

TELEGRAPH LINES IN NATION'S HANDS IF NEED REQUIRES

Senate Also Gives President Power Over Phone and Radio Services

NEW NATIONAL VIEWPOINT

People Willing to Study Sweeping Changes and Adopt Them If Necessary

CONGRESS ACTS WITH WISDOM

Almost Continuous Session Since War Results in Accomplishment of Vast Amount of Business

By J. W. MULLER, American Staff Correspondent of THE STARS AND STRIPES.

AMERICA, July 18.—The Senate, by a vote of 46 to 16, has passed the joint resolution giving the President authority to take over the country's telegraph, radio, telephone and cable systems for the duration of the war, whenever he may deem it necessary.

Many prophecies had been made during the week, especially through the highly conservative section of the press, that a long contest was to be expected, but as a matter of fact the result was a foregone conclusion.

The Western Union's attitude towards the suggestions of the War Labor Board apparently did not incline public opinion toward Government control, because the board's suggestions seemed eminently fair and sensible.

Some Fear Public Ownership The debate in the Senate was based mainly on the fear of continuing Government control after the war, possibly leading to national ownership.

Several amendments were offered to provide against censorship, but all were voted down. Advocates of the resolution declared that the President does not intend to exercise censorship powers.

Instead of economic revolution, on which Socialism is predicated, we are engaged in a vast, slowly but steadily proceeding revolution, with the successive steps based on what is practical instead of theoretical.

REGIMENTAL BANDS NOW 50 PIECES EACH

Leaders to Be Commissioned—Drum Corps for Infantry

Musical charms to rouse the savage doughboy, and that is why each regiment's band is to be increased from 28 to 50 pieces.

The change comes as the result of a study of French military band music and a comparison of the French system with our own.

The additions to the old time regimental band will be two band sergeants, two band corporals, four musicians first class, six musicians second class and seven musicians third class.

A bugle and drum corps will be created for every Infantry regiment. Each corps will include all the company buglers and not more than 13 drummers.

SHIP CONSTRUCTION STILL GOING STRONG

Government Contracts for 120,000 Tons in Big Chinese Yards

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Rapid progress is being made in government construction of model towns for housing shipworkers. The country's best architects are cooperating.

Henry Ford's Detroit yards have launched the first Eagle boat, and Mr. Ford predicts that in a few weeks an Eagle will take the water daily. Each of these submarine chasers is to be 225 feet long.

WANT 7-CENT CARFARES

AMERICA, July 18.—The American street railways, especially in the East, are fighting hard for seven cent fares, pleading extraordinary increases in operating costs.

There seems some chance for them to succeed, but if they do get the desired increases, it will inevitably follow that municipal control and regulation will be more intimate and strict, with possibly great changes in franchises.

DULL DAYS ON SANDS

AMERICA, July 18.—A lady police corps on the job at Coney Island gives stern moral instruction to lady bathers who think that man wants but little here below or above either.

They spend their time separating many warmly embracing couples and altogether spoil the whole day for ardent sea bathers.

A lady camouflage corps has camouflaged the wooden battleship Recruit, in Union Square, New York City, in black, white, pink, green and blue.

LIQUOR RIDER NEXT BUSINESS BEFORE SENATE

Wets and Drys Both Shout Victory, but Latter Hold Cards

REVENUE MEASURE THEN UP

War Excess Profits and Luxuries May Provide Good Share of War Taxes

By J. W. MULLER, American Staff Correspondent of THE STARS AND STRIPES.

AMERICA, July 18.—The prohibition amendment to the food bill will be the first matter for consideration when the Senate reconvenes on August 24.

Wets and drys both assert that they are sure of victory, but the general tone of the wet advocates is not quite so confident as it used to be.

It should be understood that this prohibition amendment to the food bill is a different thing from the prohibition amendment to the Constitution, already before the nation.

After prohibition is out of the way, Congress will presumably tackle the great revenue measure immediately and may have a battle royal over war taxation.

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Instead of economic revolution, on which Socialism is predicated, we are engaged in a vast, slowly but steadily proceeding revolution, with the successive steps based on what is practical instead of theoretical.

Like a Great Laboratory America may be likened just now to a great laboratory in which mighty new things are being tested and tried out to prepare for the new day.

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THE NONCOMBATANT



SERGEANT OF M.P.'S FINED MONTH'S PAY; AIN'T IT TERRIBLE?

Louis Goetbloet Ought to Know Better—He's 12 Years Old

MISSES SEVEN REVEILLES

Terror of Blois, Long in Service, Collides With Ninety-sixth Article of War

Sergeant Louis Goetbloet is in disgrace.

