

The Statesman receives the leased wire report of the Associated Press, the greatest and most reliable press association in the world.

THE WEATHER

Fair; continued cold, gentle northerly winds.

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR—NO. 345

SALEM, OREGON, THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 2, 1919

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## ARMY BOOTS DISTRIBUTED TO PEASANTS

### Communication From Hoover Tells of Need for Relief and Rehabilitation in French Towns.

### RAIL TRANSPORTATION RENDERED HOPELESS

### Roads Crowded With People Returning to Homes Now in Ruins

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Relief work being carried on in Northern France by the commission for relief in Belgium and the pitiable condition of the 1,500,000 inhabitants of that section who escaped the German invasion are declared in a cablegram received at the headquarters of the commission here from Herbert C. Hoover, at Paris.

Mr. Hoover's message, made public tonight, revealed that the work of relief and rehabilitation in France will fall more heavily upon the commission than had been expected. Mr. Hoover said relief work must include not only food and clothing, but housing over a considerable area. An enlarged organization to handle the situation is being built up and supplies have been obtained from the quarter-master's department of the American army. Industrial life in the invaded region has been almost completely paralyzed, Mr. Hoover said. Railroads have been rendered almost hopeless of reconstruction for many months, the coal mines have been destroyed and there is scarcely a single factory that can be operated without a very large portion of new equipment.

"The commission for relief in Belgium," said Mr. Hoover in his message, "had hoped to surrender the task of relief of northern France to the French government immediately upon the German retreat. It has been found impossible, however, for the French government to undertake the food supply of this area for some months to come, and upon the urgent request of that government, the commission had decided to continue."

"After the four years paralysis of wholesale and retail business, and the destruction of the principal towns and shops, these trades have disappeared and the people are today dependent upon a ration issued directly to them, just as before the German evacuation."

"Twenty members of the commission for relief in Belgium who joined the American army as officers have been released by General Pershing to undertake this work."

"The population of this area at the moment of the retreat was about 1,500,000, there being also about 300,000 refugees in Belgium who are returning and some 500,000 refugees in France, all of whom are anxious to return to their native soil."

"The destruction of some 20 principal towns and literally hundreds of villages renders the return of the refugees a stupendous problem. Every effort is being made to restrain them from going back till some systematic provision for shelter can be completed, but they evade all officers' urgings and the roads are a continuous procession of these pitiable bodies. Thousands of them reach their villages to find every vestige of shelter destroyed and finally wander into the villages farther back from the acute battle area, which are themselves already overcrowded to a heartbreaking degree."

"In order to meet this situation to some extent the commission for relief in Belgium has obtained the services of 150 volunteers from the American navy and is taking over a large amount of second-hand barrack material from the navy and the army. Those barracks are in course of erection adjacent to the destroyed villages, under the superintendence of the navy volunteers."

"A large amount of boots and shoes and war clothing has been taken over from the quartermaster's supply and they are being distributed to the people. The French government is endeavoring to obtain some cattle from Switzerland and horses from the various armies, which, together with the meager supply of agricultural implements, may enable the people to get in some portion of next year's crops in such of these areas as are not too badly destroyed by battle."

"The entire industrial life of the region has been destroyed by the Germans. There is scarcely a single factory that can be operated without a very large portion of new equipment. The coal mines are totally destroyed and the network of railways in this region has been rendered almost hopeless of repair for many months."

"The German method of destruction was to bend every single rail by exploding a hand grenade under it, rendering it useless for all time."

"Their relief is based upon the allowance of food to the value of about 35 cents per day to the destitute."

## Harbor Boatmen Vote To Work When Advised Labor Board Will Act

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—Firemen, deckhands and cooks on harbor tugboats, who went on strike here today, voted to return to work when, at a meeting of the Harbor Boatmen's union tonight, they were informed that the war labor board would consider their demands next Tuesday.

In a formal statement the men declared that there had been so many delays and postponements that they had lost faith in the local arbitration machinery. It need the initial announcement of the war labor board and the action of the secretary of the labor, in declaring this to be a grave national emergency to bring them back to work.

## CITY MAY OPEN NEXT SATURDAY MAYOR THINKS

### Keyes Replies to Capital Journal's Criticism of Safety Measures Taken

### BAN HELD IMPERATIVE

### Quarantine System Now Organized and Lid May Lift Without Danger

Mayor Walter E. Keyes said last night that the quarantine system of combating the influenza epidemic is now fairly well in hand and that the indications are that the ban on public gatherings can be lifted Saturday of this week.

