

Fair tonight, Tuesday and probably Wednesday. Warmer Tuesday. Moderate breeze becoming southerly. Temperatures 24 hours to midnight: Maximum, 66; minimum, 55; mean, 60; normal, 62. Midnight to 10 a. m.: Maximum, 59; minimum, 51; relative humidity, 55; wind, light at 7 a. m., 10 miles; direction, variable at 7 a. m.; west; sunrise today, 5:16; sunset, 8:35.

Current Topics

Discussed by
VICTOR L. BERGER

We are changing in this country our form of government to a plutocracy (rule of wealth) backed up by an oligarchy (rule of the mob). It is the last stage of capitalism. It governs with the help of the "kept press" and the prostitute playhouse through well paid tools and innumerable spies. The worst feature of it is that this plutocracy has appropriated all the phrases and catch-words of democracy. The press sanctimoniously uses these democratic phrases on every occasion to cover up the rule of the thieves and exploiters.

As has been stated in The Leader before on various occasions, the buying of war saving stamps is not compulsory. The war saving stamps are a good investment for workingmen that have money which they put into the bank at 3 per cent. But on the other hand these war saving stamps are no investment at all for profiteers making 100 and 1,000 per cent.

Therefore, our "patriots" and profiteers try to use every possible means to extort money for Uncle Sam from a poor working people. The profiteers don't want to invest money at 5 per cent when they can make 100 per cent in war profits.

But Uncle Sam must have money to fight the war and to pay these off. Therefore, these capitalist employers use every conceivable method to have the workers re-invest every cent they earn—in bonds, so that Uncle Sam will get some money again without tackling the profiteers.

And we must admit that the officials in Washington are not very positive in protecting the working people against such extortions. This is what the officials in Washington have to say in this respect:

"It has become necessary for the government to raise some of the over-enthusiastic managers of saving stamps and thrift stamp campaigns in a few localities against the adoption of methods which seem somewhat coercive in character. The treasury department does not question the motives of persons who have, seemingly, resorted to coercive tactics, but believes an excess of enthusiasm has led to the adoption of some of the plans for selling stamps that are bringing criticism on the treasury."

"The attitude of the government with respect to the present campaign for the sale of stamps, and for that matter, toward all campaigns for the raising of money which to carry on the war, is that all organizations should make certain that every individual has an opportunity to invest."

This does not sound very strong, does it? We must treat our patriots with kid gloves, you know—they are our rulers. However, I hope the administration will make it clear to working people that they can't be compelled to buy war stamps when they need the money to buy bread and shoes for their children.

The Milwaukee Journal makes a great deal of the incident that a Socialist member of the County Council of Defense attended the last monthly meeting. The Journal is noting that the Socialists did not attend on account of the city platform, which had declared that "the people of the United States did not want the war and that they were plunged into this abyss by the treachery of the ruling class of the country."

Well, the statement in the platform true—and still the Socialists earnestly wish to win the war now—after we are plunged into it. A person might be plunged into a hole and yet wish to get out of it as nicely and as quickly as possible. That is about the position of the Socialists.

We don't want this country to lose the war. We want to win this war, win it for all humanity—not just for the capitalist class of this country.

By the way, what was the main business conducted at that meeting of the County Council of Defense?

August H. Vogel, chairman of the committee on manufactures, urged an effort be made to impress on the public the importance of securing its share of war business. He said that unless this city obtains a share of the war business, the amount of money flowing into it will be reduced.

Who is "it"? The gentleman who the war contracts are "it" in other words, our profiteers who are making more war profits than ever before.

The same theme, by the way, was discussed in the meeting of the profitee manufacturers of the government. The representatives of the government, as was brought to our attention, were said that so long as there were many jobs for every man, labor would be unruly and there would be no war.

Nevertheless, for the information of the Milwaukee Journal I will say confidentially—the Socialists of course want to win the war, but they want to win it for humanity.

FRENCH ADVANCE LINE SLIGHTLY ON FIVE-MILE FRONT

Two Hundred Prisoners Taken in One Operation South-east of Osloy.

ITALIANS CAPTURE RIDGE

WASHINGTON—Striking suddenly in the upper Asiago Sunday night, Italian troops, with co-operation of French detachments, captured more than 1,500 Austrians, including 50 officers, Rome cables to the Italian embassy Monday stated.

