

SEIZED AMERICAN SHIPS MAY BE USED

Washington Asks London for Information.

DATA SUBMITTED BY OWNERS

Information Not Official, but Regarded as True.

RAVE CRISIS POSSIBLE

Department Still Unable to Obtain Satisfaction as to Hocking or Assurances in Case of Vessel at Buenos Aires.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—(Special.)—The State Department tonight made formal representations to the Foreign Office of London concerning reports that vessels belonging to the American Trans-Atlantic Company were about to be requisitioned by the British Admiralty.

In diplomatic parlance the communication is known as a request for information concerning the facts, because all of the data in the possession of the department were presented by the owners of the vessels. While the statements are accepted as true, the department desires to have the British plan verified by the Foreign Office.

Sharp Protest Will Be Made. The communication in effect amounts to a protest and notice that the United States will not tolerate such high-handed methods. In the event that Great Britain admits that she purposes taking steps to requisition the ships, the communication will be followed immediately by a sharp protest against the entire procedure.

In the event that the unofficial advice should be verified or any attempt made on the part of Great Britain to use an American vessel it is believed the action would precipitate a situation much more grave than that which is now confronting the government in its dealings with Downing street. The law experts of the department are unacquainted with any precedent, or any theory of law or reason that would support such a course. They appear to believe that Great Britain is pressed for ships just at present and that she would be assisted greatly by using American vessels, pending the adjudication of their cases before prize courts.

Hocking Specifically Mentioned.

The Hocking, owned by the American Trans-Atlantic line, which was seized by a British cruiser several weeks ago and taken into a Canadian port, has been referred to specifically as one of the vessels which the British authorities intend seizing. The report that she was to be pressed into British service was coupled with the statement that her hold would be filled with Canadian wheat, which is choking the elevators along the Dominion seaboard. The administration already has questioned the British government on the reasons that prompted her seizure and in reply the State Department has received a short statement to the effect that ample cause would be sustained when the case was tried before a prize court.

Assurances Are Refused.

The same line owns the Winnieago, which is now lying in the harbor of Buenos Aires with a cargo of quibranche consigned to New York for shipment to Stamford, Conn. The Trans-Atlantic Company, fearing to allow the ship to run the chance of seizure by British cruisers which are off the harbor, asked the State Department to get assurances from the British government that she would not be seized.

The department queried the foreign office and was advised that the British government could give no assurances concerning the Winnieago.

SHIP MAY BE REQUISITIONED

Captain of American Vessel Advises of British Action.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—A message from Captain Rasmussen, of the steamship Genesee, of the American Trans-Atlantic Steamship Company, which was recently captured by a British cruiser and taken into St. Lucia, was received here today by President Wagner, of the company, and later forwarded to the State Department at Washington. The message follows:

"St. Lucia, Nov. 28.—Admiralty has requisitioned steamship today and ordered crew to vacate ship immediately and also has taken proceedings in prize court to get cargo unladen and delivered to master or agents for owners. Proceedings about requisitioning of ship and unloading of cargo appearing December 1. Send instructions to Peter C. as to disposal of cargo if unloading. CAPTAIN RASMUSSEN."

Mr. Wagner declared he had telegraphed a protest to the State Department with the request that an immediate demand be made on the British government to prevent this illegal proceeding. Information was also received at the office of the company here that the steamships Hocking and Kankakee, of the same line, had been requisitioned for British government use. It was said that the Kankakee was on her way to Port Stanley, in the Falkland Islands, as a prize.

CHURCHILL TO BE GENERAL, IS BELIEF

BRITISH EX-CABINET MEMBER SHIVERS IN TRENCHES.

Hardships Are Endured Uncomplainingly and Task of Soldier Taken Up Cheerfully.

LONDON, Dec. 1.—Winston Spencer Churchill, who resigned as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster to join Great Britain's forces in the field, is marked by the Daily Express for early promotion to the rank of General with the command of a brigade. The paper says he has chosen the most difficult unit in the army, for the grenadier unit to which he is attached under the command of Colonel Jeffreys is noted for its indifference to personal comfort. When Mr. Churchill joined the grenadiers he found himself in a fireless dugout and supplied with the ordinary army ration. He entered cheerfully on his task. An officer in the same command, writing to a friend about Mr. Churchill's experiences, said:

"The first night he shivered visibly as it was some time before we were able to warm him up, but after partaking of liberal portions of agricultural laborer's rations he thawed out and talked interestingly for an hour. He was taken for a round of the trenches until 2:30 o'clock in the morning, but in spite of the hard frothing, he never complained. He was called again at 4 o'clock and the next night after the usual cold storage, he took charge of his company."