In a communication addressed to The Statesman, Mayor Keyes replies to editorial criticism of The Capital Journal which has found fault with the city administration for accepting the advice of physicians and closing the town, pending organization of the quarantine system. Mayor Keyes puts in plain words the situation that confronted the city officials and defends the action that was taken as an imperative move to check the ravages of the disease. That the disease has been checked is indicated by reports of decreasing number of cases yesterday.

Mayor Keyes says: "Owing to the misguided statements of The Daily Capital Journal, I wish to announce through the lines of your paper the motives which caused the city officials again to exact a closing order."

"All of a sudden we again found ourselves confronted with influenza with noticeable effect. Upon careful consideration we were advised by prominent doctors of this city that a closing order was necessary to preserve the health and safety of the citizens until an effective quarantine system could be established. The question was, should we take the advice of doctors who were familiar with the ailment and who knew conditions in our city or should we be guided by the editor of the Capital Journal who is familiar with neither and who was obliged temporarily to loose the silver shackles the moving picture shows were daily paying for advertisements? We thought it more in accordance with common sense and safety to accept the advice of the former."

"We have the quarantine service working overtime and feel in the next few days we can safely open. In the meantime if the Journal wishes to continue its course of rebuke, I have neither the time nor the inclination to reply."

"It was with the greatest reluctance we made an order which was bound to effect the business interests of the city. But confronted with a malady which had wiped out the lives of more than 600,000 of the nation's choicest citizens, we deemed it advisable to lay the groundwork for future safety."

"In conclusion I wish to thank the people of the city for your effective cooperation in carrying into effect this order we deemed essential to our future welfare and also express my gratification for the kindness and consideration accorded me during my term of office."

## Sailors Involved in Riot Are Liable to Discharge

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 1.—An announcement was made here tonight that the navy department had ordered an investigation by a board of inquiry into the rioting here early this morning by sailors and soldiers in which one sailor was killed and several others injured.

Naval officers said that sailors involved in the riot would be dishonorably discharged.

## STREETS OF ITALIAN CAPITAL DECKED WITH FLAGS OF U. S. IN HONOR OF WILSON'S VISIT

### MARIE BLODGETT GIVES UP LIFE

### Graduate of Salem Hospital Reported to Have Died in France

That Miss Marie Blodgett, graduate of the Salem hospital, was killed in France while in the Red Cross service seems certain. Miss Blodgett left Salem to go to Bend, where she was connected with a hospital there. Word of her death first came to this city in a letter received by Mrs. Carey F. Martin from a friend in Seattle, who is employed in a cable office there. The letter learned from Mrs. Jack Williams, a sister of Miss Blodgett, of her reported loss and wrote to Mrs. Martin on December 24 apprising her of it, as Mrs. Martin's sister, Rose Claire Williams, is in the same unit.

A letter has been received in Bend from James R. Adams, director of the Red Cross department of nursing, paying tribute to her sacrifice.

"In times like the present," he writes, "when deeds of heroism on the battlefield or in camp are accorded official recognition with awards of honor, it is unfortunate that the equally heroic, though less conspicuous deeds of those combatting disease in the service of the United States, should so often go unrecognized."

"Miss Blodgett died a martyr to her calling, and worthily upheld the noblest traditions of the United States. The memory of the sacrifice which she so readily made, will inspire others to render service to their fellow men."

### TANKER MAY BE LOST OFF COAST

### Anxiety Felt for Fate of G. W. Loomis, Bound for Coos Bay

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 1.—Serious concern for the safety of the Standard Oil company's tanker, George W. Loomis, which left here December 19 for Coos Bay, Oregon, was expressed here tonight by shipping men. The voyage to Coos Bay, it was pointed out, ordinarily requires approximately forty-eight hours.

Naval vessels are reported to have been sent out in search of the missing craft, which last was sighted off the Oregon coast by the steamer Washington.

The George Loomis carried a crew of 19 men and was under the command of Captain E. E. Laphas, most of the crew residing in this city. The vessel was built at the Union Iron works here in 1896. It was the first tanker to be built by the Standard Oil company. It is 175 feet long and has a beam of 24.4 feet and was of 614 gross tonnage.

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 1.—Officers of the thirteenth naval district here today expressed the belief that the tanker, George Loomis, bound for Coos Bay, from California, has been lost or disabled in heavy storms off the Oregon coast recently.

At the capital where the president will be received by the municipality, which will confer on him the title of "Citizen of Rome" the preparations are particularly elaborate. The spacious halls of the capital are being hung with priceless tapestries and decorated with flowers and plants. All the shops are showing the American colors, and in their windows are portraits of President Wilson. The newspapers today print cuts of President Wilson and also portraits of Washington and Lincoln. These cuts serve as illustrations for long biographical articles in which President Wilson's role in the war is dwelt upon. In the square at the station, where the president will arrive, the flagstaffs bear shields with the arms of redeemed Italian towns upon them including those of Fiume and Spalato.

