

## TO EXPLAIN FREEDOM OF THE SEAS

UNITED STATES WANTS HUMANITARIAN LAWS ENFORCED AT SEA

### PRESIDENT WILL SPEAK IN ENGLAND

It is understood Chief Executive will receive honorary degree at Oxford where he will make a speech defining his ideas on the main issue.

ABOARD THE GEORGE WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—(By Wireless)—The United States, it is understood, wants a definite law formulated at the peace conference, establishing the sea as an international highway governed by the law of all nations combined and not by any individual nation's laws.

It is believed the United States would secure the establishment of a minimum contraband list and a definite blockade. In the latter is seen a move against future submarine warfare.

President Wilson will make at least one public address in England. It is understood he will receive the honorary degree at Oxford, making that the occasion for a speech defining his ideas of the freedom of the seas.

### GERMAN POLITICS STILL SEETHING

No Stabilized Government Evident and Everything Points to Shipwreck in Anarchy.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—The political situation in Germany continues to be extraordinarily obscure, says the Amsterdam correspondent to the Daily Express. Everything seems to be quarreling with everybody else. Two grave dangers, the correspondent declares, appear to be confronting the new German republic. One is the separatist movement headed by Kurt Eisner, the Bavarian leader, who is issuing propaganda against the leadership of Berlin. The other danger which, the correspondent adds, is equally menacing is that arising from the quarrel between the Berlin military soviet and Bolshewiki and the Berlin executive committee.

The government urges the allies to bring about a preliminary peace some time in January and before Germany has a real responsible government. "The whole German political situation is characterized by similar contradictions. The Germans want the allies to treat them as an orderly government while they give every sign of an early shipwreck in anarchy."

### HUNS WILL SURRENDER AIR FLEET PIECEMEAL

LONDON, Dec. 7.—There will be no formal surrender of German airplanes as was at one time expected, because it has been found impracticable to assemble 3000 airplanes at one place and it is doubtful whether Germany has a sufficient number of reliable pilots for that purpose. Hence the first surrender in history of an air fleet is being effected by piecemeal. The Germans are sending the wings in the course of retreat and the advancing allies are picking them up.

### FOOD ADMINISTRATION TO PROTECT CONSUMER

San Francisco, Dec. 5.—The main effort of the food administration from now on will be to protect the consumer against unjust profits and speculation.

This statement was made by Food Commissioner Ralph H. Merritt in a address at the Commonwealth club.

The administration will also maintain the spirit of rigid economy, said Merritt.

There will be no relaxation in packing and enforcing food administration regulations which prohibit speculation and unreasonable profits.

### DISTURBANCE AT ESSEN.

Fight of Fanned Sheet to Lower Red Flag

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 7.—(United Press)—Violent fighting occurred in Essen when returning soldiers attempted to lower the flag. Several were reported killed. Thousands of miners made great demonstration at Hamm. Soldiers disposed them with some casualties.

## FARMERS' WORK HELPED IN WAR

PRaise IS GIVEN BY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

Despite Shortage of Labor All Records Were Broken in Acreage Planted.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Praise for the war work of the farmer in producing record-breaking crops to feed the armies in the field and the people at home, is given in the annual report of Secretary of Agriculture Houston, made public today.

On them rested the responsibility for maintaining and increasing food production and for assisting in securing fuller conservation of food and feed stuffs. The part the millions of men, women, boys and girls on the farms played during the war is striking, but altogether too little known and appreciated," the secretary says.

Despite shortage of labor, due in large part to thousands of the youth of the farms serving in the great war, American farmers broke all records in acreage planted, he says.

In 1917, there were 283,000,000 acres planted as compared with 261,000,000 the previous year, and a yearly average of 248,000,000 for the five years prior to 1914, the first year of the war.

With a still further shortage of labor, 1918 showed an even better record, with 298,000,000 acres planted in standard crops.

Climatic conditions for the two great staple crops—corn and wheat—were bad in many sections of the country during the war period, but, notwithstanding this, the aggregate yield exceeded any previous year in the nation's history, with the single exception of 1915, the report shows.

