

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.

President Poincare has signed a decree declaring the Department of the Seine, which includes Paris, within the army zone.

A tornado south of Green City, Mo., Wednesday night took a toll of five lives, injured several others and destroyed much property.

The city of Irkutsk, Siberia, has been captured by Czech-Slovak troops under General Alexieff, according to Berlin advices received in Copenhagen.

Belgium has been given another credit of \$2,250,000, making Belgium's total loans from the United States \$122,800,000. Aggregate credits to the allies now amount to \$5,972,590,000.

The food question in Austria has not improved, says the correspondent of the London Daily Mail, and it is not improbable, despite Germany's help, that the entire country is slowly starving.

Warning that the country is facing a shortage of apples, cherries and berries next year was given Friday by members of the American Association of Nurserymen in convention in Chicago.

Secretary Baker has directed that officials connected with departments of the Government under his jurisdiction must refrain from criticizing in their official capacity any newspaper or group of newspapers.

The Paris municipal council votes unanimously that the Avenue Trocadero should henceforth bear the name of President Wilson. It was also decided that the nameplates should be in place before the Fourth of July.

Allied and neutral shipping sunk by German U-boats during the first 28 days of May totaled 233,639 gross tons, according to estimates made by the Navy Department. Senator Beckham, of Kentucky, announced in the Senate.

If expenditures for the fiscal year starting Monday amount to \$24,000,000,000, as estimated by the Treasury, and Congress enacts a revenue measure to raise \$8,000,000,000, the \$16,000,000,000 difference will be provided by the bond issue.

Charles Piez, vice-president of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, and Charles M. Schwab, director-general, left Thursday for the Pacific Coast for a tour of Western shipyards and to be present in San Francisco July 4 at the launchings to be held there that day.

Someone made a Federal income tax payment of \$14,000,000 in New York Thursday, the last day for payment of the taxes before a 5 per cent penalty is imposed. Collector Edwards announced the receipt of such sum from an individual, but declined to disclose his identity.

An agreement has been reached by Senate and House conferees on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill providing that all Government employees in the civil establishment shall work eight hours daily instead of seven, as at present, beginning July 1, and shall receive \$120 additional pay annually.

King George and Queen Mary tasted American buckwheat cakes for the first time Thursday at the Eagle Hut of the American Y. M. C. A. The visit was a surprise, one made at the King's own suggestion. The King explained to the secretary that he had heard so much about the Eagle Hut he had determined to see it.

Charles J. McCarthy was Tuesday inaugurated as governor of the territory of Hawaii, succeeding Lucius E. Pinkham.

President Wilson will deliver a Fourth of July address at Mount Vernon, Va., in connection with a celebration in which representatives of allied nations will participate.

Discontinuance of instruction in German at the University of Denver was announced Wednesday. During the second semester of this year only 50 students enrolled in the German classes.

Clarence Young of the American aviation forces, while making a flight, was compelled to descend within the Austrian lines. His comrades have assured headquarters he was not injured.

Representatives of civic organizations of Washington, Oregon and Idaho, at a conference in Seattle Monday, adopted a plan of organization for a zone industrial commission of the war industries board.

U. S. WILL POLICE PANAMA

War Department Acts to Prevent Trouble Over Elections.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Baker Saturday instructed Major-General Blachford, commanding the Department of Panama, to take over the policing of the cities of Panama and Colon for the purpose of maintaining public order.

The action resulted from information received at the State Department from the government of Panama that grave disorders were expected because of the postponement of the national elections set for June 30.

Decision to postpone the elections for six months was taken by the Government of Panama because of vice conditions in the two terminal cities of the Panama Canal, which had led to a boycott against them by the American army authorities.

DRAFT AGE LIMITS STAND UNCHANGED

Senate Defeats Move to Make Extension and Prolonged Fight Is Ended—12 Billion Bill Up.

Washington, D. C.—Immediate extension of the present army draft age limits, 21 to 31 years, was overwhelmingly defeated Saturday in the Senate. The amendment proposed by Senator Fall, of New Mexico, to the army appropriation bill to make the limits 20 and 40 years, together with all compromises suggested for different minimums and maximums, were voted down.

Settlement of the controversy which has held Senate attention for several days cleared the way for passage of the \$12,000,000,000 appropriation.

Besides disposing of the draft-age question, the Senate adopted several amendments to the bill.

