

ALLES WILL TAKE OVER DUTCH SHIPS

Million Tonnage to Be Available March 18.

HOLLAND TO GET SQUARE DEAL

Transaction Most Important of Its Kind During War.

GERMAN MENACE DEFIED

Nothing New in International Law Is Involved and Move Compromises Merely Exercise of Foreign Rights.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—A million tons of Dutch ships, now held in ports the world over, through Holland's fear of Germany's threat to sink them if they venture out, will be brought into the service of the United States and Great Britain on March 18.

Unless the Netherlands government braves the menace of Germany's pressure and voluntarily accepts an agreement under which the ships would be put in trade, the United States and Great Britain will take them over under a sovereign right which Germany herself has hitherto exercised under the same authority.

Holland Makes Final Appeal.

Formal notice has been presented to The Hague by the American and British diplomatic representatives of the allied governments' intention. As a result, today, the Netherlands Minister, August Phillips, acting under instructions of his government, made a final personal appeal to President Wilson to at least modify the decision.

The Associated Press is unable to say that the President saw no reason for altering the decision and that unless the ships are turned over by next Monday a Presidential proclamation will be issued proclaiming that the American ports of which there are about 50. Many more, however, are in British or other allied ports.

Allies Forced to Act.

From the American official point of view, the action is one into which the allied governments have been forced by the German duress of Holland, which may now see her ships in trade again, and can point out to Germany that they were taken through no will of her own.

Coming at a time when the dire need of the allied cause is for ships, this acquisition of a million tons is of tremendous importance.

Every arrangement has been made for the compensation of the Netherlands for the ships.

They will be insured and armed, and if any are lost they will be replaced. Besides material compensation for their use, the United States will permit the export of breadstuffs and cattle feeds, which Holland needs sorely for her own people, and in addition will restore the interrupted trade of Holland with her colonies by guaranteeing bunkers for her ships in that trade.

Ample Food Available.

Under this arrangement, Holland still is left enough ships for her own needs and has been notified that plentiful supplies of food await her if she sends bottoms to carry it.

By this arrangement, officials point out, further responsibility for food shortages in The Netherlands, if there be one, will rest on Germany.

NEW YORK, March 14.—The American-British decision to take over all Dutch ships in allied ports for the duration of the war, will affect 75 per cent of the shipping controlled by Dutch interests, according to Adrian Gips, managing director of the Holland-America line.

BURNS FATAL TO CHILD

Milton Nordlund's Nightclothes Take Fire From Kitchen Stove.

ASTORIA, Or., March 14.—(Special.)—Milton Vincent Nordlund, the 5-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Nordlund, died here this morning as the result of burns received yesterday morning. On arising Wednesday the little lad ran to the stove, in which a brisk fire was burning. His nightclothes in a moment were all ablaze and before the mother could extinguish the flames the child's body was burned to a blister.

The little fellow was brought to the hospital for treatment and everything possible was done to relieve his suffering, but he was unable to survive the shock.

UKRAINE GRAIN DIVIDED

Austria's Immediate Need Greater Than That of Germany.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—According to an official dispatch received from Copenhagen today and quoting from the National Tidende, Germany and Austria will divide equally until July 31 the amount of grain available in Ukraine.

TWO PILOTS GIVE LIVES

Civilian Instructor May Die From Result of Tail Spin.

HOUSTON, Tex., March 14.—Lieutenant Marmaduke Earle, of Lewisburg, Pa., and Nile Gelwick, of Finlay, O., were killed at Ellington Field today in airplane falls.

Civilian instructor Kaiser was seriously injured internally by a fall in an airplane resulting from a tail-spin.

AIR TORPEDO SAID TO DOOM BERLIN

Philadelphia SAYS DEVICE WOULD END WAR IN MONTH.

NEW YORK, March 14.—(Special.)—

A Philadelphia manufacturer has invented an aerial torpedo, which he asserts can destroy Berlin and win the war in 30 days. He is Lester F. Barlow, who has already invented an anti-submarine depth bomb that has proved itself to be of the highest value in destroying the Kaiser's undersea craft.

According to Mr. Barlow it would be possible to send the torpedo to Berlin from behind the allied lines in France. The construction of the torpedo is said to be very simple.

"There is danger that it will strike the German inventors' mind soon and I live in constant fear that Germany may grasp the principle of this deadly torpedo before we can use it," says President Steinmetz, of the Aero Club of Pennsylvania. It carries more than half a ton of the highest explosive that can be manufactured. It has a range of 400 miles and is positive in going to its target.

The authorities at Washington admitted when they were shown the plans that Berlin could be blown off the map and the German nation could be whipped in 30 days, but nothing has been done.

CLEAN VAUDEVILLE IS AIM

Prominent Portland Women Would Have Censor Board Established.

