

NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Another Los Angeles Times dynamite suspect has been taken in Seattle.

Hotels and restaurants in New York give daily lunches to thousands of unemployed.

The French government has succeeded in restoring train service which was materially impaired by the war.

Government records show that 129 ships have been transferred to the American flag under the new registry law.

Solons of West Virginia have been vaccinated for prevention of smallpox. The governor, who is a physician, helped do the job.

Germany loses two war balloons in North Sea; one by an explosion and the other was sunk by weight of snow on the envelope.

A hundred and fifty prosperous Chicagoans, who were once newsboys, sold papers one day to raise funds for the aid of the destitute.

The funds of Sarah Bernhardt are said to be low, and on the eve of an operation upon an injured knee, her friends are flocking to her assistance.

The "bank" of Monte Carlo is said to be in "full bloom" again after four and a half months' inactivity. Ivory checks, however, have taken the place of shining gold and silver.

The U. S. War department asks congress for bigger coast defense guns, claiming the present artillery is out-ranged. Sixteen-inch calibre is advised and the expense is estimated at \$40,000,000.

Germany decides to run the British gauntlet in the established "war zone" and will insist on a blockade of all neutral ships. Hunger, it is said, will be made an ally by both countries as far as possible.

Asserting that polygamy still exists in some parts of the United States, a joint resolution memorializing the national congress to enact laws to prevent polygamy was adopted by the Indiana legislature.

Seven million dollars for the development of the two salt lakes in South-eastern Oregon, is ready. The state leased the lakes to an Eastern firm, who will immediately employ 5000 men and lay a \$2,000,000 pipe line to the Columbia river.

The Swiss authorities are studying the organization of the male citizens over 48 years old for military purposes. The army counts 300,000 men of the landwehr and landsturm, but there are numerous old soldiers still fit for territorial and convoy service and patrolling, who in case of an invasion would be ready to defend their motherland.

Rheims continues to be bombarded daily by the Germans and hundreds of persons have taken refuge in the immense cellars of the large champagne companies. The cellars also are being used as schools for the children. Night and day classes are being held. The authorities have notified parents that they cannot be responsible for accidents to their children.

Nebraska legislature passes an anti-tipping law.

Forty airmen raid four towns in Belgium held by the Germans.

Germany notifies United States that relations with that country are "strained."

After six weeks deadlock the Illinois legislature has elected an avowed "wet" speaker.

The embargo put on potash by Germany is seriously affecting American fertilizer manufacturers.

Pawn shops and loan sharks are to be regulated if a bill passed by the Oregon legislature, becomes a law.

German government increases prices of potatoes in order to conserve the food supply, which is admittedly growing short.

British steamer is blown up and sunk off the coast of Cape Antifer, by two internal explosions. Large number of the crew lost their lives.

The relations between Greece and Turkey apparently are becoming more strained. Although Turkey has offered reparations for the insult to the Greek military attaché at Constantinople, it is reported that the Greek minister has left the legation in charge of a secretary, being dissatisfied with Turkey's attitude. The Turkish minister has also left Athens. This is believed in some quarters to be the first step in the rupture of diplomatic relations between Greece and Turkey, which are said also to have been affected by the Albanian invasion of Serbia.

Fearing death at sea from German submarines, the officers and crew of an oil tank steamer, leaving San Francisco for England, have made their wills.

Oregon senate passes ultra "dry" bill in half hour, one member dissenting. This is said to be the most drastic prohibition measure of any state in the Union.

A prize crew of three officers and 16 men was placed on board the American steamer *Wilhelmina* at Falmouth. The *Wilhelmina* is loaded with foodstuffs bound for Germany.

Modern War Machines Find Fancy in Senate

Washington, D. C.—Appropriations for national defense occupied the attention of both houses of congress Monday in the general rush to clear up the supply bills for the government before the adjournment. The senate discussed until late into the night the army appropriation bill, carrying approximately \$103,000,000, while the house continued debate on the fortifications bill.

While progress was being made on both these measures, the senate committee practically completed consideration of the naval appropriations measure, and the senate paused for four minutes to pass without debate the pension bill, carrying \$164,000,000.

Increases for submarines and aviation over provisions of the house bill are proposed by the senate naval committee, its amendments, including \$1,000,000 for aviation instead of \$300,000, as authorized in the house bill; provision for five seagoing submarines instead of one, and 16 instead of 11 of the smaller type submarines. Senator Smoot sought unsuccessfully to provide 50 seagoing and 25 of the smaller coast defense submarines.

