the bill to empower the president to protect American rights against the German submarine menace, but with changes unwelcome to the administration.

LIABILITY INSURANCE PLAN IS ADOPTED BY BARRE COUNCIL

It Is Proposed to Set Aside a Certain Sum from Each Department as Fund from Which to Pay Injured Workmen.

All in a half-hour—the shortest session since Mayor Gordon's election ushered in a new administration last spring—the board of aldermen at its regular meeting last night opened the way for the creation of an accident indemnity fund for city employees, legislated certain changes in the wiring department, and authorized the floating of a \$48,000 loan in anticipation of the 1917 taxes.

Pursuant to instructions received at the meeting Feb. 20, the city clerk presented the draft of a resolution which creates a private insurance fund upon which the city may draw in case of accident among any city workmen whose status as laborers comes within the scope of the workmen's compensation act.

The full text of the resolution is given as follows: "Resolved by the board of aldermen of the city of Barre: That inasmuch as the city is liable under the employers' liability act to indemnify its employees who may be injured during their employment by the city; and, whereas the city has deemed it advisable and has elected to carry its own risk in the matter; therefore, be it resolved, that a fund to be known as the accident indemnity fund be established for the purpose of paying such indemnities as the city may hereafter be called upon to pay to its employees.

"There shall be paid each month into said fund a certain percentage of all moneys paid as salaries or wages each month to such employees as would come under the provision of the act aforesaid. Said percentage shall be based in accordance with the risk attendant to the nature of their employment. Said percent of wages or salaries to be charged to the various accounts on which the wages or salaries are drawn. And further, that a committee be appointed to consider the percentage which will be necessary to carry the various risks and report its recommendations to the next meeting of the city council."

A limit of \$48,000 to the sum which the mayor, city treasurer and chairman of the finance committee are authorized to borrow is fixed in the resolution relating to a temporary loan, which was read for the second time and adopted without dissent.

Along with the foregoing resolution, the aldermen passed to its second reading a resolution appropriating sums of money to various departments as follows: State highways, \$100; streets, \$2,250; water, \$1,250; fire, \$250; printing and stationery, \$100.

GERARD ON HIGH SEAS, BOUND FOR HAVANA

Former Ambassador to Berlin Sailed on Tuesday from Corunna, Spain, and Is Expected to Arrive March 8 or 9.

Corunna, Spain, Feb. 27, via Paris, Feb. 28.—James W. Gerard, former American ambassador at Berlin, sailed to-day on the steamship Infanta Isabel for Havana. The steamer is expected to reach Havana March 8 or 9. She was filled to her capacity and William H. Gale, former consul general at Munich, who arrived to-day, obtained passage with difficulty.

VON BERNSTORFF OFF AGAIN.

Ship Frederik VIII Was Marshaled by Swarm of Patrol Boats.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 28.—The steamer Frederik VIII, with Count Von Bernstorff, former German ambassador to the United States, and his party on board, sailed at 7:30 o'clock last night for Copenhagen.

BLAMES NEWSPAPER MEN

And They Alone for "Leak" on President's Peace Note.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—A unanimous report saying that no one save two Washington newspaper men, J. Fred Esary and W. W. Price, were responsible for whatever "leak" there was on President Wilson's peace note was presented to the House last night by Chairman Henry of the rules committee. All persons connected with the government, including Secretary McAdoo and Secretary Tumulty, members of both houses, and R. W. Bolling, a brother-in-law of the president, are specifically cleared of suspicion.

ARE WITHIN THE LAW.

Food Speculators Cannot Be Prosecuted Yet.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—Attorney General Gregory yesterday advised Senator Borah that no evidence had been found up to the present time, except in two or three cases, to warrant the federal government in seeking indictments in its investigation of the rising cost of living.

TURKS FLEEING TOWARD BAGDAD

British Are Making Rapid Progress in Mesopotamia

London, Feb. 28.—The British are continuing to advance rapidly on the Tigris to-day. The official announcement was made to-day that on Monday the Turks were being engaged on the left bank of the river near Kut-el-Amara, west and northwest of Kut-el-Amara.

ARE NOW FIGHTING 30 MILES FROM KUT

They Are Within 75 Miles of the Farthest Point Reached in 1915

The British gimbap Firefly, which was lost at the time of the retreat from Ctesippoon, has been recaptured. One Turkish ship has been taken and one destroyed.

The official report places the British troops within 75 miles in an air line of Bagdad, their objective. In their first expedition late in 1915 the British were within 18 miles of Bagdad but were forced to retreat to Kut-el-Amara after a defeat at Ctesippoon. Afterward General Townshend was hemmed in at Kut-el-Amara and surrendered last April.

UNUSUAL ACTIVITY BY PATROLS ON WESTERN FRONT

French Official Statement Tells of Dispersing German Reconnoitering Parties and Making Surprise Attacks.

Paris, Feb. 28.—There was rather unusual activity of patrols at night at various points on the front before Beauregard, in Avocourt wood, at Spitzberg, northeast of St. Die and in the region of Largitzen, says to-day's official statement.

