

CITY IS ALL ASTIR AT GRIM VIEW OF EXISTING WAR PERIL

Preparedness Keynote of the Day's Activities—Armed Guards Patrol Bridges.

PRECAUTIONS ARE TAKEN

All Branches of Government and Business Work for Readiness Against Impending Events.

(Continued From Page One.)

Iron National Guard, with headquarters in Portland being assigned to the task. Great Bridge is Guarded.

Two platoons of the company are now stationed in Vancouver, Wash., charged with the duty of guarding the great S. P. & N. bridge against possible attempts on its part, and a third platoon is constantly watching over the O. W. R. & N. or Steel bridge over the Willamette in Portland.

The bridges are not being guarded as property, but because from a national defense standpoint they must be protected.

Adjutant General George A. White, head of the Oregon National Guard, personally inspected the post yesterday morning and may possibly order out additional detachments if deemed necessary.

He announced late yesterday afternoon that the distribution of troops from now on will not be made public, it not being deemed expedient to make known such facts.

Every possible means is being taken by the police and harbor patrol to ward against injury of public property, shipping and utilities. No overt acts by over zealous aliens are anticipated, but precaution is the watchword. Federal authorities, too, have been taking precautionary steps since the breaking off of diplomatic relations February 3.

The Armory is the only building in Portland as yet under military guard, this structure being used purely for military purposes. A platoon of the Eighth company, coast artillery, Lieutenant E. T. Stretcher commanding, is quartered there, the men of the platoon serving as guards for both the steel bridge and the building.

Preparations are being carried forward rapidly at national guard headquarters, under the direction of Adjutant General White, that the state troops may be ready for instant mobilization, if the call for mobilization should come.

Full Recruiting Begun.

Recruiting to war strength would be the first step after mobilization, as the guard is now on a peace footing. Enthusiasm in the work of recruiting is to be aroused by a great organization of all Portland's civic bodies, preliminary plans of which were discussed Saturday night. It will have as its purpose to arouse patriotism, to stimulate recruiting and to assist the governmental agencies in every way possible to make America prepared.

All Portland, its attention attracted by thought-compelling news in the day's dispatches, turned soberly and earnestly Saturday to the great task of being ready for what may come.

POLICE ARE GETTING READY TO PROTECT CITY IF WAR COMES

Portland's police department is being strengthened to meet possible eventualities in case of hostilities. The center of a very small group of Teutonic sympathizers who may intend trouble, the city is being thoroughly watched, Chief of Police Clark said yesterday.

The crowd is not to be compared with the numbers in other large cities of the northwest, but the group is said to be well organized and composed of intelligent men.

It was also learned Saturday that Chief Clark was called to the city hall several weeks ago and questioned in regard to the number of men necessary to protect the city in case the international situation reaches a crisis. At that time he was asked if 100 men would be a necessary addition to the police force.

As fast as certain facts were obtained against these men—and women—their names were turned over to the government. To date, the police have

COAST ARTILLERYMEN GUARDING RAILROAD BRIDGES IN PORTLAND AND VICINITY



Left to right—Pedestrian is halted by armed guard on the railroad deck of the O. W. R. & N. bridge in Portland; guardsmen leaving S. P. & N. depot at Vancouver, en route to railroad bridge over the Columbia. (Photo by Schultz Studio, Vancouver.)



Girls with chaperons will help recruit men for the service each day next week.

PORTLAND HARBORS SPIES AND AGENTS WHO ARE WATCHED

Demolition of a government building in Portland might in all probability be the simultaneous signal to the people of Portland of a declaration of war, according to admissions of government authorities Saturday. Such a contingency would occur, it was said, if the vigilance of the United States secret service men failed to frustrate attempts at such violence.

Portland, as well as other cities, harbors spies that must be eradicated, if indications of their existence have any significance, it was learned.

Secret service men in this district as well as in other districts are being kept up to their utmost in forestalling the unscrupulous plots of foreign agents, it was conceded also by government authorities.

Owing to the fact that what is now generally known regarding the sinister activities of alien operators is extremely disquieting, further disclosures which United States officials might make could not be much more alarming, government authorities declared Saturday.

MANY SHIPYARDS AND STEEL PLANTS READY FOR GOVERNMENT WORK

Portland has eight shipyards, the Columbia river three, and the Port of Coos Bay two more shipyards, all of which can engage in government work.

The Northwest Steel company has four steel ships under way, and the material for others en route. It will, after the launching of the steamer Vesterline, March 31, put an \$800-ton steel steamer in the water every two months. Following the launching of this vessel, its ways can be gradually turned into government work at once. The government may so desire.

