

WESTON LEADER

VOL. XXXIV.

WESTON, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1915.

NO. 38.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

General Resume of Important Events Throughout the World.

Russians report capture of many German supplies in North Poland.

The United States has dispatched two additional battleships to Vera Cruz.

A British cruiser captures an American bark and takes the cargo of 6000 bales of cotton into a prize court.

French troops advancing on Germans in Belgium find the foe in strong positions, and both floods and deep snows are encountered.

The University of Toronto is figuring on closing several weeks earlier than usual to allow its students to enlist in the army.

Greece has formed a new cabinet, but King Constantine declares that unless it stands neutral, he will cause it to be dissolved.

It is reported that France has 22 troop ships enroute to the Dardanelles apparently to aid in land operations should Constantinople fall.

Forty hours after drowning that her brother had committed suicide, the dead was actually committed by J. C. John, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Three San Francisco bakers were found guilty of selling short-weight loaves. Their plea of the high price of flour did not save them from fines.

The Gould family has been entirely eliminated from the railway directorships of railroads by the reorganization of the Missouri Pacific-Iron Mountain railroad.

During the early hours of Tuesday morning German submarines made their presence known at three widely separated points on the British coast and sunk three merchant steamers.

The London Daily Telegraph's Paris correspondent says he learns that Dr. Van Bethmann-Hollweg, the German imperial chancellor, will make a statement in the Reichstag soon, setting forth the terms on which Germany is willing to make peace.

Countess Lasso Szeczeny, formerly Miss Gladys Vanderbilt, of New York, is recovering from smallpox, which she contracted while nursing wounded in an Austrian hospital three weeks ago, according to a Budapest dispatch to the Post dated March 2.

John K. Gaither, who has been postmaster of La Center, Wash., for 41 years, will retire from the service as soon as Patrick M. Kane, recently appointed, can file his bond and receive his commission. Mr. Gaither, who is 78 years old, came from Indiana in 1873, and the following year became postmaster. He has missed only one term of office.

Mrs. E. A. Pierce, aged 72, of Welches, Or., killed a big black bear with a garden hoe when the bear attacked her Saturday at her little cabin on the south slope of Mount Hope. The bear had chased E. A. Hutchinson from a neighboring cabin and advanced on Mrs. Pierce where she was hoeing her garden. While Mr. Hutchinson ran for aid, Mrs. Pierce slew Bruin with the only weapon at hand, the hoe.

The Middle West is having a severe snow storm.

Austria is said to have refused aid to Turkey in her present engagement with the allies' fleet.

M. F. Berry, originator of the present system of express and postal money orders, is dead.

The Minnesota legislature has refused to submit a woman suffrage amendment to the people.

Having "abstained" during all of February, the moon will full twice during March. This is the first occurrence since 1846.

"Unless neutral nations are prepared to assist in throwing the Germans out of Belgium, no suggestions from them in the matter of preventing the further devastation of that country are wanted," said Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, in the British house of commons.

William Willett's daylight saving bill, which was discussed in the British parliament in the spring of 1909, provided for the earlier use of daylight by putting forward the clock 20 minutes on four successive Sundays in April and reversing the process on four Sundays in September. This procedure, it was argued, would bring more time at the end of the day for recreation while the sun was still up. The measure never became law in England. The author of the bill has just died.

The British now claim that the war will be short, and that their artillery, once weak, now dominates.

Bombardment of Turkey by the allied fleets continues and the probable results are that Constantinople will fall.

After two years of almost continuous session the 63d congress, which revised the tariff and the currency system of the nation, supplemented the trust laws, created an income tax and experienced the first popular election of United States senators, ended at noon March 4.

Crisis in Mexico Causes Washington Much Alarm

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson was confronted with one of the most serious and perplexing developments that has ever arisen in the Mexican situation. Mexico City is on the verge of starvation. General Obregon, the Carranza commander, refuses to permit an international relief committee composed of wealthy members of the foreign colony to succor the needy.

