

# SUBMARINE BASE ON COLUMBIA PROMISED

## Secretary Daniels Is Willing If Congress Supplies Cash.

### FULL NAVAL BASE MAY COME LATER

### Oregon Delegation Call at Navy Department to Ask Support for Coast Defense Project.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels Thursday promised the Oregon congressional delegation that he would locate a submarine base on the Columbia river if congress would incorporate in the naval appropriation bill a lump sum appropriation which he has recommended for the establishment of several such bases at points to be selected by the Navy department.

He further said he was urging congress to authorize the appointment of a special naval board to investigate the entire Pacific Coast with a view to determining its needs in the way of naval defense and land stations. If this board is authorized, the secretary gave assurance that it would make particular investigation of the Columbia river to determine the availability of that point as the location of a full naval base.

The department, he said, would be guided by the report of the board, which it is proposed shall submit its findings not later than December 1.

The entire Oregon delegation met F. C. Harley, of the naval base committee, at Secretary Daniels' office and in a body waited on the secretary to explain the grounds on which they are asking for a naval base, and to urge departmental support. The secretary, after hearing the arguments, committed himself to the extent indicated, but said the department would not ask for appropriations this session for the establishment of any naval bases, other than for submarines. Future recommendations, so far as the Pacific coast is concerned, will depend on the investigation and report of the board.

Secretary Daniels again expressed deep interest in the Columbia river, but manifestly his eyes were opened by statements made to him by the delegation from Oregon. Mr. Harley explained the widespread interest throughout the Northwest in this project. The senators and representatives dwelt on the facilities afforded and impressed on the secretary the fact that there is strong sentiment back of the Hawley and Lane bills.

### Germany Denies Sinking Sussex In Answer to American Note

Berlin—Germany's reply to the inquiries of the American government regarding the steamer Sussex, Manchester Engineer, Englishman, Berwickshire and Eagle Point, signed by Gottlieb von Jagow, the German minister of foreign affairs, has been forwarded to Washington by Ambassador Gerard.

The note denies that the Sussex was attacked by a German submarine. The investigation covering the Sussex case says the note was extended to all actions undertaken on March 24—the day of the Sussex incident—in the Channel between Folkestone and Dieppe. One steamer was sunk, the commander of the German submarine reaching the definite conclusion that it was a war vessel. A sketch of this vessel, together with photographic reproductions of a picture of the Sussex printed in the London Daily Graphic, were inclosed with the note, the difference in the two craft being indicated.

The steamers Englishman and Eagle Point were sunk by German submarines after they had attempted to escape and time was allowed for the withdrawal of those aboard.

### Miss Wilson Backs Bill

Washington, D. C.—Miss Margaret Wilson, daughter of the President, before a house committee Thursday advocated a bill to permit the use of the District of Columbia schoolhouses for community forums. The measure has aroused opposition, particularly in the local school board.

### Spotted Fever Is Fought

Baker, Or.—Renewed efforts in the fight against the ground squirrel will be made by the ranchers to keep down the spotted fever epidemic that is traveling over Grant county and at the western edge of Baker county.

E. F. Averill, of the United States biological survey, gave out the word while here Thursday that the sage tick that causes spotted fever depends on the squirrel for its existence. Ranchers have been fighting the rodent because of its damage to crops.

### French To Fix Prices

Paris—The French senate has just adopted the principle of fixing by degrees the maximum selling prices of necessities of life. The discussion as to what articles shall be included in the regulations has not yet ended. The government proposes to fix the prices of the following articles: Bread, meat, milk, butter, imitation butter, eggs, potatoes, sugar, cheese, vegetables, wine, table beer, fertilizers, petroleum and alcohol for burning purposes.

# GERMANY IS HELD TO ADMIT GUILT OF TORPEDOING SUSSEX

Washington, D. C.—The United States is disposed to consider that Germany, in the latest submarine note, practically admitted one of her submarine commanders is guilty of torpedoing the Channel steamer Sussex. President Wilson and Secretary Lansing examined the official text of the communication from Berlin and are understood to have reached this conclusion, although no announcement was made.

