

News From at Home and Abroad

(By Associated Press)

AMERICAN LIBERTY ENGINE PLANES ON WAY TO FRANCE

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The first American-built battle planes are en route to France, five months ahead of the original schedule. In making this statement, Secretary Baker said the first shipment, although in itself not large, "marks the final overcoming of many difficulties in building up the intricate industry. These planes," Mr. Baker said, "are equipped with the first Liberty motors. One of them, in a recent test, surpassed all records for speed and climbing for planes of that type."

Engine production which began a month ago, is now on a quantity basis and the peak of production will be reached in a few months. Only 12-cylinder types are being made, as developments abroad make it wise to concentrate on the higher powers rather than the 8-cylinder kind.

Germans Pressing On Into Russia

German invasion of Russia continues unimpeded. Apparently there is to be no cessation of the march until the Russian government entirely slacks the thirst of the Teutons.

Southern Estonia has been entered by troops from German warships in the Gulf of Riga or from Oesel Island, lying off the shore, and a base established from whence operations may be carried on against Reval, an important port on the Gulf of Finland. Northeast of Dvinsk the penetration of the Germans along the railroad leading to Petrograd, at last accounts, had reached more than twelve miles, and southward the invasion was in progress on wide areas with the Germans taking prisoners, guns and other booty in large quantities. The lines over which the Germans are operating to Lutsk is more than 500 miles in length. Except for a demand by the German commander at Brest-Litovsk that an authentic copy of the Bolshevik document of recapitulation, signed by Lenin and Trotsky, be sent him, no attention has been given for the expression of a desire for peace.

In the Reichstag the Poland minister has announced his distrust in Russia's peace intentions and said Germany must see to it that peace and order prevails on the eastern frontier. He said Germany was still ready for a peace in the east which would protect German interests.

Not alone in Germany but in Austria the cessation of hostilities is not popular with the masses. Newspapers everywhere evidenced disappointment over the new phase of events. The newspapers in the dual monarchy are unanimous against Austria making war against Russia.

Meantime Russia is still in the throes of civil war and has another widespread anti-Semitic movement to contend with. Swedish advices are to the effect that there has been a return to the old-time practice of massacres against the Jews. Bloody pogroms are declared to have been committed in Lubin and elsewhere.

On the battle front no big engagements have been fought, although in Palestine the British have pushed forward fifteen miles of front east of Jerusalem to a depth of two miles.

Fifteen British merchantmen were sunk by mines and submarines last week according to the weekly statement of the British admiralty. This was a decrease over the previous week.

NEW WHEAT PRICE OPPOSED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The full influence of the administration will be brought to bear, if necessary to prevent enactment of bills pending in Congress to increase the price of wheat. This became known tonight from good authority. Opposition to the measures, another of which was introduced today, is based on the grounds that their passage would upset the wheat and bread program of the food administration, worked out in great detail, and that President Wilson already has full authority to adjust the price if found advisable. Wheat is now selling on a basis of \$2.20 per bushel and the price is maintained by heavy government purchases, for army and allied purposes. The food administration has worked out a scale of profit for millers on this basis, and bread is selling at a fixed price.

ALIEN DISCHARGED FROM ARMY

CAMP LEWIS, Tacoma, Feb. 20.—Thomas Helmuth Ritter, former sergeant-major in the office of the division adjutant's office at Camp Lewis, arrested last fall following disappearance of valuable papers from the adjutant's office, today was discharged from the army and immediately arrested by Deputy United States Marshal Sigrist on a presidential warrant as an enemy alien and taken to the Pierce County jail at Tacoma. He will be taken to an internment camp, it was said. According to Ritter's statement, made in January when the fact of his arrest was revealed, he served three years in an artillery organization for Germany in East Africa. He is known to have been on friendly terms with German consuls while serving with the United States army in the Philippines.

Military authorities tried to connect Ritter with the dynamiting of a train near Minneapolis and his case was referred to Washington for disposition. His discharge followed.

