

LINER TAKEN BY GERMANS 54 KILLED BY ZEPPELINS

Newport News, Va., Feb. 1.—The British South African liner Appam, given up for lost, was brought into Hampton Roads today flying a German man o'war flag, with a German prize crew. She was captured at sea Jan. 15, four days after she left Dakar, British West Africa. The Appam brought her original passengers and 125 persons said to have been taken from other vessels by the Germans. Four injured passengers were aboard, said to have been taken from an English ship from Australia. About 425 persons, including the passengers and crew, were aboard the ship.

It is reported that the submarine which took the Appam sunk seven other ships.

London, Feb. 1.—Four persons were killed and 67 injured in a Zeppelin raid. Bombs were dropped on several towns and rural districts in Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Staffordshire. Some property was damaged.

WILSON ASKS QUICK ACTION ON DEFENSE

Cleveland. — New circumstances have arisen, President Wilson declared, which makes it absolutely necessary that this country should prepare for adequate national defense.

"We are in the midst of a world that we did not make and cannot alter," the president said. "Its whole atmospheric and physical conditions are the conditions of our own life, also; and therefore as your responsible servant I must tell you that the dangers are infinite and constant."

The president spoke in Cleveland with more gravity and force than he has shown during any of his previous addresses on preparedness.

"Let me tell you very solemnly you cannot postpone this thing," he declared. "I do not know what a single day may bring forth."

"I do not wish to leave you with the impression that I am thinking of some particular danger. I merely wish to tell you that we are daily treading amidst intricate dangers. The dangers that we are treading amongst are not of our own making and not under our control. I think no man in the United States knows what a single week, a single day, a single hour may bring forth."

BEATS ALL HISTORY FOR SEVERE STORMS

Oregon Short Line Officials report this the worst year for snow and storms they have ever experienced, practically every one of their branches were out of commission at one time.

While the snow on Ontario has not been very deep at any one time, this will be remembered as the hardest winter in years, the cold and snow having lasted much longer than usual.

In sections where cattle were not gathered they are losing heavily.

With the ground frozen and in low places covered with ice there is found to be damage done to the alfalfa fields.

There is a demand for all the hay in this section from the Portland market, where they are very short, owing to the unusual weather.

The local sheep and cattle men are well supplied, the dry fall compelled them to get onto the feeding grounds early and large quantities of hay were purchased so they will be all right if the winter breaks up this month.

LAYMEN'S MISSIONARY MOVEMENT CONVENTION.

All churches and all granges of the State are being notified of the coming convention of the Laymen's Missionary Movement, to be held at the White Temple in Portland, February 13 to 16, and the executive committee for the convention extends the invitation to attend, to all male members of every church organization of Oregon and Southwestern Washington.

The convention will be addressed by twelve or fifteen of the most prominent men connected with the missionary movement of the world, both at home and abroad.

Mrs. J. D. Fairman is visiting with her aunt Mrs. L. M. Morton of Ontario. Mrs. Fairman came down from the upper country Saturday.

BIG TRANSFER OF LUMBER COMPANIES

A deal is being closed up this week whereby the lumber yards at Ontario, Payette, Vale and Nyssa belonging to the Empire Lumber Company, the Adams Lumber Company at Parma and the Platt yard at Wilder all pass to the ownership of the Boise-Payette Lumber company, one of the Weyerhaeuser subsidiary companies, the latter being the largest timber owners in America.

This is the concern that built a railroad from Boise to Moores creek so they could get their lumber to market and in consideration of this improvement the people of Boise made them a very low price on a lot of state timber adjoining their holdings. With the local yards taken over this week the company now owns over 30 lumber yards in western Idaho and eastern Oregon.

While we have not been able to see any of the officials of the company we presume they will soon be here and have an announcement to the community of their policy.

L. Adam established the Empire Lumber company here twenty years ago, when the present city was but a country village. On Main street there were three brick stores the Wilson grocery store, the Odd Fellows building and the M. M. Company's store. Of the frame buildings there are not many left, the building just north of the Argus office, where the only murder ever committed in Ontario occurred, the Stuart building, the harness shop and the old post office building next to the M. M. Company's store. A summing up of the firms then doing business here would show just as many changes, few of the pioneer firms remaining.

The other yards have all been established since 1900.

Mr. Adam does not expect to leave Ontario but will devote his time to his other investments, he was the owner of the controlling interest in the group of yards.

Mr. Emison may move to Montana, where he has some bright prospects.

