

# 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.

The Austrians are again actively bombarding the Italian advance positions on the Carso front of the Austro-Italian theater.

A sharp controversy over the future of the National guard is foreseen in congress when the matter reaches the senate and house.

By order of Mayor MacVicar, of Des Moines, Ia., the police seized a carload of coal in the local yards of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. The mayor announced that the coal was to be delivered to the poor.

Copenhagen—After a single reading the Folketing passed the bill ratifying the treaty for the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States. The vote was 90 in favor of and 16 against ratification. Five members were absent.

Attempts to obtain action on the Adamson resolution to extend the life of the Newlands railroad committee, now investigation all phases of the railroad situation, until January 7, 1918, were abandoned. They will be taken up after the holiday recess of congress.

Vallejo, Cal.—A centrifugal machine gun, said to throw 3000 projectiles a minute at an initial velocity of 4000 feet a second, was tested by naval authorities here. The initial velocity of the machine gun is 2000 feet per second. The centrifugal gun is operated wholly by electricity.

Viscount Motono, foreign minister at Tokio, told members of parliament that he believes the German peace proposal lacked sincerity and that Germany does not really desire peace. He added that Japan's reply to the proposal would be made after consultation with her allies.

Pekin—Hsia Ti Ying, vice minister of foreign affairs, appeared before the lower house of parliament and answered a rumor that China was preparing to join the entente. He declared that China absolutely was not considering entering the European struggle and that she would maintain the strictest neutrality.

In the opinion of Senator Borah, congress will be unable to pass an effective compulsory arbitration bill, such as President Wilson recommended in his opening address to congress, and such as he also advocated last August. While Senator Borah recognizes the ability of congress to pass a law such as the President demands, he does not believe it would stand the test in court.

An urgent deficiency appropriation bill, carrying approximately \$4,600,000, was passed Friday by house and senate and sent to the President for approval. It provides \$4,250,000 for dependents of national guardsmen engaged in Mexican border service; \$210,000 for the Philadelphia, \$37,000 for the Denver, and \$25,000 for the San Francisco mints, and \$45,000 for the New York assay office.

A new record for butter production has been established by a cow belonging to M. J. Smiley, at Belle Fourche, S. D., it is claimed. The official test made by Professor Larson, of the State college, shows a production of 47.77 pounds of butter in seven days.

Cuba's sugar yield for 1916-17 will be a record-breaking one, according to cable advices received in New York by the Federal Sugar Refining company. The current crop will amount to 3,466,000 tons, as compared with 3,006,000 tons last year, and 2,582,245 in the previous season, according to the messages. The large output is attributed largely to the favorable weather.

French capture 11,387 Germans in three days' fighting along the Verdun front.

All publishers of papers in the United States are asked to communicate with the Federal Trade commission, which is investigating the high cost of newspaper stock.

Minneapolis millers Wednesday began operation on half-time basis because of the car shortage. They said they hoped to maintain at least that basis if sufficient cars could be secured.

The British government has cut service in hotels to 3-course dinners. For breakfasts and luncheons two courses only are allowed.

Companies of state militia from Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, North Dakota and Utah, numbering 16,647, are ordered to their respective states.

Directors of the Crucible Steel Company of America, at Pittsburgh, declare an extra dividend of 2 per cent on the preferred stock on account of deferred dividends. It will be payable January 31.

Privates Earl Irby, Company C, Second Kansas Infantry, and Arthur H. McElroy, Company G, Wyoming Infantry, died at the base hospital at Deming, N. M., Wednesday, of measles and pneumonia.

American relations with Turkey are so unsettled, it became known Wednesday, that the State department does not plan to take any action toward the confirmation of Eud Bey named by Turkey as ambassador, until that country gives consideration to American representations and interests.

## RAILROADS ARE PROSPEROUS

Net Income From All Sources During 1916 Exceeds Billion.