Unless Germany should, without equivocation, admit attacking the vessel, which had aboard more than a score of American citizens, inflict adequate punishment upon the commander of the submarine and in other ways show evidence of good faith, action of a drastic nature undoubtedly will follow. Details of the policy to be pursued are expected to be formulated at the next meeting of the cabinet.

The assumption of Germany's admission of guilt is founded on the marked similarity of the circumstances surrounding the explosion which damaged the Sussex and the attack on a steamer in the Channel described in the German note. The date, time and locations are practically the same. The damage done by the torpedo fired by the submarine and the explosion which wrecked the Sussex are identical. The course being followed by the Sussex and the vessel mentioned in the note are similar.

# U. S. Troops and Mexicans Clash When Parral Protests Presence

Washington, D. C.—American troops in Mexico have had their first battle with the natives at the moment General Carranza is urging their withdrawal.

On Wednesday night, while General Carranza's note was on its way to Washington, troops of the Seventh Cavalry, under Major Tompkins, were fired on in Parral, a Villa stronghold, in Western Chihuahua; were pursued into the suburbs, while the Carranza garrison took a doubtful part in the affray, and were attacked during the night.

Complete information regarding the losses to the American troops or to the Mexicans had not reached Washington Thursday night. Secretary Baker informed President Wilson that a brief dispatch to the War department said that, according to unofficial reports, one American cavalryman was killed and that the troops used a machine gun against the Mexicans.

Mr. Baker announced later that he had ordered General Funston to take any steps that might be necessary to prevent further trouble. When asked whether this might mean the enforced use of Mexican railroads for the movement of soldiers and supplies, he said General Funston was on the ground and would act in any emergency.

General Carranza, directing his embassy here to point out that the clash proved his contention that the presence of American troops in Mexico is leading to a situation which threatens to go beyond his control, telegraphed that many deaths had occurred on both sides.

Foreign Minister Aguilar, in a dispatch sent before that from General Carranza, said one American trooper was killed and several citizens wounded.

Consul Garcia, the Carranza agent at El Paso, telegraphed the embassy that "several persons were killed on both sides." His dispatch added that when the American troops entered Parral "the people protested, and it appears the garrison did also."

# President Wilson Asks If America Is Ready to Fight

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson, speaking at a Jefferson day banquet of Democrats from all parts of the country here Thursday night, said he prayed that the United States would not be drawn into a quarrel not of its own choosing, but asked if the people were ready to go in where the interests of America were coincident with the interests of humanity and have the courage to withdraw when the interests of humanity had been conserved. He was interrupted by cheers and shouts of "Yes."

In the course of his address the President had mentioned the European and Mexican questions without intimating what were his plans in either of the problems confronting the United States.

# New Air Motor Tested

New York—At the Automobile Club of America's testing laboratory a new aeroplane motor, developed by Silas Christofferson, the Vancouver, Wash., aeroplane designer, was put through a break test Friday. The motor, a six-cylinder, has several novel features, including an oil-cooling radiator and a system of inclosing all working parts. The cylinders are of steel with aluminum casing.

The motor developed 117 horsepower at an average of 1475 revolutions per minute.

# Teeth Save Intrepid Man

Elms, Wash.—With two fingers pinched off in a tackle block while he was working at the top of a pole 165 feet above ground, H. Johnson, high climber for the Lytle logging crew, working east of here, used his teeth to pull up enough slack in the cable to release the hand and save the arm, while he clung on for life with the other hand. "Just one of those accidents anybody is liable to have," remarked the intrepid logger when he had descended. He was brought to a hospital at this place.

# Road to Spend Millions

Seattle—C. P. Dole, purchasing agent of the Alaska Engineering commission, says that more than \$2,000,000 will be expended by the commission in the Pacific Northwest within a few weeks.

The material called for includes rails and angle iron, \$600,000; groceries and supplies, \$500,000; bridge lumber, \$150,000; marine supplies, \$100,000; flatcars and other rolling stock, \$100,000.

# NEWS ITEMS Of General Interest About Oregon

## Irrigation Project Revived and Prosperity Returns to Irrigon

Irrigon—Not since the collapse of the Irrigon irrigation project in 1907 have the people of this little town been able to look into the future with the certainty of a final prosperous outcome as today. When the government took the project over a few years ago and began the great cement-lined ditch there was a feeling of jubilation; when the ditch was finished there was rejoicing. But until the present time there has usually been a prospect of procrastination and delay, which prospects proved realities. Hence the little town practically stood still.

