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VOLUME XXVIII.

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1916.

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.

Secretary Daniels is opposed to locating a naval base at the mouth of the Columbia river.

A German editor advocates sinking all ships of whatever nationality, bound for Great Britain.

Great Britain will permit shipment to the United States of a cargo of dyestuffs valued at \$5,000,000.

Only three co-eds out of 23 at the University of Oregon have good feet. None have a perfect toe-line.

The momentous battle between the French and Germans before Verdun continues with practically no gain for either side.

Mrs. Carrie Hall, 76 years old, a cousin of Abraham Lincoln, dies at the home of her sister, Miss Isabel Hanks, near Louisiana, Mo.

Germany delivers note to United States setting forth her submarine warfare on armed merchantmen to which this government has objected.

A negro enters the Mechanic's State Bank at St. Joseph, Mo., and after forcing the cashier and two clerks into the vault, obtains \$1600 and escapes.

The Russian steamship Petshenga has been sunk. Fifteen of those on board were saved. She was of 1647 gross tons. Seven of the Petshenga's crew were lost.

Thieves in New York steal \$200,000 from a U. S. mail truck while it was on a ferry bound from the Central New Jersey station. The auto truck contained \$1,000,000 in all.

According to Lloyd's, the British steamer Southford, formerly the Sindbad, has been sunk. Eleven of the vessel's crew were saved. Two were killed. The Southford was a vessel of 897 tons.

Another shipment of gold to Holland from New York under an agreement with the British government against seizure will go forward on the Holland-American liner Nieuw Amsterdam for Rotterdam. The shipment, amounts to \$1,500,000.

General Felix Diaz, who has been in the United States for several months, and under surveillance of the department of Justice, has succeeded in leaving for Cuba, where, it is reported, he will form plans for another revolution in Mexico.

Bake ovens filled with the bodies of roasted babies was one of the verbal pictures of alleged Turkish atrocities drawn by Rev. E. A. Yarrow, an American missionary at Van, Turkey, in the course of an appeal for financial aid for Armenians and Syrians in Chicago.

More than 40 guests, all Methodist ministers and their wives, were rendered seriously ill after they had partaken of food which is alleged to have been poisoned, served at a banquet given by Methodist ministers in the Howard-street Methodist church, San Francisco, February 22.

Ex-Senator Root, of New York, is expected to announce his support to Roosevelt for the presidency.

During a friendly sparring bout between William Hildebrandt and August Naisel, both 14 years of age, at the Thirtieth District school, Cincinnati, Hildebrandt was struck on the jaw. He died a few minutes later.

In response to agitation by the newspapers urging England's ministers to set the country an example of economy, preferably by accepting reduction in their salaries, it is announced the ministers have agreed for the future to accept one-quarter of their salaries in the form of five per cent checkbook bonds.

President Wilson, at the end of two days of agitation in congress for action warning Americans off armed merchantmen, wrote a letter to Senator Stone, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, saying that he could not consent to the abridgement of the rights of American citizens in any respect. "The honor and self-respect of the Nation are involved," he said. "We covet peace and shall preserve it at any cost but the loss of honor."

A crazy Montenegrin runs amuck in Seattle and stabs six persons before he is overpowered. One of his victims is seriously wounded.

A Portland school girl, aged 14, was knocked down and killed by a large auto truck, as she was on her way to rehearsal of a school play.

John F. Gillies, deposed claim agent of the Washington State Industrial Insurance commission, was found guilty of grand larceny in connection with the looting of the industrial insurance fund of several thousand dollars by means of false accident claims.

HOUSE TO REMAKE OREGON & CALIFORNIA LAND GRANT BILL

Washington, D. C.—The house public lands committee has decided to frame its own bill for the disposal of the unsold portions of the Oregon & California land grant, and decided further to use the Chamberlain bill, with the attorney general's amendments, as the basis on which to construct the committee substitute. In doing this the committee rejected the Hawley, Raker and Wilson bills.

The committee also voted to accept the attorney general's construction of the Supreme court decision, and will proceed on the theory that congress can do as it pleases with the land grant so long as it guarantees to the railroad \$2.50 an acre.

There has been no agreement, however, on the details of the bill which the committee intends to report, and no agreement will be reached until after the committee has heard representatives of the Forest service and Interior department, the land commissioner

MISS OLWEN LLOYD-GEORGE



Miss Olwen Lloyd-George, the daughter of the British minister of munitions, is her father's "right-hand man," assisting him in public duties and ministering to his comfort and health at home.

of the Southern Pacific and those members of the Oregon delegation who discuss questions of policy and discuss also the recommendations of the secretary of Agriculture and the secretary of the Interior. The report of Secretary Lane has not yet been sent to congress.

