

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR YOU

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

British patrols have again crossed the Piave river, on the Italian front. They forced a passage at various points causing alarm in the enemy lines.

John Stark, of Athol, Mass., an American student at a French flying school, was killed on Saturday when his machine suddenly plunged to the ground while he was flying at a height of 200 yards.

An official report received from Aden, a British port on the Southern coast of Arabia, says that the British destroyed the defenses of Hatum, Saturday. Severe casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

A British torpedo-boat destroyer has been torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean Sea according to an admiral's announcement issued Tuesday. All the officers of the destroyer were saved, but ten members of the crew were lost.

Senator McNary is assured by the War department that there is no foundation for rumors, current in Oregon, that a transport bearing some of the Oregon troops had been sunk. All the Oregon troops, he was told, had landed safely.

Heavy artillery fire took place during Tuesday night near Bezonvaux and Chambrettes, Northeast of Verdun, the Paris war office announces. A German raid on French trenches north of Hill 304 and the opposite bank of the Meuse was repulsed.

Senator Smith, of South Carolina, has been chosen by the senate steering committee to be chairman of the interstate commerce committee, succeeding the late Senator Newlands. He will have charge of the administration railroad legislation in the senate.

At a meeting of the official board of the parish school of the Trinity German Lutheran church called Tuesday at Sterling, Colo., to consider abolishing the teaching of German, it was decided to go a step further and suspend school for the duration of the war.

Butter is selling in Berlin at \$2.25 per pound, sugar at 56 cents a pound, ham and bacon at \$2.11 per pound, and American soap at five bars for \$1.12. This information, received by the food administration, comes through a reliable source. The prices are from four to five times as high as those prevailing in the United States.

Two million ripe bananas were offered by the United States Fruit company of Boston, Wednesday, to the Food administration of Maryland for distribution among the poor. Owing to the fact that the vessel carrying the fruit was held up a week by ice in Chesapeake Bay, the bananas had become unsealable through regular channels.

Reorganization of the War department, begun with the creation last month of the war council of high general officers, advanced a step further Tuesday with the appointment by Secretary Baker of Major General George W. Goethals, acting quartermaster general to serve also as director of War department transportation and storage.

Premier Clemenceau, a dispatch from France says, has sent this message to Premier Lloyd George: "With my most hearty congratulations, I hasten to send you those of the French nation, those at the front and in the interior, for the admirable speech in which you so happily stated the truth that one must never become weary of opposing the Germans."

The central powers, within 10 days, will make new declarations regarding Germany's peace conditions, a dispatch from Geneva to the London Daily Express quotes the Munich Nachrichten.

A heavy demand in London for copies of the American blacklist has developed the fact that the names of a number of representatives of British firms in South America are on the list. Hence the American Consul General and other American officials have been asked for details.

The probability of the Germans now taking a vigorous offensive attitude on the western front was pointed out by Major General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the London War office, in his weekly talk to the press.

The Japanese freighter Shinyo Maru, No. 2, of 6909 tons, Captain Matsomoto, which left an American Pacific port December 22 for an Oriental port, was reported Thursday night to have sent out a distress call from somewhere on the Pacific, saying the ship was on fire.

KAISER USES PRESS

Makes It Weapon Through Censorship and Publishes "News" Made Strictly to Order.

Washington, D. C.—Evidences of the care the German government is taking to direct public opinion and so to deceive not only its enemies, but its own people is contained in a series of secret instructions issued to the German press by the censorship, which have fallen into the hands of the State department.

These instructions cover a period of less than three months of last year, but they tell a complete story of how the Teutonic war lords control public opinion.

Owners of newspapers and publishers generally not only are limited as to the character of the articles printed, but in many cases are told what they should publish and in what terms.

Labor disturbances, food shortage and difficulties in securing and distributing coal are placed under the ban, newspapers are urged to give prominence to enemy losses and to certain prescribed interpretations of international situations.

A hint of the relentlessness of the authorities in punishing infractions of orders is contained in one notice, in which attention is called to the fact that the police "have again been notified to seek out and to bring to ruthless punishment originators and communicators of untrue military, political, financial and economic reports."

In another notice similar warning is given that the police will "proceed energetically" against those who repeated untrue reports.

Interesting light is thrown upon the Berlin view of the preparations for war in the United States by a paragraph of an order dated June 6, last. It says:

"While the news about America's war preparations, such as the organization and outfitting of an army of 1,000,000 strong to reinforce the French-English front, is looked upon, in that form, as 'bluff', the spreading of which may unfavorably affect the opinion of the German people, yet the fact must not be overlooked, on the other hand, that the United States, with the support of its capacity for material and industrial management, is arming itself for war with great energy and tenacity.

