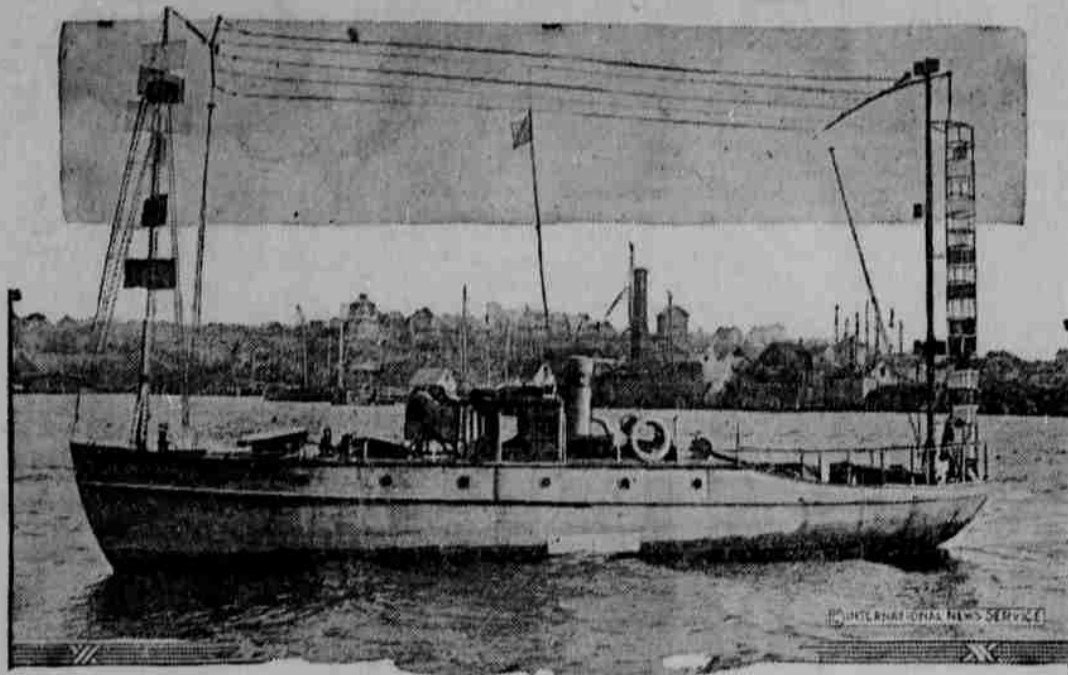


WIRELESS TORPEDO BOAT NATALIA



Wireless torpedo boat Natalia, invented by John Hays Hammond, Jr., of Gloucester, Mass. It is steered by wireless and can carry 4,000 pounds of explosives, which respond automatically to radio waves. At night the boat is controlled by the use of an arc light of one million candlepower. Young Hammond has given to American navy experts a successful demonstration of his invention.

BELGIANS HELP HUNGRY FRENCH

Starving People Share Scanty Food With Peasants.

Relief Commission Has Provisions to Last Only to February—Great Tragedy Possible.

London—Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the American commission for the relief of Belgium, returned to London Thursday from a tour of inspection of the work being done for the commission in Belgium. In a statement issued here Mr. Hoover said:

"An appalling situation has been presented to the commission with regard to the French peasantry in the valley of the Meuse just south of the Belgian frontier, where there are 10,000 persons absolutely without food. Our investigation showed that a large number of deaths already had occurred there from starvation.

"Despite the shortness of the rations in Belgium, our Belgian colleagues agreed that we must share the last crust with these people. We, therefore, sent them food out of our limited Belgian stores."

Mr. Hoover also issued a report on the commission's work in Belgium, in which he says the organization for the distribution of food supplies is well on the road to completion. It is aided by 50,000 volunteer workmen and there are only a few localities to which relief has not yet been extended.

"It must be borne in mind," Mr. Hoover says in his report, "that our problem falls into two phases. The first is to provide bread for those who are unable to pay for it, and the second is to supply all food for those who are destitute. Broadly, the former comprise some 5,600,000 persons. On the basis of the minimum ration we are providing they require about \$3,500,000 worth of bread a month. The recovery of this money and the exchange problem have not as yet been solved and are causing us the greatest concern.

"The destitute comprise about 1,400,000, who are being wholly fed by the public canteens. The cost of supporting them is about \$2,500,000 a month, for which we are depending on the charity of the world.

"All Belgium is now on a ration of 10 ounces of bread a day, rich and poor alike, when there is not much of a ration available. The rich pay the cost price; the destitute nothing.