The Columbia River Shipbuilding corporation has four ways building and a modern plant equipping. Its material is en route and it could be turned into government work at once. It also has contracts for six \$800 and two 10,000-ton steamers, and, unless otherwise ordered by the government, will shortly begin the building of them.

The Albina Engine & Machine works is in much the same predicament. Material on the way has been delayed and its ways are now ready for the instant building of craft.

The Williams Iron & Steel works is closely associated with the three firms in the building of engines, boilers and appurtenances. Allied with the four big firms are a host of smaller machine shops, all of which have been working day and night keeping up with the constant increase in steel shipbuilding for foreign account.

These smaller shops can likewise be turned at once to government work. They are in a high state of efficiency, with well-drilled help, good machinery, and only lack of material to bother them.

The wooden shipbuilders are also in good shape to commence at once upon the work of turning out submarines, 3000-ton merchantmen or such other craft as the government may desire. Ten of these yards exist in the state and every one of them has expressed an interest in the contract for submarine-chasers requested by the government.

NAVAL MILITIA TO BE EXAMINED FOR A CALL TO DUTY

Paymaster George E. Dow, Oregon Naval Militia, will be given ten days' time to go over the equipment of each man in the service and that he is fully and properly provided with everything the militia requires.

MERCHANT MARINE OF COAST BEING MADE READY FOR SERVICE

Getting the Pacific coast merchant marine ready for instant service is another service which confronts Uncle Sam.

Within the past few months representatives of the navy have lined up every shipyard on the coast. They have classified the vessels as to speed, carrying capacity and radius of service.

The men on board have been quizzed as to service and in many cases examined and enrolled as members of the naval reserve. The big Hill liners, Northern Pacific and Great Northern, are two craft which have already been classified as scout cruisers and their crews examined and enrolled.

The scarcity of men is going to be much noticed in this branch of the service in case of hostilities. This will be especially so as to licensed navigators. With every conceivable craft that will carry cargo, out on the seas and attempting to make up for the increased tonnage and shortage of ships caused by the great European war, the personnel of the idle merchant officers has been brought to a zero quantity. Craft have been held up for days and weeks attempting to secure sufficient

officers to man them. Able seamen are also hard to get. Lightening of the restrictions upon health, color and navigating tests would likely be one move shortly made in case of war.

There are left on this coast but few vessels that would be available for overseas trade, barring the many steel merchantmen building in Pacific coast yards. There are in the neighborhood of 40 such craft, any and all of which are subject to purchase by the government at cost plus 10 per cent. All of these would make excellent transports.

VETERANS OF SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR HOLD THEIR ANNUAL MEET

The annual reunion and banquet of the Spanish-American War Veterans and its auxiliary, families and friends to the number of 400 was held Saturday night at the Multnomah hotel.

The banquet was given by Scout Young camp and its auxiliary. Each of the group lights over the many tables bore a pennant appropriately lettered. They were presented by Harvey L. McAllister of Lexington. The spirit of loyalty and patriotism was manifested in many ways, and the sentiments of the speakers were applauded with vigor by the men "who fought at Malabon."

Interesting Program. Jay Bowerman was toastmaster. L. E. Beach delivered the address of welcome; Major Abrams, department commander, made a response; Captain C. R. Hotchkiss delivered an eulogy to the flag; the entire audience sang the "Star Spangled Banner," led by Mrs. M. D. Warren; Governor Withycombe

made a brief patriotic address; Miss Marguerite Egbert sang a musical monologue; Major General T. M. Anderson, U. S. A., spoke on "Germanized Mexico"; Mrs. James Robinson delivered a recitation; Judge C. G. Burton, past commander in chief of the G. A. R., made a stirring patriotic address, and Elmer R. Lundberg responded to "Our Camp."

Dancing followed. Many members of Company A, who march from McMinnville 15 years ago, were present. With Company A came six members of the Omaha, Neb., the women who organized to help the company and the regiment with words of cheer and gifts of comfort to the defenders of the flag 10,000 miles away. They were headed by Miss Nell Cooper, their captain, and with her were Mrs. M. D. Warren, Mrs. F. E. Weed, Mrs. F. N. Taylor, Miss Arla Keen and Mrs. J. E. Peck.

