

# 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.

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.

General Argumedo, a Mexican rebel leader, has been executed by Carranza.

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

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.

Secretary Daniels predicts full vindication of the Navy department in buying armor plants, etc., when the true facts become known.

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.

The discovery of a small comet by Neujmin was announced in a cablegram to the Harvard observatory from Professor Backlund, of the Imperial observatory at Pulkowa, Russia.

A Bucharest dispatch received in London by Reuter's Telegram company by way of Amsterdam says that the Queen Mother, Elizabeth, of Roumania, (Carmen Sylva), died Friday morning.

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.

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 I. 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.

Crowded galleries that gathered to hear the international situation discussed saw the house take its annual vote, this time 150 to 46, not to reduce members' mileage from 20 to 5 cents a mile. The defeat of the motion was preceded by a lively debate, in which the 20-cent mileage was denounced as graft and defended as a just allowance.

Secretary Daniels is opposed to locating a naval base at the mouth of the Columbia river.

The momentous battle between the French and Germans before Verdun continues with practically no gain for either side.

The Russian steamship Petshenga has been sunk. Fifteen of those on board were saved. She was of 1647 gross tons. Seven of the Petshenga's crew were lost.

Great Britain will permit shipment to the United States of a cargo of dyestuffs valued at \$5,000,000.

Only three co-eds out of 23 at the University of Oregon have good feet. None have a perfect toe-line.

General Felix Diaz, who has been in the United States for several months, and under surveillance of the department of Justice, has succeeded in leaving for Cuba, where, it is reported, he will form plans for another revolution in Mexico.

## GERMAN RAIDER MAKES HOME PORT WITH BOOTY AND PRISONERS

Berlin—The German cruiser Moeve 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. Moeve, 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; Farringford, 3146 tons; Clan Mactavish, 5816 tons; Appam, 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 Moeve also laid mines, to which, among others, the battleship King Edward VII fell victim."

Count von Dohna-Scholdien, commander of the Moeve, 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.

## DRASTIC MILITARY BILL INTRODUCED

### Senate Measure Stronger Than Administration Had Asked.

### GARRISON PLAN PRACTICALLY RETAINED

### Army and National Guard Virtually Doubled in Strength—New Inducements 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 and, 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 28 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.

## PRESIDENT CALLS FOR SHOWDOWN ON GERMAN SUBMARINE ISSUE

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson decided Wednesday that he cannot proceed with the German submarine negotiations while dissension in congress weakens his position before the world, so he called for a showdown on the pending proposals to warn Americans off merchant ships of the European belligerents armed for defense.

Making clear that he considers the President, and not congress, is charged with the conduct of the foreign relations of the United States, he wrote a letter to Representative Pou, acting chairman of the house rules committee, asking him to provide parliamentary means for bringing the agitation out into the open on the floor of the house, for full discussion and vote.

The President's letter to Mr. Pou, the signal that the administration was ready to give Germany a demonstration of unity, follows:

"My Dear Mr. Pou:—Inasmuch as I learn that Mr. Henry, the chairman of

## WILLIAM THAW



William Thaw, an American aviator in the service of France, who has been promoted for good work.

the committee on rules, is absent in Texas, I take the liberty of calling your attention, as ranking member of the committee, to a matter of grave concern to the country, which can, I believe, be handled, under the rules of the United States congress, only by that committee.

"The report that there are divided counsels in congress in regard to the foreign policy of the government is being made industriously use of in foreign capitals. I believe that report to be false, but so long as it is anywhere credited it cannot fail to do the greatest harm and expose the country to the most serious risks. I therefore feel justified in asking that your committee will permit me to urge an early vote upon the resolutions with regard to travel on armed merchantmen, which have recently been so much talked about, in order that there may be afforded an immediate opportunity for full public discussion and action upon them, and that all doubts and conjectures may be swept away and our foreign relations once more cleared of damaging misunderstandings.

"The matter is of so grave importance and lies so clearly within the field of executive initiative that I venture to hope that your committee will not think that I am taking unwarranted liberty in making this suggestion as to the business of the house, and I very earnestly commend it to their immediate consideration. Cordially and sincerely yours,

"WOODROW WILSON."

## Total Tax From Incomes Show Marked Increase

New York—An estimate that approximately 30,000 corporations will pay income taxes this year in the Second internal revenue district of this city, was made by Collector Lowe. Collector Lowe's district takes in the lower part of Manhattan, in which are situated the main offices of many of the country's greatest corporations, banks and financiers. The total collections this year in this district from all forms of Federal taxes, Mr. Lowe predicted, will exceed \$35,000,000. Collections last year amounted to \$26,000,000.

Chicago—The Federal income tax will be paid by 4000 more Chicagoans this year than last, according to the prediction of Collector Smetanka. Forty-six thousand citizens of Chicago paid the tax last year. They contributed \$2,407,591 and corporations \$2,671,382.

## 3130 LIVES LOST ON FRENCH CRUISE

### Mediterranean Disaster Leads in Fatalities at Sea

### 4000 ON BOARD; ONLY 870 ESCAPED

### Ordinary Capacity of Vessel Exceeded on Account of Storm Voyage—Mostly Soldiers.

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

It was said that on board the vessel were the staff of the Third naval infantry regiment, the Third battalion, the Second company of First battalion, the Second Marine 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 sea in modern times. Up to the present time the largest number of ever lost in one wreck was when the White Star liner Titanic struck an iceberg off the Newfoundland coast April 14, 1912, and sank with a loss of 1595. The rescued number was 743.

The vessel, however, when in trans-Atlantic service, could carry 1960 persons, including the crew. It has been presumed that as she was transporting troops between ports far apart, she was carrying a number of men larger than her normal capacity.

## SENATE SUPPORTS PRESIDENT'S STAN

Washington, D. C.—By a vote of 14 to 1 the senate Friday carried President Wilson's wish and Senator Gore's resolution to warn Americans off armed belligerent ships.

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

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

After having maneuvered for days to get the resolution in such a parliamentary position that it was passed 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 action, because the vote actually taken on a motion to table the resolution, with a correction by the author and a substitute by Senator Cumber, was in effect a "Scottish diet," 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 the President's wishes. It is to report the McLemore warning resolution, with the recommendation that it be tabled. In the report the committee asserts that the constitutionality of the conduct of diplomatic negotiations on the President, and "that this practice the committee does not feel it proper for the house of representatives to interfere."

## \$5000 Worth of Liquor Taken

Seattle—Deputy sheriffs raided the home of P. E. Sullivan, who conducted a large cafe at Fourth avenue and First street before the prohibition law went into effect January 1, and seized 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.

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