"This requires a total import of more than 100,000,000 pounds of flour or wheat a month, to say nothing of peas, salt, beans, bacon, condensed milk and other things which must be provided for the canteens."

In his report Mr. Hoover pays tribute to the assistance in the work of distribution rendered by the Germans, declaring:

"The occupying army has been extraordinarily scrupulous in its observance of the agreement that none of the foodstuffs imported by us were to be consumed by them.

"The German government has issued a general order that no provisions which would in the ordinary course have to be replaced by the relief commission shall be requisitioned."

The report closes as follows: "Despite the volume of food which has been placed at our disposal, we can provision only until February 15. Great has been the generosity of the American people, it is well to bear in mind that

Zeppelin Visits France.

London—A correspondent of the Daily Mail in France reports that a Zeppelin airship skirted the French coast near Grave Lines Wednesday, and then turned westward toward England, and that it is rumored that two other Zeppelins preceded it. "Thereafter through the whole day," the correspondent adds, "Dunkirk was subjected to German air raids and attempts to drop bombs, but owing to the vigorous fire of the town's guns few bombs fell. At one time six aeroplanes were hovering over the town."

if we fail after that date the world will be faced by the greatest tragedy it has yet witnessed in the possible extinction of an entire nation. Strenuous as the efforts that we, our countrymen and countrywomen have made, they cannot for one moment be relaxed if this gigantic catastrophe has to be prevented."

French and Russians Claim Victory Over Turk

Paris—The official communication issued by the French war office included the following:

"Grand Duke Nicholas has addressed to General Joffre the following telegram:

"I hasten to inform you of the joyful news that the army of Caucasus, notwithstanding that its forces have been reduced to a minimum, with a view not to weaken the army in the principal theater of war, has won two decisive victories—on December 21 and 22 (January 3 and 4, modern calendar) against Turkish forces superior in number, at Ardahan, against the First corps and at Sari Kamysh against the Ninth and Tenth Turkish corps.

"The entire Ninth corps has capitulated; the Tenth corps is making every effort to withdraw, but is being pursued by our troops."

Petrograd—It is officially announced that the Russian troops have gained a decisive victory at Sari Kamysh. The entire Ninth Army corps of the Turks was captured.

Accounts received here say the Turks displayed great bravery when their position was seriously threatened and made frequent desperate bayonet sorties. When they were compelled to vacate they made valiant but futile efforts to cover their retreat by a rear-guard action, even the wounded continuing firing from the ground when they were struck down.

According to a telegram from Tiflis, the persistence with which the Turks pressed their attacks in the Sari Kamysh district was to enable their troops in the Ardahan region to retire without heavy losses. Their operations were conducted under tremendous difficulties. They lacked proper equipment and had no transport trains. Everything had to be carried on the backs of soldiers or of civilians commandeered for the purpose. Most of the trophies of war captured by the Russians were of German make.

Land Slides May Halt Panama Canal Naval Fete

Washington, D. C.—The possibility of a postponement of the cruise of the international fleet from Hampton Roads to San Francisco through the Panama canal, in connection with the opening of the canal and the exposition, was suggested Tuesday in the course of a conference between Secretary Garrison and Colonel Goethals, governor of the canal.

Though the great earth slides at Cucaraha have apparently been conquered, according to Colonel Goethals' report, the earth movements continue in the neighborhood of Gold Hill. At that point the superincumbent masses of earth on the side of the canal, by their great pressure, are continuously forcing rock and soil in great quantities into the canal prism. The movement is sufficiently extensively to require the continuous employment of dredges to maintain the channel.

Kaiser Eats War Bread.

Berlin—Emperor William has given orders that the so-called war bread be served to himself and the members of his entourage. This bread, styled also "K" bread, consists of 85 per cent of rye flour and 15 per cent potato flakes. It is being consumed in accordance with a war-time proclamation, with the idea of making the supply of foodstuff in the empire last longer. Up to the present time it has not been bought readily by the general public. It is hoped, however, that the decision of the emperor will influence others.

Bids on Big Order Asked.

Philadelphia—The Pennsylvania Railroad company has asked for bids on 170,000 tons of steel rails, the company's requirements for the current year. Orders for 150,000 tons will be placed for early delivery and the remainder will be re-ordered later.

BRITAIN'S REPLY FRIENDLY, BELIEF

Outline of Answer to American Note Sent to France.

Italy and Allied Nations Thought to Have Agreed—Germany Alone Protests.

London—The British government's reply to the American note concerning contraband probably will be sent before the end of this week. It is thought the answer will be friendly.

An outline of the reply has been submitted to France, which is greatly interested because of the activity of the French ships in searching Mediterranean cargoes.

