

FIRE ROSE SALES SHIP AND LIVES

Quick Action Averts Disaster as Transport Starts to List When Men Rush to One Side.

Newspaper Man From Oakland Saves Vessel From German Mine With Shot From Cannon.

NEW YORK, March 1.—(I. N. S.)—The quick use of a fire hose from which a heavy stream of water was played upon soldiers aboard the troop ship Sobral as she was on the point of capsizing in the harbor today prevented the disaster and loss of many lives among 2655 troops aboard.

The steamship crossed the Atlantic without cargo and she proceeded up the harbor to her Brooklyn dock she began to list heavily to starboard. The list suddenly increased to 18 degrees when soldiers on deck rushed to the starboard rail to greet several thousand cheering friends who had gathered in barges to welcome them.

Thousands Are Drenched Warnings were shouted by the crew, but the soldiers refused to move. Then Capt. I. P. Gavitt, the ship's commander, ordered a strong stream of water played on the soldiers. Another hose was turned upon the welcome throng. Thousands were drenched. The soldiers, after their drenching, fell into company formation and stood at attention while 1500 tons of water ballast were taken aboard to right the ship. The first list is believed to have been caused by the lighting of the port water ballast or the taking in of too much water in the starboard tank while the ship was making for her pier.

The rest of "Moss Buffaloes," as the hard fighting negro warriors of the famous 367th Infantry are called, got home aboard the ship's crew with 1632 enlisted men in the contingent, comprising the First and Second battalions headquarters, sanitary and ordnance departments, supply and machine gun companies and Companies A, B, C, D, E and F of the regiment.

Newspaper Man in Hero Role Besides the 267th there were 10 officers and 256 enlisted men of the 349th machine gun battalion of the first army, New York casualty Companies 25 and 1202, Illinois 260 and Ohio 1208 and three casual officers, making a total of 2855 officers and men on board.

Another early morning arrival was the Carrillo, from Bordeaux, and 25 casual officers, Detachment B of 35 North Carolina and four convalescent officers were also on board.

Lieutenant Alfred J. Torney of the quartermaster corps, a former newspaperman from Oakland, Cal., was given credit by several of the ship's crew with saving the vessel from possible disaster by an enemy mine.

Second Shot Explodes Mine It was while the Sobral was making one of its last trips from Holland to France that the crew picked up dead ahead what appeared to be a German mine. Torney, who was practicing on deck with a high power rifle, was informed. Two shots from his gun and the thing exploded about 200 yards away. Torney is said to be an expert marksman of renown through the west.

Contracts on 550 Vessels Suspended Since War Ended

Washington, March 1.—(I. N. S.)—Contracts for 550 or more vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 7,000,000 and an estimated cost of \$400,000,000 either have been cancelled or suspended up to February 15 by the United States Shipping board since the signing of the armistice, Chairman E. S. Hurley revealed to Chairman Sherry of the house appropriations committee in a letter made public this afternoon. In 1918 Chairman Hurley announced the board had suspended or cancelled contracts on 327 ships of 1,818,650 tonnage up to February 4.

PRESIDENT WILSON AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

George Bernard Shaw and Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, in separate articles, will discuss the part the president has played in the preliminary organization of the League of Nations. These articles will be important features of THE SUNDAY JOURNAL tomorrow.

FRANK H. SIMONDS IN METZ

In an interpretative article Mr. Simonds relates his impressions of the capital city of Lorraine, where, after nearly half a century of persistent effort, the German plan of Germanizing this city failed.

A Helpful Article for the Home Gardener By Sheba Childs Hargreaves

THE SUNDAY JOURNAL Five Cents the Copy Everywhere TOMORROW

Women, Song Free Rebel Sinn Feiner's Escape Easy

PROFESSOR DE VALERA, president of the Sinn Fein, addressing a public mass meeting in Ireland, before his imprisonment.



Gaelic Ballads Sung to De Valera Gave Him Information of Plot While Irish Girls Lured Guards Away; Decoy Motors Successful in Baffling Pursuers.

Paris, March 1.—(I. N. S.)—Details of the escape of Professor De Valera, president of the Sinn Fein organization, from the Lincoln prison in England, were revealed here today for the first time by John O'Kelly, Sinn Fein representative, who is trying to get a hearing at the peace conference.