Amendments to Shields Water Power Bill Debated in Senate

Washington, D. C.—Senators interested in legislation for the development of waterpower plan to shorten debate on the subject of attaching an amendment to the Shields dam bill, now up for passage, the Myers waterpower bill, which has been favorably reported by the public lands committee.

The Shields bill, which would permit construction of dams on navigable rivers for the development of hydro-electric power by private capital, has been before the senate more than two weeks.

Provision is made in the Myers bill for leasing of public lands as waterpower sites, regulation and control being left to the Interstate commerce commission when the power is developed in two or more states.

Protectorate for Haiti Ratified by Unanimous Vote of Senate

Washington, D. C.—The senate unanimously ratified the treaty with Haiti under which the United States assumes a protectorate over the turbulent island republic, taking over control of its finances and police, guaranteeing its territorial integrity and undertaking to develop its resources. The treaty already has been approved by the Haitian congress and its terms virtually are in operation under the eye of a strong American marine expedition.

This treaty was negotiated last year with the d'Artigue government, set up after marines and bluejackets under Rear Admiral Caperton had put down the revolution which overthrew President Vilbrun Guillaume. During the preceding few years Haiti had seen eight presidents deposed and most of them murdered or exiled.

Monks Isolated by Snow

Geneva, Switzerland.—(Delayed)—Monks and travelers are imprisoned on Mount Saint Bernard by 12 feet of snow, which is banked up to the lower windows of the monastery. The famous Saint Bernard dogs are not able to make their way through the snow. Huge avalanches have interrupted wire communication with the monastery.

Snow has fallen steadily for eight days and nights and the monks will be isolated for a month.

They are plentifully supplied with food.

Man Defrauds Hundreds

Chicago.—Six hundred men have complained to the police that they had been defrauded by a man named W. W. Perry, who advertised for persons to hang posters, but who, after making each of them deposit \$1 for a tack hammer, failed to appear at appointed places to deliver the posters. A warrant was issued for Perry, and the police learned that recently 100 women were duped, each being required to deposit \$3 for a uniform as saleswoman.

BERLIN GIVES ORDER TO DESTROY LINERS

Armed Traders to Be Treated as Warships by Submarines.

U. S. TOLD: "TOO LATE TO POSTPONE"

Washington Is Advised That Great Britain Is Not Trusted—Many Broken Pledges Cited.

Washington, D. C.—Germany has instructed Count von Bernstorff to inform the United States government that the assurances regarding the future continuance of submarine warfare, given in the Lusitania and Arabia cases, still are binding, but that they apply only to merchantmen of a peaceful character.

The government is understood to contend that armed merchantmen, without regard to the nature of their armament, have shown themselves not to be peaceful, and therefore subject to destruction without warning.

The instructions direct the German ambassador particularly to tell Secretary Lansing that British merchantmen armed ostensibly only for defense, have not assumed the character of peaceful traders, but on the contrary, they carry guns for the special purpose of attacking German submarines. To support this contention, the Berlin foreign office has sent the ambassador, for presentation to the State department, a list of at least 20 incidents where it is asserted British merchant ships have attacked submarines.

Confidential advices received from Berlin say that German and Austrian submarine commanders already have received their new order and that from midnight Tuesday they were authorized to sink without warning all armed merchant ships of the enemies of Germany.

It was said also that many of the submarine commanders probably had left their bases on voyages and that even should the United States request the postponement of the opening of the campaign, it would be impossible to get word to many of the submarines. It was said, however, that so far neither the United States nor any other nation had asked for a postponement.

Count von Bernstorff and other officials of the German embassy declined to discuss the instructions from Berlin in any way Monday.

Count von Bernstorff received his instructions in reply to a request from the United States for assurances regarding the conduct of submarine warfare in the future, occasioned by the memorandum announcing the intention of Germany to sink armed ships without warning, which the administration considered to be inconsistent with the assurances previously given.

Regardless of the form in which the matter is presented to Secretary Lansing, the German ambassador will lay much stress on the assurances regarding the arming of merchant ships which were given to the United States by Great Britain in a memorandum signed by Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, August 25, 1914.

Southern Oregon Couple On Way To Sunday School Shot From Ambush

Grants Pass, Ore.—Luther B. Akers, and his wife, and their team of two horses were all killed near Wildersville, 12 mile from here Sunday morning about 10 o'clock by a neighbor farmer, Marshall D. Boussman, 63 years old. The slayer was lodged in jail here and confessed to the shooting.

