

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR BUSY READERS

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

Berlin claims to have sunk 80,000 tons shipping capacity in the "last few days."

President Wilson will issue within the next few days an order requiring examinations for candidates for nominations as first, second and third-class postmasters to go into effect April 1.

The London Daily Express says it learns that Prince Friedrich Karl, of Prussia, shot down by artillery while flying in an airplane over the British lines near Peronne, has died from his injuries.

President Wilson denies an application for pardon of Maury I. Diggs and F. Drew Caminetti, convicted at San Francisco under the white slave law. This means that the men must begin prison sentences.

A carload of bottled goods manufactured in St. Paul and described by the manufacturers as "a malt and hop tonic," was seized at a Seattle railroad terminal by Sergeant Victor Putnam, of the police dry squad.

The possibility of American participation in the war on the side of the allies was dismissed as a minor matter by General von Stein, Prussian minister of war, in an interview with the Berlin correspondent of a Budapest newspaper.

Torpedoing of the Norwegian steamer Wilfred, with two Americans aboard, and the British schooner Chorley, with three Americans, was reported Tuesday to the State department. The Wilfred was warned by the German submarine that sunk her, but carried no contraband or armament.

Reuter's Stockholm correspondent cables that the Swedish minister of foreign affairs has let it be known that no attempt at peace mediation has been made by Sweden. This denial was called forth by a New York dispatch, published in a London newspaper, in regard to alleged attempts in this direction by Sweden and Spain.

A great crowd of peasants, soldiers and workmen, saw a dispatch from Petrograd, went singing and cheering to the house of the late Count Tolstoy at Yasnaya Poliana Wednesday and sent a deputation to greet the widowed countess in behalf of the Russian people. The countess was asked to come out with the portrait of Count Tolstoy and she complied. Thereupon all knelt and chanted.

The bodies of the two missing Canyon Creek, Douglas county, miners, D. F. Stearns and E. E. Lautzenhiser, were found by the searching party from Kerby Tuesday in the wreck of their cabin buried under an eight-foot bank of snow. The men were the victims of a snowslide at least two weeks ago. The bodies were found lying in the bed, indicating the slide occurred during the night, the men being crushed down and suffocated under the weight of the snow. The upper part of the cabin was carried away.

The Russian government has ordered that the deposed emperor and his consort shall be regarded as having been deprived of their liberty, and that they shall be brought to Tsarskoe-Selo.

Admittance to the residence of Premier Lloyd George was gained Thursday by a man supposed to be of unusual mind. It was only with difficulty that he was overpowered and arrested.

President Gompers and Secretary Morton of the American Federation of Labor, presented to Attorney General Gregory Friday a protest against the declaration of the Supreme court in the Adamson law decision, that the right of railroad employes to strike is limited by the public interest.

The New Hampshire house of representatives passes a bill which would establish state-wide prohibition on May 1, 1918.

The 35th Texas legislature adjourned Friday after a renewed unsuccessful attack on the "bone-dry" county option bill passed by both houses earlier in the day. The bill prohibits manufacture in any "dry" county of intoxicating liquors for sale, for any purpose whatever, in prohibition territory in the state.

"I shall probably vote 'no' against congress declaring that a state of war exists between this country and Germany," said Representative-elect Edward Voight, of Wisconsin, when informed that a special session of congress had been called.

Governor Marcus H. Holcomb told the inter-church men at a gathering in Hartford, that emergency military legislation in Connecticut was hurried by information he had received which indicated there were in Connecticut men whose hostility to the state would be evident in time of war.

CZAR'S HIDDEN GUNS FOUND

Illegal Acts of Old Regime Investigated by New Government.

London—A Reuter's Petrograd dispatch says that a special commission has begun an investigation of illegal acts committed by ex-ministers, heads of departments and other officials of the old regime. About 600 machine guns have been found hidden in different parts of Petrograd.

According to the Bourse Gazette Rasputin's body has been buried near Petrograd.

Petrograd, via London—The grand dukes and the royal princes, in a joint telegram addressed to the provisional government Wednesday, not only formally associate themselves with the abdication of Grand Duke Michael, but also turn over to the new government their official wealth, namely, their holdings of crown lands and other state grants heretofore attaching to their station.

Washington, D. C.—Conditions in Russia were reported by Ambassador Francis Wednesday to be steadily improving. Apparently the acceptance of the new government by the grand dukes announced in press dispatches has been accompanied by a more favorable attitude on the part of the radical element, which for a time it was feared might start a counter-revolution against the moderates in control.

