

BERLIN PLANS SIEGE OF BRITAIN BY SEA

Formal Notice to Be Given to Neutrals; Feb. 1 is Date.

THIRTY NEW SUBMARINES READY

All Ships to Be Hailed, and Sunk if Contraband is Found on Board—To Sink All Armed Vessels.

New York—Germany will declare a deep sea barrier around the British Isles, beginning February 1. This news is brought to New York by four passengers arriving from British and Baltic ports on the Philadelphia, of the American, and the Baltic, of the White Star line, Monday, gave the same versions of the new plans of the German admiralty.

The deep sea barrier will be patrolled by 30 submarines of the latest type, all of which have been launched in the past two months and are capable of a 6000-mile cruising radius, according to three Americans, travelers from Germany.

A note will be sent by the central powers to all neutral nations, warning them of Germany's decision, similar to the note sent to New York on February 18, 1915, which received Mr. Wilson's famous reply in return demanding strict accountability, from Germany for any American life placed in jeopardy.

This newest "danger zone" is the North Channel, which separates Ireland and Scotland; St. George's channel, between England and Ireland, and the entrance to the English channel.

All allied vessels, whether carrying contraband or not, will be stopped, their crews ordered to take to the ship's boats and the vessel immediately sunk.

The submarines which will patrol this newest zone have a speed of 18 knots on the surface and 12 knots submerged, it was said by the Americans, who asserted that they had the highest German authority on this statement. Each submarine will operate in a 10-mile radius, and will be held responsible for any allied merchant vessel which slips past into an allied port.

Each submarine is to be equipped with six torpedo tubes, two rapid-fire guns mounted fore and aft, bomb-laying chambers and a large supply of bombs, mines and grenades. They will carry sufficient provisions to last five weeks without re-ventualing.

In the case of neutral vessels' passing through the war zone their cargoes will be examined as previously and, if they are carrying contraband, they, too, will be sunk, their crews first having taken to the lifeboats.

It is understood that Germany is preparing a new list of contraband articles, which will be in effect as soon as the new note is sent to neutrals. It is believed that large quantities of foodstuffs, as well as other necessities of life, will appear on this new contraband list.

Allied merchantmen similar to the British steamer Aberleau, which sailed Friday for Southampton via Halifax, with a steel gun turret, to have a six-inch gun mounted for offensive, as well as defensive, warfare, will be considered as an armed cruiser and will be sunk on sight, it is said.

Twenty-Five Thousand Guardsmen on Border Ordered Home

Washington, D. C.—More than 25,000 National guardsmen, now on the Mexican border, have been designated by Major General Funston for return home and muster out of the Federal service. All these organizations will be started homeward as soon as transportation facilities can be provided.

Their departure will leave between 45,000 and 50,000 men of the guard still in the Federal service doing border patrol.

War department officials continue to withhold comment on reports that the movement of General Pershing's regulars out of Mexico soon will be under way and the statement announcing the guardsmen designated for relief does not connect these orders with the withdrawal plans in any way.

Palestine Doctors Dying.

New York—Cholera and typhus have claimed so many victims among the physicians who have been fighting these epidemics in Palestine that some of the villages have lost their last medical men and in the cities few physicians remain to cope with the situation, according to a statement made public here by Hadassah, the women's Zionist organization in America. The conditions in Palestine were described in an appeal for \$75,000 and a medical unit to be dispatched to the afflicted country without delay.

Kiss Rewards Governor.

Cheyenne, Wyo.—A resounding kiss implanted on the executive lips in full view of a number of persons assembled to witness the governor's action was the reward Mrs. John B. Kendrick gave Governor Kendrick Saturday for signing the bill submitting prohibition to the people of Wyoming.

The bill provides for a vote to be taken in 1918 on the adoption of prohibition amendments to the state constitution.

Doings of State Legislators

"Bone-Dry" Law as Framed Meets With High Favor

Salem—If there is any objection to the emergency clause or any other important part of the pending "bone-dry" prohibition law it did not make its appearance at the opening meeting of the house and senate committees on alcoholic traffic here Tuesday night.

Almost every legitimate interest affected by the measure was represented at the hearing which was conducted before a large crowd in the house chamber and a number of valuable suggestions were made.