Boussman lay in ambush by the roadside as the Akers couple were driving to Sunday school. Without warning he fired 7 shots from a carbine.

The shooting is the culmination of a neighbors' quarrel over boundary fences, hogs at large and similar matters, of several years' duration.

Although the shooting took place in the morning, the bodies were not discovered until evening, as the Akers, an elderly couple, lived on a road that is not much traveled.

Packing Strike Still On

Sioux City, Ia.—The breach in negotiations between officials of the Armour and Cudahy packing companies and the 2300 strikers at the Sioux City plants was widened Sunday when at a mass meeting of strikers it was decided to demand the original scale of 22 1/2 cents an hour for all common laborers, instead of accepting 21 cents an hour, which Saturday was practically decided on. Unless the packers grant a written agreement setting forth that there shall be no deviation from wage scales for one year there will be no settlement.

British Lines Extended

Ottawa, Ont.—British lines in Belgium and France are being extended to replace French soldiers who are being rushed to the Verdun region to take part in the fighting, "which has settled down to a terrific slaughter," according to advices received here from the battle front. Approximately 20 army divisions have been thrown into the battle by the Germans, while the French troops number 15 divisions, essential requirements for rural credits.

NEWS ITEMS Of General Interest About Oregon

Manner of Protecting Oregon Timber Greatly Improved

Salem—Oregon's forest protection agencies since 1912 have waged a campaign of "preparedness," according to data compiled by State Forester Elliott. During the period from 1912 to 1915 inclusive the State forester said that more than 3000 miles of abandoned and obstructed trails were made passable; 729 miles of strategic new trails built; 442 miles of telephone line were constructed and 25 cabins erected for the use of lookout men in the forest service. This work called for an expenditure of \$50,000, practically all of which was borne by the timber owners.

"The importance of such work is unquestioned," said Mr. Elliott. "Lookout men are of little value unless they can immediately report the fires discovered to their county warden and to the patrolmen in whose district they occur. It is thus necessary that lookout stations be equipped with telephones and the patrolmen must have access to them at several points along their 'beats.'"

"Patrolmen finding a fire they cannot handle must be able to telephone to their chief for a fire-fighting crew to be sent to the scene of the fire without delay. To mobilize a crew, together with tools and rations on the fire line in any part of a district in time to control it before it reaches dangerous proportions necessitates a carefully planned system of passable roads and trails."

"Use Own Judgment" Advice to Woolmen

Pendleton—The National Woolgrowers' association refuses to advise Oregon woolmen whether or not to sell their 1915 clip at the present time. In a letter received here by Senator J. N. Burgess, of Pilot Rock, who is the Oregon member of the executive committee of the association, from Secretary S. W. McClure, he says:

"My advice is that around 6,000,000 pounds of inter-mountain wool has now been contracted. Fine wool is selling at from two to three cents above last year's, with cross breeds at from two to five cents above last year.

"On Monday several crossbred clips sold at Dillon, Mont., at 31 cents, and it is reported that the Wood Livestock company's clip has sold at 30 cents, and also that 30 cents has been offered for some quarter-blood clips in Western Wyoming. I hope you will give this information to your sheepmen, but this association refuses to advise whether to sell or not to sell. He must use his own judgment entirely in this matter."

Road Change Permissible

Salem—"The plans of the State Highway commission are not like the laws of the Medes and Persians, not subject to change," declared Attorney General Brown in advising the members of the commission that they could change the state road map prepared by ex-State Highway Engineer Bowley.

The question was put to the attorney general by the commission, which desires to change the route of a state road in Washington county, it being found that another route is more suitable. John H. Albert, of the advisory board of the commission, contended that the commission had no authority to revise the general system of trunk roads to be improved by the state.

Lumber Outlook Bright

Kalamath Falls.—Lumbermen have reason to expect the most prosperous season in years, according to Robert A. Johnson, head of the Klamath Manufacturing company, of this city, who has just returned from San Francisco where he passed the winter.

"There is a material increase in the demand for the upper grades of lumber, and the prices offered are from \$5 to \$6 per 1000 feet better than they were in the fall," said Mr. Johnson.

In the past few days I have received telegraphic inquiries for five carloads of lumber at \$5 to \$6 more than was offered a few months ago."

