

VOL. XXXVI.—NO. 10.

PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 11, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

U. S. SHIPS TO SINK  
U-BOATS ON SIGHTDeclaration of War by  
Berlin Possible.

## AUTHORITY GIVEN GUNNERS

Effect on Germany May Be to  
Cause Open Hostilities.

## WORD IS SENT TO KAISER

Any One of Four Acts by America  
May Lead to War—Reopening  
of Money Market Great  
Aid to the Allies.

BY JOHN CALLAN O'LAUGHLIN.  
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 10.—(Special.)—Armed American merchant vessels will sink German submarines on sight. This authority will be given to the gunners aboard the American ships.

In reaching this decision the President and his officials are guided by the necessity of permitting the vessels to save themselves from destruction.

Ruthless Campaign Met.  
In her submarine decree which compelled the President to break off relations and subsequently to permit the arming of merchantmen, Germany announced her purpose to destroy without warning any ship approaching the British Isles, the Atlantic coasts of Europe or the harbors of the Eastern Mediterranean.

In other words, her submarines were to sneak upon a vessel, whether belligerent or neutral, and send it to the bottom without determining the nationality of the craft or taking measures for the safety of those on board.

Warning Given American Ships.  
The provisions of this decree have been carried out by German submarine commanders. It is true that two American vessels sunk were destroyed after a warning, but belligerent merchantmen upon which Americans were traveling or serving as passengers or crew were sent to the bottom without notice and without mercy.

German submarines which appear to be somewhat considerate of American ships now are expected to attack the armed ships without warning. There is only one way therefore in which those ships can be saved. That is by sinking a German submarine before it gets a chance to launch a torpedo.

Berlin May Declare War.  
What Germany will say in consequence of the action of the President in authorizing the arming of merchant ships remains to be seen. Officials and diplomats are generally agreed that they will regard such an action as an act of war.

Whether she will formally declare war, however, will be determined at the conference which doubtless now is proceeding between the Kaiser and his advisers.

Information of the decision of the President has been communicated to Berlin through the Swiss Minister to the United States, who has charge of German interests.

Technical War May Be Avoided.  
That Germany will hold that this Government has ranged itself definitely on the side of the allies is undoubted in official and diplomatic circles. That she will announce that she will sink on sight armed merchantmen flying the American flag equally is undoubted. She may prefer, however, to have hostilities without technical war.

The State Department made it clear today that the mere appearance of a submarine or a periscope in the vicinity

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NOOSE SLIP SAVES;  
CONFESSION CLEARSMAN WHO ESCAPED HANGING  
IS EXONERATED.Dying Farmer Admits Murder of  
25 Years Ago, Proving Innocence  
of Suspect Once Convicted.

COLUMBIA, Miss., March 10.—A death-bed confession by Joseph Beard, a farmer, announced today by the Sheriff's office, cleared of suspicion William Purvis, who 25 years ago escaped death by hanging after conviction of murder only because the noose about his neck slipped when the scaffold trap was sprung.

Purvis was found guilty of killing from ambush William Buckley. When he fell from the scaffold unharmed after the rope slipped spectators who thought it was an intervention of Providence induced the authorities to put him back in jail and appeal to the Governor brought a commutation of sentence. Several years later Purvis was pardoned. He now lives in Lamar County.

Beard, dying of pneumonia, confessed Sunday that he and two other men killed Buckley. The Sheriff said he knew where to locate the others, but declined to say whether any action would be started against them.

## AUSTRIA SEEMS CONFIDENT

Count Tarnowski Arranging for  
New Embassy Building.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—The fact that Count Tarnowski, the newly-appointed Ambassador from Austria-Hungary, is arranging to obtain a new Embassy building is taken to indicate that his government does not expect diplomatic relations to be severed in the near future.

The Count has not yet presented his credentials to the President.

## PHYSICIAN 100 YEARS OLD

Century Mark Also Seen by Chicago's  
Ancestors.

CHICAGO, March 10.—Dr. Herman Berry celebrated his 100th birthday yesterday. Until 14 years ago he practiced medicine. He was born in New York, where his grandfather lived to be 103 years old, his father 100 and his mother 97 years old.

The doctor's wife died at the age of 87.

