

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.

American expeditionary forces in France have ordered 1,000,000 watches from Swiss firms.

Oswald Kunhardt, ex-German consul-general in Boston, was Wednesday ordered interned at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

After burning over 65 square miles of grazing and brush land, the Cohasset ridge fire in the Lassen national forest, 35 miles northwest of Chico, Cal., has been finally extinguished.

Three aviators attached to the training school at Pensacola, Fla., were killed Monday in a collision of their planes above the clouds. A fourth student in the plane escaped death.

Directors of the Canadian Pacific railway have declared a 2 per cent dividend on preferred stock for the half year ending June 30, and a dividend of 2½ per cent on common stockholders for the quarter ending June 30.

Mrs. F. Sheehy Skeffington, who, since her deportation from Ireland, had been detained in Holloway prison, has been released. The English authorities informed her that she must not return to Ireland without their permission.

A 10 per cent tax on all soft drinks sold by manufacturer, producer, bottler or importer and a tax of from 1 to 2 cents on soda fountain drinks were written into the \$8,000,000,000 revenue bill by the house ways and means committee.

The long range cannon with which the Germans have intermittently bombarded Paris, has now been silent for two days. This may be explained by the allied advance toward Noyon and Guisard, whence the recent firing is said to have been proceeding.

Canada will be represented by a military unit of approximately 4000 men in the expeditionary force which the allied governments will send to Siberia. This was announced by the Dominion government, which promised a more detailed statement within a short time.

Recent orders of the war and navy departments suspending voluntary enlistment and applications of civilians for officers' training camps do not apply to the enrollment of physicians in the Medical Reserve corps of the army and the reserve force of the navy, it is announced by Secretaries Baker and Daniels.

The supreme court was asked Wednesday to review federal court decrees convicting Johann Klattenhoff and Paul Wiersse on charges growing out of the sinking of the German steamer Liebenfels in the harbor of Charleston, S. C., when the United States broke relations with Germany. Klattenhoff was master of the steamer.

Lewis B. Franklin, national director of the government war loan organization, spoke to 250 fourth federal reserve district Liberty loan chairmen at Cleveland, O., Saturday. "Of every \$5 earned in this country this year \$2.30 will be needed by the United States government to pay its war bill, and the government has got to get it," Mr. Franklin said.

The method by which the federal government plans to aid drought-stricken farmers in Montana to the extent of \$3 an acre, was not satisfactory to the farm bureau presidents and bankers who attended a conference in Helena, Mont., Tuesday, at which G. H. Christie, assistant secretary of agriculture, and D. G. O'Shea, president of the Spokane land bank, explained the plan.

Fire Thursday afternoon destroyed six small buildings and two powder magazines at the Western Cartridge company, in East Alton, Ill., with damage estimated at \$100,000. No one was injured.

Marco Fidel Suarez was inaugurated president of Colombia Thursday, with imposing ceremonies. It is reported that there is an increasingly favorable sentiment toward the allies throughout Colombia.

Sick and wounded soldiers landed in the United States from the American expeditionary forces and sent to various army hospitals during the week ended August 2 numbered 159, the surgeon-general announced.

A call for men not registered in the draft, and draft men who have been given deferred classifications, was sent out by the western department of the army at San Francisco Thursday.

Damage estimated by farmers in the Okanogan valley, Washington, at about \$60,000 has been done already by a migratory horde of grasshoppers which have infested wheat fields, damaged alfalfa, timothy and oats crops.

Russian news reaching Stockholm by way of Berlin continues to represent the Bolsheviks as preparing for war against the allies. Trotsky, the Bolshevik war minister, is represented as having issued an order, in which the French, English and Czecho-Slovaks are declared to be the enemies of Russia.

LUXURY TAX 10 PER CENT

Impost of 20 Percent Proposed on Clothing of Various Kinds.

Washington, D. C.—A luxury tax schedule was adopted, an official tax advisory board for the treasury created, the tax on corporation capital stock doubled to produce an additional \$30,000,000 and a provision was accepted making liberty bonds security for all government contracts by the house ways and means committee Saturday in framing the \$8,000,000,000 revenue bill.

The luxury proposal was submitted by a sub-committee. It levies 10 per cent tax on all jewelry, to be paid by the manufacturer, producer or importer. Covering approximately 1200 items of jewelry, it supplants the present low tax of 3 per cent on the manufacturer, producer or importer.