One suggestion, advanced by A. A. Hall, a chemist, will be given serious consideration by the committee. He pointed out that in its present form the bill will not permit the manufacture of denatured alcohol, which may be made a valuable by-product of many Oregon industries such as the paper mills, the sawmills, beet sugar factories, canneries and others. He explained that the denaturation of alcohol is done under government supervision and that its practice would not be in violation of the spirit of the "bone-dry" law. Denatured alcohol is a dangerous poison and therefore could not be used for beverage purposes.

Five Good Roads Bills Up.

Salem—Road legislation loomed large in the proceedings of the house Tuesday. The good roads committee, comprising representatives of civic and industrial organizations in various parts of the state, completed its work on roads; Representative Laurgaard introduced a road code of his own design; Representative Bean introduced a bill taxing all gasoline sold in the state at the rate of 1 cent a gallon, and a bill to double the rate of automobile license in on this way.

Involved in all this activity is the final fate of the Bean-Barrett bill, which passed the house last week and which authorizes the state board of control to issue bonds in the amount necessary to meet the federal appropriation of \$1,800,000 allotted to Oregon.

The good roads committee, or at least those members of it who are in the lobby here, are opposed to the Barrett-Bean bill. They are attempting now to have it held in the senate committee until their own bill is disposed of. Their bill, they say, will provide amply for Oregon's participation in the federal road program without a bond issue.

House and Senate Won't Co-operate.

Salem—All prospects for early or effective co-operation between the house and senate committees on consolidation went glimmering Tuesday when the house committee determined to pursue an independent course toward the senate program.

In accordance with that plan the house committee has prepared a bill creating a state commission of labor and consolidating with it the present Commissioner of labor, the board of inspection of child labor, the Industrial Welfare commission and the Industrial Accident commission.

This bill probably will be introduced in the house within a few days and earnest efforts will be made to pass it. Other bills consolidating other state departments are in the making.

Plan Recall of School Directors.

Salem—Senate bill No. 95, introduced by Senator Eddy, providing the necessary legislative machinery for the recall of school directors, was reported favorably in the senate by the committee on education, with the amendment that it only apply to districts of the first class.

The committee held that to apply the bill to other districts would not be advisable. In districts of the first class, however, school directors are elected for terms of five years.

Naval Militia Praised.

Salem—That the Oregon naval militia during the past two years has reached the highest state efficiency of any similar organization in the United States; that it holds the highest marksmanship record, and that it attained this status on the cheapest basis of any such organization, was asserted by Adjutant General White before the ways and means committee. The naval militia asked \$15,900. The National guard asked \$164,300, a total of \$180,200 for development of naval and military forces of the state.

Bill Would Dim Auto Lights.

Salem—A bill introduced in the house by Representative Sweeney would provide regulation for all automobile headlights. It would require automobile owners traveling on state highways to equip their machines with dimmers, so that the glare of the lights would not blind cars approaching in the opposite direction.

"Safety First" Bill Proposed.

Salem—For the purpose of eliminating grade-crossing accidents, Representative Barber has introduced a bill requiring railroads to maintain a watchman at every crossing in the state over which they operate trains at a rate of speed exceeding 15 miles an hour. This is the first piece of "safety first" legislation proposed at this session, but other measures are scheduled, it is reported.

Measure Aims at Fake Ads.

Salem—Representative Mackay, of Multnomah county, introduced a bill in the house designed to carry out the campaign of the Portland Ad Club against fake advertisers. It would prohibit all "untrue, deceptive and misleading" advertising and fix heavy penalties for violations.

\$1,800,000 Road Fund Bill Passes to Equal Government Aid

Salem—Most of the important business of the house the latter part of the week was transacted in committees.

The judiciary committee conducted an open hearing on a number of bills intended to improve the operation of the initiative and referendum; the consolidation committee conferred with Governor Withycombe to gain his views on the work expected of them; the committee on alcoholic traffic held an informal meeting to consider the "bone-dry" prohibition bill, and many other committees held both day and night sessions to consider questions of varying degrees of importance.

