

BRITISH PLAN MORE VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN

Notwithstanding Peace Talk Will Actively Prosecute the War.

London.—Although peace talk fills the air the Lloyd-George government is aggressively going forward with its measures to insure a more vigorous prosecution of the war. At the same time troublesome domestic problems are being tackled.

Semi-official information was that the reply which the allies will render to Germany's peace proposals will go forward within a short time.

It will be a new year's greeting setting forth the estate's indomitable purpose to "proceed relentlessly with their war until "reparation, restitution and guarantee" is made certain.

That determination to continue, represented in Lloyd-George's vast plans for harnessing every ounce of strength the nation affords, will therefore be formally announced through diplomatic notes. The United States will be the agency for communication, just as America was Germany's messenger. The British note will be identical in form and phraseology with the notes of refusal which every one of the allies will return to Berlin.

English newspapers professed entire inability to understand what President Wilson was driving at in his note, and the statements of Secretary Lansing simply added to the muddle of trying to find some reason. The guesses at Wilson's intentions ran all the way from indignant belief that he was "interfering" after falling victim to the German peace propaganda, to ironic suggestion that perhaps he was "unwell."

SENTIMENT AGAINST PEACE IN FRANCE

Paris.—By a vote of 194 to 60, the French senate pledged its confidence to the Briand government and firmly announced to the world that France will not make peace while her enemies occupy her territory.

The vote came in a secret session of the senate. Its result was announced as the order of the day in the following formal statement:

"The senate, considering that France cannot make peace with her enemies occupying her territory, has resolved to bring the war, which was imposed on France, to a victorious end worthy of the heroism of France's soldiers."

The statement explained that the vote on this resolution was agreed to unanimously, all senators standing. Then the senate voted 194 to 60 its faith in the present ministry, trusting that the present government under control of the French parliament, "will take the most energetic measures to obtain definite military superiority over the enemy, organizing the army and the entire country if necessary to maintain France's prestige."

BERLIN INTERESTED IN NOTE

Tremendous Welcome Accorded Wilson's Peace Move in German Capital, Berlin, via London.—A tremendous welcome was accorded to the announcement in Berlin of President Wilson's peace endeavor. The impression of official and newspaper circles appeared in the newspapers under large display headlines, reviving the interest in the German peace overtures, which had sunk to a low point under the influence of the preliminary declarations of statesmen of the entente powers.

The American embassy, to which the ambassador, James W. Gerard, has returned from New York, and the American charge, Joseph C. Grew, were besieged by newspaper men, who sought additional information concerning the president's peace note.

Paris Dislikes Wilson Note.

Paris.—President Wilson's note and the statement of Secretary Lansing continue to be the sensation of the day and take precedence over everything else in the papers. The president's action by no means meets with favor among the commentators, who only vary in the manner of expressing their opinion.

Nightrider Case Ends in Acquittal.

Tacoma, Wash.—"Not guilty" was the verdict returned by a jury in federal court in the famous "nightrider" case against 12 Pacific county men, charged with conspiracy to deprive Mrs. Margaret Ross of her homestead rights by forcibly ejecting her and her sons from their timber claim in the North river country.

Luther Burbank Wedded.

San Francisco.—Luther Burbank, the famous plant evolutionist, was married here to his secretary, Miss Elizabeth Webb.

KING OF ROUMANIA



King Ferdinand, of Roumania, who was driven out of his capital by the Teutonic powers.

BRIEF WAR NEWS

Operations on the Macedonian front are being prevented by bad weather. Only artillery activity is recorded on the Russian front in the vicinity of Baranovichi.

El Arish, 90 miles east of the Suez canal in Egypt, has been captured by British troops.

Except in northern Dobruja, where the troops of the central powers continue to drive the Russians and Roumanians towards Bessarabia, there has been little important activity on the battlefronts of Europe during the past week. Slowly yielding to the Teutonic pressure, the Russian rearguard in Wallachia and Dobruja are being pressed backward to the north. Heavy fighting is in progress in the vicinity of Rimnik-Sarat, midway between the Buzeu and Sereth rivers in Wallachia.

