



HELMSMAN OF IMO HELD AS HUN SPY

Sham Illness Bared by American Nurse.

HALIFAX BLAST PROBE BEGINS

Munitions Ship Captain Tells of Trying to Avoid Crash.

BLAZING SHIP ABANDONED

Master of Mont Blanc Declares He Gave Proper Signals, but Belgian Relief Craft Made for Him, Ramming Starboard Side.

HALIFAX, Dec. 13.—John Johansen, helmsman on the Norwegian steamer Imo, the Belgian relief ship whose collision with the ammunition steamer Mont Blanc led to the disaster of last Thursday, was detained as a German spy suspect today. He was turned over to the military authorities by officials of the Massachusetts relief hospital, where he has been under treatment. One of the nurses at the hospital, a young woman from New York whose name was not revealed, yesterday noticed that her patient was acting queerly and that he did not seem to be wounded. Physicians examined the man and the conclusion was reached that he was shamming illness. Later, it was said, Johansen offered a nurse \$50 if she would go out and buy him a newspaper, the assumption being that he intended to escape in her absence.

Shooting Story Denied.

After that incident a military guard was placed on duty by his bed. The provost guard was sent for today and Johansen was locked up. In connection with the arrest, the wildest spy rumors heard here since the war began were spread broadcast. These culminated in a report that eight Germans had been shot at sunrise. Military and naval authorities, while acknowledging that the Johansen case was being thoroughly investigated, declared the shooting story was absurd. Another persistent story was that a secret code in German had been found on Johansen, and that a wireless station had been unearthed in the district destroyed by fire after the explosion.

Johansen Bound to Norway.

J. C. Burchall, counsel for the Imo in the admiralty hearing on the collision of the vessels, said tonight that the secret code story as far as it concerned Johansen, was absolutely without foundation. Johansen, Mr. Burchall said, has been living in the United States 10 years and as he was anxious to return to his old home in Norway, he shipped on the Imo. Military authorities announced tonight that Louis Vosburg, also known as Henry French, arrested here today after the arrival of a relief steamer, was not a German spy, in their opinion.

Man May Be Crazy.

Vosburg, who carried a railroad ticket from Boston to Halifax, a map of Halifax and an assortment of unintelligible papers, boarded the steamer at Boston without being observed and failed to give a satisfactory account of himself after the ship was at sea. A physician called to examine Vosburg expressed the opinion that he was temporarily unbalanced. He will be held until the secret service men are satisfied he is harmless, and probably will be deported.

Testifying at the Government Inquiry Today.

Captain Lamode testified his ship had not carried munitions before. He said the ship came to Halifax to receive orders where to join her convoy. He received his orders from the British pilot, McKay, who came on board at Halifax the evening of December 5. McKay was "absolutely sober," said the witness. No liquor was on the Mont Blanc, as it had been forbidden by the French government. The morning of the collision was clear, the captain continued. While proceeding up to Bedford Basin his ship sighted the Imo at 8:30 A. M. He was then about 120 feet from the Danemouth shore. The Imo was heading to sea, on the west side, but was taking a direction across his course, so that her starboard side was visible. He gave one short blast on his whistle to indicate he was going to the right. The Imo replied by two short blasts. He thought the Imo changed her course, though it was difficult to determine this as she was against the land.

Imo's Speed Is Great.

He was at that time going to starboard and the Imo to port. He noticed later that the Imo came a little more to the left. In the meantime he had stopped the engines. The Imo gave two short blasts when the ships were about 150 feet apart. The collision was inevitable at this point. (Continued on Page 4, Column 4.)

SLACKER BORROWS FAMILY TO ESCAPE

FRIEND'S WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN WIN EXEMPTION.

Thomas Gillespie, of Tacoma, Confesses Amazing Trick, Including False Affidavit.

BILLINGS, Mont., Dec. 13.—(Special.)—Thomas Gillespie, of Tacoma, Wash., walked into the police station here today and gave himself up as a slacker from the draft Army, declaring that his conscience was troubling him to such an extent that he found it difficult to sleep. Gillespie told the officers that he had procured exemption from the draft through having made a false affidavit. While the officers listened in amazement, Gillespie told of how he had borrowed a friend's wife and two children for a while, lived with them and represented himself as a husband and father in order to procure exemption from draft as the only support of the family. He said that after he obtained his exemption the arrangement with his ready-made family was abandoned. Gillespie was locked up pending disposition of his case by the Federal authorities.