The 10 per cent tax is also to be levied on art objects, pianos and pipe-organs, furs, cash registers, typewriters, photographs and tapestries.

In view of the wide public demand for a tax on the price paid for certain other articles, not deemed luxuries by reason of their nature, above a certain price, the subcommittee proposed, and the full committee accepted, a limited number of other groups of such articles, with suggested basic prices paid for them by the consumer, above which a 20 per cent tax is to be assessed against the seller to the consumer or user or to a person not for "resale."

This second group and the amount excess over which will be taxed follows:

Men's and young men's suits or overcoats, \$50; men's and women's hats, bonnets and hoods, \$25; women's and misses' dresses, \$40; women's and misses' suits, cloaks and coats, sold at over \$60; boots, shoes, pumps and slippers for men, women and children, \$10; men's and boy's hats, \$5; men's and boys' caps, \$2; picture frames, \$10; fans, \$1; men's waist coats, sold distinct from suits, \$5; silk underclothing and hosiery, pure and mixed, \$10; men's and boys' neckwear, \$2; trunks, \$50; valises, traveling bags, suitcases and hat boxes, \$25; ladies' purses, pocketbooks, shopping and handbags, \$7.50; carpets and rugs, fiber, \$5 per square yard; umbrellas, parasols and sunshades, \$4; men's shirts, \$3; house or smoking jackets and bathrobes, \$10.

The luxury schedule provides that articles taxed under one of these general groups shall not be taxed under the other group.

MANY PRISONERS AND GUNS TAKEN

London.—An official communique issued Saturday evening says that 17,000 prisoners and between 200 and 300 guns have been captured on the Somme-Ancre front.

The Canadians, the advices state, have taken the town of Beaufort, two and a half miles southwest of Rosieres. The Australians are fighting farther north, along the Somme.

Small parties of Germans are reported to be still in Rosieres, three and one-half miles west of Chaules, but the British are all around them and their life as fighting men probably will be short.

The figure of 17,000 prisoners taken embraces the number that had been counted. Of these the French reported that they had taken more than 4000 while the British total at noon was more than 13,000. The French have been doing good work on the south of the new drive and probably have taken many additional prisoners there.

Most of the prisoners and guns captured by British troops have been taken in the narrow triangle between the Roye and Peronne roads. British tanks advanced with great rapidity up these highways. They were followed promptly by infantry, and thousands of Germans within the triangle found themselves well behind the British line when the attack reached them, so laid down their arms.

The triangle contained some of the best German gun positions in the whole front facing Amiens.

Paris.—The official communication from the war office says that the British and French troops continued their advance Saturday and won new victories after breaking the enemy's resistance. The French troops took 4000 prisoners besides a great quantity of war materials, and captured several important towns on the southern end of the battle zone.

With the British Army in France.—It is reported that a German divisional general has been captured in the drive.

Allied airmen have blown up many of the bridges over the Somme river and the enemy's retreat is seriously embarrassed. The British cavalry has rounded up many prisoners, but the larger part taken were captured by Australians and Canadians.

Work Found For Cripples.

San Francisco.—The days when a vagrant would escape both jail and work because of a missing arm or leg are gone. Saturday Michael Sullivan, assistant probation officer, was about to let three one-armed men go free after placing 150 other vagrants at work, when Probation Officer William Nichol received a call for two one-armed men from the Pacific Steel company at South San Francisco. The company said the men were wanted as checkers and that there was no use placing two-armed men in one-armed men's jobs.

Passports Are Denied.

London.—Arthur Henderson, Charles W. Bowerman, secretary of the Trade Union Congress, and other members of the House of Commons have applied for passports to Switzerland to confer with Pieter Troelstra, the Dutch Socialist leader, regarding letters received from Socialists in enemy countries. The War Cabinet declined to grant them passports. The parliamentary committee of the Trade Union Congress and the executives of the labor party protested this refusal strongly.

ENEMY IN FLIGHT: TANKS PURSUING

British and French Continue Advancing on Somme.

TAKE GUNS, STORES

Transports and Men Streaming Eastward in Full Retreat—High German Officer Is Killed.