CITY GIVES HORSES AWAY

Guard Cannot Buy Animals 10 Years Old, So Council Donates.

Portland's police horses, which have been discarded for patrol automobiles, are to be full-blooded cavalry steeds of the Oregon National Guard. A majority of the Council yesterday agreed to give the horses to the Guard free of charge.

The horses are all more than 10 years old and therefore could not be purchased under military code. Rather than take the chance of the animals getting into wrong hands, the Council majority—Albee, Baker and Dieck—voted to give them to the Guard.

\$25 OFFERED FOR 8 WORDS

Contest for Festival Slogan Is Opened by Board.

Three dollars and twelve cents a word will be the rate at which the Rose Festival Board will pay for the slogan for the 1916 Festival, according to its decision at the meeting held at the Chamber of Commerce last night. The rate named is even a fraction of a cent better than that.

Unfortunately, however, for those who may conjure up dreams of a thousand words at that rate, the slogan is to be limited to eight words. The contest is now open.

MR. M'ARTHUR IN CAPITAL

Oregon Member Finds Himself Assigned to Lafferty's Old Room.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Nov. 30.—Representative and Mrs. McArthur arrived in Washington today and registered at the Congress Hall Hotel, where they probably will make their home this winter. Representative McArthur finds he has been assigned to the room in the house of office building formerly occupied by Representative Lafferty.

Representative Sinnott is expected here tomorrow.

VILLA REPORTED INSANE

Mexican Outlaw Chief Said to Be Unhinged by Reverses.

NOGALES, Ariz., Nov. 30.—His forces defeated and scattered by the Carranza army of General Manuel Diegues at Hermosillo, Francisco Villa, the outlawed Mexican leader, has gone insane, according to reports received here today by General Alvaro Obregon, the Carranza military chief.

The report, based apparently on statements of prisoners, also says that Villa's present whereabouts are unknown.

WOMEN'S VOTE ASSAILED

Des Moines Opponents of Franchise Contend Ballot Was Illegal.

DES MOINES, Nov. 30.—Incomplete canvassing of the returns of Monday's election on a street railway franchise and Municipal Court in Des Moines failed to reveal whether women voters were responsible for the 65 majority secured by the Municipal Court proposition.

Opponents of the measure will attack its legality if the women's votes carried it through, on the ground that the women were not lawful voters.

COLONEL TUCKER BARRED

Retired Officer Physically Disqualified for Service.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 30.—(Special.)—Colonel William F. Tucker, United States Army, retired, cannot get back to the active list of the Army. The examining board of which Colonel Hamilton S. Wallace was president, and which completed its sessions at Vancouver Barracks, Wash., recently, today reported that Colonel Tucker was physically disqualified.

BERLIN OFFICIALLY BEHIND PLAN TO AID

Orders Sent to Hamburg-American Line.

DR. BUENZ FOLLOWS ORDERS

Agreement With Steamship Concern Is Revealed.

FUNDS PROMPTLY REPAYED

Defense in Conspiracy Case Makes No Secret of Origin of Money With Which Cruisers Were Equipped at Sea.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—The German government was revealed today as the main spring of the movement to succor German cruisers at sea with coal and supplies shipped on neutral vessels from American ports early in the war by testimony of Dr. Karl Buenz, managing director of the Hamburg-American line. Dr. Buenz took the witness stand late today in the trial of himself and other line officials and employees for conspiracy to defraud the United States.

Dr. Buenz, elderly and somewhat infirm, was assisted to the witness chair soon after William Rand, Jr., had concluded the opening address to the jury on behalf of the defense. Previously Judge Howe had heard protracted arguments on a motion by Mr. Rand to dismiss the indictments.

Dr. Buenz Sketches Career.

This motion was denied and Dr. Buenz was the second witness for his own cause, the first being a local customs-house employee who identified certain clearance papers in the case.

Propped up in the witness chair, Mr. Buenz sketched his 72-year career from his birth in Germany, through tenancy of various offices in his native land to his appointment to the German Consul service nearly 30 years ago. He had served his country abroad—in the United States, in Mexico and in Haiti—in the consular or diplomatic service until three years ago, when he was made directing head in this country of the Hamburg-American line's affairs. Up to that time he had been schooled in diplomacy and law rather than seafaring and was virtually without experience as a steamship man.

