

BLOCKADE DUE TO SUBMARINES CAUSES CRISIS

Holding of American and Other Ships in Port Paralyzing Business and Becoming Intolerable — President Expected to Soon Go Before Congress to Announce Relief Steps.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—What has virtually become a blockade of American Atlantic ports by Germany's ruthless submarine campaign was regarded by officials today as overshadowing the collateral issues of the situation.

That President Wilson soon will go before congress to announce steps to relieve the situation was the generally accepted view, but no time has been set for his action and there was no indication of how soon it would be taken.

The effect on the country of the shipping situation was reflected in the receipt of hundreds of telegrams by government officials today urging that something be done to relieve the congestion.

Situation Intolerable.
Officials recognize that the holding of the majority of American and other ships in port fast is becoming intolerable. Piling up of freight on railroads, while believed to be largely due to weather and other conditions, is nevertheless looked upon as in part the result of the inability of exports to clear American ports of freight.

Means of protecting American ships against the submarine danger still are under consideration. Many officials believe the president has the power to direct the navy department to furnish these vessels with guns and gun crews, nevertheless the possibility that a clash with Germany might result is expected to cause the president to consult congress before taking such a step.

FOUR BRITISH SHIPS SUNK BY SUBMARINES

LONDON, Feb. 17.—Lloyd's announces that the British steamer Lady Ann, 1916 tons, has been sunk by striking a mine. Two of the crew were killed and five injured. The captain and eighteen men are missing.

Sinking of the following British steamers was announced by Lloyd's this afternoon:
Marie Leonhardt, 1468 tons.
Marion Dawson, 2300 tons.
Queenswood, 2701 tons.
The crew of the Queenswood was saved, except three men killed.

SIX STEAMERS FROM WAR ZONE ARRIVE

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Six steamships, including one which sailed after Germany announced her unrestricted warfare arrived here today from European ports.

The Burmese Prince, British, reached here in ballast from Bresit, whence she sailed February 5. The other arrivals were the Madonna, French, from La Pallice; the Egyptian transport British, from Bristol; the Alphonse, Dutch, from Rotterdam, and the John Knudsen, Norwegian, from Fowey, and the Lincolnshire, from Bordeaux.

OCCASIONAL RAINS FOR COMING WEEK

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Weather predictions for the week beginning Sunday, issued today by the weather bureau, are:

Rocky mountain and plateau regions: Snow in central and northern and probably rain in southern portions at beginning of the week, followed by generally fair. Temperature near seasonal normal.

Pacific states: Unsettled with probably occasional rains in Washington and Oregon. General fair in California. Temperatures below seasonal normal.

MILITIA FORCES ALONG BORDER ORDERED HOME

Demobilization of Entire National Guard Force Remaining in Federal Service on the Border Ordered—50,000 Guardsmen Effectd, Including Those of Border States.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Demobilization of the entire National Guard force remaining in the federal service on the border, including troops from Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, was ordered today by the war department. General Funston was directed to send all guard organizations home for muster out as soon as he can complete arrangements for the movement.

The war department issued this statement: "Orders have been sent to General Funston to send all National Guards north for muster out, including border states. All details of the movement, including dates of departure, are left to General Funston."

50,000 Affected.
The order affects about 50,000 guardsmen, who were not included in a previous order which recalled about 25,000 men. At the time that order was issued it was understood it would be followed as soon as possible by the withdrawal of the remaining troops, with the exception of those from Texas, New Mexico and Arizona. It was thought troops from those states would be kept in the federal service as long as General Funston had need of them to supplement the regular forces along the border.

General Funston now has approximately 50,000 regular troops distributed along the border, and today's order is construed to mean that he has recommended the withdrawal of the National Guard, as he believes the regular forces sufficient for patrol duty and to face any probable emergency.

Department officials expect all the guardsmen to be back in their state mobilization camps or at their armories inside of three weeks.

PROBE FRAUDS IN HOMESTEAD ENTRIES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Secretary Lane today ordered further investigation of evidence that extensive land frauds are being made under the new stock raising homestead law.

Evidence that dummy entries, acting in the interest of cattle and sheep raisers and cattle corporations, are attempting to take possession of the lands has been forwarded to the interior department by many individuals and also by the Idaho legislature.

Secretary Lane has directed prompt investigation and vigorous prosecution of all fraudulent claims.

