



GERMANY PROPOSES A CONFERENCE OF ALL BELLIGERENTS

U. S. STEAMER SINKING OFF SANDY HOOK

Five Vessels on Their Way to Aid of Maryland Reported to be in Serious Danger.

ENGINE ROOM IS FLOODED

Coast Guard First Despatches Four Ships to Succor and Later Adds Revenue Cutter Gresham to Rescuers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The steamer Maryland is reported sinking a hundred and fifty miles off Sandy Hook according to wireless messages. Four vessels are on their way to her aid. The wireless engineers were rapidly being flooded.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—So serious does the coast guard service consider the condition of the Maryland that the revenue cutter Gresham has been added to the four ships already sent to her aid.

SMALL INCREASE IN FUND IS EXPLAINED

Judge Fee Declares He Had to Keep Certain Moneys of Sturgis Fund in Bank in Order to Have Coin to Fight Threatened Moves to Divert Endowment.

In making his annual report as trustee of the Sturgis fund, Judge James A. Fee indulges in some pointed pleasantries that makes the report anything but dry and prosaic. For instance in explaining why the fund has not earned more during the past year, he states he felt obliged to call in certain loans and to hold the money in the bank in case he should need it in a fight to prevent the endowment fund from being diverted from the purposes intended by the donor. The responsibility for the failure of the fund to earn more during the year, he says, he divides with the county court, Commercial association, women's club, Umatilla county library, the Oregon legislature and divorce and sundry other individuals and corporations who all wanted a hand in the management of the fund.

He concludes with the statement that, inasmuch as the Commercial club now claims ownership of the fund, he will not, as trustee, buy any more bonds with the earnings of the fund until the association has established its title or unless he feels able to protect the fund.

"It has been suggested he adds facetiously, 'that if the Commercial association is denied the privilege of using the money as a 'smoking fund,' the cemetery committee will probably lay claim to it."

The report shows that the Sturgis fund now amounts to \$17,294.62. Its value on April 11, 1904, at the death of Col. Boyd, the other trustee, was \$7,567.64. The increase up until Dec. 30, 1915, was \$9,019.28.

UTAH HAS 24 INCHES SNOW IN 24 HOURS

SALT LAKE, Dec. 26.—A record snowstorm in the history of Utah is raging. More than twenty four inches of snow fell in 24 hours. All trains are late. It is twenty four below zero at Modena.

Greek Case on Trial

The case of Peter Gonas and George Zoraphos vs. Peter Gomboris to cause the defendant to give an accounting of his handling of the funds of the store of the plaintiff at Rieth is being tried before Judge Phelps today. Plaintiffs are being represented by Fee & Fee and defendant by Frederick Steiner.

Echo Couple Married. A marriage license was issued this morning to Fred Markham and Edith Urnsfield, both of Echo, and they were married immediately afterwards by Justice of the Peace Joe H. Parkes.

LAWSON IS INVITED TO TELL ALL HE KNOWS OF LEAKS AT WASHINGTON

Chairman Henry of Rules Committee Asks Financiero to Make Good on Boasts of Inside Information.

WOODS RESOLUTION CARRIED

Declaration is Admitted to Have Acted as Spur to Carrying Out Proposal Which Would Otherwise Have Died Natural Death.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Chairman Henry of the house rules committee to which the Woods investigation resolution was referred today extended Thomas Lawson a formal invitation to tell all he knows, and prove there was "always a leak" in important government moves at Washington. Wood said: "Lawson brags he is aware through underground channels of the government's plans. That itself is sufficient to justify the report that my resolution for an investigation should be begun immediately. Henry admitted Lawson's declaration was a spur in carrying out the resolution which otherwise would have died a natural death."

LOST \$18,000 BROOCH IN THE OPERA HOUSE

But It Was Found Before Mrs. W. Watts Sherman Realized It Was Gone.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—For three acts of "Il Trovatore" last night a diamond brooch and pendant, which a jeweler appraised at about \$18,000 lay unclaimed in the box office of the Metropolitan opera house. It had been picked up on a stairway leading to the Golden Horseshoe by G. T. Emmett and given to an usher, who with shaded eyes turned it in. Every jewelry expert in the house grasped the opportunity to look in the unaccustomed rays, and to wonder why the pendant portion of the jewel, worth alone perhaps \$5,000 should be fastened to the brooch proper by a bit of string.

As the wonder grew two men appeared and announced that Mrs. W. Watts Sherman, occupying Box No. 5, was wondering what had become of her diamond ornament. Then the Treasurer, Mr. Lewis, went to the box and Mrs. Sherman identified the article. The box office group had noticed that one diamond was missing from the brooch, and an usher hunted for it. He found it on a stairway and appeared with it just as Mrs. Sherman pronounced the brooch hers. She took the names of both ushers.

LADS DROWN IN SLOUGH

SNOHOMISH, Dec. 26.—The bodies of Paul Greener, aged fourteen, and Walter Johnson, fifteen, were found in a slough near here. They went canoeing Sunday.