Now, however, all is changed. The government is about to take charge of the project and handle the water distribution, there is much more water than will be used for years to come, landowners are jubilant and are going ahead planting and seeding as never before. Buyers have just closed the largest purchase ever made here, 240 acres of raw land a few miles west of Irrigon. The price paid was well over \$10,000. The new owners are now busily at work with a large force seeding the tract to alfalfa. Past seedings of the kind here have returned two crops the first year, showing that there is no quicker alfalfa land in the country than at this beautiful spot on the banks of the majestic Columbia. Another sale was made whereby Ote Henkle, now of Crook county, sold 80 acres of his homestead south of town. Improvements are going forward on this tract also.

## Coos Bay Road Allowed

Washington, D. C.—Authority has been granted by the superintendent of the Coast Guard Service for the construction of a road from the Coos Bay station, along the edge of the bluff for a distance of three miles overlooking the south entrance to Coos Bay. The construction of this road was urged by the North Bend chamber of commerce, it being their contention that the road is necessary for the transportation of lifesaving apparatus in case of a wreck in the vicinity.

It is pointed out that had there been such a road when the Santa Clara was wrecked recently, the Coast Guard might have saved the lives of those who perished because of the inability to reach the wreck promptly.

## Cherries Thrive In Hood

Hood River—Prospects are bright in Hood River for a bumper cherry crop this year. Orchardists in all districts report that their trees are loaded with buds. Cherry trees are in full bloom along the lowlands of the Columbia and in the city. J. R. Nunamaker, who owns the largest cherry orchard in the valley, estimates his crop at 50 tons.

Strawberries are beginning to bloom in protected parts of the Lower valley. The apple trees of the district probably will be in full bloom during the first week in May.

## Governors' Day Fixed

Salem—Announcement has been made by A. H. Lea, secretary of the State Fair board, that Friday, September 29, has been designated as Governors' Day at the State Fair. Governor Lister, of Washington, has accepted an invitation to attend, and it is believed that Governor Alexander, of Idaho, will also be in attendance. Governor Withycombe has accepted an invitation to attend on Governors' Day at the Washington State Fair, at North Yakima, which will be on September 21.

## Douglas Broccoli Sought

Roseburg—At a meeting of the Douglas County Broccoli growers held here recently a communication was read in which John Nix & Co., of Chicago, asked that they be guaranteed 150 cars of broccoli from Douglas county next season. A formal contract to this effect will probably be executed between the John Nix company and the local broccoli growers soon. Fifty cars of broccoli were shipped from Douglas county this year. The crop brought an average price of \$1.35 a crate.

## Merrill to Vote June 13

Merrill—If the council can have its way, this place will have a water system in the near future, if only for protection. A special meeting of the city council was held recently, when ordinances were adopted for a special election of the legal voters for June 13, at which time they will be asked to vote for the amending of the charter so as to permit bonds being issued to the amount of \$6000 to install fire-fighting apparatus. The action of the city council is a result of a recent fire in which a general store was destroyed.

## Ditch Cost Is Protested

Salem—Orchardists of Sutherland, have filed complaint with the State Public Service commission against the J. F. Luse company, alleging that the company's charge of \$3.50 an acre for maintaining an irrigation ditch is excessive. A hearing will be held by the commission. The complainants point out that the cost of ditch maintenance in the arid districts of Eastern Oregon as shown by the 1915 report of the desert and board is but \$1 an acre.

## Bridge Plans Finished

Salem—Plans and specifications for a reinforced concrete bridge across Ochoco creek, near Primeville, were completed by the State Highway department and forwarded to the Crook county court. The estimated cost of the structure is \$3900. The Highway department has received a request to prepare plans and specifications for a 180-foot wood span which is to be constructed near Myrtle Point, Coos county.

# NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS; GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS

Portland—Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.04 1/2 per bushel; fortyfold, 92c; club, 91c; red Fife, 91c; red Russian, 91c. Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$23 per ton; shorts, \$25.50; rolled barley, \$31.50@32.50. Corn—Whole, \$36 per ton; cracked, \$37.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 65¢@80¢ per dozen; tomatoes, \$3.50 @ 3.75 per crate; cabbage, \$1.50@1.85 per hundred; garlic, 10¢ per pound; peppers, 17¢@20¢; eggplant, 23¢; horseradish, 8¢; cauliflower, 75¢@1.25; lettuce, \$2.25 @ 2.35 per crate; cucumbers, \$1.25@1.50; spinach, 90¢@1 box; asparagus, 7¢@10¢ per pound; rhubarb, Oregon, \$2.50 per box; peas, 7¢@9¢ per pound.

Potatoes—Jobbing prices: Oregon, \$1.50@1.75 per sack; Yakimas, \$1.70 @1.80; new California, 6 @ 7¢ per pound.

Onions—Oregon, \$1.75 per sack; Texas, Bermudas, yellow, \$2.25 per crate; white, \$2.50. Green Fruit—Strawberries, \$3.50 per crate; apples, \$1@1.60 per box; cranberries, \$1 per barrel. Eggs—Jobbing price: Oregon ranch, candied, 20¢ per dozen; uncandied, 19¢@20¢.

Poultry—Hens, 17¢@17¢ per pound; stags, 13¢; broilers, 25¢@30¢; turkeys, live, 18¢@20¢; turkeys, dressed, choice, 24¢@25¢; ducks, 15¢; geese, 10¢. Butter—Prices from wholesaler to retailer: Portland city creamery grades, 60-pound case lots, standard grades, 34¢; lower grades, 31¢; Oregon country creamery prints, 60-pound case lots, standard makes, 31¢@33¢; lower grades, 30 @ 30¢; sacked in cubs, 2¢ less. Prices paid by jobbers to producers: Cubes, extras, 30¢@31¢; firsts, 27¢@27¢; dairy butter, 14 @ 18¢; butterfat, No. 1, 33¢; No. 2, 30¢.

Veal—Fancy, 11¢@12¢ per pound. Pork—Fancy, 11¢@11¢ per pound. Hops—1915 crop, 11¢@12¢; 1916 contracts, nominal. Wool—Eastern Oregon, 21¢@27¢ per pound; valley, 30¢; mohair, new clip, 35¢. Casaca bark—Old and new, 4¢ per pound.

Cattle—Steers, choice grain and pulp, \$8.50@9; choice hay, \$8.15 @ 8.50; good, \$7.75 @ 8.15; medium, \$7.50@7.75; cows, choice, \$6.70@7.80; good, \$6.50@6.75; medium, \$6.25 @ 6.50; heifers, \$5@8.35; bulls, \$2.75 @ 6; stags, \$3@5.25.

Hogs—Prime light, \$8.90@9; good to prime, \$8.25@8.50; rough heavy, \$8@8.25; pigs and skips, \$8@8.25. Sheep—Yearlings, \$8@10; wethers, \$7.25@9.25; ewes, \$6.25@8.25; lambs, \$9.50@10.50.

## Banker Expects Better Business in Northwest

Spokane—"Business generally in Spokane and throughout the Inland Empire and the Pacific Northwest should show big improvement from now on, and more especially during the summer and next fall," said Aaron Kuhn, a director of the Spokane & Eastern Trust company, Wednesday, on returning from a business and pleasure trip to Eastern and Middle Western cities.

"It is reported in New York that Germany has ample resources for fully 24 months," Mr. Kuhn said, "and it seems to be known that the allied countries are in a position to continue for at least a similar period."

Mr. Kuhn said that while factories are busy throughout the big manufacturing centers in the East, there seems to be a cautious feeling, with the result there is little so-called plunging. "Another thing is that this is the presidential election year," he added, "and capital is somewhat timid along certain lines. There are some who believe that a sudden cessation of hostilities in Europe will result in flooding this country and others with cheaply-made goods."

"One thing is certain: Our tariff question will have to be dealt with by the best business brains of the country."

