

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.

A total of 113 sick and wounded soldiers were returned to the United States from France in the week ending April 26, the surgeon general's office announces.

The French submarine *Frairal* has been sunk as a result of a collision with a merchant ship, it was announced Friday. Part of the crew of the submarine was saved.

At the direction of Emperor William, says an official announcement, three new Rhine bridges have been named for the German Crown Prince, Field Marshal von Hindenburg and General Ludendorff.

British troops in Mesopotamia carrying on their pursuit of the retreating Turkish forces have advanced as far as the Taur river. Twelve additional field guns were captured on April 29. The total of prisoners has reached 1800.

Prices the government will pay for hides and skins for the next three months were fixed Friday by the war industries board. They are somewhat higher than prevailing market prices, but are declared by the board to be reasonable.

Twenty-five thousand Belgian men and boys have been compelled to work on military operations under the whip of German sentries behind the German lines in the regions of Valenciennes and Maubege alone, according to Reuters' Limited.

The German Crown Prince himself has fired several shots with a gun with which Paris is being bombarded, a Cologne dispatch says. He is greatly interested in the workings of the guns, according to the dispatch, and has visited the spot frequently.

Four sticks of dynamite, 30 feet of coiled copper wire and detonating caps were discovered late Thursday buried under the base of the steel wireless tower at Fort Bliss. The explosive was found by an officer who was training his men in entrenchment work near the tower.

According to the London Daily News, the government is in serious trouble over the home rule bill. The deliberations of the drafting committee have been met by difficulties connected with Ulster's claims. "It is probable," says the Daily News, "that both conscription and home rule will be temporarily abandoned."

The War department was asked to close saloons in Vernon, adjoining Los Angeles on the south, in resolutions adopted by the Los Angeles city council and ordered telegraphed to Washington. It was said that Vernon had become a menace to soldiers and sailors. Vernon is a small incorporated city, noted for resorts since Los Angeles abolished saloons and limited liquor sales.

Pope Benedict intends to issue a new peace offer on Whitsunday (May 19), Cologne newspapers announce. The document, it is said, will be of a more pressing nature than formerly and will contain concrete offers of mediation by the pope with the possible cooperation of neutral sovereigns. Similar information of the pope's intention, it is said, has reached Berlin, where it has been received sympathetically.

Dr. Sidonio Paes, premier and foreign minister, was Tuesday elected president of the republic of Portugal by direct universal suffrage.

Cardinal Begin, archbishop of Quebec since 1895, was stricken with hemorrhage Tuesday. His condition is considered alarming because of his advanced age. Cardinal Begin is 78 years old.

When Elmer Nelson, of Goodrich, Minn., refused to submit to vaccination, he was tried by a general court-martial and sentenced to 15 years in the disciplinary barracks at Fort Leavenworth, it was announced Thursday.

A call for 8985 additional draft men was issued Thursday by the provost marshal general. They are to be sent to 22 institutions scattered throughout the country for a two months' course of training in various mechanical studies.

PLEDGES HUGE ARMY

Congress Asked for Last Man to Win War—Department Now Able to Handle 3,200,000 Recruits.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Baker carried to congress Thursday the army increase program mapped out by President Wilson and his advisers and based on the determination to win the war, if it takes the whole man power of the Nation to do it. There are indications that he will ask that all restrictions on the number of troops to be raised be removed and the government authorized to mobilize as many men as it can equip, train and send to the battle front in France.

Secretary Baker is expected to disclose that the department has reason to believe it can handle during the present year at least double the existing force under arms of approximately 1,600,000 men. That would mean a total of 3,200,000 soldiers for whom clothing, equipment and transportation are now in sight. Should additional facilities become available, however, it is indicated that President Wilson wishes to be able to call out more men without delaying to seek authority.

The President's war cabinet met with him Wednesday at the White House and went over the ground thoroughly. Secretary Baker remained more than an hour with the President after the other members of the war cabinet had left.

In the house Chairman Dent, of the military committee, introduced a bill that would authorize the mobilization and organization of 4,000,000 selective service men, instead of the 1,000,000 to which the government is limited by the existing act. Mr. Dent said the measure was his own and he had not consulted the War department on it.

