

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR YOU

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

Ratification of the Federal prohibition amendment was recommended to the Virginia legislature Friday by Governor Stuart in his message delivered at the biennial session.

The British admiralty reports the sinking in the past week of 18 merchantmen of 1600 tons or over by mine or submarine, as well as three merchantmen under that tonnage.

A record-breaking drouth for Tucson and Southern Ariz., was broken Thursday when rain began falling. This is the first rainfall since September 10 and cattle ranges have been badly burned.

Lignite mines in the northwestern section of North Dakota were offered to the government during the period of the war at a meeting of operators representing mines having a total output of 5000 tons per day.

An initiative petition which aims to place a law providing for an universal eight-hour day in Washington before the voters at a state election next November was filed at Olympia Friday with the Secretary of State.

Government supervision of prices of wool and cotton was sanctioned by the National Retail Clothiers' association at a conference with representatives of the efficiency committee of the National Council of Defense in Chicago.

Western railroads have issued orders for a general resumption of solicitation of passenger and freight business. Executives of the road are now in a position to handle more business, that there is no pooling and, therefore, no reason why each road should not go ahead and obtain as much business as possible.

A Constantinople report received at Geneva, Switzerland, says that within the Ottoman empire there are roving bands of brigands estimated to number 300,000. They are mostly armed deserters from the army and are bent on pillage. They even venture near towns and sometimes attack regular troops to get arms and food.

Paul Conrad, who asserts he is a cousin of Kaiser William, was turned over to the Federal authorities at St. Joseph, Mo., Friday. Conrad has lived in the United States 15 years, but has never been naturalized. It is alleged he cursed the American flag and expressed the hope Germany would win the war.

Parcels for American troops in France, not exceeding seven pounds in weight, may hereafter be addressed directly to the soldier, but they will no longer be received for forwarding by the "commanding general, port of embarkation," as previously has been the practice. This announcement was made Thursday by the postoffice department.

Establishment of a clearing house for the woman labor of the nation, under the supervision of Secretary of Labor Wilson, was announced Friday. Mrs. Hilda Muhlhauser Richards, named as chief of the bureau, outlines as its principal function the task of recruiting women to fill the ranks of the industrial army wherever men are released for military duty.

Senator McNary is assured by the War department that there is no foundation for rumors, current in Oregon, that a transport bearing some of the Oregon troops had been sunk. All the Oregon troops, he was told, had landed safely.

Heavy artillery fire took place during Tuesday night near Bezonvaux and Chambrettes, Northeast of Verdun, the Paris war office announces. A German raid on French trenches north of Hill 304 and the opposite bank of the Meuse was repulsed.

John Stark, of Athol, Mass., an American student at a French flying school, was killed on Saturday when his machine suddenly plunged to the ground while he was flying at a height of 200 yards.

A British torpedo-boat destroyer has been torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean Sea according to an admiralty announcement issued Tuesday. All the officers of the destroyer were saved, but ten members of the crew were lost.

FOR EQUAL SUFFRAGE

President Wilson Tells Democrats of House He Earnestly Desires Favorable Vote on Measure.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson Wednesday night threw his support to the Federal amendment for woman suffrage.

On the eve of a vote on suffrage in the house 12 Democratic members called at the White House with word that many of their colleagues wanted advice from the head of their party as to the position they should take. There was a conference of 40 minutes, the results of which was described in this statement, dictated by the President himself and made public by the delegation:

"The committee found that the President had not felt at liberty to volunteer his advice to members of congress in this important matter, but when we sought his advice he very frankly and earnestly advised us to vote for the amendment as an act of right and justice to the women of the country and to the world."

In these few lines suffrage champions saw certain victory where a few days ago most of them privately were conceding defeat. A large majority of the Republicans in the house have been counted upon to support the amendment and enough Democrats are committed to assure a close vote. With the weight of the President's influence to swing doubtful Democrats, Representative Parker, chairman of the suffrage committee, jubilantly predicted that the necessary two-thirds would be exceeded by 15 or 20 votes.