President Wilson took the initiative to restore and maintain world peace when he directly addressed all of the belligerents and neutrals on the subject. Independent of the peace suggestions made by the Teutonic allies, the president has called on the belligerents to "learn how near the haven of peace may be for which all mankind longs with an intense and increasing longing." He does not propose peace, neither does he offer mediation. He does, however, call upon the belligerents to "compare views as to the terms" on which the war can be ended.

SHORT NEWS NUGGETS

Boston voted to remain wet by a margin of 12,000.

Motion picture films are admitted to the mails by an order of the post-office department effective January 1.

Reports to the postoffice department show that this Christmas season saw a tremendous international money order business.

The entire population of the United States and its territorial possessions is approximately 112,444,820, according to a table of estimates given out by the government census bureau. The United States proper has 102,917,312.

Congress will let the president have a free hand in his attempt to find a common ground upon which European belligerents can meet to formulate plans for a lasting peace. Both houses refused to indorse or take any action on the president's action in dispatching his now historic notes to Europe's warriors.

The government crusade to end the high cost of living has come to an untimely end. It is expected that there will be a few scattered prosecutions for conspiracy to keep up prices in certain cities. The department of justice has discovered that it cannot reach those responsible. They have been careful not to violate any laws dealing with interstate commerce or covered by existing federal law.

Villa Captures Torreon.

El Paso, Texas.—That Villista forces are holding Torreon, an important railway center, while the bandit chief, with the main body of his army, is moving rapidly northward to strike a deadly blow at the only formidable force of government troops now in northern Mexico, under General Murguia in Chihuahua City, is the substance of reports made to United States authorities here, it was announced.

Irish Rebel Prisoners to Be Released.

London.—The government has decided to release the Irish prisoners who were interned after the rebellion in Ireland, Henry E. Duke, chief secretary of Ireland, has announced.

WILSON NOTE SEEKS TERMS OF PEACE

Recent Statements of Statesmen Regarded as Being too Vague.

Washington.—Information as to their exact meaning in seeking a "just and permanent peace" is the whole purpose of the note addressed to all the belligerents by President Wilson. The United States desires a full, practical and detailed statement from each of the governments addressed, it was stated officially for the administration.

This government does not know and feels that it has been given no real means of knowing what terms would be required by each of the belligerents to make peace. It regards the recent speeches of the leading statesmen in all countries as vague and undefined and sees nothing in them that would enable a conference to draw up a treaty.

What President Wilson wants is their details. As the largest neutral facing grave problems, and as the friend of all parties concerned, the United States feels most earnestly that it is entitled to know these facts. Unless some one of the group lays down its actual terms there will be no basis for negotiation and no possibility of peace till the world is bled white, officials declare.

Lansing's Warlike View is Modified.

The critical situation of the United States and the fact that the nation has been drawing nearer and nearer to war was responsible, Secretary Lansing officially declared, for the president's move in the cause of peace.

A few hours after Secretary Lansing had issued a statement explaining the president's action, he was called to the white house. Exactly what transpired there has not been revealed, but immediately after his return to the state department Mr. Lansing issued a second statement, expressing regret for possible misinterpretation placed upon his words and asserting that the United States had no intention of departing from its course of strict neutrality.

Congress Takes Recess.

Congress adjourned for the Christmas holidays, to reconvene January 2. In the three weeks of the session the house passed five government supply measures—the urgent deficiency, legislative, Indian, District of Columbia and diplomatic and consular appropriation bills—more than ever passed before in the brief period pending a holiday recess.

Railroad legislation failed to get much attention in either branch. The house commerce committee decided to await initiative action in the senate, where, beginning January 2, the senate commerce committee will hold hearings on the proposed railroad arbitration measure and the bill authorizing the president to take over railroad, telegraph and telephone lines in case of military necessity.

The senate passed the immigration bill, with its literacy test provision, and it now is in conference. The senate also began consideration of the District of Columbia prohibition bill, and fixed January 9 for a vote.

