

THREE AMERICANS KILLED IN ACTION, 13 ARE WOUNDED

Five Are Severely Wounded in
Fighting February 19 and 20,
Eight Others Slightly.

WOUNDS ARE FATAL TO TWO

Six Deaths Result From Natural
Causes; Falling Bucket Kills
Seaman.

Washington, Feb. 23.—(U. P.)—Three American soldiers were killed in action February 19 and 20. General Pershing cabled the war department today. He also cabled the names of five severely wounded and eight slightly wounded members of the American expeditionary forces.

Those killed were:
PRIVATE THOMAS V. T. RAT-
CLIFFE, Clarksville, Tenn.
PRIVATE WILLIAM P. SCOTT, Cal-
vert City, Ky.
PRIVATE RALPH T. KINGERY, On-
tario, Cal.
Severely wounded:
Corporal Edwin F. Titus, Manchester,
Conn.
Corporal Thaddeus Blazewski, Meri-
den, Conn.
Private Thomas Morrison, South Man-
chester, Conn.
Private Walter P. Moran, Norwich,
Conn.

Slightly wounded:
First Lieutenant Guy I. Swett, South
Paris, Me.
Second Lieutenant Edwin C. Call,
Dexter, Me.
Private Romeo Nadeau, Somers-
worth, N. H.
Clyde Andrews, Orlin, Me.
Peter Rubick, England, N. D.
Walter Brodowski, Lenox, Mass.
William H. Hale, Somerville, Mass.
First Lieutenant Thomas H. Holmes,
Albany, N. Y.

General Pershing also reported six deaths from natural causes and two from wounds.

Those who died from wounds were:
PRIVATE FRED KOPANSKE, Chi-
cago.

PRIVATE SIDNEY M. COWLEY,
New York City.

From natural causes:
PRIVATE THOMAS P. MARTIN,
Holyoke, Mass.
PRIVATE DOUGLAS N. ANSTALL,
Galveston, Tex.

SERGEANT JULIAN C. MARSH-
BURN, Charleston, S. C.
SERGEANT JOSEPH C. REED, Hills-
boro, Ohio.

PRIVATE LEANDER OLSEN, Kooes-
haugen, Utah.
PRIVATE RAY H. GRIFFIN, Sher-
odenville, Ohio.

Julius A. Puchs, seaman of the U. S. S. Neptune, was killed when a coal bucket fell on him and fractured his skull. The navy department reported today Puchs' home was in St. Louis, Mo.

With the American Army in France, Feb. 23.—(I. N. S.)—A German patrol was again discovered at our wire of the sector near Toul early this morning by one of our sentries who quietly gave the alarm. Then, at a signal our men in the trenches opened fire on the enemy with machine guns and rifles.

The enemy party retreated hastily and it is not known what damage was done. The Germans did not even return our fire so hurried they were to get away.

Later the enemy artillery fired heavily on one of our positions, but our guns were all aimed at the batteries from which the projectiles were coming, and soon the Germans ceased firing.

Our artillery then moved a heavy barrage over the German trenches as an added punishment.

The enemy fire along the entire sector was not so heavy today as it has been in the past few days.

The sky is overcast and threatening on the American sector today. The weather is warmer.

Paris, Feb. 23.—(U. P.)—Violent reciprocal artillery northwest of Bel-
sonvaux, in Upper Alsace, was reported in tonight's official statement.

London, Feb. 23.—(U. P.)—Hostile raids against hill No. 70 and to the north of Poelcapelle were repulsed by British forces. Field Marshal Haig reported to-night.

British patrols during the day brought in a few prisoners.

Enemy artillery action was reported in the vicinity of Gouvaucourt, the Scarpe valley, Lens, Armentiere and north and northeast of Ypres.

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DIAMOND RINGS
HAVE NO EQUAL

Why Wear
Diamonds?

BECAUSE
—for a woman they are
the emblem of dignity,
appreciation, and friend-
ship.
—for a man they repre-
sent substance, responsi-
bility and character.

