

## GERMANY DENIES DESIRE FOR WAR

Kaiser Said to Have No Intent  
to Attack United States.

### HOLLWEG DELIVERS SET SPEECH

Chancellor Says If Clash Comes Re-  
sponsibility Will Rest With Amer-  
ica—U-Boot Warfare Defended.

Berlin—(By wireless to Sayville)—“Germany never had the slightest intention of attacking the United States of America and does not have such intention now. It never desired war against the United States of America and does not desire it today,” was the declaration made by the German Imperial Chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, in a speech in the Reichstag Friday.

The chancellor made important declarations concerning Germany's policy toward the United States and Russia. “How did these things develop?” asked the chancellor in speaking of the relations with the United States. He then proceeded to answer the question by reviewing the case which led up to the German use of submarines in unrestricted warfare. Declaring that Germany had undertaken unrestricted submarine warfare for its defense, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg said: “If the American nation considers this a cause for which to declare war against the German nation, with which it has lived in peace for more than 100 years, if this action warrants an increase of bloodshed, we shall not have to bear the burden of responsibility for it.”

#### Tongs to Be Held for Murder.

San Francisco—The county grand jury announced Friday night that it would take steps at once to indict for conspiracy or murder the leaders of the warring Chinese tongs whose recent activities have resulted in a number of deaths in different Pacific Coast cities. As the result of an investigation it has been decided that the killings were carefully planned and carried out as the result of a specific order.

### ASTRONOMICAL NOTES, APRIL, 1917

Compiled by Prof. E. H. McAlister, University of Oregon.

The planet Mercury, always near the sun, will be in about as good position for observation during April as it ever is. It will reach its greatest angular distance east of the sun on the 24th, and it will then set about an hour and a half after the sun. During all the latter half of the month it may be found in the early evening twilight a few degrees above the horizon, not far from the point where the sun sets. From the 15th to the 20th, Mercury will be near the bright planet Jupiter, but slightly north of Jupiter, and this fact will help in locating Mercury, which is much fainter than Jupiter. The great majority of people have never seen Mercury, and even one eminent astronomer of the early days lamented the fact that he had never been able to catch a glimpse of the planet.

Venus will be nearly opposite the sun from the earth during April, and cannot be found with the unaided eye. Mars will rise shortly before the sun, but will be invisible in the coming dawn without telescopic aid.

Jupiter will be visible in the western sky in the early evening during most of the month, but by the end of April will set so soon after the sun that it will be hard to discern. As noted above, Jupiter will be close to Mercury on the 17th.

Saturn will be visible during the fore part of the night, crossing the meridian about dark in the early part of the month, and before sunset in the latter part. The rings of Saturn are well placed for observation with the telescope.

The crescent moon will appear very close to the planet Mercury in the evening twilight on the 22nd, Mercury being a little to the south of the moon. In the early evening of the 27th the moon will appear about a degree and a half south of Saturn.

Moon's Phases, Pacific Standard Time.

Full moon, April 7, 5:48 a. m.; last quarter, April 14, 12:12 p. m.; new moon, April 21, 6:01 a. m.; first quarter, April 28, 9:20 p. m.

### CZAR'S HIDDEN GUNS FOUND

Illegal Acts of Old Regime Investi-  
gated by New Government.

London—A Reuter's Petrograd dispatch says that a special commission has begun an investigation of illegal acts committed by ex-ministers, heads of departments and other officials of the old regime. About 600 machine guns have been found hidden in different parts of Petrograd.

According to the Bourse Gazette Rasputin's body has been buried near Petrograd.

Petrograd, via London—The grand dukes and the royal princes, in a joint telegram addressed to the provisional government Wednesday, not only formally associate themselves with the abdication of Grand Duke Michael, but also turn over to the new government their official wealth, namely, their holdings of crown lands and other state grants heretofore attaching to their station.

Washington, D. C.—Conditions in Russia were reported by Ambassador Francis Wednesday to be steadily improving. Apparently the acceptance of the new government by the grand dukes announced in press dispatches has been accompanied by a more favorable attitude on the part of the radical element, which for a time it was feared might start a counter-revolution against the moderates in control.

Reports to the department are steadily becoming more optimistic about the future in Russia.

#### Old Regime Plots Begin to Harass New Russia

Petrograd, via London—The work of agitators, whose efforts are designed to hinder the successful accomplishment of the revolution, is becoming apparent with the subsidence of activity on the part of the military, which forced the supporters of the old regime to keep in hiding during the early days of the upheaval.