## Farmers To Build Elevator

Kendrick, Idaho—The Kendrick Rochdale company met recently and arranged to build an elevator. One hundred and ten farmers subscribed \$100 each and committee were appointed to visit elevators now built and decide on the plan of elevator to build. The next meeting was set for June 1, after which they expect to begin building and have it ready for this year's crop. John F. Brown has resigned as mayor in order to accept his appointment as postmaster. Wm. Freytag was appointed to fill the vacancy.

## Walla Walla Has Fine Cows

Walla Walla, Wash.—High butterfat records of Walla Walla cows continue according to the March test of the Walla Walla Valley Cow Testing association, just completed by Lee C. Lewis. Highland Dora Veeman, a registered Holstein, property of Walla Walla college, gave 87.8 pounds butterfat, which was nine-tenths of a pound under the record set by the state pententary cow last month. Both these records are several pounds higher than any record reported by any association in the United States, so far as learned.

## Hen and Pigeon Affinities

Walla Walla—A bantam hen and a male pigeon, property of Mrs. W. E. Stapleton, 933 East Alder street, have discovered they are affinities, and are building a nest in the barn on the premises and refuse to associate with others of their kinds. Two weeks ago the hen "turned down" her mate and the pigeon gave up his. The owner put the pigeon in a coop with a female pigeon and the latter was severely punished.

## Navy's Gain in Men Is Big

Washington, D. C.—More enlisted men are in active service in the navy now than ever before in the country's history. Secretary Daniels announced Wednesday that the personnel for the first time had reached the 54,000 mark. "There are now 54,011 men in the enlisted personnel," said the secretary, "showing a net gain of 6664 since March 4, 1913."

# TRIPOLI IS FLOURISHING



IN OUTSKIRTS OF TRIPOLI CITY

TRIPOLI, the highly-inflammable land of Arab and Berber, has exchanged its peace-time industries for the industry of war, and according to a statement prepared by the National Geographic society, the newer industry adds little to the normal hazard of Tripolitan life.

Danger is the daily bread and meat of the dweller in Tripoli, and, in this country flecked with occasional oases and fringed with narrow strips of coastal vegetation, even the principal native pursuits for wealth and happiness are accompanied by hidden terror and grave risk. The principal sources of income to Tripolitans are those of sponge gathering, of esparto picking and of carrying on the trans-Saharan caravan trade.

Whether the native son seeks to make his "pile" searching the slimy bottom of the Mediterranean for sponges, or gathering esparto grass in the morning mists of the desert, or following the caravan of a thousand camels back from the coast through 1,500 miles of Saharan desert to the distant Sudan, he takes not only his labor and capital for profit but also his health and life. More often than not he reaps disability or death as his reward.

## Perils of Sponge Gatherers

The wild seas that now and again boil over the northern coast of Africa are the smallest part of the sponge diver's hazard. Paralysis is always just ahead of this venturesome laborer who, day by day making foolhardy rapid ascents from the sea bed under press of keen competition, sooner or later experiences the return to shipboard in terrific dizziness, which forms the usual prelude to partial or complete paralysis. Strange as it may seem, many partially-paralyzed divers are able to continue their calling, and the unfitted, helpless cripple in the upper air feels normal circulation return to arms and legs when lowered into the sea on the sponge grounds. And the Arab divers of Tripoli, believing the disease indispensable to the vocation, and lured to hazard in their peculiar fatherland, dive phlegmatically through a few fat seasons until crippled or killed by their chosen trade.

Back in the plateau lands of the Sahara, behind the coastal groves in the silent, treeless, untenant desert wastes, where the alluring mystery of the desert broods under the blighting heat of day and beckons in fanciful shapes over the dunes at night, stretch vast fields of wry esparto grass, from which paper is manufactured in great mills in England. In these fields, working for the starvation wage of twenty cents a day or less, picking the grass and tying it in large bales to be loaded on camel trains for Tripoli City, the port of Tripolitanian, is another corps of workers who adventure their safety in their work.

## Picking the Esparto Grass

Day begins for the esparto picker in the moonlight of early morning. In the chill of desert morning the picker leaves his nearby shack for the field, and begins his rapid task of breaking the longest wry blades, leg high, from the most matured clump. And in the heart of these clumps ever and again lurks his danger in the form of his arch enemy, the deadly viper. In the clumps, also, are hidden the venomous North African rock scorpions, whose stings now and again prove fatal. It is the poisonous vipers, however, that make the work of esparto picking a sporting game with death.

