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VOLUME XXVIII.

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## 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.

Cool, wet weather in Louisiana causes short sugar crop.

Pope Benedict has again solicited the belligerents to make peace.

William F. Kelley, American consul at Rome, dies suddenly of heart failure.

French authorities seize and suppress publication of two Paris newspapers.

A conference in Chicago of mayors of large cities decided to insist on preparedness.

Chicago bankers advise that "war profits" be invested in the future of the country.

Petty officers of some interned German ships at Honolulu are accused of bootlegging.

The Seaview hotel at McClips Beach, Wash., burned with a loss of \$10,000. Incendiarism is suspected.

Germany's food supply is said to be in better condition the third winter of the war than the second.

Turks are said to be removing mines from the Dardanelles, preparatory to opening the straits to traffic.

The house of representatives votes to stand behind President Wilson in his submarine policy toward Germany.

General William LooySmith, distinguished Union cavalry leader, in the Civil war, dies at his ranch home near Medford, Ore.

Information has been received from Innsbruck, Switzerland, that cholera has broken out anew in 37 towns and villages in Austria.

Five thousand employees of the Armour's, Swift's and Morris' packing plants at East St. Louis receive un-solicited increases in wages.

The Booth-Kelly Lumber company, of Eugene, Ore., receives an order for 9,000,000 feet of lumber to be used in building freight cars for the Southern Pacific.

U. S. naval war games in which the aeroplanes will do the scouting for the Atlantic battle fleet has been ordered on the Southern drill grounds off Guantanamo.

A woman passenger on the steamer Sea Foam, enroute to San Francisco, dies of fright during a storm. One seaman was swept overboard and drowned.

Three men armed with revolvers, dynamite and percussion caps, were arrested by Boston police. One of the men greatly resembles Cronos, who poisoned the soup in Chicago recently.

Aberdeen, Wash., is about to begin work on a \$400,000 water system.

The government of India has imposed an export duty on grain bags.

The United States National bank will build a \$250,000 bank building in Portland.

Six homeless boys less than 6 years of age and of varying nationalities are to be adopted by Mrs. Bessie Fuller, of South Porcupine, Ontario, Canada, as a sociological experiment.

Fred G. Buskohl, of Friend, Oregon, has just received the bronze medal awarded to him by the Carnegie herod fund commission for attempting to save the life of Joseph I. Tarke at Friend, August 3, 1912. The commission also awarded \$1000 to Mr. Buskohl.

Five million bushels of May wheat have been bought by milling interests in the last week as prices tumbled, according to estimates of Minneapolis chamber of commerce traders. This, they say, would represent sales of one million barrels of flour. Most of this product is said to be for Eastern bakers.

Two men with a large "roll" of counterfeit Federal Reserve bank bills are operating in Portland, and a third member of the gang is supposed to be working in conjunction with the others disguised as a plainclothes officer. The duty of the third man appears to be to disarm the suspicion of the victims by vouching for his accomplices.

Portland's new city directory, which will be issued next week, will report a population for the city of approximately 281,000.

The secretary of the California state board of health declares spring fever is not a disease, but a perfectly normal and natural feeling.

A Stockholm dispatch to the London Morning Post says that, according to a message from Karlakrona, Sweden, a whole mine field of several hundred mines is drifting from the North, having presumably been set drift by the ice and wind.

## 18 PRISONERS BURNED TO DEATH IN DISINFECTING BATHHOUSE

El Paso, Tex.—Eighteen prisoners were burned to death and probably 10 others seriously injured, many fatally, in a fire late Tuesday at the city jail bathhouse. The blaze started from a flash of flame from a large tub of gasoline and kerosene solution used to destroy germ-carrying lice. In their first reports officials attributed the origin to the deliberate action of one of the prisoners in throwing a lighted match into the container.

More than a score of prisoners, who were thoroughly saturated with the solution, were enveloped in flames. Jail attendants immediately opened two exits, allowing a number of the prisoners in the bath room to escape, although seriously burned.

Surgeons said that the death list would probably reach 25 and that many of the injured would not live more than a few hours.

Surrounding the bath quarters are rows of cells, mostly filled with prisoners. Those adjacent to the bath were caught in the flames. Release of these were slow and dangerous and it was in these that most of the fatalities occurred. Volunteer rescuers aided in dragging out the victims, many unconscious and badly burned.

