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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

MATERIAL TO ARRIVE FOR FACTORY

Steel to Come Within Next 20 Days, and Contractors Are Already Sending Experts Here From Utah

The first arrival of steel for use in the construction of the best sugar factory is due to arrive within the next 10 days, according to advice received at the office of the California & Oregon Coast railroad. A telegram addressed to H. B. Miller, of the traffic department, from Salt Lake City, asked that arrangements for the handling of materials over the line be made so that there may be no delay, and said that the steel would begin to arrive for the construction within 10 days. Geo. W. Buechler, chief engineer for the new railroad, has arrived from San Francisco, and is directing repairs and improvements upon the railroad bridge. The structure will be ready for use within a few days, and there will be no delay in handling the materials for the factory. As soon as the contractors arrive to designate the location of switches and sidings, these will be built and the factory materials switched to them as fast as they arrive.

J. W. Patterson and wife and two children arrived in Grants Pass this morning from Midvale, Utah, and have been home hunting during the day so they came to make this their home. Mr. Patterson is sent here by the Dyer company, the contractors who are to build the factory. He has been in the employ of the Dyer people for the past seven years, and has been foreman of the carpentry work upon a new factory being built at Midvale by the Dyers. He will be employed upon the factory here. Mr. Patterson says that a number of other people will arrive tomorrow from Midvale, there having been 11 in the party that left Utah for Grants Pass, the others stopping over for a day in Portland. Arriving tomorrow will be Mr. Gillman, for 18 years with the Dyer people, and Mr. Broese and family, Mr. Broese having been a paymaster for the contractors in Utah. The Dyers are at the present time erecting three new factories in Utah, two others besides the one at Midvale, and the Grants Pass factory will give them four under course of construction at the same time. Experts in various branches of the work are being taken from the factories there and sent to Grants Pass to direct work here.

AMBASSADOR TO RUSSIA RESIGNS

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Washington, Feb. 16.—The state department was advised today that American Ambassador Merye of Petrograd has resigned. The formal resignation is expected in a few days. His health is assigned as the reason for his quitting. No successor will be considered until Lansing gets the formal resignation.

Merye, formerly a Californian, had made his home for some time in Washington before being appointed to the Petrograd post. With him he took as secretary Bar Baker of Oakland. The requirements of war times imposed such a strain on Merye that his health was impaired and he decided to quit.

That Henry M. Plimden, of Peoria, Ill., had been selected for the post, may be chosen now is rumored here.

TWO SERIOUSLY INJURED WHEN CARS COLLIDE

San Francisco, Feb. 16.—Two persons were seriously injured and a score of persons were severely bruised today when two street cars on Hayes and Buchanan streets collided. Motorman George Steadman sustained a broken leg, fractured wrist and probably internal injuries, and John Martin, a passenger, received severe contusions and a broken thumb.

Steadman lost control of his car and it crashed into the car ahead.

A panic followed the crash. One car was running down the Hayes street hill from Stanyan with about 50 passengers. The rails were slippery and Motorman Roy Akin had difficulty keeping control. Another car came in behind it. Dew on the rails caused this car to slip and it swept down on the car ahead with great speed.

A panic resulted, men and women passengers fighting each other in their efforts to escape from the wrecked cars by the front door or through the windows. One of the motormen declares some men passengers ignored the rule "women and children first" in their efforts to save themselves.

STORM STOPS WAR ON WEST FRONT

(By United Press Leased Wire.) London, Feb. 16.—Stormy, rainy weather put a stop last night to the appalling artillery fire along the western front, though furious infantry attacks were made around Ypres and in the Champagne without important results.

The Berlin official statement declared: "The English three times attacked our newly gained positions southeast of Ypres, but were repulsed and we took 100 prisoners."

"In the Champagne the French again tried to recapture positions northwest of Tahure, but their attempts failed."

The Paris war office did not claim any important activities in this new struggle.

As for the eastern front, the Berlin statement said that deep snow had prevented fighting there.

ENGLAND TAKING NEW SPIRIT IN WAR

(By United Press Leased Wire.) London, Feb. 16.—England is now putting her whole soul into the war.

Announcement today of issuance of two new orders in council preceded an intimation from the government that the nation has decided on a series of aggressive measures designed for a more vigorous prosecution of the war.

At the same time, officials recalled that the king's message yesterday advocated unlimited efforts to make the war a success.

The orders gave the government control of practically all merchant ships after February, and at the same time laid a ban on importation of materials for making papers, upon tobacco, furniture woods, hard woods, veneers and slate.

Issuance of these decrees followed the statement of Premier Asquith to parliament that England is preparing to exert her maximum war strength, and therefore is investigating her financial and industrial reserves, as well as enforcing the conscription measures.

He pointed out at the same time that the financial drain is enormous, but he asserted his faith in England's ability and readiness to go to any proper length to gain victory.

