

SHOWDOWN WANTED OVER SUBMARINES

Sussex and Englishman Force Issue.

WILSON IS SEEKING EVIDENCE

More "Notes," It Is Thought, Would Be Open to Ridicule.

TEUTONS' HAND WEAKENED

Failure to Drive Through at Verdun Regarded as Reason to Believe Central Powers Will Be More Tractable.

BY JOHN CALLAN O'LAUGHLIN.
WASHINGTON, March 28.—(Special.)—That President Wilson is determined to utilize the destruction of the Sussex and Englishman to force a showdown with Germany on the submarine issue was revealed today, following the meeting of the Cabinet.

In view of the gravity of the action he will take if it should be established that a German submarine attacked the vessels named, the President feels that it is imperative to ascertain all the facts available. Not only is an investigation being made by American Ambassadors and consular officers, but Mr. Gerard, in Berlin, has been directed to inquire of the German Foreign Office if any report has been received from a submarine in relation to the torpedoing of the two vessels named.

Denial Expected in Advance.
The authorities doubt if the inquiry will be productive of anything other than a denial. In this case they will be forced to rely on the circumstantial evidence which is being gathered by the American diplomats and Consuls.

The Cabinet, at its meeting today, did no more than to ratify the decision already reached by the President and the Secretary of State. There was manifest unanimous unwillingness to write any more notes on the submarine issue. To make further written representations to Germany, in case the facts should show that one of her submarines fired into the Sussex and Englishman, would be, it is suggested, to make the administration ridiculous.

Congress to Be Consulted.
So the President and the Cabinet are agreed that the only course to take is to lay the entire submarine situation before Congress, to review the numerous attacks on merchantmen in violation of the rights of humanity and international law, and to point out that the latest outrages leave only one road open to this Government with dignity and respect for its own honor can pursue—that is, to rupture diplomatic relations with the offending nation.

It is realized that such an extreme measure should not be adopted until there is not the slightest question as to the guilt of the German government.

It is for this reason the President strongly desires to obtain all facts. He feels the proof must be so direct, so conclusive, that the action of the Government will be sustained not only by the American people but by the world at large.

Central Powers Want No Break.
It can be said positively that the central powers are even more desirous of avoiding a break with the United States today than they have been in the past. The failure to drive through at Verdun indicates, in the view of officials and neutral diplomats here, that the high-water mark of Germany's effort has been reached. The central powers and Turkey have been weakened by the year and eight months of the struggle in which they have been engaged and they cannot afford to add the United States, with its immense resources in men and money, to their list of enemies.

It is in this aspect which supports the view of some of the neutral diplomats that a mine and not a torpedo sank the Sussex and Englishman. If by any chance a German submarine was responsible, they are satisfied that Germany will make every effort to avert a rupture of relations by offering reparation, making a disavowal, punishing the officer in command of the vessel, and giving complete assurances that no further outrages of the same kind will take place.

Indeed, it is believed that the Sussex incident may be valuable in securing such guarantees from Germany that in the future there will be observance of international law by her submarines.

It is recognized, however, that while Admiral von Tirpitz has disappeared from among the ruling class in Berlin, his followers still have a great deal of influence. They persist in the view that a war with the United States would have compensating advantages for their country. It would enable their submarines to run amok and thus destroy vessels carrying munitions from the United States, they argue.

Back in the head of some of the German officials also has been the opinion that the government could maintain itself more securely by precipitating a war with the American Nation. It could be said to the German people that so long as Germany was fighting Europe victory was certain, but with the United States drawn into the struggle, it was advisable to make peace, even on terms which might appear harsh. The Germans feel also that the United States could not do them much harm. It has no trained men to reinforce the British and French in France, and the American Navy is not regarded as of any real importance.

TURKS NEAR SUEZ CANAL ARE RAIDED

BRITISH AIRMEN DROP BOMBS AND CAMP AFLAME.

One Aviator Routs Body of Infantry With Machine Gun—All Aeroplanes Return Safe.

LONDON, March 28.—A raid on the Turkish advance base at Bir-el-Hassanah, 100 miles east of the Suez Canal, is reported in a Reuter dispatch from Suez. The raid was made by British airmen March 24. Forty bombs were dropped on the Turkish camp, which was set on fire. Other bombs hit the reservoir and the buildings erected by the Turks in the last few months.