TREATY IS RATIFIED AGAIN

Danish King and Cabinet Take Final Action on Island Sale.

Copenhagen, via London.—King Christian in the cabinet council ratified the treaty providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States.

This follows the passage by both houses of the Danish parliament of the bill for the ratification of the treaty. The exchange of the ratification instruments will take place in New York, probably towards the end of January.

Woman Gets High Washington Vote.

Olympia, Wash.—Mrs. Josephine Corlies Preston, of Walla Walla, candidate for re-election as state superintendent of public instruction, polled the biggest vote of any statehouse officer, according to the official certification of I. M. Howell, secretary of state. Her total is 192,238. H. O. Fishback, candidate for re-election as state insurance commissioner, is second in the list with 189,645.

Idaho Chief Justice is Chosen.

Boise, Idaho.—Justice Alfred Budge is the new chief justice of the supreme court and will succeed Chief Justice Isaac N. Sullivan, who retires from office December 31.

Bryan Pleased by Wilson's Peace Note

Washington.—President Wilson received a telegram from ex-Secretary Bryan congratulating him on his note to the belligerents.

Berlin Bets on Peace Before August.

Rotterdam.—Heavy betting on the stock exchange that peace will be signed before next August was reported in Berlin dispatches.

JOSEPH C. GREW



Joseph C. Grew, American charge d'affaires at Berlin during the recent visit home of Ambassador Gerard.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

Interstate commerce hearings will be held at Portland January 23 and 24 by Examiner Brown.

The Cottage Grove commercial club will attempt to get farmers to experiment with broccoli growing.

E. J. McClanahan of Eugene was unanimously elected president of the Oregon Poultry association.

Three thousand Oregon rosebushes have gone to Pennsylvania from Cottage Grove during the past few weeks.

The Hawley Pulp & Paper company will begin soon the construction of a second additional unit to its mill at Oregon City.

The farmers of Klamath county have formally petitioned the commissioners' court to place a bounty of 10 cents a head upon rabbits.

A blanket resolution allowing the student body to bond itself in the sum of \$10,000 for an athletic field was voted at the University of Oregon.

One of the first farmers' organizations to be effected in Oregon under the provisions of the rural credits law was formed at Roseburg last week.

The Portland postal receipts for the first 20 days of December of this year exceed those of the same period of last year by approximately \$12,000.

The last of seven Hyde land fraud suits instituted by the state of Oregon for the recovery of 37,000 acres of school land was tried at Eugene last week.

Including the sales made for the Thanksgiving trade, the turkey raisers of Douglas county this year have realized approximately \$58,000 from their birds.

Oliver Lundgren, 22, of Corvallis, was drowned in Mary's river when a canoe, in which he and Troy Hogard, of Woodburn, were paddling, upset in a whirlpool.

Labor Commissioner Hoff will recommend to the legislature the creation of the office of inspector of mines, and also ask that it enact legislation on the subject of hospital fees.

The latest school census of Portland shows there are 48,384 boys and girls in the city between the ages of 4 and 20. This is a decrease of 1543, as 49,927 were recorded in the census of last year.

H. A. George, one of the leading successful poultrymen of Petaluma, Cal., has been procured to deliver a series of lectures during farmers' week at the Oregon agricultural college, January 2 to 6.

In a comprehensive review of the labor situation prepared for his forthcoming biennial report State Labor Commissioner Hoff says that industries appear to have undergone a change for the better in 1916.

Hot lunches are being served in the public school at Damascus by the teachers and pupils as a means of testing the advisability of purchasing the necessary apparatus to continue the practice during the winter months.

Dr. A. C. Seelye, of Roseburg, was elected president; Dr. M. B. Marcellus, of Portland, vice-president, and Dr. David N. Roberg was continued as secretary at the annual meeting of the state board of health held at Salem.

Nathan Hankin was shot at his home in Portland by a masked man, who rang the door bell and when Hankin answered presented a pistol aimed at him. Hankin slammed the door shut, but the assassin fired through the wood.

