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NEWS OF THE WEEK

General Resume of Important Events Throughout the World.

Nebraska legislature passes an anti-tipping law.

Forty airmen raid four towns in Belgium held by the Germans.

Germany notifies United States that relations with that country are strained.

After six weeks deadlock the Illinois legislature has elected an avowed "wet" speaker.

The embargo put on potash by Germany is seriously effecting American fertilizer manufacturers.

Pawn shops and loan sharks are to be regulated if a bill passed by the Oregon legislature becomes a law.

It is reported from Paris that the French troops have retaken two miles of German trenches in Champagne.

German government increases prices of potatoes in order to conserve the food supply, which is admittedly growing short.

British steamer is blown up and sunk off the coast of Cape Antifer, by two internal explosions. Large number of the crew lost their lives.

Fearing death at sea from German submarines, the officers and crew of an oil tank steamer, leaving San Francisco for England, have made their wills.

Oregon senate passes ultra "dry" bill in half hour, one member dissenting. This is said to be the most drastic Prohibition measure of any state in the Union.

A prize crew of three officers and 16 men was placed on board the American steamer Wilhelmina at Falmouth. The Wilhelmina is loaded with foodstuffs bound for Germany.

A Dunkirk dispatch says a life buoy inscribed U-12 has been found on the shore at Zuydcoote, near Dunkirk. It is thought to have belonged to a German submarine, which possibly met with disaster.

Judge Gates, of the Circuit court of Multnomah county, Oregon, says he "cannot assume ecclesiastical powers" in opening the Taylor-street church in Portland, which is closed by a dissension in the Methodist congregation, but if the property is not used for church purposes, it will be subject to taxation.

A dispatch from Bagdad says that in an engagement between the advance guard of the Turkish left wing and British infantry and cavalry, the British withdrew, leaving 17 men dead. The dispatch adds that the right wing of the Turkish army succeeded in advancing as far as the woods near Kono. The Turks, it is asserted, captured 500 camels. Only five Turks were wounded.

The relations between Greece and Turkey apparently are becoming more strained. Although Turkey has offered reparation for the insult to the Greek military attaché at Constantinople, it is reported that the Greek minister has left the legation in charge of a secretary, being dissatisfied with Turkey's attitude. The Turkish minister has also left Athens. This is believed in some quarters to be the first step in the rupture of diplomatic relations between Greece and Turkey, which are said also to have been affected by the Albanian invasion of Serbia.

Canada increases tax for war purposes.

A San Francisco woman has started a jitneyette—for women only.

England declares that more stringent action will be taken against German trade.

Russians in East Prussia are reported retreating before the German forces.

Two hundred and twenty thousand Serbs are now fit for service in the European war theater.

Commissioner Dieck, of Portland, has inaugurated a demerit system against city employees who are negligent about paying their personal bills.

Five hundred workmen employed in the auto-truck body building department of the Theodor Kunkel plant, of Cleveland, O., went on strike.

German financiers have been summoned to a conference in Berlin with the finance minister, who considers that a new loan of \$1,250,000,000 is required for the continuance of the war, says a dispatch from Amsterdam.

Many tailors in session in Chicago, declaring that economy in dress is necessary, limit \$1,000 yearly for clothes, which includes eight walking suits, four overcoats, one full-dress suit and six pairs of trousers. By the same decree women should use only \$250 yearly.

Relief workers find that the Belgians especially enjoy the American brand of "pork and beans."

President Wilson in a lecture before the National Council of Boy Scouts, advised them to develop character by serving others.

The British government has capitulated at last to the insistent demand for more news from the front. Prime Minister Asquith promised that arrangements would be made to publish communications from Sir John French, the British commander-in-chief, twice weekly.

SHARP WARNING IS SENT ENGLAND AND GERMANY

Washington, D. C.—Publication by the State department Friday of the texts of the notes sent to Great Britain and Germany, respectively, revealed that both countries had been warned in most emphatic terms against menacing the vessels or lives of American citizens traversing the recently proclaimed seas zones of war.