Washington, D. C.—More than \$1,000,000,000 net income from operation was made by the railroads of the country during the year now closing. The huge total is the peak of prosperity in railroad operations, and stands more than one-third higher than the total of 1913, heretofore the banner year.

Statistics gathered by the Interstate Commerce commission, complete for nine months and made the basis for the calculation for the entire year, indicate that the total net income from operation will be approximately \$1,098,000,000. For the first nine months of the year complete returns show \$785,558,266. Even this does not represent the full amount, as roads whose income is less than \$1,000,000 are not included.

The estimate—\$1,098,000,000—is

To Manage Ceremonies at Wilson's Inauguration



Robert N. Harper, a bank president of Washington, D. C., is to be chairman of the inaugural committee which will have charge of the inaugural ceremonies for President Wilson. He will have plenty of hard work in raising the money for the ceremony and providing for the hundred thousand visitors who will besiege Washington March 4.

regarded by officials as conservative. It makes no allowance for normal increase in business during the last three months of the year—returns for which are unavailable—but places the income for October, November and December at the same figures as for July, August and September. There is no question, officials say, but there will be an increase, the only doubt is as to its size.

Analysis of the returns for the first nine months shows a startling increase from January to September, amounting to more than 67 per cent. Thus, net income in January, \$64,915,286, had mounted to \$107,910,814 in September, an increase of nearly \$43,000,000.

For the first nine months of the year, the commission's figures show that the railroads collected \$2,654,829,647 from all sources of operation.

The chief items were as follows: Freight, \$1,875,919,990; passenger traffic, \$322,103,907; mails, \$45,348,609; from express companies, \$65,089,474; incidentals, dining and buffet car service, operation of hotels and restaurants, sale of vending privileges on trains and at stations, parcel rooms at stations, demurrage, storage of freight and baggage, telegraph and telephone wires leased to other companies, operation of grain elevators, etc., \$60,414,597, and all other transportation charges, \$76,987,611.

The last item embraces sleeping and parlor car service; freight on milk, which has virtually an express service; switching charges and operation of special trains.

Brayless Mule Produced. Paris—The brayless mule is one of the scientific developments of the war. Large numbers of mules have been imported from America for use at the front, but their habit of braying at inconvenient moments had to be remedied before they could be used to the best advantage.

The veterinary experts were called in, and after a little experiment, they discovered that a slight operation on the nostril had the desired effect, and all the mules sent to the front are now made mute by this process.

Indian School Diet Cheap. Carlisle, Pa.—When the story of how the department of the Interior's Indian bureau handles the feeding of the grown students at Carlisle Indian school, which is producing notable athletes, is told all experimental feeding clubs and university dietitians are expected here to take a back seat.

In the year of high food prices just ended the Carlisle Indian school has given good, wholesome food at the rate for the individual of 16 2-3 cents a day, or \$1.07 a week, or a little more than \$5 a month.

Wilson Takes Up Deficit. Washington, D. C.—Various plans suggested for meeting the deficit are being considered by President Wilson and it was said Monday the President might decide to address congress on the subject as soon as he made up his mind how the revenues should be raised.

Members of the house ways and means committee already have discussed the problem with Secretary McAdo and other administration officials.

Wire Fence Deadly to Two. Tulare, Cal.—John D. Mello and Frank C. Silv, ranch hands, were shocked to death Christmas day by a wire ranch fence carrying 11,000 volts of electricity transmitted by a Mount Whitney Power & Electric company power wire which had fallen across the fence and set the posts afire. Mannel Godline was severely burned when he attempted to rescue his companions.

## COURT INVALIDATES TITLE TO 600 ACRES

Judge Galloway, Salem, Finds Fraud in Hyde Entries.

37,000 ACRES ARE AT STAKE

Decision in Linn County Case is First in Seven Actions Pending—State Must Return \$1.25 an Acre.

Salem, Ore.—Judge William Galloway, in the Circuit court here late Saturday, decided that title to 600 acres of land in Linn county was obtained by F. A. Hyde and his associates through fraud and collusion and that the title in equity to such lands, because of the fraud and collusion, still is vested in the State of Oregon.