One British aviator routed single-handed a body of Turkish infantry. Descending to within 200 feet, he approached the Turks from behind and opened fire with machine guns. The Turks fled in panic.

All the aeroplanes returned in safety, having flown some 200 miles. It has been a practice of British airmen, when flying over the desert, to attack and disperse hostile patrols by spraying them with machine-gun fire.

\$75,000 PAID FOR MILL

Golden Rod Plant Bought by Balfour, Guthrie & Co.

The Golden Rod Mill, at Albina avenue and Balfour street, was bought yesterday by Balfour, Guthrie & Co., who also own the Crown Flour Mills, on the West Side waterfront north of Broadway bridge.

The Golden Rod Mill is a cereal plant with a daily capacity of 125 barrels. The new owners will operate it under its own name and will make such extensions to the plant as the business requires. H. W. Strong, present manager of the Golden Rod mill, will continue in that capacity. The purchase price of the mill was \$75,000.

STATE BUILDING DAMAGED

Three Feet of Water in Auditorium on Fair Grounds.

SALEM, Or., March 28.—(Special.)—The recent heavy rains may cost the state of Oregon several thousand dollars, for, as a result, three feet of water now stands on the floor of the auditorium of the new pavilion at the State Fair Grounds.

A. H. Lea, secretary of the Fair Board, said today that damage to the building apparently would be considerable. He fears that the foundations of the structure have been weakened so that extensive repairs will be necessary.

COAST AIR PATROL BILL IN

House Measure Has Backing of Treasury Department.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—A Coast Guard aerial corps to be operated as an arm of the Coast Guard Service in peace and with the Army and Navy in war, is proposed in a bill introduced today by Representative Montague, of Virginia, with the backing of Treasury Department officials.

At the outset \$200,000 would be appropriated to establish stations on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts, from which airships would patrol the coasts in lifesaving and rescue work.

WAR BEGUN ON SQUIRREL

Ranchers Co-operate to Destroy Ground Pest in Baker.

BAKER, Or., March 28.—(Special.)—Ranchers of this vicinity are planning a fight to exterminate the ground squirrel pest this year. Those in the United States have already started, the Keating district is expected soon to wage an active campaign and other ranchers are lining up to rid this part of the country of crop destroyers. Poison is being used.

The ground squirrel has cost this vicinity thousands of dollars.

BLIZZARD SWEEPS BRITAIN

Many Villages Cut Off and Some Railways Suspend Service.

LONDON, March 28.—One of the worst blizzards experienced in the British Isles in a quarter of a century raged last night and today in the Midlands and north of England, and in Wales. There were heavy falls of snow and many villages were cut off from the outside world.

Railway traffic was greatly delayed and on some lines was suspended entirely. No casualties have been reported.

GIRLS TO AID RECRUITING

None but Members of Militia to Be Welcome Callers.

MONROE, Wis., March 28.—Twenty young women here have formed a society for the promotion of enlistments in the National Guard, they announced today, and have declared their readiness to help Captain A. E. Mitchell recruit his company to full war strength.

The girls say they will refuse to welcome any callers at the homes who are not members of the local militia company.

Colonel Edward M. Knox Dead.

NEW YORK, March 28.—Colonel Edward M. Knox, Civil War veteran, and retired head of the Knox Hat Company, died here today. Colonel Knox served in the war under General Meagher and received a medal of honor from Congress for gallantry at Gettysburg. He was born in New York in 1842.

DOUBLE MURDER IS ADMITTED BY WAITE

Dual Personality Confessed by Dentist.

GERMS FED WIFE'S MOTHER

Poison Ends Father-in-Law When Bacilli Fail to Work.

INSANITY PLEA SUSPECTED

Prisoner Describes "Little Bad Man From Egypt" as Evil One Within Him—Check Found; Intended Recipient Sought.

NEW YORK, March 28.—Statements indicating that he believed he was possessed of a dual personality, the wicked one of which impelled him to murder John E. Peck, of Grand Rapids, his wealthy father-in-law, and Mrs. Peck, were made by Dr. Arthur Warren Waite to District Attorney Edward Swann and a detective tonight.

