

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR BUSY READERS

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

Oregon legislature passes a law which doubles the tax on automobiles.

The English government has agreed to set aside a day for discussion in the house of commons of the Irish administration, as requested by the Nationalists.

An executive order to exclude spies and other undesirable persons from the Panama Canal zone and give the governor virtually unlimited authority to regulate immigration there has been signed by President Wilson.

Charles J. White, professor emeritus of mathematics at Harvard University and author of several books on astronomy, was found dead in his chair in his room Monday. He had been ill for several days with grippe.

The "gratitude and thanks of the nation" have been conveyed by the British government to James W. Gerard, former American ambassador at Berlin, for his work on behalf of British civilians and prisoners of war in Germany.

The authorities of Niteroiy, Brazil, five miles east of Rio Janeiro, have arrested two Germans who were photographing the fortress of Imbuhy. The prisoners are Fritz Meyer and Johannes Karl, employes of commercial houses.

Federal authorities at San Francisco, are detaining for investigation George Kieft, a German, who came from Manila on the U. S. transport Sheridan, as a stowaway. Evidence which points to him as a spy has been found on his person.

Revolution-swept Mexico's de facto government has entered the lists as an international peacekeeper with an identical note to all neutrals proposing a joint effort to end the European war, coupled with the cutting off of exports of supplies to belligerents.

The Italian lines in the district east of Gorizia, Italy, which had been penetrated in some places in Austrian attacks late last week, have been re-established completely, the war office announces. In the operation more than 100 prisoners were taken.

According to the Copenhagen Hamburger Nachrichten, two large ammunition factories at Thorn, East Prussia, and at Glueckauf, in Quiekborn, near Hamburg, were destroyed by explosions last week. Sixty-three persons were killed and the same number wounded.

The Farmers' Warehouse association of Asotin, Wash., has concluded a deal with the Interior Warehouse company, of Lewiston, Idaho, for the purchase of 150,000 grain bags, to be delivered before the 1917 harvest season. The price paid is a trifle less than 12 cents per bag. This is the first bag contract for the 1917 supply reported.

An appeal to the Cubans not to plunge their country into another revolution has been sent to Havana by Secretary Lansing. Aroused to the realization that the contested presidential election in Cuba already had reached the incipient stage of rebellion, the State department decided to issue to the people an urgent injunction to await the outcome of the voting and to abide by the decision of their courts.

Portland Chinese tong war broke out Thursday night, when one Chinaman was killed and several others were wounded in a battle in which some 25 shots were fired.

Resolutions urging that congress resort to a national referendum before making a declaration of war against any nation were adopted in Honolulu at a meeting of the German-American alliance.

Ten merchant vessels were listed Thursday by Lloyd's as having been sunk by German submarines. One American life was lost. Six of the destroyed vessels were British, and one each French, Russian and Swedish.

Resolutions indorsing the action of President Wilson in severing diplomatic relations with Germany and pledging its loyalty to the United States were adopted by the German-American National alliance at a meeting in Philadelphia.

The Russian press warns small nations to maintain neutrality.

Spain's note, which it is understood, formally declines to accept President Wilson's suggestion that she break off diplomatic relations with Germany has been received at the State department, but was not made public.

A regiment of convicts recruited from the 5000 inmates of New York's penal institutions will be offered to the government should the President issue a call for a volunteer army. This plan

VILLISTAS RAID ACROSS LINE

Bandits Kill 3 Mormons and Drive Away Horses and Mules.

El Paso, Tex. — Private advices received late Tuesday from Columbus, N. M., said three Mormons were killed by a band of Mexicans which crossed the international boundary 60 miles southwest of Hachita, N. M., and raided the "Corner Ranch." Andrew Peterson, another Mormon, was held a prisoner, it was said.

H. S. Stephenson, general manager of the Palomas Land & Cattle company, said he had received a report from his wagon boss at Hachita that three Americans and seven Mexicans were captured and 109 American horses and mules and \$1500 worth of supplies taken away. His report made no reference to any loss of life.