HOSPITAL SHIP TORPEDOED

Missile Goes Through Red Cross—Sick and Wounded Saved.

Bristol, England—The hospital ship Rewa was torpedoed in the British channel without warning, an hour before midnight, January 4, and sank within an hour. According to custom, the vessel was lighted up after dark Friday evening, so that there could be no possibility of submarines mistaking her identity.

The torpedo struck the vessel with a terrific crash and was so effective that there was no chance of saving her. There were 550 persons on board, including 30 bed-ridden and a number of soldiers suffering from malaria, on their way home from Gibraltar.

The lights on the hospital ship were put out by the force of the explosion and the wounded and sick had to grope about in the dark for their clothing. Many of them were unsuccessful in their quest and had to leave the ship without clothing. While in the boats and on rafts they had little or no protection from the piercing cold wind. All the patients, the ship's staff and the members of the crew, with the exception of three Lascars who were killed by the explosion, were safely rescued from the boats and rafts. They had hardly left the Rewa, which was sinking on even keel, when the steamer suddenly plunged forward and disappeared. The rescued men were two hours adrift before they were picked up.

BUY 30 PER CENT OF FLOUR

Food Administration to Purchase from Every Mill in Country.

Washington, D. C.—To supply the needs of the army and navy and the nations associated with the United States in the war against Germany, the Food administration will purchase from every flour mill in the country not to exceed 30 per cent of its output.

Out of the flour purchased, it was explained, the Food administration will retain at all times a reserve stock and will ship flour to any point where the local supply might be short.

"This measure is not taken with a view of diminishing supplies to the market," said an administration announcement, but is fundamentally to further adequate handling of transportation in respect to army, navy and export requirements and a regular supply of flour for the associates in the war of the United States at favorable loading points and more regular flow of the commodity and to prevent congestion and inequalities in stocks of flour owing to transport difficulties."

Chicago Still Blanketed.

Chicago—The efforts of all Chicago to clear away the blanket of snow which for four days has menaced the city with famine and conflagration, Thursday still left 90 per cent of the streets blocked to vehicle traffic. Millionaires and laborers, in answer to the call of the mayor, worked side by side in the streets to clear away the drifts and permit deliveries of food and fuel. Efforts were also made to uncover fire hydrants to avoid the danger of fire.

WILSON RE-STATES NATION'S WAR AIMS

"We Stand Together" President Says in Great Address.

ALLIES ARE UNITED

Foundation for Genuine Peace is Freedom of Seas, Evacuation of Invaded Lands and Reparation.

Washington, D. C.—America's program of war and peace, with definite terms upon which the nations, great and small, fighting together against German world domination, are ready to lay down their arms, was given to the world by President Wilson Tuesday through an address to congress in joint session.

For this program, based upon the righting of wrongs and the safety of peace-loving peoples desiring to live their own lives, the President committed the United States to fight and continue to fight until it is achieved. Thus he pledged the country to the allied policy of no separate peace. "We cannot be separated in interest or divided in purpose," he said. "We stand together to the end."

The speech, heard by congress, was delivered as a direct response to the German charge in the negotiations with the Russians at Brest-Litovsk. It followed closely and approved the address of the British premier, but was far more specific in statement of terms, robbing of force in advance any German peace drive designed to confuse the entente and American governments and their people.

Fourteen concrete proposals laid down by the President began with the declaration that the days of private international understandings are gone and that covenants of peace must be reached in the open. Briefly summarized, they are as follows:

First—Open covenants of peace without private international understandings.

Second—Absolute freedom of the seas in peace or war except as they may be closed by international action.

Third—Removal of all economic barriers and establishment of equality of trade conditions among nations consenting to peace and associating themselves for its maintenance.

Fourth—Guarantees for the reduction of national armaments to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.

Fifth—Impartial adjustment of all colonial claims based upon the principle that the peoples concerned have equal weight with the interest of the governing.

Sixth—Evacuation of all Russian territory and opportunity for Russia's political development.

