

ALL DUTCH SHIPS IN U. S. PORTS SEIZED

Similar Action Taken in British Waters.

MILLION TONNAGE IS INVOLVED

Radical Action in Effect Reply to German Interference.

WILSON EXPLAINS POSITION

President Points Out That After Nations Concerned Had Reached Agreement, Holland Resorted to Persistent Delays.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Upon Holland's refusal to sign the face of German threats to put into effect her voluntary agreement for restoring her merchant marine to normal activity, the United States Government tonight requisitioned all Dutch ships in American waters.

At the same time Great Britain was taking over Dutch vessels in British ports.

A total of 77 ships of probably 600,000 tons was added to the American merchant marine by the requisitioning.

Compensation to be made to the owners as required by law.

Although the ships have been taken over without any formal agreement, the United States proposes to carry out scrupulously the terms of the original pact, so that Holland shall receive ample foodstuffs and will be protected in her colonial trade by having sufficient tonnage to maintain its commerce.

President's Statement.

President Wilson authorized tonight the following statement:

For some months the United States and the entire allies have been conducting negotiations with the Dutch government with the object of concluding a general commercial agreement.

A very clear statement of the character of these negotiations was made on March 12 to the Dutch Parliament by his excellency, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Holland.

As appears from the statement, the discussion proceeded upon the basis of two fundamental propositions, namely, that the United States and the allies should facilitate the importation into Holland of foodstuffs and other commodities required to maintain their economic life, and that Holland should restore her merchant marine to a normal condition of activity.

Tentative Agreement Reached.

It was the task of the negotiators to develop a specific application of these propositions which would be acceptable to the governments concerned.

Early in January, 1918, the negotiators came to an understanding, which was embodied in a tentative agreement which was submitted to the governments concerned in order that, if acceptable, it might be ratified, or, if unacceptable, a counter-proposal might be made.

The negotiations becoming prolonged, the Dutch delegates proposed, in order that their ships might sooner be put into remunerative service, that Dutch tonnage lying idle in American waters should, with certain exceptions, be immediately chartered to the United States for periods not exceeding 90 days.

Charter Proposal Accepted.

This proposal was accepted by the United States Government, and on January 28, 1918, the Dutch Minister at Washington handed to the Secretary of State of the United States a note expressing the terms of the temporary chartering agreement and his government's acceptance thereof.

This agreement provided, among other things, that 120,000 tons of Dutch shipping should, at the discretion of the United States, be employed partly in the service of Belgium relief and partly for Switzerland on safe conduct to Cote, France, and that for each ship sent to Holland in the service of Belgium relief, a corresponding vessel should leave Holland for the United States.

Dutch Delay Action.

The agreement was explicitly temporary in character and, being designed to meet an immediate situation, prompt performance was of the essence. The Dutch government at once disclosed, however, that it was unwilling or unable to carry out this chartering agreement which it had itself proposed.

The first desire of the United States was to secure at once shipping, as contemplated by the agreement to transport to Switzerland foodstuffs much needed by the state.

BILL GIVES WILSON COMMANDER RIGHT

MEASURE PROPOSES CONTROL OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.

Legislation Designed to Enable Government to Get Quick Possession of Whatever Needed.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Under a bill sent to the Senate military committee today by Acting Secretary of War Crowell, the President would be empowered during the war to take over private property of any kind, personal or real estate, with compensation for the owner, wherever deemed necessary for the national security or conduct of the Government.

The chief object of the legislation is to enable the Government to get quick possession of real estate, office buildings and other property needed in connection with the conduct of the war. In a letter to Chairman Chamberlain, Mr. Crowell said it is desirable to avoid delays of condemnation, to save money and at the same time do justice to property owners.

The bill provides that the President by proclamation or through any legislative agency may designate property to be taken over. It would be appraised and in case owners were not satisfied they would be paid 75 per cent of the appraised value and the Federal District Court would decide disputes as to the balance.