"Mexico needs no foreign aid," the general is reported to have said. All the merchants who closed their stores have been ordered to reopen under threat of punishment. Three hundred of them, all Mexicans, have been imprisoned. The people of the city are living in terror of another evacuation, since Obregon has announced that he will not prevent looting or pillaging for food or money.

The Brazilian, British, Spanish and Italian ambassadors called separately at the State department, bringing pessimistic reports of the situation, which corresponded to reports already received by the American government. The foreign diplomats suggested no solution.

Secretary Bryan announced that he had sent an urgent telegram to American Consul Silliman with instructions to lay the situation earnestly before General Carranza, so that General Obregon might be directed to accept the proffered aid of the foreign residents. Freight service is suspended between Mexico City and Vera Cruz. Transportation facilities for relief purposes are withheld by General Obregon on the ground of military necessity.

President Wilson was advised of all the facts as revealed in official messages and reports from the foreign ambassadors. The President was reported to be studying the various phases of the question closely. Should General Obregon continue to refuse outside aid, drastic measures might be necessary. In the view of foreign diplomats, the situation is described by them as more nearly intolerable than it ever has been since revolutionary troubles began in the Southern republic.

Real Winter Is Raging Through Middle States

Chicago—Old Winter played a furious return engagement all over the Middle West Saturday and is rapidly extending the performance to the East and Southwest.

Dispatches tell of heavy snow in Iowa, Nebraska and other states. Trains are delayed in many directions and stalled dead on small branch lines. In the cities transportation was badly crippled, but the storm had its silver lining, for it provided work for thousands of unemployed.

The storm swept up from the Southwest, heralded by a gale of great fury. Then came the snow, preceded by a blast of small hail. There had been no warning of the storm, which struck Chicago shortly after midnight and increased in intensity as morning approached. The city awoke to find an inch of snow over everything and the wind blowing a mad gale. Two hours later the snowfall had increased to two and one-half inches and was turning to rain.

The fury of the storm was most visible on Lake Michigan, which had been whipped into a violent rage. Roaring seas swept over the breakwaters and choked the mouth of the river. Lake mariners said it was the worst storm of the season.

England Continues to Delay U. S. Food Ship

London—Little light was thrown on the steps that Great Britain will take to enforce her declared intention to stop trade to and from Germany. Developments on the declaration hinge on an order-in-council which, it has been promised, will be issued soon, but no definite date for the issuance of which has been announced.

Officials make it clear at every opportunity that the mode of making reports will be outlined in such a manner that further negotiations will not be precluded, insofar as the declaration affects neutrals. Meanwhile foodstuffs from the United States destined to neutral countries continue to be delayed without explanations which satisfy shippers.

Chicago packers are much annoyed over the delay at Falmouth since February 20 of the Norwegian steamer Vitalia. There are no prospects for the release of the steamer, although it is said everything possible has been done to comply with the British requirements.

Owners of the cargo gave specific guarantees that the food was for Holland consumption, yet the ship is still being held.

Miners Hold "Hill Death"

Wheeling, W. Va.—The convention of the fifth Ohio sub-district, United Mineworkers of America, which represents directly the 15,000 striking Eastern Ohio miners, voted unanimously to hold out for a 47-cent mining rate "hill death." The operators have offered 44.51 cents. The action of the convention is expected to have an important bearing on the efforts of Secretary of Labor Wilson to settle the strike. The efforts being made by Secretary Wilson, however, did not enter into the deliberations of the convention.

Socialists Want Honor

Berlin—The Overseas News Agency gave out the following: "The Socialist deputy, Haenisch, speaking in the Prussian diet, expressed the feelings of the Social Democrats and said that the party desired to secure honorable peace."

Highway May Open to Astoria by July Fourth

Rainier—Work on the Columbia Highway through Columbia county will be resumed before the end of the month. Major Bowley, state highway engineer, and a party of his associates, together with a number of Rainier citizens, walked over that portion of the incomplete highway between Rainier and Goble and came to the conclusion that by beginning work as soon as the men and material can be assembled it will be possible to have the road open for traffic all the way from Portland to Astoria before July 4.