COUNT VON BERNSTORFF



WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, has informed Secretary of State Lansing that Germany stands ready to give the entente allies a full statement of her peace terms. Such terms, the ambassador stated in a visit to Secretary Lansing, will be tendered if a request for them is made. It is said that the allied embassies have advised their home governments not to advise flat refusal of the peace proposal for the sake of neutral opinion.

RIETH ROBBER GETS CASH AND JEWELRY

Pat McDonald and J. Hamel Lose \$125 in Cash, Valuable Jewelry and Clothing to Extent of \$75.

(East Oregonian Special.) RIETH, Dec. 26.—Sunday evening between 7 and 8 o'clock a burglar entered the car occupied by Pat McDonald and J. Hamel as sleeping quarters and ransacked a trunk and suit case, securing about \$125 in cash, besides valuable jewelry and wearing apparel to the extent of about \$75. Deputy Sheriff Estes has been working on the case today with some success and arrests may be made at any moment.

FILIPESI IS TAKEN AFTER BITTER BATTLE

Tentons Reported to Control All Dohrudja; Reverses Are Suffered in Engagement in Egypt.

BERLIN, via Sayville, Dec. 26.—The official statement said: Filipesi had been captured. Fifty five hundred Russians have been made prisoners during the last few days' fighting on the Wallachian plain on the edge of the mountain south of Rimnicul-Ciurcescu. According to unofficial advice all Dohrudja is now in the hands of the Teutons. Bridgehead positions on the Danube where it forms the border of Bessarabia are being pounded.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The practical destruction of the enemy's forces in an engagement Saturday at Magrabah Egypt is announced by the war office today. Thirteen hundred and fifty prisoners were taken.

PARIS, Dec. 26.—Official reports list of active artillery in the Leffions region on the Somme Christmas.

BERLIN, Dec. 26.—The repeated repulse of British patrols is reported in today's official statement of the western front. Artillery activity is increasing in the Ypres sector.

CHICAGO MARKET CONTINUES STRONG

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—(Special to the East Oregonian.)—Range of prices today:

Open	High	Low	Close
Dec. \$1.60	\$1.62 1/2	\$1.59	\$1.59
May \$1.69 1/4	\$1.72 1/4	\$1.67 1/2	\$1.68 1/2

Portland.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Merchants Exchange bids today: Club, \$1.40; biggest, \$1.44.

Princess Chimay is Dead

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—The Princess Chimay is dead in Padua, Italy. She was the beautiful Clara Ward, daughter of Elmer H. Ward, millionaire shipbuilder of Detroit. Though for years she was known all over the world for her escapades, her death was so obscure that the American consul had to be requested by the state department to verify it. The news of her death was received by Calvin Fontrose, treasurer of Lyon, Garry & Co., in a cable from Padua which said: "Clara dead. Notify family, Casatiola." Clara was the last of her many husbands. Her relatives in America have never seen him. She left no will and it is not known how much of her once large fortune remains. Her affair with Rigo, the Hungarian violinist, was a sensation at the time.

MIDDLE WEST IS IN GRIP OF STORM KING

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Sleet storms delayed wire traffic in the northern tier of the middle western states. Iowa is practically isolated from telegraphic communication. Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas are affected.

BAKER ORDERS LEWIS GUN CONTROVERSY TO CEASE



TESTING THE LEWIS MACHINE GUN. This photograph shows United States army officers inspecting the famous Lewis machine gun. This gun was offered to the United States and rejected and afterwards purchased for the British and Canadian armies. Secretary of War Baker, assuming full responsibility for the action of the war department in rejecting the gun, directs that the controversy among army officers, led by General Wood on one side and General Crozier chief of ordnance, on the other, shall cease.

CITY LIBRARY BOARD TAKES MOVE TO BLOCK OPPOSITION

For the purpose of heading off an alleged move which has for its objection that it will take the control of the Pendleton public library from the city, members of the city library board have filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state. At least that is the purpose as explained by one of the members whose signature appears on the articles. A copy of the articles of incorporation is now on file with the county clerk. The authority for this action was not voted in any meeting of the library board but was taken with the acquiescence of a majority of the members, according to one of the members. The incorporators are Mrs. Margaret Coleworthy, vice-president, Mrs. Jas. H. Gwin, secretary, C. P. Strain, treasurer, D. D. Phelps, E. J. Summerville, A. J. McAllister and Rose M. Fee, all members of the present board. The name of Mrs. Lina H. Sturgis, chairman of the board, does not appear, and she states she had no knowledge of the plan to incorporate. As explained by one of the members today, they had heard that the Umatilla county delegation in the legislature has promised to work for the passage of a bill which would place the control of the Pendleton library in the hands of a board consisting of the members of the county court and one person appointed by the city. Being incorporated will also permit the board, he said, to bring action to recover books belonging to the city. One of the articles specifically states that the corporation shall not have the right or power to enter into any agreement for running or operating the city library as a joint library with any other individual or corporation.