## 71-2C LOAF IS TO APPEAR

San Francisco Bakery Announces  
New Size in Bread.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 10.—Bread at 7½ cents a loaf will make its initial appearance here Monday, according to officials of a large baking company, who said the new loaf would be of a size of between the present 5 and 10-cent sizes.

No increase in bread prices was contemplated, it was said.

## TROOP SCHEDULES UPSET

National Guards to Be Sent Home  
When Coaches Are Available.

EL PASO, Tex., March 10.—All former schedules for the sending of National Guard troops home from this part of the border have been ordered disregarded.

The guard troops will be sent home in day coaches as rapidly as equipment can be obtained from the railroads.

## WEEK TO BE PARTLY RAINY

Northwest Temperature to Be Near  
Seasonal Normal.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Weather predictions for the week beginning Sunday, March 11, issued by the Weather Bureau today, are:  
Pacific states: Generally fair in California and occasional rains in Washington and Oregon; temperature near seasonal normal.

ROAD ENTHUSIASTS  
RALLY AT EUGENE300 Attend Western  
Oregon Conference.

## COMMISSIONER ADAMS LEADS

Only One County in District  
Not Represented.

## VIEWS EXPRESSED FREELY

While Meeting Is Specially for Discussion,  
Many Delegates Declare Their Counties Are Already Solid for Measure.

## EUGENE, Or., March 10.—(Special.)—

Three hundred good road enthusiasts met here today in a rally in behalf of the proposed \$5,000,000 bond issue for the purpose of constructing a system of hard-surfaced roads in Oregon, when sessions of the Western Oregon Road Conference were held both afternoon and evening.

The interest manifested probably was the greatest in the history of road planning in Southern Oregon.

Every county in the First Congressional District, with one exception, was represented at the sessions, and spokesmen for County Courts and commercial organizations declared that their object in coming was to get more information about the proposed highway project.

## Decision Not Advocated.

Highway Commissioner E. J. Adams announced that the purpose of the meeting was to create interest and discussion of the proposed bonding plan; that it was not desired that the conference should take any action for or against the bond issue.

Attorney L. E. Bean, Representative from Lane County and joint author of the Bean-Barrett bill providing for matching dollar-for-dollar, funds to be supplied by the Federal Government under the terms of the Shaakleford bill, explained the application of the law.

## Plan for Byways Made.

During a discussion of the Pacific Highway, Commissioner Adams said: "The Pacific Highway would be of great benefit, but I want to say to you gentlemen that there are pioneers here who have nothing more than a trail to travel over for the greater part of the year and who are entitled to some consideration before they pass on."

Those in attendance included some of the most prominent road authorities in the Northwest. Engineers, County Commissioners, representatives of commercial organizations and road supervisors were present at the afternoon session. Mr. Adams was elected to preside at the conference and James Stewart, editor of the *Possil Journal*, acted as secretary.

## Federal Funds Available.

B. J. Fitch, of the Federal High Bureau, addressed the meeting on the application of the Federal road laws. He announced that of the \$257,000 available for use on roads in Oregon forest reserves, only about \$100,000 had been matched by local contributions, leaving a balance of \$157,000 available for use in this state.

O. M. P. Goss, technical engineer of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association, gave an illustrated talk in which he explained the special value of lumber as a paving material and as a material for bridge construction.

Oregon pine and Douglas fir, treated with creosote, make the most nearly perfect of all paving, he asserted. He urged the wood because it is a home product. The meeting following Mr. Goss' address took the form of round table discussion, with the proposed

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## INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.  
YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 47 degrees; minimum, 36 degrees.  
TODAY'S—Sunday partly cloudy; northwesterly winds.

## Submarines.

Salvador's Minister denies German spies use his country as operation base. Section 1, page 2.

American Government begins to arm merchantmen. Section 1, page 6.

Western America offered to Japan by Germany as reward for aid. Section 1, page 1.

United States ships authorized to sink U-boats on sight. Section 1, page 1.

## War.

Armies on Western front fighting in blizzard. Section 2, page 4.

Belgian relief ship *Storstad* torpedoed and sunk; one life lost. Section 1, page 4.