Insurance for every employe in the service whose salary does not exceed \$4000 a year, and extra month's pay for all whose salaries are not over \$1800 per annum, were Christmas gifts of the O.-W. R. & N. Co. to their many workers.

Secretary of State Olcott has made public the budget of expenditures for the state of Oregon for the biennial period of 1917-18, together with an estimate of total requirements for all purposes of the commonwealth. The entire amount is \$9,317,528.46.

A movement has been started in Umatilla county among the school authorities to obtain from the legislature a law to permit the county school levy to be raised from 1 mill to 4 mills to the end that the district levies be greatly lowered or eliminated.

In a report of the Oregon Conservation commission, just filed with the governor, it is estimated that there are 4,273,000 acres of improved farm lands in Oregon, and that at least 3,000,000 acres in the state can be improved or reclaimed by drainage.

An amendment to the workmen's compensation law, making it compulsory upon the state, counties, cities, ports and school districts to operate under the act in all employments now defined by it as hazardous, and elective as to all other employments, will be asked from the coming legislature by the state industrial accident commission.

Limitation of the amount of liquor a man may import is an interference with his constitutional right and therefore illegal. Circuit Judge McGinn ruled at Portland. He also upheld the right of a man to manufacture wine for his own use, without interference from the authorities.

One of the largest lumber mills in eastern Oregon, and the largest in Baker, will be erected at once by the Oregon Lumber company, according to announcement of D. C. Eccles, president of the company. He said the mills would cost at least \$150,000, and probably more, and will employ 144 men.

At a meeting of the Roseburg Sportsmen's association it was decided to make every possible effort to secure a trout hatchery for Douglas county next year, and to have the capacity of the North Umpqua river hatchery increased sufficiently to liberate at least 5,000,000 salmon each year.

One of the biggest quartz strikes in years was reported by Albert and Frank Geiser, owners of the Connor Creek mine on the Snake river in Baker county. They brought in two reports containing nearly \$21,000 in gold. The deposit represented a seven-day output of the new stamp mill at the mine.

Agnew & Hamilton, importers of Belfast, Ireland, have cabled the Oregon state board of control offering \$14.40 a bag, or \$4.11 a bushel, for Oregon flax seed. A bag contains about three and one-half bushels. The board cabled Belfast that it is willing to sell 4000 bushels of seed for \$2.75 a bushel f. o. b. Salem.

Attorney General Brown has been advised by Mrs. Millie R. Trumbull, of Portland, secretary of the child labor commission, that a proposed amendment to the present ten-hour law is being drafted for consideration by the next legislature, so that hours of women will be limited to 48 for any one week, instead of 60, as now provided.

The reclamation commission has unanimously recommended to Secretary Lane that he urge on congress the appropriation at this session of \$400,000 for the construction of the Warm Springs dam on the Malheur irrigation project and that he further urge the appropriation of another \$400,000 to build the storage dam of the Owyhee project in Oregon.

The Eugene chamber of commerce has expressed opposition to the plan to send a representative of the Oregon flax interests east at this time to investigate linen factory prospects. The members of the Eugene chamber feel that such a step at this time would be too far ahead and that funds which would be required could be expended at home to better advantage, so far as the actual development of the new industry is concerned.

The success of the safety-first doctrine in reducing accidents is shown by figures prepared by B. T. McEain, of the Crown Willamette Paper company, pioneer among the big industrial plants of the Pacific coast in the safety-first movement. In its mills at Oregon City the company employs more than 900 men, yet Mr. McEain's figures show that the average number of accidents in a month is only 28, although a slight cut or scratch is counted.

Linemen in the employ of the Western Union Telegraph company in western Oregon will travel and live in Pullman cars in the future. The old work cars have been discarded. The new model work train put into commission on the Coos Bay branch of the Southern Pacific system consists of a sleeper, a smoker, a car fitted with a bathroom, reading-room and lavatories, a dining car and a car fitted up for the use of the foreman of the crew.