BELGIANS WANT CLOTHING

People in Occupied Territory Accept U. S. Soldiers' Offer.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—A cable dispatch today to the commission for relief in Belgium said the people of the sections of the country occupied by the Germans would be glad to have the civilian clothing offered by America's first National Army soldiers to keep the Belgians warm this winter. "Conditions in Belgium will be very severe this winter," said the dispatch, "and advice from the inside indicate that the people rejoice at the prospect of receiving the clothing which is now being collected at the American Army camps."

SUGAR SHORTAGE TO LAST

No Prospect Seen of Filling Market Demands During December.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—George M. Rolph, Federal sugar administrator, today announced it was probable the sugar shortage here would continue until the first of the year. Consumers in the East are not paying more for sugar than those in the West, he said. While temporary relief might be provided, Mr. Rolph declared there was no prospect of filling the market demands this month. Licenses of two wholesale grocery establishments were suspended by the food board today as penalties for overcharging in sales of sugar.

TEAM SOLD TO JOIN ARMY

John Thompson, Aged 40, Offers Services to Government.

ROSEBURG, Or., Dec. 13.—(Special.)—Selling his team of horses and wagon for \$150, John Thompson, who resides at Canyonville, left yesterday for Portland, where he expects to join the Army. Mr. Thompson is 40 years of age, but is sincere in his desire to enter the service. Accompanying him were five young men from the same city who will enter the Army and Navy.

FLOUR LOWER IN SPOKANE

White Drops to \$9.60, Graham to \$9 and Whole Wheat \$9.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 13.—Reductions of 20 cents a barrel on white flour, 40 cents on graham flour and 20 cents on whole-wheat flour were announced today by local millers. Washington high patent flour will sell at wholesale for \$9.60 a barrel. Washington hard-wheat flour at \$9.80 and Montana hard-wheat at \$10.40. Graham flour will sell at \$9 and whole-wheat flour at \$9.20.

FUNDS FOR FARMER ASKED

Purchase of \$100,000,000 of Bonds Biennially Is Advocated.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Members of the Federal farm loan board appeared before the House banking committee today to press a request that Congress authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase \$100,000,000 worth of farm loan bonds every two years.

VILIFIER OF WILSON FINED

Chicago Man Pays \$200 for Reviling President.

CHICAGO, Dec. 13.—Theodore Holtz was fined \$200 today for reviling President Wilson and Police Lieutenant Patrick Hogan, who had rebuked Daniel Ecklund, a private citizen, for assisting Holtz, was severely criticised by Judge La Buy.

FUNCHAL IS BOMBARDED

German Submarine Fires Forty Shells, Doing Considerable Damage.

LISBON, Portugal, Dec. 13.—Funchal, capital of Madeira, has been bombarded by a German submarine. Forty shells were fired, killing or wounding a number of persons and damaging several buildings. The submarine fled on being attacked by patrol boats.

CAMP MILLS WON'T BE USED ANY MORE

Secretary of War Reports Abandonment.

MAYOR RECEIVES MESSAGE

Thanks of Oregon Residents Telegraphed in Reply.

MR. MALARKEY IS PLEASED

Portland Man Who First Raised Objection to Conditions in East Coast Military Encampment Feels He Forced Results.

Camp Mills, where Oregon and Washington soldiers were reported to have suffered hardships from cold, is being abandoned, according to a telegram received yesterday by Mayor Baker from Secretary of War Baker, in reply to the Mayor's telegram in behalf of Portland protesting against the conditions as reported locally by prominent persons who have visited the camp. Secretary Baker, in his telegram to Mayor Baker, says: "Telegram received. Am asking my associates for immediate report of conditions at Camp Mills. Many, many thanks for your message. Plans already made for abandonment of Camp Mills as promptly as possible." (Signed) "NEWTON D. BAKER."

FIRE ON NAVY TUG FATAL

Three Men Are Burned to Death and Fourth Seriously.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Three men were fatally and a fourth seriously injured in the fuel oil fire on a Navy tug at Ellsworth, Trumbull, a fireman, of Martinsville, Ind., was seriously burned.

PAYROLLS OF INDUSTRIAL PLANTS LEAP UPWARD

In the last year or 18 months the payrolls of numerous industrial plants in this city have increased several hundred per cent, contributing to the material prosperity of the entire community. An instance of the phenomenal advance of these increased payrolls is furnished in the Northwest Steel Company. Eighteen months ago this concern employed 125 men, with a payroll aggregating \$2500 a week. Today the same company employs 2100 men, with a weekly payroll of \$70,000. The chief activity of this company consists of the construction of steel vessels under Government contracts. At the same time it operates the largest bolt and rivet shop on the Pacific Coast.