BOLSHEVIKI SAILORS HELD

Crew of Russian Steamer at Seattle Reported Rebellious.

SEATTLE, March 20.—Eighteen members of the crew of the Russian steamship Tsoula, who were left aboard when Federal officers took charge of the ship here Wednesday, today were removed from the ship and placed in the Federal detaining station.

The 18 joined the 10 other members of the crew who were brought ashore when the ship was taken over by Government officers. All the members of the crew are said to have Bolsheviki tendencies.

Officers took charge of the ship when the captain reported the men would not obey orders. It is expected the captain will sign an entirely new crew and complete his task of loading the vessel with supplies for Siberia.

SHOWER OF FISH REPORTED

Rancher Tells Story Appropriate to Food Conservation Season.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., March 20.—(Special.)—At Ortega Hill, at the eastern limits of exclusive Montecito, it rained fish yesterday morning, according to F. M. Myers, a rancher there, who came into town today with the story.

Myers says he went out on his porch after it had been raining an hour and was struck on the head by a fish which measured 11 inches. Other fish were said to be seen about, and today still other were reported picked up farther inland.

In the meantime, at the Montecito Club, members are reported to be dining on shark as a fish conservation measure.

ALOHA SOLDIER ADVANCED

Henry A. Nielsen Made Supply Sergeant of Line 71, Kelly Field, Tex.

KELLY FIELD, Tex., March 20.—(Special.)—Henry A. Nielsen, a former resident of Aloha, near Portland, Or., has been made supply sergeant of line 71, Trades Division, Kelly Field.

Although over the draft age, Sergeant Nielsen was eager to help his country in its fight for humanity, and his recent appointment demonstrates the interest he has shown in his work. He is now receiving special instruction in a supply sergeant's school at Kelly Field.

GRAYS HARBOR MILLS QUIT

Car Shortage Hits Shingle Plants. Fully Score Out of Operation.

ABERDEEN, Wash., March 20.—(Special.)—Practically all Grays Harbor shingle mills are closed because of the car shortage, no relief for which is in sight for some time.

BAKER GETS CLOSE UP VIEW OF WAR

Trench, Hospital, Burial Plot Visited in Turn.

HUN SHELL NEARLY SCORES

Missile Explodes 50 Yards From Secretary.

TRIP MADE ON FIRST LINE

American Official Has Exciting Day and Is Brought Into Intimate Touch With Soldiers Fighting for U. S. in France.

(By the Associated Press.) WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, March 20.—Secretary of War Baker continued his inspection in the zone of advance today in a cold rain, over heavy roads and under generally uncomfortable conditions.

The programme included visits to certain divisional headquarters that had not previously been inspected, and conferences with various high officials.

In an informal address to the Rainbow division, officially known as the 42d division, the Secretary took occasion to explain to the Army, as well as to the people of America, the reasons for the military secrecy which deprives the soldiers and the population at home of news of each other during the present stage of the preparations.

Details of Value to Enemy.

"If we were to announce the identity of each unit that comes to France then we would fully inform him of the number and the nature of our forces. Published details about any division are most useful to expert military intelligence officers in determining the state of the division's training and the probable assignment of the division to any section.

But now it is safe to mention certain divisions which were first to arrive in France and have already been in the line. This includes the Rainbow Division, famous because it is representative of all parts of the United States, which, however, as a military unit, is to be judged only by its efficiency against the enemy, regardless of its origin.

At the same time this division should find in its character an inspiration to the esprit de corps and general excellence. It should be conscious of its mission as a symbol of National unity.

Greater Manhood Attained.

"I thought you marched well and drilled well when I last saw you, but what I have seen of you today gives me a new standard of comparison. The mark of the thorough system of our Army in France is upon you. I feel you have all grown to greater manhood and that the steel of your spirit now has the right edge.

To your relatives scattered over the states I send the message that you are well and that you want for none.