Germany was advised that the United States "would be constrained to hold the imperial government to a strict accountability" for such acts of its naval authorities as might result in the destruction of American vessels or the loss of American lives, and that "if such a deplorable situation should arise," the American government would "take any steps that might be necessary to take to safeguard American lives and property."

To Great Britain the United States pointed out "the measure of responsibility" which would seem to be imposed on the British government "for the loss of American vessels and lives in case of an attack by a German naval force." If England sanctioned the general misuse of the American flag by British vessels, and thereby cast doubt on the valid character of the neutral envoys.

The two communications were presented respectively to the British government by Ambassador Page and the German foreign office by Ambassador Gerard. They were prepared by Counselor Robert Lansing and revised by President Wilson and Secretary Bryan after consultation with the entire cabinet.

The British, Spanish and Brazilian ambassadors, who happened to call at the State department, received copies of the notes, as did the ministers of Sweden, Norway and Denmark, who specially requested them. The documents created something of a sensation among the diplomats generally because of what some regarded as their drastic implication.

Neutral Envoys Approve Uncle Sam's Protests

Washington, D. C.—Reading of the official texts of the two notes from the United States to Germany and Great Britain developed Saturday an intense interest among officials and diplomats in the question of what would be the nature of the replies from the two belligerent governments.

That Great Britain would give assurances of no intention to sanction the general use of neutral flags by British merchant ships was the belief of many officials. The widest sort of speculation, based on a variety of conceptions of Germany's plans in waging a submarine war on merchant ships was heard as to the probable response of the Berlin foreign office.

Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, declined to discuss the note to Germany, as he had received no advice from Berlin concerning it, and the British embassy also was silent.

What excited most attention in Congress and among diplomats, however, was the serious tone of the notes, even though qualified by polite terms of diplomatic usage. The determination of the United States government to have the American flag used only by ships entitled to fly it and the warning that Germany would be held to a "strict accountability" if American lives or vessels were lost in the attacks on merchant vessels in the new sea zones of war were practically the sole topic of discussion in executive and congressional circles, as well as among the ambassadors and representatives of belligerent and neutral nations.

While there were no authorized expressions, it was evident that the neutral diplomats in general gave both notes their approval because of the identity of interests of their governments and of the United States in the circumstances.

Less "Uplift" Is Wanted.

Indianapolis—Henry Lane Wilson, ex-ambassador to Mexico, speaking here before the Columbia club, said:

"There will be no hope for Mexico until either the present administration reverses its policy in entirety or until a new administration, committed to less uplift, but more genuine practical advice and assistance in the way of intelligent evolution, comes into power."

Mr. Wilson said it was not his purpose "to question the intention or patriotism of the President, but the performance of the administration."

West Getting Big Orders.

Aberdeen, Wash.—Two orders for barrel staves, the value of which aggregates \$57,500, and which will take more than 70 cars to carry them to the East, have been received within the last few days by the Western Cooperage company. The first is from the Chicago headquarters of the Armour Packing company, and is for \$50,000 of lard barrel stock. This order alone will make 60 carloads of staves. The other order is for \$7500 worth of short barrel staves and comes from a New Hampshire firm.

Unit To Be Exchanged.

Berlin—The first exchanges of disabled prisoners of war under the plan of Pope Benedict were arranged through the Berlin embassy. One hundred and forty-six British prisoners held for further service will leave Germany February 16, and Great Britain will release 107 Germans. The exchanges apparently are not on a numerical basis, but all those who are disabled will be included within the scope of the order eventually.

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GERARD TO CONFER

Kaiser Summons U. S. Ambassador to Field Headquarters.

Choice of Friendship of Two Nations Seems Offered—Situation Very Delicate.

London—The German emperor, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from The Hague, has invited the American ambassador to Germany, James W. Gerard, to a conference at eastern headquarters.