### Temporary Drought in New York on Tuesday

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—The night after New Year's eve New York was a bone dry and it was not because the entire visible supply of intoxicants had been consumed last night either. The saloon keepers closed their doors voluntarily. The unprecedented action of the retail liquor dealers' association was taken because a member believed it was the only way they could be certain of keeping liquor from men in uniforms who flocked to the city by the ten of thousands. It was estimated that more than 100,000 soldiers and sailors spent New Year's day in New York.

### McADOO TO TAKE VACATION

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Director General McAdoo spent New Year's day working on his final report on government railroad operator for 1918 for submission to President Wilson. He now plans to leave Washington for a vacation in California next Sunday but will retain his functions of director-general until a successor is named by the president.

### President Spends Quiet New Year's in Paris Mansion Before Leaving for Trip to Rome.

### AMERICAN COMMISSION ENTIRELY ORGANIZED

### All in Readiness for Return of Chief Executive to Peace Conference

PARIS, Jan. 1.—President Wilson tonight is enroute to Rome, where he will be the guest of King Victor Emmanuel. During his stay in the Italian capital he will visit the pope and also the Methodist college and will continue his conference with the king, Premier Orlando and Baron Sonnino, the foreign minister. Important results are expected from this visit, which will be the last to the allied countries before the beginning of the peace conference. Immediately after breakfast this morning, the president with Mrs. Wilson and Rear Admiral Carey T. Grayson, his personal physician, went to the beautiful St. Cloud course under gray but rainless clouds, and played golf for an hour.

There was a quiet family New Year's dinner at the Murat mansion. No business was put before the president. His only departure from the junction of Admiral Grayson to devote the day to complete relaxation and repose came in the afternoon when he received a New Year's call from President and Mme. Poincare and later visited Col. E. M. House, with whom he had a conference.

Beyond this he had no appointments. The conferences in Rome with the Italian statesmen will in a sense be a continuation of those held here when King Victor Emmanuel visited Paris and the president also talked with Premier Orlando and Foreign Minister Sonnino. The results of President Wilson's conferences with the British premier, David Lloyd George, and Foreign Minister Balfour, which have not yet been fully disclosed, probably will have an important relation to the continuation of the conferences with the Italian leaders.

The working machinery of the American commission has been thoroughly organized during the president's absence in England and everything is ready to begin business when he returns from Italy.

There appears no reason for altering the forecast made four weeks ago that the president intends to be back to Washington before the closing of the American congress, on March 4, or that if necessary he will return to France early in the spring to continue his work. There are, however, some indications that the president's hope that his return will not be necessary may be realized.

### ROME, Tuesday, Dec. 31.—Preparations for the reception of President Wilson in Rome are being carried out actively night and day. The Via Nazionale is beflagged its whole length from the railroad station to the quinal and bunting is flying from flagstaffs surmounted by gilded images of "Victory."

At the capital where the president will be received by the municipality, which will confer on him the title of "Citizen of Rome" the preparations are particularly elaborate. The spacious halls of the capital are being hung with priceless tapestries and decorated with flowers and plants. All the shops are showing the American colors, and in their windows are portraits of President Wilson. The newspapers today print cuts of President Wilson and also portraits of Washington and Lincoln. These cuts serve as illustrations for long biographical articles in which President Wilson's role in the war is dwelt upon. In the square at the station, where the president will arrive, the flagstaffs bear shields with the arms of redeemed Italian towns upon them including those of Fiume and Spalato.

### Everett Price of Salem Sailor on Northern Pacific

Everett Price, a Salem boy, is a sailor aboard the United States transport, Northern Pacific, which went ashore yesterday off Fire Island, on the New York coast. His father, Orville E. Price, who lives at 221 Liberty street, was worried yesterday as to the son's safety until press dispatches received last night brought information that all on board the vessel are safe. Other young men from this community are known to be on the ship.

### SAILORS DROWN ABOARD YACHT

### Iolaire Strikes off Coast of Scotland; 250 Lives Are Lost

LONDON, Jan. 1.—Two hundred and seventy sailors were drowned today as the result of the loss of the British steam yacht Iolaire off Stornoway, Scotland. The yacht had 300 sailors on board. They were on New Year's holiday leave. The vessel struck on the dangerous rocks known as "The Beasts of Helms" near Stornoway Harbor, and only about thirty of them were saved. Many of them were terribly injured in their efforts to reach the shore. All the officers and crew of the Iolaire were lost.

