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VOLUME XXVII.

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NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

A \$100,000,000 issue of treasury bills offered in London was over-subscribed.

The Idaho senate votes 24 to 6 to make the state dry after January 1, 1916.

Thousands of boy scouts of Berlin are practicing war tactics in the forests of the German empire.

Villa is reported to be victorious over Carranza in a battle at Zayula, where the latter lost 1500 men.

It is reported from London that a second American vessel strikes a mine off the coast of Germany and is sunk.

The condition of Sarah Bernhardt, after the amputation of her right leg, is considered excellent by her physicians.

Panama-Pacific exposition is seen by 442,957 persons on the first three days, which breaks all records of former expositions.

Dispatches from Poland state that the Russian army is practically powerless and many thousands are surrounded by the Germans.

Carter H. Harrison, Democratic mayor of Chicago, who is finishing his fifth term, is defeated for the nomination by Robert M. Sweitzer, the present clerk of Cook county.

The Oregon legislature appropriates at total of \$6,477,031 for running expenses of the state for the next two years. This is \$1,258,890 less than the preceding session appropriated for the same purposes.

Proposals have been made informally by the United States government to both Great Britain and Germany suggesting a basis for an understanding on the subjects of foodstuffs for the civilian population of the belligerents and submarine warfare against merchant ships.

Effective Sunday, the Great Northern will restore its night train between Seattle and Portland, which was taken off several weeks ago because of light travel. Increasing traffic as a result of the opening of the San Francisco exposition is given as the reason for restoring the train.

A Havas dispatch from Toulon says the commissioners sent out by the American embassy in Paris to inquire into conditions at French concentration camps have concluded their investigations in the department of Bassee Alps and Var and report having found international regulations strictly observed.

Secretary Bryan appeared at the cabinet meeting Wednesday wearing on his coat lapel an enamel white dove of peace with an olive branch in its mouth. The secretary said it was a gift of a friend and pointed to it when questioned concerning possible complications for the United States in the foreign situation.

A letter received by the London Morning Post from its Budapest correspondent says that Austria-Hungary made a loan of considerable size to Roumania a short time before Roumania arranged her \$25,000,000 loan with the Bank of England. No news regarding this latter loan was permitted to be published in Austria-Hungary.

Hotels and restaurants in New York give daily lunches to thousands of unemployed.

Government records show that 129 ships have been transferred to the American flag under the new registry law.

Soldiers of West Virginia have been vaccinated for prevention of smallpox. The governor, who is a physician, helped do the job.

Germany loses two war balloons in North Sea; one by an explosion and the other was sunk by weight of snow on the envelope.

A hundred and fifty prosperous Chicagoans, who were once newsboys, sold papers one day to raise funds for the aid of the destitute.

Seven million dollars for the development of the two salt lakes in Southeastern Oregon, is ready. The state leased the lakes to an Eastern firm, who will immediately employ 5000 men and lay a \$2,000,000 pipe line to the Columbia river.

The Swiss authorities are studying the organization of the male citizens over 48 years old for military purposes. The army counts 300,000 men of the landwehr and landsturm, but there are numerous old soldiers still fit for territorial and convoy service and patrolling, who in case of an invasion would be ready to defend their motherland.

The funds of Sarah Bernhardt are said to be low, and on the eve of an operation upon an injured knee, her friends are flocking to her assistance.

The "bank" of Monte Carlo is said to be in "full bloom" again after four and a half months' inactivity. Ivory checks, however, have taken the place of shining gold and silver.

The U. S. War department asks congress for bigger coast defense guns, claiming the present artillery is out-ranged. Sixteen-inch calibre is advised and the expense is estimated at \$40,000,000.

Modern War Machines Find Fancy in Senate

Washington, D. C.—Appropriations for national defense occupied the attention of both houses of congress Monday in the general rush to clear up the supply bills for the government before the adjournment. The senate discussed until late into the night the army appropriation bill, carrying approximately \$108,000,000, while the house continued debate on the fortifications bill.