Reports to the department are steadily becoming more optimistic about the future in Russia.

Old Regime Plots Begin to Harass New Russia

Petrograd, via London—The work of agitators, whose efforts are designed to hinder the successful accomplishment of the revolution, is becoming apparent with the subsidence of activity on the part of the military, which forced the supporters of the old regime to keep in hiding during the early days of the upheaval.

The indications of such work in Petrograd, which are indefinite in form, are confused with the possible designs of a horde of criminal prisoners who were released from the jails with political offenders. One definite instance has been recorded, however. Wednesday a motorcar speeding along the streets scattered proclamations calling on the people to undertake wholesale massacre of the intelligentsia.

The militia is thoroughly alive to the danger of such counter manifestations and the commandant has issued strict orders for vigilance.

Irish Promise Regiment.

Chicago—A meeting of the Irish National Brotherhood here Wednesday unanimously adopted resolutions pledging to the President the support of the brotherhood "in any efforts he may make to uphold the honor of this country," and promising that "as in the past it will furnish Irish blood and sinew to uphold the same and equip at least one regiment within 30 days after call by President Wilson."

A telegram apprising the President of the brotherhood's action was sent to the White House.

Bible to Test Literacy.

Washington, D. C.—Reading matter for a literacy test for aliens under the new immigration law will be taken from the Bible, the department of Labor announces. Passages will be selected in more than 100 languages and dialects.

"This is not because the Bible is considered a sacred book by many people," said the department's announcement, "but because it is now the only book in virtually every tongue."

Kaiser Offers Peace to Russia.

London—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam says: "According to a Berlin telegram received by the Amsterdam bourse, Berlin is filled with rumors that Germany has offered a separate peace to Russia. The terms offered are said to be complete autonomy to Poland, the internationalization of Constantinople, the evacuation by Russia of Austrian territory and a Russian protectorate over Armenia."

Villa Again Attacks Chihuahua City.

Juarez, Mexico—Fighting was resumed at Mapula, 20 miles south of Chihuahua City Tuesday at 4 o'clock, according to an unofficial message received here from a reliable source. The fighting between Villa and Carranza forces was general south and southwest of the city. It was added, and a general assault upon the capital is expected from the south, southwest and west, the message from Chihuahua City stated.

Eleven Killed by Storm.

Montgomery, Ala.—At least 11 lives were lost in a storm which destroyed many houses in Central Alabama early Wednesday. Six of the known dead were negroes. The storm centered in the vicinity of Petrey, a small town in Crenshaw county. Every building in the town was demolished and four persons were killed, among them Robert J. Jeter, a wealthy planter.

Defense Millions Asked.

Portland, Me.—An immediate appropriation by the legislature of \$1,000,000 for defense was recommended by the state committee on public safety Wednesday. Resolutions also were adopted, urging Maine senators and representatives in congress to vote for the adoption of a resolution declaring that a state of war exists with Germany.

WILL BUILD 1000 SHIPS ON COAST

Federal Shipping Lays Program for Possible Emergency.

WEST RECEIVES CONSIDERATION

President of Federal Body Assures Fair Treatment, Despite Eastern Opposition to Our Timber.

San Francisco—One thousand wooden vessels, ranging from 3000 to 4000 tons cargo capacity, is the tentative building program of the Federal Shipping board to meet possible emergencies caused by submarine warfare, Vice Chairman Theodore Brent, of the board, announced here late Thursday at the close of his conference with shipbuilders of San Francisco and vicinity. Mr. Brent said it would take a fleet of such dimensions to supply the allies with munitions and foodstuffs and to offset the losses of entente cargo carriers.

The majority of the wooden vessels probably will be constructed on the Pacific Coast, Mr. Brent said after the shipbuilders and shipowners had declared that the yards of the Pacific Coast "had sufficient timber and skilled labor to carry out any building program."

It was indicated that wooden vessels could, under rush orders, be completed in from five to seven months, depending on type and size.

Fifty million dollars is now available to start the building program, he said, adding that congress probably would vote \$200,000,000 additional if the National welfare demanded it.

Mr. Brent is now outlining a plan for the restoration of shipping between the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. He is on his way to Portland, Tacoma and Seattle to further his program of construction.