No announcement has been made as to the managers for the yards and probably will not be until the stocks have been checked over and the official transfer made.

There is always a pang of regret when a pioneer firm goes out of business, especially one that has served the public so satisfactorily as the Empire.

TO DOUBLE-TRACK ROAD.

The Oregon Short Line Railway Co. has a gang of engineers at this place surveying the railroad's right-of-way for the purpose of double-tracking their line through this place. This will be the next improvement by this company, and will mean the expenditure of some little money. —Caldwell News.

It will be several days before the surveyors reach Ontario, because of some heavy work east of Parma.

Ten cars of baled hay have been shipped out of Parma during the past two weeks by the Cash Grain Co., of Ontario, which has a crew of men here baling and shipping. The hay is billed to Vale and coast points. —Parma Review.

RAILROAD PUSHES WEST TO HARNEY

Weather conditions do not put a quietus on the work of extending the Oregon and Eastern railroad westward into Harney county. So says H. C. French of Harriman, who is in Ontario on a business trip from the interior.

Notwithstanding the snappy weather that prevails in the section of railroad building, about 200 men are putting in the finishing touches on the steel bridges, deep cuts and heavy grades, preparatory to the final dash for the level country in the vicinity of Harriman, from which point the building of the line westward will be clear sailing.

The bridge on the McRay ranch, some four miles west of Riverside, is completed, and workmen are now finishing the Swamp creek bridge near the Spurlock ranch to which point rails have been laid. The last important bridge to be built over the Malheur river will be near the Blacklock ranch. Four camps are established between Riverside and Mile Post 110, which point is about three miles east of Harriman and the terminus of contract to be completed in July. Camp 5 is near what is termed the Cary Cut on the Cary ranch and is considered the heaviest work along the line. This will be the last difficult excavation before going through the gap and into Harney valley.

It is the consensus of opinion out Harriman way that operations in railroad building will cease at Mile Post 110, for at least a few months. Right-of-way Agent Moore, for the Oregon & Eastern, has recently filed right-of-way from Mile Post 110 to Dog Mountain, a distance of 35 miles. This is thought to be only another unit of the railroad to be built in the future, the date of completion being only guesswork.

The denizens of Harney valley are optimistic in the belief that the railroad will reach them by July 1, 1916. The event will be an era of great rejoicing in that land of promise for those who have waited patiently for ears for the sound of locomotive whistles and rumbling trains.

BIG PRUNE ORCHARD DEAL CONSUMMATED.

A deal was consummated yesterday whereby Miles Cannon sells his interest in the Nyssa prune orchard of 120 acres to his partner, Joseph Concelmo of Philadelphia. Four thousand dollars was deposited with the First National bank of Weiser to bind the bargain, and if the parties making the purchase should back out they forfeit this amount. The orchard is the largest of its kind in the northwest and it has an evaporating plant that is the most complete and successful in the country. The consideration is not given, but as the orchard was a great money maker it goes without saying that Mr. Cannon received a neat sum. In fact he smilingly said he did not lose anything. —Weiser Signal.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

Preaching services next Sunday at both hours. The probabilities are that Rev. D. Lacey will fill the pulpit both morning and evening. The public is invited to these services. —D. E. Baker, Pastor.

CASCADES AND SOUND HAVE PLENTY OF SNOW

The snow started falling here and over the most of the northwest on Monday night and is still at it. When this was written Wednesday noon.

All O. W. R. & N. trains have been abandoned, indicating the storm is more severe in the west. The line to the East is still open, No. 17 coming through on time this morning and being held at Huntington. There is trouble west of the Dalles, near Pendleton and Baker.

On the Idaho Northern it will be several weeks before a train can get through owing to the slides through-out the length of the canyon. The Pin is in little better shape but they have only short stretches of bad country.

About eighteen inches of snow has fallen here. Harrison Seaward says this winter is almost a duplicate of 89 and 90, when it lasted until March 15.

Orrin Boyer did some good work around town with his snow plow.

GRAZING PERMITS IN MALHEUR FOREST

The Secretary of Agriculture has authorized the grazing of 24,300 head of cattle and horses, 128,200 head of sheep and goats, and 50 head of swine on the Malheur National Forest during the season of 1916.

The ranges of the Forest are open to use, under permit, by all settlers and ranchers in or near the Forest. It is a trespass however to use the range without permit. These permits are now being prepared by the office force at John Day. Any information relative to grazing, or the use of the Forest in general, will be gladly furnished upon request to the Supervisor, Cy J. Bingham, at John Day, Oregon.