MUCH PROPERTY LOSS BY FIRES THROUGH THE EAST

Two Ships Are Burned at the Wharves in New York, Entailing a Loss of Four Million Dollars, While Mysterious Fires Destroy Buildings at Fall River, Toronto, and Other Points Along the Atlantic Coast

MYSTERIOUS FIRES ON TUESDAY NIGHT

Two ships burned in Brooklyn and pier near them ignited, with loss estimated at \$4,000,000. Bomb plot suspected. Fire, starting from explosion in basement of a Fall River, Mass., store, did \$1,500,000 estimated damage. Small fire, apparently incendiary, found near laboratory in Chicago where poison of a suspected anarchist plotter was being analyzed. Fire destroyed American club at Toronto. Started with an explosion on top floor. Mysterious fire on the Holland-American oil-laden steamer Van Dyke, extinguished late last night after she put back from sea. Unaccountable blaze did over \$100,000 damage on sugar-laden steamer Dalton at Philadelphia before she was due to sail for England.

New York, Feb. 16.—Fed by inflammable oils, paraffine and gasoline, the steamships Bolton Castle and Pacific were destroyed early today by fire which spread to the Brooklyn pier 36 between them. The flames at dawn were still eating through this structure, while ice coated firemen coped with them.

Four million dollars damage was done, but it was learned that there were no casualties. It had been feared earlier that some men from the two vessels had perished. This fear was dissipated, however, when 50 naked men were rescued from a sand barge.

Authorities set to work today on the theory that the fire was due to a bomb plot. Members of the crew were gathered for examination, but little information was forthcoming.

The fire, the worst the Brooklyn waterfront has known in years, started soon after 1 o'clock. Billows of flame and smoke rolled above the doomed vessels as the inflammable material took fire. For a time the fire seemed uncontrollable. Soon it spread to the pier, while all available firemen and fireboats in the Brooklyn service were called into action.

The bomb theory was strengthened

by the story of Joseph Johnson, engineer of the Bolton Castle. He told of hearing a heavy explosion in the hold while walking on the forward deck. Instantly the ship became a furnace, and the flames quickly spread to the freight-strewn pier. Johnson leaped overboard and swam to safety.

Twenty-five coolies from the Pacific were missing, along with six sailors from the Castle, but they apparently fled home.

While the fire was at its worst, a fireboat crew, at risk of their own lives, drove the vessel alongside the Pacific and towed away a gasoline-laden lighter on which sparks already were falling.

Another heroic act was the rescue over a rope bridge by firemen of more than 50 stevedores and their families sleeping on six lighters near the burning vessels.

A number of men jumped overboard and swam to safety from the scows and lighters surrounding the two ships. A few smaller vessels were ignited.

The Pacific was a 2,661-ton vessel of the Castle line, while the Bolton Castle was a 3,689-ton ship of the same line. Both are English, but had been engaged in the Russian service recently.

One explanation of the cause of the fire was that a short circuit at the dock company's office was responsible and that the flames swept along the 700-foot pier, setting fire to the steamers while the crew were asleep.

Officials also had under investigation today a strange fire on the oil-laden Holland-American tanker Van Dyke, which put back to port yesterday after heading for Rotterdam. This blaze was controlled after many hours' work.

Fall River, Mass., Feb. 16.—After an all-night fight against a \$1,500,000 fire, the combined apparatus of the New Bedford, Taunton and Newport departments checked it early today.

Starting with an explosion in the basement of the Steiger department store, the fire burned over an entire square, including the Lenox hotel, and just missed the city hall and St. Mary's cathedral.

A shift in the wind for a time

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FOREIGN POLICY OF DEMOCRATS TO BE ASSAILED

New York, Feb. 16.—Unmeasured censure of the democratic foreign policy, coupled with criticism of its economic ideas, will be the republican conservatives' battle cry in the coming campaign.

This fact was admitted by republican leaders today when they reconvened for their state convention after hearing ex-Senator Root, as temporary chairman, sound such a slogan last night.

"No flag is dishonored, and no citizenship not worth the claiming in Mexico, but ours," he said.

Of the policy toward Europe, he said:

"Our diplomacy has lost its authority and influence because we have been brave in words and irresolute in action. We have been blindly stumbling along the road that, continued, will lead to inevitable war."

At the same time he criticized the administration for failing to have already provided proper preparedness for such an outcome.

The fact that the United States did not protest against violation of Belgian neutrality was excoriated. Root declared the democratic administration's failure was because of the president's temperament and the fact that he tried to "govern with a club."

Restoration of the republican party to power, he said, would result in "moderate but adequate" protection to American industry; a frank and fearless and honest dealing in diplomatic affairs; and "adequate preparation by the American people for their own defense."