But, he determined, that the \$1.25 an acre paid to the state for the land should be repaid. The money has been a portion of the state school fund, bearing six per cent interest. As to whether the interest which the state has received on this money should be repaid as well is still to be decided when the findings of fact and conclusions of law are signed by the court next week.

While the cause in question involves only 600 acres of land, the decision is of widespread interest, as this is the first to be decided of the seven Hyde-Benson cases, which have been submitted by Attorney General Brown and Assistant Attorney General Bailey. All told, the cases involve 37,000 acres of land situated in Linn, Lane, Clackamas, Hood River, Crook, Klamath and Josephine counties.

If the lower court's contention that the \$1.25 an acre should be repaid from the state school fund, proves to be correct on appeal, it will take from the fund approximately \$46,250, with the possibility of payment of six per cent interest on that amount running from 1898.

The court found that Hyde and his associates, through "dummy" entries, obtained 47,000 acres of school lands in the state. Before the fraud and collusion were discovered the United States had patented 10,000 acres of the land, and this was disposed of by Hyde and his associates, and the land forfeited as far as the state was concerned.

\$4000 is Obtained by Lone

Robber From Bickleton Bank North Yakima, Wash.—The Bank of Bickleton, 20 miles southwest of Mabton, Wash., was robbed of \$4000 late Friday by a lone robber, who rode into town on horseback, held up the bank and escaped.

The robber compelled S. A. Rossier, the cashier, to hand over the money, and after locking Rossier in a room, mounted his horse and rode away. A posse was formed as soon as Mr. Rossier could free himself and give the alarm.

The robber's abandoned horse was found by the posse 30 miles from the scene of the robbery. The bandit had ridden the animal until it was exhausted and then had continued his flight on foot. The posse was said to be in close pursuit.

Two thousand dollars which the robber left behind when he abandoned his horse was recovered.

Pupils Made for Eyes. Los Angeles, Cal.—Through a marvelous operation Mrs. Susan B. Johnson, of 113 Charleville street, Pasadena, has regained her sight.

Artificial pupils have been made to allow the light to penetrate and focus on the retina. Removing a small section of the iris, the surgeons made artificial pupils above the natural ones, and opposite the clear part of the cornea.

The bandages were removed Saturday and Mrs. Johnson saw clearly for the first time within her recollection.

America Aided by Berlin. Washington, D. C.—Release by Turkey of the 200 Americans detained at Syria and Palestine was brought about because Germany, at the request of the United States, exercised its good offices with the Ottoman government.

It became known Saturday that Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, at the suggestion of Secretary Lansing, communicated with his government after the United States, through the embassy at Constantinople, had made many unsuccessful efforts to obtain the release of the Americans.

Peace Meeting Planned. New York—Monster peace demonstrations, at which will be read a manifesto "from the American people to the world in the cause of peace," will be held at midnight on New Year's eve in Chicago, Denver, San Francisco and this city, it was announced here Monday by the American Neutral Conference committee.

At each meeting a community chorus will ring out the present year with song.

\$36,000 Paid for Farm. Pendleton, Or.—The old Prospect farm, near Stanfield, one of the oldest in Umatilla county, again changed hands, David R. Wood, of Weston, buying it for \$36,000 from William Robbins and wife, who purchased the place about a year ago. The farm consists of 1600 acres of wheat land. Robbins took in trade as part payment a house and lot in Weston, a chop mill and warehouse in Weston and a house and lot in Milton. At one time the place sold at nearly \$73,000.

## ENGLAND STILL SUSPICIOUS

"Something Behind" Belief Prevalent in Minds of Many.

London—The Monday morning newspapers again are giving ample space to President Wilson's note, assiduously seeking to penetrate any possibly concealed motive that may have led the President to what is considered here a most inopportune movement.