William Denman, chairman of the Federal Shipping board has telegraphed the Shipowners' association of the Pacific Coast that despite attacks of "Eastern interests on the use of Pacific Coast lumber the Shipping Board anticipates several hundred vessels may be built on the Pacific Coast," if operations of German submarines force emergency construction.

The telegram was addressed to Oliver Olsen, president of the association. In part it read:

"If necessity requires construction of wooden vessels to meet emergencies caused by German submarines, the shipping board anticipates several hundred vessels may be built on the Pacific Coast of Douglas fir and Oregon and Washington timber. Attacks have been made by Eastern interests on use of Pacific Coast lumber, but these attacks are without foundation."

United States Asks Armed Ship Status of Neutrals

Washington, D. C.—"In event of hostilities between the United States and Germany, what will be the attitude of the government to which you are accredited respecting the admission of armed merchantmen to its ports?"

This question, cabled by Secretary of State Lansing to the diplomatic representatives of the United States in all neutral capitals shows more clearly the President's expectation of war than any step, even military, which the government has taken.

It is a question of most serious importance to those neutrals which border upon the German empire or lie in close proximity to it. It can arise only when war actually is in progress, for no neutral would or could forbid admission to armed ships of another neutral, which is the present status of the United States.

If the Scandinavian countries announce that American armed ships will be received and allowed to clear in time of war, they will bring down upon themselves the armed might of Germany. If they deny the privilege of admission to the vessels, they will curtail the importation of foodstuffs and thereby bring themselves nearer to starvation.

2314 Ships Reach England in Week.

London—During the week ending March 25, 2314 ships of more than 100 tons net arrived at ports in the United Kingdom, according to an official statement. During the same period 2433 vessels of more than 100 tons net sailed from ports in the United Kingdom. Eighteen British merchant vessels of more than 1600 tons gross, including two during the previous fortnight, and the hospital ship Asturias were sunk by mines or submarines. Seven merchant vessels of less than 600 tons also were sunk.

Thaw is Delaying Army.

Berlin—No military action of importance will be possible for some time on the Russian front from the Baltic to the Carpathians, owing to the setting in of the spring thaw, the army headquarters statement indicates. There is some activity on the Russian front and the failure of a Russian attack on Magyros is reported, together with the capture by Teutonic forces of a strongly entrenched ridge south of the Uzal valley.

CHANGE IN HANDLING GRAIN IN OREGON

Wheat in Bulk Instead of Sacks Gives Fine Opportunity for Growers to Sample.

O. A. C., Corvallis, Ore.—(Special to this paper.)—Preparations for the change from sack handling to bulking of grain in the Pacific Northwest is laying a new demand upon large wheat farmers, country buyers and others who are vitally interested in the marketing of grain in bulk. It is now possible for them to sample their own or their purchased wheat, according to the new classifications and grades in process of establishment by the U. S. Office of Markets and the State of Oregon.

Heretofore growers merely took their wheat to market, and had it classed and marketed for them. They were unable to check on the classification applied by the grain samplers, because there were no standards established. If they were dissatisfied with results in one market, they had recourse to switching to another distributing point next time. If they felt that they were being flimflamed by agents of one company, they could change companies for the next crop—and take chances. Growers not only had the prices set for them, but they likewise came to market powerless to have a say in the classification and gradations of the crop.

With the new Federal-State system in operation, this may be changed. It is true that grain will be sampled and classed by official samplers, but it will be done by men with no direct personal interest in the results. More than that, farmers can learn to sample their grains for themselves and determine the classes and grades for a check upon the reports of the samplers.

Those who do not know how to do this, and there may be many among growers and buyers, can take a special course of grain sampling at the State Agricultural College. Prof. G. R. Hyslop, who conferred with the Federal representatives in establishing the grain classes and grades, has announced special courses to begin any time and run till the farmers or dealers taking them are fully able to take samples, classify, grade, make weight and moisture tests, and if, they so desire, the gluten tests. Equipped with this power they will be able to determine just how their crop ranks, how it is classed and graded, and what it is worth at current market prices.

It is expected that this system and its operation will be a factor in selection of wheat classes that are most profitable for seed in each of the great grain growing belts of the state. The advantages of good seed selection of the most profitable sorts will be very evident to growers, who will thus be enabled to get a line on the varieties and types best suited to their needs. The classes, with five grades in each, as now in course of adoption as standards in this state, are as follows:

Class 1. Hard red spring wheat includes all varieties of hard red spring wheat. Grain which, after the determination of dockage, consists of hard red spring wheat and more than ten per centum of other wheat or wheats shall not be classified as hard red spring wheat. These subclasses include dark hard red spring wheat of which seventy-five per centum or more of the wheat kernels are dark, hard, and vitreous.