With the British Army in France.—The British and French divisions have gained more ground Saturday in the great battle raging in the Amiens-Somme district. The latest reports appear to show that the Germans are retiring in great haste.

The scenes on the battleground over which the allies already have passed gave evidence of this haste in abandoned guns, stores, and even regimental and artillery maps and papers.

Aerial observers report large streams of transports and men hurrying eastward in full retreat.

Beaucourt fell to the allied forces and Lequesnel also was taken after hot all-night fighting.

The cavalry is working far back toward the Somme and is still rounding up villages, while tanks and armored cars are running over the country clearing a way for the troops or killing horses drawing heavy enemy supplies. The drivers of motor trucks and lorries are chasing parties of Germans and either scattering them or running them to earth.

The details of some of the work of these armored cars show that they have performed valiant services. One of them ran into a town while a German corps was having lunch. It turned its guns through the corps' quarter windows, killed some of the staff and then chased others who escaped from the house. At Rosieres another car set an enemy train on fire.

A group of cars met, far inside the enemy lines, a German supply column and halted it. Four mounted German officers came up to see what the trouble was and were shot from the cars, which then proceeded to make quick work of the column.

At Framerville the cars engaged a train loaded with the enemy and finally set it afire. Tanks entered this town soon afterwards, helped the armored cars clean it up and then hoisted flags on the roof of the building which had been German corps headquarters. One car met a high German officer riding in an automobile along the road. The officer was killed and his machine captured.

All along the line snipers and isolated machine gun billets were extremely busy, but these were being silenced one by one as the advance proceeded.

It is reported that two regimental commanders have been captured in one sector.

ENLISTMENTS IN ARMY SHUT OFF

Washington, D. C.—Voluntary enlistment in the army and navy will be suspended completely to prevent disruption of industry pending disposition of the bill proposing to extend draft ages to include all men between 18 and 45 years.

Orders were issued by Secretaries Baker and Daniels directing that no voluntary enlistments be accepted after August 8 until further orders.

The orders also exclude civilians from appointment to officers' training camps until further notice.

The orders were issued after a conference between Secretary Baker and Secretary Daniels and were made public after President Wilson had visited the offices of both secretaries.

It is not known whether his visit had to do with the enlistment situation, but just before he conferred with the cabinet officers there was no indication that a step of such drastic nature was anticipated.

It was explained that the view of the government is that many of the older men are indispensable in their present occupations, but the natural result of the debated draft age question is certain to lead to a rush to the recruiting offices.

It is regarded as essential that men greatly needed at home should be prevented from rushing into the army under the mistaken idea that they are certain to be drafted anyhow and prefer to join the service voluntarily.

Heavy Wind Hits Dakota.

Aberdeen, S. D.—A wind that approached cyclonic proportions swept a strip of country a mile wide across Day county Friday night, leveling barns and haystacks and doing much damage to grain in shock and standing.

Most of the damage was between Andover and Bristol, 40 miles east of Aberdeen.

Fargo, N. D.—A high wind caused considerable damage to standing grain south of Moorhead, Minn., Friday night. Slight damage in the vicinity of Fargo also was reported.

Big Gun Plant Ordered.

Washington, D. C.—Approval of plans for a big gun retooling plant to be built in France at a cost of from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000 was announced Saturday by the war department. It is said engineering work for the great project, which will compare in size to the Krupp works at Essen, Germany, were completed and orders for equipment actually issued within 30 days after conception of the plan by the ordnance officers.

"OVER THE TOP"

By An American Arthur Guy Empey
Soldier Who Went Machine Gunner, Serving in France

Copyright 1917, by Arthur Guy Empey

EMPEY GIVES A DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK ON OBSERVATION POST DUTY.

Synopsis.—Fired by the sinking of the Lusitania, with the loss of American lives, Arthur Guy Empey, an American living in Jersey City, goes to England and enlists as a private in the British army. After a short experience as a recruiting officer in London, he is sent to training quarters in France, where he first hears the sound of big guns and makes the acquaintance of "cooties." After a brief period of training Empey's company is sent into the front-line trenches, where he takes his first turn on the fire step while the bullets whiz overhead. Empey learns, as comrade falls, that death lurks always in the trenches. Chaplain distinguishes himself by rescuing wounded men under hot fire. With pick and shovel Empey has experience as a trench digger in No Man's Land. Exciting experience on listening post detail.