AMERICAN TONNAGE GROWING

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Oversea ship tonnage available to release other ships for overseas work. For the last three weeks ahead of the predicted time. Officials believe the upward curve will continue until the war is ended, unless difficulties not now

foreseen are encountered. In support of this belief, attention was called today to the satisfactory result of the campaign against enemy submarines and to the fact that government ships now are coming from American yards, and to the progress of negotiations for neutral vessels to be used in the non-hazardous trade to release other ships for overseas work. For the last three weeks the charts of the shipping board have shown an upward trend. Officials think new factors will aid rather than retard the effort to put more ships into service. Chief of these will be the restriction of imports, made effective February 16.

COMPROMISE ON WAR FINANCE BILL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—An agreement for revision of the two most important provisions of the bill for a war finance preparation to aid in the financing of the war and war industries was reached late today by Secretary McAdoo and the Senate committee. Under the compromise, which is expected to secure unanimous support, the powers for licensing securities issues of \$100,000 would be vested in a Capital Issue Committee composed of three members of the Federal Reserve Board and three from private financial interests. Another important change would limit authority of corporation directors to make advances of government funds directly to private industries in exceptional cases.

FOUR AND A HALF PER CENT BONDS DUE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Future issues of treasury certificates of indebtedness planned for the Third Liberty loan will bear an interest rate of four and a half per cent, or one-half per cent more than issues of the immediate past. This announcement was made tonight by Secretary McAdoo, together with the statement that the \$500,000,000 block of certificates, closed last week, was subscribed in full only because banks in New York and other centers took more than their share and offset the scanty subscriptions elsewhere.

GERMAN PASTOR ARRESTED

SEATTLE, Feb. 20.—Rev. John Martin Baumschweig, 26 years old, a German, and E. Robinson, secretary of the local I. W. W. branch, were arrested late today by federal officials. The preacher is alleged to have been within the water front zone which is barred to aliens. Robertson was arrested at the request of authorities in connection with an investigation of an alleged plot to hamper the output of war material.

PRESIDENT TO HAVE MORE FREEDOM OF ACTION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Compromise in the Senate on legislation for further co-ordination and reorganization of the government war-making agency appear a near fact tonight as result of negotiations between party leaders for revision of the Overman bill, which would give President Wilson greater freedom of action. President Wilson is said to have no objections to the changes proposed, and tomorrow it is expected the judiciary sub-committee headed by Overman, will redraft the bill.

FRENCH DRIVE HUNS BACK

PARIS, Feb. 20.—French detachments made a heavy attack against the Germans in Lorraine today, entering the German line over a large front and capturing more than 400 prisoners, according to the war office tonight.

CAVE-IN KILLS TWO MINERS

CENTRALIA, Feb. 20.—A cave-in in one of the tunnels of the Washington-Union Coal company at Tono, today resulted in the death of two miners. One of the men was taken out but died soon. The other has not been recovered.

FLOUR SUBSTITUTES GO UP

PORTLAND, Feb. 20.—Flour substitutes advanced \$1.00 per barrel in the Portland market, due, dealers say, to increasing scarcity. Barley flour, heretofore \$11 per barrel, went to \$12, and rye, rolled oats and oatmeal to \$12.50.

TWO MORE ARE DEAD

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Two names were added to the roll of Tuscania dead by dispatches tonight: Sidney W. Burnett, Marshfield, and Eugene W. Snyder, Rimrock, Wash. Both had been listed among the unreported.

NO PEACE WITHOUT CONSULTATION

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The British government has instructed agents at Kiev that Great Britain will not recognize peace in the east which involves Poland, without a previous consultation with Poland.

COVE NEWS

COVE, Feb. 18.—(Special.)—Dr. Oftedal has gone to Minneapolis, Minn., for a three weeks visit with his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Huntley and daughter, Eloise, of Weiser, Idaho, spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Conklin.

The Methodist Sunday school is holding a contest. The class having the largest attendance during the year is to receive the prize.

The basket ball game played Friday evening for the benefit of the Y. W. C. A. fund between the teachers and girls of the high school was won by the teachers by the close margin of one point.

Ernest Bell went to Walla Walla, Washington Monday for a few days on business.

Mr. Mills and family of Rock Springs, Colorado, have moved to the Warburton ranch east of town. Rollin Richardson and family have moved onto Mr. Peal's ranch.