Class 2. Durum wheat includes all varieties of durum wheat. Grain which, after determination of dockage, consists of durum wheat and more than ten per centum of other wheat or wheats shall not be classified as durum wheat. These subclasses include amber durum wheat of which ninety per centum or more of the wheat kernels are amber or light colored; red durum wheat of which ninety per centum or more of the wheat kernels are red; mixed durum includes all mixtures of durum wheat not included in subclass (a) or (b) of this class.

Class 3. Hard red winter wheat includes all varieties of hard red winter wheat. Grain which, after the determination of dockage consists of hard red winter wheat and more than ten per centum of other wheat shall not be classified as hard red winter wheat. These subclasses include dark hard red winter wheat of which ninety per centum or more of the wheat kernels are dark, hard and vitreous; yellow hard red winter wheat of which seventy-five per centum or more of the wheat kernels are yellow or mottled and starchy and hard red winter wheat not included in either subclass (a) or (b) of this class.

Class 4. Soft red winter wheat includes all varieties of soft red winter wheat and also red club wheat of the Pacific Northwest.

Irrigation Charge Fixed.

Washington, D. C.—The secretary of the Interior has announced that the annual maintenance and operation charge for water on the West Umatilla irrigation project will be \$1.50 per irrigable acre and on the remainder of the Umatilla project \$1.40 per irrigable acre. This charge applies whether water is used or not. By compelling land owners to buy water for every irrigable acre, the department hopes to compel the cultivation of all land on the project that can be irrigated.

DEMOCRATS COUNT VICTORY

Independents Said to Have Given Promise to Speaker Clark.

Washington, D. C.—Organization of the new house by the Democrats is declared to be assured by Representative Randall, of California, Prohibitionist and one of the five so-called independents, on whom the political complexion of the house seemed to hinge.

Mr. Randall has returned to Washington from Los Angeles. On reading a statement issued by Republican Leader Mann, offering to retire from the race for the speakership in favor of Speaker Clark if a bi-partisan or non-partisan organization were agreed on, he said Mr. Mann was too late, that he was in a position to say that enough of the independents would vote with the Democrats to give the latter a majority and assure the administration control by its party of both houses of congress.

There have been indications for several days that the Democratic leaders had received satisfactory information concerning the independents. Speaker Clark and other spokesmen of the party have predicted the outcome apparently with complete confidence.

Democrats and Republicans go into the organization fight with 214 members each and 218 votes are required to elect the speaker. So four of the five independents must join the Democrats to re-elect Speaker Clark unless there are defections from the Republican ranks.

Representative Mann said he probably would see some other Republican leaders to present his views. He is willing, he said, to make the race for speaker if a majority of the Republicans favor such a course, despite his personal belief that it would be to the country's disadvantage. Partisan affairs should have no place in the incoming house, he said, and whether the country is to have peace or war it is essential that all parties unite at once to expedite important public business.

37 Dead at New Albany.

New Albany, Ind.—Six additional deaths reported Sunday made a total of 37 persons who lost their lives because of the storm here Saturday. Three-fourths of the wrecked area has been explored, and the list of missing is being reduced almost hourly by reports from missing persons who have been cared for in private homes.

Of the 100 or more who were injured, it was said probably 75 were badly hurt, but that less than a dozen were in a serious condition.

The institution of relief measures was prompt. Citizens of Louisville subscribed \$12,000 and sent motor trucks loaded with food and clothing. Later in the day the chamber of commerce here issued an appeal to the country for aid, estimating that \$200,000 was needed. State troops are supervising the work of clearing away the wreckage and searching the ruins for bodies.

Liner St. Louis in Port.

Washington, D. C.—The American liner St. Louis, first armed American ship to cross the Atlantic, has arrived safely at her destination, Secretary Daniels announced Tuesday. Information as to the arrival of the steamer came to the Navy department from the offices of the American line in New York. The company wished to make known the fact to relieve the anxiety of those having relatives or friends on vessels. There were 14 American passengers aboard.

900 Barracks Offered.

New York—Nine hundred Salvation Army barracks, in all the principal cities of the country, have been offered to the War and Navy departments as recruiting stations, with the additional promise of the assistance of the workers in each branch, it was announced here. The army's 128 industrial homes and more than 100 hotels and other institutions which it maintains also will be turned over to the government as hospitals, Colonel William Peart chief secretary of the organization in the United States, declared.