The house passed Representative Bean's bill authorizing the State board of control to issue bonds, if necessary, to match the Federal appropriation of \$1,800,000 for road improvement work in Oregon. The expenditure is to be spread over a period of five years, and the state need bond itself only enough to complete the \$1,800,000 fund if that amount is not available from other sources. The government requires the state to spend dollar for dollar.

Proposed increases in automobile license fees and on gasoline distribution, it is believed, will go far toward meeting the government's requirements.

Boycott Meets Opposition.

Salem—The proposed anti-picketing, anti-banner and anti-boycott measure asked by the Employers' association and Portland business interests, with an emergency clause attached, has hit a snag in the Multnomah delegation. For a time Friday it looked as if all further consideration of the measure would be indefinitely postponed, which would be equivalent to killing it off, so far as the delegation is concerned.

Senator Orton even made a motion to that effect, but Senator Moser interposed the suggestion that District Attorney Evans, Sheriff Hurlburt, Chief of Police Clark, Mayor Albee and Municipal Judge Langthorn be invited to appear before the delegation at 8 o'clock Friday night and explain why the present law providing penalties for intimidation or force to prevent a person from continuing or accepting employment cannot be enforced.

Rural Credits Act Causes Friction.

Salem—A lively fight is brewing over the enacting law which the present legislature must pass to put into effect the rural-credits amendment to the state constitution adopted by the people last November. This amendment provides for a state bond issue of \$18,000,000.

Senator Shanks, of Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler counties, introduced a bill that is now before the senate committee on agriculture and forestry that represents one view of the situation. This measure, of course, would leave the administration of the law with the State land board, as the amendment requires, but it puts certain restrictions upon the administrative power of the board and provides a superintendent for the direct supervision of the fund.

Prison Held Unfit.

Salem—The penitentiary, state training school and tuberculosis sanatorium main buildings are antiquated, unfit, and have outlived their usefulness; the building at the training school is like a prison, with narrow windows, dingy rooms, no cheerfulness—a relic of poor methods in reformatory plans for children. These are assertions which were offered by Governor Withycombe in discussing some phases of the situation at the institutions around Salem, and incidentally commenting upon the recent report of the committee named to survey the boy's and girls' state schools here.

Fraternal Societies Heard.

Salem—The joint insurance committee of the house and senate gave the fraternal societies a hearing Thursday on the recommendations made by the Insurance Code commission to amend the present law relative to the regulation of fraternal societies. Representatives of many societies were present. Except for one society, they favored the recommendations. The committee reserved final decision.

There will be a hearing immediately on life insurance.

Schools Lose Funds.

Salem—The long-expected fight over state appropriations to sectarian institutions broke unceremoniously in the house Friday, and the house went decisively on record against such appropriations.

The question arose over the favorable report of the committee on health and public morals on Representative Bowman's bill prohibiting further appropriations to sectarian institutions.

Water-Power Bill is Urged.

Salem—Senator John Gill has introduced in the senate a joint memorial to congress urging the enactment of water power legislation by that body. The memorial, which was referred to the committee on resolutions, asks for legislation to develop the water resources of the Nation, but speaks especially of Oregon and other Western states.

First Bill is Signed.

Salem—Gov. Withycombe Thursday signed house bill No. 50, the first bill to be signed by the executive at this session. It was introduced by the joint ways and means committee and provides an appropriation of \$25,000 as a part of the expenses of the legislative assembly.

Marine News

Portland Yard Closes Contract for Two Big Wooden Ships

Portland—Gaston, Williams & Wilmore Steamship corporation, of New York, one of the best known Eastern maritime firms, has contracted with Joseph Supple for the construction of two wooden vessels that will be built on the East Side, on property under lease to Mr. Supple from the Spokane, Portland & Seattle railroad, north of the Hawthorne bridge approach and handy to his present plant at the foot of Belmont street.

News of closing of contracts was received Wednesday, though it has been known for weeks that negotiations were under way, and Mr. Supple, with Fred A. Ballin, associated with him as designer of the ships, left for New York two weeks ago. Mr. Ballin is the designer of a special type of a composite vessel, wood and steel being used, while Mr. Supple has had a strong leaning toward a wooden vessel with a double planked hull, the first planking next to the frames being laid diagonally to afford strength. Both have been submitted to prospective purchasers, but the builders had declined to close except at figures that would insure the new yard a profit. In this case it is believed by their friends that the move means the plant will be extensive, as well as permanent, for considerable business is looked for.

