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EARTHQUAKE GENERAL IN GUATEMALA

PART OF GUATEMALA CITY IS DESTROYED AND THOUSANDS MADE HOMELESS

ALL AMERICANS REPORTED SAFE

Loss of Life is Estimated at From 10 to 40 in the City—Much Property Damage

Washington, Dec. 28.—At 6 o'clock last night the earthquake which destroyed a part of Guatemala City was continuing. Thousands of people are without shelter. It is stated that all Americans are safe.

Washington, Dec. 28.—An earthquake, general throughout Guatemala yesterday caused a loss of from 10 to 40 lives and extensive property damage in Guatemala City, the state department was advised late today in a cable dispatch from the American charge there.

No mention was made as to damage in the interior.

SUMMARY OF WAR SITUATION FOR DAY

Germany's terms for a general peace and the suggestion that the entente allies join in the Russo-German peace conference, have brought no immediate response, the attitude of the United States remaining unchanged. It is felt that the present German promises of no annexations and indemnities are insincere.

A recess in the peace negotiations has been taken until January 4, when they will be resumed at a time said to be preparing a new appeal to the entente allies to join the conference.

Amsterdam dispatches say that King Ferdinand of Bulgaria holds different views on annexations than those expressed by Count Czernin, who apparently is the German mouthpiece. The king says that Bulgaria will hold what she has won, which will be forcible annexation.

Being repulsed northeast of Verdun the Germans have ceased their tillery is intenseshrdl cmfw vbgkqj Infantry efforts in this section for the present.

On the Italian front, especially in the Aslago plateau region, the Teuton artillery fire is intense, and is believed to be the beginning of other attempts to break the Italian line in this section.

German bombs and shells have brought death to three more American soldiers in France.

UMATILLA COUNTY IN SECOND PLACE

Portland, Dec. 28.—By a bare margin of one per cent Morrow county jostled Umatilla county out of first place in the Red Cross drive. This morning Morrow county has 2,016 memberships, exceeding its quota by 516, with a percentage of 133, although Umatilla county has 10,000 members.

Klamath, Grant and Baker counties now have over 100 per cent.

The Elks lodge takes charge of the Portland campaign on New Years eve, promising 25,000 members. The Elks' committees are now meeting continuously and promise three bands and a thousand workers on the streets, restaurants, cafes, grills and theatres.

Portland now stands 67,966; the state outside of Portland, 124,149; total for the state, 192,115.

U.S. BRINGS SUIT AGAINST ES PEE

Government Seeks to Quiet Title to Three Million Acres of California-Oregon Land Grant

Portland, Dec. 28.—Suit to quiet title to 2,873,661 acres of Oregon-California grant lands was filed yesterday in the federal court by the government against the Southern Pacific company. The government, through the suit, seeks to quiet title to all lands the company held prior to the forfeiture suit and to compel it to account for money secured by alleged illegal sales where purchasers bought more than 160 acres or paid more than \$2.50 per acre.

Under the Ferris-Chamberlain re-vestment bill, passed last year by congress, the government agreed to pay the railroad company \$2.50 for each re-vested acre in the government. This would amount to almost \$8,000,000. It was provided, however, that the moneys received in excess of \$2.50 an acre by the railroad were to be deducted from this amount, with taxes and other expenses. These have brought the amount due the railroad company down to \$2,451,850, according to the complaint.

FIRST FEMALE JURY PICKS WOMAN ON ASSAULT CHARGE

Poplar, Mont., Dec. 28.—What is believed to have been the first jury composed entirely of women were empaneled in this state recently tried a woman on a charge of assaulting a man, and found her not guilty. Mrs. George Craig was alleged to have met G. T. Dickey in a bank here and bloodied his nose in an altercation following an unsuccessful suit she had brought to recover compensation for nursing.

EXPLOSIVES FOUND IN CABIN OF SPY

Los Angeles, Dec. 28.—A cabin declared by sheriff's deputies to have been a hiding place of Franz Schlenker, alleged master German spy, under arrest in San Francisco, was found by them last night in the San Gabriel canyon, 50 miles northeast of this city. Fifty pounds of dynamite with fuses and caps, were discovered within the cabin.

CHARGE PACKERS WITH KILLING COMPETITION

Boston, Dec. 28.—John Glennie a witness in the packing business hearing charged the packers with establishing big meat stores in various cities in order to drive the retailers from the business.

AMBASSADOR TO TURKEY WILL ADDRESS SEATTLE

Seattle, Dec. 28.—Abraham Elkus, United States ambassador to Turkey, will visit Seattle January 7 under the auspices of the American Jewish war relief fund and will deliver an address on "Conditions in the War Zone."

STICK OF DYNAMITE FOUND IN CAR OF COAL

Rockford, Ill., Dec. 28.—Discovery of a stick of dynamite in a car of coal billed from a southern Indiana mine to the Rockford City hospital, combined with a furnace explosion that wrecked the bungalow of William A. Orden, resulted in an investigation being launched tonight by federal officials and precautions to protect Camp Grant from any possible plot.