Washington, D. C.—A situation of the utmost delicacy for the United States has arisen in relation to the European war. Its character is indicated by the request of Emperor William that Ambassador Gerard come with Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German chancellor, shall come at once to his headquarters in the eastern theater of war.

This request is equivalent to a command. Mr. Gerard and the chancellor will go without delay. Mr. Gerard has been equipped with the proper instructions, approved by the President. These instructions are in line with the principles laid down in the note to the German government protesting against the enforcement of the German "war zones" decree.

What results will follow from the audience which the emperor, surrounded by his troops, will grant to the American ambassador, no one in Washington knows. It will be a dramatic setting for the conference. Within the armed camp of a marvelously efficient military power will be the diplomatic representative of the United States, who realizes that the regular army of his country comprises only 80,000 men. This force constitutes only two army corps.

"Personally I have not any ambition and I emphatically declare that I am ready to retire from the political affairs of Mexico as soon as the peace of the nation is established and when I see that the men who have made her poor and who live on the people have retired."

Twenty-One Miners Perish By Rush of Waters

Nanaimo, B. C.—Twenty-one lives were snuffed out at 11:30 Wednesday morning at the South Wellington mine of the Pacific Coast Coal mines, limited, when Fire Boss David Nillster fired a shot which broke through into the old working of the Southfield mine of the Old Vancouver Coal company, a mine abandoned some 20 years ago.

The old workings were filled with water and when the shot broke through the inrushing waters drowned all the men in the section of the mine affected with the exception of W. Murdoch, who, after a hard struggle, succeeded in reaching safety.

Among the victims of the disaster are Joseph Foy, manager of the mine, and David Nillster, fire boss.

Foy was on the surface at the time, but upon hearing of the old workings being tapped went below ground with the intention of getting all the men to the surface. He opened a trap door of the old stopes and immediately was met by a flood of water which hurried him against the timbers.

Thomas Watson was working his first shift, and, along with William Anderson, had reached a place of safety, but went back to rescue their partners and lost their lives in the attempt.

Mine Inspector John Newton took charge of the situation and immediately ordered big pumps installed to pump out the water to recover the bodies of the victims, which it is expected will take at least two months' time, owing to the swampy nature of the ground and the extensive nature of the workings of the Old Southfield mine.

Belgian Socialists Give Aid to Needy Countrymen

London—The organization of the Socialist party in Brussels is doing splendid work in alleviating distress, according to a report from the American Commission for Relief. It has two bakeries, employing 185 men, with a possible weekly output of 220 tons of bread. At present they are baking and distributing about half that amount. Their bakeries are not allowed to sell for money, but for every ounce of flour they receive from the commission for relief we turn in a coupon signed by the head of a Belgian family saying he has received the bread.

"When a man makes application for help," said the Socialist secretary, "we ascertain his business and if possible how many of his family are dependent on him and how many have trades of their own. If it is possible for him to do work that will assist the commission for relief we let him pay for the coupons by doing that work."

"For example, if a man is a shoemaker we let him make boots that are turned in to the commission. This particular form of work is, however, becoming impossible on account of the failure of the supplies of raw material of all kinds. The number of the unemployed among the many weavers, bookbinders, miners, etc., in Brussels and the country at large is increasing enormously."

Flood Reservoirs Asked.

Denver—The Kansas legislature asked the Colorado legislature to join in a memorial to congress, petitioning the National government to construct a series of dams and reservoirs east of the Rocky mountains to impound all flood waters. The Kansas memorial has already been sent to congress. The memorial proposes an appropriation to be used in the construction of a series of canals, ditches and reservoirs. The two-fold benefits of the project, would be the reclamation of the land and the prevention of overflow of the rivers.

Kaiser to Control Oats.

Berlin—The Bundesrat has decided to appropriate all the domestic stocks of oats, with the exception of seed oats and the grain necessary for fodder for horses. The order became effective February 16. The Bundesrat also raised the maximum price of oats by 50 marks (\$12.50) per metric ton, the second happening of the kind.