Wheat production for 1918 totaled 918,920,000 bushels, greatly in excess of each of the two previous years and the second highest record.

The estimated total yield of the leading cereals for 1917 was 5,796,000,000 bushels and for 1918, about 5,688,000,000 bushels.

Not only in the raising of wheat and corn, did the farmers of America outdo other records in the shade. War's demands greatly increased necessity for meat products, eggs and milk. Here again, the farmer measured up to his responsibilities, Houston says.

In 1918, over 8,500,000,000 pounds of beef were produced as compared with 6,079,000,000 in 1914; 10,500,000 pounds of pork, with but 8,769,000,000 in 1914 and 495,000,000 pounds of mutton, making a total of 14,495,000,000 pounds, while but 15,587,000,000 were produced in 1914.

Production of milk, poultry and eggs showed the same gratifying increase in production, the report shows.

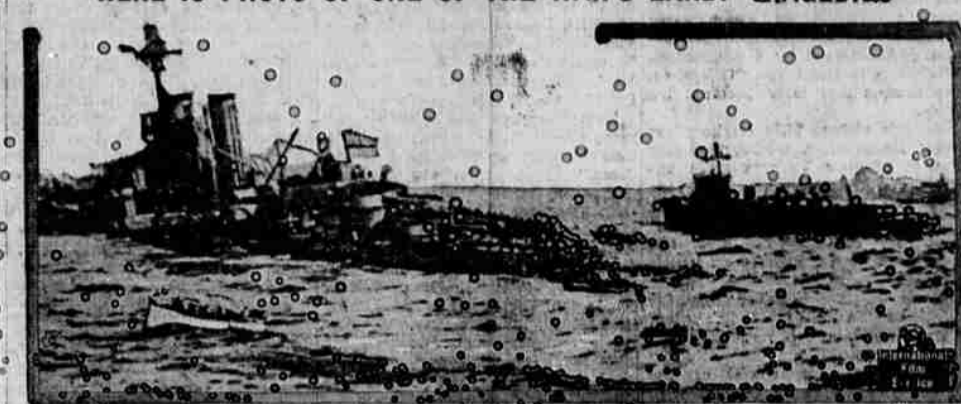
### ON VERGE OF FAMINE

Serious Conditions Reported in Germany and Austria.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 7.—(United Press)—Germany has sent a note to Denmark, declaring that she is on the verge of famine.

"The present supply of cereals is only one-third of the normal," the note declared, adding:

## HERE IS PHOTO OF ONE OF THE WAR'S EARLY TRAGEDIES



The British Admiralty has just made its first official report of the loss of the battleship Audacious, which sank after striking a mine off the north Irish coast on October 27, 1914. The loss of the battleship was officially kept secret at the urgent request of the commander in chief of the grand fleet. The photograph shows the Audacious as it was sinking. Destroyers are close to the doomed vessel rescuing the sailors.

### JERRY KIMMELL IN HOSPITAL

La Grande Young Man Under Operation at Camp Lee.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Kimmell are in receipt of a telegram from the commanding officer at Camp Lee, Virginia, stating that their son, Jerry G. Kimmell, was operated on at the camp hospital on December 4. The message states that the patient's condition is good.

Jerry Kimmell left La Grande for the service on the first of May for Camp Fremont, where he has been in training in the mounted military police. He is a well-known railroad employee and has been in the service of the company for several years.

### FUNERAL OF MRS. HARVEY

The funeral of Mrs. Lorry C. Harvey, wife of John Harvey, was held yesterday afternoon. The deceased was thirty-five years of age, the date of her birth being November 23, 1883. She was married to John Harvey at Vancouver two years ago and with her husband was a resident of Portland up to the time of their removal to Boyd, near The Dalles. She leaves besides her husband, a son aged thirteen years.

### RETURNED FROM FUNERAL

Engineer and Mrs. Peter Belver have returned from Portland where they attended the funeral of the late Engineer Fred Jasperson, whose death occurred last week following an attack of appendicitis. The funeral was held at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the Pearson chapel in Portland and was conducted by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

### BATTLE AT KIEFF

Ten Thousand Casualties Result from the Conflict.

