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VOLUME XXVII

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1915.

NUMBER 50.

WORLD'S DOINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume of General News From All Around the Earth.

UNIVERSAL HAPPENINGS IN A NUTSHELL

Live News Items of All Nations and Pacific Northwest Condensed for Our Busy Readers.

Senator Works, of California, will not seek re-election in 1917.

The reichstag is considering a bill to tax war profits and incomes.

The French government is reported seeking a large loan in England.

Nineteen miners are killed by an explosion in a mine at Boomer, W. Va.

A police census of Greater New York gives that city 5,253,888 inhabitants.

Winston Churchill, who has gone to the front for England, will soon be made a general.

Two hundred and twenty acres of wheat land near La Grande, Ore., was sold for \$16,000 cash.

Avalon, on Santa Catalina island, off the coast of California, is destroyed by fire. The loss is a million dollars.

The allies are planning to hold a council in Paris to receive the report of Lord Kitchener's visit to the far East.

Italy is making fierce onslaughts on the Austrian front in three places, and the near retirement of the latter is expected.

Jane Addams, settlement worker and noted peace advocate, has been sent to a Chicago hospital. Her illness is reported as not serious.

Shipbuilders at Hoquiam, Wash., are constructing one of the largest schooners on the Coast, which will transport lumber when finished.

Henry Ford, who has chartered a ship to convey pacifists of this country to Europe, delays sending a cablegram to the Pope on peace matters.

A colic, locked out of the house at Binghamton, N. Y., leaps through a window and alarms the occupants in time to save themselves from death by fire.

The order calling the youth of France to arms is being bitterly opposed in the chamber of deputies on the ground that strikers still avoid war duty.

Ex-President Roosevelt requests his name withdrawn from the Nebraska state primary ballot as a candidate for president before the National Republican convention.

Publication of the new charter of Warsaw University shows that under German control the official language of the university will be Polish, in which all lectures must be delivered.

According to witnesses in the conspiracy case at New York, it is shown that Germany was behind the plan to aid in supplying her ships at sea from vessels leaving American ports.

The famous statue of "Smile Reims" in Paris, which was shattered during the bombardment of the Rheims Cathedral, has been mended. The fragments broken from the figure have been collected and replaced.

Thirty workmen were killed and seven fatally injured in a terrific explosion of about four tons of black powder at the Upper Hagley yard of the Du Pont Powder company at Wilmington, Delaware. It was the worst accident that has occurred in any of the company's plants in a quarter of a century.

London trade unionists refuse to work without their customary allotment of beer.

Detectives in Tacoma frustrated a scheme to defraud a firm of grain brokers of \$7000.

Fire hoses of Portland, retired by auto apparatus, will be purchased by the State National Guard.

It is predicted that the administration's ship purchase bill will be defeated in the next congress.

A mischievous lad liberated several mice in a Portland moving picture house. A near-panic followed.

General Villa and his troops are nearing the border and more trouble is expected for the United States.

Representative Witherspoon, of Mississippi, known as the "little navy" leader, dies suddenly at his home.

Three gold medals will be bestowed on as many American women by France, because of their great devotion to the work of aiding the needy.

Ex-President Taft declared in a speech before the New York Teachers' association, that he believed the Federal government could and should give aid to education in the several states.

France has given order calling youth of class of 1917 to arms. These boys are from 17 to 19 years of age, and the order requires a minimum training of five months before entering active duties.

SEIZED AMERICAN SHIPS MAY BE CONVERTED TO BRITISH USE

Washington, D. C.—The State department Wednesday made formal representations to the foreign office of London concerning reports that vessels belonging to the American Trans-Atlantic company were about to be requisitioned by the British admiralty.

In diplomatic parlance the communication is known as a request for information concerning the facts, because all of the data in the possession of the department were presented by the owners of the vessels. While the statements are accepted as true, the department desires to have the British plan verified by the Foreign office.

The communication in effect amounts to a protest and notice that the United States will not tolerate such high-handed methods. In the event that Great Britain admits that she purposes to take steps to requisition the ships, the communication will be followed immediately by a sharp protest against the entire procedure.

CAPT. WILLIAM S. SIMS



Capt. William S. Sims, U. S. N., will command the great battleship Nevada, which recently underwent her trial tests off Rockland, Me.

In the event that the unofficial advice should be verified or any attempt made on the part of Great Britain to use an American vessel it is believed the action would precipitate a situation much more grave than any that has confronted this government in its dealings with Downing street.

