

WORLD'S DOINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume of General News From All Around the Earth.

UNIVERSAL HAPPENINGS IN A NUTSHELL

Live News Items of All Nations and Pacific Northwest Condensed for Our Busy Readers.

Cool, wet weather in Louisiana causes short sugar crop.

Pope Benedict has again solicited the belligerents to make peace.

William F. Kelley, American consul at Rome, dies suddenly of heart failure.

French authorities seize and suppress publication of two Paris newspapers.

A conference in Chicago of mayors of large cities decided to insist on preparedness.

Chicago bankers advise that "war profits" be invested in the future of the country.

Petty officers of some interned German ships at Honolulu are accused of bootlegging.

The Seaview hotel at Moelips Beach, Wash., burned with a loss of \$10,000. Incendiarism is suspected.

Germany's food supply is said to be in better condition the third winter of the war than the second.

Turks are said to be removing mines from the Dardanelles, preparatory to opening the straits to traffic.

The house of representatives votes to stand behind President Wilson in his submarine policy toward Germany.

General William Loysmith, distinguished Union cavalry leader, in the Civil war, dies at his ranch home near Medford, Ore.

Information has been received from Innsbruck, Switzerland, that cholera has broken out anew in 37 towns and villages in Austria.

Five thousand employes of the Armour's, Swift's and Morris' packing plants at East St. Louis receive unselected increases in wages.

The Booth-Kelly Lumber company, of Eugene, Ore., receives an order for 9,000,000 feet of lumber to be used in building freight cars for the Southern Pacific.

U. S. naval war games in which the aeroplanes will do the scouting for the Atlantic battle fleet has been ordered on the Southern drill grounds off Guantanamo.

A woman passenger on the steamer Sea Foam, enroute to San Francisco, dies of fright during a storm. One seaman was swept overboard and drowned.

Three men armed with revolvers, dynamite and percussion caps, were arrested by Boston police. One of the men greatly resembles Cronos, who poisoned the soup in Chicago recently.

Aberdeen, Wash., is about to begin work on a \$400,000 water system.

The government of India has imposed an export duty on grain bags.

The United States National bank will build a \$250,000 bank building in Portland.

Six homeless boys less than 6 years of age and of varying nationalities are to be adopted by Mrs. Bessie Fuller, of South Porcupine, Ontario, Canada, as a sociological experiment.

Fred G. Buskuhl, of Friend, Oregon, has just received the bronze medal awarded to him by the Carnegie hero fund commission for attempting to save the life of Joseph L. Tarke at Friend, August 3, 1912. The commission also awarded \$1000 to Mr. Buskuhl.

Five million bushels of May wheat have been bought by milling interests in the last week as prices tumbled, according to estimates of Minneapolis chamber of commerce traders. This, they say, would represent sales of one million barrels of flour. Most of this product is said to be for Eastern bakers.

Two men with a large "roll" of counterfeit Federal Reserve bank bills are operating in Portland, and a third member of the gang is supposed to be working in conjunction with the others disguised as a plainclothes officer. The duty of the third man appears to be to disarm the suspicion of the victims by vouching for his accomplices.

Portland's new city directory, which will be issued next week, will report a population for the city of approximately 281,000.

The secretary of the California state board of health declares spring fever is not a disease, but a perfectly normal and natural feeling.

A Stockholm dispatch to the London Morning Post says that, according to a message from Karlskrona, Sweden, a whole mine field of several hundred mines is drifting from the North, having presumably been set adrift by the ice and wind.

18 PRISONERS BURNED TO DEATH IN DISINFECTING BATHHOUSE

El Paso, Tex.—Eighteen prisoners were burned to death and probably 10 others seriously injured, many fatally, in a fire late Tuesday at the city jail bathhouse. The blaze started from a flash of flame from a large tub of gasoline and kerosene solution used to destroy germ-carrying lice. In their first reports officials attributed the origin to the deliberate action of one of the prisoners in throwing a lighted match into the container.

More than a score of prisoners, who were thoroughly saturated with the solution, were enveloped in flames. Jail attendants immediately opened two exits, allowing a number of the prisoners in the bath room to escape, although seriously burned.

Surgeons said that the death list would probably reach 25 and that many of the injured would not live more than a few hours.

Surrounding the bath quarters are rows of cells, mostly filled with prisoners. Those adjacent to the bath were caught in the flames. Release of these were slow and dangerous and it was in these that most of the fatalities occurred. Volunteer rescuers aided in dragging out the victims, many unconscious and badly burned.

