

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

## BAGDAD SOON TO FALL INTO BRITISH HANDS

### ENGLISH TROOPS ARE REPORTED WITHIN 12 MILES OF ANCIENT CITY

## TURKS RETREATING TO NORTH

### Loss of City Will Be Heavy Blow to the Prestige of the Ottoman Empire

London, Mar. 8.—The ancient city of Bagdad, since 1638 held by the Turks, is about to fall into British hands. Its capture by the British Mesopotamian force, is a foregone conclusion. Official reports today put the British cavalry within twelve miles of the ancient capital.

"The city cannot be defended," declared General F. B. Maurice, in charge of military operations, in an interview granted the United Press today. "I expect the Turks to make a defense at a point about six miles from the city. If they are defeated, they have no recourse but to retreat north."

Bagdad, singularly enough, has been long known as Dar-es-Salam—"City of Peace." During the last few weeks it has been menaced in two directions by allied force—by the British pushing forward from the south, and from the Russian forces of the Grand Duke Nicholas, who are now around Hamadan, to the west of the Turkish city. If Bagdad falls, the victory will be a tremendous blow to Turkish prestige. The city is the very center of Arabic traditions, having been founded early in the eighth century. It has remained unbrokenly Arabic and Turkish through all the centuries since that time, except for a brief period in the thirteenth century, when the Mongols seized it. Bagdad is where the famous Haroun Al Raschid, famed in song and story, once held forth.

## RESIGNATION OF STONE CALLED FOR

New York, Mar. 8.—Calling for Senator Stone's resignation as chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, the New York World today said:

"Under disguises as transparent as any assumed by the innumerable agents of the Kaiser's propaganda in this country, he has been revealed time and again as one who, in the presence of Germany, would equivocate, abate and even sacrifice American rights. He has made this plain from the day of the Lusitania horror, which he dismissed as lightly as any junker and for which he found as many excuses as any instructed 'German-American.' In all essentials involving Germany he has been persistent in opposition to the United States and yet has retained a senate chairmanship which gives him immense influence upon the foreign policy of the United States."

The New York Sun bitterly attacked Senator Stone, declaring he should be deprived of his chairmanship.

"No fact in the record of William Joel Stone entitles him to the important and confidential office he holds today," said the Sun. "His continuance therein constitutes a menace to the safety of the United States. His disappearance therefrom would take a load of fear off the mind of every patriotic American at home and abroad."

## U.S. AMBASSADOR GUTHRIE IS DEAD

### American Representative to the Court of the Mikado Died of Apoplexy at Tokio Today

Washington, Mar. 8.—Ambassador Guthrie at Tokio died suddenly today of apoplexy, according to a cablegram to the state department this afternoon.

Pittsburg, Mar. 8.—George Guthrie, United States ambassador to Japan, is dead according to announcement at his law office here today. It was said there that a cablegram reporting his death in Tokio had been received. Further information was withheld.

Colonel W. R. Guthrie, a brother of the ambassador, would not make any statement immediately after receipt of the cablegram.

## FRENCH LINER HAS A TUMULTUOUS VOYAGE

New York, Mar. 8.—The French liner Rochambeau arrived here today with a rapid-fire three-inch gun mounted on the bow and a four-inch gun on the stern, the first large passenger ship to reach this port from Europe with guns mounted both fore and aft.

The big liner, bringing 82 passengers in the first cabin and 39 in the second, passed through the submarine zone under convoy of six destroyers without sighting any submarines.

A tumultuous voyage was reported. A monster wave that struck the ship when she was three days out, almost turned her over, dumping passengers out of their berths and giving rise to a panic through fear that a torpedo had caused the shocks.

## FIRE DESTROYS TERRA COTTA POTTERY PLANT

San Francisco, Mar. 8.—The plant of the Steiger Terra Cotta Pottery company at South San Francisco was almost totally destroyed early today by a fire believed to be of incendiary origin. The damage is estimated at \$200,000 partly covered by insurance.

A dozen of buildings, four of them large structures, were burned, only the stables, packing sheds and offices escaping.

The plant has been closed for three weeks as the result of labor troubles.

W. E. Dennison, president of the company declared today that he had no doubt incendiaries had started the blaze.

The San Francisco and South San Francisco fire departments were summoned but could do little as the intense heat caused the water mains to burst.

## FAILURE BLAMED TO ENGLAND'S IDOL

London, Mar. 8.—Upon the late Lord Kitchener, England's idol, and the early war council, was fixed the blame today for England's Dardanelles failure. A special investigating commission, appointed in response to parliamentary inquiries and complaints, as to the costly experiment against Turkey, made this report today.