According to the Washington correspondents of London newspapers the opinion in the United States as well as here is that there must be "something behind it," and it is the opinion of many of the newspaper writers that this act was inadvertently revealed by Secretary of State Lansing when he referred to the United States as the verge of being drawn into the war.

The suggestion is put forward by some of the writers that what would possibly so involve the United States would be a resumption on a still

Lord Curzon Will Wed Another American Beauty



The engagement of Lord Curzon, just named a member of the British war council, to Mrs. Grace Elvina Duggan, widow of Alfred Duggan, of Buenos Ayres, and daughter of the late J. Munroe Hinds, once American minister to Brazil, has been announced in London.

His wife, Mary Victoria Leiter, daughter of the Chicago millionaire, died ten years ago. Mrs. Duggan is a native of Alabama. She is tall and handsome, and has been known in European capitals for some years. Her former husband made a large fortune in Argentina.

greater scale of Germany's submarine policy.

The passage in the President's note to which he professes to find the aims of both belligerent groups identical and his qualified phrase in the context, "as stated in general terms to their own people and to the world," for the most part is ignored, except in the columns of newspapers of pacifist tendencies. It cannot be said that these late press opinions show less opposition to the President's action than those of last week.

The Morning Post says the king's speech in parliament was perhaps the best answer that could be made to "the President's amiable proposal." Alluding to the President's belief that the nations are ready to welcome a league of peace, the newspaper says: "With our experience with these leagues of peace behind us, we should think twice and thrice before throwing over trusted allies in order to put our votes to the vote of Guatemala, Haiti, Siam and other nations, large and small, which would compose such a federation."

The Daily News, one of the most favorable of the newspapers to President Wilson, says editorially that the reception of his note was respectful but uncompromising. "What had to be said has been said, for the most part in language which America will neither misunderstand nor resent."

El Arish Lost by Turks. London—El Arish, 90 miles east of the Suez canal, was captured Saturday by the British. The text of the British official statement says: "Saturday the Egyptian town of El Arish was occupied by our troops after being for two years in the hands of the enemy. From the fact that the enemy had constructed a strong entrenched position covering the town and that a large amount of work recently had been carried out there, it appeared that the enemy had every intention of offering a stubborn resistance."

French Devise New Tax. Paris—The Chamber of deputies has approved a batch of new taxes, among them a graduated tax on theater and vaudeville tickets. Moving picture establishments must pay 5 per cent on monthly receipts under 25,000 francs, 10 per cent from 25,000 and 50,000 francs, 20 per cent from 50,000 to 100,000, and 25 per cent on receipts in excess of that. Forty francs per hundred kilos is imposed on refined sugar. The price of tobacco is also raised as well as the rates on letter and postal card postage and telegrams.

Coins Carry New Designs. Denver—The Denver mint Monday began turning out the newly designed half-dollar pieces, and for an indefinite period will coin an average of more than 150,000 pieces daily. The new coin bears the full length of the Statue of Liberty, with the Stars and Stripes flying to the wind as a background. Branches of oak also are imprinted. On the reverse side an eagle is perched high on a crag, wings unfolded. The coin bears the usual wording.

Treaty is Ratified Again. Copenhagen—King Christian in the cabinet council Monday ratified the treaty providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States. This follows the passage by both houses of the Danish parliament of the bill for the ratification of the treaty.

Luther Burbank Wedded. San Francisco—Luther Burbank, the famous plant evolutionist, was married here Thursday to his secretary, Miss Elizabeth Waters, by Rev. C. S. S. Dutton, pastor of the First Unitarian church. The ceremony was private and Mr. Burbank and his bride were whisked away in a taxicab.

## TWENTY MISSING IN MASONIC HOME FIRE

Aged and Children Are Believed Lost at Wichita, Kansas.

DEFECTIVE FURNACE IS CAUSE

Eight Tots Trapped in Burning Wing With Rescue Impossible—Institution Thrown Into Darkness.