"The Italian troops are now in possession of the peak of Echeil, Col del Rosso and Mount Valbella," the communiqué stated.

PARIS—French troops advanced their lines slightly on a five-mile front northeast of Chateau Thierry, and in an operation southeast of Osloy took 200 prisoners, the French war office reported Monday.

Minor operations on other portions of the Marne and Oise fronts resulted in 46 prisoners.

HAIG TAKES PRISONERS. LONDON—Successful raids on various sectors of the Picardy front were reported by Field Marshal Haig Monday.

"West of Dernancourt we raided the German trenches and took a few prisoners. A successful minor operation northwest of Albert early Sunday night resulted in improvement of our positions and capture of 34 prisoners and some machine guns."

LONDON IS JUBILANT. LONDON—The London press was enthusiastic Monday over the new Italian success Saturday, which resulted in storming Monte di Valbella on the Asiago plateau, with capture of more than 800 Austrians. A dispatch from the Italian front said the Austrians, following the Italian victory, issued proclamations forbidding the people in the occupied districts from speaking in public, or spreading the news. Military police seized flowers displayed in windows, claiming such acts were seditious.

The Italians, aided by British and French troops, attacked Mont di Valbella at dawn Saturday after an intense artillery preparation. They carried the mountain and later held it against repeated counter-attacks.

FRENCH CAPTURE RIDGE. French troops won another signal victory in the valley of the Ourcq river, penetrating the German line to a depth of half a mile along a front of nearly two miles.

The police carried the crest of the commanding ridge between Mosloy and Passy-en-Valois, seven miles southeast of the Villers-Cotterets forest.

Two hundred and sixty-five Germans, including three officers, were made prisoners. The French also struck a local blow just above Mont Gobert in the neighborhood of St. Pierre Angle, which improved their new positions materially and added another 100 prisoners.

In the same sector the Germans were discovered massing troops for a strong counter-attack. Allied aviators flew over the assembling lines, dropped five tons of bombs, and broke up the preparations for the assault.

BERLIN WAR REPORT. BERLIN (via London)—The official communication from general headquarters says:

"The fighting in the sectors north of the Lys and south of the Aisne increased; artillery activity continued throughout the day. In the evening it revived on the remainder of the front between the Yser and the Marne."

"There were small infantry engagements during strong allied thrusts south of the Ourcq, and as a result of a successful operation by our troops at Hartmannswiller-Kopf we captured prisoners."

LENINE KNOWS NOTHING OF MURDER OF EX-CZAR

STOCKHOLM—Premier Lenine has issued a statement declaring he has no knowledge of the reported murder of Nicholas Romanoff, former czar, a Moscow dispatch declared Monday.

The Nashe-Slove reports friends of the Romanoffs in Petrograd have received a telegram from one of the former czar's daughters saying:

"Father and mother are in a safe place."

U BOATS STILL LURKING OFF AMERICAN COAST

WASHINGTON—That German submarines are still lurking off the American coast is indicated by recent navy department messages. These tend to show that operations are on a wide circle, farther out than the original attacks on coastwise vessels.

SENATOR TILLMAN DYING

WASHINGTON—Senator Benjamin R. Tillman, South Carolina ("Pitchfork Ben"), chairman of the upper house naval committee, lies dying Monday. Paralysis of one side of his body, plus severe cerebral hemorrhages have caused a condition from which it is thought he can not rally. He has been ill since last week, but the gravity of his condition became known Sunday night.

LEADER INDICTED



DEBS SPEAKING IN MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

POVERTY KEEPS BABIES' BODIES IN MORGUE HERE

Because of poverty, the 12-day-old twin babies of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sorena, 334 Cass St., are now in the morgue. The babies died of convulsions Saturday and will have to be kept in the morgue until funds can be obtained for the funeral. In case no money is raised the children will be buried in potter's field.

Profiteering Disclosure Leads Senators to Belated Discussion of Profits Tax

Hoover to Be Called on for Explanation of Evidence of War Gains by Packers, Millers and Other Food Producers—Price Fixing, Shown to Be Inefficient, Still Favored.

WASHINGTON—Practical confiscatory taxation of war profits seems assured as a result of the trade commission's charges of profiteering by large industries.