NEW KITCHEN CARD WILL SOON BE OUT

HOUSEWIVES TO BE ASKED TO MAKE FURTHER SAVINGS.

Sugar Ration of 3 Pounds a Month for Each Person and One Wheatless and Meatless Meal Urged.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—A sugar ration of three pounds for each person a month, a porkless day and one wheatless and meatless meal a day will be recommended to householders in a new kitchen card soon to be put out by the food administration. Observation of wheatless and meatless meals will be asked in addition to the wheatless and meatless days called for now. The normal consumption of sugar in the United States has been more than seven pounds a month for each person. The cards will caution against hoarding foodstuffs in homes, pointing out that the practice not only is selfish but that it contributes to high prices and defeats the purposes of the food administration in seeking an equitable distribution. The reverse side of the card carries a message to householders. "The food situation in Europe," it says, "is far graver than when the preliminary survey of the food supply of the world of last year was made. We have an abundance for ourselves and it is the policy of the food administration, by the prevention of exports, to retain for our people an ample supply of every essential foodstuff. The harvests of our allies have proved less than we had contemplated and the great curtailment of shipping by the submarine during the last few months has further prevented them from access to remote markets."

GILL IMPEACHMENT READY TO PRESENT

Indictment Is Based on Four Counts.

COUNCIL WILL ACT TODAY

City Attorney Draws Accusation, but Cannot Prosecute.

SPECIAL ORDINANCE LIKELY

Seattle Mayor Charged With Permitting Disorderly Houses, Gambling, Dance Halls and Interest in Protective Company.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 13.—(Special.)—Four articles of impeachment against Mayor Hiram C. Gill, charging willful violation of duty in knowingly permitting disorderly houses to remain open, in permitting gambling to be conducted, in failure to close dance halls alleged to be nuisances and in consenting to the use of his name in connection with the Merchants Protective Corporation, were transmitted Thursday afternoon to the City Council by Corporation Counsel Hugh M. Caldwell. The articles are embodied in a resolution which is to be introduced in the City Council at a special meeting called for 2 o'clock tomorrow.

The Mayor has announced that if the Council decides to try him he will conduct his own defense.

City Attorney Cannot Act.

In a letter to the Council transmitted with the articles of impeachment, Mr. Caldwell says that because of the charter provision making him legal adviser to the Mayor as well as to the Council, he deems it improper for him to appear in the prosecution of the chief executive officer of the city. He says it is within the province of the Council to employ any special counsel that it may desire, and he suggests that "the committee which has been responsible for the progress of the proceedings to this stage should be consulted in the matter of the retention of counsel to prosecute the charges which I was instructed to draw, based upon the informal charges heretofore submitted by said committee."

Committee May Act.

If this suggestion of the Corporation Counsel is adopted, which appears likely, the onus of the prosecution would be placed directly upon the committee of 25, representing as many civic organizations. C. J. France said Thursday night that the committee of 25 would probably be willing to furnish counsel to represent the prosecution.

If the Council is to have the power of compelling the attendance of witnesses an ordinance would have to be adopted. This ordinance would probably include an outline of the procedure to be followed, as C. B. Fitzgerald, president of the Council, and other Councilmen consider that the city charter is hazy on this point. If such an ordinance is to go into effect, it will be introduced tomorrow.

AMERICANS KILLED BY GERMAN BOMBS

AIR ATTACK BY TEUFELSON RESULTS DISASTROUSLY.

Number of Railway Engineers Are Killed in Flanders Town Behind British Front.

(By the Associated Press.) WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Dec. 13.—A number of American railway engineers have been killed by German aerial bombs in a town somewhere behind the British front. Details are not yet known. It is now permitted to announce that a German bomb fell in a street in a town through which American troops were passing. Pieces of the bomb shattered the windows of a home in which there were officers, shattering them with glass, but hurting none. Two American soldiers have died in hospitals from gunshot wounds.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—"On Tuesday night a bombing raid was made by naval aircraft on the Bruges docks," says an Admiralty announcement today. "The visibility was bad, with low-lying clouds. One of our machines is missing. The usual patrols were carried out. One enemy aircraft, driven down out of control, was observed to crash to earth."

I. W. W. AGITATORS IN JAIL

Men Arrested at Powers Held After Preliminary Hearing.