At the night session the senate naval committee submitted its report on the appropriation bill carrying a total of \$152,961,981.88, an increase over the house bill of \$8,313,080. Provision also is made for the appropriation of \$400,000 for the marine barracks at Norfolk and Mare Island.

The naval building program of the senate bill would provide in addition to the five seagoing submarines and 16 smaller submarines six more destroyers, one oil fuel ship, one gunboat, one hospital ship at \$500,000 and two first-class battleships. Among the increases recommended are \$500,000 for a projectile plant; \$130,000 for naval reserve; \$400,000 for a high-power radio station and \$1,000,000 to be applied on construction of an armor plate factory costing not to exceed \$8,000,000 if the secretary of the navy cannot purchase armor in the market at a reasonable price.

Debate on the army bill resumed after the naval bill was reported.

Items of the army bill were passed over quickly with little debate, and when the senate recessed the only section remaining for consideration was that providing for the establishment of a system of scientific management in government navy yards and shops.

The Indian appropriation bill was reported by the senate committee, carrying \$11,255,865, an increase of \$3,535,741 over the house bill.

Russians Admit Complete Rout by Germans

Berlin—What appears to have been the bitterest defeat yet administered to the Russian army in East Prussia became known Tuesday with details of the fighting which has been going on in the vicinity of the Mazurian lakes district.

Even Petrograd admits utter rout, declaring that retreat was the only thing left to do. Grand Duke Nicholas in his report confesses frankly that there was large loss in lives, and goes further and tells why. He gives to the German army great credit for its superiority in numbers as well as in planned attacks, which, coming as separate blows, wrought havoc to his men, making retreat absolutely necessary.

The German official report announces that the captures have been increased to seven generals and more than 100,000 men. The pieces of cannon taken numbered 150. The report in part says:

"In the Eastern theater, the pursuit after the winter battle in the Mazurian district has come to an end. During the clearing-up operations northwest of Grodno and in the battles reported during the last few days in the Bobr and Nawet districts, one commanding general and four other generals and approximately 40,000 men have been taken prisoners up to the present. Seventy-five cannon and some machine guns, the actual number of which has not yet been ascertained, and much other war material, have been captured.

"The total booty taken in the winter battle in the Mazurian district as a result of these conditions has been increased to date to seven generals, more than 100,000 men, upwards of 150 cannon and quantities of other war material of all descriptions."

Raw Rubber Confiscated.

Venice, via London—Advices received here from Vienna say the military authorities there have confiscated the entire supply of raw rubber, pneumatic tubes and rubber hose. Contracting teamsters say that unless this action is revoked it will be impossible to supply Vienna with food and that factories will suspend operations. A boycott instituted by Viennese housewives against the use of pork is spreading. Retail prices of pork have dropped about 4 cents a pound, but the boycott will be continued.

America Is "War Risk."

London—The Times declares that during the last few days a large amount of insurance has been placed in the London market on property in the United States against risks of damage by war. Many factories and business premises, according to the Times, have been insured for six months at a rate of one-half of 1 per cent.

CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS OF PERSIA FIGHT TURKS



The people of Mavana, a town on the Turco-Persian frontier, 15 miles from Ourmah City, the only Christian inhabitants of Persia with the privilege of carrying arms, valiantly defended their homes when the Turks invaded this neutral territory in order to turn the flank of the Russian army in the Caucasus. These brave soldiers, considered by many as the best fighters in the Turco-Persian region, have joined the regular armed force of the Persian government.

GREAT BRITAIN ANSWERS NOTE

Nation Will Continue to Protect Her Own Interests.

Ships Still to Be Detained in Accord With Policy—Injury to Neutrals Not Intended.

Washington, D. C.—Great Britain's second and complete reply to the American note of protest, which on December 28 last asked for an early improvement in the treatment of American commerce by the British fleet, was made public by mutual agreement between the State department and the British foreign office.

The note, addressed to Ambassador Page by Sir Edward Grey under date of February 10, denies that the depression in American industries is due to the activity of the British fleet, and suggests among other causes the shortage of shipping facilities, the consequent diminution of cotton trade and the destruction by submarine mines "laid by the enemy indiscriminately" of many neutral vessels.

After giving a lengthy detailed answer to the charge that American ships and cargoes were being unduly detained, the communication contains in its concluding paragraph the announcement that Great Britain intends to take retaliatory measures against the German submarine campaign against enemy ships, but does not reveal their nature.