LANE VIGILANTES HOLD NIGHT PARTY

EUGENE UNDESIRABLE IN DANGER OF TAR AND FEATHERS.

200 Citizens Ride Northward to Border With Lake Spores, Who Would Neither Work Nor Fight.

JUNCTION CITY, Or., March 20.—(Special.)—Two hundred vigilantes of Lane County, in automobiles, passed through here at 10:30 tonight, having in custody Jake Spores, aged 26, who was taken from a lodging-house in Eugene as an undesirable citizen.

Their destination was said to be Lane County, northern border, and talk of tar and feathering was rife among members of the party.

Spores had been warned several times by citizens of Eugene to go to work or join the Army, but showed no inclination to do either, and has made defiant remarks and, it is alleged, unpatriotic and treasonable utterances.

The long train of more than 50 automobiles moving rapidly northward along the river road in the darkness attracted much attention, and was augmented from time to time by other cars joining the party.

ASHLAND MAN DIES IN CAR

Joseph G. Hurt Passes at Wheel of Automobile, Causing Accident.

ASHLAND, Or., March 20.—(Special.)—Joseph Hurt, manager of the Ashland Ice & Storage Company, of this city, died at the wheel of his automobile at about 11 o'clock last night while returning home from Medford.

The car leaped from the road, striking a telephone pole and practically demolishing it.

Mr. Hurt, in company with his wife and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wolfe, had been attending a theater in Medford and had been apparently in the best of health. The occupants of the car escaped without injury.

GIRL DIES ON WEDDING DAY

Miss Dorothy Baker, of Medford, Succumbs to Illness in Klamath.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., March 20.—(Special.)—To be called by death on the day on which she was to have been married was the sad fate of Miss Dorothy Baker, of Medford, Or., who died Sunday at Klamath General Hospital here.

Miss Baker was 22 years of age and was the daughter of H. H. Baker, of Medford. The body was taken to Medford for interment.

AMAZON REPORTED SUNK

Royal Mail Steamer Said to Have Been Torpedoed Near Gibraltar.

BUENOS AIRES, March 20.—A report is current here that the Royal Mail steamer Amazon has been sunk.

A dispatch from Rio Janeiro says the officers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company there have been notified of the torpedoing of the Amazon near Gibraltar and that the fate of the passengers is unknown. The local officers of the steamship company here are unable to confirm the report.

The Amazon was due to arrive on this side of the Atlantic from Liverpool early in April.

COURTHOUSE FEUD OPENS IN KLAMATH

Contract Is Awarded for New Building.

OLD STRUCTURE ABANDONED

Controversy Leads to Movement to Recall Judge Hanks.

INJUNCTION IS REQUESTED

Uncompleted Structure to Be Left after Expenditure of \$180,000 and New Building Erected on Site of Courthouse in Use.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., March 20.—(Special.)—The Old Klamath County Courthouse, which has been hurried here for the last four years, was revived here today with all its former intensity, when County Judge Marion Hanks and Commissioner Frank McCormack signed a contract for the construction of a new building to be erected on the site of the present structure at a cost of \$131,775.

Commissioner Burrell Short refused to sign the papers.

An injunction suit was filed in the office of the Circuit Court Clerk earlier in the day to prevent the court from going ahead with the new plans, but as the court has ten days in which to answer the action, it is believed that this move will not have the desired effect for those opposing the policy.

Portland Firm Wins.

Five bids from Portland, Seattle and San Francisco firms were submitted and the contract awarded to J. M. Dougan & Company, of Portland.

Recall petitions now are in circulation throughout the county with large number of signers, according to reports, and it seems most probable that the unfortunate situation of a few years ago is about to be repeated.

The present courthouse stands on Main street between Third and Fourth, and is now an old and unsafe building, utterly inadequate for the needs of the present day.

When it was decided to build a new building in 1910, two sites were proposed, the present one and another in Hot Springs addition, at the east end of the town. The latter site was preferred free by the Klamath Development Company, with the stipulation that if the building was not completed the site would revert back to the company.