An extension of price fixing and an overhauling of existing price fixing machinery which failed to prevent profiteering are also among the measures congress will consider in connection with the commission's findings. Some leaders are giving their attention to possibility of enacting a drastic anti-profiteering law. Food Administrator Hoover, who was out of the city, will be called on for an explanation of the trade commission's evidence that there has been profiteering by the packers, the flour millers, and other food producers, despite the regulatory powers conferred upon him.

MAKES NO DENIAL. Hoover does not deny there has been profiteering, but he contends adequate measures have been invoked to deprive offenders of their swollen profits.

"There are two steps which can be taken to correct the evils shown in the report of the federal trade commission," Senator Sherman, Illinois, said. "One is to levy a very large tax on excess and war profits and the other is to fix prices. Prices certainly ought to be lowered on the necessities of life through price fixing as a war measure."

"The two powers, one to tax and the other to fix prices, already exist, and I am surprised such enormous profits should have been permitted," Representative Rainey, Illinois, Democratic member of the ways and means committee, said the committee already knows more about excessive profits which have been made by concerns in this country since the war began than does the federal trade commission.

EXPENSES ARE PADDED. Reapportionment of properties were made by great concerns when it became evident that the government was

35 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. SINCE FIRST OF YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Thirty-five persons were lynched in the United States in the first six months of this year, according to announcement by the division of records and research of Tuskegee institute. The total exceeds by 21 the lynchings for the first six months of 1917, and by 10 the number during a similar period in 1916. Thirty-four of the 35 persons lynched were negroes. Three negro women were included.

DUKE MICHAEL ASKS RUSS TO DEFEAT BOLSHIEVIKI

MOSCOW—Grand Duke Michael, brother of the former czar, has issued a manifesto declaring that inasmuch as the constituent assembly has been dissolved, resulting in the disintegration of Russia, it is his duty to restore order. The manifesto calls on the people to overthrow the Bolsheviki and offers amnesty to all participating in the revolt.

DEBS ARRAIGNED UNDER ESPIONAGE ACT; BAIL \$10,000

Trial Set for July 30—Speech in Canton, O., Basis for Indictments.

\$800 DEFENSE FUND RAISED

CLEVELAND—Eugene V. Debs, Socialist leader, arrested Sunday on charge of violating the espionage act, was arraigned before Federal Judge Westenhaver here Monday and through his counsel, Morris M. Wolf, waived the reading of the indictment. Debs was granted the privilege of pleading when he appeared for trial, which was set for July 30, or soon thereafter. Bond was fixed in the sum of \$10,000. This, Wolf said, would be given during the day.

Debs said he expected, upon release, to leave at once for his home in Terre Haute. He announced he would not make any speaking engagements pending his trial. After arraignment Debs was confined in the federal marshal's office.

ARRESTED BEFORE ADDRESS.

He was arrested Sunday at Bohemian hall, where he was to have spoken at a Socialist meeting. The indictment upon which Debs was arrested was returned by the federal grand jury late Saturday as a result of a speech he made at the Socialist state convention in Canton two weeks ago.

Cleveland Socialists, who collected a defense fund of \$800 at the meeting Debs was to have addressed Sunday, prepared Monday to attempt to obtain his release on bail.

10 COUNTS IN INDICTMENT.

There are 10 counts in the indictment against Debs, all of them based on his Canton address. If he is found guilty the maximum penalty would be a fine of \$10,000 and imprisonment for 20 years.

Debs has been the Socialist candidate for president at four elections. After his arrest he received word from Terre Haute, Ind., his home, that Socialists of the Fifth Indiana district had nominated him as candidate for congress.

SPEECH AT CANTON.

In the Canton speech Debs declared that the purpose of the allies in the war was the same as that of the central powers—plunder; he urged his

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SIGNATURE OF MEMBER OF ICE BOARD CAUSES DELAY OF REPORTS

Owing to the inability of Fred Hunt, chairman of the committee, Milwaukee food administration, to obtain the signature of the last one of the committee, announcement of ice prices effective July 1, will be prolonged until late Monday. Upon the signature of that party, the report will be submitted to A. T. Van Scoy, county food administrator, and then released to the public. Hunt would not say whether prices as fixed by them would be much lower than those prevailing.