The state highway engineer will have available this spring about \$50,000 of the Columbia county road fund for use on the highway that was graded last year and that is unfinished. This he believes will go far toward completing the road through this county.

The party that hiked over the Rainier-Goble link found that the graded roadway had stood the winter well. At a few points the hillside had slid down perceptibly and covered a portion of the graded surface. The engineers figured that these obstacles can be removed with little difficulty or expense. They had expected such behavior by nature.

One important piece of work that remains to be done between Rainier and Goble is at Prospect Point, where the highway must be carried through a solid body of rock about 1600 feet long. Part of the necessary blasting has been done. Major Bowley estimates that it will require less than \$5000 to do the rest of the work on the strip of highway.

The roadway for the entire distance covered by the party is fully 24 feet wide, in accordance with contract specifications. All the fills and all the culverts in the Rainier-Goble link have been put in place. As the highway commission never was flush with money on the Columbia county job, the work is not finished with the same nicety as in Multnomah county, but it is every bit as substantial and serviceable. The scenic advantages are equal to those of the highway through Multnomah county, with the exception that there are not so many picturesque waterfalls.

Coos County Leads All Counties of United States

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—With six cow testing associations carrying slightly more than 8000 dairy cows on official test, dairymen of Coos county lead all counties of the United States in this progressive plan of building up the dairy herds. What makes the fact still more remarkable is the comparatively short time in which the work of testing has been in operation in this new Western Oregon county that has put Oregon on the map. Just about one year ago the County court of Coos county, in cooperation with the Agricultural college, completed arrangements to secure the services of a county agricultural agent. J. L. Smith, the present incumbent, was selected by the College Dairy department and Extension division and sent into the field, known to be highly favorable to dairying. His work has resulted in many things of great importance and value to Coos county.

Seed Sought for Contest

Klamath Falls—The Klamath Water Users' association, with President Abel Aday and County Agriculturist H. R. Glazier have begun securing the best seed possible for distribution among the children of the water users on the Klamath project who wish to enter the contests announced by the association recently.

The seed grain will be all of the same variety and the best obtainable. The contest is in the way of growing the best vegetables and grains. To the boy or girl growing the best potato crop on a sixteenth of an acre will be given the choice of three colts. The second best grower will have second choice of the colts and the other colt will go to the third best grower.

Girls Best Spellers

Oregon City—The third spelling bee in the all-county schedule arranged by County School Superintendent Calavan and Supervisors Vedder and McCormack, was held at the Brown school, near New Era, this week, and spelling teams representing Brown, Leland, Union Hall, Twilight and New Era districts were present. The schools are divided into two divisions, one composed of the fourth and fifth grades and the other of the sixth, seventh and eighth. Miss Ruth Floyd, of the Leland school, won in the lower division, and Miss Easter Noble, of Union Hall, was second.

Laurence Is Reappointed

Salem—Arthur Lawrence, of Portland, was reappointed state printer by the board of control Thursday. His salary is \$1800 a year, which is fixed by statute.

R. A. Harris, under the old law, received \$4000 a year. William Pimpton, secretary of the department, received \$2000 a year under the old law, and Mr. Lawrence has suggested to the board that he should continue to receive that salary, or more, if the board sees fit to allow it.

Shelter Shed and Spur Asked

Salem—L. R. Gamble, in a complaint filed with the State Railroad commission has asked that the Southern Pacific Company be compelled to provide a shelter shed and spur track at Lin station on the Woodburn-Springfield branch.

Telephone Appeal Made

Salem—Declaring that its long distance service is made available to all Portland patrons of the Home Telephone company by a decree of the United States court, the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company has asked the railroad commission for a modification of its order compelling an interchange of telephone service in the Hotel Benson, in Portland. The order was made when the building occupied by the Benson hotel was a part of the Hotel Oregon. The Home company objects to a reopening of the case.

Legislator Takes New Job

Salem—Governor Withycombe has accepted the resignation of Frank Davey as representative in the legislature from Harney county. Mr. Davey has been appointed bookkeeper at the penitentiary.