Recall Attempt Fails.

A vote of the people was taken and the Hot Springs site chosen. During the administration of Judge Will F. Worden, the new building was started and a total of \$180,000 expended. Much criticism was launched during this construction regarding the alleged profligate manner in which the funds were expended and a vain attempt to recall Judge Worden was made. At the close of his term, however, Marion Hanks, (Continued on Page 2, Column 2.)

LENROOT APPEARS WISCONSIN WINNER

LATE RETURNS FAVOR LOYALTY REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE.

Thompson Refuses to Give Up Fight. Victory of Davies Demonstrated Early in Struggle.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., March 20.—More or less complete returns from every county in the state this evening sustained the lead of Congressman Irvine L. Lenroot, the loyalty Republican candidate for Senator, in yesterday's primaries.

Belated returns today gave him 2326 more than James Thompson, the La Follette candidate. Thompson did not concede the defeat pending complete returns.

Joseph E. Davies, Democratic candidate, had 54,173 votes compared with 12,262 for Dr. Charles McCarthy. The same advice made the Victor Berger (Socialist) vote 26,645.

Outstanding features of yesterday's primary were a five-fold increase in the Socialist vote, the overwhelming victory of Joseph E. Davies for the Democratic Senatorial nomination, and the close race between Irvine L. Lenroot, known as the Loyalist candidate, and James Thompson, who carried the banner of the La Follette Republicans in the Senatorial race of that party.

His nomination assured, Mr. Davies said:

"The nation doubts Wisconsin, not because of the acts of any one of her public men, but because of the acts of many of her public men. It is a doubt that can be removed by clear, unequivocal expression of the loyal sentiment of Wisconsin registered at the polls. It can be removed by nothing else.

The situation in Wisconsin is of deep concern in more than one way. It involves the question, of course, of whether or not Wisconsin shall support with all her power our battle line in France.

"But it also involves the question of whether Wisconsin is thoroughly, wholeheartedly American in all cases and under all circumstances."

TEXAS TO GET E. O. SIECKE

Deputy State Forester Accepts Offer From South.

SALEM, Or., March 20.—E. O. Siecke, Deputy State Forester for Oregon for the past eight years, has resigned and has accepted the office of State Forester for Texas.

The resignation was submitted to State Forester Elliott in a message from Mr. Siecke, who is now at Bryan, Tex. He explained that the Spring Forester is now beginning in the Texas forests, making it necessary for him to enter upon his duties at once.

Commander Wyatt Indicted.

HALIFAX, March 20.—Commander Wyatt, R. N., chief examining officer of this port at the time of the great explosion in December, was indicted today by the grand jury on a charge of manslaughter. The bill was found notwithstanding instructions to the jury yesterday by Justice Russell that there be nothing in the evidence to justify an indictment.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 56 degrees; minimum, 44 degrees. TODAY'S—Fair; gentle southerly winds, War.

Secretary Baker gets into closer touch with war conditions on French front. French repulse Germans in Lorraine. Allied shipping losses placed at 2,500,000 tons since beginning of war to end of year 1917.

Foreign. Petrograd reports three high Bolsheviki officials mysteriously murdered. Uprising in Beluchistan is put down by British forces. Gerard find no spirit of revenge harbored by Spanish people against United States.

Food democracy is only a theory in Germany, says Cyril Brown. Million tons of Dutch shipping taken over by United States and England. War Department opposes letting soldiers in France vote. Bill giving Wilson right to commander private property proposed.

Domestic. Lenroot apparently winner over La Follette candidate for Senator in Wisconsin. New Jersey Democrats told parties of today need new leaders. Suspected spies held guilty, but will be deported, nevertheless.

Sports. Walter McCredie praises work of Portland recruits in training camp. Portland boxers show up well at Seattle. Smoker card for March 27 promises to be good.

