

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 unsaleable 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.

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 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 statesmen 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."

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.

CAMPAIGN FOR RELIEF OF STARVING ARMENIANS ON.

Huge Fund Needed to Check Sufferings of Women and Children who Have Been Driven From Their Homes.

In a few days every man and woman in Oregon will be approached by a member of the Armenian Relief Committee. That worker probably will have much ground to cover and may not tell you the whole story of Armenia. If he told you all that has been said of conditions there, the mind could not picture it. The most horrible stories of German atrocity in Belgium, the ravages of Poland, Serbia, all the terrible history of devastated Europe has been outdone by Germany's ally and pupil, Turkey. The pupil has passed the master so far in the horrors brought to the peaceful Armenians that history itself will shudder at the task of making record.

Turkey, commanded by Prussian officers, drove off the farmer, merchant and peaceful Armenian. Men of mili-



tary age were slaughtered by thousands. Women who were beautiful threw themselves into rivers by the thousands and those who were too old or too young died along the roads to the North until their bleaching bones were more numerous than the remains of the buffalo on our Western plains ever were. We of America who even look at the requests of the Food Administration with a second glance, because we know not even the slightest want, can hardly picture men and women—human beings formed as we are, with affections and feelings as we have them—eating grass and the flesh of dead animals that they may find along the roads. And yet they consider themselves more fortunate than those who are still under the clawed hand of the Turk where atrocity follows atrocity under the now historic excuse of the German director, namely: "Military necessity." Since war was declared at least 2,000,000 of these people have been slaughtered or have starved—merely because they were Christians, because they believed in the broader mankind and chose our faith instead of that of the Turk.

They prospered and made it possible for the Turk to live in his own land. But, when war came, it brought the orders from the German master of horror and his men who do what the beast of the wilds would never do, began driving the Armenians from the land of the Turk.

The order commanded them to leave before night of the same day, abandoning all that their lives had built. The men of robust age were taken to the Turkish army and thence to the deserts, where they dug their own graves. Turkish soldiers bragged that they had used axes to murder them with, as it saved the valuable shot.

In this land of desolation the committee for the relief of Armenia is now working, doing the noble things that will save at least the children and babes of those who have been massacred or burned. The workers are former attaches of the American

Earl Reading Acceptable.

London—The Sunday Observer says, in regard to the appointment of a British ambassador to the United States: "It is assumed that Earl Reading, Lord Chief Justice of England, accepting the office in the public interest and at considerable sacrifice, will be the new ambassador to the United States. It is known that his appointment will be particularly acceptable to President Wilson and the American people."

legation who, when Ambassador Elkus returned to America, became attaché of neutral legations that they might carry on the work which they knew must be done to save these children.

All sums of money are being dispatched to the workers with the least possible delay. The funds go direct to Switzerland, from whence the bankers transmit the sums to the Armenian committee on the ground. Supplies are purchased in the markets there. The committee wherever possible establishes the homeless and dependent in such a way that they may earn the few cents necessary for existence and help others in the same labor. They work on relief supplies and hospital materials so that the work can be extended through their own labors.

The campaign is a most worthy one and one which will demand doubled support because its horrors are not quite as well known to everyone as are the sad stories of Belgium and lands a few thousand miles nearer our own shores. The committee is helped by the American Red Cross, which gives \$300,000 per month to the work, but must rely on the spirit of every man, woman and child in this and other states to keep hundreds of thousands of children alive this winter. Those who will not be personally solicited can send funds to the Oregon headquarters, 613 Stock Exchange, Portland, to J. J. Handsaker, secretary, or Ben Selling, treasurer.

HUNGER IMPERILS ALLIES

Food Situation in England, France and Italy Reported Grave.

Washington, D. C.—The food situation in the allied countries of Europe is graver than it has been at any time

since the beginning of the war and is giving American government officials deep concern. Official reports picture extreme food shortages in England, France and Italy.

The fact that conditions in Germany and Austria are far worse offers the only grounds for optimism in viewing the situation.

In England and France the situation is described as critical in a cablegram to the food administration Monday from Lord Rhonda, the British food controller, which concluded with these words:

"I view the situation with grave anxiety."

In Italy conditions are not as good perhaps as in either England or France.

