

AUSTRIA LOOKS TO WILSON FOR RELIEF

Arrival of President Abroad Cheers Hungry Thousands.

PEACE DECLARED TOO LATE

Profiteers Fatten Purses Off Rich, While Poor and Middle Classes Clamor for Existence.

BY BEATRICE BASKERVILLE.

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VIENNA, Dec. 17.—(Special).—President Wilson's landing in Europe and Marshal Foch's official statement regarding food committees were two pieces of news which cheered us Vienna more than anything we had heard in a long while.

So spoke a Viennese doctor to the World correspondent today. Like many others formerly well-fed he has lost more than 20 pounds in weight since the outbreak of the war. Poor people have lost much more.

"President Wilson is our main reliance and hope," the doctor added. "He is the saint to whom Germans and Austrians of all religious creeds address their prayers in these days."

Capital Greatly Depressed.

Vienna certainly needs food more urgently than ever. And it needs everything else from coal to clothing and from transports to soap. The only commodity of which there is not serious shortage is potatoes. It is impossible to realize from the newspaper accounts the depths of depression and exhaustion to which the Austrian capital has been reduced. Not until you travel through the country can you understand how desperately it needs everything by which man lives.

Only the fear of German invasion could have kept the armies in the field until last October. All but the rich are now existing on dry bread, Swedish frozen sauer kraut and sugar beets, although the beet is almost a luxury.

In the poor districts people are trying to exist on a ration of a pound of potatoes per person each week and a bread ration lately raised to one pound and three quarters. Thousands can get nothing except bread. It is doubtful if the extra ration can be continued, for the local grain stocks cannot possibly last beyond the middle of January.

Profiteers Fatten Purses.

"Acorn coffee" replaces the real thing. Dried oak leaves are the substitute for tobacco and dried hickory and strawberry leaves serve for tea. Even such luxuries are not for the 70,000 unemployed in the city or even for the middle class. The ration of fat has dropped to one ounce and one quarter a week. Flour is sold by the profit-takers to the rich at from \$2.50 to \$3.00 a pound.

Before the coal famine, when thousands of men and women were thrown out of work, factory workers could afford a few ounces of meat on Sunday. Now the working classes share the misery of starvation which have been long the lot of the middle classes.

Just now the government allows the unemployed workman \$1.25 daily. It cannot afford to give more, but at present prices this is hardly enough for bread. Vienna gas works can use coal only from Ostria in Bohemia.

Coal Shortage Is Acute.

As the Bohemians are beginning to send enough coal, the gas works can give to each household barely sufficient gas to cook for two hours or to light one burner in the city or even for the poorer houses have no electric light and candles which were rationed at one per head monthly are now unobtainable. So many are the choices between making soup of frozen sauer kraut and water in darkness or enjoy a minimum of light for five hours, without gas, that the mortality among children of more than one year, who get milk, is appalling.

The government raised the bread ration to prevent starvation. It is the thousands of people. It was hoped that arrangements might be made for food from the allies before this time. Unless such arrangements are made, actual starvation will be inevitable for thousands.

Vienna Now a Desert.

Such a condition may lead to Bolshevism. Agitators who have been trying to stir it up have so far not been successful but one cannot foretell the effects of the stoppage of bread supplies upon the masses of starving poor who have been already hard tried.

Once a flourishing center of food, Vienna is now a desert. It has been cut off from former sources of supplies by the breaking up of the Hapsburg Empire and with no hinterland upon which to draw, it is now a desert also lapsed through lack of coal and of raw materials.

"We welcome President Wilson's arrival in Europe," the official statement today, "because we hope he will appreciate our viewpoint regarding German Bohemia, which is that it belongs to Germany. Austria, France is telling us daily that this is not so, but we think President Wilson's 14 peace points give us certain rights there; we know that a plebiscite could declare in favor of joining with us."

Peace Comes Too Late.

"Without food or fuel Vienna cannot exist. We must have a confederation of all the parts of the Hapsburg empire or we must join Germany, Czechs, Poles and Jungo-Slavs refused to join a confederation in the last days of the empire, and we concluded to join Germany. We must do so unless the allies may persuade the non-German nationalists to join in a federation.

"In old Austria everything came too late; peace came too late. Now Austria ought to use its opportunities while there is time."

Obituary.