The plot to free De Valera was made known to him by an Irish gardener who worked the information into Gaelic songs which he sang under the window of the prisoner's cell.

De Valera made an impression of the keyhole of the prison door with bits of soap and bread crumbs and tossed it to the gardener. Two days later two Dublin beauties engaged the attention of the guards while Sinn Fein conspirators cut the barbed wire fence and crept up to the prison gate, which they unlocked.

In the meantime De Valera was sauntering about the prison yard. As soon as the gate was unlocked he jumped into a waiting automobile and was whisked in the direction of London.

Four decoy motor cars were waiting nearby and when the police started to give chase they found themselves baffled as to which automobile De Valera had entered. The decoy motor cars were all filled with Irish friends.

O'Kelly says that De Valera will appear in Paris, "when wanted."

Wilson to Speak Before Governors

Nation-Wide Conference, in Which Mayors Will Take Part, Begins at Washington.

Washington, March 1.—(I. N. S.)—President Wilson will deliver an address at the opening session of the conference of governors and mayors, which will convene here Monday. It was announced at the White House today, in the official program of the conference.

Both the Monday and Tuesday sessions of the conference will be held in the east room of the White House. Secretary of Labor Wilson will preside at the Monday session and will also speak. The president will speak at this session. Secretary of War Baker and Secretary of the Navy Daniels will then speak on government contracts.

Cabinet members will be present at the conference on the Tuesday session of the Monday session to hear the governors tell of the needs of their respective states.

Governor Kilduff of Massachusetts will preside at the Tuesday session. Roger W. Babson will speak on what the government departments are doing for business.

WIRELESS PHONE TO DEFEY PEAKS; RANGERS ADOPT A SYSTEM OF RADIO

Stations Will Now Be Established at Lookout Points; Experiments Prove Entirely Satisfactory.

Now it is wireless telephones in the forest service! The lookout man on Mount Hood will be able to talk to Zigzag ranger station over a wireless telephone this summer according to plans contemplated by C. M. Allen, telephone engineer for the forest service, which involves the establishment of wireless telephone sets on most of the important lookout points.

Experiments with the wireless telephone have proved entirely successful and have caused its adoption by both the army and navy departments. Recent experiments were made with the sets placed on airplanes connected with ground stations, and demonstrated that the stations need not even be stationary.

The use of the radio telephone will be of great value on our high lookouts, said Mr. Allen, "because of the damage to wires by avalanches, falling rocks and snowdrifts. In each instance the lookout will be connected to ranger station, which will talk with other stations by wire."

Power for the dynamo will be generated by a windmill or air motor placed on the mountain top, and all other electrical apparatus will be carried up by the dynamo. A couple of vacuum tubes mounted in a box filled with coils, condensers and what-not are the rest of the machinery. These tubes transform the dynamo current into a high frequency alternating current that is fed into space through a short copper wire.

The electrical waves set up on this wire radiate out into space, where they are picked up by similar antennae or wires. This is the principle of the telephone in brief.

While the radio telephone construction of the forest service includes only the important lookouts, it is expected that radio equipment will in time form a part of the baggage of every forest ranger or fire fighter. The radio outfits would be much lighter to carry than the somewhat heavy and clumsy telephone cases now packed about in the forest service.

It is always trying itself into knots and getting tangled up in the brush, which is the disadvantage of not having to do with a lot of useless wire, which is always trying itself into knots and getting tangled up in the brush, which is the disadvantage of not having to do with a lot of useless wire.

La Follette and Senator Robinson, Arkansas, appeared on the verge of a personal encounter, following a tilt when Robinson attempted to break up La Follette's speech.

Robinson, white with anger, seated himself directly across the aisle from La Follette and leaning forward in his chair, exhaled his breath in a long, low whistle, which La Follette took as a personal insult.

The clash had arisen when La Follette halted his speech momentarily while Senator Penrose, who had just entered the chamber, attempted to interrupt.

At 11 o'clock today The Journal plebiscite on the League of Nations, as announced Friday evening, had resulted in 82 votes favoring the league and 18 votes against it.