While progress was being made on both these measures, the senate committee practically completed consideration of the naval appropriations measure, and the senate paused for four minutes to pass without debate the pension bill, carrying \$164,000,000.

Increases for submarines and aviation over provisions of the house bill are proposed by the senate naval committee, its amendments, including \$1,000,000 for aviation instead of \$800,000, as authorized in the house bill; provision for five seagoing submarines instead of one, and 16 instead of 11 of the smaller type submarines. Senator Smoot sought unsuccessfully to provide 60 seagoing and 25 of the smaller coast defense submarines.

At the night session the senate naval committee submitted its report on the appropriation bill carrying a total of \$152,961,981.88, an increase over the house bill of \$8,313,080. Provision also is made for the marine barracks at Norfolk and Mare Island.

The naval building program of the senate bill would provide in addition to the five seagoing submarines and 16 smaller submarines six more destroyers, one oil fuel ship, one gunboat, one hospital ship at \$500,000 and two first-class battleships. Among the increases recommended are \$500,000 for a projectile plant; \$130,000 for naval reserve; \$400,000 for a high-power radio station and \$1,000,000 to be applied on construction of an armor plate factory costing not to exceed \$8,000,000 if the secretary of the navy cannot purchase armor in the market at a reasonable price.

Debate on the army bill resumed after the naval bill was reported.

Items of the army bill were passed over quickly with little debate, and when the senate recessed the only section remaining for consideration was that providing for the establishment of a system of scientific management in government navy yards and shops.

The Indian appropriation bill was reported by the senate committee, carrying \$11,255,865, an increase of \$3,535,741 over the house bill.

Russians Admit Complete Rout by Germans

Berlin—What appears to have been the bitterest defeat yet administered to the Russian army in East Prussia became known Tuesday with details of the fighting which has been going on in the vicinity of the Masurian lakes district.

Even Petrograd admits utter rout, declaring that retreat was the only thing left to do. Grand Duke Nicholas in his report confesses frankly that there was large loss in lives, and goes further and tells why. He gives to the German army great credit for its superiority in numbers as well as in planned attacks, which, coming as separate blows, wrought havoc to his men, making retreat absolutely necessary.

The German official report announces that the captives have been increased to seven generals and more than 100,000 men. The pieces of cannon taken numbered 150. The report in part says:

"In the Eastern theater, the pursuit after the winter battle in the Masurian district has come to an end. During the clearing-up operations northwest of Grodno and in the battles reported during the last few days in the Bobr and Navez districts, one commanding general and four other generals and approximately 40,000 men have been taken prisoners up to the present. Seventy-five cannon and some machine guns, the actual number of which has not yet been ascertained, and much other war material, have been captured.

"The total booty taken in the winter battle in the Masurian district as a result of these conditions has been increased to date to seven generals, more than 100,000 men, upwards of 150 cannon and quantities of other war material of all descriptions."

Raw Rubber Confiscated.

Venice, via London—Advices received here from Vienna say the military authorities there have confiscated the entire supply of raw rubber, pneumatic tubes and rubber hose. Contracting leasemasters say that unless this action is revoked it will be impossible to supply Vienna with food and that factories will suspend operations. A boycott instituted by Viennese housewives against the use of pork is spreading. Retail prices of pork have dropped about 4 cents a pound, but the boycott will be continued.

America Is "War Risk."

London—The Times declares that during the last few days a large amount of insurance has been placed in the London market on property in the United States against risks of damage by war. Many factories and business premises, according to the Times, have been insured for six months at a rate of one-half of 1 per cent.