CHAPTER XVI—Continued.

"I came out with the first expeditionary force, and, like all the rest, thought we would have the enemy licked in jig time, and be able to eat Christmas dinner at home. Well, so far, I have eaten two Christmas dinners in the trenches, and am liable to eat two more, the way things are pointing. That is, if Fritz don't drop a 'whizz-bang' on me, and send me to Bilgity. Sometimes I wish I would get hit, because it's no great picnic out here, and twenty-two months of it makes you fed up.

"It's fairly cushy now compared to what it used to be, although I admit this trench is a trifle rough. Now, we send over five shells to their one. We are getting our own back, but in the early days it was different. Then you had to take everything without reply. In fact, we would get twenty shells in return for every one we sent over. Fritz seemed to enjoy it, but we British didn't; we were the sufferers. Just one casualty after another. Sometimes whole platoons would disappear, especially when a 'Jack Johnson' plunked into their middle. It got so bad that a fellow, when writing home, wouldn't ask for any cigarettes to be sent out, because he was afraid he wouldn't be there to receive them.

"After the drive to Paris was turned back, trench warfare started. Our general grabbed a map, drew a pencil across it, and said, 'Dig here.' Then he went back to his tea, and Tommy armed himself with a pick and shovel and started digging. He's been digging ever since.

"Of course we dug those trenches at night, but it was hot work, what with the rifle and machine-gun fire. The stretcher bearers worked harder than the diggers.

"Those trenches, bloomin' ditches, I call them, were nightmares. They were only about five feet deep, and you used to get the backache from bending down. It wasn't exactly safe to stand upright, either, because as soon as your napper showed over the top a bullet would bounce off it, or else come so close it would make your hair stand.

"We used to fill sandbags and stick them on top of the parapet to make it higher, but no use; they would be there about an hour and then Fritz would turn loose and blow them to bits. My neck used to be sore from ducking shells and bullets.

"Where my battery was stationed a hasty trench had been dug, which the boys nicknamed 'Suicide ditch,' and, believe me, Yank, this was the original 'Suicide ditch.' All the others are imitations.

"When a fellow went into that trench it was an even gamble that he would come out on a stretcher. At one time a Scotch battalion held it, and when they heard the betting was even money that they'd come out on stretchers, they grabbed all the bets in sight. Like a lot of bally idiots, several of the battery men fell for their

game, and put up real money. The 'Jocks' suffered a lot of casualties, and the prospects looked bright for the battery men to collect some easy money. So when the battalion was re-licked the gamblers lined up. Several 'Jocks' got their money for emerging safely, but the ones who cleked it weren't there to pay. The artillerymen had never thought it out that way. Those Scotties were bound to be sure winners, no matter how the wind blew. So take a tip from me, never bet with a Scottie, 'cause you'll lose money.

"At one part of our trench where a communication trench joined the front line a Tommy had stuck up a wooden signpost with three hands or arms on it. One of the hands, pointing to the German lines, read, 'To Berlin'; the one pointing down the communication trench read, 'To Bilgity'; while the other said, 'Suicide Ditch, Change Here for Stretchers.'

"Farther down from this guide post the trench ran through an old orchard. On the edge of this orchard our battery had constructed an advanced observation post. The trees screened it from the enemy airmen and the roof was turfed. It wasn't cushy like ours, no timber or concrete re-enforcements, just walls of sandbags. From it a splendid view of the German lines could be obtained. This post wasn't exactly safe. It was a hot corner, shells plunking all around, and the bullets cutting leaves off the trees. Many a time when relieving the signaler at the 'phone, I had to crawl on my belly like a worm to keep from being hit.

"It was an observation post sure enough. That's all the use it was. Just observe all day, but never a message back for our battery to open up. You see, at this point of the line there were strict orders not to fire a shell, unless specially ordered to do so from brigade headquarters. Blime me, if anyone disobeyed that command, our general—yes, it was Old Pepper—would have court-martialed the whole expeditionary force. Nobody went out of their way to disobey Old Pepper in those days, because he couldn't be called a parson; he was more like a pirate. If at any time the devil should feel lonely and sigh for a proper mate, Old Pepper would get the first call. Facing the Germans wasn't half bad compared with an interview with that old firebrand.