Wichita, Kan.—Of more than 100 persons in the Kansas Masonic Home here, which burned early Friday, only 80 had been accounted for at 3 a. m., according to Superintendent Daniel P. Burdick.

Eight children, trapped in a wing through which flames were sweeping, and which had been entirely cut off from an entrance by the fire, were given up for lost after rescuers had made many frantic efforts to enter the building to rescue the helpless little ones.

Aside from the tragic destruction of the Masonic Home, the fire began to assume serious financial aspects as several nearby houses began burning. Efforts to obtain telegraph operators to man wires to the outside world were hindered by the fact that five men from the telegraph office had been summoned home because their residences were on fire.

The majority of the older persons in the Masonic Home apparently escaped. Many of them were unhurt, but in the scanty clothing which they were able to snatch in their exit from the home, they suffered keenly in a temperature close to the zero mark. The refugees took shelter in a nearby chapel and first aid was rushed to them. Frozen fire plugs proved a serious handicap to the firemen in their efforts to check the flames, so that rescue work could be carried on.

One woman, caught under a falling stairway, received injuries which probably will prove fatal.

The fire is thought to have originated in the basement of the home. Paul Zeilke, 16, an inmate of the home five years, was sleeping in the basement. Zeilke was awakened shortly before 2 o'clock by fire and smoke. He rushed to an electric switch and pulled it, shutting off the motor that pumped oil to the furnace. This also threw the entire building in darkness.

Revised figures indicate that there were 99 inmates in the home besides the assistants and help. Of these but 46 have been accounted for, but dozens of others are known to have been rescued and taken to nearby homes.

Universal Military Training Bill to Reach Congress Next Month

Washington, D. C.—A definite plan for universal military training will be laid before congress next month in the shape of a bill formulated by the general staff of the army, accompanied by complete estimates of cost, as compared to the present volunteer system.

Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff, told the house military committee Friday that the work was in progress, and would require about a month to complete. Chairman Dent said the committee would be glad to see the bill.

Auto Robbers Get \$3000. Los Angeles—Julius R. Miller, a chauffeur, was shot through the right shoulder by one of two automobile robbers who attempted to rob him. Miller fled when they ordered him to halt and the robbers opened fire but did not pursue him. Jewelry valued at \$3000 and \$5 in cash had been taken from Frank R. Strong, wealthy real estate broker, by two automobile bandits shortly before the shooting of Miller. Charles Stewart also reported that he had been held up by two robbers in an automobile and forced to give up \$7.

Seize Mangle Cure Whisky. Seattle—Eighty cases and six barrels, all containing bottles of liquor, which had been shipped by a whisky firm of San Francisco, were seized by the police Thursday. The packages were labeled mangle cure, hair tonic and toilet water, and were addressed to 12 persons, which the police say are fictitious.

The police chopped in pieces the fixtures of the Indiana bar on Weller street at the same time. The property several years ago cost \$12,000. James O'Brien was convicted.

Irish to Be Released. London—The government has decided to release the Irish prisoners who were interned after the rebellion in Ireland, Henry E. Duke, chief secretary of Ireland, announced Friday.

"The time has come when the advantages of releasing these men far outweigh the risk, and I have so advised the government. Steps, therefore, will be taken to proceed with the least possible delay to return the interned prisoners to their homes."

Christmas Pardon Given. Albany, N. Y.—A Christmas pardon was granted by Governor Whitman Saturday to William J. Cummins, who has served three years and two months of a state's prison sentence of four years and eight months for his part in the wrecking of the Carnegie Trust company, of New York, several years ago. Governor Whitman said that letters and petitions asking for clemency had been received from nearly every state in the Union.

## NEWS ITEMS Of General Interest About Oregon

Drainage of Wet Lands Progresses in Oregon

Corvallis—Several thousand acres of wet lands have been drained and at least three drainage districts formed during the past season, and people are beginning to realize that the drainage of wet lands holds an important place in the development of Oregon.