ROME HEARS GERMANY HAS NAMED HER SPECIFIC TERMS FOR PEACE

(JOHN HARLEY.) ROME, Dec. 26.—According to reports here Germany has handed the neutrals a sealed packet containing the specific terms on which she is willing to make peace. It was instructed that only they be forwarded to the enemies answering the peace proffers and actually requesting terms. Otherwise they were to be returned. The British and French war review letters will be released on the twenty-seventh. The report declared in case the note was submitted to the pope (Germany had permitted him to read the secret list of concessions and demands. There was no comment from the Vatican on this report or the official view of the suggestions in President Wilson's note. It is admitted Italian officialdom is puzzled over the American suggestion considering there is some diplomatic secret behind it. The press continued its speculation over Wilson's step and found countless possible motives ranging from the belief the note was inspired by Lansing's pro-Germanism to the possibility this was the first step to American's entering the war.

POSTAL RECEIPTS FOR XMAS SEASON JUMP 50 PER CENT

Pendleton's postal receipts for the Christmas season this year will aggregate almost 50 per cent more than for the same season last year. At the same time the incoming mail was much heavier than ever before, thus furnishing evidence of the generally prosperous condition of the country. Complete figures on the local receipts have not yet been compiled but Lester Cronin, assistant postmaster, has summed up the business for 15 days of the month. These days show a heavy gain over last year and if the same ratio is maintained throughout the month a 50 per cent gain will be shown. Though an enormous amount of mail was received at the local office it has all been worked out and the only mail remaining at the office is that in boxes or waiting at the general delivery. Parcels post packages were delivered about the city yesterday and on Sunday. For other mail patrons were requested to go to the office.

FORMAL REPLY MADE TO NOTE OF PRESIDENT

Sees in Immediate Exchange of Views the Most Appropriate Road to End Present Struggle.

PROMISES HEARTY SUPPORT TO PERMANENT PEACE EFFORTS

Declares Germany Will Be Ready With Pleasure to Collaborate With U. S. When Moment Arrives—Calls suggestions of Wilson High Minded.

BERLIN, Dec. 26.—Germany in a formal note of reply to President Wilson's note handed Ambassador Gerard today proposes a meeting of delegates from all belligerents.

The note hints that "the great work of prevention of future wars can only commence after the end of the present struggle. When this moment arrives Germany is ready with pleasure to collaborate entirely with the United States in the exalted task."

The text follows: "The high-minded suggestions made by the president of the United States to create a basis of establishment for peace have been received and considered by the imperial government in the same friendly spirit which is expressed in the communication. It points out what he had in his heart and leaves the road open.

"To the imperial government the immediate exchange of views to the most appropriate road to the desired result. Therefore it begs, in the same sense its declaration of December 12 in which it offered to hand in peace negotiations to propose a meeting of delegates of all belligerents at a neutral place. Also the government is of the opinion the work of prevention of future war can commence only after the present struggle is ended. Germany is ready when this moment comes, to collaborate with the United States in the exalted task."

The note is couched with the usual diplomatic politeness.

(Robert Bender.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Tasty examination of Germany's reply led one foremost administration official to state his belief the allies would not be satisfied to meet the Teutonic proposals. He held that Germany directly dodged the request of the United States for something specific in the way of peace terms.

STOCKMEN ARE WELL PROVIDED WITH FEED

Very Few Cattle Are Being Fattened Here This Year; Sheepmen Supplied With Feed for Bands Unless Winter Should be Very Abnormal.

With very few cattle being fed in this county this winter and with sheepmen well provided with feed for their bands there is said to be little danger of any feed shortage in this vicinity even should there be a hard winter.

The most pronounced feature of the livestock situation in Umatilla county at present is the remarkably small number of beef cattle on feed. On the Guderian ranch on Birch creek Fred Hinn is feeding 200 head of beef and Wright & Wain are feeding about 100 head on the old Levi Bridges place on McKay. These are said to be the only lots being fed in this vicinity.

In the west end of the county, where in past years from 3,000 to 10,000 head of beef have been fattened, there are not more than 1,000 feeders this year, according to the estimate of M. H. Yates of this city. The cattle being fed in the Echo-Stanfield country are mostly held by individual farmers or stockmen. The high price of hay caused most farmers to sell their hay this year.

At present there is little hay being sold as most stockmen are supplied for anything except a very abnormal season.

THE MAYOR OF UMATILLA



Mrs. E. E. Starcher was not only elected mayor of Umatilla, Ore., but she had to defeat her husband to win. He had the temerity to run on the opposition ticket, and the women of the city—for women vote in Oregon—just rose up and swatted him and many other male candidates. Four women were elected to the city council; another was chosen recorder, and another became treasurer. "I am for a rigid enforcement of the law and lower expense of government," said Mrs. Mayor when she was asked about her policy.