Two Mexican families were said to have been forced to accompany the bandits in addition to the Mexican ranch hands, according to the telegram.

Germany Foreign Secretary, Who Was So "Astonished"



Alfred Zimmerman, foreign secretary in the German government, who sent the note to President Wilson, informing him of the fact that Germany had broken her submarine pledges of last year, was "astonished" when he learned that the United States government had taken offense.

A raid on the Nogales ranch, which is located 40 miles from the border in Mexico and 100 miles from Hachita, N. M., occurred on February 10, according to the message received here. The Mormons living in the section were said by a leader of the Mormon church here to be John Pierce, Miles Pierce, Andrew Peterson, Jr., two brothers named Jensen and a young man named Adams.

Dedication of Interstate Bridge Opens Huge Span to Traffic

Portland — Hands were stretched across the Columbia Wednesday and Oregon and Washington exchanged congratulations over the completion of the interstate bridge. The dedication and opening of that structure to traffic was the motif for the celebration in which Governors of both states, legislators, prominent officials and citizens joined.

The new bridge was opened officially at 12.30. Two little girls pulled a bow of ribbon attached to a rope across the midchannel of the Columbia river. The rope crossed the line between Oregon and Washington. The pull parted the rope, removing the last barrier between the two states and flags flew from the bridge towers. A cannon from the Washington shore boomed out a loud salute and the structure opened for the use of everyone.

Treasury Deficit \$333,400,000.

Washington, D. C. — A treasury deficit of \$333,400,000 at the end of the next fiscal year is forecast in a report submitted Wednesday by the senate finance committee, recommending that the administration revenue bill be amended to authorize a bond issue of \$195,255,000 instead of \$100,000,000, and that the authorization for certificates of indebtedness be made \$500,000,000 instead of \$300,000,000.

French Coast is Shelled.

Paris — A submarine Wednesday attacked the French coast at the mouth of the Adour river, in the extreme western section, but did no great damage. An official statement on this operation reads:

"An enemy submarine emerged at 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the mouth of the Adour river and fired six shots at the coast. At the first shot the submarine dived quickly. Five persons were wounded, one seriously. The material damage was insignificant."

Work of Relief to Continue.

New York — More than 10,000,000 persons who have been fed through the efforts of the American commission for relief in Belgium will suffer no immediate hardship from the withdrawal of the American commission from participation in this work in Belgium and Northern France, caused by the German authorities, Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the commission has plans

GERMANY SEEKS RECONCILIATION

Steps Taken to Open Discussion on Break With U. S.

WASHINGTON NOT INTERESTED ONLY OVERT ACT IS AWAITED

Officials Disinclined to Negotiate While U-Boats Operate—Believed Berlin is Sparring for Time.

Washington, D. C.—Germany has taken steps to open a discussion with the United States of means of preventing war between them.

In seeking an exchange of views on the subject, however, it is not understood that the Berlin government has proposed any modification of its ruthless submarine campaign and officials here say they cannot enter upon such discussion while vessels continue to be destroyed in violation of international law.

The new move is understood to be predicated upon a willingness on Germany's part to discuss especially the safeguarding of American ships and American lives on the seas and backed by a renewed expression of the desire of the German government to prevent the diplomatic breach from leading to actual hostilities.

Just how American interests are to be safe guarded if the German war zone proclamation is to stand, however, and whether any specific means of preserving peace between the two nations is included in the communication has not been revealed.

What may be the ulterior motive back of the step is a matter of speculation. In some quarters there is evidently a feeling it is merely a play for time, designed to postpone any further action by the United States until the starvation blockade against England either has succeeded or failed. Elsewhere there are suggestions that there may be behind it a sincere desire to make sacrifices to preserve peace between the United States and Germany and may come as a response to the appeals understood to have been sent abroad by pacifists in this country.

Ambassador Gerard Arrives in Switzerland on Way Home

Zurich, Switzerland, via Paris—The American ambassador, James W. Gerard, arrived at the Swiss boundary at Schaffhausen, Sunday afternoon. He was met by the American minister to Switzerland, Pleasant A. Stovall, and representatives of the Swiss army.