It is not the policy of this newspaper to hold up before the contumelious gaze of his fellow soldiers every man who fails to answer reveille for seven mornings in succession, and who, being confined thereto, conspires with another member of his organization and escapes from confinement.

But an example has got to be made. And Sergeant Louis Goetbloet is the man.

There are, sad to relate, no mitigating circumstances. Sergeant Goetbloet is old enough to know better. His 12th summer is now rolling away into his checkered past.

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NO FIXED WHEAT PRICE

AMERICA, July 18.—President Wilson has vetoed the bill fixing the price of wheat at \$2.40 a bushel. He gave as his reason that the present elastic price control by conference of all interests was satisfactory.

Wheat and other crop prospects continue good, though the June weather was not all that was desired. If there are no unfavorable and unexpected developments, we anticipate bumper crops.

NEED ANY PAJAMAS? ASK YOUR COLONEL

Regimental or Higher Commander Must O.K. Package Requests

If you want a set of Mark Twain, 5,000 cork-tipped cigarettes, a fur coat and a bathing suit shipped you by your aunt in Evanston, Ill., there is no use asking the captain to approve the request.

The power of granting approval in such cases is now taken from the company commander and placed in the hands of the regimental or higher commander. A War Department bulletin from Washington has done the deed.

Thus have new duties been devised to while away the colonel's leisure hours. The bulletin on the subject of packages from home further explains that the same restrictions apply to express and freight shipments as to parcel post.

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AMERICAN FLYERS GET FIRST CHANCE IN REAL BIG SHOW

Yanks, French and British Beat Hun to It in Offensive

MOVING TROOPS SCATTERED

Airmen's Machine Guns Convert Truck Train Into Riddled Ant Hill

The opening of the new German offensive gave American aviation units their first opportunity to participate in a major operation, their first chance to join in a big scale air offensive.

The bombardment which signaled the beginning of the German attack began shortly after dark Sunday night. At daylight Sunday morning Allied air planes in force had crossed the German lines to clear the air, harass enemy movements, and learn as much as possible of German concentrations and artillery positions.

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YANKS BATTLE GRIMLY AGAINST HUN HORDES IN FIFTH OFFENSIVE

TO AID SOLDIERS

AMERICA, July 18.—The Red Cross is planning to run 39 great convalescent homes for soldiers and sailors.

The War Department, in cooperation with the Red Cross and the National Bar Association, is working out a complete system for free legal aid for all soldiers and their families.

The Elks, at the order's golden jubilee celebration in Atlantic City, set aside one million dollars for war work.

TWO HUN PLANES DROP BOMBS ON A.R.C. HOSPITAL

Two Killed, 13 Hurt in Deliverate Night Attack at Juilly

FOUR WOUNDED MEN HIT

One Is Struck in Spot from Which Piece of Shrapnel Had Just Been Removed

German airplanes on Monday night made a deliberate attack on the American Red Cross hospital at Juilly, 25 kilometers northeast of Paris, and dropped four bombs, two of which fell squarely on the roofs of hospital tents.

An extended report on the bombing has been compiled by Col. Harvey D. Gibson, commissioner of the American Red Cross for France, by the organization's director of public information, who conducted a personal inquiry on the ground.

The bombs were dropped on the hospital at 11 o'clock. At least two German aviators participated in the raid. Besides the two bombs that fell fairly on the roofs of hospital tents, one fell seven feet from the wall of another tent, and one failed to explode.

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Americans Part of Target in Major Operation for First Time

FINE WORK BELOW MARNE

Artillerymen at Last Get Chance to See Foe and Fire at Him Point Blank

AVIATORS IN CURTAIN RAISER

Bag of Prisoners Includes Complete Battalion Staff Stranded on Southern Bank of River

The fifth German offensive of 1918, after a month of costly delay, was finally launched on the evening of France's national holiday, launched last Sunday night, by more than 40 of the best divisions the German high command could muster on a 50 mile front that stretched from Chateau-Thierry up around the stubborn citadel of Rheims and eastward into Champagne.

The next morning at dawn the German infantry began its dogged advance. The setting of the same sun that looked down on that advance saw the Allied forces pushing the Germans back through the slight reaches of territory that they had gained in the impetus of their first rush.

The great drive was broken the day it began. By the end of the first 48 hours of fighting the offensive bore many of the earmarks of an historic check. By that time the greatest depth of the hostilities advanced was no more than five miles, and that was a narrow indentation in the unbroken Allied front.