Jim Hoatson, Raymond Williams, Arthur Burford, Merfin Alexander, Gus Houx and Jim Houx, all of Cove, have enlisted and left Thursday of last week, passing their examination in La Grande, and are

booked for France to cut timber. The Red Cross shipments are made to La Grande on Friday of each week.

Mt. Fannie Grange held their last meeting at the Shanghai school house, Saturday, February 16.—J. B. Tallant has given the Grange the privilege of using for Grange purposes, the building on the property owned by Jess Dalton which he recently purchased.

Mrs. Ed. Stearns went to Pendleton last week to care for her mother and brother who are still quite ill.

Miss Helen Antles entertained her friends at a Valentine party at her home Friday evening. Twenty-five guests were present.

Mrs. J. K. Lantz entertained the ladies of the Royal Ann Needle Club at her home Friday, Feb. 8.

Ben Comstock, one of Lower Cove's popular young men, has answered his country's call and left for Vancouver barracks Thursday, February 7.

A surprise party was given in honor of Mrs. R. R. Morris at her home Saturday evening, February 6. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Miller and daughter, Carmen went to Baker Thursday to visit at the home of

Mrs. Miller's parents, Mr. and Mrs. White.

Mt. Fannie Grange met in regular session on February 2. After the routine of business followed by a "Hoover" dinner, which all enjoyed, a short program was rendered as follows:

Song by the Grange. Select Reading by Mrs. Geo. Baker. Roll Call—Definition of "Home," responded to by all.

Reading by Mrs. Georgia Gasset. Vocal Selection by Mrs. Lynn Chadwick.

Reading—Mrs. Mary Chambers. Reading of the "Grange Sentinel" by Miss June Chadwick.

County Agriculturist Spillman was a guest at the meeting.

Two cars of far hogs were shipped from Cove Saturday, one by Morris Ogden and the other by T. B. Johnson of La Grande.

E. W. Meroney made a business trip to La Grande last week. J. K. Lantz left for La Grande last week, Monday, to serve on the jury.

Ernest Organ was a business visitor in La Grande the latter part of last week.

County Agriculturist Spillman of La Grande was in Cove on business last week and a guest at the Organ home.

Have the Observer Job Dept. estimate on your printing needs. You get the benefit of cash buying. Phone Main 37.

Better than money because they earn money; buy a WAR-SAVING STAMP TO-DAY.

Cut This Out—It Is Worth Money.

DON'T MISS THIS—Cut out this slip, enclose with 5c and mail it to Foley & Co., 2835 Sheffield Ave., Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound for coughs, colds and croup; Foley's Kidney Pills, for pain in sides and back; rheumatism, backache, kidney and bladder ailments; and Foley's Cathartic Tablets, a wholesome and thoroughly cleansing cathartic, for constipation, biliousness, headache and sluggish bowels. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

A Penny a Day Means a Kit-a-Month for a Boy at the Front



Every man, woman and child in this city can help keep one of our boys at the front supplied with cigars and tobacco by setting aside one cent a day for each working day.

Just think what this little sum will do! For 25 cents we will enter your name on our Tobacco Fund list and will send 45 cents worth of smoking tobacco and cigars to our boys in France. In the kit will be a postal card stamped and addressed to you, and on the kit will be a request to the soldier asking him to write a message to you on the postal and mail it.

The Red Cross takes charge of these kits of smoking material and distributes them; the French government sends back the postal bearing a one-cent United States stamp and admits the tobacco free of duty.

Surely if as busy an organization as the Red Cross Society and as pre-occupied officials as those of the French government will do these things to see that our soldiers get a chance to smoke, it isn't asking much to ask you to set aside one cent a day for the purpose.

Send in your contributions of any amount—25 cents, \$1.00, \$5.00, or more. For every 25 cents that you give, a separate postal bearing your name goes to the front.

- Here's 45 cents worth of tobacco which is sent for your quarter:
- A package of Tuxedo tobacco and four books of cigaret papers. Three pouches of Bull Durham Tobacco and three books of papers.
- Two packages of Lucky Strike cigars, twenty cigars in each package.
- A return postal card addressed to the contributor on which the soldier will pen his appreciation and gratitude for the gift.

THE OBSERVER TOBACCO FUND