War Compact Is Made.

In the Fall of 1915, Dr. Buenz testified, he received from the head office of the line in Hamburg a letter which notified him that his superior officers and the German government had signed and sealed an agreement which would become operative in time of war—that an abstract of this agreement would be sent shortly to the German Consul-General in New York, where he might see it. The letter then outlined the salient points which were, as recalled by Dr. Buenz, about as follows:

"That the Hamburg-American line

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HUGE CARRIER FOR LUMBER ORDERED

CAPACITY OF STEAM SCHOONER 1,200,000 FEET.

Vessel to Be Constructed at Hoquiam Will Not Carry Passengers. Machinery to Be Feature.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Nov. 30.—(Special.)—The Mathews Shipbuilding Company, of this city, has begun preparations for building one of the largest steam schooners on the Pacific Coast. The keel will be laid within a few days and a crew of men is now engaged in getting out the timbers for the vessel.

The steamer will be for the F. S. Freeman Company, of San Francisco, and will have a capacity of 1,200,000 feet of lumber. She will be the last word in economic handling of lumber, and is expected to be used in the coastwise trade, though her cheapness of operation will make it possible for her to ply through the Panama Canal if desired.

The new vessel will have a length on the waterline of 295 feet and a length over all of 315, with 42-foot beam and 14-foot draft. She will be of the double-ended type, similar to the Daisy Gadsby, built by the Mathews company about four years ago, but will have greatly improved facilities for loading and discharging. She will have no passenger accommodations.

The steamer is to be ready to leave Hoquiam by June 1 for San Francisco, where she will receive her engines. This will mean the employment of about 100 men at high wages.

SHOT HITS WOMAN'S GLOVE

Man Says Rifle Was Fired in Struggle for Possession.

Gus J. Kammerer, a barber of Tigard, Or., was taken to the police station shortly after 1 o'clock this morning for investigation into a shooting affray at a rooming-house at First and Taylor streets in which Kammerer says a 22-caliber rifle was discharged four times while he was trying to take the weapon from his wife to prevent her from shooting him. One shot went through Mrs. Kammerer's glove.

Mrs. Kammerer said her husband tried to kill her.

BROKEN STATUE IS SAVED

Fragments of "Smile of Rheims" Are Pieced Together After Battle.

PARIS, Nov. 30.—The famous statue, the "Smile of Rheims," shattered in the bombardment of the Rheims Cathedral, has been preserved.

The Societe National des Beaux Arts

announced today that fragments broken from the figure have been collected and replaced.

WHEAT LAND DEAL \$16,000

Tract of 220 Acres Near Cove, Or., Changes Hands.

LA GRANDE, Or., Nov. 30.—(Special.)—Sixteen thousand dollars cash was paid by A. B. Conley today for 220 acres of wheat land adjoining his several thousand-acre holdings near Cove.

Walter Rees was the seller. This was one of the biggest cash deals in recent months in this valley.

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ITALY PUSHING ITS DRIVE AT 3 POINTS

Tolmino, Dolberdo and Gorizio in Danger.

AUSTRIAN RETIREMENT NEAR

Serbian Hope to Reorganize Forces in Albania.

MOUNTAIN GUNS SAVED

Russian Menace Continues, Though Rumanian's Attitude Still Is in Doubt—Greece Delays Granting Concessions.

LONDON, Nov. 30.—With the retreat of the greater part of the Serbian army across the Albanian frontier, the slowness of the operations against Montenegro and in Southern Serbia, owing to the wintry weather, and the absence of any major operations on the western and eastern fronts, interest in the military side of the war is now transferred to the Austro-Italian frontier.

Italian Nets Tightening.

The fighting on this front has been the most sustained and fierce of the whole war. For weeks the Italians have been attacking the Austrian bridgeheads and mountain positions along the Isonzo River, and are slowly but surely drawing their nets around Tolmino, Gorizia and Doberdo. Their attacks have been repeated time after time against positions which had been most carefully prepared, and while the Austrians report that most of these assaults have been repulsed, their accounts are considered here to have been so worded as to prepare the public for their retirement from Gorizia at last.

Serbian May Be Rejuvenated.

This, for the time being, is Italy's contribution to the Balkan operations of the allies, for it keeps a large force of Austrians busy and it compels them continually to bring up reinforcements which could be successfully employed against the Montenegrins and Serbians.