Jews Get All Advantages.

Washington, D. C.—Absolute equality of Jews in Russia with all others to own property, to reside in any place, to serve in the army and navy, to participate in educational advantages and at the polls has been proclaimed officially, says advices received at the Russian embassy. Therefore, it is understood, there will be no further restrictions on the issue of passports to Russia or American Jews who desire to visit Russia than those common to other persons.

Germany to Seize Grain.

Berlin—The German government announces that all grains still in the hands of consumers above limited quantities will be seized for the benefit of the public. This is a result of the recent census which revealed a shortage from the expectations of last fall. Special committees accompanied by military aid will visit all farms. Seized grain will be confiscated and paid for at the rates in the Berlin district in 1916.

German Crews Moved.

Philadelphia—Several hundred members of the crews of the German auxiliary cruisers Kronprinz Wilhelm and Prinz Eitel Friedrich, interned at the Philadelphia navy yard since last October, started Tuesday under a heavy guard of marines for Fort Oglethorpe and Fort McPherson, Ga., where they will be kept until further orders.

ORDERS NATION PUT ON WAR FOOTING

President Directs Recruiting of Navy to Full War Strength.

DANIELS MAKES STRONG PLEA

Two New Military Departments Created and 11 Regiments National Guard To Do Police Duty.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson took steps Sunday to place the nation on a war footing.

By executive order he directed that the navy be recruited without delay to full authorized war strength of 87,000 enlisted men. Taken in connection with emergency naval construction already ordered, this means that the President has exercised the full limit of the legal powers as commander in chief to prepare the navy for war.

For the army, the President directed that two new military departments be created in the Atlantic coast region. The order means that the task of organizing whatever army congress may authorize will be divided among six departmental commanders instead of four, in the interests of speed and efficiency in mobilization.

The third step was to assume as a national duty the task of protecting American industries from domestic disorders in the event of hostilities. For this purpose 11 full infantry regiments, two separate battalions and one separate company of national guard were called back into the Federal service to act as national police in important districts. Supplanting these troops, a regiment of Pennsylvania guard and two companies of Georgia infantry, en route home from the order for muster out, were ordered retained in the Federal service.

The President's orders were made known in terse official statements issued by both departments. No explanation accompanied them except the statement that organization of the military departments, effective May 1, was designated to facilitate decentralization of command.

Following is the executive order bringing the navy up to war strength: "By virtue of the authority vested in the President by act of congress" approved August 29, 1916, entitled "An act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, and for other purposes," it is hereby directed that the authorized enlisted strength of the navy be increased to 87,000 men.

(Signed) "WOODROW WILSON." The navy must enroll immediately approximately 20,000 men to reach the required strength, Secretary Daniels supplemented the order with personal telegrams to newspaper editors all over the country urging them to aid the department.

Germans Framing New Peace Offer, Says Newspaper

Berne, via Paris—Peace negotiations were begun Monday, says the Journal de Geneve, which does not reveal the source of its information, but declares it is absolutely reliable. Germany would offer to restore territory she occupies in France, except in the mining district of Briey, in exchange for a channel port, Calais or Dunkirk, and an indemnity of 15,000,000,000 francs.

"Germany would also offer," says the newspaper, "to restore the territorial integrity and the sovereignty of Belgium on condition that Belgium would not be allowed to maintain a national army and that Germany would be permitted to garrison Namur, Liege and Antwerp perpetually."

It is added by the newspaper that Germany must have control of the Belgian railroads and ports and be favorably treated in an economic treaty. This is not the program of Pan-Germans, but the actual terms of the German government, says the Journal.

Deportations to Resume.

Hazebrouck—It is reported here that deportations from the invaded districts of Northern France are about to be resumed. The Germans for some time are said to have been distributing blanks to be filled out to organize the deportation of young men and women with a view to employing them for spring farming. The Germans continue to requisition metal, having taken from most of the churches in Lille their bells and organ pipes and from other places quantities of sheet steel.

Labor to Be Replaced.

Washington, D. C.—Commissioner General Caminetti, of the Immigration service, announces that the United States employment service, with its more than 80 branches, is prepared to unify the labor resources of the country. Plans are being made for locating, ready for call, persons to replace men taken into the active service of the army and navy. The employment service is co-operating with the National defense council labor committee.