The indications of such work in Petrograd, which are indefinite in form, are confused with the possible designs of a horde of criminal prisoners who were released from the jails with political offenders. One definite instance has been recorded, however. Wednesday a motorcar speeding along the streets scattered proclamations calling on the people to undertake wholesale massacre of the intelligentsia.

The militia is thoroughly alive to the danger of such counter manifestations and the commandant has issued strict orders for vigilance.

Kaiser Offers Peace to Russia.

London—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam says: “According to a Berlin telegram received by the Amsterdam bourse, Berlin is filled with rumors that Germany has offered a separate peace to Russia. The terms offered are said to be complete autonomy to Poland, the internationalization of Constantinople, the evacuation by Russia of Austrian territory and a Russian protectorate over Armenia.”

#### Villa Again Attacks Chihuahua City.

Juarez, Mexico—Fighting was resumed at Mapula, 20 miles south of Chihuahua City Tuesday at 4 o'clock, according to an unofficial message received here from a reliable source. The fighting between Villa and Carranza forces was general south and southwest of the city, it was added, and a general assault upon the capital is expected from the south, southwest and west, the message from Chihuahua City stated.

#### Bible to Test Literacy.

Washington, D. C.—Reading matter for a literacy test for aliens under the new immigration law will be taken from the Bible, the department of Labor announces. Passages will be selected in more than 100 languages and dialects.

“This is not because the Bible is considered a sacred book by many people,” said the department's announcement, “but because it is now the only book in virtually every tongue.”

#### Eleven Killed by Storm.

Montgomery, Ala.—At least 11 lives were lost in a storm which destroyed many houses in Central Alabama early Wednesday. Six of the known dead were negroes. The storm centered in the vicinity of Petrey, a small town in Crenshaw county. Every building in the town was demolished and four persons were killed, among them Robert J. Jeter, a wealthy planter.

#### Defense Millions Asked.

Portland, Me.—An immediate appropriation by the legislature of \$1,000,000 for defense was recommended by the state committee on public safety Wednesday. Resolutions also were adopted, urging Maine senators and representatives in congress to vote for the adoption of a resolution declaring that a state of war exists with Germany.

## STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Operating revenues of the Portland Gas & Coke company for a year were \$1,832,792.54, with operating expenses of \$595,519.02, according to a report filed with the Public Service commission.

As a result of the great patriotic celebration held in Dallas last Sunday, Company L, Third Infantry, Oregon National Guard, then only of a strength of 30 enlisted men, went to Vancouver 112 strong.

With applications on hand for loans amounting to \$52,500 out of the rural credits fund, the State Land board has decided to advertise at once for the sale of \$250,000 worth of 4 per cent rural credit bonds.

The first Oregon wool of the 1917 clip to be shipped East went from Echo Monday. It was purchased and sent by Thomas Ross, Echo wool buyer, to the Crimmins & Pierce company, of Boston. The price was not made public.

Spence Wortman, deputy sealer of weights and measures, was informed by Attorney General Brown recently that the enactment of the recent legislation requiring all gasoline containers to be plainly marked with the word “gasoline” and the specific gravity of the product so contained, applies to all dealers, as well as to wholesalers.

At a further conference in Washington, D. C., with members of the Helms Naval commission Mayor Harley, of Astoria, learned that the initial appropriation of \$300,000 to be recommended in the forthcoming report is merely a forerunner of other appropriations to be recommended later, fully to establish and equip a submarine and aviation base at the mouth of the Columbia River.

Total deposits in the banks of the state of Oregon on March 5, 1917, were \$162,201,549.49, or an increase of \$35,561,469.51 over the amount shown in the report of March 7, 1916, according to a statement issued by S. G. Sargent, superintendent of banks. The time and savings deposits during this period increased \$6,342,693.06 and the postal savings deposits \$552,046.44.

The sheriff of Baker county is hunting for the slayer of Thomas Cavanaugh, a prominent young rancher of the Brownlee district, who was last seen on March 12. While there is no proof that he was murdered, a bloody cabin and the fact that the missing man failed to keep an appointment with his cousin in Weiser, Idaho, has convinced the authorities that he met with foul play.

The Damascus Creamery company and the Portland Pure Milk & Cream company, of Portland, have combined and have opened a creamery at Sheridan. They will commence making butter at once. Machinery has been ordered. C. H. Houser, who has conducted the Damascus station there, is retained as manager. If this venture proves successful a cheese factory will no doubt be established also soon.

Plans for a big co-operative cannery in Albany were launched recently at an institute attended by more than 300 farmers and fruitgrowers of that vicinity. W. H. Paulhamus, of Puyallup, Wash., spoke. If the farmers will plant 1000 acres of Wilson strawberries, 500 acres of pheonemal berries and 500 acres of black raspberries, the Oregon Electric Railroad company promises to build a big cannery and turn it over to a co-operative company to operate, and Mr. Paulhamus will handle the product of the plant.