Swiss military guard of honor was also in waiting, and a big delegation of citizens greeted the ex-American ambassador.

The trip from Berlin was made without incident, although some curiosity was displayed by those who gathered along the route through Germany. Mr. Gerard disembarked at Zurich with about 120 other Americans, who expected at first to remain there, but when, assured of accommodations at Berne, he left immediately for that city.

Washington, D. C.—Germany's delay in permitting Ambassador Gerard and other American officials to leave the country has aroused deepest resentment here, especially in view of the steps made to arrange all possible conveniences for the homeward trip of German officials in the United States.

It was disclosed at the department that an inquiry regarding the delay had been addressed to Mr. Gerard through the Spanish ambassador at Berlin. Officials have indicated, however, that once Mr. Gerard and his party are safely out of Germany, the United States probably will consider the incident closed.

Kaiser Talks on U-Boats.

London — An important conference at headquarters has been called by Emperor William, presumably to discuss the submarine question, says the Exchange Telegraph company's Amsterdam correspondent Monday.

Dr. von Bethmann-Holweg, the imperial chancellor, and high army and navy officials will attend and it is reported, adds the correspondent, that the possibility of negotiations with neutrals for modifying the terms of the recent German memorandum will be discussed.

Sinking of U-Boats Hinted.

London—In a letter read at the war-loan meeting Saturday Vice Admiral Sir Reginald Bacon, commander of the Dover Patrol, is quoted as saying:

"If you will try as hard to do your duty ashore by raising a loan as we are doing at sea by sinking submarines and frustrating other evil devices you will make the loan such a success that it will be a knockout blow to the enemy."

Big Munitions Plant Burns.

Pittsburg, Pa.—The machine shop building of the United Switch & Signal company, the largest plant for the manufacture of switch signals in the United States, and until recently engaged in filling munition orders for the European governments, situated at Swissvale, a suburb, was destroyed by

WILL NOT DECLARE WAR ON GERMANY

Wilson Desires Only Measures to "Protect Americans."

ONLY OVERT ACT IS AWAITED

Consider Arming and Convoying Merchant Vessels—Determination is to Uphold Freedom of Sea.

Washington, D. C.—The course to be taken by the United States if Germany compels the use of force to safeguard American lives and rights has been determined. It was learned authoritatively after Friday's cabinet meeting that in the event President Wilson goes before congress again it will not be to ask for a declaration of war, but to follow literally the words of the address in which he announced the break of diplomatic relations and request authority to use means deemed necessary to protect American seamen and people.

The President, it is said, is as strongly desirous as ever to avoid war with Germany, but also is as determined as ever that American citizens and ships shall be free to travel the high seas unmolested.

His next step, if taken, will be to enforce that right and even then the issue of war or peace will be with Germany. Any hostile action will have to come in the form of an interference with an American right.

Details of the government's plans are not discussed. It is known, however, that convoying and arming of merchant ships are being considered.

No new development came Saturday to indicate that the overt act by Germany regarded as inevitable was nearer at hand. Fewer reports of ships sunk came in and none told officially of the loss of an American life.

Light Guns Best to War Against German Submarines

New York — Although figures to show the number of submarines destroyed by the entente allies and the means used in their destruction are unavailable, owing to the rigid censorship on war activities, it was learned here Saturday from an authoritative source that direct gunfire from the decks of warships and auxiliary vessels had been the most effective method employed thus far.

To combat the submarine menace the British government and her allies have adopted various plans to catch the undersea boats, although some of them have been abandoned as ineffective.

A marine authority of unquestioned standing, who is close to British shipping interests, said when asked as to the effectiveness of arming ships:

"We have found that light guns, discharging projectiles of four to six pounds, in the hands of trained gunners, have been by far the most effective weapon. I know personally that as many as two and three submarines have been bagged in one day in this way."

Noted Bandit Dies.

Portland—Chris Evans, famed California highwayman, died Saturday at a local hospital, and ending a checkered career which carried him from the leadership of a bandit gang to the doors of the county poor farm. He was 70 years old.