Under the new classification scheme there are understood to be 1,800,000 men immediately available for active military service in class 1. That estimate is based on the returns of numerous states and the law of averages. It excludes all men rated as fit only for limited special service, all delinquents, slated for immediate induction into class 1 when apprehended, and all of the so-called remedial cases, the men who will be fit for active service after operations or medical treatment to correct minor physical defects.

Behind that also stand the men who have reached 21 years since the draft act was passed and who will be brought in under pending amendments. Probably the total of effectives in class 1 will prove to be 2,500,000 men when the definite figures are available.

This is the first reservoir from which men will be drawn to fill up the new armies. It is conceivable that class 1 will be exhausted in time, but not that it would fail to furnish all the men who can be shipped to France before congress meets again. For this reason it is regarded as probable that the question of increasing age limits of the draft act or of drawing upon class 2 can be deferred until congress again convenes.

200 WOOD SHIPS ORDERED

Established Coast Yards to Get Most of New Order.

Washington, D. C.—Expansion of the shipbuilding program to provide for the construction of 200 additional wooden vessels of 4500 or 4700 dead-weight tons was announced Thursday by Chairman Hurley, of the Shipping Board. This will increase to 580 the number of wooden ships completed, building or planned.

The vessels, which will be either of the Dougherty or Ballin type, will be constructed in shipyards already established and will be allotted, Mr. Hurley said, among yards which are most efficiently managed.

Construction of the ships will be started as soon as vessels now building are off the stocks.

The board also decided to authorize the construction of 25 new sea-going tugs, increasing to 100 the number of such craft now building for the board. The tugs will be employed in Coast traffic, replacing those diverted overseas.

A new American wooden ship construction record was reported to the Shipping Board by the Supple & Ballin company, of Portland, Or., which claimed the assembling and placing of 79 frames in a new vessel in a total working time of 44 hours.

Villa's Men Do Murder.

El Paso, Tex.—More than 30 men, women and children were killed by Villa's men at Santa Cruz de Rosales, 40 miles southeast of Chihuahua City last Friday, according to a report brought to the border Wednesday by railroad men. Villa demanded that three young girls be delivered to him. When this demand was refused his men were ordered to kill every one living in the little settlement, according to the report from Chihuahua City.

PEASANT DEPUTIES OUST UKRAINE RADA

Old Government of Big Russian Province is Overthrown.

TEUTONS RULE KIEV

Military Government Established on Pretext That Slav is Too Weak—Rule With Rod of Iron.

Berlin, via London—German forces have occupied Sebastopol, the great Russian fortress in the Crimea. According to the official communication from headquarters the town was taken without fighting.

Amsterdam—The old Ukraine government and rada, according to advices from Berlin, have been overthrown by peasant deputies, who arrived at Kiev, the Ukrainian capital. The new government, it is said, immediately declared that it adhered to the Brest-Litovsk treaty.

London—The Germans have established military rule in Kiev, the Ukrainian capital and have arrested a number of the members of the government on the ground that "the government had proved too weak to maintain law and order," according to a Berlin official statement.

Zurich—General von Eichhorn, commander of the German forces in the Ukraine, according to a telegram from Kiev, has ordered the peasantry to return all property and effects taken from the landholders and to begin as quickly as possible the cultivation of the great estates.

The order, which protects the interests of the landholders, who are mostly Poles and Russians, is opposed vigorously by the Ukrainian rada, which has adopted a resolution declaring that it will not permit interference by German, Austrian or Hungarian commanders in the political, social or economic life of the Ukraine, and that von Eichhorn's intervention will result only in disorganization, rendering impossible the consummation of the terms of the economic treaty between the Ukraine and the central powers.

The rada has instructed the minister of agriculture to direct the peasants to disregard the order.

BALLOON BURSTS; 2 KILLED

Nearly Score of Soldiers Are Burned at Fort Omaha.