Company A Well Represented. Among the Company A members who attended were: Frank E. Weed, Portland; Richard Deich, Portland; Harvey L. McAllister, Lexington; Arthur E. Lambert, North Powder; Hugh R. Rogers, Hillsboro; Harry S. Turley, Portland; Charles H. Rich, Eugene; Darwin Bockes, Carlton; Tom Warren, McMinnville; Harry B. Blough, Natchez, Wash.; Frank A. Collins, Wash.; Paul B. Cooper, North Yakima, Wash.; Wells C. Cooper, Seattle; E. D. Ewing, Lyle, Wash.; Donald W. Holgate, Portland; C. M. Huddleston, Wasco; Daniel Isakite, Dupon, Wash.; Hans R. Jacobsen, Oregon City; F. S. Kelly, Portland; Harry H. Martin, Carlton; William P. Morria, Oregon City; Herbert Newell, Portland; Joseph C. Prensler, Portland; John T. Reeves, Union; Edward Rommel, Portland; B. F. Smith, Portland; Frank H. Thompson, Portland; Arthur E. Thurber, Williams; William H. Ungerman, Portland; Lewis Van Vleet, Portland; Jasper Weston, Portland; Claude A. Whitney, Portland; W. W. Widmer and John H. Gallagher, Portland.

CHAMBER WILL AID RECRUITING OF MEN FOR THE ARMY, NAVY

Aid to enlistment of the Oregon National Guard and other military branches to a war footing to be undertaken at once by the Chamber of Commerce.

Acting upon the wishes of Colonel Dentler, in charge of recruiting work in this district, J. M. Clark, president of the chamber, has appointed a committee of seven to handle the work under the head of the military aid committee.

The committee consists of Walter F. Burrell, General Charles F. Beebe, Julius L. Meier, W. A. Skinner, S. C. Bratton, Dr. Andrew C. Smith and Hy Eilers.

The committee will begin its work as soon as its members can so arrange their affairs. Employers are to be seen where men wish to enlist but fear for the future of their jobs. Every encouragement is to be given prospective additions to militia, army and navy.

U. P. Is Placed at Disposal of U. S.

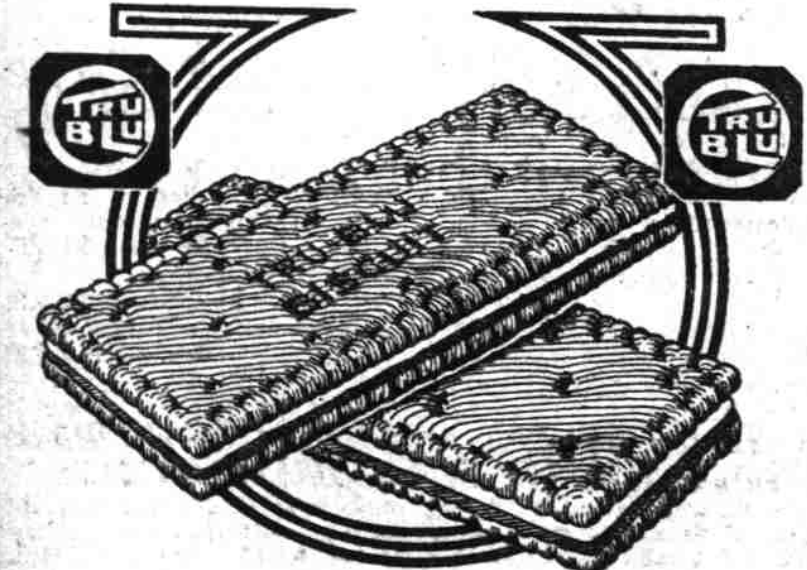
Omaha, Neb., March 24.—(U. P.)—The Union Pacific railroad was today placed at the disposal of the United States government for use in connection with national defense. A statement issued by the company said today:

"All our equipment and all our resources will be at the command of the government and the Council of National Defense, for the purpose of preparing in the present national crisis. The Union Pacific is the first transcontinental railroad constructed in America for military purposes. Government officers in this locality are being authorized to use railroads to protect bridges over all streams.

Letter Threatens Minnesota Capitol

St. Paul, Minn., March 24.—(U. P.)—The copyright from now the capitol will be blown up," was the threat contained in a letter received by Governor Burnquist today. "I am a German and hope you stay out of my path," the letter read. "If you are in my path there will be lots of trouble between you and me." "Gawkins" was signed and a local address given. Police are investigating.

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watched and obtained data on nearly 60 persons. The exact number was not given out. A few of these, it was learned, are residents, some of a number of years' standing. Most are transients who have been living among the foreigners in the various parts of the north end.