WHEAT CROP LARGE

Greatest Production in History of Country Is Predicted.

New Record Is Expected for Third Consecutive Year—Acreage Increase Is Big.

Chicago—Indications point to a wheat crop of more than 900,000,000 bushels this year, against 891,000,000 bushels harvested last year. This, if realized, will make the third consecutive record-breaking crop.

The United States last year raised 684,990,000 bushels of winter wheat and set a new record. It was one of the best things that ever happened to this country to have a bumper crop, as it enabled the United States to feed all Europe and obtain the highest prices in years.

This year it is possible to raise 700,000,000 bushels bushels or more of winter wheat with favorable conditions to harvest. This, with a spring wheat crop estimated at 240,000,000 bushels, which is not a high figure, will make the wheat crop reach 940,000,000 bushels. The wheat crop last spring was a poor one—only 206,000,000 bushels.

A winter wheat acreage of 41,268,000, an increase of 4,135,000 acres, or 11.1 per cent more than was needed for the harvest of 1914 is the largest ever known. The plant has come through the winter in unusually good condition and indications are that there will be little less in acreage from various causes up to harvest. The estimate of 700,000,000 bushels of winter wheat is based on a loss of only 263,000 acres up to harvest and yield per acre of slightly more than 17 bushels, or about two bushels an acre less than last year. For spring wheat, which is yet to be seeded, the estimate is based on an acreage of 18,000,000 acres and a yield of 13 bushels an acre, or the same as harvested in 1915, when the crop was 240,000,000 bushels. As prices are high it is expected that with an early spring farmers in the Northwest will put in the largest in years and possibly it may exceed 19,000,000 acres, against 17,533,000 harvested last year.

47 Rescued After 96 Hours Underground

Hinton, W. Va.—Forty-seven miners were rescued alive Sunday from the workings of the Layland mines of the New River & Pocahontas Consolidated Coal company, wrecked by an explosion Tuesday. As from a tomb the men, who had been four days and four nights without food or drink, came again into the light of day to be greeted by joyous relatives and friends.

Rescuers, headed by J. W. Paul, of the bureau of mines; Early Henry, chief of the State department of mines, and H. M. Bertelot, general manager of the company, entered mine No. 3. Tearing down a brattice work to let in fresh air, they found five men who seized and kissed them. The men were able to walk to the mine entrance unaided. They had barricaded themselves under the direction of one of their number, Sam Morici.

Continuing the search, the rescuers encountered another brattice about 500 yards beyond. Here, in entry No. 10, they found 42 men alive. The miners were so weak the rescuers had to carry them to the entrance. As Sam Morici was the hero who compelled his little party to barricade themselves, so did Hugh McMillan and John Whalen practically force the larger party to build a rude barricade to shut out the noxious afterdamp.

Realizing that their only hope for rescue lay in keeping out the gas and afterdamp, McMillan and Whalen made their companions, mostly foreign birth, collect planks for a barricade. Behind this barricade the 42 waited in the darkness 96 hours until the rescuers came.

The rescued men suffered severely from lack of food and drink. Medical aid was given them promptly and they were taken to their homes. All, it is believed, will recover.

Fifty-three men, including those found Sunday, had been rescued alive; 85 bodies had been recovered and 30 more were unaccounted for. All but 11 of the dead have been brought out.

Submarine Scare Abated

London—A dispatch to Reuter Telegram company from Flushing, Holland, says an easier feeling with regard to the German submarine blockade is indicated by the announcement that beginning March 9 passenger service to England by the liners of the Zealand company will be considerably extended. At present the British authorities permit only 200 passengers to leave England daily.

The rush of passengers in Flushing bound for England is enormous. Thousands are awaiting accommodations.

French Sent to Africa

Paris—The ministry of war announces that on account of the situation in the Dardanelles and in order to meet every eventuality the government has decided to concentrate in North Africa an expeditionary force. This will be ready to put to sea at the first sign that it is needed and be directed to the point where its presence is required.