Olympia is to Build Ships.

Olympia, Wash.—Phillip D. Sloan, president of the Sloan Shipyards company, of Seattle, has announced the completion of negotiations by which work is to begin at once on the construction of a shipyard in Olympia that will cover 12 acres. The site is furnished by Olympia business men on a lease for \$3000 a year. President Sloan said that the new yards will employ 600 men at maximum capacity and add \$350,000 annually to the local payroll. He also said the company has contracts for four motor ships.

Steel Yard Humming Now.

Portland—Since the dove of peace has spread wings over the plant of the Northwest Steel company, following the strike early this month, reorganization is being rapidly worked out and it is estimated that all but about 100 men who went out are again on the payroll.

Those remaining idle are mostly helpers and places are to be made for some when the force is increased or others resign.

Balfour Fleet Augmented.

Portland—Lumber to make up the next cargo of the schooner Camano, now on the way to San Francisco from Gilbert Islands, has been purchased by Balfour, Guthrie & Co. from the Eastern and Western mill. The schooner is one of those bought last year by Balfour, Guthrie & Co., and she will be dispatched for the West Coast.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORT

Portland—Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.66 per bushel; club, \$1.62; fortyfold, \$1.63; red Russian, \$1.58.
Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$36.50.
Barley—No. 1 feed, \$39.00.
Flour—Patents, \$8.40; straights, \$7.60 @ 7.80; valley, \$7.90; whole wheat, \$8.60; graham, \$8.40.
Milled—Spot prices: Bran, \$26.50 per ton; shorts, \$30.50; rolled barley, \$42 @ 43.
Hay—Producers' prices: Timothy, Eastern Oregon, \$19 @ 20 per ton; valley, \$15 @ 16; alfalfa, \$15 @ 16; valley grain hay, \$12 @ 13; clover, \$11.00.

Butter—Cubes, extras, 35 @ 37 1/2; prime firsts, 37 1/2; firsts, 35 @ 36c. Jobbing prices: Prime extras, 42c; cartons, 1 cent extra; butterfat, No. 1, 41c; No. 2, 39c, Portland.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, current receipts, 33 @ 34c per dozen; Oregon ranch, candled, 35 @ 36c; select, 38c.

Poultry—Hens, 17 @ 18c per pound; springs, 16 @ 17c; turkeys, live, 18 @ 20c; dressed, 23 @ 26c; ducks, 20 @ 22c; geese, 12 @ 13c.

Veal—Fancy, 14 1/2 @ 15c per pound. Pork—13 @ 13 1/2c per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 90c @ \$1.10 per dozen; tomatoes, nominal; cabbage, \$3.25 per hundred; eggplant, 25c per pound; lettuce, \$2.50 per box; cucumbers, \$1.50 @ 2.00 per dozen; celery, \$5.50 per crate; cauliflower, \$2.50, squash, 1 1/2c per pound; peppers, 25c; sack vegetables, \$1.25; sprouts, 11c per pound.

Potatoes—Oregon buying prices, \$2.00 @ 2.25 per hundred; sweet, \$4.

Onions—Oregon buying prices, \$5.50 per sack, country points.

Green Fruits—Apples, 75c @ \$1.50 per box; pears, \$1.75 @ 2.50; cranberries, \$10 @ 11 per barrel.

Hops—1916 crop, 5 @ 9c per pound. Wool—Eastern Oregon, fine, 24 @ 30c per pound; coarse, 33 @ 36c; valley, 33 @ 41c; mohair, nominal.

Cascara Bark—Old and new, 5c per pound.

Cattle—Steers, prime, \$8.00 @ 8.50; fair to good, \$7.00 @ 8.00; cows, choice, \$7.35 @ 7.50; medium to good, \$6.50 @ 7.00; ordinary to fair, \$5.75 @ 6.25; heifers, \$4.00 @ 7.50; bulls, \$3.75 @ 6.00; calves, \$3.00 @ 9.00.