KENNETT HUSBAND KILLS WIFE'S VISITOR

KENNETT, Cal., Feb. 17.—William Herzman was shot dead here today by Calulo M. Reppert as he started through the doorway of Reppert's home to call on the latter's wife, Mrs. Reppert—said Herzman, who was a frequent caller, wanted her to elope.

Reppert heard of the frequent attention and instead of going to work this morning he secretly lay in wait. "Hands up!" he commanded Herzman as the caller stepped through the door, unannounced.

Herzman started to run, but dropped in his tracks with a bullet through his head.

FARRELL DECLARED LIAR BY POLICE

MONTREAL, Feb. 17.—It took a Philadelphia detective just seven minutes today to decide that Fred J. Farrell was not telling the truth when he surrendered to the police here and declared he saw Bernard W. Lewis slay Malbie Colbert, the artist's model in Philadelphia on December 29. Farrell, who is a soldier, will be turned over to the military authorities.

LEGISLATURE TO END ITS LABORS AT MIDNIGHT

Rush of Measures During Past Few Days—Big Measures Are Bone-Dry Law, New Insurance Code, Revision of School Laws—Consolidation Measures Fail.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 17.—With most of its given tasks performed, the 1917 session of the Oregon legislature will come to an end probably shortly after midnight tonight.

Discussion of several pending measures may, however, prolong the session until well into tomorrow. The senate has before it the \$6,000,000 highway bond issue voted by the house of representatives and the house has yet to pass upon a rural credits amendment. A conference committee is also considering a substitute bill providing for notification of delinquent taxpayers by postal cards for thirty days and then by advertising.

Several bills aiming to consolidate state departments are also pending in both houses.

Consolidation Fails.
Consolidation of state departments, one of the tasks the legislature set out to perform, did not receive the attention expected, and as a result only a few consolidation measures were enacted into laws. A committee was named, however, to investigate the subject and report to the next legislature.

Fishing bills were passed aimed to conserve the gamefish of the Rogue and Willamette rivers by prohibiting the use of nets on certain portions of the streams. Backers of the bills claim a monopoly long held by commercial fishing interests has been broken thereby, and say that small fish-catchers can now compete for their catches on an equal basis with the big companies.

Many School Laws.
School laws received a big share of attention. One bill passed extended the recall to school directors, heretofore exempt, and another made eight months the minimum term in rural schools. Heretofore some Oregon schools have been open six months and less.

Another school bill passed provides that Portland teachers shall not be denied or suffer reductions in salaries unless given a hearing before a commission to be appointed by the county judge each year.

Cigarettes and Liquor.
Cigarettes, as well as liquor, were considered, and a bill was passed prohibiting their sale to minors. A bill prohibiting their sale or use was passed by the house, but was considered too drastic and was recalled before the senate took action. The "bone dry" bill passed, put into immediate effect the absolute prohibition amendment passed at the last general election.

Public service corporations were instructed in a bill passed to pay interests on deposits made by customers. Another new law requires that one public service corporation desiring to enter the field of another must procure a "certificate of necessity" from the secretary of state showing that there is room for another corporation in the field desired.