Conceding that foodstuffs intended for the civil population of the country are not contraband, the British government points out that "in any country in which there exists such tremendous organization for war as now obtains in Germany, there is no clear division between those whom the government is responsible for feeding and those whom it is not."

"It will still be our endeavor," says the final paragraphs, "to avoid injury and loss to neutrals, but the announcement by the German government of their intention to sink merchant vessels and their cargoes without verification of their nationality or character and without making any provision for the safety of non-combatant crews or giving them a chance of saving their lives has made it necessary for His Majesty's government to consider what measures they should adopt to protect their interests."

"It is impossible for one belligerent to depart from rules and precedents for the other to remain bound by them."

Since the presentation of the preliminary note, Sir Edward says that he has had "further opportunity of examining into the trade statistics of the United States as embodied in the custom returns, in order to see whether the belligerent action of Great Britain has been in any way the cause of trade depression, which your excellency (Ambassador Page) describes as existing in the United States and also whether the seizures of vessels or cargoes which have been made by the British navy have inflicted any loss on American owners for which our existing machinery provides no means of redress."

Kaiser Directs Blockade.

London—Telegraphing from Copenhagen, the Daily Mail's correspondent says he learns from Hamburg that the belief prevails there that Emperor William is going to Heligoland personally to direct Germany's submarine blockade. "The food shortage in Germany," the correspondent adds, "was concealed until the last moment for fear of discouraging the people. It is much greater than has hitherto been believed, Germany will escape famine before the next harvest by only a narrow margin."

Kaiser May Exile Rich.

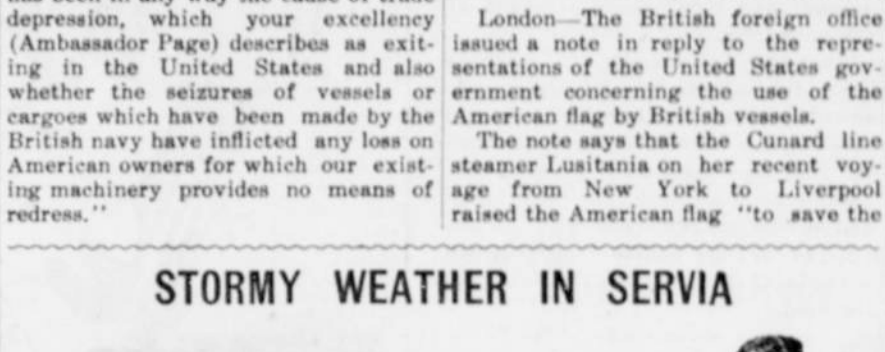
Copenhagen—The report is in circulation here that, owing to the necessity to restrict food consumption, the German government intends ordering 5,000,000 Germans who possess independent incomes and are ineligible for military service to leave Germany for neutral countries and remain there until the war is over. It is planned, according to the report, that 3,000,000 of these persons shall go to the Scandinavian countries, 1,000,000 to Holland and 1,000,000 to Switzerland.

England Justifies Using American Emblem

London—The British foreign office issued a note in reply to the representations of the United States government concerning the use of the American flag by British vessels.

The note says that the Cunard line steamer *Lusitania* on her recent voyage from New York to Liverpool raised the American flag "to save the

STORMY WEATHER IN SERBIA



Servian sentinel doing guard duty over a commissary train in the midst of one of the fierce snow storms that have been sweeping over that country.

Revised Ship Purchase Bill Passed by House

Washington, D. C.—The government ship purchase bill, as an amendment to the Weeks naval auxiliary bill, was passed by the house at 1:20 o'clock a. m. Wednesday, by a vote of 215 to 121.

When Minority Leader Mann saw that the Democratic leaders were determined to stop the filibuster, several conferences were held and it was agreed not to keep up the dilatory fight and a few minutes after 1 o'clock a vote began on the final passage of the bill.

The passage of the bill followed a 14-hour parliamentary struggle, which, until long after midnight, threatened to extend interminably, because of a determined filibuster by Minority Leader Mann, who yielded only after administration leaders decided to apply a second special rule to bring the fight to an end.

Nineteen Democrats voted against the bill. They were: Bathrick, Borchers, Callaway, Dies, Donohoe, Fitzgerald, Gerry, Gordon, Jones, Kindel, Kitchin, Morrison, Moss of Indiana, Page of North Carolina, Saunders, Slayden, Whitacre, White and Witherspoon.

All of the Republicans present voted against the bill.

Illinois Deadlock Ends.