The Serbians, unless followed into Albania, in time, will probably reappear as a rejuvenated army, for it is said that 25,000 of them, including soldiers and civilians, have taken refuge there and that they have saved all their mountain batteries and a portion of their field guns. Also included in this number are all the youths who can fill the gaps when equipment reaches them from the Adriatic.

Allies to Be Attacked.

German papers say that Field Marshal von Mackensen's army, with Bulgarians and Turks, is to be directed against the Anglo-French forces in the south, but doubtless many of them are

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JANE ADDAMS IS TAKEN TO HOSPITAL

FEVER IS REPORTED SEVERE, BUT NOT CRITICAL.

Nature of Illness Not Fully Determined—Effect on Her Going to Europe Cannot Be Told.

CHICAGO, Nov. 30.—Jane Addams, settlement worker and peace advocate, was taken to the Presbyterian Hospital today, suffering with a fever, which it was said was severe but not critical. The actual nature of her illness has not been determined.

Miss Addams had not been feeling well for several days. Whether her condition will prevent her from accompanying the Ford peace party abroad could not be told tonight.

Last Sunday night Miss Addams addressed a meeting on the subject of peace and the Ford peace ship in particular. She frequently was applauded. She once remarked smilingly: "I thank you for your applause, for after I sail on the Ford ship I probably never shall be applauded again."

After the meeting she explained that her remark was based on knowledge that the Ford mission was unpopular "in certain quarters."

EDITOR'S SENTENCE URGED

Dutch Recent Use of "Scoundrels" in War Discussion.

LONDON, Nov. 30.—The public prosecutor of Amsterdam, according to a Reuter dispatch from that city, today demanded that a sentence of six months' imprisonment be imposed upon Herr Schroeder, chief editor of the newspaper Telegraaf, for having said in a recent article:

"There are in Central Europe a number of scoundrels who are responsible for the war."

SENATOR WORKS TO RETIRE

Californian Not to Seek Re-election in 1917.

LONG BEACH, Cal., Nov. 30.—United States Senator Works in a letter published here today declared he would not be a candidate for re-election at the expiration of his term in March, 1917.

Mr. Works is a Republican, and asserted he could not ally himself with the Progressives, because he has found reasons to condemn their policies and practices in a political way.

GOTHAM HAS 5,253,888

Police Complete Census of Greater New York Following State Count.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—A police census of the city just completed shows that the greater city has 5,253,888 inhabitants in its five boroughs.

The state census, completed last July, gave the total population as 5,009,112, but dissatisfaction was felt with this count and at the instance of the health department the police compiled a new census.

Polish Language Ordered.

BERLIN, Nov. 30.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—Publication of the new charter of Warsaw University shows that under German control the official language of the university will be Polish, in which all lectures must be delivered.

The use of foreign languages is sanctioned only in courses of instruction in them.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 45 degrees, minimum, 35 degrees. TODAY'S—Increasing cloudiness, followed by rain; east, shifting to southeast winds.

War. Italy driving hard at three points on Austrian line. Page 1. Winston Spencer Churchill may be General. Page 1. Calling of youths debated in France. Page 2. Germany proposes to tax war profits. Page 4. National. Britain said to plan increasing seized American vessels into service. Page 1. Domestic. German official connection with plan to aid cruisers from American ports admitted. Page 1. Thirty killed by explosion in war plant in Delaware. Page 2. Henry Ford denies he sent peace telegram to Pope. Page 2. Jane Addams is taken to hospital. Page 1. Sports. Aggies to meet Syracuse today. Page 14. Rose City Club to give smoker tonight. Page 14. Albany coach chooses state all-star high school eleven. Page 14. Newsstand at Madison Club flirts out on investigation. Page 14. Pacific Northwest. Ashland postmaster shot; clerk kills self. Page 6. Jitney bond held to be for protection of pedestrians in Washington. Page 1. Jury visits scene of Booth murder. Page 1. Horse lumber carrier ordered at Hoquiam Yard. Page 1. State valued at \$954,000,000. Page 4. Joint body to fix state line wanted. Page 6. Commercial and Marine. Cereal export increase expected this month. Page 18. Local wheat dealers await outcome of Canadian wheat seizure. Page 19. Chicago wheat depressed by expected large contract deliveries. Page 19. Portland and Vicinity. Charities needs more fuel, clothing and groceries. Page 5. Patrolman Gill is killed by accidental shot from own revolver. Page 7. Postoffice station robbery case with jury. Page 15. City disbursement in 1915 exceed total receipts. Page 15. Interest in electrical prosperity week is growing. Page 8. Postal receipts for November ahead of those for 1914. Page 15. Southern markets invite Northwest produce. Page 19. Chamber of Commerce opposes proposed sprinkler system ordinance. Page 4. Delegate Wickersham tells of Alaska's eagerness to trade with Portland. Page 18. Pastor assails peace move at St. Andrew's Society meeting. Page 2. Weather report, data and forecast. Page 10.