A statement probably will be issued shortly, showing that Italy has arrived at an understanding with England and the other allies concerning contraband satisfactory to all the countries affected.

It can be stated authoritatively that only five cargoes destined for Italy have been stopped at Gibraltar since November 15. Two of these were released within three days and the others as soon as the alleged contraband could be removed.

Since December 4 no cargoes for Italy have been intercepted by the allies.

Rubber cargoes destined for American firms and held in English ports probably will be released soon or purchased by Great Britain, which needs rubber for manufacture of tires, bed blankets and boots.

Constant negotiations are in progress between the allies and the neutral countries situated near Germany looking to a tightening of the export regulations which will prevent American shipments from reaching Germany and Austria through neighboring countries other than Italy.

A loosening of the regulations applying to American cargoes, it is said by British officials, will depend largely on the assurances received from neutral countries that they will not assist in supplying Germany, Turkey and Austria with munitions of war.

Generals Scott and Villa to Meet on Boundary Line

Washington, D. C.—Brigadier General Scott, chief of staff of the United States, and General Villa, commander-in-chief of the forces of the Gutierrez government in Mexico, have arranged to confer on the international bridge at El Paso, with a view to arriving at an understanding that will permanently prevent further firing into American territory by Mexican factions fighting along the international lines.

General Villa is on his way north, and the conference will be held immediately upon the arrival of the Mexican chief.

General Scott has been at Naco for two weeks trying to bring about an agreement between General Maytorena, commanding the Gutierrez force attacking the Mexican town of that name, and General Hill, of the Carranza garrison. Hill agreed to withdraw to Augua Prieta, but Maytorena has postponed entering into any final agreement, awaiting, it is said, the arrival of General Cabral, who is on his way north with 8000 men to take charge of the situation.

New York Is Wealthiest.

New York—The wealthiest landowner in the limits of the municipal jurisdiction, according to a report to Controller Prendergast, is the City of New York. The assessed valuation of the city's holdings is \$1,447,547,869, of which \$1,429,491,360 is within the city limits. Compared with the figures of 1913, the value of the properties shows an increase of \$71,104,589. The increase in land values reaches the large figure of \$41,689,078, while in the value of buildings and other improvements, it totals \$29,253,632.

SENATE PASSES LITERACY TEST

Amendment Permits Entry of Belgian Farmers.

Departments Required to Notify Congress When Immigration Depresses Wages.

Washington, D. C.—The immigration bill, containing the restrictive literacy test for admission of aliens which has been the obstacle in immigration reform legislation for the greater part of two national administrations, passed the senate Saturday by a vote of 50 to 7. The overwhelming majority was recorded despite the fact that President Wilson had indicated he would veto the measure, as did President Taft, if it should come to him with the educational test included.

The vote in the senate indicated that the bill could be repassed by more than the required two-thirds majority should the President reject the measure.

The bill passed the house on February 4 last by a vote of 241 to 126.

Although the senate amended the house bill in several particulars, the literacy test was unaltered, save for an additional exemption to Belgian subjects which was adopted after prolonged debate.

House leaders probably will ask for a conference on senate amendments but administration leaders were confident senate amendments would be accepted and the bill sent to the President by the middle of the week.

Among senate amendments which house leaders have said probably would be accepted is one to exclude from the United States all persons of the African race or of negro blood. Another strengthens the phraseology of the prohibition of polygamists.

Closing hours of the debate were devoted to an amendment by Senator Lodge to exempt Belgian farmers from the literacy test and from the provisions which prohibit Americans from soliciting or inducing immigration. Already several American organizations are endeavoring to induce Belgian refugees to settle in this country.

The amendment, as finally adopted by a vote of 34 to 22, follows:

"That the provisions of this act relating to the illiteracy test or induced or assisted immigration shall not apply to agricultural immigrants from Belgium who come to the United States during the course of the present European war, or within one year after its termination, owing to circumstances or conditions arising through the war, if it is shown to the satisfaction of the commissioner general of immigration that the said Belgian immigrants come with the intention of engaging in agriculture in the United States and to become American citizens."

Following is a synopsis of the immigration bill passed by the senate:

In general persons over 16 shall be required to be able to read English or some language or dialect, including Yiddish.

Exception to literacy test is made of Belgian farmers who come to the United States within one year after the end of the present European war.

Persons fleeing from religious persecution also excepted.

Admissible aliens may send for father or grandfather over 55, or for wife, mother, grandmother or unmarried or widowed daughter, though such relative may be illiterate.

Polygamists excluded.