Evans began his career as a bandit by declaring war against the Southern Pacific railroad when the company notified him that his grant of land in the San Joaquin valley had reverted to the corporation. His home was on the place, and he had been raising wheat and stock.

American Vessels Ready.

New York—Two freight steamers flying the American flag were ready Saturday to start for Bordeaux with non-contraband cargoes. They are the Orlean, of the Oriental Navigation Co., and the Rochester, of the Kerr Steamship company. Each vessel registers about 6000 tons and each is manned exclusively by Americans. Both vessels have the American flag painted on both sides. Until her purchase recently by the Oriental company, and the Orlean was known as the Avelanada.

Baltic Arrives in Port.

New York—The steamship Baltic of the White Star line has arrived safely at Liverpool, according to a cable message received here Saturday by officers of the company. The message besides announcing that the Baltic had reached her pier said "all well."

Swedish People Approve.

Stockholm — The Swedish government's rejection of President Wilson's suggestion to make common cause with the United States in severing diplomatic relations with Germany has not been followed by dissent in high political quarters. Even the strongest pro-entente partisans seemed agreed that the suggestion could not possibly have

RELIEF WORK IS WITHDRAWN

American Belgian Commission Stops at Request of Germany.

London—The American commission for relief in Belgium has officially notified the German authorities that the Americans will withdraw from participation in the relief work in Belgium and Northern France.

This step was taken in reply to an order from the German authorities that Americans must withdraw from the provinces of Belgium and Northern France, leaving only a few of their representatives, headed by Brand Whitlock, American minister to Belgium, in Brussels. The action of the commission is explained in a formal statement which was given out Tuesday by directors of the commission in London.

Havre, France — The Belgian government says it has learned that laborers at Bruges are being arrested in the streets by Germans and immediately sent to the German front along the Yser, where they are forced to do military work, such as putting up wire fences and digging trenches.

It is asserted that 75 per cent of the men who were compelled to present themselves to the military authorities have been taken for work. These men are between the ages 15 and 45. They leave their homes Monday and return Saturday. On their arrival home they are declared to be greatly depressed because of insufficient nourishment, which consists of a quarter of a loaf of war bread in the morning and fruit soup made of apples and prunes at noon. This is said to be all the men receive.

U. S. Flatly Refuses Germany's Proposal to Discuss Differences

Washington, D. C.—The United States has flatly rejected Germany's offer to discuss differences between the two nations while the ruthless submarine campaign is in progress.

In a note Monday to the Swiss minister, who on Saturday orally presented the German proposal Secretary Lansing said the United States does not feel it can enter into any discussion of the German government concerning the policy of submarine warfare against neutrals which it is now pursuing unless the German government renews its assurances of May 4 (the Sussex note) and acts upon the assurances.

The State department made public the Secretary's reply, together with a memorandum which at Mr. Lansing's suggestion Dr. Ritter, the Swiss minister, had prepared Sunday night setting down in writing the suggestion originally transmitted orally.

Germany to Hold Hostages.

Washington, D. C.—Formal notification of the retention in Germany of 72 American sailors brought in as prisoners in the prize ship Yarrowdale was given to the State department Tuesday by Dr. Paul Ritter, Swiss minister here, acting for the German government, together with an inquiry as to status of the crews of the German war-bound ships in American waters.

Germany, Dr. Ritter said, had decided to hold the Yarrowdale prisoners until she had definite assurance that German crews in American harbors would not be held or imprisoned.

This development, wholly unexpected, was amazing to the American government. Officials here had come to the conclusion that the early reports which misled the German government as to the treatment of German crews here has been effectively dispelled by the forwarding of complete details. As this included the Presidential announcement that German ships would not be seized now or in the event of war and full information about the fair attitude of the government toward the German sailors, officials are wholly at a loss to know what kind of report could have so suddenly changed Germany's attitude.

Teuton Bluejackets Busy.