Germans Said Willing to Make Concessions

London—A dispatch to Reuters Telegram company from Athens says: "The allied fleet Thursday bombarded and reduced to silence the forts of Dardanus, Hamidieh and Tchermelik, on the Asiatic side of the inside Dardanelles. The telegraph station at Besikaj also was demolished."

"The bombardment was carried out by nine ships, which advanced two miles up the straits."

A Paris dispatch says the Havas News Agency gave out a dispatch confirming the report published in the Paris Matin that an allied fleet resumed the bombardment of the Dardanelles Tuesday morning.

This dispatch, dated at Athens March 2, reads: "The bombardment of the interior fortifications of the Dardanelles was resumed this morning. The allies have a total of 52 warships on the scene. Five of them entered the straits. While this movement was going on four battleships began the bombardment of the Turkish positions fronting on the Gulf of Saros, which is separated from the Dardanelles by the Gallipoli Peninsula."

The admiralty issued the following report regarding the bombardment of the Turkish forts by the Anglo-French fleet: "The operations in the Dardanelles were resumed at 11 o'clock Monday morning when the Triumph, Ocean and Albion entered the straits and attacked Fort No. 3 and the batteries at White Chel. The fire was returned by the forts and also by field guns and howitzers."

"An air reconnaissance made by naval seaplanes in the evening brought the report that successful new gun positions had been prepared by the enemy but that no guns were erected in them. The seaplanes also located surface mines."

"During Monday night a force of minesweepers covered by destroyers swept within a mile and a half of Cape Keppez and their work which was carried out under fire, is reported to have been excellent."

Wilson's Trip to Canal Is Cut Off by Congress

Washington, D. C.—Many features of the elaborate exercises planned for the formal opening of the Panama canal in July will be abandoned as the result of the action of congress in refusing to make the appropriation for the purpose asked for by Secretary Garrison, of the War department. The appropriation requested was to defray the expenses of a trip to the canal by President Wilson, members of congress, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives from foreign governments and other special guests, including ex-Presidents Roosevelt and Taft. Provision also was to be made for a banquet and other entertainments on the Isthmus, for gold medals, souvenirs and for the printing of special invitations.

It was intimated here that the president himself would not go to the formal opening, which is planned for July, but it is possible that he may change his present plans. The Navy department has an appropriation for sending the fleet to the canal and it was said that some kind of exercises probably would be held.

All of the president's plans for the spring and summer months were said to be dependent on the international situation. While the prospects for his going by train to San Francisco later this month were said to be brighter, he will make no final arrangements for the present.

Three More Forts In Dardanelles Quit Action

Paris—The following supplementary official statement was issued late Thursday by the French war office: "It can be said that in the Argonne, where we had been completely attacked since December, the roles in the last three weeks have been reversed. We have gained the indisputable ascendancy. The effect is salutary in these local actions, of which the Argonne is the theater, to feel that more and more the enemy is at our mercy and that our moral superiority is assured."

"We have obtained this result by a series of limited operations, energetically carried out, and which the German forces which confront us are extremely courageous we feel that at a given point and moment we are masters and can do what we wish."

The statement gives the details of one of these engagements, which it says, occur daily and show the splendid ardor of the troops.

"Action began in a ravine near Fontaine Madame at 8 o'clock in the morning," says the report, "five companies being charged with the attack. We exploded three mines and our trenches under a hot fire. Three minutes later our columns debouched from branches of trenches and stormed the German works."

"We penetrated in three different quarters, killing all the occupants of the trenches, 75 infantrymen and about 30 prisoners. We took four wounded prisoners. At 8:30 o'clock we had gained at least 350 yards of the enemy's trenches."

Trade With Europe Gains

Washington—An analysis of America's foreign trade for January, issued by the department of commerce, showed in detail the amount of the tremendous increase in exports to many European nations and the decrease in shipments to the principal countries of Latin America, as compared with January, 1914. No American products reached Austria during the month, the report showed, but shipments to Germany showed increase as compared with the first months of the war.