Omaha, Neb.—Two men were killed and 18 burned more or less seriously Thursday at Florence Field in an explosion of a balloon of the Cacquot type, attributed by army officers in charge to ignition of the gas by sparks of static electricity from the fabric of the envelope.

The men killed were so badly burned as to be unrecognizable, and their identity will not be established, it was said, until the roll of the balloon detachment has been called.

A statement by Colonel H. B. Hersey, commanding at Fort Omaha, said that some of the injured were burned seriously, but not fatally, and that all were receiving proper attention at the hospital at Fort Omaha.

May 12 is "Mothers' Day."

Paris—"Mothers' day," a day on which every soldier of the American expeditionary forces, young and old, high and low, is expected to write home to mother, has been fixed for May 12. The idea originated with the Stars and Stripes, the official newspaper of the American forces in Europe, and was approved by headquarters, which is doing everything possible to help it along.

The experience of the army post-office has taught that the mothers come first in the soldiers' thoughts, and so has decided to make every possible effort, that every other mother in America whose son is in France shall receive tidings from her boy. Thus the date especially set apart for the purpose.

German U-Boat is Sunk.

An Atlantic Port—A British freight steamer, fresh from the yards of her builders, celebrated her maiden trans-Atlantic voyage by running down and sinking a German U-boat off the Irish coast. The submersible came to the surface suddenly a short distance off the ship's bow and was caught by the British helmsman's quick work almost before the commander could puzzle out through the steamer's camouflage whether she was going or coming.

AID INDIGENT ALIENS

U. S. Takes Action Without Treaty Obligation—Two Neutral Nations to Direct Relief Activities.

Washington, D. C.—With the approval and co-operation of the American government, the legations of Switzerland and Sweden, representing German and Austro-Hungarian interests, have undertaken to direct relief work among indigent enemy aliens throughout the United States.

Relief will be extended to needy families of interned aliens direct from legation funds. To aid law-abiding enemy aliens who have suffered on account of their status a national committee of Americans is to be organized to co-operate with the legations and their consular offices.

There is no obligation in existing treaties for such treatment of enemy aliens as is proposed. In Germany and Austria many such have been detained, and most of them are largely dependent for support upon the food supplies sent in through the Red Cross or other organizations.

In the case of enemy aliens who are now interned, the United States is liable for the cost of their maintenance, as in the case of any law-breaker or suspect. The Swiss and Swedish legations may supply them with some small articles of food not provided by the internment camps' administration.

The activities of the legations will not extend in any way to the comparatively few prisoners of war in this country. The Hague treaties provide that the cost of their maintenance shall be assessed against the enemy countries until the conclusion of peace.

WILFLEY MISSOURI SENATOR

Governor Finds Available Candidate After Fourth Trial.

St. Louis—Xenophon P. Wilfley, member of the St. Louis board of election commissioners and prominent Democrat of Missouri, Monday was tendered by Governor Gardner the seat in the United States senate vacated by the death of Senator W. J. Stone.

Wilfley announced he would accept the appointment and left for Jefferson City to confer with the governor.

Wilfley is the fourth man to be offered the senatorship by the governor.

Wilfley is 47 years old and a lawyer. He taught school at Sedalia and other cities in Missouri before being admitted to the bar in 1896. He has since practiced law in St. Louis.

He was appointed election commissioner a year ago by Governor Gardner. This is the only public office he has ever held, although he was figured prominently in Democratic politics for several years. He is also active in Methodist church circles in St. Louis.

WAR NEWS QUESTION IS UP

Secretary Baker Says Present Publicity System Unsatisfactory.

Washington, D. C.—The whole question of how the American public shall be kept promptly informed as to army activities both abroad and at home is under consideration at the War department. In making this known, Secretary Baker said frankly that the present system has proved entirely unsatisfactory.

The War secretary would not say what plans are under consideration, but it is known that the issuing of some sort of a daily statement is contemplated. This is regarded as necessary now that American soldiers have not only taken over several sectors of trenches in France as individual units, but also have been brigaded with French and British forces in Picardy, where the Germans are still trying to drive their offensive forward.