LASSANE, Switzerland, Dec. 7.—(United Press)—Ukrainian national union forces occupied Kieff after a severe battle, in which the casualties totaled ten thousand, according to dispatches from Kieff. General Skoropadski, Hetman of Ukraine, and five hundred Russian officers are among the killed.

### NEW BUSINESS FIRM

Messrs. Kuebler and Cain Establish the Palace Confectionery.

The firm of Karther & Cain has purchased the confectionery establishment heretofore known as "Young's Place" on Adams avenue. The place will hereafter be known as the Palace Confectionery store. Mr. Karther, the senior member of the firm, is an engineer from Portland, while Mr. Cain is already well known to La Grande people, having for a long period been connected with the fountain department of the Silverthorn drug store, where the public early found that in order to have a good drink it must be mixed by A. F.

All the obsolete and back-number incumbrances of the recently purchased establishment will undergo a radical change. The store is being renovated from one end to the other. New paper and paint is being applied and linoleum is also being placed and at the same time new windows and dust proof recesses are being constructed for the front.

Mr. Cain will have the general charge of the new place and on account of his popularity with his patrons, and particularly among the young people, the Palace Confectionery will come rapidly to the front.

### ROYAL TO GOVERNMENT

BRITAIN, Dec. 7.—(United Press)—Prince Adalbert, son of the former Kaiser, has telegraphed from Berlin that he will support Chancellor Ebert's government.

## IN MEMORY OF RAILROAD MAN

NOTICE OF THE DEATH OF T. E. BUEHLER

Deceased of Late W. R. & N. Co. Resident of La Grande Oregon

The funeral of the late T. E. Buehler will be held from the English hall tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. Edgar Driedell will have charge of the obsequies and the fraternal direction by the Order of Railway Conductors will be in charge of General Chairman J. B. Knudsen of the O. R. & N. Co. of Spokane. It is expected that many of the prominent officials from Portland will be present. All the railroad offices will be closed in honor of the deceased.

Theodore Edward Buehler was born January 6th, 1859, at Louisville, Kentucky. He entered the railroad service in the east in the early 80's and was employed as a conductor on the Great Northern during the construction period when that line was being built over the Cascade mountains. J. D. Farrell was at that time General Superintendent there and the close personal friendship originated between Mr. Buehler and Mr. Farrell that began at that time has continued.

Mr. Buehler was employed as General Yardmaster at La Grande August 24th, 1894, by the late Thomas Walsh who was at that time Chief Dispatcher for the O. R. & N. and continued in that capacity until his death.

In 1915 Mr. Buehler was sent by the O. W. R. & N. Co. as their representative at the Yardmasters convention at Detroit, Michigan. He was a member of La Grande Division 305 Order of Railway Conductors of the Local Division for four terms of office. He was also secretary of the local lodge for several terms and was also the delegate to the grand division of the Order at Detroit in 1913, and again in 1916. When the Grand Division of the Order met in St. Louis, Missouri, he was also elected an alternate representative to the coming Grand Division of the Order in the coming May.

Mr. Buehler was at one time employed as a conductor on the Oregon Shortline railway, at Pocatello, Idaho, and at one time he was employed as a conductor on the D. & R. G. out of Denver.

His immediate relatives are his wife, Mrs. T. E. Buehler and a daughter, Bernice, who has been attending Smith College in North Hampton, Massachusetts. Mrs. Buehler and her daughter arrived in La Grande this morning.

### GIRLS HOLD MEETING

The Otsego club five girls held business and social meeting yesterday evening at the home of Edith Pierce. The members of the organization include: Miss Mosele Mettie, guardian; Miss Bertha Berger, Flavia Ritter, Mele George, Constance Hall, Mary Frawley, Margaret Palmer, Ruth Hill, Roberta Smith, Evelyn Cullen, Margaret King, Bertha Hetter, Evelyn Underwood, Norma Mayer, Edith Pierce.

