

The Aim
The aim to be always bright, wholesome and interesting, keeps the contents of The Times up to its high standard of news excellence.

Coos Bay Times

The Armies
of Europe are engaged in a death struggle which may change the map of the world.

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CHAS. SKERRETT ACCUSED OF STARTING BUNKER HILL FIRE

Former Auto Line Owner Arrested Today on Charge of Arson—Money Found

SENSATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN HOTEL FIRE

Claim That Blaze That Cost Seven Lives Last Week Was of Incendiary Origin

Charles Skerrett appeared before Justice Penneck this afternoon and entered a plea of not guilty to the charge of arson in connection with the Bunker Hill fire.

Startling was the course taken in the Bunker Hill fire investigation when this morning shortly after 11 o'clock Charles Skerrett was arrested.

During the entire investigation there has been a suppressed feeling that further developments would occur and to many the arrest this morning was not surprising.

Planned To Leave
That Skerrett had planned to leave soon for California has been definitely assured as he told many of his friends.

Several British Ships are Sunk by Mines and Torpedoes

Think 280 Men Went Down on Clan MacNaughton During Recent Storm

OAKBY AND ANOTHER SUNK BY SUBMARINE

Berlin Claims English Transport Was Also Sunk—More Naval Disasters

ANOTHER ENGLISH VESSEL SUNK

EAST BOURNE, England, Feb. 24.—The steamer Royperna was sunk off this port late today and it is believed she was torpedoed.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—The official information bureau announced this afternoon that the Clan MacNaughton, an armored merchant cruiser, is missing.

Another unsuccessful search has been made, says the announcement, and wreckage supposed to be portion of this ship have since been discovered.

The last signal received from the Clan MacNaughton was made early in the morning of February 3, and it is feared that she was lost during the bad weather at that time.

A dispatch last night from New Haven, England, stated that eighteen members of the crew of the Cardiff steamer Brankbome Chine, a government collier, were landed there and announced the sinking of their vessel, either by a mine or torpedo off Beachy Head.

TWO VESSELS SUNK. Claim Submarine Destroyed British Ships Near Folkestone.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—The British steamer Oakby was torpedoed by a German submarine off Rye yesterday. Her crew was rescued by a fishing smack, and landed at Ramsgate today.

The Oakby was bound from London to Cardiff. The fishing smack Gratia rescued the crew. The scope of a submarine was soon before the explosion.

ENGLISH AVIATORS ARE NOW MISSING

LONDON, Feb. 24.—Three aviators who participated in the raid against the German positions in Belgium are missing.

GASOLINE DOWN TO EIGHT CENTS

Independent Refiners of California to Ask Investigation of Standard Oil Company

FAKERSFIELD, Cal., Feb. 24.—It is announced that the small independent oil refiners will ask the California authorities to make a rigid investigation of the gasoline war which the Standard Oil Company is making.

FIGHT ON APPOINTMENTS

President Wilson Says He Will Stand By His Trade Commission

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 23.—President Wilson met the rumblings of the Senate fighting on the nominations for a new Federal trade commission today by the announcement that he intended to stand by them.

OVER 400 SLAIN IN MUTINY OF HINDU TROOPS AT SINGAPORE

Mutineers Reported to Have Slain All Officers Except Colonel There

REVOLT OCCURRED WHILE EN ROUTE TO EGYPT

French and Jap Marines Aided in Subduing Outbreak in British Port

MANILA, P. I., Feb. 24.—Four hundred members of the mutinous Indian regiment, which revolted at Singapore February 15, have been killed, as well as seven German prisoners from the detention camp who joined the natives when offered their freedom.

The mutineers are said to have killed all their officers save the Colonel, and then attacked civilians, several of whom were killed, including one woman.

AMERICA SILENT ABOUT OVERTURES

Believe United States Offered to Have Consuls Supervise Food Distribution

AUSTRIA FOODSTUFF

VIENNA, Feb. 24.—The government has taken over all stocks of rye, barley, maize and flour products.

IDAHO DRY BILL IS PASSED AGAIN

Senate Takes Action to Correct Error in Prohibition Measure

BOISE, Ida., Feb. 24.—The state-wide prohibition bill passed by the Senate yesterday under suspension of the rules, was sent back to the second reading today by unanimous consent of the Senate.

TERRIFIC BATTLES IN PROGRESS ALONG EAST PRUSSIAN BORDER

Russians Renew Offensive and Berlin Says Invasion of Russia is Prevented

"FURTHER OBSTACLES" IS REASON GIVEN BY BERLIN

Petrograd Claims Some Advantages—Sharp Fighting in Carpathians and West

LONDON, Feb. 24.—Along the East Prussian border in North Poland, some of the fiercest engagements of the campaign in the East are taking place, according to word from Petrograd, which reports that in these battles villages have changed hands several times.

CREW OF CARIB WERE ALL SAVED

American Steamer Sunk by Mine in Bight of Heligoland—Reports Today

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 24.—Official notice of the sinking of the American steamer Carib was received by the State Department today from American Minister Van Dyke at The Hague.