While Mr. Baker was in Europe recently he issued an order, that any news regarding the American expeditionary forces in France would have to come from the headquarters of General Pershing.

Princess Marie Banished.

Paris—The Princess Marie Antoinette, mother of Empress Zita, has been ordered to leave Austria within 24 hours and not re-enter that country until the termination of the war, according to a dispatch from Geneva. Empress Zita has been blamed by the pro-German party in her husband's empire as being responsible for Emperor Charles' now famous letter to Prince Sixtus, of Bourbon, his brother-in-law, in which he made overtures for peace to France.

Gompers III on Rostrum.

Montreal—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, was stricken suddenly ill while addressing a mass meeting of labor representatives here Monday night.

Mr. Gompers had said that when democracy was enthroned no one would outdistance him and his associates in the labor movement extending the hand of fellowship and goodwill to the working people of Germany.

FOOD CRISIS PAST— BIG CROPS IN SIGHT

Outlook This Year is for Ample Food for U. S. and Allies.

HOOVER GIVES WORD

Administrator Informs Grain Dealers That Only Government Action Averted Great Food Riots.

New York—If the government had "allowed the commerce in wheat to take its untrammelled course, flour would be selling at the mill door today for \$30 to \$50 a barrel instead of \$10 to \$10.50, and probably rioting would have taken place at all our centers of congested population, of a violence that leads to blood in our gutters," declared Herbert C. Hoover, Federal Food Administrator, in an address here Tuesday. He continued:

"At the present moment our crop prospects are for 600,000,000 to 900,000,000 bushels of wheat. The harvest of the allies also looks promising. "With this prospect we now have ground for hopes for plenty for ourselves and our allies and instead of famine we can look forward to an entirely different economic situation this year from that which confronted us in the summer of 1917."

Mr. Hoover spoke at a conference of 160 representative American grain dealers and officials of the Food administration's grain division called to discuss grain exports and regulation of cereal consumption in this country.

Asserting that when flour went to \$16.75 a barrel at the mill door last May and the resulting hardships dislocated our entire economic life, Mr. Hoover said he did not accuse the grain trade of having been responsible for the situation, but rather blamed the fact that the allies had to have wheat and were prepared to pay any price for it.

"A series of speculations sprang up that were deplorable beyond words," he said, "but only a microscopic portion of the speculation was of deliberate or vicious nature. There was no concerted manipulation."

If price levels had been allowed to rise without restraint the poor would have paid in suffering and the rich in price, he said, adding that "any repetition of rising price levels such as those of the 1916-1917 harvest year would have meant an enormous profit to the middleman and would have inspired the foundation of social discontent from this reason alone, if no other."

Therefore, he said, "the government had placed reduction in consumption on a voluntary basis."

"I do not believe there is another nation in the world in which the proportion of individuals so willing a sense of voluntary self-sacrifice is so high as this people of ours and nothing has demonstrated it more finely than the conservation in wheat," he said. "Today there is no suffering in the United States and we are actually shipping 50 per cent of our monthly mill output to the allies."

FIFTY-SIX MILLIONS EARNED

U. S. Steel Reports Decrease for First Quarter of 1918.

New York—Total earnings of the United States Steel Corporation for the first quarter of 1918, issued Wednesday, amounted to \$56,961,424, after deducting expenses incident to operations, including \$31,585,198 for Federal income and war excess profits taxes. This is a decrease of \$2,762,701 from returns of the previous quarter.

Net income of \$48,449,817 shows a gain of about \$400,000 and the surplus of \$15,032,502 represents a decrease of \$1,225,770.

In all other essentials the statement met popular expectations. Monthly earnings rose from \$13,903,129 in January to \$27,196,152 in March, confirming general trade reports of steady revival since the early weeks of the year.

Boche Souvenirs Deadly.

With the American Army in France—Knowing that the Americans are persistent souvenir hunters, the Germans in the Toul sectors have been strewing No Man's Land with all sorts of infernal devices. These consist of electric wires attached to bells, helmets, rifles and other paraphernalia connecting with concealed bombs.

In a number of instances American soldiers have tripped over these and escaped.