Seventh—Evacuation of Belgium without any attempt to limit her sovereignty.

Eighth—All French territory to be freed and restored and reparation for the taking of Alsace-Lorraine.

Ninth—Readjustment of Italy's frontiers along clearly recognizable lines of nationality.

Tenth—Greatest opportunity for autonomous development of the peoples of Austria-Hungary.

Eleventh—Evacuation of Roumania, Serbia and Montenegro, with access to the sea for Serbia and international guarantees of economic and political independence and territorial integrity of the Balkan States.

Twelfth—Secure sovereignty for Turkey's portion of the Ottoman empire, but with other nationalities under Turkish rule assured security of life and opportunity for autonomous development, with the Dardanelles permanently opened to all nations.

Thirteenth—Establishment of and independent Polish state, including territories inhabited by indisputably Polish populations, with free access to the sea and political and economic independence and territorial integrity guaranteed by international covenant.

Fourteenth—General association of nations under specific covenants for mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to large and small states alike.

Farmer Offers Services.

Omaha, Neb.—Arnold Martin, of Du Bois, Neb., nominated by the United States department of Agriculture as the world's premier intensive farmer, Tuesday offered his services to the national government through Governor Neville, of Nebraska, to go to France to teach intensive farming this spring. Martin says he can teach French farmers so to handle their land that France will be self-supporting and will not call on America for foodstuffs.

KAISER USES PRESS

Makes It Weapon Through Censorship and Publishes "News" Made Strictly to Order.

Washington, D. C.—Evidences of the care the German government is taking to direct public opinion and so to deceive not only its enemies, but its own people is contained in a series of secret instructions issued to the German press by the censorship, which have fallen into the hands of the State department.

These instructions cover a period of less than three months of last year, but they tell a complete story of how the Teutonic war lords control public opinion.

Owners of newspapers and publishers generally not only are limited as to the character of the articles printed, but in many cases are told what they should publish and in what terms.

Labor disturbances, food shortage and difficulties in securing and distributing coal are placed under the ban, newspapers are urged to give prominence to enemy losses and to certain prescribed interpretations of international situations.

A hint of the relentlessness of the authorities in punishing infractions of orders is contained in one notice, in which attention is called to the fact that the police "have again been notified to seek out and bring to ruthless punishment originators and communicators of untrue military, political, financial and economic reports."

In another notice similar warning is given that the police will "proceed energetically" against those who repeated untrue reports.

Interesting light is thrown upon the Berlin view of the preparations for war in the United States by a paragraph of an order dated June 6, last. It says:

"While the news about America's war preparations, such as the organization and outfitting of an army 1,000,000 strong to reinforce the French-English front, is looked upon, in that form, as 'bluff', the spreading of which may unfavorably affect the opinion of the German people, yet the fact must not be overlooked, on the other hand, that the United States, with the support of its capacity for material and industrial management, is arming itself for war with great energy and tenacity."

"The war preparations in America are therefore, as was intimated in the reichstag at the time, not at all to be made little of, but must be taken seriously without on that account being made a source of worry."

Serious economic conditions are disclosed by the censorship orders. One forbids the publication of advertisements of dog meat for sale.

"It is desired that it should be clearly and distinctly put in the foreground that the enemy offensive has utterly failed on all fronts, that the entente has no alternative but to attempt a new offensive, as the enemy's statesmen are still against peace."

"Recent Reuter dispatches which have entirely English reports from Russia, concerning the commencing dissolution of chaos, etc., and strikes are worthy of notice. It is requested always to make such news as English reports and to assume an attitude of reserve toward them and occasionally to add thereto a critical word."

"Concerning the most recent bomb attack by a German flying machine on London nothing may be published."

"The publication and discussion of the resolutions adopted in a strike meeting of the Leipzig Unions and of a telegram sent to the Imperial chancellor are not permissible."

"The publication is to be avoided of anything concerning the state of the clothing material business and concerning the purchase of clothing material in the occupied districts as well as in Switzerland."