JURY VISITS SCENE OF BOOTH KILLING

Judge Warns Jurors as He Conducts Party.

TRIP MADE QUICKLY IN AUTOS

River Swollen Where Booth Fell, Struck by Bullet.

YATES GARDEN PATCH SEEN

On Personally Conducted Tour to Williamina 12 Men, Who Will Try Mrs. Booth and Branson, View Thicket Where Death Came.

McMINNVILLE, Or., Nov. 30.—(Special.)—A ride of 20 miles by automobile from McMinnville to the spot near where William Booth was shot to death last October 8 was taken late today by the jury that is to try his widow, Mrs. Anna Booth, and young William Branson for murder.

With a few notable exceptions the roads were in fine shape despite the rains. Such brisk time was made that the jurors, in three carloads, with two belliffs in charge, completed the round trip of 40 miles in time to get back to McMinnville for a hot dinner at 5:45 o'clock.

Judge Warns Jurors.

After instructing them not to discuss their impressions with each other, and that they had been taken to view the place only so they could follow the testimony more intelligently, Judge Bell conducted the jurors over the ground in person.

He first led them to the bank of the Williamina River, at its junction with a small creek about 40 feet downstream from where Booth's body was found. From there he conducted them to the fence running from the road down the bank to the stream, beside which Booth was found dead, under a clump of trees.

Yates' Garden Patch Seen.

Next, the jurors climbed the fence, near the road, into the garden patch of Mrs. Anna Yates, who will be an important witness for the prosecution. They walked about 1000 feet through this garden patch alongside the thicket hedging the river, from which thicket, it is the prosecution's theory, Booth's slayer fired.

The prosecution contends that Mr. Booth had trailed his wife and Branson into this thicket and was attempting to reach them when he was shot down.

Altogether the jurors were at the scene about 20 minutes. It had been dark more than an hour when they got back to McMinnville.

The task of selecting the jury was completed at 12:10 o'clock after nine more veniremen, making a total of 51, had been examined. The prosecution had exercised all six of its peremptory challenges and the defense all but one of its 12 peremptories before the last juror was chosen.

Jury of 12 Named.

Those challenged included four men who had been passed into the jury box last night. The 12 men finally selected are: William Campbell, farmer, of McMinnville; E. H. Campbell, farmer, of Amity; C. L. Wood, farmer, of Dundee; G. W. Hash, blacksmith, of Newberg; E. M. Alderman, farmer, of Dayton; Chester A. Stringer, farmer, of Bellevue; Frank Haynes, farmer, of McMinnville; A. A. Harpole, farmer, of Amity; W. R. Kirkwood, hoggrower, of McMinnville; G. McWilla, farmer, of Hopewell; Leon R. Cyr, applegrower, of Dundee, and Sam E. Cummings, farmer and ex-County Commissioner, of McMinnville.

Judge Bell allowed only 50 minutes for lunch, court re-convening at 1 o'clock. He has a quiet way of shutting off repetition and superfluous questioning that is thought effective.

Opening Arguments Made.

The opening arguments were made before the jury went to Williamina. District Attorney H. L. Conner outlined the prosecution's case in about three-quarters of an hour. James E. McCain, chief of counsel for the defense, presented its side in about the same length of time.

It was Mr. McCain's first appearance in court for nearly two years. For more than 10 years he has been one of the prominent figures before the Oregon bar, and his fame as a criminal lawyer is widespread. Though more than 70 years old and handicapped by failing health and deafness, which have kept him of late years from active court practice, he made a masterly presentation of the defense's case. Though he did not go into detail on this point, he indicated that the defense will go on the theory that Booth was not shot from the thicket at all, but from across the Williamina River. District Attorney Conner touched on the subject of the alleged relations between Mr. Branson and Mrs. Booth early in his statement.

Alleged Relations to Be Told.

Evidence will be offered in this trial, he said, to show that intimate relations existed between the two defendants.

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