Censorship of vaudeville shows is proposed by a committee of women members of the City Federation of Women's Organizations in a communication sent to the City Council asking that a censor board be created.

The women would have the censors empowered to notify any manager or actor not to repeat any joke or song which the censor considers vulgar or improper during performances in Portland. The plan is to have the censors serve without pay, the same as members of the Board of Motion Picture Censors. The women who have signed the petition sent to the Council are Mrs. Anton Gleibach, Mrs. Lee Arnett, Mrs. Philip Blumauer, Mrs. H. C. Hendee, Mrs. Edna Bell, Mrs. G. W. Tabler and Mrs. M. L. T. Hidden.

OIL SITUATION CRITICAL

Supply of California Rapidly Being Depleted, Oil Man Says.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—California oil men before a Senate naval subcommittee today declared the Pacific Coast oil situation is critical and that if the Government takes over the oil and gas lands in the naval reserves in that state many industries dependent on oil as fuel will be compelled to suspend.

The present available supply of the state is rapidly being depleted, the committee was told, and will reach the danger point within 12 months at the present rate of consumption.

A bill prepared by the Navy Department to authorize the Government to obtain title to all the oil land in the naval reserves in California as well as in Wyoming was denounced by the oil men as impractical and dangerous.

MERGER OF CHURCHES OFF

Presbyterians North and South Fail to Reach Agreement.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 14.—The commissions on unity of the Presbyterian Church North and the Presbyterian Church South failed to agree upon a plan for the proposed merger of the two great church bodies at the final session of their joint conference here tonight.

Two plans were worked out and both will be submitted to the respective general assemblies with the recommendation that the assemblies decide the issues involved in order to give the commissions "a working basis to bring about the formal merger within the next year."

WATCH HOLLAND PULL A LITTLE CAMOUFLAGE ON THE KAISER.

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During the earlier portion of this period Austria will have two-thirds and Germany one-third of all grain obtained. During the second half the proportions will be reversed.

EUROPEANS THINK AMERICANS DUEER

Odd Original Ways Excite Wonder.

MEN ARE CRAZY, SAY FRENCH

To Busy Tommy Boys Have Easy Time Soldiering.

COURAGE NOT QUESTIONED

New Messroom Stories, and Good Ones, Constantly Bobbing Up. Blacks From Different Parts Have Interesting Meeting.

BY WILL G. MACRAE.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Feb. 16.—In spite of the U-boat menace and other perils, all the warlike organizations that braved the dangers of the American training camps, medical inspections, liberty loan subscriptions, compulsory allotments and the rest of the up-to-date Army frills, we are now safe in France, the last contingent arriving early this week.

Doing foreign service is all that advance notices said it would be. Quite naturally, some of the American forces have fallen along easy paths, easy in that they are billeted in towns or villages yet unspoiled by the get-rich-quick merchant, while other organizations less lucky in the lottery of chance have fallen victims to the French shopkeeper who charges 15 francs for a 50-cent article.

The soldiers from our section of the United States are more fortunate than many of the men in khaki, for they are getting letters from home with more regularity, and the cancel dates show that little time was lost in their transmission. While much of the work of the man over here is hard, trust the American soldier to make his own atmosphere. He must and will have his fun, even if sometimes the humor of it is a bit crude and a bit unladlike.

Boys Curiously Regarded.

To the French mind, we are "crazy Americans." To the British, Tommy, with his everlasting scouring of buttons, boots and equipment—for to the mind of your British officer, a Tommy that's not kept busy, "well, it isn't done, y' know"—the American soldier has a mighty fine time of it. "A soldiering." To the Canadian soldier, so near-ly like the American in habits and speech, there is no curiosity. To the black soldiers of France, the Senegalese soldiers, the American breed of soldier is a constant source of mystery and entertainment. While the Senegalese soldier may look at the American until his eyes stick out, to the American negro stevedore, the Senegalese is a three-ringed circus.

Here is one of the stock Army stories told on the American negro the first time he met a Senegalese. The big transaction (Concluded on Page 3, Column 1.)

ALL CASTLE ROCK ASSERTS LOYALTY

EVERY PERSON REQUIRED TO SALUTE FLAG AS TEST.

GERMANS START TO OVERRUN FINLAND

Army Strikes at Heart of Country.

STRONG FORCE OCCUPIES ABO

Oil Territory of Roumania Is Ceded to Hungary.

TEUTON PRESS DISTURBED

Some Newspapers Profess to See Cause for Uneasiness in Disintegration of Russia—Benefits May Accrue to Allies.

PETROGRAD, March 13.—A strong German detachment is reported to have occupied Abo, on the coast of Finland, west of Helsinki.

The Germans immediately began to march into the interior of Finland.

BERLIN, via London, March 14.—The German troops which occupied Odessa were sent in agreement with the Roumanian government, today's army headquarters statement announces.