Austrian army chief says dual monarchy is absolutely united. Section 1, page 5.

## Foreign.

London poison plotters convicted. Section 1, page 1.

Reichstag leader forecasts Russo-Japanese-German coalition against Anglo-American alliance. Section 1, page 3.

## National.

Many submarine chasers wanted by Navy. Section 1, page 7.

Government loses suit to unmerge Central and Southern Pacific lines. Section 1, page 6.

Governor Hiram Johnson denies intent to resign from United States Senate. Section 1, page 1.

Major-General Sam Hughes, of Canada, confers with General Wood. Section 1, page 1.

Prominent German-Americans arrested in alleged smuggling plot. Section 1, page 5.

Railway brotherhoods to offer compromise. Section 1, page 8.

## Pacific Northwest.

"The Last Leaf" read by descendant of pioneer before Revolution. Section 1, page 9.

Ex-Mayor Starcher's higher strategy fails. Section 1, page 11.

Oregon D. A. R. pledges support to President Wilson. Section 1, page 9.

Later approved banking codes. Section 1, page 1.

Bullet hole made by I. W. W. is shown in section. Section 1, page 8.

Commissioner Adams tabulates figures showing how road bonds will be paid off. Section 1, page 10.

D. A. R. place marker on old immigrant camping spot. Section 1, page 9.

Billingsley, long untruffled, quails at last. Section 1, page 1.

Enthusiastic good roads rally held at Eugene. Section 1, page 1.

## Sports.

West far ahead of East in tennis tourney. Section 2, page 1.

New rules out for Pacific Coast track meet. Section 2, page 1.

Oregon track team out of big entry list at April track meet. Section 2, page 4.

Columbia University trap shooting league to be formed. Section 2, page 5.

Intercity league may ask class D rating. Section 2, page 5.

Sound of music outlook is dubious. Section 2, page 5.

Fans in Northwestern League circuit await sound of song on April 24. Section 2, page 2.

Portland Beavers defeat Chinese, 7 to 1. Duffy happy over showing at Seattle with Forbes. Section 2, page 3.

## Commercial and Marine.

Wool contract shipped by failure of Congress to pass Army bill. Section 2, page 15.

Chicago wheat market affected by peace rumors. Section 2, page 15.

Stock market responds sharply to arming of merchant ships. Section 2, page 15.

Government calls wooden shipbuilders for conference. Section 2, page 10.

Ship master liable for passenger limit exceeded. Section 2, page 16.

Shifting of funds for river projects considered. Section 2, page 16.

Portland lowest bidder for \$182,973 lumber order. Section 2, page 16.

WESTERN AMERICA  
OFFERED TO JAPAN

Only Part of Zimmermann Note Published.

## GERMAN PLOT EXTENT WIDE

All Territory West of Rockies  
Reward for Aid.

## TERMS ARE KEPT SECRET

State Department Gives Out Only  
Mexican Part of Situation, but Lets It Be Known Definite  
Offer Was Sent to Tokio.

## OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash-

ington, March 10.—"The whole of the United States lying west of the Rocky Mountains" was the inducement which Germany held out to Japan, through the instrumentality of the famous Zimmermann note, if Japan, in the event of war between the United States and Germany, would become an active ally of the Kaiser.

This information comes from one of the most prominent Democrats of the Senate, who is in a position to enjoy the confidence of the State Department, and as related by him, this portion of the Zimmermann note was suppressed last week when the German offer to Mexico was allowed to become public through the agency of the Associated Press.

Zimmermann Note Censored.  
The extract from the Zimmermann note, heretofore published, bore evidence of having been censored, and the first comments made by Zimmermann himself were carefully guarded, as stated by cable dispatches, because he did not then know accurately how much of his communication had been made public in the United States.

While the extract heretofore published showed that Germany was making overtures to both Mexico and Japan, there was no allusion to a parceling out of American territory to Japan, though Arizona, New Mexico and Texas were set forth as being offered Mexico as the price of her active co-operation.

Information Is Meager.  
The terms in which Germany offered the Pacific Coast states to Japan cannot be learned, nor is it possible to ascertain whether the offer included also the Hawaiian Islands, the Philippines or Alaska. The information available is meager, but appears to be authentic.