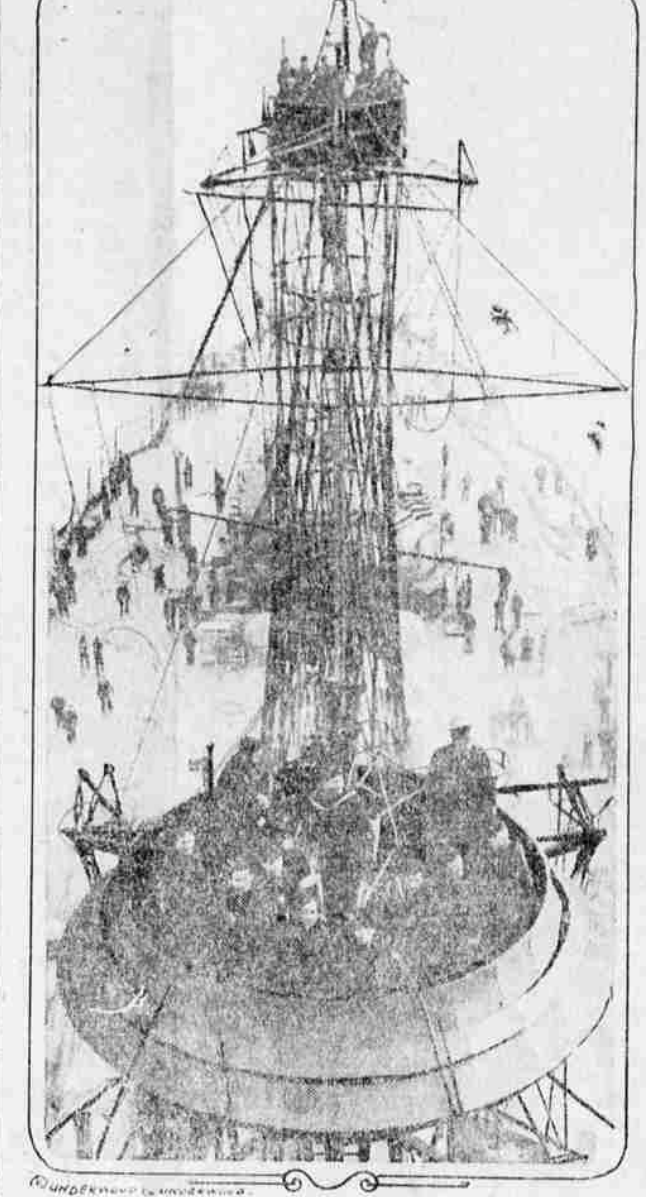
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AMERICANS HELD ON SWISS BORDER

GENEVA, Feb. 17.—Many Americans who have been living in Germany are reported to be waiting near Singen and Constance, for permission to cross the frontier into Switzerland. It is reported from Schaffhausen that only a few Americans have entered Switzerland from Germany since Ambassador Gerard and his party arrived at Berne. The Swiss and Spanish ministers at Berne are said to be giving every assistance in their power to the Americans still in Germany.

Considerable financial loss has been suffered by those Americans who have already reached Switzerland. One hundred marks, which before the war were worth 125 francs, are now valued at only 80 francs. The Germans are reported to have closed and sealed the American consulate at Warsaw.

U. S. ONLY NATION USING "PEACH BASKET" MAST



Case of "peach basket" masts on the United States battleship New York. They are unlike those of any other naval ships afloat. No sea-man of wooden shipdays would recognize these odd structures as masts. They are really observation towers of steel.

PAPER COMBINE BROKEN BY ACTION OF THE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—It became known today that the print paper manufacturers yielded in their opposition to the government's efforts to restore normal prices and agreed to permit the federal trade commission to determine a fair scale only when confronted with the alternative of personal action by President Wilson and a special session of congress to pass remedial legislation.

At President Wilson's direction, it was said, Secretary McAdoo summoned one of the principal manufacturers who was acting as spokesman for the others, and informed him that inasmuch as the government itself was not permitted by the constitution to impose prohibitive restraints upon the press, the administration did not intend to remain idle while an alleged monopoly through extortionate prices for print paper effectively imposed greater restraints than the government might ever contemplate.

It is understood that the administration is going further and taking steps to guard against any shortage of supply in the future. Through the forest service, which already has been at work on some phases of the problem, plans for reforestation of wood-pulp areas now devastated for wood pulp, are to be worked out, which are expected to furnish ample supplies for American publishers in the future.

WITHYCOMBE NAMES PICKEL'S SUCCESSOR

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 17.—Governor James Withycombe today appointed Dr. C. T. Bacon, La Grande; Dr. Robert J. Marsh, Portland, and Dr. Harry E. Clay, Salem, to the state board of health. They will succeed Dr. E. B. Pickel, Medford; Dr. E. A. Pierce, Portland, and Dr. W. H. Morse, Salem, respectively, whose terms expired January 15, 1917.

TURKEY AGREES TO DEPARTURE OF AMERICANS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Permission for the departure of the American refugees from Turkey has been given by the Ottoman government. Ambassador Elkus at Constantinople advised the state department today that a Turkish authority had expressed the hope that the Americans would be given passage soon and their departure would in no way be interfered with.

American missionaries in Syria, Palestine and Turkey are awaiting transportation at Beirut. The naval collier Casner and armored cruiser Des Moines are now at Alexandria, Egypt, loaded with food supplies and relief stores for delivery in Syria and Palestine. State department officials said the question of Germany's submarine blockade which extends into Mediterranean waters would have to be taken into consideration before the two vessels were dispatched to Beirut.