The State Board of Education has recommended that the high schools of the state give to any pupil who wishes to join the National guard, full credit in all those subjects in which he has made a passing grade.

With eight men a party to one indictment and four others indicted on other counts, the March term of Circuit court for Benton county will not be required to try a single case. All those indicted have confessed and received their sentences.

The Klamath county lumber mills are preparing for a record run this season as soon as the weather permits. The logging operations of the Pelican Bay Lumber company, the Klamath Manufacturing company, and the Algonia Lumber company, which have the three largest mills, are in such condition that there will be no shortage of logs early in the season at least.

“Total deposit in the 26 banks and trust companies of Portland equaled \$87,326,383.61 on March 5, 1917,” said Superintendent of Banks S. G. Sargent, of Salem, in issuing the comparative statement of Portland banks.

A representative of four surety companies which furnish the bonds held by State Treasurer Kay and his employes completed an exhaustive examination of the treasurer's books for the company and report everything to be satisfactory.

### WE MUST GROW MORE FOOD

Financing and Feeding of Allies Two  
Most Important Problems.

Washington, D. C.—Government officials look upon the speeding up of the foodstuffs production in the United States as one of the most important means of assisting in the war against Germany, should the United States take an active part in it.

“Of the most important two things that this country could do for its allies in case of war—namely, to finance and to feed them—perhaps the more important is to maintain a steady flow of foodstuffs to their shores,” says an authorized statement by Assistant Secretary Vrooman of the department of Agriculture.

“It looks,” the statement adds, “as though it would be a good business stroke for the farmer this spring to sow his normal oats acreage to spring wheat and it is certain that would be a valuable step toward national agricultural preparedness.”

Since the policy of stimulating food production would have to be supplemented by a policy guaranteeing the farmer against loss due to possible overproduction, the department holds that congress alone can deal with this question effectively, although the department can do something toward speeding up production within certain limits.

#### Plan Acreage of 30,000 in Field Peas This Year

Spokane—Pea contracts closed recently by S. B. Coon, industrial secretary of the Spokane chamber of commerce, with farmers on Peone prairie, will bring the Spokane county pea acreage this year up to 10,000 acres, exclusive of nearly 20,000 acres in the Fairfield section. In the extension of pea culture in the county the chamber has worked in conjunction with J. R. Shinn, county agriculturist.

Mr. Coon closed the contracts for the Barteldes Seed company, of Lawrence, Kan., which agrees to pay the growers 2½ cents per pound for peas delivered before December 1, 1917. Peone prairie in the past has raised some peas, but for the first time this year it will produce peas for seed.

The seed company furnishes the seed, which is paid back when the peas are delivered, and it also provides the sacks. It sent its order and 100 bushels of seed peas direct to the chamber of commerce. These are the Alaska variety, and the company expects to get 1000 bushels for seed purposes from the Peone Prairie growers.

### NORTHWEST MARKET REPORT

Portland—Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.75; fortyfold, \$1.71; club, \$1.71; red Russian, \$1.65.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$39 per ton; barley, No. feed, \$40.50.

Cattle—Steers, prime, \$9.25@9.65; good, \$8.90@9.25; medium, \$8.25@8.75; cows, choice, \$7.75@8.00; medium to good, \$7.00@7.50; ordinary to fair, \$6.50@7.00; heifers, \$6.50@9.00; bulls, \$5.00@8.00; calves, \$8.00@10.00.

Hogs—Light and heavy packing, \$14.00@14.50; Rough heavies, \$13.00@13.50; pigs and skips, \$12.75@13.00; stock hogs, \$11.50@12.75.

Sheep—Wethers \$11.25@11.75; ewes, \$8.75@10.00; lambs, \$12.75@13.50.

Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$35 per ton; shorts, \$35; rolled barley, \$43@44.

Corn—Whole, \$52 per ton; cracked, \$53.

Hay—Producers' prices: Timothy, Eastern Oregon, \$20@21 per ton; alfalfa, \$16@17; valley grain hay, \$12.50@14.

Butter—Cubes, extras, 38½@39c; prime firsts, 37½@38c. Jobbing prices: Prints, extras, 42c; cartons 1c extra; butterfat, No. 1, 43c; No. 2, 41c.

Eggs—Oregon ranch current receipts, 27@27½c per dozen; selects, 29c.

Poultry—Hens, 19@20c per pound; springs, 18@20c; turkeys, live, 21@22c; ducks, 22@23; geese, 12@13c.