Of the \$2,000,000 of export trade enjoyed by Tripoli before the war, one-fifth of it was produced by the sponge divers, more than one-third of it by the esparto pickers and considerably more than one-sixth was brought over the wide, treacherous desert from the Sudan. Many caravans, some of a few and some of thousand camels, it-

## New War Game

Playing war got three small boys into the Columbus (Ind.) city court. They had been reading the newspapers and also about the latest things in gas bombs, playing that they were to hand bombs, then lay in ambush for the coming of the enemy. Just any sort of an enemy would satisfy them. John J. Hosea, manager of the City John J. Hosea, manager in Columbus, happened to come along with his newly-washed touring car. Clarence Kemp, a friend, was riding with him. The boys decided the car was a battleship or a Taube or something like that, and they opened fire. Eggs splattered the sides of the car. Kemp jumped out of the machine and gave chase. He captured one boy, who confessed and gave the names of his confederates. They were loaded in the car and taken to the city court, where Mayor Volland lectured them.

## Daily Thought

The happiness of your life, and its power, and its part or rank in earth or in heaven, depend on the way you pass your days now.—Rookin.

# CAP and BELLS



## ROBSON'S JOKE WAS FAILURE

Reason He Was Like Donkey Was Because He Was Born So, Was Wife's Startling Reply.

"Robson, do you know why you are like a donkey?" "Like a donkey?" echoed Robson, opening his eyes wide. "I don't." "Because your better half is stubbornness itself." The jest pleased Robson immensely, for he at once saw the opportunity of a glorious dig at his wife. So when he got home he said: "Mrs. Robson, do you know why I am like a donkey?" He waited a moment, expecting his wife to give it up. But she didn't. She looked at him somewhat pityingly, as she answered: "I suppose it's because you were born so."

## The Opportune Moment

"Do you think your father will object to my marrying you?" "I think not. But don't ask him until after the first of the month." "Why not?" "Then he'll have all the bills in for latest hats and dresses and he'll be glad to give me away."

## UP IN THE AIR



Hickson—It's all up with Saylor. Dickson—Gracious! He's not dead? Hickson—No; he's bought an air-ship.

## False to His Argument

"I don't see Sim Fluddud any more at the grocery loccum." "Sim sorter lost case. He was sitting on a cracker barrel arguing that life wasn't worth living. A lamp exploded." "Well?" "Sim was the first man out."

## A Smart Lad

"This peace enthusiast says that when you take a fork in your hand you are preparing to attack an oyster or a beefsteak." "Good stuff," declared the other kid. "I'll put it on her tho' next time she jumps on me for eating with my fingers."

## In Doubt

Lady (compassionately)—There, after four hours a miserable little fish is struggling on the hook. Oh, such cruel sport! Fisherman—Are you pitying the fish, are you pitying the worm, or are you pitying me?—Flegende Blaetter (Munich).

## Two Views

Jason—According to a Paris physician, premature baldness is due to some trouble with the teeth. Egbert—Think, perhaps, it's the other way 'round, because a man usually loses his hair before he does his teeth.

## Nothing Serious

"Hubby, the playground inspector says that our little insonam doesn't know how to play rationally." "Let him play rationally, then. I did it when I was a kid, and I can't say that I have gotten over the habit yet."

## Same Here

Flatbush—This paper says the milk supply is augmented in the Philippines mainly from the carabao. Bensonhurst—What's a carabao in the Philippine language, do you suppose? "Pump, I reckon."

## The Unkindest Cut

Blondine—Gerty Giddig said when she was downtown this morning she felt the wind over her corner. Brunetta—Gracious! I knew she was slender, but I didn't know she was as angular as all that.

## Holding On

Yeast—London has some lamp posts still doing duty which were planted in the reign of George III. Crimonsbeak—Those bibulous Londoners do like to hang on to their old lamp posts evidently.

## Horse Meat

Bill—In 13 years the number of street-car horses in Great Britain has decreased from 13,000 to 1,500. Jim—Can it be that the British people have got over their great love for beef?