"CREDIT ACCOMMODATIONS
WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE"

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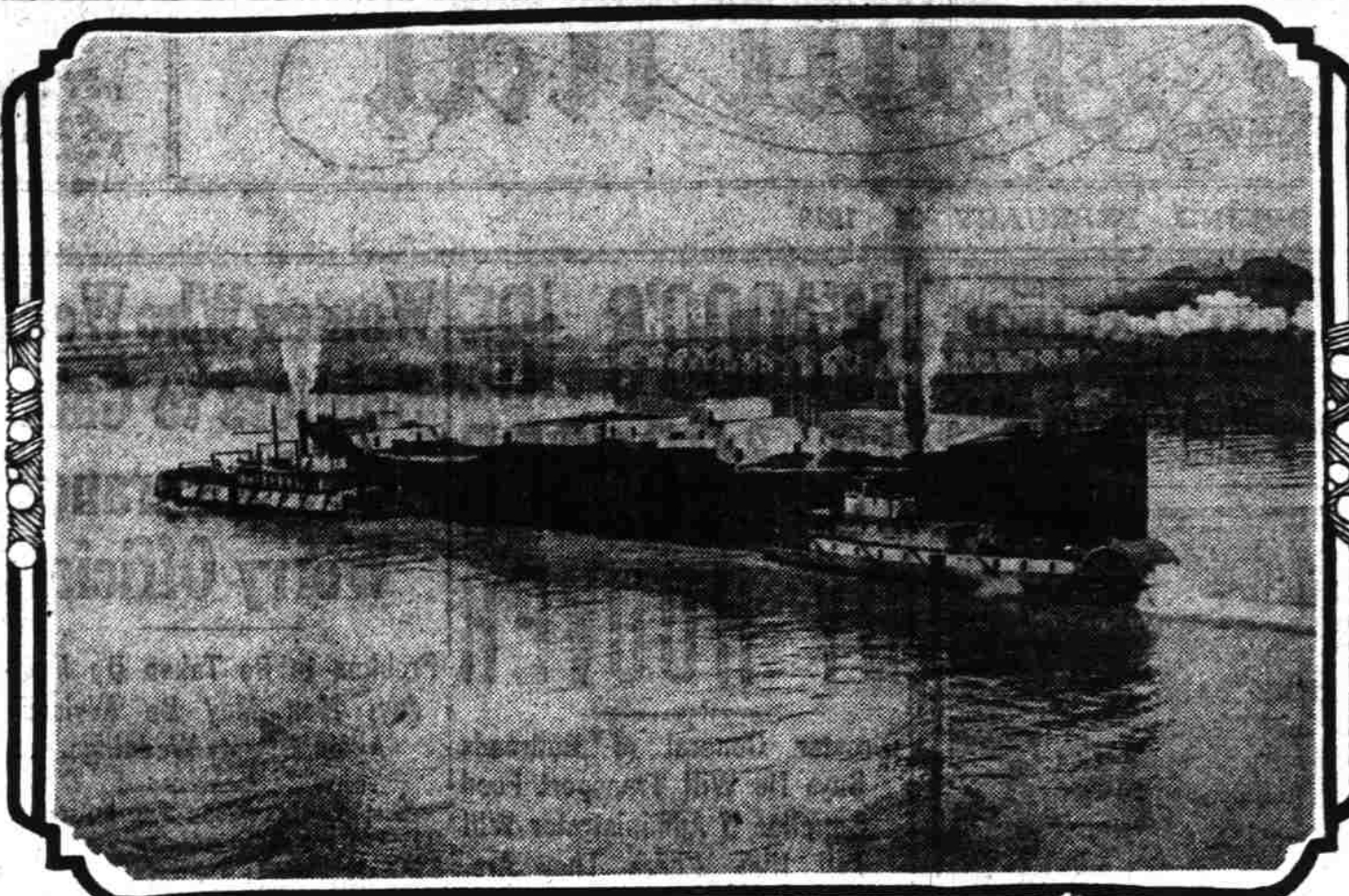
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PORTLAND BUILT CRAFT REPORTED SUNK



The steel ship War Baron, built in Portland last year and reported torpedoed

PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES PRICE FOR 1918 CROP

(Continued from Page One)

duction, took place with no other assurance than this, and the farmers' confidence was demonstrated by the fact that they planted an acreage larger than the record of any preceding year—larger by 2,000,000 acres than the season's largest year, and 7,000,000 acres more than the average for five years before the outbreak of the European war.