The law experts of the department are unacquainted with any precedent, or any theory of law or reason that would support such a course.

They appear to believe that Great Britain is pressed for time just at present and that she would be assisted greatly by using American vessels, pending the adjudication of their cases before prize courts.

Italy Now Pushing Against Austrian Front at Three Points

London—With the retreat of the greater part of the Serbian army across the Albanian frontier, the slowness of the operations against Montenegro and in Southern Serbia, owing to the wintry weather, and the absence of any major operations on the western and eastern fronts, interest in the military side of the war is now transferred to the Austro-Italian frontier.

There King Victor Emmanuel's troops are carrying on an energetic offensive against the Austrians. The fighting on this front has been the most sustained and fiercest of the whole war. For weeks the Italians have been attacking the Austrian bridgeheads and mountain positions, along the Isonzo river, and are slowly but surely drawing their nets around Tolmino, Gorizia and Doborodo.

Their attacks have been repeated time after time against positions which could be successfully employed against the Montenegrins and Serbians. The Serbians, unless followed into Albania, in time will probably reappear as a rejuvenated army, for it is said that 250,000 of them, including soldiers and civilians, have taken refuge there and that they have saved all their mountain batteries and a portion of their field guns.

This, for the time being, is Italy's contribution to the Balkan operations of the allies, for it keeps a large force of Austrians busy and it compels them continually to bring up reinforcements which could be successfully employed against the Montenegrins and Serbians.

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NEWS ITEMS Of General Interest About Oregon

Certificates to Be Granted to Successful State Teachers

Salem—The public recognition may be given to teachers of Oregon who have proved themselves progressive and successful in their work, J. A. Churchill, superintendent of public instruction, announces that all instructors who meet the five requirements as specified by him will be given professional teachers' certificates. These certificates will certify that the holders have not only taught successfully during the preceding year, but that they are progressive and have shown a proper professional spirit in their work.

While the certificates will not entitle the holder to teach, it is expected to be of assistance to school boards in helping them to choose efficient teachers.

The five requirements necessary for obtaining a professional teachers' certificate follow:

First—Having taught successfully for at least eight months during 1915-1916.

Second—Having met all the requirements for a teacher in a standard school and having complied strictly with the laws relating to fire dangers and fire drills.

Third—Having sent promptly to the County superintendent all reports requested by him or required by law.

Fourth—Having attended the annual teachers' institute or teachers' training school and at least one local institute.

Fifth—Having read during the year, under supervision of University of Oregon or Oregon Agricultural college, at least two books on the teachers' reading circle list.

Cut-over Land Opened to Settlers.

St. Helens—The solution of the logged-off land question has been satisfactorily solved by the St. Helens Lumber company. The first unit of its land, embracing 1600 acres, has been opened to settlement and will be sold only to actual farmers and home-builders.

The tract is a choice section of tillable land and four main roads traverse the entire property.

Yankton Center, less than a mile from the center of the first unit, has a good school, church, store and postoffice.

The company is the first large timber concern in the Northwest to attempt to dispose of its cut-over lands in this manner. This unit of land has been surveyed and subdivided into tracts to suit the small farmer.

Art Work Soon Released.

Ashland—G. S. Butler and D. Perzella, manufacturers of Lithia Park in this city, have contracted for a Prilli masterpiece from the exposition grounds in San Francisco with which to adorn park surroundings. The cost will be \$3000, and the work of art will be released from the Italian exhibit in December.

G. S. Butler, in behalf of his stepfather, Jacob Thompson, a pioneer of Southern Oregon of 1847, has also purchased a statue of Abraham Lincoln at a cost of \$2500, at present in the Italian exhibit which will be released in order to be placed in the old settlers' cabin, Southern Oregon pioneers, before the next annual reunion of the old-time element in 1916 in Ashland park surroundings.

Swinging Dial Scale Best.

Salem—To avoid misunderstanding concerning the kind of scales it is permissible to use in weighing commodities for the sale at public markets established in different towns of the state, Fred G. Buchtel, deputy sealer of weights and measures, announces that scales with the ordinary swinging dial, would be allowed. He said:

"Do not buy scales commonly known as 'family scales' or of a similar type; as the name implies, they are not never were intended for use in trade, are generally inaccurate and will not pass inspection. Furthermore, scales should be purchased subject to the approval of the office of weights and measures, with the privilege of return if inaccurate."

Grant Cattle Starving.

Baker—Because of the lack of feed, caused by the early winter, many cattle are reported to have died in the Hamilton country in Grant county and ranchers expect that many more will be lost before relief is found.