KELSO, Wash., Dec. 17.—(Special).—James R. Catlin, one of Cowlitz County's most prominent citizens and former Representative in the state legislature, was a victim of pneumonia, following influenza, Friday morning at his home on the West Side. Mr. Catlin was a member of the 1913 and 1915 Legislatures, and was one of the leaders in those bodies, taking a particular interest in the dry cause. He was a native of this county, having been born at Freport, February 6, 1876, and spent all his life here, devoting most of his time to his large farming interests in this vicinity. For the past six years he has been vice-president of the Kelso State Bank.

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 17.—(Special).—The funeral of Rev. Henry S. Champie, who died in McMinnville Friday of influenza, was held here this afternoon, with interment in the I. O. O. F. Cemetery. Mr. Champie was widely and well known in this vicinity, where he has several relatives. He was a graduate of the Eugene Bible University and

active in church circles during his residence here.

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 17.—(Special).—The funeral of C. H. Baughman, who died at Ashland December 15, was held this morning at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery, nine miles southeast of this city. Mr. Baughman, who was a victim of influenza, was a former superintendent of schools in Lane County, and had been teaching at Talent, Oregon, prior to his death. His brother died of influenza at Harrison, Idaho, last week.

Mrs. Benjamin Treunkman, 36, died of pneumonia Sunday night at her home, 535 College street. She is survived by her husband and one daughter, Ninon, besides her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Shofner, of Sonoma, Cal.; three brothers, Wesley Shofner, a student at Annapolis; W. C. Shofner, of Rainier, Ore., and Henry B. Shofner, of Portland; a sister, Mrs. B. E. Lemons, of El Centro, Cal.; and her grandmother, Mrs. Francis Jackson, of Portland. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

COTTAGE GROVE, Ore., Dec. 17.—(Special).—Mrs. Veta Veatch Trask, wife of Bert Trask, died at 3 o'clock Monday morning of influenza, from which she had been suffering for two weeks. The funeral will be held Wednesday afternoon from the chapel, Rev. Joseph Knotts officiating. Mrs. Trask was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Holderman, and was born here June 23, 1852.

Funeral services for Ulysses S. Wynkoop, 14 years of age, who died Saturday of heart disease, will be held from the Skewes undertaking parlors, Third and Clay streets, at 2 o'clock today. Interment will be in Rose City Cemetery. Young Wynkoop was a boy violinist, a member of the Mustang Association, being a member of the firm of Penland & Eaton here. He removed from Albany to Madras, Ore., and became the first surveyor of Jefferson County when it was created.

ALBANY, Ore., Dec. 17.—(Special).—News of the death of Walter M. Eaton, former civil engineer here and later County Surveyor of Jefferson County, Oregon, has been received by friends here. He was a victim of Spanish influenza at Cleveland, O., where he was working for the Ordnance Department of the Army. Lieutenant Eaton was a graduate of the University of Oregon and resided several years in Albany, being a member of the firm of Penland & Eaton here. He removed from Albany to Madras, Ore., and became the first surveyor of Jefferson County when it was created.

ALBANY, Ore., Dec. 17.—(Special).—On the eve of the 50th anniversary of his marriage, William H. Hiatt, resident of Albany for 43 years, died at his home here last night, aged 85 years. He was born and reared in Indiana and served in the Civil War. He was for many years an active member of McPherson Post, No. 5, Grand Army of the Republic, Albany.

He is survived by his widow and three children: Charles Hiatt and Mrs. Myrtle Skeln, of Albany, and Ella Langford, of Stockton, Cal.

DAMAGE AWARD REVERSED

Supreme Court Falls to Sustain Judgment Against Railway Co.

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 17.—(Special).—The Supreme Court today reversed Circuit Judge Gustav Anderson, of Baker, in the case of Frank Weygant and Alonzo V. Robison against the O-W-R & N. Company, in which damages were awarded for the death of Weygant and injuries to Robison. The case was argued by Weygant and Alonzo V. Robison against the O-W-R & N. Company, in which damages were awarded for the death of Weygant and injuries to Robison.

A judgment was given against the railroad company in the lower court, but failure to give certain instructions asked by the company's attorney caused reversal. A new trial is allowed Robison.

CAR LOOP HEARING TODAY

Council to Consider Plan to Place Third Rail on Yamhill Street.

Hearing of the application of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company for permission to place a third rail on car tracks on Yamhill street, between First and Second streets, will be held before the City Council at 2 o'clock this afternoon at the City Hall.

If permission for the wider track is granted by City Commissioners, the company will have possession of the Hawthorne bridge lines on Yamhill street, instead of Alder, as at present.

Many persons who protested the Yamhill loop plan are expected to make their appearance today.