"We caught enemy reconnoitering parties under our fire and dispersed them. In the region of Autrech between the Oise and the Aisne we made a surprise attack on enemy trenches."

"During the day quite spirited artillery fighting took place in the sectors of L'Eschelle-St. Arin and Besayvaines (south of the Aisne) and in the direction of Vanouis.

"In the region of the Vailly an enemy surprise attack failed. We effectively shelled German organizations in the Malincourt wood and the sector of Hill 304. In the Vosges an attack on the enemy lines south of Col. Ste Marie enabled us to take prisoners. There is nothing to report on the rest of the front.

TEUTONS CAPTURED 1,300 RUSSIANS IN RUMANIA

Offensive Resumed and the Attackers Also Secured a Considerable Quantity of Equipment.

Berlin, via wireless, Feb. 28.—On the northern Rumanian front yesterday the Teutonic forces took the offensive, the war office announces. They captured several hill positions from the Russians, taking more than 1,300 prisoners, 11 machine guns and nine mine throwers.

BRITISH TAKE LIGNY.

Are Moving Nearer Bapaume on Western Front.

London, Feb. 28.—Additional progress has been made by the British forces north and south of the Aisne region in France and also to the south of Lens. In the Aisne district the village of Ligny, southwest of Bapaume, has been occupied and north of the stream the western and northern defenses of Puisseux have been taken from the Germans.

18,428 LOST IN FEBRUARY.

Of British Casualties, 1,243 Were Officers.

London, Feb. 28.—British casualties during February reached a total of 12,423 officers and 17,185 men.

FLOOD HALTS TRAINS.

Tributaries to West River Swollen by the Rains.

Brattleboro, Feb. 28.—Tributaries to West river became swollen by the rains yesterday, causing the ice in the river to break up, and in consequence service on the West River branch of the Central Vermont railroad was tied up yesterday afternoon.

SURE TO PASS GRAHAM BILLS

Although Senate Debates State Board of Control Measure

Administration measures ran against some snags in the Vermont legislature to-day but the opposition is not expected to sidetrack the two bills in question, the act to provide for a board of control and the act to create the office of director of state institutions.

SEN. VILAS LEADS THE OPPOSITION

House Acts Favorably on Bill for Director of State Institutions

Senator Vilas of Chittenden county was one of the chief opponents of the bill to create a board of control when the measure came up in the Senate. He said he had serious doubts about the constitutionality of the measure, and he was for referring it to the attorney general and other able lawyers.

Senator Peck, disclaiming any intention of being either an "administration senator" or an "anti-administration senator" and asserting himself to be just a plain senator of 1917, opposed a proposed amendment to make the retiring governor or a member of the board of control. On being quizzed by Senator Vilas, Senator Peck expressed the opinion that it would be better to have the lieutenant governor, rather than the governor, a member of the board.

Despite this show of opposition, there is no doubt that the measure will pass the Senate by a large majority.

The House this forenoon adopted resolutions of sympathy on the death of Representative W. H. Bundy, who died suddenly Tuesday afternoon, and Representatives Leach of Rupert, Beers of Landgrove and Bentley of Sunderland were appointed to attend the funeral.

A proposal to raise the pay of the employees of the State House was started to-day when Mr. Beard of Waterville introduced a resolution that they should be given the same per diem and mileage as the members. The resolution was referred to the committee on state and court expenses.

Mr. Parker of West Rutland moved that the House reconsider its vote whereby it made the Senate bill 27, to create the office of director of state institutions, a special order for Thursday, March 14, at 2:30 p. m.

Mr. Metzger of Randolph favored reconsideration. Mr. Miner of Sherburne hoped the bill would lie as ordered. Mr. Howland of Barre was for proceeding with the bill, while Mr. Miner thought it advisable to make such a change in the state's policy at this time. The bill was then ordered to a third reading to-morrow.

Gov. Graham has signed the following: An act relating to fishing in Lake Iroquois, commonly called Hinesburg pond, and in Lake Groton and Lund's pond. An act to encourage the building of homes.

An act to amend Sec. 6 of No. 210 of the acts of 1880, as amended by Sec. 4 of No. 163 of the acts of 1896, and Sec. 5 of No. 163 of the acts of 1896, incorporating the village of Lyndonville.

An act to authorize the village of Winooski to refund outstanding sewer bonds.

An act to legalize the quadrennial appraisal of the town of Brighton for the years 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1916.

An act to provide for the recording of certain orders of the public service commission.

An act to amend Sec. 3215 of the public statutes, relating to the ordering of property into possession of a non-resident guardian.

"DEATH WOULD COME SOONER"

Was the Reason Given Why John Chalmers Drew Razor Across His Throat

John Chalmers, 39, a granite cutter, attempted to take his own life by cutting his throat with a razor this morning and is at the city hospital with only a slight chance of recovery.

CONDITION CRITICAL IS HOSPITAL REPORT

Kept Repair Man Out of the Bathroom by Saying He Was Shaving

Chalmers was a boarder at the Geals home, where he had resided for the past seven years. This morning he arose at his accustomed hour, came downstairs fully dressed and sat down with the family at the breakfast table.

