

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

MILITIA AT BORDER A FAILURE

Mobilization of Guardsmen Along Mexican Frontier So Characterized by Major General Leonard Wood

Washington, Dec. 18.—Nothing could be more pronounced than "the complete failure of the mobilization of the militia forces along the border," declared Major General Leonard Wood, former chief of staff, before the senate sub-committee on military affairs today.

"Not one-half of the regular or militia units on the border today are at war strength," said General Wood. "We have no defense. We are unprepared. The only way to get it is by the universal military training system. We must get it now and get it quickly."

Wood bit off his sentences with a ringing crispness. He referred to the statements of former Secretary of the Interior Fisher, who suggested a plan for "dividing training with a military feature as a by-product," as "a play on words."

Washington, Dec. 18.—Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the army, today ripped the lid off the pot of opinion which army staff and line men have brewed over the border duty service of the national guard.

Scott also voiced the army men's verdict on the system of national defense now in vogue in this country. Going into some of the secret workings of the army war college plan for adequate defense, Scott told the sub-committee of the Chamberlain senate military committee, that where it once believed 500,000 men, to be available at the outset of any hostilities in which this nation engaged, would be sufficient "as a starter," lessons learned from the European war, led staff officials to decide this initial force should not be less than 1,500,000 equipped, seasoned, perfectly trained troops.

"The general staff at the outset of the European war," Scott said, "gave as its opinion that our system should be able to furnish 500,000 fully trained and organized mobile troops at the outbreak of a war and to have at least 500,000 more available within 90 days."

PAACIFIST TALK IN NO FAVOR WITH ENGLISH PEOPLE

London, Dec. 18.—When Premier Lloyd-George addresses parliament tomorrow and outlines the policy of his government, he will find the pulse of the British people beating in unison with that of the war council.

Interest is so intense here today on the reply the premier will make to Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's peace proposals and his discussion of the food problem and the question of man power.

The temper of the British people toward peace was indicated when a huge mob yesterday attacked Sylvia Pankhurst as a "pacifist" with a group of her sympathizers.

Miss Pankhurst attempted to hold a "demonstration" at the East India dock gates to demand peace. An angry crowd quickly gathered and rushed Miss Pankhurst and her party from their feet. Police interference put an end to the demonstration, but a jeering crowd followed the woman to police headquarters, where the prisoners were held under bail for examination by a magistrate.

It is expected Lloyd-George will give a brief and comprehensive review of the war in his speech, and will outline what has been accomplished under the other regime, and what he expects to accomplish through the war council.

Comment on the more intimate incidents which led to the recent governmental upheaval and placed Lloyd-George at the head of the cabinet is not expected.

BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE GETS GERMAN PEACE NOTE

London, Dec. 18.—American Ambassador Page today delivered the German peace note to the British foreign office.

ENGLAND CONTROLS SUPPLY OF FOOD

London, Dec. 18.—Food control went into effect throughout England today. Regulations curtailing meats, which became effective today, were met by the British people with a sort of schoolboy good humor, entirely tolerant and ungrudgingly.

"I ate too much anyway; the food control will help me reduce." This expression indicated general sentiment as the new regulations became operative. A few lovers of food have devised "trick menus," which circumvent the purpose of the food curtailment, but compliance with the new rulings is more general.

TWOHYS GET CONTRACT FOR ROAD

Firm Will Build Twenty-Mile Line in California, and Also Announces Building of C. & O. C. Within Year

San Francisco, Dec. 18.—A contract has been let by Julius Kruttschnitt and John D. Spreckels to build 20 miles of railroad for the San Diego & Arizona railroad company, on the Colorado desert, through the Imperial valley, according to statements here today.

John Twohy and his son, of Portland, will get the contract and will be paid \$1,000,000 for the work.

According to a statement by the elder Twohy, who is at a local hotel his company is also to build within a year 30 miles of road in southwestern Oregon for the California & Oregon Coast railroad for \$1,500,000.

"We have closed the contract to build 20 miles of railroad for the San Diego & Arizona railroad," was Twohy's statement. "We will also build within a year some 30 miles of railroad to and through the Illinois valley out from Grants Pass from the Southern Pacific's Mount Shasta route in a southwesterly direction towards California. Both jobs will call for several thousand men."

Eastern capital is said to be behind the Twohys in the C. & O. C. road, which, from the northern state line, has surveys into both Crescent City and Eureka.

DEAD MAN AT WHEEL OF FIGHTING AIRCRAFT

Berlin, via Bayville, Dec. 18.—How Lieutenant Boelcke, German's premier airman found an enemy airship aloft with even kiel and a dead man at the wheel, was told in a graphic series of papers made public today by the press bureau. They were the reports which Boelcke made from October 1914 up to the time he was killed in action recently.