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT MOVED

Portable Buildings, Used for Student Army, to Be Returned.

Removal of 10 portable buildings from the Washington High School grounds to the Benson school building was begun yesterday.

The Student Army Training Corps, which had possession of the Benson school since June, has been ousted out and by December 21 the remaining officers and members will have left the building. The portable schools will be taken to the more congested centers, among which are Alameda, Arleta, Rose City Park and St. Johns school districts.

SAFETY FIRST. Avoid the crowds of the department stores and do your Christmas shopping in comfort and safety at the specialty stores. You pay no more, and secure better service. Pen Selling LEADING CLOTHIER Morrison Street at Fourth.

INSURANCE FIRMS STABLE

WAR AND EPIDEMIC LEAD TO COMPILATION OF DATA.

State Commissioner Prepares Figures Showing Great Reserve Total.

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 17.—(Special).—Inquiries from numerous Oregon people as to the reserves of insurance companies doing business in this State, and as to whether or not the companies would be able to withstand the shock of the influenza epidemic, and war service losses, has caused Insurance Commissioner Wells to compile statistics in that regard as to the stability of the companies and their ability to withstand the losses.

Each individual company's condition was tabulated and it was shown that the 45 life insurance companies transacting business in Oregon have over four billions and a half in reserves for maturing their outstanding losses, and to protect this reserve from impairment, have surplus funds of over \$211,000,000.

In a statement issued today relative to the condition of the insurance companies and fraternal benefit societies transacting business in the State as to mortality in war service and from the influenza epidemic, Insurance Commissioner Wells says:

The mortality due to war service has been so little above the normal that a number of the life insurance companies have already announced that they will pay all such claims in full, regardless of whether permits for such service had been secured or not, and will return all extra premiums received for war service permits.

Such companies are much more concerned over the great loss of life throughout the entire country from the influenza epidemic. In some of the larger cities the mortality from this plague reached the proportion of 7.4 per 1000 of the population, covering a period of nine weeks only.

Many policyholders are expressing concern as to the security of the companies in which their life insurance is placed. They inquire if the reserves held by such companies are adequate to care for such emergencies. I am pleased to be able to advise them that life insurance as transacted by the legal reserve companies operating in this state makes ample provision for such emergencies. Their rates are based upon mortality tables derived from the experience of life insurance companies covering a period of many years. Epidemics were formerly more frequent than now and are less virulent, so the experience from which our present tables of life insurance rates were formulated must have included similar experience.

Life insurance companies, for further safe-

ATTACK MADE ON LEAGUE

PURPOSES OF ORGANIZATION QUESTIONED BY ATTORNEY.

Government Witnesses Called in Trial of Socialists Charged With Espionage.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—An attack on the American Protective League and its activities was made today by Attorney Seymour Steadman, chief counsel for the defense at today's session of the trial of five Socialist leaders charged with violation of the espionage law.

Fred C. Hill and Mark Sheridan, two members of the organization, were called by the Government to repeat alleged anti-war sentiments expressed by several of the defendants at a Socialist meeting held in Chicago on December 21, 1917.

In cross-examining Hill, Attorney Steadman asked a number of questions regarding the American Protective League and its work.

The witness testified that Rev. Irwin St. John Tucker delivered a fiery anti-war address and remarked that he expected to be arrested before the meeting adjourned. He referred to the huge profits of the United States Steel Corporation and the Du Pont Powder Company, and said the latter had purchased \$50,000,000 worth of liberty bonds which the workmen would have to pay for in the end.

The witness said Kruse referred to the Chicago Federal building as "the temple of injustice and hall of iniquity" with having used the pacifist's platform without giving them credit before this country entered the war.

ARMY MEN TAKE PARK

Camp Lewis Amusement Zone in Officers' Charge.

CAMP LEWIS, Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 17.—Camp authorities today took over the affairs and administration of Greene Park, the amusement zone for soldiers, when Major-General Joseph D. Leitch terminated the license of the Camp Lewis Amusement Company and revoked authority given the company to operate by Major-General H. A. Greene, a year ago. Captain Robert W. Duncan, the General announced, will administer the affairs of the park.

General Leitch, in a statement giving his reasons for Army control, said: "Greene Park has been taken over by the Army for the reason it can be operated more economically and advantageously for all concerned without intermediate civilian control."

The concessionaires will not lose under Government operation, it was said. In some cases profits may be cut.