Dr. Waite, still in bed at Bellevue Hospital, where he is under arrest charged with the murder of Mr. Peck, when asked by Mr. Swann if he wished to make any statement, passed one hand over his eyes and answered vaguely:

"Oh, it's all over. He did it. This little bad man whom I haven't been able to get rid of until now—he did it all. Clara (Mrs. Waite) knows how I have tried to get rid of him. I don't know who he was—he told me he came from Egypt."

Disease Germs Fed to Woman.
Roy W. Schindler, a detective who visited Dr. Waite just before Mr. Swann arrived, declared the young dentist told him about the dual personality, asserting that he sometimes was so obsessed by the "bad man" that he would run around in the park to throw off the inclination to evil.

According to Schindler, Dr. Waite told him he administered live bacilli of various diseases to Mrs. Peck, but they did not act as quickly as he expected. He also said, the detective averred, that he fed germs to Mr. Peck, but when the results appeared to be "unsatisfactory" he gave arsenic to his father-in-law.

Both Mr. Peck and Mrs. Peck died at Dr. Waite's apartments here, Mrs. Peck January 20 and her husband March 13. Autopsies on the body of Mr. Peck disclosed quantities of arsenic. Mrs. Peck's body was cremated.

Prisoner is Incoherent.
Three Assistant District Attorneys as well as an attorney engaged today for Dr. Waite were in the room when Dr. Waite made the statements about the dual personality.

Mr. Swann said that Dr. Waite, who appeared to have recovered almost entirely from the effects of the drugs he took Friday, seemed to be more incoherent and irrational tonight. He appeared at first not to recognize his

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WEALTH TORTMENTS; DEATH ENDS WORRY

LANE PIONEER AND CAPITALIST DIES IN FLORIDA.

End Comes Before Briefs in Appeal of Divorce Suit From 73-Year-Old Bride Are Off Press.

EUGENE, Or., March 28.—(Special.)—Before the briefs in the appeal of his divorce suit were off the press, John B. Coleman, aged 82, pioneer of Lane County and capitalist, passed on to the court of last resort, his death occurring today at Key West, Fla., where he had gone to pass the winter. Coleman, who was in the evening of his life his troubles, real and imaginary, began. His wealth was his tormentor. For years he had been a conspicuous figure in the courtroom. The most amazing suit among the mass of litigation was that in which he asked a divorce from his bride of 73 years, whom he met and married at the Home for the Aged at Chula Vista, Cal., where he had gone to pass the declining years of his life. His marriage was in 1912.

One year ago he appealed to the courts asking that he be granted a divorce and that property amounting to \$100,000, which he had given his wife, be restored to him. He charged fraud. He said he had been forced into the marriage against his will. Judge Skipworth, of the Lane County Circuit Court, entered a decree in his favor. Helen A. Coleman, the wife, appealed this case, which is now pending before the Supreme Court. The deceased came to Lane County in 1883 and at one time owned between \$60,000 and \$30,000 worth of property here.

3000 ACRES TO BE OPENED

Prior Rights to Be Considered in Entries, Says Land Office.

LA GRANDE, Or., March 28.—(Special.)—More than 3000 acres, bordering on the west of Elgin, bordering on the Promise (Wallowa County) territory, will be opened to entry and settlement May 10, according to information issued by the Land Office.

Persons having prior valid settlement rights or preferences will be allowed to make entry in conformity with existing law and regulations. Intending settlers are also warned to ascertain the status of the lands.

REGISTRATION RECORDS ARE SMASHED

Records for the year were smashed yesterday, when 1307 persons registered at the Court-house. This is the largest number of registrations in a single day since the opening of the books, January 3, and heralds the approach of the primaries.

With the books closing on April 15 until after the primaries, heavy registration is expected from now on. Auxiliary registration bureaus will be opened the first of April for 12 days, and the bureau at the Court-house will remain open until 9 P. M.

The total registration for the year is 44,615, which is divided into the following party affiliations: Republican, 21,981; Democrat, 9282; Independent, 1548; Prohibitionist, 546; Socialist, 518; and Progressive, 430.

Women voters registered in large numbers yesterday, 641 visiting the books in comparison to 666 men.

