

## NEWS OF THE WEEK

### General Resume of Important Events Throughout the World.

United States exports increase 86 per cent in January.

Seven deaths were caused by heavy snow storm in New York.

The price of bread in Chicago has risen one cent—to 6 cents a loaf.

Two hundred of the 670 members of the English parliament are serving at the front.

Reports have it that Serbia is to be invaded again by a large army of Austro-Germans.

A German dynamite Canadian railroad bridge and escapes to the United States.

A London dispatch announces that the Germans lost 6000 killed on a Polish front less than a mile long.

General Villa en route to Tampico, captures San Luis Potosi and is in full possession of the city and vicinity.

The steamer Northland loses rudder in storm off California coast, but was taken in tow by the steamer Nann Smith.

W. H. Hornbrook, editor of the Albany, Ore., Daily Democrat, has been appointed by President Wilson as minister to Siam.

Victoria, B. C., film censors in the last 12 months barred 50 per cent of the pictures because there was used too much Stars and Stripes.

An indication of possible action by Italy is to be found in a notification issued to Italian reservists in England to prepare to join the colors.

A German statistician denies that Germany can be "starved out" in the present war and declares the country's granaries are stocked with abundance of cereals.

Reports reaching Holland say that the new bread regulations in Germany have caused so much unrest that 12,000 special constables have been appointed to guard the bakeries in Berlin.

England notifies U. S. that shipments of foodstuffs for Germany and Austria will be considered as contraband and will confiscate all cargoes captured without compensation to the shippers.

According to reports in circulation at the Vatican, Great Britain, Germany and Austria have answered favorably Pope Benedict's proposal for an exchange of civil prisoners—women and children and men above the age of 55.

With the opening of the British parliament the political truce was renewed. The government, while assuming all responsibility for the war, welcomed the opposition's support and the ministers announced that they would reply readily to all criticism and endeavor to avoid controversial matters.

Jitney-bus bandits, operating for the first time in Seattle, Wash., kidnapped two passengers from the downtown districts, took them to a lonely spot on the boulevard near Lake Washington, beat them, and, after stealing \$8.50 in cash and two watches, left them to find their way back to the city after they recovered consciousness.

A conscience-stricken person sent \$15 to the Seattle office of the Union Pacific railroad, and the fund has been forwarded to the Portland headquarters. Bills amounting to \$15 were placed in the following note: "U. P. R. R. Co.—I have been in your debt this amount since 1822." No explanation whatever is given as to how the company was defrauded, and the identity of the remitter remains hidden.

A Portland highwayman said to be sixty years old, secured 40 cents from a victim.

Carranza troops enter Mexico City with little resistance take charge of the government.

Germans are reported to be using a new shell containing a higher explosive than heretofore known.

A Babylonian tablet, believed to have been buried in the earth more than 4000 years ago and containing the earliest law code, recently has been unearthed and is now in possession of Yale University. The laws are written in the Sumerian language, the language of Southern Babylonia prior to its conquest by the Semites or Accadians in the time of Hammurabi. Owing to imperfect knowledge of the language the work of deciphering is extremely difficult. The laws that have been translated refer to legislation concerning injury to women, the repudiation of children who have been adopted, elopement, the hire of boats and cattle, and provision for the killing of a hired ox by a lion.

During the year ended June 30 last a total of 10,302 persons, including 265 passengers, lost their lives in accidents on railroads and in railroad shops reporting to the Interstate Commerce commission. In addition, 192,662 persons were injured, of whom 15,121 were passengers.

A dispatch from Lima, Peru, says that Dr. Gassani, Peruvian ex-minister of foreign affairs, was seriously wounded in a duel with Juan Durand. Durand is a brother of Dr. Augusto Durand, the Peruvian revolutionary leader, who was compelled to leave Chilean territory last August.

## Two British Vessels Sunk Off West Coast of England

London—A German submarine, the 21, made a raid off the west coast of England Monday. At least two British vessels were sunk.

The Ben Cruschen, a small steamer on her way from Cardiff to Liverpool, was halted off Liverpool, and sent to the bottom after her crew had been warned they would have only 10 minutes to escape. The other vessel was the Linda Blanche, a steam trawler on her way from Manchester to Belfast.

The crews of both vessels reached land safely, that of the Ben Cruschen at Fleetwood and that of the Linda Blanche at Liverpool.

The captain of the Ben Cruschen says he was overtaken by the submarine and ordered to leave his ship within ten minutes. Hardly had the crew got into the boats when a torpedo was fired, and the steamer went down.

The Ben Cruschen, which was of the 1978 tons register and belonged to the Morrison Shipping company, was on a voyage from Cardiff to Liverpool with a cargo of 5000 tons of coal.

Fleetwood is one of the principal fishing and shipping ports and watering places on the west coast.

The steamer Graphic, with passengers, Belfast to Liverpool, the paper says, passed wreckage, and soon afterwards saw the Ben Cruschen sunk. The Graphic was chased, but eluded pursuit and reached the Mersey safely.

The Linda Blanche was on its way from Manchester to Belfast when the submarine suddenly appeared alongside. Officers came aboard, and, in perfect English, ordered the crew to leave the steamer. As soon as the men of the Linda Blanche were in their boats the Germans attached a mine to the bridge and another to the forecastle. The mines were then exploded, destroying the vessel.

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## DOINGS OF OREGON'S LEGISLATURE

Proceedings of the People's Representatives at the State Capitol

### Portland Electric Light Co. Says It's Worth \$60,000,000

State Capitol, Salem—A valuation of approximately \$60,000,000 is made for the property of the Portland Electric Light & Power company, according to figures produced before the State Railroad commission in the general investigation hearing into the rates and service of the company.

The valuation figures were brought out through the testimony of W. J. Hagenah, utility expert, testifying in behalf of the company. It was under his direction that the company made an inventory of its property to be submitted to the commission in the present investigation.

What valuation has been placed by the commission's engineering experts has not been developed in the testimony, but the line of questions shot at Hagenah indicated that the commission has figures that will range considerably under those of the company.

Franklin T. Griffith, president of the company, was present at the hearing, but the examination for the company was conducted by E. A. Letzer, Mr. Hagenah was the only witness.

He narrated the manner in which the appraisal had been made, the commission inquiring at length into the methods he had used in arriving at the value of various items.

Among the largest items are \$5,694,000 for roadway and tracks; \$9,076,326 for land; \$4,987,000 for equipment; \$44,357,000 for buildings, fixtures and grounds, \$4,557,000 for rolling stock and floating equipment, \$6046 for hydraulic power works, \$4,767,000 for water powers, and \$9,962,000 for cost of development.

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### Prominent Women Plead for School for Girls

State Capitol, Salem—Declaring that there was real need for the institution and that it was the duty of the state, which it should not attempt to shirk, to take care of and educate its wayward girls, 12 women, representing various clubs, appeared before the joint ways and means committee this week and protested against the proposed recommendation to the legislature that the Industrial School for Girls be abolished.

Representatives of the women's clubs spoke frankly, as did members of the committee, and it is believed a plan will be agreed upon that will be satisfactory to all concerned. Mrs. S. M. Blumauer, representing the Council of Jewish Women, said it would be unjust and unwise at this time to discontinue the school. It was not a mercenary question, she urged, but an economical one, and a duty that should be performed. The fact that only a comparatively few girls had been taken care of was no reason for doing away with the school, she said.

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