"If a company or battalion should give way a few yards against a superior force of Boches, Old Pepper would send for the commanding officer. In about half an hour the officer would come back with his face the color of a brick, and in a few hours what was left of his command would be holding their original position.

"I have seen an officer who wouldn't say a—n for a thousand quid spend five minutes with the old boy, and when he returned the flow of language from his lips would make a navy blush for shame.



One of the Big Guns Barking.

"What I am going to tell you is how two of us put it over on the old scamp, and got away with it. It was a risky thing, too, because Old Pepper wouldn't have been exactly mild with us if he had got next to the game.

"Me and my mate, a lad named Harry Cassell, a bombardier in D 238 battery, or lance corporal, as you call it in the infantry, used to relieve the telephonists. We would do two hours on and four off. I would be on duty in the advanced observation post, while he would be at the other end of the wire in the battery dugout signaling station. We were supposed to send 'through orders for the battery to fire when ordered to do so by the observation officer in the advanced post. But very few messages were sent. It was only in case of an actual attack that we would get a chance to earn our 'two and six' a day. You see, Old Pepper had issued orders not to fire except when the orders came from him. And with Old Pepper orders is orders, and made to obey.

"The Germans must have known about these orders, for even in the day their transports and troops used to expose themselves as if they were on parade. This sure got up our nose, sitting there day after day, with fine targets in front of us but unable to send over a shell. We heartily cursed Old Pepper, his orders, the government, the people at home, and everything in general. But the Boches didn't mind cussing, and got very careless. Blime me, they were bally insulting. Used to, when using a certain road, throw their caps into the air as a taunt at our helplessness.

"Cassell had been a telegrapher in civil life and joined up when war was declared. As for me, I knew Morse, learned it at the signaller's school back in 1910. With an officer in the observation post, we could not carry on the kind of conversation that's usual between two mates, so we used the Morse code. To send, one of us would tip the transmitter with his finger nails, and the one on the other end would get it through the receiver. Many an hour was whiled away in this manner passing compliments back and forth.

"In the observation post the officer used to sit for hours with a powerful pair of field glasses to his eyes. Through a cleverly concealed loophole he would scan the ground behind the German trenches, looking for targets and finding many. This officer, Captain A— by name, had a habit of talking out loud to himself. Sometimes he would vent his opinion, same as a common private does when he's wrought up. Once upon a time the captain had been on Old Pepper's staff, so he could cuss and blind in the most approved style. Got to be sort of a habit with him.

"About six thousand yards from us, behind the German lines, was a road in plain view of our post. For the last three days Fritz had brought companies of troops down this road in broad daylight. They were never shelled. Whenever this happened the captain would froth at the mouth and let out a volume of Old Pepper's religion which used to make me love him.

"Every battery has a range chart on which distinctive landmarks are noted, with the range for each. These landmarks are called targets, and are numbered. On our battery's chart, that road was called 'Target 17, Range 6000, 3 degrees 30 minutes left.' D 238 battery consisted of four '4.5' howitzers, and fired a 35-pound H. E. shell. As you know, H. E. means 'high explosive.' I don't like bumping up my own battery, but we had a record in the division for direct hits, and our boys were just pining away for a chance to exhibit their skill in the eyes of Fritz.

"On the afternoon of the fourth day of Fritz' contemptuous use of the road mentioned the captain and I were at our posts as usual. Fritz was strutting us pretty rough, just like he's doing now. The shells were playing leapfrog all through that orchard.

"I was carrying on a conversation in our 'tap' code with Cassell at the other end. It ran something like this: "Say, Cassell, how would you like to be in the saloon bar of the King's Arms down Rye lane with a bottle of Bass in front of you, and that blonde barmaid waiting to fill 'em up again?"

The next installment relates how two artillerymen 'put one over' on Old Pepper.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Use for Clothespins.

Clothespins make an excellent plaything for babies. They can be used for babies or soldiers, or to make fences, trees, log houses and many other interesting things. Playthings that can be taken apart and put together again are good to have; also blocks with which the child can build all kinds of objects—engines that he can push along the floor, balls to bounce and throw, doll carriages, washing sets, etc. Dolls with clothes that button and unbutton and come off may be used to teach the children how to dress and undress themselves.