The hay crop in that vicinity was short this season and when the bad weather made feeding impossible. The condition has so affected the cattle market that the prices are dropping, milk cows being offered for as low as \$40 a head. Cattle men in other parts of this district also are having trouble in feeding.

Railroad Builder Coming.

Roseburg—S. A. Kendall of the firm of Kendall Brothers, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and one of the principal stockholders in the proposed Roseburg & Eastern railroad arrived here this week. About 75 per cent of the right of way has been procured, and assurances have been received that the remaining rights of way will be obtained without trouble.

The investment of Mr. Kendall and his associates here will total approximately \$1,125,000.

Aeroplane Sinks U-Boat.

London—A German submarine, attacked by a British aeroplane off Middekerke on Sunday, was sent to the bottom according to the official report to Field Marshal French which was given out by the Press bureau.

The submarine, says Field Marshal French, was seen to break in half. The British commander further reports much activity on the part of the artillery and the air craft, no less than 15 encounters in the air taking place on the 28th.

FOOD AND WAR CONDUCT ARE PARAMOUNT TOPICS OF REICHSTAG

Berlin, via London—The Reichstag assembled for its sixth war session—a session which takes place under the influence of two absorbing topics of the present moment, namely, the regulation of the food supply and the aims and conduct of the war.

The session will, it is understood, be marked by the introduction of a new vote of credit for the war, presumably for the accustomed amount of \$2,500,000,000, although no definite announcement in this respect has been made.

The actual items already announced for the working program of the session include a bill for the modification of punishments for minor offenses under martial law, discussion of the governmental report against the reduction of the age limit for old-age pensions from 70 to 65 years, and minor legislative projects.

It is generally expected, on the other hand, that the members of parliament will take this occasion to

PEACE ADVOCATES GET NO PLEDGES

Washington, D. C.—Efforts to win President Wilson's support for a conference of neutrals to initiate peace proposals in Europe reached a climax Saturday when Mrs. Rosika Schwimmer, of Hungary, and Mrs. Ethel Snowden, wife of a member of the British parliament, called at the White House with a personal appeal and word that they had definite information that the majority of the belligerent nations would not turn deaf ears to suggestions from a neutral gathering.

They talked with the President for more than half an hour and went away much pleased over their reception, though the President had made no promises.

About 400 peace advocates, from a mass meeting held at a Washington theater, accompanied the President's callers to the White House, applauding them as they entered and left the executive offices.

The President was urged to initiate a peace conference or at least to signify that he would appoint a delegate from the United States if another neutral nation called one. He was told that women peace advocates who have visited every belligerent and neutral nation in Europe believe from talks with officials abroad that practical results would follow.

He was also informed that Henry Ford, the Detroit automobile manufacturer, here to cooperate with the women, had in his possession statements, some of them signed, from officials in some of the principal countries on both sides of the European conflict, to the general effect that they would interpose no objection to the calling of a conference of neutrals to make peace proposals.

Mrs. Schwimmer, who saw the President several months ago on the same subject and who was not optimistic then, said that she now believed the President was deeply impressed with the information laid before him.

"The President made no definite promise," she added, "but I think you will hear something from the White House before long."

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Women Pacifists Received at White House by President.

WILSON BELIEVES TIME INOPPORTUNE

Executive Is Urged to Initiate Conference of Neutral Nations and Appoint Peace Delegate.

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Buy your Heater NOW. Cold weather will be here before you realize it. We are prepared for it with the best line of Heating Stoves on the market. There is nothing to equal them. Fine Heaters, easy on coal, and very clean—and very handsome in design. Come and see them NOW. FOSS-WINSHIP HARDWARE CO. Barrett Building. Athena, Oregon.

ESTABLISHED 1865. Preston-Shaffer Milling Co. AMERICAN BEAUTY FLOUR. It is made in Athena, by Athena Labor, in one of the very best equipped Mills in the Northwest, of the best selected Bluestem wheat grown anywhere. Patronize home industry. Your grocer sells the famous American Beauty Flour. The Flour Your Mother Uses. Merchant Millers and Grain Buyers. Athena, Oregon. Waitsburg, Washington.

Home of QUALITY Groceries. Good Groceries go to the Right Spot Every Time. This is the Right Spot To go to Every Time for Groceries. Try These—They'll Please! ONE BEST THE MONOPOLE. Monopole Vegetables. Monopole Fruits. Monopole Salmon. Monopole Oysters. DELL BROS., Athena, Or. Caterers to the Public in Good Things to Eat.