It seems not to be generally understood why wheat is picked out for price determination, and only wheat among the cereals. The answer is that while normal distribution of all our foreign products have been subject to great disturbances during the last three years because of war conditions, only two important commodities, namely, wheat and sugar, have been so seriously affected to require governmental intervention.

The disturbances which affect these products (and others in less degree) are the result of the fact that all of the overseas shipping in the world is now under government control. The purchase of wheat in the United States for foreign use is of such great volume in comparison with the available domestic supply that the price of wheat has been materially disturbed and it became necessary in order to protect wheat at the farmer at the very center of war service. Next to the soldier himself, he is serving the country and the world, and serving it in a way which is absolutely fundamental to his own future and safety and prosperity.

"The farmers are also contributing more men to the army, and are keenly alive to the sacrifices involved. Out of 13,800,000 men engaged in farm industries, 205,000 have been drafted, or about 1.46 per cent of the whole number. In addition to these, there have been volunteers, and the farmers have lost a considerable number of laborers because the wages paid in industrial pursuits drew them away. In order to relieve the farming industry as far as possible from further drains of labor, the new draft regulations have been drawn with a view to taking from the farms an even smaller proportion of men than that which is the case in other industries. The new exemption boards will make the new classifications with a view of lightening the load upon the farmers to the utmost extent.

"The secretary of war has asked for authority to furlough soldiers of the national army, if conditions permit it, so that they may return to their farms when assistance is necessary in the planting and harvesting of the crops. National and local agencies are actively at work, besides in organizing community help for the more efficient distribution of available labor and in drawing upon new sources of labor. While there will be difficulties, and very serious ones, they will be difficulties which are among the stern necessities of war.

"The federal railway administration is cooperating in the most active, intelligent and efficient way with the food administration to remove the difficulties of transportation and the active movement of crops. Their marketing is to be facilitated and the farmers given the opportunity to realize promptly upon their stocks.

"The department of agriculture and the food administration will continue to cooperate as heretofore to assist the farmers in every way possible. All questions of production and of agricultural labor and farm problems generally will be handled by the department of agriculture, while all questions of distribution of food supplies to the allies and of conservation in consumption will be handled by the food administration, but the reliance is upon the farmer himself, and I am sure that the reliance will be justified by the results.

"The chief thing to be kept in mind is that regulations of this sort are only a part of the great general plan of mobilization into which every element in the nation enters in this war as in no other. The business of war touches everybody. It is a stern business, a cooperative business, a business of energy and sacrifice, a business of service in the largest and most stirring sense of that great word.

The president's proclamation was issued under the act of congress commonly known as the Food law, passed last August.

After naming prices at the terminals of No. 1 northern spring wheat or its equivalents, the president ruled that "for the purposes of such guarantee (government) the prices of all other grades established under the United States grain standards act approved August, 1916, shall be based on the basis fixed today and bear just relation thereto.

Portable Homes for Army
New York, Feb. 23.—Hundreds of portable homes for the American troops in France are being built in this country. The houses are built in panels and shipped to Europe. They are bolted together over there.

PLANES HIT KILLING 3 IN MEMPHIS

MEMPHIS, TENN., Feb. 23.—(I. N. S.)—In a collision of two military airplanes, 500 feet above the earth at Fackfield late this afternoon, three aviators fell to their death.

The dead:
Guy H. Reagal, Chicago, civilian flying instructor.
Cadet Robert Gray Jr., Richmond Hill, Long Island, N. Y.

Cadet James H. Webb, Rome, Ga. The collision occurred when Cadet Gray attempted to avert a collision with another machine and crashed broadside into an airplane in which instructor Reagal and Cadet Webb were maneuvering.

Instantly the two machines crumpled up and crashed to earth. The three men were dead when they reached them.

Fort Worth, Texas, Feb. 23.—(U. P.)—Before the eyes of his sweet-
heart, when he had invited to the aviation field Lieutenant Higginbotham, of Dallas, Texas, was killed late today by a fall in his airplane here.

Washington's Public Service Body Target

Seattle, Feb. 23.—(I. N. S.)—Removal of three members of the public service commission—E. F. Blaine of Seattle, chairman; F. M. Spinning of Puyallup and A. A. Lewis of Spokane—was demanded of Governor Lister by the King county Democratic club in a resolution passed today. Charles A. Reynolds, former chairman of the commission, declared that the corporations are in control of the state and have been for the past 20 years and that matters affecting the public interest are decided against the people by the present commissioners.