WILL FIGHT REGARDLESS OF RUSSIA

FRANCE CANNOT ACCEPT TERMS BASED ON CONDITIONS BEFORE THE WAR

DEMANDS ALSACE AND LORRAINE

Question of French Provinces Not Territorial, But Moral Problem, Declares Foreign Minister

Paris, Dec. 28.—Expressions by responsible members of the entente governments are beginning to indicate the trend of official opinion on German terms for general peace. Stephen Pichon, foreign minister of France, was explicit in his statement to the chamber of deputies, declaring that France could not accept a peace based on conditions before the war and would go on fighting regardless of Russia. The question of Alsace and Lorraine, the restoration of which France demands, is a world question and is not a territorial but a moral problem, he declared.

ACHIEVEMENT OF AIM NECESSARY TO PEACE

London, Dec. 28.—Lloyd George today declared that the achievement of the purpose for which the allies are fighting is essential to future freedom and peace of mankind. This he remarked in the British reply to the German peace offer.

PRESIDENT WILSON CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY

Washington, Dec. 28.—Coincident with the taking over of the railroads President Wilson is celebrating his 61st birthday today.

MARCHING TO FRONT UNDER ARMED GUARD

French Front, Dec. 28.—German soldiers from some of the towns of Prussia are sent to the front under armed guards "as criminals are led to the executioner," says a letter found on a dead German soldier, who was killed in a recent battle on the French front. The writer had given a vivid description of the scene at the departure of a detachment of reinforcements from Saarbrunn, a town in Rhenish, Prussia. The recruits were intended to fill the gaps in a battalion which had suffered heavy losses. The writer says:

"The first battalion is ordered to furnish a reinforcement detachment of 99 men. To escort them to the Saarbrunn station 300 men have been ordered out, some of them with arms to march alongside the men going off and other to act as pickets on the way to the station. The men were all ready in the afternoon and had to wait some time for another squad of comrades from the first company of convalescents, who eventually arrived.

"What a scene! Ahead marched a squad of guards and to right and left of each file two armed guards, while another squad of guards brought up the rear to guard these German soldiers—our brave soldiers in field-gray who, according to the magnificently phrased stories of the newspapers, dash forward full of joy and sustained by love of Fatherland to destroy our enemies.

"The detachment moved off with a band playing a march. The guards were so numerous that there was

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RAILROADS IN SERVICE OF GOVERNMENT

GOVERNOR GENERAL DRAFTING RAILROAD WAR BOARD TO ASSIST IN DIRECTION

INCREASING OF FREIGHT RATES

Railway Officials and Employees to Receive Hank as Though Serving in Regular Army

Washington, Dec. 28.—As a first step in the government's operation of the railroads which began at noon today, Director General McAdoo drafted a railroad war board into the government service to work out plans of unified operation and to submit them to him for approval. The war board will probably continue as an operating body in charge of the railroads assisted by its numerous committees throughout the country.

Portland, Dec. 28.—Here are some of the effects to be felt immediately from federal government possession and operation of the railways in Oregon and Washington, in common with those of all other states for the period of the war:

Suspension of established rules and regulations of the interstate commerce commission and of the state commissions governing demurrage charges on cars held in detention and substitution of military orders requiring immediate loading of cars by shippers and unloading by receivers of freight.

Pooling of cars of all transportation lines and routing shipments by most direct routes, tending speedily to terminate shortage of equipment. Operation of all lines as integral parts of one system.

Elimination of conflicts over priority of shipments for war purposes and standardizing of regulations pertaining to such movements.

Complete embargo of freight movements not essential to the successful prosecution of the war.

Reduction of passenger train service between Portland and Puget sound by requiring three trains to perform the service now using nine trains, cutting out duplication of Portland-Spokane trains and other service for passengers where power, fuel and men can be conserved.

Termination of competitive soliciting of traffic, closing offices of general agents and turning the services of men so released to general traffic offices and at junctions and terminals where there is a shortage of men called away by war duty.

Increased freight rates as a means toward making effective government guarantees for profitable return on railroad investments.

Ultimately subjecting all railway officials and employees to military regulations and preventing any strike by trainmen who are demanding 40 per cent increase in wage scales.

Investing all railway officials with military titles and employees with the rank of non-commissioned officers as in the regular army.

PRIVATE BANKS IN PETROGRAD SEIZED

Petrograd, Dec. 28.—Soldiers acting under orders of the finance commissioner Menshinsky today surrounded and seized all the private banks in Petrograd, including a branch of the National City bank of New York. The manager, R. R. Stevens, was arrested and detained for a short time when he refused to surrender the keys of the institution.

ROSEBURG HAS SPY SUSPECT

Local Painter and Visiting Brother Arrested for Taking Pictures in Cow Creek Canyon

Roseburg, Dec. 28.—Karl Luhman, a local painter, and his brother, Fred, of San Francisco, are held as spy suspects on account of their taking pictures in Cow Creek canyon, it is alleged. Karl Luhman is a property owner here and has a family.