The Iolaire was a vessel of 362 tons. She was built in 1902 and before the war belonged to the estate of the late Sir Donald Currie.

### Colonel Pullen First Alaska West Point Man

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 1.—Colonel Dan D. Pullen, awarded the service cross by Pershing for gallantry in action September 26, as announced today by the war department, was the first cadet ever appointed to West Point military academy from Alaska. Colonel Pullen's home is in Skagway. He spent three years at the University of Washington, was appointed to West Point and had been recognized by experts as one of the greatest football players ever turned out by the army school. He graduated from the academy in 1912. Colonel Pullen is 34 years old.

### VANDALS PREY ON HUN PALACE

### Soldier Exchanges Uniform for Imperial Robe; Big Damage Done

BERLIN, Jan. 1.—(Via London by the A. P.)—The damage to the imperial palace in Berlin during the recent excesses, by theft or vandalism, is estimated to exceed 1,500,000 marks. Five hundred persons implicated in the plundering of the palace, of which is said to have been going on for the past six weeks, have been apprehended and much of the stolen property recovered. The former emperor's wardrobe succeeded in getting the bulk of the imperial art treasures to a place of safety.

In one of the emperor's imperial dressing rooms the old uniform of a soldier was found. Its owner had exchanged his uniform for imperial raiment and disappeared.

The damage to the palace as a result of the bombardment was slight. The marines now have vacated the castle and taken up their headquarters in the former royal stables.

### No Settlement Yet of Sumpter Valley Strike

PORTLAND, Or., Jan. 1.—There was no prospect tonight of early settlement on the Sumpter Valley railroad strike, according to advices received from Baker, Ore. The line was completely tied up as a result of the operators having gone out when the company sought to annul a rise of wages granted them while the line was temporarily under government control. Appeals to the federal railroad administration for intervention thus far have brought no results. The Sumpter Valley is a branch of the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company's line but is under independent ownership. Lumber and chrome are the main shipments held up by the strike.

### Aviation Fields to Be Maintained Announced

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Jan. 1.—Park Field at Millington, Tenn., near here, has been designated as one of the aviation fields to be retained by the government as flying instruction schools, according to advices received today from Washington by Major Sidney Simons, commandant at Park Field.

Kelly Field No. 2 at San Antonio, Texas, and fields at Dallas, Texas, and Riverside, Cal., according to the advices, will be used as preliminary training schools and others to be retained include the fields at Arcadia, Fla., and Houston, Texas, which will be used as advanced pursuit schools, and the advanced gunnery school at Rockwell Field, San Diego, Cal.

### Yanks Too Eager to Get To Berlin Unexpectedly Interrupted, One Jailed

BERLIN, Tuesday, Jan. 1.—(By The Associated Press)—The ambition of five American soldiers to be the first of the American expeditionary forces to reach Berlin is likely to have serious results for them.

The men who arrived here on Sunday were attached to the 125th infantry regiment now at Coblenz. They were absent without leave and unexpectedly ran into members of the American military commission now here in connection with the repatriation of prisoners. One of the men has been captured and is being detained while the Berlin police are seeking the other four.

### NO DANGER TO MEN ON VESSEL SAYS CAPTAIN

### Parents Advised Not to Worry About Crew of Northern Pacific, Now on Bar

### PRECAUTIONS ARE TAKEN

### Soldiers May Be Landed Today or as Soon as Wind Is Favorable

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—Relatives of men aboard the United States transport, Northern Pacific, aground on a sand bar off Fire Island, need have no fears for their safety, according to a wireless message from Captain Connelly, commanding, received tonight by The Associated Press.

"Northern Pacific is in no danger," said Captain Connelly's message. "Relatives of soldiers and crew need have no fears for their safety. The soldiers, in all probability, will be landed tomorrow or whenever winds shift to northward of west."

The naval authorities are taking every precaution, however, to guard the lives of the 2480 soldiers aboard the transport, nearly 1700 of whom are sick or wounded. A breeches buoy has been rigged from the shore to the vessel, ready for use at any time if it is deemed best to risk further injury to the stretcher cases by removing them from the craft, while 13 destroyers and naval tugs are standing by to lend assistance in an emergency. The transport, which struck the sand bar in a heavy fog at 3:30 o'clock this morning, was resting more easily tonight and was approaching an even keel, although she had listed heavily earlier in the day, making progress difficult about her slippery decks, over which high seas were washing. She was a considerable distance off shore when she went aground, but now has been driven to within less than 200 yards of the beach.