### RETAIL CLERKS TO MEET

The Retail Clerks' union will hold a special meeting Monday night, December 9th, at 8, and all members are urged to be present, as there is to be an election of new officers.

### BRITISH CROSS RHINE

BRIDGES, England, Dec. 7.—(United Press)—The British at this move are crossing the Rhine. It is reported that a speech by George V. was announced on a speech he made today.

### BURNING OF FAMILY BILLS

Law Firm Publish Story; Says All Were Destroyed by Bolsheviks.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam says the law firm publishes a story given by the valet of the former-empress of Russia, of the murder of the entire Romanoff family by the Bolsheviks. According to this story the once royal family was consigned to live in a single room of a convent at Ekaterinburg for weeks before the murder, under guard of Bolshevik soldiers, who insulted them shamefully.

The valet said that on July 17 all the members of the family were taken to the cellar of the convent and placed against the wall and shot. The murderers granted the last request of the former-empress that his wife, who was ill, should die in his arms.

According to the valet the Grand Duchess Tatiana was only wounded by the shot and was killed by a blow from the rifle butt. All the bodies were buried.

### MACHINE GUNS TURNED ON BROTHERS IN COPENHAGEN

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 7.—Machine guns were used in suppressing food riots in Copenhagen on Tuesday, according to reports received here. Several stores in different parts of the city were plundered. There were a number of casualties in the ranks of the demonstrators, several being killed.

After plundering the stores a great crowd gathered at the town depot, but the "warfare committee" of the city decided to suppress the disturbances without mercy. The mob retreated when the machine guns were brought into play.

Other casualties occurred in conflicts between mobs and the police throughout the night.

### WANT TO SEE WILSON

German Delegation Asks Interview of Chief of State.

BERNE, Dec. 7.—(United Press)—President Wilson has been invited to meet delegations from Berlin and other German cities at Cologne, for the purpose of arriving at an understanding regarding Germany's integrity.

German newspapers are showing a universal dread of the various separatist movements.

Berlin, according to advices received here, would form a combined, allied and German army to march against the Bolsheviks in Russia.

### SPAIN IN HARMONY WITH U. S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Secretary Lansing has transmitted to Congress a communication embodying assurances of sympathy for the United States and the allies from the Spanish government headed by Marquis De Albuquerque. The De Albuquerque cabinet since has resigned and has been succeeded by one formed by Count Romanones. Since the count always has been pro-ally, diplomatic observers here believe the new government will be even more friendly to the associated governments.

### EBERT PROCLAIMED PRESIDENT

PARIS, Dec. 7.—(United Press)—Armed soldiers and sailors massed in front of the Chancellor's palace last night, proclaiming Ebert president of the "German republic," according to a Berlin dispatch.

### BRITISH WARSHIP SINKS

LONDON, Dec. 7.—(United Press)—The British warship Cassandra has been mined in the Baltic sea, the admiralty announced today.

## TELLS OF ARMY OF OCCUPATION

GENERAL MARCH NAMES DIVISIONS ON PRUSSIAN SOIL

Two Hundred Thousand Have Already Been Released From Home Camps

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—(United Press)—The American Army of Occupation consists of the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Seventh, Twelfth, Thirtieth, Thirty-Second, Thirty-third, Forty-second, Seventy-ninth, Eighty-ninth and Ninetieth divisions, General March announced today.

These divisions include the First to the Seventh regulars, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Michigan and Illinois National guard, the Rainbow division, the Pennsylvania, Maryland, District of Columbia, Kansas, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and Oklahoma National armies.

The general revealed the fact that a total of 5942 officers and 138,000 men have been assigned for an early conveyance home. The grand total actually embarked to date is 854 officers, 17,000 men and a few women, prisoners and civilians, and 200,000 men.

The discharge of the men from the camps in this country is spreading up. More than 200,000 have been discharged to date.

General March said it may be necessary to modify the existing law whereby all enlistments expire four months after the peace treaty is signed. Congress will probably be asked to provide that such men as are needed for supplies and other services shall remain.