Once "spotted," these people are being kept under closest observation and their movements are being reported on daily.

Arrests Are Likely. The local police say that arrests of some of the more radical leaders will take place within a short time if a state of war is declared to exist.

It was also learned Saturday that Chief Clark was called to the city hall several weeks ago and questioned in regard to the number of men necessary to protect the city in case the international situation reaches a crisis. At that time he was asked if 100 men would be a necessary addition to the police force.

The chief says he would prefer a much smaller number to having upon the hands of his present force the

training of a large group of "greenhorns." "I think our present force is about adequate, although a few men have been added the last two or three days," said the chief.

The harbor police will be most affected by any war trouble, and Captain Speler of that division should have more men.

Speler Wants More Men. It is known that Captain Speler has asked for more men, and arrangements have been made to enlarge his force as soon as it becomes necessary.

"Our first big duty, so far as the city is concerned, would be to protect the water works," said Chief Clark. "Everything—health and safety from fire—depends on our water system."

Upon the police probably would devolve the matter of watching the huge water system, from the head works in the Bull Run reserve, 30 miles away, down to the reservoirs on Mount Tabor and in City Park, and the old pumping plant below Fulton.

"In case of war, we would expect to cooperate with the government in every way," continued Chief Clark. "It naturally would be expected that the government would guard its own buildings, but we will have our own men on hand to watch them if trouble comes."

"The police would also be called upon to guard the woolen mills, the flour mills, the bridges, the docks, the powder magazine near Linnion, and the grain elevators. The harbor men would have to watch many of these places, but all of these will be strictly police enterprises, private property for which the police will be entirely responsible."

PATRIOTIC TEST TO BE APPLIED IN BIG RECRUITING PROGRAM

Patriotic week will be marked at the beginning by a recruiting office for the Oregon National Guard and the Oregon Naval Militia which will be opened at 9 o'clock Monday morning at 106 Fourth street, between Washington and Stark, under Captain C. F. Hogan, commander of the cavalry, Troop A, O. N. G. A corps of non-commissioned officers to be named by Colonel John L. May will assist. An officer of the Oregon Naval Militia will also be present all the time.

individuals will be assigned to companies. Throughout the state, where O. N. G. companies are stationed, vigorous recruiting will be carried on, according to arrangements made by Lieutenant Dana H. Allen of Salem, Company M, who has been visiting each town and conferring with the O. N. G. officers and patriotic citizens.

No encouragement whatever will be given any independent recruiting of other regiments or troops until the Oregon National Guard units are filled up and a waiting list enrolled.

There have been issued 1000 posters calling on American citizens to enlist in Oregon's military forces. A campaign of speaking to public meetings will be organized among social and fraternal gatherings throughout the state.

"Everybody can help," said General White. "We can all do and say something. We are hopeful that the Girls' Honor Guard will bring us recruits. We believe employers will not retard enlistments. During the coming week we are going to thoroughly test out the practical patriotism of the young men of Oregon."

At the recruiting headquarters in the two big show windows will be two machine guns. One will be the new Savage-Lewis gun, now in use in the British line in France. It weighs 25½ pounds and, on a pinch, can be shot from the shoulder of a strong man. It will shoot 550 bullets a minute and is worked by a firing detail of three men. This gun will be mounted on a truck at times, and with it a magnet to draw a crowd, speakers will appear in various parts of the city and address the people on preparedness.

GUARD GIRLS PLEDGE TO UPHOLD NATIONAL HONOR AND PROTECT THE FLAG

"We uphold national honor from criticism, our flag from desecration, our government and those who represent it from personal disrespect. Such is the pledge of the National Honor Guard girls who enlist in the work, organized by Miss Theodora Booth last June to create a spirit of patriotism and duty among the girls of America at this critical time of threatening war—the Honor Guard girls throughout the country are bending every effort to do their part. The Oregon membership is now very near the desired 1000 mark and there are throughout the country more than 7000 Honor Guard girls enrolled.

In the celebration for Patriotic week the guard will lead on Monday, by holding a flag day under their patronage, with groups of girls selling the patriotic emblem on the streets and in the buildings so that the first day of the week all will be supplied with little flags, and red, white and blue badges to wear. This will give the patriotic movement a splendid impetus, and farther they plan to hold a big rally at one of the theatres of the city—the place to be announced later, where speeches and national songs will be sung. The groups of girls wishing to sell will report to the guard headquarters 901 Electric building, where chaperons will be provided for each group of workers.

At the Naval Militia and National Guard recruiting stations—104 and