H. M. Cross, an American, who died of injuries, was named as the man who struck the match that caused the fire, in a statement made by H. G. Baby, one of the trustees on guard. Cross was under arrest as a vagrant. His home is said to have been in Davernport, Ia.

The disinfection tubs were placed near the doorway leading to the police hospital. The burst of flames blew out doors and windows and the blaze swept the hospital, rendering it untenable and useless for the press of emergency work which followed.

On fire from head to foot, the nude victims dashed into the streets and alleys surrounding the prison. Several, maddened by the pain, outdistanced all pursuers and disappeared. Only one of these had been found several hours after the disaster.

One of the victims, a veritable torch, plunged through the jagged remains of a window pane and clambered to the roof of the jail, where he was rescued by firemen, only to die a few minutes later.

Edward McGowan, of Warber, Idaho, and John Campbell, of Camern, of Eugene, Oregon, were among the Americans seriously burned in the jail fire.

## President Names N. D. Baker Secretary of War; He Accepts

Washington, D. C.—Newton D. Baker, former mayor of Cleveland, has been selected by President Wilson for secretary of war. His nomination will go to the senate immediately and administration leaders expect quick confirmation so the new secretary may take active charge of the War department's plans for army increases and reorganization.

Mr. Baker is 44 years old, a lawyer, and as a leader among Ohio Democrats has been a warm supporter of the Wilson policies since the pre-convention campaign in 1912. He has been a close personal friend of Mr. Wilson since the latter was instructor years ago at Johns Hopkins University, and was offered the post of secretary of the Interior in the original Wilson cabinet, but declined because he then was mayor. He is understood to be in thorough accord with the President on the preparedness program and foreign questions.

An offer of the War secretaryship was made to Mr. Baker by telegraph several days ago, after the President had spent more than three weeks carefully going over a long list of those suggested to succeed Secretary Garrison. Mr. Baker accepted, and upon being notified, that he would be nominated at once, telegraphed that he would come to Washington.

Spanish Steamship Hits Rock. Santos, Brazil.—The Spanish steamship Principe de Asturias has been sunk by striking a rock. She went to the bottom in five minutes. Eighty-six members of the crew and 57 passengers have been brought to Santos by the French steamer Vega.

Rio Janeiro.—It is feared here that 400 lives have been lost by the sinking of the Spanish steamship Principe de Asturias. The steamer remained afloat only a short time after striking a shoal off San Sebastiao, and there was little time for the escape of passengers and the crew in the boats.

Naval Secrets Given Out. Washington, D. C.—The house naval committee became interested Tuesday in finding out where Representative Gardner got the confidential figures on target practice of the Atlantic fleet, which he made public some time ago. Admiral Fletcher, testifying before the committee, said that the figures were approximately correct. "Whoever told them," said Chairman Fagett, "was false to his trust and a traitor to his country. If I find out who did it, I am going to publish his name."

Taylor's Comet Splits. Cambridge, Mass.—A split in Taylor's comet, with one of the parts fainter than the main comet, was announced Tuesday in a message to the Harvard Observatory from the Yerkes Observatory. The measurements were made by Professor Barnard.

The Yerkes Observatory also reported an observation of Nujimen's comet, discovered at Pulkowa, Russia, last month.

## PRESIDENT WINS IN HOUSE

### McLemore Warning Resolution Laid on Table, 276 to 142.

### Tense Situation Is Ended When Session, Swayed for Seven Hours by Most Sensational Episode in Decade, Decides to "Stand by President."

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson Tuesday completely and decisively won his long fight to compel congress to acknowledge that it stands behind him in the submarine negotiations with Germany.

To the rallying cries of "Stand by the President!" and "It is Lansing and Wilson or Von Bernstorff and the Kaiser!" a big Democratic majority and nearly half the Republicans in the house rolled up overwhelming votes against the movement to warn Americans off armed ships of the European belligerents.

The celebrated McLemore resolution, around which the anti-administration forces centered their fight, was tabled—in other words, killed—just as was the Gore resolution for a similar purpose in the senate last week.

From the outset of the fight the President's supporters, without regard to party, swept over the opposition.