Hood River Men Pleaded

Hood River.—News that the Rogue River Fruit & Produce association, which decided to withdraw from the Northwest Fruit exchange, probably would accept an offer of the Apple-growers' association of this city to cooperate in the distribution of its apples and pears was received with gratification by local market men.

Wilmer Sieg, sales manager of the Apple-growers' association, says: "During the past we have cut under each other on prices of our fruit, each trying to reach the buyer, and as a result the growers of both districts have suffered."

Farm Bonds Proposed

Salem—Insurance of 4 per cent state bonds, and the lending of the proceeds direct to the farmer at the same rate of interest and in the same manner as the irreducible school fund is now lent, are advocated by Percy A. Cupper, assistant state engineer. As a means of presenting his proposal for a system of rural credits for consideration of the people before the irrigation, drainage and rural credits conference meets in Salem March 9, Mr. Cupper has prepared a bill, which contains the essential requirements for rural credits.

7 GERMAN CORPS IN VERDUN DRIVE

Army of 280,000 Engaged in Attack on 25-Mile Front.

FIRST LARGE BATTLE OF PRESENT YEAR

May Be Forerunner of More Decisive Events—Battle Only Begun—Gain Small; Loss Heavy.

Paris—The battle of Verdun continues with growing intensity. It extends over a front of 400 kilometers (25 miles), and seven German army corps (280,000 men), are engaged. This announcement was made officially by the war office.

The official statement issued earlier in the day made reference to the energetic bombardment being conducted in that region, but referred to the infantry activity as extending over a front of only 15 kilometers (10 miles). There was violent fighting at other points on the French front as well.

"The struggle," says the War office communication, "is continued with violence against the right bank of the Meuse toward the southeast. East of this point a counter attack enabled us to retake the greater part of the forest of Causes, situated in the salient occupied by the enemy north of Beaumont."

"A strong German attack on Herbe forest was stopped by our curtain fire. According to statements of prisoners, whole units were completely destroyed in the course of these actions."

"A desultory artillery duel continues in the region of Haute Charriere and of Fromery in Torraine. In the region of Nomeny, our artillery has been active. An enemy reconnaissance north of Letricourt failed to reach our lines.

"In the Herbe forest we have evacuated the village of Haumont. We still hold the environs after a bitter fight, in which our troops inflicted heavy losses on the enemy."

The great battle raging along the 25-mile front from Etain to Malancourt is being followed with intense interest by the public. It disposes effectively of the question whether the Germans would make an early offensive.

The battle is the first on a large scale since the offensive in the Champagne in September and is believed to be the forerunner of stirring and possibly decisive events.

The principal fighting centers in the rough and thickly wooded country between Etain and Damvillers. Here some 300,000 of the German Crown Prince's best infantry are engaged.

The battle as yet is only beginning, but it is said already to have cost the assailants of the French heavy casualties and without any appreciable advantage.

President and Congress at Outs Over Germany's Proposed Sea Rule

Washington, D. C.—Agitation in congress for action warning Americans off armed ships of the European belligerents suddenly grew to such proportions Thursday that Democrats of the foreign affairs committee voted to canvass the sentiment of the house on several pending resolutions of that nature.

Sentiment in the senate in favor of some such action also was expressed openly, but at the end of a day of surprises, tension and agitation such as has not been seen in congress in some time, the word came that President Wilson still was unalterably opposed to any such action by congress, and that he would only be embarrassed thereby in the negotiations with Germany.

Suggestions were widely circulated that the situation had reached a point where the President soon would lay it before congress, that Secretary Lansing might in some way define the attitude of the government in a communication to Senator Stone, and that a time had been fixed within which the United States would expect Germany to signify her intention to abandon the announced intention to sink armed merchant ships without warning.

Blackmailers' Head Arrested

Seattle.—Louis P. Sichter, 47 years old and married, alleged ringleader of the blackmailing syndicate which preyed upon wealthy Seattle business men, was arrested on a charge of attempting blackmail. He was released on \$5,000 bond signed by his wife. The specific charge upon which Sichter was arrested was that he attempted to extort \$2,000 from a prominent mining promoter of Seattle. Photographs taken in the house used by the blackmailers as their headquarters are said to be in the hands of the prosecuting attorney.

Cyclone Destroys Town

Montgomery, Ala.—Meager reports from Brewton, Ala., said a cyclone late Wednesday practically demolished the village of Appleton, 10 miles away.

Medical aid was called for from Brewton, but the extent of injuries or fatalities had not been reported.

The storm appeared to be general in Central Alabama, extending from east of Brewton, south of this city, to Clanton, 50 miles north.

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