One authorized organization of the \$100,000,000 aircraft production corporation proposed by the Aircraft Production Board as a vehicle for co-ordinating aircraft production as shipbuilding is co-ordinated by the Shipping Board through the Emergency Fleet Corporation.

Others authorized the plan of basing draft quotas on the number of men in class 1, instead of upon state populations and affecting rights of neutrals under the draft law. The Senate had previously adopted the draft quota legislation, but it has been held up in the House.

The amendment affecting neutrals provides that citizens of neutral countries now subject to draft who have declared their intention of becoming American citizens shall not be eligible for citizenship if they claim exemption from the draft. This provision, offered by Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, was adopted as a substitute for an amendment approved by the state department, providing for exemption from the draft of all citizens of neutral countries.

Eugene V. Debs Under Arrest

Cleveland, Ohio.—Eugene V. Debs, four times socialist candidate for the presidency of the United States, was arrested here Sunday by United States Marshal Charles W. Lapp and Deputy Marshal Charles Boehme as he was about to deliver a speech.

The arrest was made on a warrant in connection with his speech at the socialist state convention in Canton, O., June 16 last.

The arrest was made on a secret indictment. It is understood the indictment contains 10 counts under the espionage act, which provides a penalty of 20 years in the penitentiary and a fine of \$10,000 and costs for each violation.

Debs was arrested as he was about to enter the garden where the meeting was held. No commotion was caused, as few persons were aware of what was transpiring until after Mr. Debs was taken to the federal building.

Following the announcement of Mr. Debs' arrest, a defense fund of more than \$1000 was raised by popular subscription before the meeting ended.

Forty-Nine Flyers Downed in One Day

London.—Forty-nine German airplanes were brought down by British and French airplane squadrons Thursday, according to the official announcements of the respective war offices Saturday.

In the air-fighting over the British sector of the line British planes destroyed 20 German machines and forced down nine more enemy aircraft out of control. The British lost 14 machines. The British vigorously bombed behind the Teuton lines, dropping 21 tons of explosives on railway junctions and other targets.

At the same time the French air fighters brought down or put out of action 20 German airplanes and set on fire four captive balloons.

Indiana Corn Damaged

Lafayette, Ind.—A loss of between \$7,000,000 and \$8,000,000 in corn alone was sustained by northern Indiana farmers as a result of the frost last Saturday night, according to estimates made public at the Purdue university agricultural experiment station. The damage to truck crops also will extend into millions of dollars, it was said. The damage covered an area of 125,000 acres, according to the reports of county agricultural agents.

KERENSKY IN LONDON ENROUTE TO STATES

Visit to America Holds Big Possibilities, Declared.

WASHINGTON STIRRED

Ex-Premier of Russia Expected to Start Freedom Movement—People Tire of Hun Aggression.

Washington, D. C.—The unheralded appearance in London Wednesday of Alexander Kerensky, former provisional premier of Russia, together with his announcement that he is on his way to America and that he is certain Russia will soon be fighting again with the forces of democracy against German domination, furnished the subject for a discussion in official and diplomatic circles that covered a wide range.

As there had apparently been no intimation of Kerensky's intended visit to this country, speculation naturally centered around his purpose in coming.

The belief seems to be general that he will not only seek to enlist the support of his own people in this country in his efforts to rehabilitate Russia and cast off the German yoke, but will discuss the subject with officials as well.

Appearing as he does at a time when both the United States and the entente governments are earnestly considering how they may best aid Russia to rid herself of German influence and establish a stable government, the visit of the one-time dictator of that stricken nation is regarded by officials as having many and far-reaching possibilities.

Coincident with the appearance of Kerensky in London, John Sookine, a member of the Russian commission sent to the United States by the Kerensky government a year ago and now just back from France, said that a few months ago military action by the allies would have been intolerable to the people, but German aggression in spite of the Brest-Litovsk treaty had caused so much suffering and privation that allied intervention would now be hailed with relief.

Mr. Sookine's statement and that of ex-Premier Kerensky concerning the change in the sentiment of the Russian masses served to bear out reports received at the state department.

HUGE ARMY PROJECT IS NOW UNDER WAY

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Baker disclosed to the Senate military committee Thursday that within three months an enlarged army project now being worked out will be presented to congress to represent the maximum fighting effort of the country.

Already the calculations upon which the pending army bill was framed have been exceeded, and the war department is now revising its plans on an enlarged basis that means additional billions in money and additional millions of fighting men.