It is thought that the razor slash severed the man's jugular vein. He bled profusely and some time must have elapsed between the time he made the attempt and the arrival of the physician.

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CHARLES L. CURRIER, A LEADING CITIZEN OF BARRE, IS DEAD

Served as Member of First City Council, Was Vice-President of Granite Savings Bank and Had Held Several Other Public Offices.

Charles L. Currier, one of the most prominent of Barre's older residents, and for a long term of years active in business circles here, passed away at his home, 118 Washington street, this morning at 12:45 o'clock.

He leaves his wife, two daughters, Mrs. J. W. Connell of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Mrs. Laura Cassie of Barre; and two sons, R. S. Currier of this city, county supervisor of highways, and C. S. Currier, C. E., of Elkin, N. C. There are also left three sisters, Mrs. Caroline F. Chubb of Barre, Mrs. George Comings of Eau Claire, Wis., and Mrs. Gilbert Hutchinson of St. Joseph, Mich.

Funeral services will be held at the Currier home Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. J. W. Barnett, pastor of the Barre Congregational church, will officiate, and interment will be made in the family lot at Elmwood cemetery. It is requested that flowers be omitted.

Mr. Currier was born Sept. 25, 1836, in East Orange, on the farm where his grandfather, Rev. Ezekiel Currier, settled in June, 1793. His parents were Richard and Fannie B. (Pratt) Currier, and he was the eighth in line from the first Currier to settle in America, Richard Currier, who was born in England or Scotland about 1612 and came to Shrewsbury, Mass., in 1640.

The deceased received his first schooling in his native town, and at the age of 17 he came with his parents to Barre, where he attended the Barre academy. His marriage to Celinda Dickey of Orange took place March 30, 1858. Immediately after his marriage, Mr. Currier settled in Hardwick, on a farm of 400 acres. There he continued to reside for 16 years, in the course of which he served the town as a selectman and lister.

In 1874 he returned to Barre, where he purchased a lot of land on Merchant street, long known as Currier hill. He erected the Church Hill house, so called, and continued his residence there until 1898, when he moved to his last home on Washington street. In the days before Barre became an incorporated city, Mr. Currier held a number of public offices, serving efficiently as a selectman, lister and constable. He was a member of the committee which had charge of the extensive repairs made on the Congregational church in 1885-87, and gave the work his personal supervision.

For a number of years he was a trustee of Barre academy, and a member of its executive committee. In the beginning of its commercial existence in Barre, the Granite Savings Bank & Trust Co. had in Mr. Currier one of its substantial stockholders and directors, and since the death of Dr. H. O. Worthen he had served as the vice-president of the bank.

Mr. Currier was influential in organizing the Barre & Chelsea railroad, and he was its first clerk and treasurer, capacities which he had continued to fill for several years. When the city was chartered, he was a member of the first city council, and afterward served as chairman of the board of aldermen. The requirements were exacting, but with others Mr. Currier addressed himself to the task of laying a firm foundation in city government with characteristic energy and soon after he was to serve as the first chairman of the finance and street committees. The deceased had been active as a builder, and just before his death he spent much time in supervising the construction work on a house which he erected on Sheridan street.

His first wife died Dec. 2, 1888, and Oct. 6, 1908, Mr. Currier married Mrs. Ida E. Gilman, who survives him. The deceased united with the Congregational church in Hardwick many years ago, and after his removal to Barre he transferred his affiliation to the church here.

MANY BEDBUGS AND COCKROACHES AT THE RETREAT

Former Inmate Told of Unsatisfactory Conditions in That Respect—Testimony of Miss Gertrude Graham Strengthened.

Robert W. Simonds of St. Johnsbury, a member of the industrial action board, was put on the stand at the hearing on the Brattleboro Retreat at Montpelier to-day to strengthen the evidence of Miss Gertrude Graham of St. Johnsbury, who testified last week that while in a patient in the institution she was choked, forcibly fed, strapped to her bed so tightly that she was in agony throughout the night and that she was handled so roughly otherwise that she was injured. At the time the woman was on the stand, Attorney E. W. Gibson testified that Miss Graham was committed to a morphine fiend.

Mr. Simonds testified to-day that Miss Graham was committed to the Retreat under the influence of a drug given her by her brother so that he might obtain certain property.

Walter Hamilton of Springfield testified that while he was an inmate of the Retreat in 1914 the conditions there were not very good, that the rooms were infested with bedbugs and cockroaches, etc. He admitted that he might have been a "trying patient" but declared that he was roughly used when he refused to go out and exercise, having his thumb bent back until he would go.

Frank E. Howe of Bennington testified that he didn't think the Retreat received enough appropriation from the state and expressed the opinion that the amount ought to be larger to permit of the serving of better food.

Testimony favorable to the retreat was presented yesterday afternoon by Mr. and Mrs. Edward D. Quinlan, former attendants at the Retreat and now at the Soldiers' Home in Bennington, and also by James Tully of West Haven, a former policeman of Fair Haven, who had taken patients there several times and never knew of their being badly treated. Work on the building will be gotten under way at once. When the alterations are completed, a new cottage house will face Merchant street.

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