Boelcke's reports indicated the unusual distance between fighting aircraft was 328 feet, sometimes only 120 or 150 feet. One time Boelcke pursued a French machine to within nine or ten feet and he detailed how when a collision seemed certain, he turned his machine and the enemy aeroplane turned upside down.

SEEK SOLDIERS FOR UNCLE SAM'S ARMY

A recruiting station for the United States army has been opened here at 262 1/2 Sixth street, and will be in charge of Sergeant W. D. Schuster. The station will be located here for a period of years. The final touches are being put on the office by Sergeant G. Kreyser, who has charge of the opening of the different offices in the state, and it will be inspected tomorrow by Col. Chas. A. Varnum, of Portland.

The army is now offering better inducements than ever, according to Sergeant Schuster, and every person has the chance to pursue his trade. Schools are being established and civilian teachers employed to give the soldiers a good education. The men also stand a chance of promotion and may rise to the head of their profession. Young men between the age of 19 and 22 have a chance to enter West Point as cadets, as the president has the power of naming a certain number each year. During the past five months, between 100 and 150 men have joined the army from Oregon. Of these, 45 were recruited from high school in Portland.

GENERAL SARRAIL

French Commander Who Has Captured Monastir, Servia.



Photo by American Press Association

SUNDAY LEADS FOR DRY BOSTON

Boston, Dec. 18.—The most dramatic campaign this city has ever seen on the question of whether Boston shall license liquor dealers, comes to an end today. Tomorrow the voters will settle the question at the polls.

Billy Sunday, field general for the dry forces, will hurl the final blast into the liquor interests' camp. Tonight at the tabernacle, the militant evangelist, who has led the greatest fight the dry forces ever have made, will sound the charge in a wind-up address.

Lined up on the side of prohibition, according to Sunday, are many of the city's leading citizens. President Emeritus Eliot of Harvard university, Major Henry Lee Higginson, Courtney Guild, Paul Revere Frothingham, and former Governor Foss, are among the leaders.

The latter has made an extraordinary offer to the city of Boston. He has agreed to make good to the city for five years, any loss of revenue that may result from the city's going dry. If they will give him, for five years one-half of any savings of the city may make directly or indirectly as a result of this. He has agreed to post a bond of one million dollars to protect the city.

The wet adherents have enlisted in their cause hundreds of prominent business men throughout the city and have spent thousands of dollars in advertising.

CENTRAL POWERS WANT NEUTRALS TO GET BUSY

Rome, Dec. 18.—The central powers have urged the pope and the United States to back up their peace proposals, according to a report in circulation here today.

CARRANZA IS SLOW WITH REPLY

Decision of Mexican Chief Regarding Protocol Arranged by Joint Commission Not Yet Announced

Philadelphia, Dec. 18.—Carranza's decision regarding the border protocol signed at Atlantic City, was still unrevealed this afternoon. Alberto J. Paoli, who presented this document to the first chief, occupied the entire morning session in making a verbal report of his interview with Carranza at Queretaro, to the American and Mexican commissioners. He offered no written document from Carranza.

The joint session adjourned at noon and the American commissioners went into secret conference shortly afterward. The joint meeting will resume at 3 o'clock.

Neither side would divulge the nature of his statement. Only inferences can be drawn from the fact that he offered no written report.

It is said that Secretary Lane will not see J. J. Rawes, the Villa representative, who arrived here from New York today.

NO UNEMPLOYED IN PORTLAND FOR XMAS DINNER

Portland, Dec. 18.—For many years the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company has given a Christmas dinner to the unemployed. This Christmas the dinner is abandoned, it was announced today, as there are no unemployed in Portland to eat it.

VILLA NOW CONTROLS SOUTHERN CHIHUAHUA

El Paso, Dec. 18.—Advises to mining men here today state that a force of Villistas has reoccupied Parral, following the recapture of Jimenez and Santa Rosalia, putting the entire southern part of Chihuahua state again under control of Villa. All the bridges between Ortiz and Santa Rosalia on the Mexican railway line have been burned.

TREVINO CONFERS WITH CARRANZA

El Paso, Dec. 18.—Intimating that First Chief Carranza will institute an investigation into the conduct of General Murguia for his failure to come to the relief of Chihuahua City several weeks ago, General Trevino left here last night en route to Mexico City for a conference with President Carranza.

Trevino denied that his action in evacuating the city has been criticized by the Mexican administration and stated that lack of ammunition and fear for the safety of non-combatants caused his abandonment of the northern capital.

LIVE BABY BOY AS PRIZE FOR DANCERS

Lynn, Mass., Dec. 18.—Clergymen and society women to the contrary notwithstanding, local Knights of Pythias will give a live three-months old baby boy as first prize to the champion dancing couple at their ball.