General Villa Refuses to Accept Peace Appeal

San Antonio, Tex.—Francisco Villa declines to heed the appeal of the Mexican peace conference held here Saturday. In a reply received by Federico Gamboa, chairman of the committee named by the conference to transmit to the leaders of the warring Mexican factions its resolution asking them to lay down their arms and proclaim peace, Villa bitterly arraigns the men who called the conference and rejects the plan proposed.

Villa signs himself "Chief of Operations." His reply was telegraphed from Penjamo, Guanajuato. He says: "It would be an excellent idea of yours if it would not cause an insane ambition and an immoderate wish to cause more bloodshed and make the people poorer.

"In the convention were present the big landowners, who saw in the poor people nothing but slaves to serve them. They are the so-called scientists, who only employ their science in exploiting the men and helping the tyrants. There are the clericals, ambitious and rapacious. There are the professional politicians, only preoccupied to exploit the men under them, and you yourself, Mr. Gamboa, have an advantageous place in that group, as a conspicuous person who served as a tool for the Huerta administration, the usurper and assassin.

"I do not know why the men who originated this state of affairs should find fault with it, being as it is that they have fled to a strange land and left here all of the people, like myself, who are trying to save the republic with all of our strength and blood."

"Personally I have not any ambition and I emphatically declare that I am ready to retire from the political affairs of Mexico as soon as the peace of the nation is established and when I see that the men who have made her poor and who live on the people have retired."

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Duma Cheers Union of Russian People

Petrograd—The short session of the Duma opened Thursday in the presence of the ministers, the members of the Council of the Empire, the diplomatic representatives and a throng that filled the balconies of the chamber. The opening was preceded by an impressive half-hour religious service in the immense foyer of the Duma chamber, in which cabinet ministers and the Duma officials participated. The session proper opened with the singing by the entire assemblage of the Russian national anthem.

President Rodzianko in his formal opening address made a complimentary reference to the work of the allies in the war, whereupon the entire body of members rose and faced the box in which sat the ambassadors of France, Great Britain and Japan, and gave them an ovation, with handclapping and cheering.

Foreign Minister Sazonoff repeatedly was interrupted by applause during his discourse.

Oregon Ultra "Dry."

Salem, Or.—For the first time the senate went on record on the prohibition question, and the answer was ultra "dry." The minority report of the committee on alcoholism favored the bill which probably will be up for final passage soon. The mail of every member of the legislature has been increased in the next two years, inasmuch as Governor Withycombe does not propose to practice a policy of wholesale pardoning.

Moreover, a little extra money will be needed owing to the desire of the present governor to place the institution, as far as possible, on a self-supporting basis. The committee again discussed several plans through which the prisoners may be employed. A flour mill and a wagon-making plant are under consideration. If either or both of these plans is adopted, it is probable that further appropriations will be allowed for the penitentiary.

Divorce Ad Bill Is Passed.

State Capitol, Salem—A bill prohibiting lawyers from advertising for divorce business and fixing penalties for violations was passed by the senate Thursday. Senator Strayer, of the committee on revision of laws, in reporting the measure favorably, said the practice was common in Portland. It was thought an encouragement of litigation should not be allowed.

Senator Kellahan said there was no reason why divorce lawyers should not advertise for business if they desired.

No Postal Saving Limit Wins.

State Capitol, Salem—The Senate defeated Representative Forbes' bill to levy a heavy tax on trading stamps, those members who are opposed to the use of trading stamps in the state are centering their efforts on Representative Tom Brown's bill which probably will be up for final passage soon. The mail of every member of the legislature has been flooded for the last few weeks with letters from constituents who represent either side of the question. The bill promises to arouse considerable debate.

Road-Merger Act Passed.

State Capitol, Salem—By provisions of Senator Hawley's bill passed by the house the Southern Pacific company will be enabled to proceed with the consolidation of its subsidiary