H. M. Cross, an American, who died of injuries, was named as the man who struck the match that caused the fire, in a statement made by H. G. Baby, one of the trustees on guard. Cross was under arrest as a vagrant. His home is said to have been in Davenport, Ia.

The disinfection tubs were placed near the doorway leading to the police hospital. The burst of flames blew out doors and windows and the blaze swept the hospital, rendering it untenable and useless for the press of emergency work which followed.

On fire from head to foot, the nude victims dashed into the streets and alleys surrounding the prison. Several, maddened by the pain, outdistanced all pursuers and disappeared. Only one of these had been found several hours after the disaster.

One of the victims, a veritable torch, plunged through the jagged remains of a window pane and clambered to the roof of the jail, where he was rescued by firemen, only to die a few minutes later.

Edward McGowan, of Warde, Idaho, and John Campbell, of Camern, of Eugene, Oregon, were among the Americans seriously burned in the jail fire.

President Names N. D. Baker Secretary of War; He Accepts

Washington, D. C.—Newton D. Baker, former mayor of Cleveland, has been selected by President Wilson for secretary of war. His nomination will go to the senate immediately and administration leaders expect quick confirmation so the new secretary may take active charge of the War department's plans for army increases and reorganization.

Mr. Baker is 44 years old, a lawyer, and as a leader among Ohio Democrats has been a warm supporter of the Wilson policies since the pre-convention campaign in 1912. He has been a close personal friend of Mr. Wilson since the latter was instructor years ago at Johns Hopkins University, and was offered the post of secretary of the Interior in the original Wilson cabinet, but declined because he then was mayor. He is understood to be in thorough accord with the President on the preparedness program and foreign questions.

An offer of the War secretaryship was made to Mr. Baker by telegraph several days ago, after the President had spent more than three weeks carefully going over a long list of those suggested to succeed Secretary Garrison. Mr. Baker accepted, and upon being notified, that he would be nominated at once, telegraphed that he would come to Washington.

Spanish Steamship Hits Rock. Santos, Brazil.—The Spanish steamship Principe de Asturias has been sunk by striking a rock. She went to the bottom in five minutes. Eighty-six members of the crew and 57 passengers have been brought to Santos by the French steamer Viga.

Rio Janeiro.—It is feared here that 400 lives have been lost by the sinking of the Spanish steamship Principe de Asturias. The steamer remained afloat only a short time after striking a shoal off San Sebastiao, and there was little time for the escape of passengers and the crew in the boats.

Naval Secrets Given Out.

Washington, D. C.—The house naval committee became interested Tuesday in finding out where Representative Gardner got the confidential figures on target practice of the Atlantic fleet, which he made public some time ago. Admiral Fletcher, testifying before the committee, said that the figures were approximately correct. "Whoever told them," said Chairman Pagett, "was false to his trust and a traitor to his country. If I find out who did it, I am going to publish his name."

Taylor's Comet Splits.

Cambridge, Mass.—A split in Taylor's comet, with one of the parts from two to two and a half magnitudes fainter than the main comet, was announced Tuesday in a message to the Harvard Observatory from the Yerkes Observatory. The measurements were made by Professor Barnard. The Yerkes Observatory also reported an observation of Nujimen's comet, discovered at Pulkova, Russia, last month.

DRASTIC MILITARY BILL INTRODUCED

Senate Measure Stronger Than Administration Had Asked.

GARRISON PLAN PRACTICALLY RETAINED

Army and National Guard Virtually Doubled in Strength—New In- ducements for Recruits.

Washington, D. C.—The first of the national preparedness measures to reach either house of congress for consideration was introduced in the senate Saturday by Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the military committee, which perfected it after weeks of hearings and conferences. It proposes an even more sweeping change in military policy than that outlined by President Wilson in his annual message, and was described by Mr. Chamberlain as the most comprehensive piece of military legislation ever offered in congress.

All of the elementary administration army plans prepared by ex-Secretary Garrison are retained, although in altered form, and additional proposals for organization of industrial reserves in peace times go even further than the administration had suggested.

The house committee's bill was introduced Monday. There is no vital difference between the two measures and members of both committees believe that when the final bill, which will be agreed on in joint conference committee, has passed both houses, the President will be able to affix his signature to a measure that will do more than he has asked toward building up an adequate National defense.