Hogs—Heavy packing, 215-250 pounds, \$10.80 @ 10.95; light butchers, \$10.80 @ 10.85; light packing, 170-190 pounds, \$9.85 @ 10.00; rough heavy, \$9.00 @ 9.25; pigs and skips, \$9.35 @ 10.00; stock hogs, \$8.50 @ 9.00.

Sheep—Lambs, \$10.75 @ 12.00; yearling wethers, \$9.00 @ 10.00; old wethers, \$8.75 @ 9.75; ewes, \$6.75 @ 8.50.

ORATOR'S DECLINE AND FALL

"Spellbinder" Now Simply Makes the Voters Tired, and They Will Not Have Him.

The campaign curtain has been rung down, says the Kansas City Star, on no sadder fact—from some points of view, at least—than that the stump orator has not lived up to his old-time tradition. Or if he has lived up to it the public has declined to live up to it with him. Not to evade the fact, or to attempt to soften it, the intelligent electorate, the free American voter, or whatever else the citizenry is called in presidential years, has yawned openly in the face of the spellbinder and turned away to see what was on at the movie show.

It has been a shock to the political managers. The campaign industry has had no such setback since the introduction of reading into the scheme of popular education. It used to be that anybody who had ever been a member of the legislature, who had sat on the bench, held a county office or had done anything that would serve as an excuse for prefixing the title of "Hon." to his name—it used to be that any such male person with well-developed lungs and a set of gestures could be billed in a political campaign and bring out the entire countryside. About all such an orator needed, in addition to the title alluded to, was a "statesman" coat, an untiring voice, a string of statistics and what was known as a "fund" of anecdote. This "fund" was generally overdrawn at the bank of originality and most of the drafts on it went to ignominious protest.

The "intelligent audience"—the most intelligent audience the old-time orator ever had the pleasure of addressing—has taken him at his word and has rather distanced him in intelligence and information on his own subject. It has come to be more and more like the audience at the theater which has paid for its seats—it demands the best or will go elsewhere to find it. The mere "Hons" no longer draw. Unless a topline is produced the intelligent audience shows its intelligence by staying away from the hall.

It is only fair to say that the intelligent campaign manager has kept pace with the intelligent audience. He was quick with the book when he saw the second-rate oratory stuff was beginning to pall. That is why printer's ink has so enormously increased in use in this campaign. These astute gentlemen have discovered that the intelligent audience takes the paper at home. The "and now my friends" orators never saw a sadder day than when they discovered it.

Sight Affected by Paper.

A committee of the British association has been conducting an investigation of the influence of school books on the sight, especially that of children. The glossiness of the paper was found to be an important matter. This glossiness depends mainly on specular reflection, i. e., reflection similar to that from polished metals. Such reflection is apt to interfere with binocular vision. Scattered or diffuse reflection, as from a fine white powder, is not harmful. Specular reflection can not be entirely avoided in paper, but it is not injurious to vision unless excessive. When the specular reflection exceeds 56 per cent, the resultant glare is likely to be harmful. Writing paper for school use should not give more than 54 per cent specular reflection at an angle of 45 degrees, since young writers often look obliquely at the paper. Colored maps can be produced without extra expense or difficulty on paper conforming to the committee's recommendations. In some cases the effect of using suitable paper is spoiled by the use of glaze in the colors of inks.

Seek Fabric to Replace Cotton.

Since the cotton supply of Austria-Hungary has been practically shut off by the blockade, scientists and manufacturers have co-operated in devising a paper fabric to replace it. A number of varieties of paper fabric are now in actual service. Some of them have a warp of paper yarn and include a mixture of cotton and paper in the filling. Others are composed of paper alone. Turkish cotton, which has ordinarily been considered too poor to weave into cloth, is utilized in this paper fabric, as is also nettle fiber, which has been found to possess great possibilities as a cotton substitute. Old rags are being converted into a paper fabric used for many of the purposes for which cotton cloth is now used. Chemical processes have toughened and strengthened the paper fabric so as to increase its durability.

An Antispeech Sentiment.

"Do you believe in telepathy?" "You mean," responded Miss Cayenne, "the art of communicating thought without audible speech?" "Something like that." "I am not sure whether it could be made to work or not. But I know a number of people who ought to try it."