To further the interests of drainage in this state the Oregon Drainage association was formed several years ago to aid the movement by disseminating knowledge of drainage advantages to the farmer and community, to encourage discussions and investigations that will disclose the best methods of draining different soils, to issue biennial reports, and to use any other legitimate means to further the reclamation of millions of acres of wet lands in the state, where ever feasible.

The annual meeting of the association will be held at Corvallis, January 23-4, in connection with the Farmers' Week at the Agricultural college. Many important questions are to be discussed here and a strong and interesting program is being arranged which includes addresses and lectures by drainage authorities of state and national reputation. Several demonstrations and educational exhibits will be arranged as special features. A large attendance is indicated from all reports and all who are interested in drainage are welcome to attend.

Klamath Project is High

Klamath Falls—The second highest returns in dollars and cents on any irrigation project under the United States Reclamation service have been won by the Klamath project, according to the report of Franklin K. Lane, secretary of the Interior, just made public here.

The Klamath project, with a cash value crop return of \$1200 a farm, is the second highest of the 23 government projects. It is exceeded only by the \$12,220 for farm returns on the great Salt Lake river project in Arizona. Following are some statistics on the Klamath project, taken from the report of the secretary: Number of farms, 315; irrigable acreage, 108; total acres irrigated, 27,254; irrigated per farm, 87; cropped total, 27,254; cropped per farm, 87; total crop value, \$377,488; value per farm, \$1200.

District Union Proposed.

Salem—Percy Cupper, assistant state engineer, has sent letters to the secretaries of the 17 irrigation districts of the state suggesting that the districts form an association in connection with the Oregon Irrigation congress to promote the interests of irrigation generally and of the districts in particular. He declares that the future irrigation development of Oregon will be under the district plan. He believes that such an association would not only result in the benefit of irrigation in the state generally, but would encourage beneficial legislation.

Railway Asks Rate Cut.

Salem—Application was made to the Oregon Public Service commission by the Southern Pacific company Wednesday for a rate of 20 cents per 100 pounds on canned goods in carloads between Ashland and Portland and intermediate points. The present rate is 30 cents. The application set forth that canneries in the Rogue River valley have several carloads of canned goods on hand which they wish to move, and ask that the commission give speedy hearing, as they are holding such goods pending a readjustment of the rate.

Farmers Study Methods.

Eugene—Lane county farmers plan a farm visiting day, December 27, to encourage the adoption of more progressive methods. It is planned to visit farms where various branches of agriculture and animal husbandry have been carried on with success.

One farm to be visited is that of Carl Ruder, near Junction City. He is engaged in the poultry industry, keeping exact records of his business. Mr. Ruder, from 300 White Leghorn hens, has sold \$1220 worth of eggs during the year at a feed cost of \$475.

Handcar Hits Cow; Four Hurt.

The Dalles—Four Greek section hands were injured, one seriously, when a power-driven handcar struck a cow on the track near Arlington Tuesday. The injured men were brought to The Dalles and the foreman, who was seriously hurt, was taken to The Dalles hospital. The other three were taken to Portland.

The accident occurred when the men were returning from work. The car was traveling at a good speed and hit the cow, which was lying on the track.

Judge Stanton to Stay.

Hood River—Rumors that have circulated throughout the valley to the effect that County Judge E. E. Stanton was planning to leave Hood River and that he would resign his office have been denied by Judge Stanton. Judge Stanton declares that he has never contemplated any such action.

The reports of Judge Stanton's contemplated resignation had gained credence in the county that aspirants for appointment to succeed the county official were seeking indorsement.

6274 Children in Baker.

Baker—That Baker county has 6274 children of school age was the result of reports received by County School Superintendent J. F. Smith, according to his announcement Wednesday. Of these 3260 are boys and 3014 girls. In the city of Baker there are 1437 children of school age of which 1197 are boys and 1240 girls. Social estimators say that these figures prove that Baker county has nearly 25,000 population and that there are nearly 9000 in the city of Baker.