Persons of African race or negro blood excluded. Excluded list intended to take in vagrants, the tuberculous and persons who teach or advocate unlawful destruction of property.

Departments of Labor and Commerce to report to congress whenever expected immigration threatens to increase number of unemployed or reduce wage standard.

English Pray for Victory.

Rome—Special prayers were said Sunday in all the English churches in Italy for the ultimate victory of the Triple Entente nations. In the chapel of the English college, Cardinal Gasquet and the new British minister to the Vatican, Sir Henry Howard, were among those who participated in the communion service. Their action was in striking contrast to that of the members of the British embassy to the Quirinal, none of whom was present at any service. The rector of the Irish college did not participate.

Duel Moratorium Is On.

Paris—A moratorium on dueling has been declared in France because of an incident which arose recently during a discussion in a cafe. A prominent swordsman became angry in discussing the grand strategy and issued a challenge to his adversary. Witnesses present declared that a Frenchman must not kill one of his countrymen during the war, so the duel has been postponed until peace has been declared.

Austria Executes Editor.

London—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent transmitted a dispatch received there from Vienna, which says that a newspaper editor, Joseph Yotel of Prosenitz, Moravia, was condemned to death by court-martial for a seditious speech. He was executed two hours after sentence was passed.

Big Steam Schooner Eureka Lands on Rocks

San Francisco—The North Pacific Steamship company's steamer Eureka, bound with a light cargo of general freight from San Francisco to Ventura, Cal., was wrecked on the rocks at Point Bonita, at the entrance to San Francisco harbor, shortly after dusk Saturday night.

All but one of the crew of 18 were rescued and lifesavers from all stations in the vicinity braved heavy seas in an effort to save the life of Second Officer James Bolger, who was unable to board either of the boats by which his mates escaped when it became evident that the vessel would crash into the rocks.

From the beach 200 soldiers from the adjoining military reservation watched for some sign of the missing man, but at a late hour he had not been rescued.

An hour after the Eureka struck she turned turtle, and captains of the life-saving crews were of the belief that Bolger had perished.

According to the survivors, a heavy sea caught the vessel broadsides just as she was passing through the Golden Gate. So great was the force of the wave that most of the deckhouse was carried away and the engine-room flooded. Some of the debris caught in the propeller and the engines were completely put out of commission.

With the vessel's steering way lost the heavy seas raked the vessel fore and aft and the crew was ordered to the boats by Captain Paulsen.

Ironworkers of Dynamite Conspiracy Ask Parole

Leavenworth, Kan.—The rapidity with which they constructed a new cellhouse at the Federal prison here was one of the arguments put forward by 17 structural ironworkers convicted in the "dynamite conspiracy" cases at Indianapolis, who appeared before the Federal parole board. Having served one-third of their sentences, the men are eligible for parole.

Frank M. Ryan, of Chicago, ex-head of the ironworkers, was not eligible for parole, not having served a sufficient portion of his sentence.

For seven years the prison management had been trying to get the cellhouse built. When the ironworkers arrived in the prison, Warden Morgan explained the situation to them and put them to work. Ryan was made foreman. Within six months the iron work on the cellhouse was completed.

Only one of the men who applied for parole failed to do his share in the construction work. That man was Hockin, and he was willing to help, but the others objected because of the part he played in the prosecution of the ironworkers by the government. Hockin has been tending a gate in the prison yard.

MONEY SO PLENTIFUL IN U. S. THAT RATE LOWERS

Washington, D. C.—The San Francisco reserve bank Saturday secured the approval of the Federal Reserve board to the lowest rediscount rate yet named by any of the 12 banks—4 per cent on maturities up to 30 days.

Money apparently is plenty all over the country and the board is inclined to approve low rates in order that the banks may be able to do some rediscounting to make expenses.

Other rates approved were: San Francisco, 5 per cent on maturities up to 60 days; 5 1/2 per cent on 60-90 days and 6 per cent on longer maturities.

Minneapolis, 4 1/2 per cent on up to 30 days—5 per cent on 30-90 days and 6 per cent for longer.

Many Priests Tortured and Murdered, Is Report

London—Dozens of Catholic priests were murdered, some being tortured, and the churches in numerous communities were wrecked and profaned by German troops invading Belgium, according to detailed charges given out here by the official press bureau of the war office at the request of the Belgian legation in London.

The statement makes the declaration that members of the clergy have been exposed to special indignities at the hands of German soldiers. In the diocese of Liege, Namur, Malines and Ghent many priests and others connected with the churches were either shot or hanged. Many other priests were carried off to Germany, where they appear to have been "subjected to abominable usage."