COMMERCIAL TEACHERS OPEN SESSION IN CITY

Commercial educators of Wisconsin opened the first session of their convention Monday in the Wisconsin hotel. The morning was devoted to organization. Among the speakers at the afternoon session were: E. D. Widner, Wausau; W. S. Seyler, Baraboo; E. L. Hunt, Eau Claire; J. W. Hootman, Milwaukee. Clifton Williams, city attorney, will speak at a banquet Monday night.

JEWISH SOLDIER RELIEF FUND SECURES \$800

Eight hundred dollars was subscribed towards the \$5,000 Magon David or Shield of David fund Sunday night, in a meeting in the North Side auditorium. The meeting was the first effort of the two weeks' campaign to raise funds for the relief of Jewish soldiers sent to Palestine, who have not the benefit of Red Cross aid. Speakers were Dr. Oscar Bonick, Chicago, and E. D. Lisitzky.

JUNE REVENUE MONEYS LARGEST IN HISTORY

June was the biggest month the internal revenue office has ever known. Collections were \$28,325,513.35, of which \$26,000,000 were income and excess profits tax. Among other items were the following: Automobile manufacturers tax on products, \$192,000; other war tax, \$52,000; spirit tax, \$95,000; tobacco, \$92,000; beer, \$876,000.

GROCERS MUST GIVE INVENTORY OF GOODS

Grocers in the city have received blanks in which they will be compelled to fill in a statement of all canned goods, cereals, flour and dried fruit in stock, by the bureau of markets, department of agriculture. A similar inventory was taken in September, 1917.

ELECTRIC CO. ASKS CUSTOMER TO HELP IN LIGHT INCREASE

Promoting Referendum to Secure "Adequate Increase During War Time."

SAY DROP AGAIN IN PEACE

Apparently in the hope of inducing Milwaukeeans to petition the rail commission for an increase in rates paid for electricity and heating service, The Electric Co. is promoting a referendum. Hearing on the company's application for an increase of rates on lighting and heating was held in Madison Monday. During the last few days patrons have received printed forms with an attached blank intended for use in submitting to the rail commission the customers' opinion on the proposed increase.

MADE 17 PER CENT.

The company, which made 17 per cent on assessments last year, according to City Atty Clifton Williams, desired the raise "to cover increased war costs." Milwaukeeans pay about 10 cents per kilowatt hour for electricity. In Cleveland, where there is a municipal plant, the rate is 3 cents, and in Seattle, which also operates its own lighting system, the rate is 5 cents.

In "a war appeal to our customers," which is the caption of the company's credit matter, is the following:

"We ask our customers to join us in asking the Wisconsin railroad commission to raise electric service and steam heating rates."

"GOVERNMENT URGES JUMP."

"The government at Washington is urging public service companies to do their utmost in supplying power, light and heat for war industries. This district has many of them. It is urging local communities to encourage such rate increases as may be necessary to keep the power, light, heating and street railway services of the munitions cities solvent and efficient. Throughout the country these companies have been granted increases for this purpose.

With one exception, the only change in our electric service rate during the past five years have been rate reductions, made voluntarily to give our customers the benefit of lower unit costs due to increase in volume of business.

"ONLY ONE EXCEPTION."

"The one exception was a slight increase in the rate to 5.63 of our largest customers ordered last October." The city is represented in the Madison hearing by Assistant City Attorney Walter J. Mattison, J. B. Hogarth and S. L. Odagard, experts employed by City Attorney Williams.

"I do not know how much of a raise the company wants," said Williams, "but I do know, in a hearing in Madison last fall, we proved, with the company's own receipts, it earned 17 per cent on its investment."

SICK TOMATO MARKSMAN IS FINED \$5 IN COURT

How the sickly tomatoes did fly! When Meyer Rubenstein threw several of them at Josephine Orman, Saturday, they reached the mark. "She always calls my wife names," said Meyer. "So I threw them at her to spoil her appetite. Five dollars," said the judge in district court Monday.

RUSH IN CITY HALL TO OBTAIN YEARLY PERMITS

Annual licenses for dance halls, saloons, pool and billiard parlors, and for the sale of cigarettes became operative Monday, when there was a rush of applicants at the city clerk's office.