The coupon giving Journal readers opportunity to express their will on the world issue of a League of Nations is being mailed today. There is vital significance in this canvass. President Wilson has said there could be no League of Nations that did not have the support of the people.

Announcement was also made this morning that Fred Pape, who has been directing the steel shipbuilding program in the Oregon district, has been promoted to assistant to J. F. Blain, manager of the Northwest district. This order was made effective February 15. Mr. Pape will remain in the Oregon district in control of the local end, but will be second in power only to Mr. Blain.

Proclaim Martial Law in Madrid Following Riots

Madrid, Feb. 28.—(U. P.)—(Delayed.)—Martial law was proclaimed in Madrid today following clashes between the police and food rioters, in which a number of persons were injured. Mobs stormed and looted several shops.

British Army Is Being Reduced to 952,000 Soldiers

London, March 1.—(I. N. S.)—The British army is being reduced to 952,000 men, it was officially announced today. Great Britain's strength, exclusive of India, at present is 2,500,000 men. The British army of occupation in Germany will be composed of 280,000 men and 150,000 officers.

TROOPS TO COME VIA PORTLAND

Request Made by The Journal Is Granted by War Department, It Is Announced Today.

Colonel May and a Detachment of 162nd Infantry Expected to Arrive in Portland March 9.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—(U. P.)—The War Department this afternoon announced that Colonel May and a detachment of the 162d infantry numbering 231 men, will be routed through Portland and stop over there. The detachment will leave Camp Dix March 7 and arrive in Portland probably March 9.

That the troop train carrying members of the 162d infantry, originally routed so as to go direct to Camp Lewis and not through Portland, will be rerouted to Portland, was the information received today from the Washington Bureau of The Journal.

When word was received Thursday that the 162d infantry, 82d division, Camp Dix for Camp Lewis, routed over the Northern Pacific into Camp Lewis so that it would not come here. The Journal is in Washington to see what could be done about changing the plan.

Yanks Called From War Zone At the same time, General March revealed that American troops are to be removed from the scene of the reported friction between Italian and Yugoslav troops.

This was the interpretation war department officials placed on the announcement by General March, that the 162d infantry, 82d division, had been ordered concentrated at Genoa, Italy. The regiment, which is composed of Ohio national army troops, served with the Italians during the war and since has been distributed at ports along the Adriatic sea.

Announcement of the concentration at Genoa was contained in a dispatch from Colonel Buckley, military attaché at Rome, General March stated.

Although it is planned to bring these men home as soon as possible there was nothing in the dispatch to indicate that they would return at once, General March stated. The matter, he said, lies entirely in the hands of Major-General Treat, who is in command of American troops in Italy.

Second Division Honored The greatest number of distinguished service crosses, the highest decoration for personal bravery conferred by the president through the commander-in-chief of the American expeditionary forces, was distributed to individuals in the Second division. Six hundred and sixty-four crosses were distributed in this division, being twice as many as distributed in any other division.

The number of crosses given to the various divisions follow: First division, 300 crosses; Third, 232; 26th, 229; 42d, 206; 30th, 177; 5th, 163; 24th, 146; 146th, 139; 32d, 131; 81st, 124; 89th, 97; 78th, 95; 79th, 80; 33d, 76; 4th, 62; 28th, 58; 90th, 57; 80th, 42; 82d, 34; 70th, 30; 37th, 25; 76th, 24; 92d, 21; 81st, 19; 25th, 17; 6th, 10; 88th, 1.

Because the grain and flour condition in the Northwest is getting more and more serious, Chamber of Commerce members in Portland are planning a campaign to go after the matter in such a way as to force action from the government in providing some facility for flour transportation.

Millions of bushels of wheat are now held in the Northwest, a great majority of which is to move through Portland. The shipping board has agreed to provide five vessels for March movement, which would mean that 45,000 tons would be moved out of this port.

W. D. B. Dodson, executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, points out the fact that this number of vessels is a "mere drop in the bucket" to the number actually required.

The Chamber of Commerce has been debating this question from all angles and has now decided to request that if the government cannot possibly move this product by steamer, some other provision be made to get it out of this district before the next crop.