The statement reads: "Eastern war theater—German troops which, in agreement with the Roumanian government, had been sent against Odessa from Brasila by way of Galatz and Bender, have occupied Odessa after a battle with bands near Moldovanka."

Austrian Troops Follow. "They were followed by Austro-Hungarian troops coming from Zmbroni."

AMSTERDAM, March 13.—There has been an intensification of the fighting in the Ukraine, where the ranks of the Maximilian commands are receiving reinforcements from bodies of Czech and Austrian deserters, according to a Berlin dispatch to the Rheinische Westfallische Zeitung.

The Germans, the dispatch adds, have been frequently engaged in furious battles with bodies of such men, and when they fall into German hands they are shot.

AMSTERDAM, March 14.—The Deutsche Tages Zeitung of Berlin prints a Vienna dispatch to the effect that the Roumanian oil fields will be ceded territorially to Hungary.

Joint Control Announced. They will be administered under a joint German, Austro-Hungarian, Roumanian and Bulgarian control board.

The oil production will be divided in proportions to be settled later.

AMSTERDAM, March 13.—Some sections of the German press are becoming uneasy over developments in the Far East.

The Frankfurter Zeitung considers that the breaking up of Russia into a number of independent states is a bad policy for Germany and urges that the greatest tact and prudence be used in dealing with the border states so that

WHAT PRUSSIANISM MEANS.

The actions of the German armies in Belgium, in Poland and in Northern France have blotted the record of humanity.

The evidence in the case is set forth in an official book just published by the United States Government.

A copy of this book will be sent free to any reader of The Oregonian.

To secure a copy of this free book, send your name and address with a 2-cent stamp for return postage to The Portland Oregonian Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C. Ask for "German War Practices."

SEATTLE TIEUP OF FREIGHT TO CEASE

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO PENALIZE SHIPPERS.

INQUIRY SHOWS THAT CARS HAVE BEEN HELD IN YARDS FOR MONTHS WITHOUT UNLOADING OR LOADING.

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 14.—(Special.)—After an extended investigation in which it was discovered that Seattle shippers have been blockading traffic for months and causing costly congestion in freight yards by holding cars for indefinite periods, the Public Service Commission today put all intrastate shipping in Seattle yards under a maximum time limit of 48 hours for loading or unloading. On car shipments within the terminal limits the time limit is 24 hours.

L. J. McCullough, terminal superintendent, is invested with full power by the commission to enforce the new regulations, which become effective at noon April 1.

Where shippers deliberately violate the new rules railroad companies will be forbidden to furnish them more cars pending further orders of the commission. If a car is not fully loaded at expiration of the time limit, it will be unloaded again at the shipper's expense and risk, and the car reloaded to another shipper. Shipments arriving at Seattle and not unloaded in time will be handled in the same way at the most convenient point for the carrier.

As a solution of a system whereby brokers have been using cars for storage purposes by purported transfers of consignments and paying slight switching charges, the commission ordered that cars should be spotted at but one point for unloading. If the consignee does not unload it at that point within the limit, the work will be done at his expense and risk of penalty.

Nearly 5000 loaded cars held up with freight consigned to Seattle, and 1775 empty cars are at the terminal. Hundreds of cars that have been held at Seattle for months have been traced out and released lately by commission inspectors.

SWEATER RECORD LOWER

Mrs. William R. Kennedy Knits Garment in Seven and a Half Hours.

ABERDEEN, Wash., March 14.—(Special.)—Fifteen minutes has been lopped off Mrs. Jacob Verheyen's record of 7 hours and 45 minutes for knitting a sweater by Mrs. William R. Kennedy, this city, who now holds the record.

She has spent little for sweater knitting and perhaps the championship of the Northwest.

The sweater upon which she made her speed record was the 20th which she has completed. Besides these she has knitted five pairs of wristlets and two helmets.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 62 degrees; minimum, 10.6 degrees. TODAY'S—Rain; strong southeasterly winds.

War. Americans' odd ways excite wonder of European soldiers. Page 1. Heavy military action in progress along French front. Page 2. British hospital ship Guilford Castle, with 450 wounded men, torpedoed in Bristol Channel, but escapes. Page 4. British will follow German plan and distribute troops in order to cover districts raided by air-fleets. Page 3. President requests Secretary Baker to take up casualty list matter with General Pershing. Page 6. Rigid censorship regarding casualty lists criticized. Page 4. Secretary Baker to busy man attending conferences in Paris. Page 6.

Foreign. Bolo Pasha, French traitor sentenced to death, loses appeal. Page 1. Allies will take over million tons of Dutch shipping. Page 1. Switzerland insists on neutrality being recognized unconditionally. Page 2. Intervention in Siberia expected to be prompt if Russian Soviets accept Germany's peace terms. Page 6. German army begins invasion of Finland. Page 1. Austria-Hungary's dual monarchy described by Gerard as jumble of races. Page 2.