That the offer to Japan was suppressed by the State Department is probably due to the same motives which led the Department to kill off the anti-alien land bills in the Oregon and Idaho legislatures.

The Japanese government, through its Ambassador at Washington, has already assured the State Department that Japan is faithful in her allegiance to the allied powers, and entertains none but the friendliest feeling toward the United States.

Intimation Made in Senate.  
In a speech in the Senate only a few days before adjournment, Senator Phelan, of California, intimated his belief that if Germany was offering the border states to Mexico, it doubtless was holding out the Pacific Coast states as the reward to be tendered to Japan for co-operation in the event of war against the United States, but he stopped short of stating that such a definite offer had been made.

The mere possibility of such an offer, however, he thought, was ample justification for the United States taking immediate steps better to protect the Pacific Coast, for he cited the test

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HIRAM JOHNSON TO  
KEEP SENATE POSTRUMOR OF INTENT TO REMAIN  
GOVERNOR DENIED.Washington Takes Report Seriously  
and California Is Flooded With  
Messages From All Sides.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., March 10.—Conjectural reports emanating from Sacramento today that Hiram Johnson was planning to relinquish his United States Senatorship-elect in favor of Chester Rowell, of Fresno, and to retain his present post as Governor, brought forth a shower of denials today.

At noon today the Governor personally issued the statement that the report was "wholly and absolutely false."

By mid-afternoon his secretary's desk was piled with telegrams from all parts of the country, demanding whether there was truth in the rumor. One Washington dispatch indicated that the report had been accepted as fact and that history was being searched for precedents of a Senator-elect preferring to remain Governor.

Discovering that Nation-wide credence had been given the rumor, Johnson gave out another statement through his secretaries late this afternoon repeating that it was all a plot fabricated by his political enemies and claiming that proof of the plot had been found. It was repeated that no statement of Johnson's future plans will be forthcoming before Monday.

## BERNSTORFF IN NORWAY

Former Ambassador, After Rough  
Voyage, Reaches Port.

LONDON, March 10.—Count von Bernstorff, former German Ambassador at Washington, arrived at Christiania this morning, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen.

On reaching the quay several hundred members of the German colony and representatives of the legation gave the returning passengers an enthusiastic welcome.

Passengers on the liner said that bad weather prevailed throughout the voyage.

MEMBER IN CONGRESS DIES  
C. A. Sulloway, Veteran New Hampshire Representative, 78.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Cyrus Adams Sulloway, veteran Representative in Congress from the First New Hampshire District, died here late tonight of pneumonia, aged 78 years.

Representative Sulloway was a Republican and had served his district in the lower house at Washington through the Fifty-fourth, Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth Congresses. His home was at Manchester, N. H.

Perjury Not on Crime List.  
Logan said: "I don't claim to be any George Washington. Yes, I have told lots of lies in a business way, but I've never yet gotten on the witness stand and perjured myself. Don't find any records of me having been arrested for perjury, do you?"

Every question was answered promptly and clearly, just as Logan had replied to queries for two days. Then the cross-examiner asked a casual question about Logan's version of a visit to the Mayor's office on the same day, August 30, and preceding his alleged visit to the Chief of office, when, he testified, he paid the Mayor \$4000.

"By the way," remarked counsel for the defense, "was Mr. James Crehan, the Mayor's secretary, in the office of the Mayor that day?"

Memory Fails Suddenly.  
"I don't remember," said Billingsley glibly. "Did you see the Mayor?"

"No."  
"Why didn't you see the Mayor?"

"I wasn't allowed to."  
"Who wouldn't allow you to?"

"Why—why" (there was a hint of a breaking down of the witness' reserve strength) "whoever was there—"

"But who was there?"  
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PRESIDENT ABLE TO SIT UP  
Executive Is Weakened by Cold;  
Attorney-General Is Seen.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—President Wilson had recovered tonight from the cold that kept him in bed for the last four days. He was said to be weakened, however, and greatly in need of rest.

He sat up today and attended to official business, conferring briefly with Attorney-General Gregory.

## PICTORIAL IMPRESSIONS OF SOME EVENTS IN THE WEEK'S NEWS BY CARTOONIST REYNOLDS.