Advertisements of undertaking establishments which seek the removal of the bodies of fallen soldiers are not to be accepted."

"It is not desired to discuss or even to mention the German importations from abroad, especially from Holland."

"In the interest of a victorious carrying through of the war, which is endangered by every stoppage of work, expressions of the press which recommend a strike or express themselves otherwise in favor of a strike are forbidden. Utterances which are directed against strikes are indeed not subject to the censorship, but it is supposed thereby that they are kept free from immoderate sharpness which could offer material for irritating the people."

Teachers Must Own Up.

Honolulu, T. H.—Steps will shortly be taken to stamp out pro-Germanism and lukewarm Americanism among the 900 odd school teachers in Hawaii. Henry W. Kinney, superintendent of education, is preparing to send out question cards which must be filled in by every school teacher. These cards will contain certain questions which must be answered with "yes" or "no" and which, it is believed, will bring out the pro-German sentiments.

RECENT WOOL SCARE WAS UNNECESSARY

Witness Says Profiteers Scented Wealth in Shoddy.

RANK SCHEME BARED

Fat Contracts Said to Have Hung on Permission to Use Inferior Cloth in Making Army Uniforms.

Washington, D. C.—Responsibility for shortage of army clothing was placed upon the supplies committee of the Council of National Defense by Colonel Elmer Linsley, quartermaster's agent at Philadelphia, testifying at the senate committee's war inquiry. Another witness, William Bianchi, a New York dealer, who has purchased cloth for foreign armies, charged that an unnecessary wool shortage "scare" was created to increase the use of wool shoddy ordered for army garments by the supplies committee.

Colonel Linsley contradicted the recent testimony of Vice Chairman Eisenman, of the supplies committee, that the committee had secured an abundance of cloth for army needs. He said there is now a shortage of 1,000,000 yards of cloth and that the supplies committee system was responsible for both delays and friction.

Garment manufacturers, the witness declared, are without sufficient cloth to keep their factories working to capacity and in that connection he said that "haggling" by the committee with the American Woolen company last summer over prices had caused a loss to the government of 3,000,000 yards of cloth, many looms being idle for two or three months. Strikes of garment makers also have caused some delay, he said.

Bianchi said the wool shortage "scare," as he termed it, was in the interest of manufacturers of shoddy garments. Many American cloth makers, he testified, do not have factories equipped to make all-wool garments, and therefore could not have shared in the war contracts if shoddy had not been approved for army clothing. European armies, he asserted, are better clothed than American soldiers and he severely criticized the use of shoddy, declaring it wholly unnecessary.

SOLDIERS TAKE INSURANCE

American Land and Sea Fighters Buy \$3,000,000,000 Worth.

Washington, D. C.—More than \$3,000,000,000 worth of government insurance has been bought by American soldiers and sailors, Secretary McAdoo announced in a statement urging upon the men necessity for filing applications for policies before the expiration of the time limit set by law. Men who joined the colors before last October 15 must apply for insurance before February 12, 1918, and those joining after October 15 must make application for insurance within 120 days after entering the service.

Soldiers and sailors who are depending on the automatic insurance provided by the government until February 12, 1918, are warned that this is only partial and limited protection.

GERMAN REVOLT REPORTED

25,000 Unwilling to Be Drawn to Big Battle on Western Front.

London—A dispatch received here from the Russian wireless service says that 25,000 German soldiers in the region east of Kovno have revolted.

German deserters stated in consequence of the government's drafting all soldiers below the age of 35 for dispatch to the western front, the aforementioned number of men rebelled and marched out of the battle line.

They then entrenched themselves with rifles and machine guns against the of other German units. The German military authorities have been powerless against the revolt and are trying to cut off their food supplies.

Italy Increases Army.

Washington, D. C.—Italy has adopted a drastic new policy to increase her fighting forces. Physical requirements have been modified, and all men between the ages of 18 and 44 years previously exempted for defects are ordered to present themselves for further examination.

Those accepted will be mustered into the army January 15. It is estimated the decree will bring more than 600,000 men to the colors.