Springfield—David E. Shanahan, for many years a member of the Illinois legislature, was elected speaker in the lower house, after a deadlock of six weeks. Shanahan, in accepting the honor, said he did so partly because he was told on all sides that the deadlock would become a scandal if it lasted any longer. As to the conflict between "wet" and "dry" forces, to which the deadlock was in part attributed, he expressed a desire to see the issue fought out on the floor of the assembly. Shanahan is an avowed "wet."

Italy Is Shaken Again.

Rome—Another earthquake in the province of Aquila damaged many houses, rendering a number of them dangerous for habitation. The population, greatly alarmed, has even abandoned the undamaged houses, fearing another catastrophe.

U. S. SHIP SUNK IN NORTH SEA

Mine Encountered Off German Coast Thought Cause.

Captain and Crew Saved; Cotton Cargo Goes Down—Investigation Starts Immediately.

Washington, D. C.—The United States government was advised officially Monday night of the first instance of the destruction of an American vessel on the high seas since the outbreak of the European war. American Consul Fee, at Bremen, cabled that the steamer *Evelyn* and her cargo of cotton, bound for Bremen, had been "blown up at Borkum," just off the coast of Germany, but that the crew had been saved.

The cause—submarine or mine—was not given in the dispatch.

After a conference with President Wilson, Secretary Bryan cabled Ambassador Page, at London, and Ambassador Gerard, at Berlin, to make an exhaustive inquiry as to the facts, and, if the crew was landed in either of their respective jurisdictions, to furnish every care and convenience to Captain Smith and his men, so that they might return home safely.

While the extent of sea zones of war proclaimed by Germany was never defined exactly, Borkum Island is considered far distant from the danger areas of submarines, although the waters of that vicinity are filled with mines for defensive purposes, through which Germany always has piloted incoming ships.

Early press dispatches from Berlin announcing the loss of the vessel by a mine caused somewhat of a sensation in this capital, where the tension has been more or less pronounced over the situation in the war zones since the dispatch of warning notes by the United States to both Great Britain and Germany.

Allies' Artillery Forces Said Gaining Ascendancy

Paris—An official eyewitness account of the recent fighting in France and Belgium was given out by the French War department. The writer says:

"During the past ten days detestable weather, continuous rains in some parts and violent snow squalls in others and thick fog have hindered the operations nearly everywhere on the western battle front. In spite of the conditions this period has been favorable to us.

"Our artillery obtained brilliant results and the enemy evidently was unable to equal our fire. The French superiority in ammunition and supplies is being more and more confirmed.

"Our infantry showed an aggressive spirit in the Artois, Champagne, Argonne and Alsace regions, and their operations were crowned with success. We thus obtained appreciable results. That the German official communications after having flatly denied, have now partially admitted that prisoners and materials have fallen into our hands, moreover, are the best proofs of our success."

Wounded Die on Field.

Geneva—The German counter-attack on the village of Aspach-le-Bas developed a formidable clash of the two forces at the point of the bayonet. It was impossible to pick up the dead or succor the wounded, as the artillery continued to sweep the position. Among the dead lying about 400 yards from the French trenches were 27 wounded French soldiers who were unable to get back and whom it was impossible to reach. During the conflict seven of these men were seen to huddle together to keep from freezing and share their last rations. A heavy fall of snow came on and covered not only the dead but the wounded.

Man Saved With Lingerie.

Caldwell, N. J.—Nine young women rescued Harry Reiter, of New York, from a perilous position on the side of the Hook Mountain Monday by tearing up their petticoats and making a rope by which he was hauled back to safety. Reiter had fallen some 30 feet down the side of the mountain and was clinging there. Below him the cliff fell away nearly 300 feet. Without hesitating, the women removed their petticoats and tore them into strips, tying and twisting them together until they formed a rope.

Blacks Torture Germans.

Berlin. (By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The Overseas News Agency gives out the following: "Herr Schwarz and Herr Gehr, missionaries of the Basle mission, on the Sanga river, in Kamerun, West Africa, report that British troops are promising rewards to the natives to deliver Germans as prisoners or to kill them. For the reason several Germans have been drowned or cut to pieces by the natives. Others have been tortured and delivered to the British."

Date of Amputation Set.

Bordeaux, via Paris—It was decided definitely Sunday by the surgeons at the hospital of St. Augustin of Archaon to amputate the right leg of Sarah Bernhardt. Mme. Bernhardt maintains her courage, being described as apparently cheerful. She is receiving a large number of telegrams expressing sympathy.