RESTORATION OF BELGIUM MUST COME WITH PEACE

Washington, Dec. 18.—United States officials are convinced today there can be no formal discussion of peace until Germany and Austria avow their willingness to restore Belgium and Serbia, and until all nations involved are ready to disarm on a rather large scale.

In his forthcoming speech, Premier Lloyd-George of England, is expected to insist on such terms and a fundamental groundwork for any formal parleys and such action on his part would serve to "pass the buck" back to Germany.

Moreover, officials believe he will cut the fully what the allies are fighting for, but in no circumstances will he voice a scornful or flat rejection of the German offers.

The United Press is in a position today to give a detailed outline of his government's convictions on the several angles of peace developments. They are:

It is believed Germany offered peace because her people were becoming restive; it is believed the people of all countries want peace—America included—so long as there is no sacrifice of the principles for which the fighting has been going on.

This government is convinced there can be no formal discussion of peace unless such discussion carries an avowed willingness of Germany and Austria to restore France, Belgium and Serbia.

There can be no peace without assurance of disarmament on a large scale in all countries with some plan for alliance of nations to prevent future wars.

No reason is seen why Lloyd-George, when he addresses the commons should fail to outline the general peace terms of the allies.

Unqualified rejection of the German proffer would immediately react to England's disadvantage in neutral countries, it is believed.

It would also result in embittering the German people to the point where they would unite even more solidly than ever behind the government, the few of which England desires to destroy.

The German people would then be convinced the allied war on them was one against their existence, and would fight to the death.

As a result of these convictions, this government believes Lloyd-George may say what England and her allies regard as necessary to make peace possible. Should he do this, the belief is strong that Germany might be forced by her own people to acquiesce to such terms as do not threaten her existence.

On the other hand, should the British premier stand by his recent declaration that the war must go on "to a knockout," little hope of peace is seen and every possibility of grave danger to his country's friendly relations with the Teutonic powers.

PROTECTION FOR SEA COAST CITIES

Washington, Dec. 18.—American seas coast cities—on the Pacific and Atlantic—will be made safe from any hostile attack now known within the coming twelve months, Major General E. M. Weaver, chief of the coast artillery service, told the house military committee today.

COUNCIL FOR THE FARM IN SESSION

Advisory Board Is Planning Program for Work During the Next Year of the County Agricultural Agent

The Josephine County Agricultural council is in session today at the Commercial club rooms, and is outlining a program of work to be followed by the county agent during the year 1919. Present at the meeting of the council are C. J. Hurd, organizer of state granges, and M. O. Evans, assistant leader of county agents of the state.

The agricultural council is composed of one member from each of the granges within the county, and also from each other general organization within the county, the Pomona, fruit association, and Commercial club. Those participating are A. Wylberg, president, representing the fruit growers' association; A. J. Green, Rogue River grange; H. M. Gorham, Merlin grange; C. T. Sweeney, Murphy grange; J. H. Harris, Fruitdale grange; U. L. Upton Jr., Pomona grange; Robert Sandolph, Wilderville Farmers club; A. J. Falk, Illinois Valley grange; Sept. Dan Hull, H. T. Hull, representative at large, and W. L. Ireland, Commercial club. This is the annual meeting, and officers will be elected before adjournment.

At noon the members of the council were guests at the Commercial club luncheon, and A. Wylberg, president of the council, presided. He first introduced C. J. Hurd, of Eugene, state organizer of granges. Mr. Hurd spoke for a better fellowship between the people of city and country, and commended the spirit which he found here where the two elements of community life seemed to abide in harmony.

M. O. Evans, assistant state leader, spoke of the work which is being accomplished in the state and the nation by the county agent. He said that but few of the agents were under the handicap which had been placed upon Mr. Thompson in Josephine county, that of acting both as agriculturist and as county fruit inspector. The fruit inspector, he said, was apt to run about a number of troublesome questions that would make his work as county agent more difficult. He urged that all give every assistance to the county agent in his efforts for agriculture and horticulture.

County Agent Thompson followed. He said that as fruit inspector he should certainly try to follow a line of duty that he felt he owed the fruit growers of the district, and that he should feel repaid if he laid the right foundation even if in enforcing orchard regulations he might knock some of the foundation from under himself.

Chairman Wylberg closed with an appeal for an individual co-operation. He said that if each individual sought means whereby he could cooperate with his neighbor, it would bring results even better than by cooperating through organized bodies.

EASTLAND DISASTER CASES IN THE SUPREME COURT

Washington, Dec. 18.—The supreme court today extended until January 15 the time given Federal Judge Kenesaw M. Landis, Chicago, to show cause why his order consolidating hundreds of damage claims against the Indiana Transportation company, growing out of the Eastland disaster, should not be reversed, as asked by the company. The company wants to try separately cases of heirs of victims of the disaster.

Ed. Austin was a Medford visitor Sunday, returning here last night.