The wind was still blowing from the southwest tonight but had somewhat abated, although the sea continued rough and there was a heavy fog off shore. Mariners predicted, however, that the wind would shift to the northwest before morning, making conditions favorable for the transferring of the troops to the destroyers.

If this is done the men will be brought direct to New York. The Oak Island coast guard crew went alongside in small boats this afternoon after two attempts to fire a line across the transport's bows had proved unsuccessful. From the line which the coast guards carried with them the breeches buoy was rigged. Unless the danger increases, however, the buoy will not be put to use, but should the soldiers be landed on Fire Island, a fleet of small craft will be utilized to transfer them to Bay Shore where the naval air station has been turned into a huge emergency hospital with medical and food supplies rushed from New York by the Red Cross. A large number of ambulances are assembled there ready to transfer the sick and wounded from the boats to the hospital. When he returned after taking the life line aboard the captain of the coast guard crew reported that the transport had listed to such an extent that it was difficult for him to keep his footing on deck. Notwithstanding this fact he said, soldiers who were able to be about, lined the rails, cheering lustily any attempt to aid them.

Breaking through the fog which shrouded the Northern Pacific were the lights of destroyers and tugs, while on the shores burned great fires lighted by coast guards. These guards stood watch, prepared to put out in small boats any immediate danger menacing the transport.

The thick weather and rain made observation difficult when the transport which left Brest on Christmas day went across the sand bar between Point O'woods and Fire Island. The sea, roughing at dawn, prevented all service records.

### DARK HORSES MAY APPEAR AT MEETING

### New City Council Expected to Hold Caucus Tonight; Several Are After City Attorney Macy's Job.

### PEMBERTON IS LIKELY HEALTH BOARD CHOICE

### Walter S. Low Opposed by Rogers; Salem May Have New Police Maron

Dark horses are due to put in their appearance tonight if the city council holds its annual caucus to pass upon candidates for appointive offices for 1919. Members have been summoned to attend and if all cannot be present it will be postponed another night or two.

Greatest interest perhaps is centering around the post of city attorney, now being filled by E. W. Macy, who will be reappointed. Almo S. White has already been suggested as one likely to be proposed as an opponent, but it is understood that two or three others have cast their hats into the ring. Some councilmen are in favor of proposing the name of one of the most prominent attorneys in the city with no solicitation on his part.

That Dr. J. Ray Pemberton will probably succeed Dr. O. B. Miles as city health officer is talk current in official circles. Dr. Miles has positively declined to act in this capacity another year. For the past 12 years, with the exception of one, he has been health officer, being the second man to hold the place. The first when the office was created was Dr. W. W. Carleton Smith, who served one year. Dr. Miles has at various times been school physician and in the year he did not act for the city he was county health officer.

Until his successor assumes his position Dr. Miles says he will continue to enforce strictly the present influenza regulations.

That there will be no opposition to the reappointment of Harry Hutson as fire chief, and Walter Skolton as city engineer is the present assumption. No others are fitted for the positions are known to have put in applications for the jobs. Hutson Rogers, who has been connected with paving work here, may oppose Walter S. Low for street commissioner. Appointment of new police, the recommendation of Chief M. Varney will also be made. Varney has declined to give out names of those whom he will suggest until after the caucus. It is his intimation that he would ask the council to appoint a new police captain but that the name he has in mind would not be that of Mr. Myra Shank or Mrs. L. Lynch, between whom the first war was divided when Mrs. S. J. Dor resigned early in the winter.

### SOLDIERS GET NEW YEAR GIFTS

### Men to Receive Back Pay Held Out on Account of Loss of Records

CAMP LEWIS, TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 1.—New Year cheer was brought to many soldiers here today by the publication of instructions from Washington that action will be immediately taken to pay all enlisted men who have not been paid in full because of the absence or loss of their service records. A supplementary service record is ordered to be prepared from affidavits of the enlisted soldiers.

Many complaints have been made recently in behalf of men who were forced to do without pay. The matter even had been discussed in congress. The cases of wounded men returned to this country had been particularly marked, practically all of the wounded men arriving here not having been paid for periods ranging from one to nine months. Soldiers sent here from other camps also have been unfortunate in having no service records.

The men are to be paid in full to December 31, 1918, and it is ordered that each following month they also shall be paid. Any arrears in pay then lacking because information is lacking may be obtained by the soldier applying to the auditor for the war department.

### INFLUENZA TAKES COLONEL

PHOENIX, Ariz., Jan. 1.—C. M. Carl E. Holmberg, U. S. A., commandant at Fort Whipple, near here, died today after a week's illness of influenza.

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued on Page 6)