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COUNTIES TO GET 30, STATE 20 PER CENT

Land-Grant Bill Fails—then Supreme Court Blag

TWO-FIFTHS TO RECLAMATION

Remaining Ten Per Cent Will Go to Federal Treasury.

LIND LEFT OUT IN COLD

House Committee Strikes Out Entire Section Relating to Executive Contracts—Early Vote Now Will Be Sought.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 28.—As the Oregon and California land grant bill was finally agreed on by the House committee on public lands today, the land grant counties will get 30 per cent of the net receipts from the timber and land sales, the state of Oregon will get 20 per cent for its school fund, 40 per cent will go to the general reclamation fund and 10 per cent to the Federal Treasury.

John Lind and other holders of outstanding executive contracts are left out in the cold, the committee, by a vote of seven to nine having decided to reject section 7 and other portions of the bill bearing on these contracts.

Cutover Lands Require No Cash.
A new provision was added under which homesteaders taking cutover lands will be relieved of the payment of \$2.50 an acre, and need only comply with the requirements of the homestead law.

In all other particulars the bill agreed upon was the bill completed last night by the sub-committee.

Representative Ferris introduced in the House today the bill on which the committee has agreed, and as soon as printed this bill will be referred to the Attorney-General, Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture for comment and suggestions. It is not expected they will now propose material changes of policy, but the committee before reporting the bill to the House wants it to have the approval of the three departments.

It was the general opinion of the committee that the bill is privileged in character, but if the Speaker holds otherwise a special rule will be asked to expedite its consideration in the House.

Speedy Vote to Be Urged.
The first thing done by the committee today was to eliminate from the bill all reference to the executive contracts. Chairman Ferris led the fight against section 7 and said he had no desire whatever to take into the House a bill containing a provision which so invited attack. He said this section, if retained, might endanger the entire bill.

Representatives Leander, Kent and Raker made a vigorous fight to save the Lind amendment and were supported by the Oregon delegation.

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CORVALLIS GIRL IS KILLED BY AUTO

BLANCHE SANDON, 18, IS RUN DOWN ON WAY TO SCHOOL.

Driver of Car and Young Woman Become Confused, Death Resulting Hours Later.

CORVALLIS, Or., March 28.—(Special.)—Suffering intense agony from internal injuries, Blanche Sandon, aged 18, one of Corvallis' most popular high school girls, died tonight as a result of having been run down by an automobile this morning. On their way to mobile school she and Rosina Hanns were in the act of crossing Ninth and Monroe streets when an automobile, driven by O. Paulson, accompanied by his son, Oscar, struck the Sandon girl, knocked her down and two wheels of the machine ran over her body. She was dragged 25 feet and rolled over a number of times.

The automobile was not exceeding the speed limit, which at that part of the city is 15 miles an hour, and the cause of the accident is believed to have been confusion both on the part of the victim and the driver of the machine. Her companion, on seeing the machine, continued across the street and escaped, but Miss Sandon hesitated. Mr. Paulson was so confused when the machine struck the girl he did not have presence of mind to pull the emergency, and the automobile went a distance of 50 feet before stopping.

Mr. Paulson was held by the police pending an investigation.

FLUNKS BLAME CAMERA

Nervousness Caused, Say Seekers of Civil Service Jobs.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 28.—Asserting that the clicking of moving-picture cameras and banging of flashlights while they were taking a civil-service examination here recently made them nervous, seven candidates for city jobs, who failed to qualify for promotion, petitioned the Superior Court today to have the examination declared void. One of the petitioners, in addition to laying stress on the disturbing activities of the cameramen, declared that he was further handicapped by reason of having to sit in a draught during the examination.

151,799 IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Cost of Administering System in Oregon \$7,065,018 in 1915.

SALEM, Or., March 28.—(Special.)—Official records of J. A. Churchill, Superintendent of Public Instruction, show that 9272 more children were enrolled in the schools of the state in 1915 than in 1914, the total number being 151,799. The number of teachers employed was 10,046 in the public schools and 509 in private schools. This is an increase of 202 over the year preceding.

Private schools have an enrollment of 10,909.

It cost \$7,065,018.52 to maintain Oregon's public schools last year.