Liquor Selling Charged
Stanley Johnson, 20 years old, was arrested at Eleventh and Stark streets Saturday night by officers Schum, Burkhardt and Smith of the local police squad, on the charge of selling liquor to soldiers.

New York, Feb. 23.—(I. N. S.)—James W. Gerard, former ambassador to Germany, has so improved tonight from the critical condition following a serious operation on Wednesday as to be able to sit up in his apartment at the Ritz Carlton.

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TORPEDOING OF WAR BARON IS TOLD IN LETTER

(Continued from Page One)

over to that concern, being rechristened the War Baron and becoming a unit of the Cunard company's "war" fleet. Officers were sent here by the Cunard line from New York and London and they stayed at the Multnomah hotel for some weeks before the steamer was ready. It is understood that some members of the crew were Portland men, but their names could not be learned.

Bowles Had Heard Rumors
The War Viceroy was the next Cunard turned out by the Northwest Steel company. She was launched August 2, 1917. Then came the government's commandeering order and all other vessels turned out by that plant are for the emergency fleet corporation.

When told that word had been received of the sinking of the War Baron, Joseph R. Bowles, president of the Northwest Steel company, expressed no surprise. He said he had been hearing reports of such for some time, though no authentic information had come.

Prison Bomb Plot
Nipped, Say Guards

Salt Lake, Utah, Feb. 23.—(U. P.)—Guards at the Fort Douglas war prison barracks declare they frustrated a well planned bomb plot and possible break for freedom when they discovered a powerful bomb, the explosives of which are declared to have been made by German prisoner chemists from food and rubber hose.

Army officers at the internment camp say it is their opinion the prisoners intended to hurl the bomb, hand grenade fashion, as the preliminary event of an organized dash for freedom.

Herman Harms, Utah state chemist, pronounced the contents of the bomb as highly dangerous. He is making a further analysis.

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QUESTIONNAIRE IS SENT TO OFFICERS OF ALL RAILROADS

Director General McAduo Asks for
Detailed Statement of All Ex-
penses for 1917 and Estimates

Washington, Feb. 23.—(U. P.)—Expensive suites of New York offices, "superfluous officers," duplicated efforts in handling finances, and all unnecessary

operating expenses of the national railroads must go.

Indicative of a curtailment of expenditures beyond any previous expectations, Director General McAduo tonight called for detailed information as to railroad expenses for 1917. In a questionnaire mailed to all rail officials, the director general also asks for data and estimates of expense for the coming year.

Items of expense of every nature will be subjected to a searching inquiry, it was said at the offices of the railroad administration here.

Peas paid "banks, trust companies and other agencies" for handling railroad finances, must be disclosed to the director general. Along with this, the director general asks that all roads explain how they dispose of their obligations; how stock is transferred; whether the services of financial institutions are necessary and the amount they are paid for their services.

The inquiry will provide the director general with dates of termination of all

leases whether on small or large buildings.

Included in the questionnaire is a request for the number of employees last year. Of this they are asked to estimate whether more men are needed and in what particular branch of the service they could be used most efficiently.

This was said not to indicate any change in the operation personnel below the grade of general manager, but the information was sought that a re-apportioning of all rail employees could be made if emergencies should arise.

The director general said he did not contemplate a radical reduction in staff officials immediately. He desired, however, he said, to decide upon an arrangement whereby the work could be combined under one official where two are now engaged, if conditions make such possible.

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is sound, but inseparable with War Savings Certificates. The strength of the United States is

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Title to Lake Front
Held to Be Forgery

Chicago, Feb. 23.—Captain George Wellington Streeter today lost his fight for possession of the "District of Lake Michigan," which he has waged for 31 years and the circuit court, in ruling that the property in question belonged to Francis S. Rickards, declared that the signature of President Cleveland on Streeter's patent right was a forgery and the document was a fraud. The property is said to be worth millions.

Streeter served a term in the penitentiary as the murderer of Constable John S. Kirk, killed in 1902, in one of the many clashes over the property. Streeter claimed the property after living for years in his sloop, which was wrecked upon the shore in 1888. The land, he claimed, was formed from sand which washed in and was the property of the United States, from which he claimed title.

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