### BEATIAN BULERS IN PARIS

Tremendous Welcomes Given for Royal Couple.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—In the presence of a tremendous crowd, including thousands of Belgian refugees, who were living in Paris since the beginning of the war, King Albert of Belgium, Queen Elisabeth and the Prince of Baudant arrived here.

As the train drew into the Bois de Boulogne station a salute of 101 guns was fired.

President Poincare and his wife were among the notables that welcomed the royal party.

As the party left the station they were accompanied by a squad of mounted guards. Between rows of French troops that had fought in Belgian campaigns the king and those accompanying him were driven to the French foreign office overlooking the Seine river.

A tragically sentimental touch was given to the scene by the presence of tattered battle flags festooned with tri-colored ribbons and bearing the names of the battles in which they had been carried from the Ypres to the Ypres and Dixmude engagements.

The king wore the uniform of a general and held his hand at salute while passing detachments of fusiliers and marines.

### FIGHT IN RHINE CITY

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 7.—(United Press)—Several persons were killed in street fighting at Mayence, Mainz's reports declare. Many shops were plundered. (Mainz is an important Rhine city.)

### IF RUSSIA HAD GERMANY'S PRESENT OPPORTUNITY IT WOULD BE A GREAT DEMOCRACY, SAYS KERENSKY

LONDON, Dec. 7.—"If Russia had Germany's present opportunity it should now be a great democracy like America," Alexander Kerensky, former Russian premier, declared in an interview with the United Press, in which he drew a comparison between the Russian and the German revolutions.

"I believe the German revolution, although started under similar conditions and with similar aims to the Russian revolution, will be able to avert Bolshevism.

## ALL GIVEN CHANCE TO EXPLAIN

UNION COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD WILL SEND OUT SUBPOENAS.

BURDEN OF PROOF ON THE SUSPECTED

Session Will Be Held at the City Hall Tuesday Evening by Way of Investigating Alleged Slacker Work—Special Officers and Proprietaries Will Attend.

After weeks of careful consideration, conferences with United States District Attorney representative, heads of the State Council of Defense, and others, the Union County Advisory War Board today published a movement to unmask all suspected citizens, by placing the burden of proof upon the suspected.

Occasionally as neighborhood groups a conclusion that one of its citizens is disloyal or hasn't done his best share, and though he may be doing something along that line, it is difficult to prove at court. The plan developed in this county will give any such suspected person a chance to prove this accusation, and continue the public's mind what he should be.

The plan will here will cover a broad many classes of cases. There is, for instance, the man who is not working in the month of his neighborhood, but is a slacker. He is suspected of doing nothing to help the war effort, and though he may be doing something along that line, it is difficult to prove at court. The plan developed in this county will give any such suspected person a chance to prove this accusation, and continue the public's mind what he should be.

In all parts of Union county there is going out today subpoenas from the Council of Defense to a liberal number of people who come in any one of several of the classes indicated. One subpoena is used for all cases.

The hearing will be held Tuesday evening at the City Hall beginning at 7:30 o'clock. Those cited will be given a chance to testify under oath in explanation of their attitude.

Plan Entirely New. Throughout all the Liberty Loan drives in the past, there was a manifest lack of authority to deal with laggards, lethargies and slackers. It remained for Union county and the State Liberty Loan committee to devise a plan whereby the government can be officially represented. This plan has been given proper sanction, as developments will show.

Today evening there will be a (Continued on page 2.)

Third, if starvation actually threatened, Germany can get the allies to help. Russia has nobody to aid her.

Had Two Fights at Once. These spell the difference between success and failure and tell the story of Russia's tragedy. If Russia had Germany's present opportunity she would now be a great democracy like America.

"When the old regime was overthrown, Russia had to fight an outside foe, with one hand and do the best she could to hold herself up with the other. As a result she was unable to perfect a new economic and political structure sufficiently strong to withstand the strain.

"The Russian army was worn-out with German propagandists. As an example of this, every time I issued an order while preparing for the (Continued on Page 3)