Aside from its plan virtually to double the Army and National Guard, the senate bill has four striking features. One of these authorizes Federal volunteer forces in peace times, the object sought by Secretary Garrison with his continental army plan. Another mobilizes all whose callings fit them for special duty. The third Federalizes the National guard, the fourth contemplates training officers from among graduates of military schools and colleges.

For the regular Army the bill provides a peace strength within five years of 178,000 men of all arms, or approximately 165,000 fighting troops. The percentage of men in each company, battery or troop at peace strength would be increased in the interests of efficiency, and the full war strength would be 225,000 men. The Army would consist of 65 infantry, 25 cavalry and 21 field artillery regiments in addition to the staff and other special corps and coast artillery.

Colonel House Is Back From European War Zone

New York—Colonel E. M. House, who sailed for Europe December 23 on a confidential mission for President Wilson, arrived here Sunday on the steamship Rotterdam from Falmouth.

Colonel House declined to comment on his mission or what he had seen or done while abroad, reiterating the statement he had made prior to leaving here in December, that his mission was to convey to some of the American ambassadors information having to do with international questions that could not be supplied them by cable or letter.

Asked if he had noticed any marked change in the attitude of Europe toward the United States since his previous trip, Colonel House said: "Reports of an unfavorable attitude toward the United States by the people of Europe are exaggerated. At least, I heard no criticism in any of the countries I visited. I will say also that we should remember that the people of the belligerent nations are living with their nerves on edge and we should make allowances accordingly."

Germans Renew Attack on Verdun With No Gains

Paris—Fighting of great violence continues at Douaumont, in the Verdun region, the war office announced Sunday. The Germans made a heavy attack against the French front along the line from the Haudremont wood to Douaumont fort. This assault, the statement says, was repulsed. It is announced semi-officially that the battle at Verdun continued Sunday throughout the day with the same intensity and without causing any change in the respective positions of the opposing armies.

Zeppelins Raid England.

London—A Zeppelin raid took place Sunday night, when two hostile airships crossed over the northeast coast of England. The official statement announcing the raid gives no information as to the damage done. "At the time of this report," the statement continues, "their movements have not been clearly defined. Some bombs were dropped, which fell into the sea near the shore, but information is not yet available as to whether any damage was done on land. A further communication will be issued later."

3130 LIVES LOST ON FRENCH CRUISER

Mediterranean Disaster Takes Lead in Fatalities at Sea.

4000 ON BOARD; ONLY 870 SAVED

Ordinary Capacity of Vessel Largely Exceeded on Account of Short Voyage—Mostly Soldiers.

Paris—It was announced at the French ministry of marine Saturday that there were nearly 4000 men on board the French auxiliary cruiser Provence when she was sunk in the Mediterranean on February 26.

It was said that on board the Provence were the staff of the Third Colonial Infantry regiment, the Third battalion, the Second company of the First battalion, the Second Machine Gun company, and one extra company. As the ministry of marine, on February 29, announced that the number of survivors of the Provence disaster was estimated at 870, it is indicated that upwards of 3130 lives were lost. This great number of casualties makes the disaster the greatest on the sea in modern times. Up to the present time the largest number of lives ever lost in one wreck was when the White Star liner Titanic struck an iceberg off the Newfoundland banks on April 14, 1912, and sank with a death loss of 1595. The rescued numbered 743.

The vessel, however, when in the trans-Atlantic service, could carry 1960 persons, including the crew, and it has been presumed that as she was transporting troops between ports not far apart, she was carrying a number of men larger than her normal capacity.

SENATE SUPPORTS PRESIDENT'S STAND

Washington, D. C.—By a vote of 68 to 14 the senate Friday carried out President Wilson's wish and killed Senator Gore's resolution to warn Americans off armed belligerent ships.

In a turbulent scene, such as is seldom witnessed in the senate, voting proceeded, with senators shouting objections, futilely demanding recognition to explain their positions and making hot retorts to each other, all of which were out of order.

At one time so many senators were shouting for the vice president's recognition that the sergeant-at-arms was called to restore quiet.

After having maneuvered for two days to get the resolution in such parliamentary position that it was disposed of without debate, the senate then proceeded to a general discussion of the subject, which continued all afternoon, to the dismay of administration supporters. There were free expressions of opinion that the senate's action, because the vote actually was taken on a motion to table the Gore resolution, with a correction by the author and a substitute by Senator McCumber, was in effect a "Scotch verdict," and had not actually accomplished the purpose of the President.

Such statements aroused the President's friends, who feared they would produce an effect exactly opposite to that intended. It was intended to give notice to the world that the senate stands behind the President in his demands on Germany for the rights of Americans traveling the seas.