It is vitally necessary, say, grain shippers, that something be done at once as mills are facing a shut-down all through the Northwest. It has been agreed by eastern headquarters of the shipping board that about 150 steel steamers are lying idle in Atlantic coast ports. A number of these came from the Northwest and have been held there in addition to two steel steamers for service on this coast as grain carriers, says Mr. Dodson.

Ten steel steamers of the 8000-ton or larger class are now in port ready or being outfit for service. These could be put on the run, in the belief of the chamber, if the government could be made to realize the seriousness of the situation.

The vessels in the Portland harbor now are the Conax, Coleket, West Modus, West Nohno, West Imboden, West Tacook, West Cherow, West Hardaway, West Haxxavay and West Togus. In addition to two steel steamers of smaller carrying capacity, which were launched recently by the Albina Engine & Machine Works. A few of these, three at the most, have been assigned to the flour carrying trade and Chamber of Commerce officials are now planning to ask in addition to other steps that these vessels be hurried to the emergency call.

WOULD LET DOWN BAR TO BEARS

New Economic Council Advises Early Peace With Germans or Lifting of Economic Blockade.

Further Success of Radicals Will Render Present Government Powerless, It Is Feared.

LONDON, March 1.—(I. N. S.)—Philip Scheidemann, chancellor of Germany, has resigned, according to advices received here today. Dispatches from Holland state increased revolutionary movements are imminent in Germany.

LONDON, March 1.—(U. P.)—The Paris correspondent of the London News stated today that the new economic council has reported to the supreme war council that a preliminary peace must be concluded at once with Germany or the blockade raised. The recommendation, it was said, was based on the report of 14 British officers, revealing the seriousness of the situation in the central powers.

Berlin, March 1.—(U. P.)—The German government today faced the most serious situation since the first revolution. With the new Spartacist uprising now developing in all parts of the country, dispatches indicated that further success of the radicals in the central districts would render the government virtually powerless.

The Spartacists, apparently determined upon everything else to isolate Berlin, from Berlin, Germany, were concentrating large forces in the central district for the purpose of preventing the Spartacist advance.

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GAIN SAVED BY FRENCH OVER REDS

Bolsheviks Forced Back North of Odessa With Help of Greeks; Much Loot Taken.

Saloniki, March 1.—(I. N. S.)—French and Greek troops have captured Tripoli, 64 miles north of Odessa, from the Bolsheviks along the Danube river. Much material has been taken from the Bolsheviks.

Stockholm, March 1.—(U. P.)—The Lithuanians have refused the request of the Bolsheviks for an armistice, it was stated in an official dispatch from Moscow today.

The Bolsheviks were said to have asked for cessation of hostilities following an advance of more than 120 miles from Vilna by the Lithuanians in which several towns were taken. The Lithuanians' commander refused, demanding immediate retirement of the enemy from Lithuania.

Cossack Leader Victorious Stockholm, March 1.—(I. N. S.)—Forces fighting under General Krasnov, the Cossack leader, have captured Saratov and Volk, according to advices received here.

Saratov and Volk both are located on the Volga river, about 450 miles southeast of Moscow.

Special Meeting of Auxiliary of 69th C. A. C. Is Called

Owing to the proximity of arrival of the 69th coast artillery corps, a special meeting of the auxiliary has been called by Mrs. R. S. McKibbin, president of the auxiliary, for Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Liberty temple. This meeting is made urgent by the fact that the general committee has asked the auxiliary to supervise all of the arrangements as to entertainments so that there will be nothing in the program which the women will find objectionable.

The troops are well along on their journey to Portland, having left Chicago this morning and will arrive in Portland Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning. They are all in one train, 458 strong.

Return Priority of Units Made Public

Washington, March 1.—(U. P.)—The following organizations have been assigned to priority: Twelfth engineers; ordnance casualty companies 22 to 28; 26th coast squadron; base hospitals 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100; and the following tank corps units: Brigade headquarters 30th brigade; medical detachments of the 302d, 353rd and 344th battalions and medical detachments and casual detachments of the 321st repair and salvage company. The first, second, third and fifth companies of the 20th engineers are also on priority.