"Although the main object of the expedition was not attained," the report concluded, "certain important political advantages were secured by the expedition. Whether these were worth the loss of life and treasure involved, must always remain a matter of opinion."

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## U. S. SENATE ABOLISHES THE CLOTURE RULE

### ONLY THREE MEMBERS VOTE AGAINST PUTTING MUFFLER ON DEBATE

## LAFOLLETTE, GRONNA, SHERMAN

### New Rule Is Modified, But Will Prevent Small Body of Senators Filibustering

Washington, Mar. 8.—The United States senate late today abolished its ancient rule of unlimited debate, when a modified cloture rule, providing that a two-thirds majority may limit debate, passed by a vote of 76 to three. Senators LaFollette, Gronna and Sherman opposed it.

The senate then went into executive session.

Washington, Mar. 8.—The sacred senate prerogative of limitless debate—the rule for 109 years—may pass into history within 48 hours, possibly sooner.

This was indicated today when the "wilful twelve" senators, who, in the closing hours of the congress blocked President Wilson's plans for armed neutrality, admitted no means remained at their command of further hindering passage of the rule.

With unlimited weeks before the senate, the "wilful brethren" abandoned all hope of gaining their ends by continued filibuster. While several will take the floor to make their position clear before the country, the now famous last stand is a thing of the past.

Bitter denunciation by Senator Sherman of President Wilson's statement that it would be useless to call an extra session of congress until the senate rules were amended, marked the opening of the battle for a cloture amendment.

Sherman, however, reiterated his approval of armed neutrality, declaring it justified by the German mandate of unrestricted submarine warfare and the "Kaiser-mikado-Carranza plot." This, he said, "was sufficient evidence of hostile intent, whether it would come to any practical end or not."

He also took a fling at republicans "who are now heaping abuse on the heads of the 'wilful twelve,' after they themselves had connived in the filibuster."

Since a filibuster could not in an extra session prevent passage of the armed neutrality bill, Sherman held the president "is merely taking advantage of the present crisis permanently to alter the senate rules."

"The president is seeking to absolve himself from his long delay in protecting American rights by discrediting the few men who courageously objected to hasty decision in the closing hours of congress after his procrastination had prevented sufficient time for consideration," Sherman shouted.

Sherman defended the "little group of wilful men" as doing what they did, because they thought they would save "the unnumbered souls arising from the battlefield of a possible future; for the widows in black and for the men behind the plow, whose red American blood might be spilled on a foreign strand."

Senator Stone pledged his support to the amendment, although he explained he realized it is to be used for the "particular purpose of passing the armed neutrality bill, to which I am unalterably opposed."

Stone favored a majority vote feature of the amendment.

Washington, Mar. 8.—Fight for a cloture amendment to the senate

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## COUNTY AND CITY TO JOIN FOR LIBRARY

### COUNCILMEN AND COURT IN HARMONY FOR CO-OPERATIVE PLAN

## ALSO TALK OF AN AUDITORIUM

### A. S. Coutant and Mrs. Alice Bacon New Members of the County Fair Board

The county court received the delegation from the city council this forenoon and discussed fully the proposition of the erection of a Carnegie library building upon the county court house block and the maintenance of the library by both city and county. The councilmen present were Nutting, Demaray and Allen. The plan met with the approval of the court, and the proposal will be submitted in written form. It was explained by the councilmen that an appropriation of \$1,200 was now provided from city funds and \$800 from county funds for library purposes. By building the library upon the county block it could be heated from the county furnaces, and this, with janitor attention, would about balance the amounts provided each year by city and county, making available \$2,400 to \$2,500 annually for maintenance.

Another proposition that was discussed by the councilmen and the county court was that of transforming the material from the old court house into a public auditorium after the new court house was ready for occupancy. It was suggested that the citizens could procure a suitable site and use the lumber of the old court house in putting up a building that would house the larger public gatherings of a general nature. The plan met with approval, and will no doubt be worked out at a later date.

The county fair board was completed through the appointment of Mrs. Alice Bacon, county superintendent of schools, to membership, the county office carrying with it membership upon the fair board. A. S. Coutant was also appointed upon the board in place of H. H. Harter, who has removed from the county. L. M. Mitchell, of Murphy, is the third member of the board, being the only hold-over member.

## OPPOSITION FOR BRITISH PREMIER

### London, Mar. 8.—For the first time since he assumed the premiership, Lloyd-George today faced a bitter minority of opposition in the house of commons.

Exactly how far that minority will go in its opposition was expected to be decided today.