In the house, however, the foreign affairs committee, by a vote of 17 to 2, took a longer step toward meeting fully the President's wishes. It voted to report the McLemore warning resolution, with the recommendation that it be tabled. In the report the committee asserts that the constitution imposed the conduct of diplomatic negotiations on the President, and "with this practice the committee does not feel it proper for the house of representatives to interfere."

German Scores Air Raids.

Geneva, via Paris.—The bombardment of open towns in France and England by aircraft was sharply criticized in the parliament of the Duchy of Baden by the progressive deputy, Herr Hummel. A violent scene followed the deputy's remarks. Herr Hummel declared that attacks on such towns on the pretext of reprisals was only the useless butchery of peaceful citizens. Deputy Kolb, Socialist, called attention to what he termed the "brutal treatment of the new recruits, who are shortly to be sent to the trenches."

\$5000 Worth of Liquor Taken.

Seattle—Deputy sheriffs raided the home of P. E. Sullivan, who conducted a large cafe at Fourth avenue and Pike street before the prohibition law went into effect January 1, and seized 160 cases of intoxicating liquors other than beer, and said to be worth \$5000. The liquor, it was said, had been removed to Mr. Sullivan's home from the cafe when the prohibition law went into effect. Under the law it is illegal to possess over two quarts of liquor.

GERMAN RAIDER MAKES HOME PORT WITH BOOTY AND PRISONERS

Berlin—The German cruiser Moewe arrived Monday in a German port (said to be Wilhelmshaven), according to an official announcement made here.

She had on board 199 prisoners and 1,000,000 marks in gold bars. The statement follows:

"The naval general staff says that H. M. S. Moewe, Commander Captain Burgrave Count von Dohna-Scholdien, after a successful cruise lasting several months, arrived at some home port with four British officers, 29 British marines and sailors, 166 men of crews of enemy steamers, among them 103 Indians, as prisoners, and 1,000,000 marks in gold bars.

"The vessel captured the following enemy vessels, the greater part of which were sunk, and a small part of which were sent as prizes to neutral ports.

"The British steamers Corbridge, 3647 tons; Author, 3496 tons; Trader, 3608 tons; Ariadne, 3035 tons; Dromonby, 3627 tons; Farrington, 3146 tons; Clan Mactavish, 5816 tons; Ap-pam, 7781 tons; Westburn, 3300 tons; Horace, 3335 tons; Flamenco, 4629 tons; Saxon Prince, 3471 tons.

British sailing vessel Edinburgh, 1473 tons.

"French steamer Maroni, 3109 tons.

"Belgian steamer Luxembourg, 4322 tons.

"At several points on enemy coast the Moewe also laid mines, to which, among others, the battleship King Edward VII fell victim."

Count von Dohna-Scholdien, commander of the Moewe, has received the iron cross of the first class, and the members of the crew have received the iron cross of the second class. Count von Dohna has been ordered to report to headquarters for a personal interview with the emperor.

East Wants Slice of Oregon & California Land Grant Profits

Washington, D. C.—If the Chamberlain bill is made the basis of congressional legislation, looking to the disposal of the unsold portion of the Oregon & California land grant, one important provision, that prescribing the manner of disposing of the net revenues from the sale of timber lands, will be radically amended, if not altogether eliminated.

As the bill now stands, the receipts from the sale of timber lands, after paying the railroad company what further amounts may be found due, will go into a special fund, of which 40 per cent will go to the state of Oregon for school purposes, 40 per cent will go to the land grant counties, and the remaining 20 per cent to the Federal government.

While the public land committees of the senate and house have not yet formulated their reports, it has become quite evident that there will be strong opposition to turning over 80 per cent of the net receipts to Oregon and the counties, and this provision will be less favorably received by the senate and house than by the committees which have the subject in hand. And especially will this provision be assailed when it is generally known that the government estimates the timber to be worth upwards of \$50,000,000.

Regardless of the reasons back of it, the idea is strong among Eastern and Southern men in congress that the lands of the West belong to the entire country, and there is a decided opposition to any legislation which concedes that the Western states have a greater interest in lands within their borders than do states 3000 miles away.

U. S. Will Make Demands On Austria in Petrolite Case

Washington, D. C.—The United States is preparing to make formal demands upon Austria-Hungary as a result of the attack by an Austrian submarine upon the American tank steamer Petrolite. A note on the subject will be dispatched within the next few days.