"The war preparations in America are therefore, as was intimated in the reichstag at the time, not at all to be made little of, but must be taken seriously without on that account being made a source of worry."

Serious economic conditions are disclosed by the censorship orders. One forbids the publication of advertisements of dog meat for sale.

"It is desired that it should be clearly and distinctly put in the foreground that the enemy offensive has utterly failed on all fronts, that the entente has no alternative but to attempt a new offensive, as the enemy's statements are still against peace."

"Recent Reuter dispatches which have entirely English reports from Russia, concerning the commencing dissolution of chaos, etc., and strikes are worthy of notice. It is requested always to make such news as English reports and to assume an attitude of reserve toward them and occasionally to add thereto a critical word."

"Concerning the most recent bomb attack by a German flying machine on London nothing may be published."

"The publication and discussion of the resolutions adopted in a strike meeting of the Leipzig Unions and of a telegram sent to the Imperial chancellor are not permissible."

"The publication is to be avoided of anything concerning the state of the clothing material business and concerning the purchase of clothing material in the occupied districts as well as in Switzerland."

Advertisements of undertaking establishments which seek the removal of the bodies of fallen soldiers are not to be accepted."

"It is not desired to discuss or even to mention the German importations from abroad, especially from Holland."

"In the interest of a victorious carrying through of the war, which is endangered by every stoppage of work, expressions of the press which recommend a strike or express themselves otherwise in favor of a strike are forbidden. Utterances which are directed against strikes are indeed not subject to the censorship, but it is supposed thereby that they are kept free from immoderate sharpness which could offer material for irritating the people."

Expulsion Move Started.

Honolulu, T. H.—Frederick Funston Post No. 94, Veterans of Foreign Wars, of this island, has drawn up a resolution which will be forwarded to congress asking that all known enemies of alien birth, their sympathizers or any other persons found guilty of giving assistance of any kind to the enemy be expelled from American soil for the duration of the war. The Oahu Post hopes that this matter will be taken up by the Spanish War Veterans and other soldiers' organizations throughout the mainland.

Teachers Must Own Up.

Honolulu, T. H.—Steps will shortly be taken to stamp out pro-Germanism and lukewarm Americanism among the 900 odd school teachers in Hawaii. Henry W. Kinney, superintendent of education, is preparing to send out question cards which must be filled in by every school teacher. These cards will contain certain questions which must be answered with "yes" or "no" and which, it is believed, will bring out the pro-German sentiments.

WILSON RE-STATES NATION'S WAR AIMS

"We Stand Together" President Says in Great Address.

ALLIES ARE UNITED

Foundation for Genuine Peace is Freedom of Seas, Evacuation of Invaded Lands and Reparation.

Washington, D. C.—America's program of war and peace, with definite terms upon which the nations, great and small, fighting together against German world domination, are ready to lay down their arms, was given to the world by President Wilson Tuesday through an address to congress in joint session.

For this program, based upon the righting of wrongs and the safety of peace-loving peoples desiring to live their own lives, the President committed the United States to fight and continue to fight until it is achieved. Thus he pledged the country to the allied policy of no separate peace. "We cannot be separated in interest or divided in purpose," he said. "We stand together to the end."

The speech, heard by congress, was delivered as a direct response to the German charge in the negotiations with the Russians at Brest-Litovsk. It followed close and approved the address of the British premier, but was far more specific in statement of terms, robbing of force in advance any German peace drive designed to confuse the entente and American governments and their people.

Fourteen concrete proposals laid down by the President began with the declaration that the days of private international understandings are gone and that covenants of peace must be reached in the open. Briefly summarized, they are as follows:

First—Open covenants of peace without private international understandings.

Second—Absolute freedom of the seas in peace or war except as they may be closed by international action.

Third—Removal of all economic barriers and establishment of equality of trade conditions among nations consenting to peace and associating themselves for its maintenance.

Fourth—Guarantees for the reduction of national armaments to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.

Fifth—Impartial adjustment of all colonial claims based upon the principle that the peoples concerned have equal weight with the interest of the governed.

Sixth—Evacuation of all Russian territory and opportunity for Russia's political development.

Seventh—Evacuation of Belgium without any attempt to limit her sovereignty.

Eighth—All French territory to be freed and restored and reparation for the taking of Alsace-Lorraine.

Ninth—Readjustment of Italy's frontiers along clearly recognizable lines of nationality.

Tenth—Greatest opportunity for autonomous development of the peoples of Austria-Hungary.

Eleventh—Evacuation of Roumania, Serbia and Montenegro, with access to the sea for Serbia and international guarantees of economic and political independence and territorial integrity of the Balkan States.