Veal—Fancy, 14½@15c per pound.

Pork—Fancy, 18@18½c per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, \$1.10@1.25 per dozen; tomatoes, \$4@4.25 per crate; cabbage, \$5@6 per hundred; eggplant, 25c per pound; lettuce, \$3.75; cucumbers, \$1@1.50 per dozen; cauliflower, \$2.75@3 per crate; peppers, 50c; sprouts, 12½c; rhubarb, \$2@2.25 per box; peas, 12½@15c per pound; asparagus, 15@20c per pound; spinach, 9@10c.

Potatoes—Buying prices: \$2.75@3 per hundred.

Onions—Jobbing prices: No. 1, \$9@9.50; No. 2, \$8 per sack.

Green fruits—Apples, 90c@92c per box; cranberries, \$8 per barrel.

Hops—1916 crop, 4@7c per pound; 1917 contracts, nominal.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, fine, 30@35c per pound; coarse, 40c; valley, 40c; mohair, nominal, 60c per pound.

Grain bags—Car lots, 10½@10½c.

## CHANGE IN HANDLING GRAIN IN OREGON

Wheat in Bulk Instead of Sacks  
Gives Fine Opportunity for  
Growers to Sample.

O. A. C., Corvallis, Ore.—(Special to this paper.)—Preparations for the change from sack handling to bulking of grain in the Pacific Northwest is laying a new demand upon large wheat farmers, country buyers and others who are vitally interested in the marketing of grain in bulk. It is now possible for them to sample their own or their purchased wheat, according to the new classifications and grades in process of establishment by the U. S. Office of Markets and the State of Oregon.

Heretofore growers merely took their wheat to market, and had it classed and marketed for them. They were unable to check on the classification applied by the grain samplers, because there were no standards established. If they were dissatisfied with results in one market, they had recourse to switching to another distributing point next time. If they felt that they were being flimflammed by agents of one company, they could change companies for the next crop—and take chances. Growers not only had the prices set for them, but they likewise came to market powerless to have a say in the classification and gradations of the crop.

With the new Federal-State system in operation, this may be changed. It is true that grain will be sampled and classed by official samplers, but it will be done by men with no direct personal interest in the results. More than that, farmers can learn to sample their grains for themselves and determine the classes and grades for a check upon the reports of the samplers.

Those who do not know how to do this, and there may be many among growers and buyers, can take a special course of grain sampling at the State Agricultural College. Prof. G. R. Hyslop, who conferred with the Federal representatives in establishing the grain classes and grades, has announced special courses to begin any time and run till the farmers or dealers taking them are fully able to take samples, classify, grade, make weight and moisture tests, and if, they so desire, the gluten tests. Equipped with this power they will be able to determine just how their crop ranks, how it is classed and graded, and what it is worth at current market prices.

It is expected that this system and its operation will be a factor in selection of wheat classes that are most profitable for seed in each of the great grain growing belts of the state. The advantages of good seed selection of the most profitable sorts will be very evident to growers, who will thus be enabled to get a line on the varieties and types best suited to their needs. The classes, with five grades in each, as now in course of adoption as standards in this state, are as follows:

Class 1. Hard red spring wheat includes all varieties of head red spring wheat. Grain which, after the determination of dockage, consists of hard red spring wheat and more than ten per centum of other wheat or wheats shall not be classified as hard red spring wheat. These subclasses include dark hard red spring wheat of which seventy-five per centum or more of the wheat kernels are dark, hard, and vitreous and hard red spring wheat of which less than seventy-five per centum of the wheat kernels are dark, hard, and vitreous.

Class 2. Durum wheat includes all varieties of durum wheat. Grain which, after determination of dockage, consists of durum wheat and more than ten per centum of other wheat or wheats shall not be classified as durum wheat. These subclasses include amber durum wheat of which ninety per centum or more of the wheat kernels are amber or light colored; red durum wheat of which ninety per centum or more of the wheat kernels are red; mixed durum includes all mixtures of durum wheat not included in subclass (a) or (b) of this class.

Class 3. Hard red winter wheat includes all varieties of hard red winter wheat. Grain which, after the determination of dockage, consists of hard red winter wheat and more than ten per centum of other wheat shall not be classified as hard red winter wheat. These subclasses include dark hard red winter wheat of which ninety per centum or more of the wheat kernels are dark, hard and vitreous; yellow hard red winter wheat of which seventy-five per centum or more of the wheat kernels are yellow or mottled and starchy and hard red winter wheat not included in either subclass (a) or (b) of this class.

Class 4. Soft red winter wheat includes all varieties of soft red winter wheat and also red club wheat of the Pacific Northwest.