London—In an address at Wilhelmshaven regarding precautions taken by Germany in view of the possibility of war with the United States, Dr. Gustav Stresemann, a prominent national Liberal member of the reichstag, made the following statement, according to a Rotterdam dispatch to the Evening News: "Our German bluejackets in the United States will have seen to it that German steamers in American ports shall not be usable by any one for some time."

Submarine Base for Columbia.

Washington, D. C.—The mouth of the Columbia river should be adequately protected, both by land and by sea, and is not so protected at the present time, is the conclusion of the Helms Naval board, which recently visited the Pacific Coast. But, in the opinion of the board, the Naval defense at the mouth of the Columbia should be confined, at this time, to a submarine and aviation base. The board is not in favor of establishing a first-class Naval base on the Columbia.

Greek Steamer Arrives.

New York—Seventy-six days after her departure from Piraeus, Greece, the Greek liner Patris arrived here from that country to reach this port for a long time.

The lengthy passage was due to her being held up at Gibraltar and the settlement of the strained relations with Greece, the agents here

SENATE INDORSES WILSON'S STAI

Upper House Approves Bill by Vote of 78 to 5.

POLITICS LAID ASIDE FOR

Republicans and Democrats Unite Supporting Severance of Diplomatic Relations With Berlin.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson's severance of diplomatic relations with Germany was formally approved Wednesday by the senate voting 78 to 5 for the adoption of a resolution submitted by Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee, indorsing withdrawal of American Ambassador Gerard from Berlin and giving George S. Messersmith, Ambassador Bernstorff his passport.

Senators who voted against the resolution were: Democrats—Kirby, of Arkansas; Vardaman, Mississippi; Republicans—Gronna, North Dakota; Works, California, and La Follette, Wisconsin.

Five hours of debate preceded the vote, but the only active opposition came from the five senators who voted against the resolution. A roll call was called. The ranking Republican leaders joined the Democrats in declaring the whole-hearted support of the President. The resolution is: "Whereas, the President has severed the reasons stated in his address delivered to the congress in joint session on February 3, 1917, severed diplomatic relations with the Imperial German government by the removal of the American ambassador at Berlin and by handing his passport to the German ambassador at Washington, and

"Whereas, notwithstanding the severance of diplomatic intercourse, the President has expressed his desire to avoid conflict with the Imperial German government, and

"Whereas, the President declared in this address that if in his judgment an occasion should arise for their action in the premises on behalf of the government of the United States he would submit the matter to the congress and ask the congress to use such measures as might seem necessary for the prosecution of their peaceful and humane errands on the high seas

"Therefore, be it resolved, that the senate approves the action taken by the President forth in his address delivered to the congress as stated above."

California Torpedoed Without Warning; Only American

Washington, D. C.—Consul Queenstown cabled the State department Wednesday night that the Irish passenger liner California was torpedoed without warning by a German submarine in the Irish coast and that the one American known to have been on board had saved.

Some of the passengers at the still were missing, including two men and several children. The captain of the ship was heard to give a warning before the bill torpedoes from a distance of 3000 yards and sending the California double of eight years of age

stream of reports telling of the destruction of merchant ships by submarines was brought to the attention of the State department by a cablegram from Consul Frost at Queenstown, Pa., announcing that the British passenger liner California had been torpedoed without warning and that an American citizen was among the survivors.

Whether this will prove to be an overt act to drive the United States into war no one would attempt to decide. Had retired when the program came and officials would not have informed of the message from the State telling of the sinking of the California, but giving no details. It is expected that the presence of a German submarine in the area would have been reported to the State department.

French Cheer American Tax Board

Paris—When William Gray, the American ambassador, entered the Opera house Thursday afternoon to see a commiseration given for benevolent purposes, an audience recognized them and cheering with extraordinary ardor greeted them. There were many cries of "L'Amerique!" and "Vive nos amis américains!" and the orchestra played "The Star Spangled Banner."

802 File for Citizens New York—Eight hundred men and women applied for citizenship papers here today. This, it was said, broke all records. Six women, trained among the applicants. A vast number of them were in the list. There were 168 different names in the list. There were 108 Germans, four Bulgarians, and the others were