Pacific Northwest. State Emergency Board votes \$250,000 for defense purposes. Klamath County Court authorizes building of new Courthouse.

Loan and Fred Billington, convicted of conspiracy, reappear in Seattle. Lane County vigilantes start on "tar and feather" excursion. Governor Withcomb announces candidacy for re-election.

Commercial and Marine. Merchants' Exchange opposed to change in wheat standards. Chicago grain lower owing to embargo on shipments eastward.

Portland and Vicinity. Deputy District Attorney Hammersley presides in divorce court. "Captains' hard" postpones return from Japan.

Colonel Leader charms audiences with tales of war. Initiative measure proposed to create additional taxes. Forty-five members of Base Hospital Unit 46 report first day. Workers in Salvation Army drive to meet at Portland Hotel today.

Oregon delegation in Congress promises relief to shipmen. Washington-Portland railroad.

\$250,000 IS VOTED FOR DEFENSE WORK

State Emergency Board Takes Action.

WAR WORKS TO BE GUARDED

All Protection Units to Be Consolidated.

FOUR COMPANIES PROPOSED

Portland to Be Headquarters and Men Distributed So as to Assure Protection of Shipyards and Other Necessary Industries.

SALEM, Or., March 20.—(Special.)—The Emergency Board today authorized the creation of a deficiency in the sum of \$250,000 for the purpose of carrying on the work of protection of shipyards and other industries engaged in war work.

It is the intention in making the appropriation that all protection and guard units be co-ordinated in one organized and mobile force, as nearly as those objects can be attained, and it is left to the general staff and the State Council of Defense to work out the details. It is probable that a state police or constabulary will be organized, or an organization to follow as closely along those lines as the military laws of the state will permit.

It is also understood that the force, which is to be made up of a minimum of 200 effective men, with officers, will be distributed about the state.

Headquarters of the organization will be in Portland, with some of the men in Eastern Oregon, some in Coos County and some in the Lower Columbia River country, including Astoria.

Four Companies Proposed.

The organization is to be composed of four companies, of 50 men each, with the necessary officers added. Included will be a battery of motorcycles. The Council of Defense had recommended the use of 60 horses for a troop, with three companies of guards, and a detachment of 18 motorcycles, but the board decided to recommend that the horses be eliminated as far as possible and motorcycles substituted in their stead.

A full board was present, including Governor Withcomb, Secretary O'cott, State Treasurer Kay, President Moser, of the Senate; Speaker Stanfield, of the House; Chairman Stanfield, of the House ways and means committee, and Chairman Wood, of the Senate ways and means committee.

In addition Mayor Baker and Chief of Police Johnson, of Portland, and John K. Kollock, secretary of the Council of Defense, and Adjutant-General Williams appeared before the board.

It developed at the meeting that the State Council of Defense plans under course of preparation a bill to be submitted to the people by initiative at the general election in November which will provide for a light millage tax to meet military exigencies and cover the work of the council as well. Reference to this bill came up when State Treasurer Kay called attention to the fact that the 6 per cent limitation amendment is apt to put the next Legislature in a hole, with the great additional cost of all state expense and the necessary greatly augmented appropriations for state institutions caused by the increased price of commodities.

Relief Purpose of Bill.

Mr. Stanfield and Mr. Kollock declared that the Council of Defense had just such an emergency in mind in preparing the bill for submission to the people, holding that passage of that bill would relieve the Legislature of the heavy burden of military cost and the money so saved could be diverted into other channels.

Mayor Baker, of Portland, suggested (Continued on Page 2, Column 4.)



THE GARDEN BOOK IS FREE. Every good American who has the use of a piece of ground, large or small, will plant a vegetable garden this Spring.

Send for the Garden Book today. Write to The Portland Oregonian Information Bureau, Fredrick J. Haskin, director, Washington, D. C., enclosing a 2-cent stamp for return postage. Ask for the Garden Book.