The full scope of the new measure is not yet apparent even to officials who are preparing it.

Mr. Baker disclosed the new plans in explaining his reasons for opposing any changes now in the draft age limits. Later, during general debate in the Senate chamber, figures were disclosed showing the great strides being made toward bringing American fighting power to the front in France.

General March, chief of staff, has already announced that the army is five months ahead of schedule in troop movements, 900,000 men having been shipped abroad.

Italy Annexes July 4th.

Rome, Tuesday.—The coming Fourth of July, which will be proclaimed an Italian national holiday, will be celebrated throughout the country. Cities and villages will be decorated with the American and Italian flags and will have processions.

One of the most imposing processions will be in Rome, the line of march leading to the monument of King Victor Emmanuel II, where speeches will be delivered by cabinet ministers, senators and deputies.

Drouth Ruins Wheat Crop.

Helena, Mont.—In the northern half of Montana winter wheat has been ruined by the drouth, and rain is badly needed to save the spring wheat, according to the weekly crop bulletin issued by Meteorologist William A. Mitchell, of the local station of the United States weather bureau. Showers in the southern half of the state have helped greatly and crops there are in good condition, with the winter wheat starting to head.

SOME RAILROADS FACE RUIN

Ten Thousand Miles of Lines Near Bankruptcy, Is Report.

Washington, D. C.—Because of the railroad administration's attitude toward the short-line railroads of the country, 10,000 miles of lines belonging to smaller companies are now on the verge of bankruptcy and threaten to suspend operations, representatives of the short lines told the Senate interstate commerce committee Monday.

They urged an amendment to prevent relinquishment of short lines while control of competing trunk lines is retained.

Ben B. King, of Dallas, Tex., member of the executive committee of the American Short Line Association, said the operating income of his road, the Gulf, Texas & Western railroad, has been reduced about 50 per cent since the government took control of railroads because much of the freight shipments which formerly passed over that line are now being routed over government-controlled roads which compete with that one.

AUSTRIAN ROUT IS BLOW TO GERMANY

Washington Believes Teuton Plans Are Upset—Germans Rush Troops to Aid Austria.

Washington, D. C.—Germany's entire offensive programme may have been upset, in the opinion of some officers here, by the crushing defeat of the Austrians along the Piave river.

Official reports reaching Washington bear out the picture of the Austrian disaster given in press accounts from Italy, although the full extent of the Italian success is not yet apparent.

It is regarded as certain, however, that the central powers have been dealt a blow that will further shake the morale of their people and probably will compel the German high command to make a complete readjustment of its plans in France.

Secretary Baker showed the significance attached here to the defeat of the Austrians when he dispatched a telegram to the American ambassador at Rome for transmission to the Italian minister of war.

Mr. Baker's message was sent before the secretary had received additional reports from the Italian front showing that the retirement was a disorganized rout. There is no doubt here now that the victory will prove to be one of the most decisive in character of the whole war.

Army officers agreed with the view expressed by Mr. Baker that the defeat could not help but influence greatly the course of events in France. It is regarded as vital from the German point of view that the Italian front be made secure before German designs in France can be prosecuted to their fullest development.

While there is imminent danger that the Austro-Hungarian government may collapse, Germany cannot devote herself wholly to the task she has undertaken of forcing victory in the west before American man-power can swing the scales finally against her.

For this reason, both at the war department and in the diplomatic circles, there was much speculation as to the moves to support Austria already taken by the German high command. There is little doubt that reports of large German troop movements to Italy are well founded, as it is believed the situation must be restored there at all costs unless the whole German influence is to fall of its own weight.

U-Boat Sinks Troopship.

Washington, D. C.—A troopship returning from Europe was torpedoed and sunk by a U-boat 700 miles off the Delaware capes on June 18. Three boats carrying 67 members of the crew are unaccounted for. There were no troops aboard.

Reports indicate that the submarine was not seen until after the torpedo struck the ship. The crew took to the boats after the vessel settled and it was futile to use the guns. The U-boat appeared on the surface and fired 19 shots into the ship.

The crew of 148 got away from the vessel in seven boats, four of which have been landed. The total rescued so far is given as 81 men. Two boatloads arrived by steamer at New York; one by steamer at Hampton Roads, and one by sailing vessel at Bermuda.