GOVERNOR BURNQUIST



J. A. Burnquist, Republican, who succeeded the late W. S. Hammond, Democrat, as Governor of Minnesota.

EVERYBODY MUST QUIT DOING IT.

Stop! Look!! Listen!!! The anti-track-walking crusade has hit the country. It is a national movement to reduce the number of men, women and children killed or mutilated each year because they insist on wearing out their shoes on railroad tracks and ties. The yearly average number of accidents in the United States is 10,000.

60 LIVES LOST IN CALIFORNIA FLOODS

San Diego.—Sixty lives have been lost, as nearly as any estimate can show, and charming little California valleys for 50 miles north of the Mexican line lie desolate from floods and cloudbursts.

The first intimation of the disaster was when bodies of animals, pieces of furniture and bits of houses were observed floating in the bay opposite the San Diego waterfront.

Looting, described by Rear-Admiral William F. Fulgum, commanding the Pacific reserve fleet, as the "worst I have ever seen," broke out in the stricken Otay valley while sailors and marines from warships in San Diego toiled to recover the bodies of the 50 estimated victims of the Lower Otay reservoir flood.

Reports that the cloudburst in San Luis Rey and San Pasqual valleys probably cost no more than ten lives reduced the probable total death list in this region to about 50.

Three thousand persons are homeless, according to the estimate given out late by the relief committee organized by the San Diego chamber of commerce. Of these, 600 are sheltered on the hillsides at Palm station, the highest point adjacent to Otay City, where buildings of all kinds were leveled and washed into the waters of San Diego bay.

SELECT A GOOD BOOK FOR THE LIBRARY

In progress at Letson's jewelry store all this week and next, the book sale for the benefit of the public library promises to result in the placing of a fine lot of books on the shelves. The book social, which is to take place Friday evening, Feb. 11th, will be at the library, where the members of the Women's Club will keep open house for the occasion, and serve refreshments to the guests. The people of Ontario have always been so kind to the library, and have responded so liberally to every call for assistance, that it is expected a large number will attend the social and bring one of the books from the counter at Letson's.

If you have examined the books, you know they are just the kind needed in a busy library. A large percentage are children's books, though there are a number for grown people too; both fiction and non-fiction. There's some poetry, and some history, a very few books of essays, some of the popular novels, and also a number of the Boy Scout books, chosen by their national organization as books boys should read. Then there are also numbers of other books for young people. Altogether it's a dandy list, and every Ontario resident wants to do his part to assist the library to own the whole lot.

APPLICATIONS FOR GRAZING PERMITS

Notice is hereby given that all applications for permits to graze cattle, horses, and sheep within the Malheur National Forest during the season of 1916, must be filed in my office at John Day, Oregon, on or before February 29, 1916. Full information in regard to the grazing fees to be charged and blank forms to be used in making applications will be furnished upon request.

Cy J. Bingham, Supervisor. 5-9

ONTARIO SCHOOL TO PLANT GARDEN

Through the efforts of Senator Chamberlain, the High School Agriculture class and eighth grade have received a large sack of garden seeds, to be planted in the form of a school garden by the members of those classes. This work is under the supervision of Mr. Bailey and is one of the most recent and the most useful of benefits of the modern schools. In order to graduate each member of the Agriculture class must plant and take care of a certain amount of garden products. The very best seed has been sent from Washington D. C. and the school garden this year will probably be the best in the history of the school.

L. D. BRANDEIS



Louis D. Brandeis, named by President Wilson to succeed the late Justice Lamar on the Supreme Court bench.

The receipts from all motor and chauffeur registrations in Malheur County for the year 1915 amounted to \$981.00. Expenses incurred \$195.08. Out of the funds received \$785.92 was remitted to the county treasurer for benefit of county road fund.



News Snapshots Of the Week

The first decisive surrender of the war was barely averted when King Nicholas of Montenegro refused Austria's proffered terms of peace after the former's capital had been captured. Further Balkan difficulties manifested themselves when the allies landed at Piraeus and Phaleron, near Athens, Greece, while rumors of revolution in Greece were heard. Working plans for a real blockade of Germany by Admiral Jellicoe to satisfy neutrals were being considered by England. Among the effects of Captain von Pappen's search of Mexican bandits who killed seventeen Americans. An explosion on submarine E-2 in drydock at Brooklyn resulted in five deaths.