## WILSON CALLS FOR TERMS FOR PEACE

President Sends Appeal to All Warring Nations.

BASIS FOR DISCUSSION SOUGHT

Action Taken Without Notice Amazes Belligerents—Is Not Proposal of Peace Nor Mediation Offer.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson has appealed to all the belligerents to discuss terms of peace.

Without actually proposing peace or offering mediation, the President has sent formal notes to the governments of all the warring nations suggesting that "an early occasion be sought to call out from the nations now at war such an avowal of their respective views as to the terms upon which the war might be concluded, and the arrangements which would be deemed satisfactory as a guarantee against its renewal or the kindling of any similar conflict in the future, as would make it possible frankly to compare them."

Wholly without notice and entirely contrary to what administration officials have described as his course, the President Wednesday night dispatched the notes to all the belligerents and to all the neutrals for their information. Summarized in the President's own words as contained in the notes, his attitude is as follows:

"The President is not proposing peace; he is not even offering mediation. He is merely proposing that soundings be taken in order that we may learn, the neutral nations with the belligerent, how near the haven of peace may be for which all mankind longs with an intense and increasing longing. He believes that the spirit in which he speaks and the objects which he seeks will be understood by all concerned, and he confidently hopes for a response which will bring a new light into the affairs of the world."

This latest development in the rapidly moving world events toward a discussion of peace was not permitted to become known until the notes were well on their way to the American ambassadors in the belligerent capitals.

It was a most distinct surprise to all official Washington, which had been led to believe that with the formal transmittal of the proposals of the Central Powers the offices of the United States would be closed to further moves between the belligerents themselves and that certainly, in view of the speech of Premier Lloyd George and the announcements in Russia, France and Italy, further action by neutrals would depend upon the next careful and deliberate moves of the belligerents.

The whole tenor of official opinions throughout Washington, when the President's action became known, was that it immeasurably improved the prospects for some sort of exchange looking toward an approach to peace without impairing the position of the United States should they finally be unable to find a good ground on which to approach one another.

At the White House no statement whatever could be obtained as to whether any of the powers had intimated how they would receive the note, and there was every indication that the same careful secrecy which had prevented anything whatever becoming known about the President's action until it had been taken, would surround any of the moves in different ways to the White House. The attitude of the entente allies as expressed by their statesmen, and certainly until recently in official advices to the American government, has been that a peace offer by the United States would be considered almost the next thing to unfriendly.

The wish and hope of the German powers that President Wilson would intercede in some way has long been known and has been conveyed in different ways to the White House. The attitude of the entente allies as expressed by their statesmen, and certainly until recently in official advices to the American government, has been that a peace offer by the United States would be considered almost the next thing to unfriendly.

Attempted to Burn Her Baby.

Waterloo, Ia.—Mrs. Ruth Conner of Elgin, killed one of her 2-month-old twin babies by hitting the child over the back of the head, attempted to burn the other child in a cook stove, and then cut her own throat at Elgin, Sunday morning, according to information received here Wednesday.

The second child is in a serious condition and may not live, while Mrs. Conner also is in a serious condition. Family and financial troubles are said to have been responsible for the woman's actions.

8 Roads Holding Cars.

Washington, D. C.—In line with its announced policy of bringing before the bar of public opinion the railroads which do not co-operate in car redistribution plans, the commission on car service of the American Railway association announced Friday night that eight roads had failed to carry out recommended redistribution measures.

The announcement expresses a hope that these lines will at once show a marked improvement in their performance. The roads named are mostly Eastern lines.

16,000 Guardsmen Ordered Home.

San Antonio, Tex.—Orders issued Wednesday by Maj. Gen. Funston, in line with the war department's policy to return the guardsmen to their homes when their presence becomes unnecessary on the border, will send home a body of 16,000 national guardsmen from border duty. Eleven states were represented in the list of units ordered to move and because of scarcity of rolling stock the troops were divided into groups for the return journey.