At the first open meeting of the Deschutes county court, Bend was unanimously designated the temporary county seat, and the officers as follows were appointed to serve until the next election: H. Haner, county clerk; Clyde McKay, treasurer; W. T. Mullarkey, of Redmond, assessor; S. E. Roberts, sheriff; Elmer Niswonger, coroner; Dr. Dwight F. Miller, county physician; George S. Young, county surveyor; J. Alton Thompson, school superintendent.

District Attorney Gale S. Hill has notified the state board of control that no action can be taken to prosecute persons who assisted Winifred Black after her escape from the girls' industrial school at Salem several months ago, when a number of girls succeeded in getting away from the institution. He stated the statute was broad enough to cover anyone assisting an inmate of that school to escape, but not anyone who assisted the person after the escape.

Judge William Galloway, in the circuit court at Salem, decided that title to 800 acres of land in Linn county was obtained by F. A. Hyde and his associates through fraud and collusion and that the title in equity to such lands, because of the fraud and collusion, still is vested in the state of Oregon. While the cause in question involves only 800 acres of land, the decision is of widespread interest, as this is the first to be decided of the seven Hyde-Benson cases.

ROADS GIVE 8-HOUR DAY TO SWITCHMEN

New York.—An eight-hour day, an increase in wages of 5 cents an hour and a straight pro rata overtime was granted to the members of the switchmen's union employed by 13 eastern and middle western railroads in an award filed here by the federal board of arbitration that heard their differences.

The decision of the board had been eagerly awaited by the railroads in general and the four major brotherhoods of railroad trainmen for what bearing it might have on the controversy between them over the Adamson act, in which the eight-hour day is a question at issue.

Switchmen at present receive a maximum hourly rate of 40 cents. The award increases this rate to 45 cents so that, as explained by Judge Charles B. Howry, chairman of the board, on the eight-hour basis they will receive \$3.60 for a day's work, 40 cents less than they received under the ten-hour basis. By working ten hours under the new rate, they will receive \$4.50, or 50 cents more than under the old rate.

BANK ROBBER IS CAUGHT

Highwayman Surrenders Without Fight and Loot of \$4000 Recovered.

Goldendale, Wash.—The lone robber who held up the Bank of Bickleton, Wash., was captured with his loot of \$4000 when he was cornered by a posse on Satus creek in the Yakima Indian reservation.

As the posse closed in on the robber, who gave his name as Henry Jones, he dropped parts of his loot along the way, where it was found by the deputy sheriffs. When captured he had \$960 in his pockets.

The robber rode into town, commanded the cashier to deliver over the money in the bank, locked him in a room and rode away. A posse started in pursuit a few minutes later and followed close on the trail. Thirty miles from the scene of the robbery the highwayman's exhausted horse was found, as well as evidence that he had fled on foot. A package of \$2000 was found near where the horse had been abandoned.

America Aided by Berlin.

Washington.—Release by Turkey of the 200 Americans detained at Syria and Palestine was brought about because Germany, at the request of the United States, exercised its good offices with the Ottoman government.

Idaho Regiment Reaches Home.

Boise, Idaho.—The Second Idaho Infantry, after six months' border service at Nogales, Ariz., arrived at Boise barracks, where it will be mustered out.

THE MARKETS.

Portland.
Wheat—Club \$1.34; bluestem \$1.39; red Russian, \$1.34; forty-fold, \$1.36.
Barley—No. 1 feed, \$37 per ton.
Hay—Timothy, \$21 per ton; alfalfa, \$18.
Butter—Creamery, 33c.
Eggs—Ranch, 36c.
Wool—Eastern Oregon, 36c; valley, 35c.
Hops—1916 crop, 6@10%.

Seattle.
Wheat—Bluestem \$1.44; club \$1.39; forty-fold, \$1.40; red Russian, \$1.38; fifty, \$1.39; turkey red, \$1.45.
Barley—\$37 per ton.
Butter—Creamery, 38c.
Eggs—40c.