The division, long expected, comes over the Irish home rule question. Yesterday's debate in the house of commons was the most bitter in months. It resulted in formal withdrawal from the sitting of the Irish nationalists as a protest against the form of settlement of the perplexing question suggested by the premier—that home rule could be had by any part of Ireland desiring it, but that coercion would not be employed to force Ulster's acquiescence.

The Irish nationalists were to meet today in conference. The greatest interest attached to their decision as to a future policy. Speculation on what the party members would vote ranged from predictions that they would formally withdraw from the house to guesses that they would continue in commons, but adopt a policy of active opposition to Lloyd-George, in an attempt to force a general election.

Several London newspapers, commenting on the situation which the premier now faces, deplored his statement of government policy yesterday as one calculated to arouse opposition, and attacked John Redmond, Irish leader, for his attitude. The Morning Post suggests the nationalists are henceforth in "definite hostility to the government, though presumably they will do nothing to interfere with the prosecution of the war, they will otherwise put as much sand in the parliamentary and ministerial machinery as possible."

The Daily Telegraph predicted the Redmond adherents will "go into active opposition to the government and seek to make it untenable, with a view to bringing about a general election."

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## KAISER SEEKING VILLA'S SUPPORT

### Germany Plays the Bandit Leader Against Carranza in Fomenting Trouble for U. S.

Laredo, Texas, Mar. 8.—Germany is playing Villa against Carranza. Great sums of German money are pouring into the bandit leader's hands, inciting him to activity against the United States and against Carranza, while at the same time German agents work through officials of the Carranza government, seeking to align that side against the United States.

Just back from a trip into the interior of Mexico the correspondent can state these facts on the highest authority:

Agents of the German government in Mexico approached Villa at his headquarters at Bustillo's ranch, about February 12, with a proposition to renew his raids on the border in case of a declaration of war between the United States and Germany. Two German agents reached the Carranza government, the conference extended over two days.

At first Villa demurred against any attack on the border in force under any circumstances. At length an agreement was reached that in case of war, Villa would send small bands, as unattached bandits, to operate at widely separated points along the boundary and to make sporadic forays to harass American troops.

Under the terms of the agreement the German agents promised to pay Villa 500,000 pesos at once to seal the compact. He refused to enter into the plot until the first payment

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## STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER COMING TO CITY

### NEWLY APPOINTED OFFICIAL TO BE GUEST OF COMMERCIAL CLUB

## IS TO BE HERE NEXT MONDAY

### E. J. Adams, of Eugene, Accepts Invitation to Look Over Road Matters Here

The citizens of Grants Pass will be hosts to the newly-appointed member of the state highway commission from this congressional district when E. J. Adams, of Eugene, will come here at the invitation of the Commercial club officials. Mr. Adams was invited to be present at the annual banquet of the club Monday evening, and the roads and highways committee of the club will take his entertainment in hand and make him as thoroughly acquainted with highway conditions in southern Oregon as is possible during his stay in the city Monday and Tuesday.

Immediately after word was received from Mr. Adams announcing his acceptance of the invitation to come here, the secretary of the Commercial club wired to both the other members of the commission, Simon Benson of Portland and W. L. Thompson of Pendleton, asking that they also come. Replies to these invitations had not been received late this afternoon, but should the entire board be present, Monday will be resolved into a southern Oregon good roads day.

Highway Commissioner Adams will be upon the program of speakers for the Commercial club banquet, as will also Messrs. Benson and Thompson if they are present. It is proposed by the local highway commission to show the commissioners as much of the highway in Josephine county as is possible during their stay, especially the post roads and the forest roads that need attention.

## FRENCH TAKE PRISONERS AT THREE PLACES

Paris, Mar. 8.—French forces took German prisoners in actions at three different places on the western front, the official statement today declared.

"Between the Oise and the Aisne very lively artillery actions continued," it stated. "During the night northwest of Embermenil, in Lorraine, the French raided German trenches and brought back prisoners."

## FOUR PERISH WHEN POORHOUSE BURNS

Boone, Iowa, Mar. 8.—One aged woman and three men, all inmates of the Boone county poor house, eight miles north of here, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the structure at 10 o'clock last night. Fifty-six other inmates narrowly escaped in their night clothing. There was no fire protection at the institution and the Boone fire department was not called. Superintendent Heedwell of the poor farm, aided by employees, succeeded in getting all to safety except the four aged persons on the third floor, who lost their lives.

The fire is believed to have started from defective electric wiring. The building, a three-story brick structure, was a total loss.

O. V. Myers is a local visitor for the day from Medford, attending to business.