It is said authoritatively that the United States would stand by its original contentions and ask an apology for the attack, punishment of the submarine commander and reparation for damage done to the vessel and injuries inflicted on a member of the crew.

In reply to the first American communication Austria informed the State department that its version of the affair was that the submarine commander thought the Petrolite an enemy ship, disguised with the American flag; that he fired on the vessel because he believed it was about to ram his ship, and that the commander of the Petrolite voluntarily furnished provisions when asked to do so.

The State department since has secured information from the captain and crew of the Petrolite directly contradictory to the Austrian version.

Irish Ask Freedom.

New York—Resolutions termed "an Irish declaration of independence," appealing for the recognition of Ireland as a nation by the powers of the world and demanding that Americans be warned not to travel on ships carrying contraband, were adopted Sunday by the Friends of Irish Freedom, a national organization formed here Saturday as the outgrowth of a conference called to define the attitude which it is contended Irishmen in this country should assume toward Great Britain.

2000 GERMANS TRAPPED IN RUINS

Remnant of Famous Corps Is Surrounded by French.

BREAK FOR LIBERTY IS CERTAIN DEATH

Starvation or Forced Fight Is Plight of Brandenburg Troops, Pride of Entire Germany Army.

Paris—The remnant of the famous Brandenburg corps, flower of the kaiser's armies, which bore the brunt of the assault on Verdun, is trapped in what remains of the fort at Douaumont. French forces surround it on all sides.

Guards have been placed about the fort. The French are not wasting lives in attacking it, but are waiting until hunger compels the kaiser's crack troopers to run up the white flag or come out and fight. More than 2000 of the Brandenburgers are virtually prisoners.

In the attacks on Douaumont, the fort at the place changed hands four times. Repelled by the Germans, the French rallied and regained the stronghold, only to be routed again. Assaults and counter-assaults might have continued indefinitely had not the Breton corps been called on. The Bretons charged with irresistible elan through a storm of German shells and put the famous Brandenburgers to flight.

The pursuit carried the main division of the German corps to the northward, beyond the fort. The ferocity and suddenness of the French assault cut off the escape of 2000 of the Brandenburgers, who were unable to get out of the fort. The French assert that the latter will either be starved into surrender or will make a break for the German lines. The French say annihilation will follow a break to escape.

Secretary of War Kitchener Makes Plan for Home Economy

London—Rigid economy in the use of home, as well as imported products, was urged on all Britons by Earl Kitchener, secretary of war, in a speech before a great mass meeting at Guild Hall. This was declared necessary so every available man might enlist in the army and so every possible energy of munitions and army equipment.

Lord Kitchener urged his hearers to consider the fact that the war was a struggle for economic exhaustion, as well as a conflict of armies.

"Whether the army in the field," he continued, "who are entirely dependent on the civilian army for food, equipment and munitions, can get those things in sufficient quantities depends absolutely and entirely on whether every man and woman at home shows the utmost energy in production and utmost economy in consumption."

House Committee Promises Astoria Navy Base Hearing

Washington, D. C.—The chairman of the house naval committee notified Representative Hawley that he will hold hearings on the Hawley bill, providing for the establishment of a naval base on the Columbia river, soon after the regular naval appropriation bill is reported, and will give opportunity to all who are interested to be heard.

A telegram from the Astoria committee was received by Representative Hawley and is as follows:

"The movement is for a complete Pacific Coast defense, naval and military. Astoria will co-operate with San Francisco, Puget Sound and all Pacific Coast ports, but insists that the Columbia river is the vital strategic point and must have first class recognition. Our campaign is not local, but patriotic. Free sites for the naval base are offered on both sides of the Columbia river if available for the naval base. We don't ask for pork, but for preparedness."

Star Line Cancels Sailings.

New York—Although there have been sailings of White Star steamers on an average of once a week since the war began, officials of the company here have said no more of the company's liners would sail with passengers to any English ports until April 12, when the Lapland is scheduled to leave here. It is asserted that this decision had no bearing on the German submarine campaign, but was due to the fact that the British government has taken over many vessels of the line for the transportation of munitions.

Editors to Spell Simply.

New York—Eight publications owned by Governor Arthur Capper, of Kansas, have adopted a simplified form of spelling a list of 12 words, according to a statement made here by officials of the simplified spelling board.

The words and form of spelling which the publications began using are: Tho, altho, thru, thruout, thoro, thoroly, thorfare, program, catalog, prolong, decalog and pedagog.