Some Canneries, Loosely Organized, Do Not Pay

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—"Some of the canneries in the Northwest are making great success. Others are just about existing and still others are bankrupt," said Professor C. L. Lewis, when addressing the farmers who were attending the Farmers' Week at the Oregon Agricultural college. Professor Lewis attributes many of these failures to the fact that the canneries are run by private capital, whereas most of those now in existence in the Northwest are either co-operative or associative canneries. "One of the greatest troubles with our co-operative canneries is many of them are so loosely organized that they cannot do any legal business."

14 Appropriation Bills Provide \$778,706.40 F

State Capitol, Salem—Appropriations for sundry and miscellaneous purposes of the state government aggregating \$778,706.40 are provided in a series of 14 appropriation bills introduced in the house by the house and senate ways and means committee.

These bills carry the items for maintenance of the executive of the government, including the salary the governor, secretary of state, treasurer and their office assistants. The governor is given his usual salary of \$500 a year for travel expenses.

The only big state institution provided for in these bills are the Jers' Home at Roseburg, with \$68,75 for the biennium, and the tuberculosis hospital, with \$53,175.

An aggregate of \$110,000 is required for bounties on wild animals the next two years. Of this sum \$50,000 is to meet a deficiency in the of the last two years. The legislature voted to increase bounty on coyotes and to place bounty on seals, and additional expenditures will be required for purposes.

House Passes Bill Against Use of Trading Stamps

State Capitol, Salem—An anti-trading stamp bill, introduced to drive the popular trade magnet completely out of the state, was passed by the house. The measure was introduced by Representative Thomas Brown, of Marion. Senator Lafollette, of Marion, was the author of a similar bill in the senate.

The measure levies a 5 per cent excise tax on the gross receipts not only of all concerns conducting a trading stamp system in the state, but on all merchants who use them. It was admitted by those who sponsored the bill that the measure probably will put an end to the trading stamp business. Ostensibly, however, the measure is intended to raise funds for the state, as the receipts from the proposed tax are to go into the state treasury.

Representative Brown painted a dreary picture of the misfortune of the small merchant who is made to compete with the concern that gives away trading stamps as an inducement to attract custom. He declared that the trading stamp is an unnatural trade condition, that it is an economic waste and that it really proves an expensive attachment to the business of the merchant who uses it.

Amendment Asks Change in Lease of Salt Lakes

State Capitol, Salem—The Forbes house bill approving the lease of Summer and Albert Lakes to Jason G. Moore has finally emerged from the senate committee on public lands.

Attached to the report of the committee is a recommendation signed by three of the members that the bill be so amended that the lessees will be required to execute a bond guaranteeing payment for all labor and materials contracted for. The amendment also makes the lease conditional upon submission by the lessees or their assigns to regulation by the State Land board in the sale of shares of stock.

There is strong opposing sentiment in the committee, as well as in the body of the senate, against imposing any new conditions on the lease. The reason for advancing the amendment are that certain laborers and material men have not received payment for work and materials furnished a former lessee of the lakes, whose enterprise was abandoned, and that the state should take precaution against turning its property over to a possible stock jobbing corporation to exploit.

College Regents Confirmed.

State Capitol, Salem—The senate confirmed the appointment by Governor Withycombe of Clara H. Waldo, N. R. Moore and Jefferson Meyers as members of the board of regents of Oregon Agricultural College. Senator Garland asked if the membership of the board complied with the law providing that five be composed of one political party and four of another. He was assured that five members were Republicans and four Democrats. "I congratulate the governor upon changing his mind to comply with the law."

Students Win in Strike.

Eugene—Three hundred high school students, who "struck" several weeks ago and refused to attend certain classes to which the school board had fixed a tuition fee, were sustained by an opinion of George M. Brown, attorney general. He holds that the school board has no right to charge tuition to any classes.

The legal authorities of association work in this country say that all associations must be purely mutual. However, many of our associations are not of this type and the most successful canneries in the state today is not a pure co-operative association. I do not believe that it is possible to run an association successfully without paying dividends. A second great difficulty which is made by the canneries in the Northwest is their lack of capital. If your farmers do not feel that they are willing to put in \$25 each to start a cannery they had better

U. S. SHIP SUNK IN NORTH SEA

Mine Encountered Off German Coast Thought Cause.