WATER SUPPLY BILLS UP

Protection of McMinnville and Myrtle Creek Sources Approved.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 17.—(Special).—Representative Hawley appeared before the pub-

lic lands committee today and secured favorable reports on two bills pending in the House. One was Senator McNary's bill authorizing sale of 1200 acres of Oregon & California grant lands to the city of McMinnville for protection of its water supply. The other is Representative Hawley's bill authorizing sale of 320 acres of such lands to the city of Myrtle Creek for similar purposes.

Mr. Hawley also made an argument before the committee for a favorable report on his bill to transfer certain railroad grant lands to the Forest Reserve for the protection of the water supply of Oregon City, Dallas and Corvallis. This bill was not acted on, but was made a special order for the next meeting next week.

KLAMATH WILL LIFT BAN

Influenza Situation Reported More Satisfactory.

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Dec. 17.—(Special).—The influenza ban, which has been over Klamath Falls for the past two months without intermission, will be lifted December 26 if the general situation continues to improve at its present rate, according to a notice given by the local Health Board today. The question of again opening the city, whose long quarantine has worked a severe hardship on the business men, occupied the greater part of the time of the City Council meeting last night, and the announcement this afternoon that the ban would be lifted was a relief to the community.

Army Murderer Arraigned.

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 17.—Lieutenant H. E. Perry, charged with the murder of Captain Abram Posner, of the 81st Infantry, was taken yesterday to Camp Kearny for arraignment prior to his appearance there next week for court-martial. After being arraigned he was brought back to the County Jail. He expressed gratification that he was not to be tried by Army officers, rather than in a civil court.



ENID BENNETT -IN- Fuss and Feathers. A rough miner sends his motherless daughter to the big city for "education." She falls plump into the hands of a clever gentleman crook—who has his own ideas of how a pretty girl should be "educated." But Miss Hayseed stays straight and teaches Mister Crook a thing or two. Come and see her do it.

ALSO—"Bears and Badmen" It's a Bear of a Comedy.



CHINA FOR WILSON TERMS. New Minister Has Faith in Japan's Promise to Return Tsing Tau.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17.—Wei Sun Tao, newly appointed Minister from China to Belgium, expressed China's approval of President Wilson's peace conference policies and faith in Japan's promise to return Tsing Tau to China, in an authorized interview here today. Mr. Wei arrived today on the steamer China on his way to Paris.

"China believes in the policies expressed by President Wilson," Mr. Wei said, discussing the coming peace conference at Versailles, "and also believes in the promise made by Japan that Tsing Tau will be returned to China, and therefore no action is necessary by China."

Red Cross Chairman Named.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 17.—(Special).—J. L. Sutherland has been elected chairman of the Vancouver Chapter of the Red Cross, succeeding W. E. Carter, who, with Mrs. Carter, will leave soon for California. The chapter includes all auxiliaries in both Clarke and Skamania counties. Mr. Sutherland was also chairman of the war savings stamp campaign.

Read The Oregonian classified ads.

LIBERTY LAST TIMES TODAY. Concluding Chapters of the Astounding Novelty Picture "TARZAN OF THE APES." From the Book by Edgar Rice Burroughs. Picturing the sensational adventures that befall the strange jungleman when he thunders into the lap of aristocracy to win the mate who had turned his tropical fastness into a torture of yearning. With lightning speed the story goes from tree-top wilds to scenes of palatial grandeur, action, suspense, dramatic tension and contrasts of primitive love forces combating the restraints and conventions of civilization in every one of the hundreds of startling situations. ALSO "Hide and Seek Detectives" Mack Sennett Comedy. New Show Tomorrow "THE SQUAW MAN".

"There Are No Candies So Delicious As SWETLAND'S". It's a real compliment to receive Swetland's Candies, as every girl in Portland knows! Place your order as early as possible. Christmas Gift Candy Boxes. In an almost endless assortment. Your Gift Box will be specially packed to your order. Christmas Favors. All the pretty and unique Christmas favors that are so popular for the dinner table. THE POPULAR SWEET SHOP. 269-71 MORRISON.

Give the Owner of a Player Piano Player Music. No gift could be more acceptable. Player Rolls range in price from 40c to \$1.25; Duo Art Rolls, \$1.25 to \$5. If in doubt what Rolls to give, then give one of our attractive Christmas Merchandise Orders. Player Music Cabinets \$15 Upward. Open Evenings Until Christmas. Sherman, Clay & Co. Sixth and Morrison Streets, Portland (Opposite Postoffice) Seattle-Tacoma-Spokane.