A Grand Style Operation

The offensive was a major, grand style operation comparable in scale to the biggest efforts the enemy has put forth in all German drives in the west, either a drive for Paris or a drive for the Channel ports, this was a preparatory rather than a direct thrust. It appeared at the outset as an effort to pinch out their Rheims salient as by a pair of giant forceps, establish a base of operations on the Marne and so prepare the path that leads to France's capital.

The fifth offensive was notable for the utter lack of the element of surprise. For two weeks the evidence accumulated by aviators and every other form of scout a modern army knows pointed to Champagne as the scene of the long delayed drive. Therefore, the Allies were ready, and the advance was met with such unflinching resistance that counterattacks were in progress at some points before the first day was gone.

French, Italian, and American troops met the onslaught, and British aviators in great numbers shared in the fighting that is done in the skies.

Part of Vast Target

This was the first time since the war began that American troops have been part of the target of a major offensive. Some few American soldiers were thrown into a gap during the later progress of the big March drive, and American troops in numbers that counted jumped into the fight which halted the Germans in the first days of June in and around Chateau-Thierry. But here were Americans ready and waiting.

They were in the thick of some of the most desperate and spectacular fighting on the whole stretch, some of the most desperate and spectacular fighting American soldiers have ever known. The prisoners captured by them in the first 48 hours, according to a routine, unofficial guess, numbered about 1,200.

No American troops came in for more violent fighting than those represented in that stretch of the line to the south and west of Rheims—the stretch from Chateau-Thierry to Dormans along the Marne. The battle line was the river itself, and the Germans had to cross it first.

They crossed it. They got badly mopped up doing it and afterward. And on Wednesday night the American communiqué announced:—

"In the Marne sector our troops have entirely regained possession of the south bank of the river."

Infantry Comes at Dawn

The Germans prepared the way with a bombardment of high-explosives, shrapnel, mustard gas and other poisons, and compared with fighting against such an attack, walking boldly into an outpouring from rifles and machine guns is like holiday excursion. Then at dawn came the Hun infantry swarming across the narrow, smooth-flowing, curving stream on 50 or 60 swiftly slung pontoon bridges. As they crossed, the Allied artillery opened fire against them, the machine gun bearing airplanes swooped down on them, and they were met on our side by men ready and primed for hand-to-hand fighting.

There was plenty of use for rifles and for fists in the confused and stubborn battle that followed on the southern bank of the Marne. By sundown on Tuesday the Americans had pushed back to the river's edge the enemy troops that had taken territory in their sector of the battlefield and had left on their side only a few scattered detachments of Boche infantry and machine gunners.

Sticks to River's Edge

It would scarcely be the nicest military accuracy to describe the American action at this point as a counter-attack. As it looked Wednesday morning, it seemed rather the successful outcome of a swaying, unrelenting contest for their own ground by Yankees into whom the rushing enemy had infiltrated, now by eights, now by companies, now by battalions.

Thus it can be said of one American battalion that it never left the river's edge at all, though at one time it hung on alone with Germans all around. And it can be said of one German battalion that, after infiltrating according to the approved and this time not very happy German method, it collected in a ravine and so was all together when it came time to surrender to the surrounding

AMERICAN COW TRUE BLUE

AMERICA, July 18.—The American cow will soon be demanding a D.S.C. from your Army. She has produced nearly one hundred million dollars of milk, butter and cheese for export, mostly to the A.E.F., and is still letting down patriotically.

WANAMAKER 80, JOHN D. 79

AMERICA, July 18.—John Wanamaker has celebrated his 80th birthday and John D. Rockefeller his 79th. Both are doing well.

Loss Quickly Avenged

Early Sunday morning Lieutenant Roosevelt went out with his squadron and did not return. His brother aviators reported that they had seen a machine fall in flames which they were unable to identify. This, it is feared, was his. If the battle can be said to have begun when the air fighting became intense, Lieutenant Roosevelt was probably the first American loss in the Battle of Champagne.

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EXODUS OF LOAFERS KEEPS DOWN ARRESTS

New York's Bag of Elegant Bums Grows Smaller Every Day

AMERICA, July 18.—A great exodus of loafers to other climes makes New York City's daily bag of elegant bums astonishingly small.

Only a few hundred have been caught, among them two brothers whose mother called on the police to take them out of bed, where they spent most of the day. The police caught another expert living in a burrow in an empty lot.

Ten thousand men were rounded up in Chicago as slackers, but most of them were released after they had produced cards.

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