Spanish Ship Is Held Up.

Madrid.—The captain of the Spanish sailing vessel Joaquina reports that his ship, which sailed from Cuba, was held up by a submarine, which declined to examine the ship's papers. The vessel was sunk and the crew was afloat for five days, being rescued off the coast of Africa. The vessel which picked them up landed all at Gibraltar except the captain. A dispatch from Paris May 22 said that the Joaquina had been found abandoned.

Huns Sink 614,000 Tons.

Amsterdam.—Ship tonnage sunk by German submarines in the month of May amounted to 614,000 gross tons, according to an official statement issued at Berlin. The claim also was made that, in addition, badly damaged ships with a tonnage of 56,000 were taken to ports of the entente allies in April, besides the losses already announced for that month.

NEW ITALIAN DRIVE ROUTS AUSTRIANS

General Diaz' Surprise Attack Is Big Success.

TAKE 800 PRISONERS

Unexpected Drive Gains Strong Positions and Breaks Up Preparations for Enemy Offensive.

Attacking the Austro-Hungarian lines on the Asiago plateau, the Italians have taken Monte Di Valbella, captured more than 800 prisoners and have held it against repeated counterattacks.

This turn to the offensive came as a surprise to the laymen of the allied world, for it was believed that General Diaz would be content to hold his lines in the mountains against a new offensive intended by the Austrians and Germans.

The Italian attack was not limited to Monte Di Valbella. On the left bank of the Brenta they captured the heights of Sasso Rosso, just north of the village of Valstagna.

These actions may explain the failure of the Italians to pursue the Austrians across the Piave when, on June 23, the enemy fled from the west bank with a haste that indicated something of demoralization.

General Diaz probably has expected the heaviest enemy blow along the mountain front, which is the key to the Italian situation. In attacking he has carried the fight to the foe, gained strong positions at vital points and broken up some of the preparations made by the enemy for an offensive.

It is not believed General Diaz plans to go further than local objectives, but if he should make much progress on the Asiago plateau he could be able to take under his artillery fire the railroad paralleling the battle line and running along the Brenta river east of Lake Caldossato.

This line is the connecting link between the Piave and Adige fronts, and if the Italians could dominate it, the Austrian system of communications would be seriously impaired.

FIFTY PROBABLY DEAD IN SIOUX CITY DISASTER

Sioux City, Iowa.—Burrowing deep under tons of wreckage, firemen and volunteers Sunday removed 30 more bodies from the wreckage of the Ruff building, which collapsed Saturday afternoon at Fourth and Douglas, and announced that the toll of the disaster may reach 50. It is probable several persons were completely incinerated, judging from the condition of most of the bodies removed.

Toiling feverishly, some of them so weak they wobbled after their 22 hours, workers could see parts of charred bodies still deep under smoldering timbers and so badly burned they could not be sure they were men or women.

The opening of the Chain Grocery, which was crushed under the walls of the Ruff building, revealed the extent of the disaster. Thirty-five volunteer motor trucks removed debris so rapidly Sunday morning the ruins of the crowded grocery were entered six hours ahead of schedule.

Men found in the ruins were burned alive in cells, pinned down by wreckage, their positions indicated.

The cause of the disaster has not been determined. Some of the persons who were in the wrecked buildings at the time of the collapse asserted that it was caused by an ammonia explosion in the Chain Grocery or the Beaumont Market, while others declared it was due to reconstruction work which was going on in the Ruff building.

Non-Partisan Ticket Wins.

Fargo, N. D.—The entire Non-partisan ticket, state and congressional was nominated in the Republican primaries of Wednesday.

Governor Lynn J. Frazier, Non-partisan, who took the lead over John Steen, Independent, as returns came from the rural precincts Thursday, steadily increased that lead until it is near the 15,000 mark.

In the congressional race in the first district, it is estimated, Congressman J. M. Baer's final majority will be nearly 800 over Henry Vick; in the third district J. H. Sinclair's approximately 700 over P. D. Norton. In the second district, George Young was successful over John Hanchett by a vote of approximately 3 to 1.

Fear of Americans Felt.

Paris.—German prisoners are virtually unanimous in confirming the fear felt of the Americans by the German high command. According to the declarations of officers, this is the principal reason for the determination of Germany to seek at all costs to impose peace on the allies before next winter.

The prisoners make no secret of their astonishment at the spirit and versatility of the American soldiers.