Officials Watch Bread.

Washington, D. C.—Department of Justice officials have expressed interest in reports that the price of a loaf of bread was about to jump from 5 to 6 cents in New York, Chicago and possibly other large cities. No complaints had reached the department, however, and no action is in immediate prospect. Attorney General Gregory has kept a close watch on any efforts to increase the cost of living through combinations of producers in any line, and it is considered certain that a rise in bread would be looked into at once.

X-Rayed Cargo Is Passed.

Galveston, Tex.—After X-ray tests had shown no contraband concealed in her cargo, the American steamer Nebraska sailed for Bremen, carrying a cargo of 10,317 bales of cotton. The tests were made under the supervision of the British consul in order to avoid possible delay by British warships searching for contraband. The Nebraska is the second vessel to sail from Galveston for Bremen direct since the outbreak of the war.

NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Brazilian diamond dealers are lowering prices.

Three Aberdeen, Wash., lumber mills have resumed operations.

Villa with an army of 8000 is marching north to attack many towns on the border.

A suit has been filed to test the validity of the Arizona mothers' pension law.

The bill proposing that the government purchase ships for commerce, is being pushed in congress.

Hordes of Turks are reported swooping into Russia, with the intention of crossing the Armenian mountains and attacking Tiflis.

Germans admit that the allies had an opportunity three months ago to split the retreating German army in two, but the chance was lost and the gap closed by the timely arrival of German reinforcements.

Great Britain decides to relax ban on commerce between that country, Italy and The Netherlands, whereby commerce to the latter two countries from the U. S. is expected to undergo a minimum of molestation.

The Chilean government has decided to send the battleship Captain Prat, the finest vessel in the Chilean navy, to take part in the international naval parade in connection with the formal opening of the Panama canal.

Work on 8000 portable kitchen wagons for the French army was begun at Louisville, Ky., this week. The value of the order is placed a \$250,000. The French government specified that the wagons be ready in three months.

President Wilson has practically decided that he cannot attend the opening of the Panama-Pacific exposition unless the European war ends before that date, as he feels it incumbent upon all high officials to be at their posts of duty during the conflict.

A German submarine boat reported by wireless to the admiralty in Berlin that it has torpedoed and sunk in the English Channel off Plymouth the British battleship Formidable. The submarine was pursued by British destroyers but escaped undamaged.

Two negroes, Edward and Will Smith, of Montgomery, Ala., were taken from the Wetumpka jail early one day this week and lynched by a mob. They had been accused of implication in the murder of R. A. Stillwell, an Elmore county farmer. Searching parties later found the negroes' bodies hanging in the woods.

New Orleans celebrates 100th anniversary of peace between English-speaking nations. The ceremonies were opened with the firing of a 21-gun salute, so timed that the last gun boomed at 8:20 a. m. Friday, 100 years to the minute, according to historians, after General Jackson finally triumphed over the British on the field of Chalmette.

The recent lull in the activity of the German forces seemed to indicate preparation for a renewed attempt to pierce the Russian lines before Warsaw, and the fighting of the last few days shows that this attempt is being made on the lines from the Vistula south along the Bura and Rawka rivers to a point east of the town of Rawka, which is in German hands.

The Austrian government has notified the Italian foreign office that she is striving to ascertain whether four Italian subjects were taken as hostages after the capture of Belgrade, as has been widely reported in Italy. The Austrian foreign office has given notice to the Italian foreign office that she is prepared to remedy the mistake, if one was made, and will offer reparation.

The German army authorities have issued a general order prohibiting in future troops in the field from fraternizing with forces of the enemy, as they did at several points in the western theater of the war at Christmas. To such an extent was this fraternizing carried out that at one place where the Germans and British played football Christmas day they agreed to suspend hostilities for two days more.

The fourth trial of Dr. B. Clarke Hyde, of Kansas City, charged with the murder of Colonel Thomas H. Swoke, was reset for April 5 in the criminal court. The prosecutor asked for the continuance because, he said, the funds to pay necessary expert witnesses are not available at this time. Frank P. Walsh, attorney for Dr. Hyde, opposed the postponement on the ground that it was depriving the defendant of his right to a speedy trial.

Because of the advancing price of wheat Chicagoans are advocating the consumption of "day-old" bread to keep the price per loaf at 5 cents.

A representative-elect to the Oregon legislature will submit a bill to put the state under a commission form of government, proposing to establish twelve departments.

The British admiralty says the captain of the Formidable, when his battleship was struck by German torpedoes, signalled nearby vessels to escape at once from the vicinity, instead of helping him.