MARSHFIELD, O., Dec. 13.—(Special.)—G. E. Erdmann and Charles A. Falls, found at Powers spreading I. W. W. propaganda, are in the Marshfield jail following a preliminary hearing before United States Commissioner E. A. Dodge, of Myrtle Point. The men were arrested by Deputy District Marshal Frank Berry, who will leave tomorrow for Portland with them, and two other prisoners held to the grand jury under the recent proclamation against I. W. W.

Carl E. Anderson, arrested last night as an I. W. W. enemy on the Marshfield waterfront, has not had a hearing. District United States Attorney Charles F. McKnight prosecuted the alleged I. W. W. members arrested at Powers.

WIDOW GIVES THREE SONS

Mrs. Jennie Niles, of Oregon City, Sees Last of Her Boys Enlist.

OREGON CITY, Dec. 13.—(Special.)—With the enlistment today of her oldest son, Ralph, Mrs. Jennie Niles, a well-known widow of Lawton Heights, has given her third and last son to Uncle Sam. About six months ago Eugene, the youngest son, joined the United States forces. Last week Royal, teacher in the Klamath High School, enlisted, and is now in active service.

Ralph, who is a mail carrier for the local postoffice, Wednesday decided that, too, would get into the game of saving the world for democracy. He went to the enlistment headquarters in Portland and was accepted. He will report for duty at once.

MITCHEL CLAMPING ON LID

New York's "White Light" Cafe Owners Ordered to Court.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Owners and managers of some of the most famous restaurants in the "white light" district, as well as waiters employed by them, have been served with warrants charging them with violating Mayor Mitchell's 1 o'clock closing edict, it was learned tonight.

The warrants were issued on the affidavits of detectives, who swore they had been served with drinks after 1 o'clock.

NORTHWEST HIT BY GALE AND TORRENT

Streams in Coast Districts Bank-Full.

HEAVY DAMAGE AT ASTORIA

Schools Close Because Water Main Is Ruined.

BUNKHOUSE MADE WRECK

Sleeping Men Narrowly Escape Disaster—Railroad Bridge Near Chehalis Goes Out—Grays Harbor Lowlands Flooded.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 13.—(Special.)—Sixteen men narrowly miss death when rockslide crashes from 200-foot bluff on bankhouse. Storm wipes out part of water system, forcing closing of schools and floods basements and stops sewers.

Hoquiam, Wash.—Grays Harbor country in grip of worst storm in years. Flat districts flooded and several streams rush out of banks.

Toledo, Or.—Rain is heaviest in many years, flooding farms.

Chehalis, Wash.—Northern Pacific bridge on South Bend branch goes out, stopping traffic. Log jam in Chehalis River threatens many small bridges.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 13.—(Special.)—Rock crashed from a bluff nearly 200 feet high at the county rock crushing plant at Tonque Point during the storm last night and struck one end of the bunk-house where 16 men were sleeping. Although the house was badly damaged, no one was injured.

Schools are closed and part of the city is without water today, while sewers are blocked in certain sections and many basements flooded, following one of the heaviest rains in recent years. The rain, accompanied by a southerly gale, came down in torrents all night and intermittently today.

Water Main Washed Away.

The greatest damage done was the washing away of a temporary fill that had been made in order to move machinery for the construction of the new 20,000,000-gallon high-service reservoir. The slide carried with it the high-service main and the main conduit leading from the headworks of the water system to the storage reservoirs. On account of this the section of the city on the hill and the public schools are without water.

Men are working day and night to repair the damage and it is expected the service will be resumed tomorrow.

STREAMS GRIPS GRAYS HARBOR

Streams Rising Rapidly and Several Are Out of Banks.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Dec. 13.—(Special.)—The Grays Harbor district for the past two days has been experiencing the first storm of the season, and (Continued on Page 2, Column 2.)

OREGON SEIZES THE OPPORTUNITY! READ THE STORY IN ANNUAL.

Never before have the people of Oregon sensed so clearly their opportunities. The war has been a pabulum to them in appreciating fully the importance of community endeavor. The spirit of co-operation is growing; the significance of co-ordination of effort rapidly is being realized. The concentration of all elements in the production of sinews of war is paving the way towards a greater and more definite programme when peace again shall reign. The elimination of economic waste and approved and intensive methods of production are bringing about a tremendous expansion along all lines. There undoubtedly will be a great surfeit of production above domestic needs. New channels of trade will be opened. To take care of the industrial and commercial expansion Oregon will prepare to enter extensively into the world trade. Plans to that end now are taking shape. Truly a new era of maritime commerce is near at hand. In the forthcoming annual edition of the Oregonian, which will be issued January 1, 1918, this important programme will be fully presented.