Twelfth—Secure sovereignty for Turkey's portion of the Ottoman empire, but with other nationalities under Turkish rule assured security of life and opportunity for autonomous development, with the Dardanelles permanently opened to all nations.

Thirteenth—Establishment of and independent Polish state, including territories inhabited by indisputably Polish populations, with free access to the sea and political and economic independence and territorial integrity guaranteed by international covenant.

Fourteenth—General association of nations under specific covenants for mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to large and small states alike.

\$36,000,000 Court Award.

Denver—A judgment for \$36,515,038 to enforce a judgment for a similar amount awarded in United States court for the Southern district of New York was returned in Federal District court here Tuesday against the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad company in favor of the Equitable Trust company, of New York.

It was the largest judgment ever returned in the local court. It took less than 45 minutes to empanel a jury, present evidence and obtain a verdict.

Farmer Offers Services.

Omaha, Neb.—Arnold Martin, of Du Bois, Neb., nominated by the United States department of Agriculture as the world's premier intensive farmer, Tuesday offered his services to the national government through Governor Neville, of Nebraska, to go to France to teach intensive farming this spring. Martin says he can teach French farmers so to handle their land that France will be self-supporting and will not call on America for foodstuffs.

SPY OUTWITTED BY AN OLD WOMAN

Curiosity Aroused by Actions of Foreign Gentleman on Aberdeen Express.

DOES SOME SWIFT THINKING

Looking Stupid Is Her Specialty, and When Officers Grab the Spy He Looks at Old Lady and Sighs.

London.—The best spy story in a long time comes from a medical officer, one of the big guns of his corps and profession. It is all about the Aberdeen Express, one of the world's quickest long-distance runs. You leave London after the theater, go to bed in the train, have a cup of tea in bed at Edinburgh, and breakfast in Aberdeen, 600 miles from town. Northward from Edinburgh there are stops a while on the Forth bridge, from whence you look down onto the decks of first-class battleships, and at Dundee, and Montrose.

The old lady boarded the train at Edinburgh and the porter shoved her into a non-smoking compartment of the day coach. The other passenger was a foreign gentleman—of what nationality it would be hard to say, but foreign. As to the lady, she seemed a harmless old thing some fifty-three years of age. The point is that one of the two was really a German spy, and anyone's first suspicion would point to the old lady. She owned up frankly that she enjoyed a gossip, and found the foreign gentleman quite a good fellow. As to his nationality, the accent gave no clue. She pumped him perseveringly.

A few stops from Edinburgh the train stopped on the Forth bridge. From the trains one looks down upon a naval base of first-rate consequence. A spy, making rapid summary of the capital ships in full view, might pick up important information.

The foreign gentleman stood up, filling the window, shutting out the view, and annoyed the old lady, who also wanted to have a look. Moreover, she saw him go through a long fumbling procedure which puzzled her extremely. What on earth was he up to? The only thing she saw was the last swift movement which emptied the bulgy part of his overcoat. And she caught the glimpse of a wing. Now the whole thing was clear; there must have been a message scribbled rapidly, folded and made fast and then sudden release of a carrier pigeon.

The Old Lady's Specialty.

And then the foreigner flashed round to see if the lady had noticed anything. No, evidently not. She looked vacant, nodding and half asleep.

"I looked stupid," she said afterward, "but that's my specialty."

She must have done some very swift thinking before he had time to turn round. Her first impulse was to run along the corridor and find the guard or rouse the first soldier she saw. But then the foreigner would see by her first movement he was in danger, and she did not want to be strangled, thrown out of the window, and drowned in the Forth estuary. She became affable, wondering what had delayed the train so long. He expressed noble sentiments concerning the allies and contempt for Germany.

But as the train pulled into Dundee the old lady expressed her conviction that the morning papers would be for sale by this time at the bookstalls. She felt that a little run on the platform would ease her limbs after the cramped compartment. She would buy a paper for the foreign gentleman also.

Half-way to the bookstall she met a porter. It would be natural to ask him how long the train stopped.

"Don't be seen speaking," she said, as she passed the porter. "There's a spy in my carriage. Send the station master to me at the bookstall."

When the station master came behind the lady spoke into an open newspaper just as though she were reading aloud. "Don't be seen speaking with me," she said. "There's a spy in my carriage. The train stops at Montrose next, eh? Well, wire Montrose!"

She paid for her bundle of papers and walked back to the carriage.

The spy seemed unsuspecting, sitting where she had left him, much obliged for the newspaper. The plucky old lady sat opposite to her spy and entertained him until they reached Montrose.

No Stranger.

Then came to their compartment a British officer with an armed guard and a detective, who greeted the spy at once like a long-lost brother.