Compulsory rationing will be started in England immediately with meats the first commodity to be put under control. Distribution of butter and margarine will be taken in hand next and other foods will be added as they become scarcer. All of the principal foodstuffs will be rationed by April.

PRO-GERMANISM FLAUNTED

"Deutschland Uber Allies" Written Across Lawyer's Questionnaire.

New Haven, Conn.—Maximilian von Hoegen, a young lawyer of this city, who has attracted notice by German utterances, returned his draft questionnaire to the draft board here, it was learned Monday, with "Deutschland uber alles" written across it, and stating that he has "an overwhelming desire to see Germany victorious in the war." At one time he claimed to be an agent of the German government and a representative of the former German ambassador to Washington, Count von Bernstorff.

Trading Rules to Stand.

Chicago—Board of Trade directors decided Monday to make no change in trading conditions in corn for future delivery. This action was taken, it was intimated, at the suggestion of the National Food Administration. The present legal maximum prices of corn for future delivery is \$1.28, although cash sales touched \$1.50. Farmers are said to have protested that present conditions discriminate against them in favor of consumers.

RECENT WOOL SCARE WAS UNNECESSARY

Witness Says Profiteers Scented Wealth in Shoddy.

RANK SCHEME BARED

Fat Contracts Said to Have Hung on Permission to Use Inferior Cloth in Making Army Uniforms.

Washington, D. C.—Responsibility for shortage of army clothing was placed upon the supplies committee of the Council of National Defense by Colonel Elmer Lindsley, quartermaster's agent at Philadelphia, testifying at the senate committee's war inquiry. Another witness, William Bianchi, a New York dealer, who has purchased cloth for foreign armies, charged that an unnecessary wool shortage "scare" was created to increase the use of wool shoddy ordered for army garments by the supplies committee.

Colonel Lindsley contradicted the recent testimony of Vice Chairman Eisenman, of the supplies committee, that the committee had secured an abundance of cloth for army needs. He said there is now a shortage of 1,000,000 yards of cloth and that the supplies committee system was responsible for both delays and friction.

Garment manufacturers, the witness declared, are without sufficient cloth to keep their factories working to capacity and in that connection he said that "haggling" by the committee with the American Woolen company last summer over prices had caused a loss to the government of 3,000,000 yards of cloth, many looms being idle for two or three months. Strikes of garment makers also have caused some delay, he said.

Bianchi said the wool shortage "scare," as he termed it, was in the interest of manufacturers of shoddy garments. Many American cloth makers, he testified, do not have factories equipped to make all-wool garments, and therefore could not have shared in the war contracts if shoddy had not been approved for army clothing. European armies, he asserted, are better clothed than American soldiers and he severely criticized the use of shoddy, declaring it wholly unnecessary.

SOLDIERS TAKE INSURANCE

American Land and Sea Fighters Buy \$3,000,000,000 Worth.

Washington, D. C.—More than \$3,000,000,000 worth of government insurance has been bought by American soldiers and sailors, Secretary McAdoo announced in a statement urging upon the men necessity for filing applications for policies before the expiration of the time limit set by law. Men who joined the colors before last October 15 must apply for insurance before February 12, 1918, and those joining after October 15 must make application for insurance within 120 days after entering the service.

Soldiers and sailors who are depending on the automatic insurance provided by the government until February 12, 1918, are warned that this is only partial and limited protection.

GERMAN REVOLT REPORTED

25,000 Unwilling to Be Drawn to Big Battle on Western Front.

London—A dispatch received here from the Russian wireless service says that 25,000 German soldiers in the region east of Kovno have revolted.

German deserters stated in consequence of the government's drafting all soldiers below the age of 35 for dispatch to the western front, the aforementioned number of men rebelled and marched out of the battle line.

They then entrenched themselves with rifles and machine guns against the other German units. The German military authorities have been powerless against the revolt and are trying to cut off their food supplies.

Italy Increases Army.

Washington, D. C.—Italy has adopted a drastic new policy to increase her fighting forces. Physical requirements have been modified, and all men between the ages of 18 and 44 years previously exempted for defects are ordered to present themselves for further examination.

Those accepted will be mustered into the army January 15. It is estimated the decree will bring more than 600,000 men to the colors.