On the first vote, which was a parliamentary proposition to prevent opening the McLemore resolution to amendment and unlimited debate, the administration forces carried the day, 256 to 160. On that, 192 Democrats, 68 Republicans and 1 Progressive voted to support the administration. Twenty-one Democrats, 132 Republicans, 5 Progressives, one Independent and Representative London, the lone Socialist of the house, voted against it. This was the crucial vote of the fight, the one on which administration leaders were uncertain. With victory in hand they moved on to the next proposition, the adoption of a special rule for four hours' discussion of the McLemore resolution.

Again they carried the day, this time 271 to 138, and then pushed their victory to a conclusion by tabling the McLemore resolution, 276 to 142.

In seven hours of tense, turbulent session, in which the administration opponents charged that the President was contending for a doubtful legal right and was shifting the responsibility of diplomatic negotiation to congress, the house swung back and forth in the most sensational congressional spectacle of a decade, probably un-qualified since the eve of the declaration of war on Spain.

President Wilson, calm and confident, heard the early results of the voting in the cabinet-room at the

White House with some of the cabinet grouped about him. He told them he was much gratified with the support of congress.

Released from the bonds of embarrassment forced upon him by the dissensions in congress, which have been represented in foreign capitals as indicating that he was making his demands on Germany in direct opposition to the sentiment of the elected representatives of the people, President Wilson now stands prepared to go on with the submarine negotiations with the central powers.

The next step probably will be an answer to Germany's last proposal to settle the Lusitania case, in which the United States probably will ask for such further assurances as it considers sufficiently broad and complete to guarantee that the new submarine campaign, which began on March 1 and in which notice has been given that all ships carrying guns will be sunk without warning, will not endanger Americans traveling the seas on merchant vessels.

The President and his advisers regard the action of the house as a sufficient answer to reports circulated in Berlin, sent from Washington, that congress stood two to one against him in the crisis.

"Stand by the President and do not embarrass him in his diplomatic negotiations with foreign countries," was the whole burden of the argument of the administration leaders.

They paid little attention to the involved legal phases of the situation. It was enough, they argued, that the President had said the reported attitude of congress as opposed to his policy was embarrassing him abroad, and that they stuck.

Tributes were paid to the President by almost all the Democratic speakers, from Acting Chairman Pou, of the rules committee, who opened the debate, to Chairman Flood, of the foreign affairs committee, who closed it.

"It is charged that the President wants war," said Mr. Pou. "All the limbs of hell never devised a more infamous charge. No man since Abraham Lincoln has gone through such a test as the President in the last six months to avoid war. He has tried to preserve peace. He would not sacrifice a single life to make himself President for his lifetime."

Officers and men of the navy of Great Britain and that such so-called 'defensive' armament for merchant ships' and such naval officers and men shall be as far as possible concealed and disguised when in neutral waters and ports, with the evident intention to deceive, the President of the United States or the Secretary of State shall at the earliest possible moment transmit such actual memorandum of the German government, with such facsimiles of alleged secret instructions of the British government and with all appendices whatsoever to the Speaker of the house, that it and they may be laid before the house for its full information and for its assistance in performing its duty and function of guarding the welfare of the country and its citizens, and for its assistance in performing its constitutional duty of advising the President of the United States with regard to foreign relations.

"That the house expresses the determination of the people and government of the United States both to uphold all American rights and to exercise care, consideration and wisdom in avoiding actions which tend to bring American citizens and American interests into the zone of conflict where the passions of war are raging."

Churchill Raps Navy. London.—Winston Spencer Churchill, former first lord of the admiralty, now colonel and fresh from the trenches, sprang back into the parliamentary arena Wednesday in a daring speech, answering First Lord of the Admiralty Balfour, who had just presented the naval estimates, and declaring that the admiralty lacked driving force and must be revitalized before it was too late by bringing back Lord Fisher, the former first sea lord, to head the admiralty administration. His speech caused considerable comment.

Four Die in Hot Water Vat. Connellsville, Pa.—Four men were drowned and others injured here Wednesday when the roof covering a vat of hot water in the Baltimore & Ohio railroad shops collapsed in the course of a religious meeting. The men had assembled to hear a talk by an evangelist who is conducting services in one of the churches, and several climbed to the top of the vat, which collapsed. Six men were saved by the prompt action of persons nearby.

Senate Confirms Baker. Washington, D. C.—The nomination of Newton D. Baker, ex-Mayor of Cleveland, as Secretary of War was confirmed late Wednesday by the senate.