"Why," said he, "I've been searching for you for months."

The spy looked out through the window eastward and saw an armed sentry waiting on the metals in case he attempted escape. Then he looked at the lady—the artful old lady—and sighed.

Later the old lady received an official communication of warm congratulation on her patriotism, courage and high intelligence, begging her to accept the inclosure, memento of a fine deed done for her country.

Rats Steal Flatiron.

Paris, Mo.—Some plastering fell from the ceiling of the linen room at the Glenn house recently, and Harland Ray secured a ladder and climbed up to knock down the loose plaster remaining. He discovered a rat's nest and in it were three ladies' silk stockings, two perfume bottles and a flatiron, besides numerous other things not mentioned in this inventory. How the rats got the iron there remains a mystery.

ESCAPED FROM GERMANY



Gengo, a young French boy who escaped from Germany, where he was held prisoner, and drifted into an American camp in France. He was officially adopted as mascot of the force in training there.

THE AMERICAN ARMY NOW 1,360,000

Grows in Few Short Months From Force Numbering Only 110,000 Men.

OVER 300,000 ARE REGULARS

Officer Personnel Numbers More Than 80,000—Equipment of Men Much More Diverse Than in Any Previous War.

Washington.—The latest official figures put the number of enlisted men in the armies of the United States at 1,360,000. This is the force that has grown in eight months out of an army which on April 1 numbered only 110,000 men.

Most of them are still in the training camps. Many of them are not yet disciplined troops, fully equipped and armed for battle. But there they are 1,360,000 of them, already one of the biggest factors Hindenburg is reckoning with for the campaign of 1918. To lead them there are over 80,000 officers. When the graduates of the second training camp get their first orders the number will be over 100,000—as many officers as there were privates nine months ago.

Over 300,000 Regulars.

Of the new American force over 300,000 men are regulars. In all the world only two regular armies remain—the American and the Japanese. The others have all been swept away in the flood of war. When the first American

HUMBLE PRUNE TAKES THE PLACE OF SUGAR

Derby, Conn.—The sometimes despised and often ridiculed prune has come into its own here. When the sugar famine struck the town someone discovered that the sugar in a dried prune was sufficient to give a semblance of sweetness to a cupful of tea or coffee. The prune dropped in a cupful of coffee is soon rendered soft by the heat and the sugar and sweet is extracted in a short time. It is claimed that the caffeine in the coffee offsets the taste of the prune so that the process is not objectionable in any way. It is being extensively tried here by many persons.

onslaught takes place German Landwehr and Landsturm troops will find themselves opposed to an army of professional soldiers.

Behind the regulars are the 400,000 soldiers of the National Guard, regulars in experience, many of them, thanks to our neighbor of the South. After the Guard come the 600,000 men of the new National army.

The whole military establishment, with the marines and the auxiliary forces thrown in, numbers a million and a half. The expansion that has taken place is as if Grand Rapids had grown in eight months to be virtually as big as Philadelphia.

Diversity of Equipment.

The first thing to be done for the new army was to provide them with shelter and clothing, food and warmth. That large undertaking is all but accomplished. Equally great is the task of providing arms. To arm an infantry division in the Civil War meant to provide as many muskets and as many bayonets as there were men in the command. In the present war the job is more complicated. There are rifles and bayonets to be furnished now as formerly, but there are also grenades and gasmasks and helmets and trench mortars to be seen to. Each of the four infantry regiments in a division would have 480 trench knives, 192 automatic rifles and three one-pounder cannon.

The 768 men of the machine gun battalion and the 5,088 men of the field artillery brigade must have machine guns and three-inch guns in numbers that would stagger an artilleryist even of so recent a period as the war with Spain.

Two hundred and seventy-five thousand troops were made ready to fight Spain in 1898, though only 60,000 of them were actually engaged.

Poker Pot for Fines.

Columbus, O.—If there is anything in the pot when a gambling place is raided it may be applied on the costs and fines of the owners of the money. Attorney General McGehee of this state rules in effect. He holds that money taken by the authorities in gambling raids cannot be turned over to police relief funds or city treasuries unless one year elapses in which the owner does not claim it.

NO FOOD WASTE ALLOWED HERE



Rumors of waste of food at cantonment camps have been hotly resented by officers who have charge of garbage disposal at the various camps. This picture shows the unloading of garbage at the central depot at Camp Meade. The cans are brought from benches underneath the windows of each mess hall. Each can is labeled for various sorts of refuse so that bones, cans, paper, etc., go into separate receptacles. The camp's conservation officer notes the contents of each can as they are dumped into motortrucks for sale to contractors. At Camp Meade a cook who fails to scrape a bone properly is in for a stiff call.