FOREST FIRE BURNS TWO MONTHS BEFORE DISCOVERY

Spokane, Dec. 28.—That a forest fire burned for two months last summer in northern Idaho, starting July 8 from lightning, was the declaration of Chief Fire Warden Chas. A. Fischer of Orofino, in his report to the Clearwater Timber Protective association. It was located in a deep canyon, he said, and the heavy vegetation and foliage held it in check for that period before a lookout sighted it.

BELIEVE KERENSKY IS FORMING NEW GOVERNMENT

Seattle, Dec. 28.—Nicholas Boglojavensky, Russian consul at Seattle, announced here that he has received a cable sent by way of India telling of the establishment of a new Russian government at Xoronege, the capital of a province of the same name, between Moscow and Rostov, on the Azov sea.

The cable did not say who led in the formation of the government, the consul asserted. He said he believed the leaders in the movement are members of the Kerensky provincial government who have fled from Petrograd.

JEWS MURDERED BY RETREATING TURKS

New York, Dec. 28.—Thirty Jewish men and women were executed by the Turkish army that surrendered Jerusalem to General Allenby December 19, according to an announcement made here today by the provisional executive committee for general Zionist affairs. Included in the number massacred were some of the leading residents of the holy city.

The father and a sister of Aaron Aaronsohn, head of the Palestine agricultural experiment station, which is subsidized by the United States department of Agriculture, were among the victims, according to the announcement. Mr. Aaronsohn is now in Washington.

The retreat of the Turks through Gallilee drove 12,000 Jewish survivors northward, where they are in dire need. The committee has undertaken to furnish a minimum of \$30,000 monthly for their relief, it was said.

MYSTERIOUS WOMAN IDENTITY DISCOVERED

Los Angeles, Dec. 28.—Joan Knox, arrested in connection with the killing of Herman Jakopalech in a remote part of San Gabriel canyon gave the authorities the identity of the mysterious "H," the alleged German woman agent. According to the sheriff the woman is a German whose husband lives at a mountain camp. The prisoner gave her name and the officers are now making a thorough search for her.

Knox was arrested in the mountains near a cabin believed to belong to Schunberg, the alleged master spy, who is now held at San Francisco. The quarrel resulting in Jakopalech's death is said to have resulted from trouble with Knox over the "H" woman who frequently visited them.

OREGON HAS PRO-GERMAN ARSON PLOT

MILLS AND WAREHOUSES ARE MARKED FOR DESTRUCTION BY PLOTTERS

CARLTON FIRE IS INCENDIARY

Fire Marshal Deputies Discover Explosives and Evidences of Wholesale Plot

Salem, Dec. 28.—Upon conclusion today of a preliminary investigation of an explosion and fire which destroyed a grain elevator at Carlton early last Sunday, Harvey Wells state fire marshal, declared he was convinced the destruction was the result of a concerted plot to burn grain warehouses and mills in a number of Willamette valley towns. Federal authorities have been notified, Mr. Wells said.

Two letters in the pockets of a man's coat, apparently left by one of the firebugs, have particulars of the plot to set this and other fires. The damage by the Carlton fire was upwards of \$20,000.

Salem, Dec. 28.—State Fire Marshal Wells and his deputies, following last Sunday morning of the Johnson grain elevator at Carlton, have obtained evidence which indicates a concerted plot to destroy mills and warehouses from Gaston to Sheridan and from there to Salem.

In another warehouse at Carlton discovery was made of a man's coat, practically new, in which were 50 feet of fuse, and in the immediate vicinity discovery was made of dynamite and nitroglycerin. Two letters found in a wallet in the coat, which have been turned over to authorities disclose the skeletonized details of a plan for leaving a trail of smoke and ruin through the central section of the Willamette valley. These letters are addressed to a man in Portland, for whom immediate search will be made. They mention the fact that numerous warehouses are located in the valley and intimate that they offer easy prey.

State Fire Marshal Wells has a theory that an effort was planned to burn all of the mills in that vicinity at one time and bewilder the residents of the little town by starting all the blazes possible.

CLAIMS WOODEN SHIP PROGRAM NEAR FAILURE

Washington, Dec. 28.—The wooden ship building program has been pictured as almost complete failure by Rear Admiral F. A. Bowles, assistant general manager of the emergency fleet corporation, testifying at the senate investigation committee. He was also somewhat inclined to criticize the government's terms for the building of steel vessels, claiming the allowing of too high profits.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 28.—It costs the city of Spokane 23 1/2 cents each for jobs furnished free to men and women of the vicinity, according to the monthly report of the municipal agent for November, recently submitted to the city council, a total of 1,795 places were filled during the month, the report shows.

HOOVER IN N.Y. WHEN CALLED BY COMMITTEE

Washington, Dec. 28.—When the senate committee called Hoover to testify in the sugar investigation he was in New York. A letter says he was called there though notified "through the press" that he was to testify.