CLOSE HOSPITALS IF HELP NOT SECURED

Ruhland Threatens Shutdown, Saying Small Pay Cause of Shortage.

Unless some arrangement is reached under which he will have authority to pay higher salaries to domestics, Health Commissioner G. C. Ruhland will discontinue receiving patients for South View isolation hospital and the Greenfield Preventorium.

In making this announcement Monday, Dr. Ruhland said the county was paying domestics \$20 and it is impossible to obtain such workers for city institutions for \$25. He said shortage of domestics is seriously interfering with work and unless relief is afforded it will be impossible to continue to receive patients.

PRESIDENT SEEKS RIGHT TO CONTROL TELEGRAPH LINES

Asks Passage of Aswell Resolution Affecting Also Telephones and Cables.

STRIKE SET FOR JULY 8

WASHINGTON—President Wilson Monday asked congress for power to take over the telegraph and telephone lines.

In a letter to the interstate commerce commission of the house he endorsed letters sent simultaneously to the committee by Postmaster General Burleson and Secretary Daniels, saying the power asked was necessary to prevent suspension of service on telegraph lines and to guard military secrets and government communications.

The president advocated passage of the Aswell resolution which would empower him to take over not only the telephone and telegraph lines, but also the cable lines and radio systems of the country.

WILL PREVENT STRIKE.

This was regarded Monday as indicative of President Wilson's purpose to prevent a strike of telegraphers threatened by order of President S. J. Koenenklamp of the union, for July 8.

As a result of the president's letter, the Aswell resolution will be reported to the house late Monday. There is no disposition in the committee to withhold the power, but the committee wants time to gather facts and data so as to be prepared to rush the resolution through the house.

The only amendment proposed in the committee was one providing for return of the systems six months after proclamation of peace. No definite action was taken on the amendment.

JULY 8 SET FOR STRIKE.

CHICAGO—Monday, July 8, is set for the strike of Western Union telegraphers. President S. J. Koenenklamp, Commercial Telegraphers' union, made public the date.

Koenenklamp claimed 25,000 employees of Western Union would quit at 6 a. m. central time. They will be aided by 33,000 railroad employees, who will refuse to handle Western Union business, he said.

"The strike against the Western Union alone is necessary because of the company's continued determination to destroy our organization," said Koenenklamp.

"The grievances to be adjusted are those set forth in President Wilson's letter to the Western Union Telegraph Co. as (1) the reinstatement of over 800 employees locked out contrary to the terms of his proclamation of April 8, 1918, and (2) to enforce the decision of the national war labor board dated June 1, 1918. The strike is not of our seeking."

"W. U. NOT AFFECTED."

NEW YORK—"None of our employees is a member of that union, so I do not see how the strike affects us," was the only comment of Newcomb Carlton, president, Western Union Telegraph Co. Monday, in replying to the announcement that a strike of telegraphers had been called for July 8.

WEALTHY EAST SIDERS PATRONIZE NEW CITY MARKET ON NORTH AVE.

That wealthy residents of the east side will patronize a municipal market was indicated late Saturday, when a new market was opened at North and Farwell Aves. as a trial.

It has frequently been contended the east siders of means had no interest in municipal markets. This was disproved. It was a frequent sight Saturday night to see stylishly dressed men carrying canes in one hand and bundles of green vegetables in the other.

Ald. W. I. Greene, who suggested the site, said 14 loads of vegetables were sold.

AMERICAN AIRMEN FLY FROM MILAN TO ROME

ROME—An escadrilla of the American airman, piloting Caproni planes, flew from Milan to Rome, a distance of 550 kilometers (402.55 miles). They were under command of Captain La Guardia, former New York congressman.

MILWAUKEE MARINE IS WOUNDED "OVER THERE"

Forest P. Pogozelski, marine, Milwaukee, was reported seriously wounded in action in Sunday's casualty list. Pogozelski is not listed in the Milwaukee city directory.

U. S. TO LAUNCH 13 NEW DESTROYERS ON JULY 4

WASHINGTON—Thirteen new destroyers will be launched from American yards July 4, the navy department announced Monday.

PORTUGAL WILL RENEW RELATIONS WITH VATICAN

LISBON—The Portuguese government soon will re-establish relations with the vatican after an interval of seven years, it was learned Monday.