NEW UPRISING THREATENS MEXICO

Washington, Feb. 16.—Mexico is seething with a threatened uprising, which needs only strong leadership to send the Carranza government to oblivion.

This was the dire prediction contained today in semi-official mail information to the state department, saying that the Carranza government is crumbling rapidly. The regime, recognized by the American government, has lost a vast amount of ground in the last two months, it was stated, and appears to be facing serious financial troubles. The latter idea was evidenced from the statement that many consul and interior officials are not paid regularly, while three consuls in the United States are far in arrears of their office expenses.

RAILROADS PAD PROPERTY VALUE

Portland, Feb. 16.—Anticipating government ownership, railroads are attempting to place an abnormally high value on their property with a view of dumping it on the government, declared Clyde B. Aitchison, chairman of the Oregon railroad commission, upon his return today from the interstate commerce commission value hearings at Washington.

There is a difference of \$8,000,000,000 between the maximum estimates of the commission and the lowest figures furnished by the railroads as to the value of railroad property in the United States, Aitchison said.

BRITISH DESTROYER VIKING WAS AFIRE

(By United Press Leased Wire.) New York, Feb. 16.—The British destroyer Viking was towed into Dover, England, after January 29, according to reliable advices today. Two of the crew of 70 were rescued, but the fate of the others is unknown.

ERZERUM IS CAPTURED BY SLAVS

City in Turkish Armenia Falls Into the Hands of the Russian Troops Under the Grand Duke Nicholas

London, Feb. 16.—After unconfirmed reports had chronicled the fall of Erzerum, Turkish Armenia, into Russian hands, later Petrograd reports tonight said the capture of the city was confirmed.

London, Feb. 16.—Unconfirmed reports from Petrograd today said that Erzerum, Turkish Armenia, had fallen before the attack of Grand Duke Nicholas' Russian forces.

EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGE AGAINST MINING HEAD

(By United Press Leased Wire.) San Francisco, Feb. 16.—William Noyes, president of the Presidio Mining company of Presidio, Texas, will be held to the superior court on a charge of embezzlement, according to announcement made today by Police Judge Oppenheim. Noyes was recently charged by Captain Wolverton, U. S. A., who represents minority stockholders, with juggling stock and mishandling the affairs of the concern.

BRANDEIS GAINS POINT AT HEARING

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Washington, Feb. 16.—Louis D. Brandeis, President Wilson's nominee for the supreme court, gained ground today in the senate sub-committee hearing as to his fitness for the office. Under cross-examination, President Winslow of the United Shoe Machinery company, who had suggested Brandeis acted in bad faith toward that concern, could not recollect details of his break with Brandeis.

Finally, however, he gave Brandeis what many regarded as a clean slate. He admitted that Brandeis had informed him in 1907 that unless the terms of the shoe company's leases were changed, that he (Brandeis) would cease to be attorney for the company. This, he admitted, happened before Brandeis had attacked the leases as illegal either before congress or in behalf of other clients, and before Brandeis had charged that the company was a trust.

Challenged to name once when Brandeis had used information gained as counsel or director of the company to attack it later, Winslow said that he had told Brandeis secrets about the leases in 1906; and that several years later Brandeis appeared before congress on behalf of the other companies. At the same time, however, Winslow admitted that the leases were public and that Brandeis did not need inside information concerning them.

SHERIFF AFTER FORMER VILLISTA SOLDIERS

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Tucson, Ariz., Feb. 16.—To capture 12 former Villista soldiers who took possession of an American mining camp at Rosemont, in the Santa Rita mountains, Sheriff Forbes of Pima county left here with a posse this afternoon. The Mexicans had been employed at the mine and, according to the sheriff's information, seized the works, drove out the superintendent and took food and ammunition from the commissary camp.

LUSITANIA CASE SETTLEMENT WAITS ON SUBMARINE WARFARE

Washington, Feb. 16.—Germany's decree of warfare against armed merchant vessels has entered into the Lusitania case, and settlement of the latter will not be reached unless future submarine warfare conforms to international law.

This was made plain at the state department this afternoon following the Lansing-von Bernstorff conference in which the German envoy transmitted Berlin's reply to American suggestions for changes in the Lusitania settlement phraseology.

If it had not been for the merchant ships edict, the Lusitania case probably would have been settled today. Ambassador von Bernstorff said the United States could easily arrange for the postponement of the decree and Secretary Lansing said he would consider the suggestion, though he in-

timated he would not ask for a delay at present.

It was explained that a new point has arisen—whether the decree affects the promises given in the Lusitania agreement proposals.

The state department knew that the decree was to be issued long before it was announced in Berlin or Vienna, and this decree is tending to delay informal negotiations between Bernstorff and Lansing.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Germany's latest proposal in the Lusitania case was presented today to Secretary of State Lansing by German Ambassador von Bernstorff. Its acceptance or rejection is now up to President Wilson.

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