Matrimony Like Airplane.

Willis—What system do these military airplanes work on?
Gills—One person runs the machine and the other is just an observer, but both of them fight.
Willis—I see; just like being married.—Toledo Blade.

Approval.

"In some parts of the world it is customary for women to smoke cigars." "It's a good idea," commented Mr. Growcher. "It's some protection to the man whose wife buys him a box of cigars for Christmas."

GUARDS SUPPLY OF FOOD AND DRUGS

Uncle Sam Protects People From Impositions on Part of Manufacturers.

MANY SAMPLES ARE TESTED

Thousands of Shipments Offered for Import Found to Violate Law and Are Excluded From Country.

If any person in the United States is sold adulterated food or drugs it is not because Uncle Sam does not do his utmost to prevent it. Government officials in charge of the enforcement of the federal food and drugs act never relax their vigilance, and their efforts in thousands of cases have prevented impositions upon the people at the hands of manufacturers.

During the last year United States department of agriculture officials analyzed 20,833 samples of foods and drugs offered for interstate shipment and for import. A physical examination was made of samples from 76,468 shipments offered for import. Of these foreign shipments, 6,353 were found to violate the law in some respects and were either excluded from the country or admitted only after the importers had relabeled them to comply with the law. Of the samples of domestic products analyzed, 3,535, either because of the nature of the product or because the label on it did not tell the truth, were found to be in violation of the federal law. In 1,361 cases the department recommended to the department of justice that criminal prosecution be instituted against the manufacturers or that the goods be seized. In many cases, where there was no evidence of intention to defraud and where there was merely some easily remedied flaw in the wording of a label, the shippers, after being warned in hearings, voluntarily took steps which made their products fully comply with the requirements. In all, there were held 8,715 such hearings, many of which resulted in the prosecutions indicated and the gathering of evidence for a large number of additional cases.

The bureau of chemistry, in its annual report, also calls attention to the fact that through the system of service and regulatory announcements now in use, manufacturers are given due notice of the requirements and thus are enabled voluntarily to make their products conform to the law. In this way the government achieves its purpose, frequently without entering into needless and very expensive litigation. In the regulatory work, special emphasis has been given to the control of drug products and foods liable to spoilage and pollution. These frequently constitute a serious menace to health. The food inspectors have been instructed to be particularly watchful for interstate shipments of bad eggs, milk, oysters and spoiled canned goods, and false and fraudulently labeled medicines and spurious, synthetic drugs.

Curbing Fraudulent Medicines. Attempts to counterfeit or adulterate imported drugs have been more common since the recent high price and scarcity of many of these products encouraged their imitation. It is interesting to note that of the 1,036 cases terminated in the courts during the year, 198 were brought on account of the false and fraudulent labeling of medicines. In all of these medical cases save five the courts found for the government, and this, it is believed, has exercised an important deterrent effect on the vendors of nostrums shipped from one state to another.

The work of controlling the fraudulent labels of medicines and mineral waters has been greatly strengthened by the establishment of a separate office to deal with these matters. At the request of the secretary of agriculture an officer of the United States public health service has been detailed to take charge of this work. Moreover, through the close co-operation established with the foods and drugs officials of many of the states, the department was able to direct the attention of the local authorities to the presence of spurious drugs in their states and, as a result, much of these fraudulent goods in the hands of local dealers and beyond the reach of the federal authorities were destroyed by state and municipal officers who, in many cases, prosecuted those responsible for the local traffic.

Extend Milk Control.

The co-operation in the sanitary control of the milk supply of small cities has been extended in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and in New England. It is proposed to repeat this work year after year, extending it each year to new territory. In some localities bad conditions were found, due in the main to insufficient cooling and careless handling. Perhaps the best results of this work has been that it stimulated some of the local authorities to take up similar work independently, so that definite, permanent improvement of the milk supply of a number of cities has resulted. The co-operative work on the control of the shipment of decomposed eggs has been extended to cover much of the territory in which shipments originate so that eggs are now candled before shipment far more than formerly and the spoiled eggs destroyed or fed to poultry and stock.