Comet Is Coming Nearer

Cambridge, Mass.—Mellish's comet, which is visible in the morning skies through a small telescope, is increasing in brilliancy and will make its perihelion passage around the sun on July 20, according to computations made by Professor Crawford and Miss Young of the Students' Observatory, Berkeley, Cal. This was announced at the Harvard Observatory Thursday.

ENGLAND AFFECTED

War Shows Seriously on People of Great British Metropolis.

Army Seems to Fade Away, But Movement to Front Is Indicated—Nothing Is Said.

London—London is settling down to the pace of war. Two months ago it was a common saying that the average Londoner behaved as though nothing were happening which involved him and his empire. The contrast between this imperturbable capital and closed, quiet, grief-stricken Paris, or paralyzed Brussels, struck the observer, sometimes, with a disagreeable sense of contrast.

Now it begins to look like a city at war. It is true that the shops are all open; it is true that theaters, hotels and concert-halls and cafes are running. But the change in London is a subtler thing than these mere external appearances show.

Most of all, one notices the lack of young men on the streets. In Paris, during October and November, the crowds gave a curious appearance of weakness, of languorous movement, which, upon analysis, proved to be due to that absence of young and lusty men. Then you came to London and found the streets full of vigorous, red-checked young Englishmen. That type is fast disappearing; the young men you see here, as in Paris, look characteristically small and weak—unfit material to go against the guns.

You begin to believe what many Englishmen whisper—that the Kitchen army is larger than the authorities have let us know.

There's the feeling of war in the air, too, an indescribable sense of something very grave and serious afoot. I realized it most fully when I dined in one of the large and popular "Friedly" restaurants. Externally, the crowd looked about the same as ever, though the dining room was not so full as in normal times. There were the same well-groomed Englishmen in smart evening dress; there were the same not-quite-so-well-groomed English women in evening dress which ranged from smart to dowdy; there were the same liveried doorkeepers and attentive waiters. To the eye the only marks of war were the khaki uniforms—officers seizing a last chance to take out their fannies or their families. Finally the music stopped, and I was struck by the silence. I thought at first that no one was talking at all. I had to strain my ears to perceive that they were all talking, but in subdued tones. An English dinner crowd is never noisy, but never before have I heard in a restaurant such quiet as this. The mood of England was in it, I think. They are going about the accustomed motions of life, but their hearts and their thoughts are in Flanders.

Great Britain Insists On Power of Navy

London—The order-in-council putting the English declaration against German commerce into effect, it is said authoritatively, will explain the details as to how the admiralty will proceed in enforcing the sweeping order.

The exact date of the order has not yet been decided on, but it will probably be published in a few days. Great Britain has not yet prepared her answer to the American note submitted to the British and German governments looking to the withdrawal of the submarine blockade and the continuance of food movements to Germany for civil population.

The publication of the text of the American note and Germany's reply in the London papers has attracted wide attention.

The English view, which will undoubtedly be embodied in the note to the American government, is that the suggestions proposed are a virtual forego the strength of her position due to her superior navy. In other words, Great Britain feels that Germany is trying to have the neutrals perform duties for her which she could possibly carry out had she a superior navy.

Furthermore, the British government, it is asserted, will ask what assurance the United States can give that Germany would not resume her submarine activities after she had obtained sufficient food under the relaxed regulations to enable her to relay on the war indefinitely.

Times Witnesses Dead

Los Angeles—Two witnesses regarded as extremely important to the state in the prosecution of M. A. Schmidt and David Caplan, alleged participants in the conspiracy to blow up the Los Angeles Times building in 1910, are dead, according to reports received at the office of the district attorney. One of these was George H. Phillips, superintendent of the powder plant at Glan, Cal., from which the dynamite used to destroy the Times building was purchased. The other was Manuel Silva, a boy employe at the same place.

Land Grant Suit Advanced

Washington, D. C.—The Oregon and California land grant suit will be argued before the Supreme court April 19, the court having advanced the case on motion of the attorney general.