Captain and Crew Saved; Cotton Cargo Goes Down—Investigation Starts Immediately.

Washington, D. C.—The United States government was advised officially Monday night of the first instance of the destruction of an American vessel on the high seas since the outbreak of the European war. American Consul Fee, at Bremen, cabled that the steamer Evelyn and her cargo of cotton, bound for Bremen, had been "blown up at Borkum," just off the coast of Germany, but that the crew had been saved.

The cause—submarine or mine—was not given in the dispatch.

After a conference with President Wilson, Secretary Bryan cabled Ambassador Gerard, at Berlin, to make an exhaustive inquiry as to the facts, and if the crew was landed in either of their respective jurisdictions, to furnish every care and convenience to Captain Smith and his men, so that they might return home safely.

While the extent of sea zones of war proclaimed by Germany was never defined exactly, Borkum Island is considered far distant from the danger areas of submarines, although the waters of that vicinity are filled with mines for defensive purposes, through which Germany always has piloted incoming ships.

Early press dispatches from Berlin announcing the loss of the vessel by a mine caused somewhat of a sensation in this capital, where the tension has been more or less pronounced over the situation in the war since the dispatch of warning notes by the United States to both Great Britain and Germany.

Allies' Artillery Forces Said Gaining Ascendancy

Paris—An official eyewitness account of the recent fighting in France and Belgium was given out by the French War department. The writer says:

"During the past ten days detestable weather, continuous rains in some parts and violent snow squalls in others and thick fog have hindered the operations nearly everywhere on the western battle front. In spite of the conditions this period has been favorable to us.

"Our artillery obtained brilliant results and the enemy evidently was unable to equal our fire. The French superiority in ammunition and supplies is being more and more confirmed.

"Our infantry showed an aggressive spirit in the Artois, Champagne, Argonne and Alsace regions, and their operations were crowned with success. We thus obtained appreciable results. That the German official communications after having flatly denied, have now partially admitted that prisoners and materials have fallen into our hands, moreover, are the best proofs of our success."

Wounded Die on Field.

Geneva—The German counter-attack on the village of Aspasch-le-Bas developed a formidable clash of the two forces at the point of the bayonet. It was impossible to pick up the dead or succor the wounded, as the artillery continued to sweep the position. Among the dead lying about 400 yards from the French trenches were 27 wounded French soldiers who were unable to get back and whom it was impossible to reach. During the conflict seven of these men were seen to huddle together to keep from freezing and share their last rations. A heavy fall of snow came on and covered not only the dead but the wounded.

Man Saved With Lingerie.

Caldwell, N. J.—Nine young women rescued Harry Reiter, of New York, from a perilous position on the side of the Hook Mountain Monday by tearing up their petticoats and making a rope by which he was hauled back to safety. Reiter had fallen some 30 feet down the side of the mountain and was clinging there. Below him the cliff fell away nearly 300 feet. Without hesitating, the women removed their petticoats and tore them into strips, tying and twisting them together until they formed a rope.

Blacks Torture Germans.

Berlin, (By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The Overseas News Agency gives out the following: "Herr Schwarz and Herr Gehr, missionaries of the Basile mission, on the Sanga river, in Kamerun, West Africa, report that British troops are promising rewards to the natives to deliver Germans as prisoners or to kill them. For the reason several Germans have been drowned or cut to pieces by the natives. Others have been tortured and delivered to the British."

Date of Amputation Set.

Bordeaux, via Paris—It was decided definitely Sunday by the surgeons at the hospital of St. Augustin of Arcenon to amputate the right leg of Sarah Bernhardt. Mrs. Bernhardt maintains her courage, being described as apparently cheerful. She is receiving a large number of telegrams expressing sympathy.

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