Louisiana Republicans Uninstructed

NEW ORLEANS, March 28.—The Louisiana State Republican convention today selected 12 uninstructed delegates to the National convention.

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FRAUD ALLEGED IN CITY SEWER WORK

Montavilla Line Is Declared Defective.

WITNESSES NAME INSPECTORS

Civil Service Board's Inquiry Hears Conspiracy Charge.

CRACKS HIDDEN, IS REPORT

Several Declare They Were Told to Keep Still About Faults in Pipe and to Pass Work Before Property Owners Visit.

Chairman Caldwell, of the Municipal Civil Service Board, took command of the Board yesterday, and with an announced purpose of testing out the question of good faith back of the recent dismissal of Harry Gurr, a sewer inspector, dragged forth from a score of present and past city employees, all kinds of open accusations and charges against present employees and officials. The dirty linen of the city's sewer bureau, past and present, was paraded without regard, many things being brought out that possibly may demand further investigation.

Mr. Caldwell sat as judge, jury and prosecutor, presenting his own witnesses and questioning the City Attorney LaRoche, who protested in vain against the procedure, declaring that the matter Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Gurr's attorney, Roger Sinnott, were bringing out had absolutely nothing to do with the Gurr case.

Defective Pipe Is Alleged.

Mr. Caldwell was judge, and the protests of Mr. LaRoche were accorded a nice little place along with several hundred other pages of shorthand notes of the case. The hearing continued from 9:30 A. M. until 7 P. M., with an hour for lunch.

Alleged use of defective concrete pipe in the big Montavilla trunk sewer recently completed, and charges of attempts of all kinds to cover up cracks in the pipe and to keep property owners from seeing or knowing about the cracks formed the basis of contention. In testimony along this line, inspectors, ex-inspectors and workmen accused inspectors and engineers and contractors. Names were hurled freely.

Conspiracy Is Charged.

The testimony of a number of inspectors and ex-inspectors was to the effect that the sewer pipe was defective and that the contractor, William Lind, had combined with some of the inspectors on the work to hush up noise about the defects. Martin Dowling, an engineer in Commissioner Dieck's department, was one of the witnesses. He said he happened to be passing the place where the work was going on and noticed some cracked pipe. Also, he said he could see by the way the trench was being filled that there was enormous weight on the pipe.

He says he talked to William Lind about it and Mr. Lind told him to keep still about it because he (Lind) had \$30,000 mixed up in the work and for the pipe to be condemned would break him.

Investigation Denied, He Says.

Mr. Dowling said he reported the case to City Engineer Dater, who, he says, told him not to do too much talking about the matter until he became fully informed. Mr. Dowling says he asked permission to investigate, but his request was not granted.

City Engineer Dater testified that within 24 hours after Mr. Dowling's report he made a complete investigation and made others before and since. He said the cracks reported were merely checks in the pipe which might be found in any sewer pipe. He said he made a thorough examination of the job and found it to be thoroughly first-class.

Richard Walsh, who was a city inspector on the work, testified that he had condemned some pipe in which he found cracks, and that Chief Sewer Inspector Smith had ordered him to paint up the cracks and let it be used. "And the orders were carried out," he said. "The pipe was used."

"Inspector Page told me," said Mr. Walsh, "to keep still about the cracks in the pipe laid. He said if I didn't keep my mouth shut my head would all be sent to the penitentiary. It was common knowledge among the inspectors that the cull pipe was permitted to be used. I would say that one-half of the pipe near the train tracks was defective."

Talking Not Advised, Says One.

J. Cook, one of Mr. Lind's pipe-layers, testified that in his presence Inspector Page had told Inspector Walsh to keep his mouth shut about the cracked pipe. J. B. Needham, still another inspector, said that he, too, had noticed cracks on some of the pipe and had been told by Inspector Page that "it isn't necessary to talk about the cracks off the job."

Fred Grute, another inspector, declared that he had noticed the cracks. Mr. Grute declared that he had positive knowledge that some of the pipes that were found defective had been destroyed. He said he had no knowledge of any defective pipe having been laid.

The case was not finished. There are said to be heard from Chief Inspector Smith, Contractor William Lind, Commissioner Dieck and others.