Unanimous commendation of Mr. Baker's appointment was expressed by the cabinet at the meeting here. General Hugh L. Scott, secretary of War ad interim, told the President that the nomination had been favorably received among army officers.

## NEWS ITEMS

### Of General Interest About Oregon

#### Big Lumber Order Received for Freight Car Building

Eugene—The Booth-Kelly Lumber company has just closed a contract which is said to be the largest obtained by a Willamette valley mill in several years, entering into an agreement to supply the Ralston Steel Car company with 9,000,000 feet of lumber to be used in the manufacture of cars for the Southern Pacific railroad company.

The order is the second of this nature booked by the Booth-Kelly company within the past few weeks, according to A. C. Dixon, manager.

The lumber in the contract is to be used in the manufacture of 2000 freight, flat and other cars.

The contract was awarded at a meeting held in Cincinnati, where a large number of bidders representing lumber companies in all parts of the United States were present. The lumber will be supplied at intervals extending throughout the summer.

As soon as weather conditions permit the mills at Wendling and Springfield will resume operations, with prospects of a good summer's business, provided the car situation does not interfere.

#### Rodent Fighters Unite.

Klamath Falls—The idea of the farmers of a neighborhood banding together for organized rodent extermination work has proved popular in Klamath county. Besides clubs at Bonanza, Langell Valley, Merrill, Malin and Lorella, all of which were recently organized, the Hildebrand farmers' club was organized at Hildebrand, about 25 miles east of this city, and the farmers of the Spring Lake section, in the basin east of the city, are effecting an organization there.

More than 40 farmers attended the Hildebrand meeting and 25 joined the club, selecting the following officers: President, Charles Drew; vice president, J. G. Wight; secretary-treasurer, W. F. Wilkerson, and poison mixer, Charles Drew, Jr. Ground squirrels and coyotes are the pests to be fought. Poison mixtures are prepared according to government formulas.

#### Big Wool Sale Reported.

Baker—The largest amount of wool contracted for in years is reported by Berthold and Gerson Neuberger, who announced they had contracted for nearly 500,000 pounds for Portland and Eastern concerns. From 20 to 21 cents was the average price stipulated, making an outlay of more than \$100,000.

The clips contracted for include those of Orson Moody, between 80,000 and 90,000 pounds; M. F. Cundiff, 20,000 pounds; A. H. Hampton, of Huntington, 85,000 pounds; and E. Johnson, 85,000 pounds. The names of other sellers were not given out.

With the lambing season at an end, shearing will commence within a short time. Buyers believe that a large percentage of the wool this year will be contracted in advance.

#### Highway Route Inspected.

Roseburg—For the purpose of ascertaining the needs of Douglas county with reference to state aid in road construction, John H. Lewis, state highway engineer, passed Saturday in Roseburg conferring with the members of the County court and other prominent citizens.

While Mr. Lewis refused to divulge his plans regarding the construction of the new state highway through Douglas county, he said work on the road would begin as soon as the necessary funds are available.

#### Business Right Upheld.

Salem—The retailing building and loan association law passed by the state of Washington does not give Corporation Commissioner Schulerman, of Oregon, the right to act like a referee and refuse the Pacific Building & Loan association of the state of Washington, the right to do business in this state, the attorney general's office has ruled.

If the Washington concern, which a short time ago withdrew from business in Oregon, makes its annual report to Commissioner Schulerman, and pays up its annual license fees, the attorney general holds it has the right to continue in business in this state.

#### State Charter Is Taken.

Salem—Conversion of the Benton County National Bank at Corvallis to the state system was made Wednesday when the owners reincorporated under the name of the Benton County State Bank. The institution is capitalized at \$60,000, with a surplus of \$15,000 and deposits aggregating in excess of \$400,000. The change from a National bank to a state bank was made because of the belief of the management that the Federal Reserve obligations of National banks impose burdensome conditions upon the smaller banks.

#### Jobs Are Awaiting Men.

Marshfield—There are more jobs here than men, in most localities. The Willamette-Pacific construction work between Coos Bay and Redport is short of workmen and the crew has been reduced from 65 to 12. It was reported that the crew above the Umpqua river had dwindled from 125 to less than 20. Work is delayed on account of the men quitting. They are leaving for the outside.

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