National. War Department adopts policy of taking Congress into its confidence. Page 1. United States to increase meat shipments to allies. Page 2. U. S. scientists to view June eclipse of sun at Baker. Page 4.

Domestic. Philadelphia invents aerial torpedo, which he says would end war in month. Page 1. Former junkmen at high salaries and discovery of dynamite disclosed at Hog Island inquiry. Page 6.

Sports. McCredie not worrying over Portland's chances in pennant race. Page 18. Boston City Park bowlers win inter-club title. Page 18. Shockey appointed athletic director at Fort Stevens. Page 18. Portland Revolver Club tied with Boston and Denver for second place. Page 18.

Northwest. All in Castle Rock required to salute flag as test of loyalty. Page 1. Seattle freight congestion to end through penalizing shippers. Page 1. Unmarried man's minister involved in suit for divorce. Page 8.

Commercial and Marine. Seattle firm to construct Portland municipal pier at cost of \$250,000. Page 14. Portland to be name of new towboat to be built. Page 14. Food Administration urges increased production of poultry. Page 19. Corn and oats break sharply in Chicago market. Page 19. Advance in coalers strengthens New York stock list. Page 19.

Portland and Vicinity. D. C. Freeman chosen director of publicity for third liberty loan campaign. Page 13. Six-cent fare upheld by court. Page 9. German enemy's aliens must report change of residence. Page 9. Wife waits five years for spouse's return and then sues for divorce. Page 8. Portland boards issue calls for class 1 registrants. Page 5. Oregon dairymen consider using ranches to grow grain crops. Page 14. Distribution of Pastor Russell's books prohibited. Page 7. Mrs. Alvina Johnson renews fight for custody of 15-year-old daughter. Page 20. Liberty loan slogan and recording device chosen, but awards withheld. Page 11. W. W. McCredie files candidacy for Circuit judgeship in Multnomah County. Page 7.

WAR DEPARTMENT LETS CONGRESS IN

Legislators to Keep in Touch With Fighting.

JOINT MEETINGS WILL BE HELD

Senate and House Committees Now Welcome.

RECENT ATTACK ANSWERED

Concession to Lawmakers Sequel to Investigation of Army Affairs and Attendant Flood of Bitter Criticism.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The Administration formally embarked today on a policy of taking Congress completely into its confidence as to the progress of war preparations and developments on the fighting front in Europe.

At the invitation of Acting Secretary Crowell, members of the Senate military committee were in session at the War Department for nearly two hours with the full membership of the War Council, and beginning next week will meet with that body every Saturday morning.

Members of the House committee will meet with the council tomorrow and a similar arrangement for weekly meetings will be made with that committee. "Probably a large room will be obtained later so that the committees of both houses may be received in joint session."

Demand of Congress Met. Thus the War Department meets the insistent demand of Congress for a greater share in the conduct of the war and removes the real cause which led the Senate committee's prolonged investigation of the Army with its attendant bitter criticism.

It was pointed out today that members of Congress now would know first hand about current developments, instead of getting information months later through the examination of messages, and could make their criticisms at a time when they would count.

Movements for the creation of a joint congressional committee on the conduct of the war have been suppressed by President Wilson's unalterable opposition to interference with the powers and duties entrusted to the executive by the constitution.

Conference May Solve Problem. Through the conferences now started, however, it is suggested that the regular committees acting in full harmony with the executive officials will be able to accomplish all and probably more toward keeping Congress in touch with what is going on than would have been possible under the special committee plan.

Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, who has led in much of the Senate criticism of the War Department, was ranking Democratic member present today in the absence of Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, the chairman.

"The session today was very satisfactory," Senator Hitchcock said. "The department has reduced everything to diagrams showing the present status in each branch and progress being made."

Questions Frankly Answered. Senator Hitchcock added that all questions asked by the Senators had been answered fully by the men who are in direct charge of the work, frankly disclosing every element of the war work in which the department was engaged.

(Concluded on Page 2, Column 3.)

CONDITIONS IN GERMANY TO BE SET FORTH IN THE OREGONIAN.

On Sunday, March 17, The Oregonian will begin daily publication of a highly important series of articles revealing Germany's condition today. For five months representatives of the New York World on Germany's borders and agents within her borders have been gathering the facts for these articles, for whose publication in Portland the sole right is held by The Oregonian. They embrace practically every phase of Germany today—Man Power—Food—Clothing—Imperial Finance—Socialism—Overorganization—Foreign Trade; Economic War and Mark Exchange—Railroads—Effects of Embargo—Privations of the People—Military Situation, etc. There will be 20 of these articles and altogether they will give a remarkable amount of information concerning Germany's present condition and her prospects. Publication will begin on Sunday, March 17, and the articles will appear daily in The Oregonian thereafter.