Permission also must be obtained of the British and French governments for the vessels to pass through the allied blockades. France already has consented to such an arrangement.

Ambassador Elkus said the Turkish government had reduced the quarantine from 28 to 1 or two days in order that the Americans might leave immediately.

GERMANY CUTS DOWN FURNACE HEAT

PARIS, Feb. 17.—The Hayes correspondent at Geneva reports that the Berlin local government has decreed that on account of the lack of freight cars and the impossibility of obtaining sufficient supplies of coal, central heating plants must not have a temperature of more than 59 degrees. All central heating plants must cease operations on March 31. Hot water supplied by the city to apartment houses is to be cut off immediately.

\$6,000,000 BOND ISSUE FOR ROADS PASSES HOUSE

Provides for Paved Pacific Highway Through Jackson County—Crater Lake Highway Also Looked After—Burden of Bonds and Interest Met by Auto Licenses.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 17.—Issuance of bonds for \$6,000,000 to construct a system of state highways throughout Oregon is provided for in a measure which carried 32 to 27 in the house of representatives here today, the last day of the session.

Since the introduction of the measure Thursday, much has been said for and against it. When the vote was taken today, members and spectators favoring the bill broke into cheers.

The bill now goes to the senate. It was shorn of a proposed emergency clause when Governor James Withycombe announced he wanted the people to pass the measure and would veto it if it came to him with the clause attached.

The emergency clause would have made it effective immediately.

Autos to Pay Bonds.
Interest and principal on the bonds would be paid from doubled automobile license fees, according to the measure.

This money, together with the funds that may accrue from the bonds sold under provisions from the Benn-Barnett bill, already passed by both houses, will place a maximum of \$7,800,000 of state funds at the disposal of the highway commission in the next five years.

An additional \$1,800,000 is to be expended in Oregon through the federal appropriations.

Besides this approximately \$275,000 will be available every year from the regular quarter mill tax levy.

This means that the state will have at its disposal during the next five years more than \$10,000,000 for the permanent road development besides the money that may be spent by the individual counties.

Exclusion of Multnomah.
The provision in the bonding bill excluding Multnomah county from its benefits is an element that appealed to the upstate members.

The system of roads that are to be built under this plan are enumerated in the bill. Every county in the state excepting Curry county will be served.

Following is a list of roads proposed to be hard surfaced:

First—The Columbia River Highway from the Multnomah county line to Astoria, Seaside and south to the Tillamook county line.

Second—The Pacific Highway from the Multnomah county line through Washington and Yamhill counties by way of Hillsboro, Forest Grove, McMinville, Dallas, Monmouth and Independence, through Park, Gerton and Linn counties to Harrisburg, through Eugene to the north line of Douglas county.

Third—The Pacific Highway from the Multnomah county line through Oswego, Oregon City and Canby, through Clackamas county, thence through Marion and Linn counties to Junction with Pacific Highway at Harrisburg.

Columbia Highway Listed.

Fourth—The Columbia River Highway from the Multnomah county line, through Hood River and Wasco counties, Sherman and Gilliam counties by way of Arlington and up the Columbia river to a point near the confluence of the Umatilla and Columbia rivers; up the Umatilla river through Herperton, Stanfield, Echo

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TURKEY FRIENDLY TO UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Expressions of friendship for the United States and of the hope that friendly relations may continue have been given to Ambassador Elkus by the Turkish foreign office.

A dispatch from the under-secretary makes no reference to Turkey supporting Germany's submarine policy or that she intends to apply it with the full submarine known to be under her flag.

CAPTAIN ADMITS DISABLING OF INTERNED LINER

Kronprinzessin Cecilia Injured Upon Order From Official of German Embassy—Requests Not to Be Forced to Disclose Name—Vessel in Possession of United States.

BOSTON, Feb. 17.—Captain Chas. A. Polack of the North German Lloyd Steamship Kronprinzessin Cecilia testified today at a federal court hearing on a petition for the sale of the vessel that he had been ordered by a man connected in an official capacity with the German embassy, to disable its machinery. This was done, he said, to prevent the ship's use by this government in the event of hostilities with Germany. He refused to divulge the name of the man giving the order.

Faces Trial for Treason.
Captain Polack said he was in Hoboken, N. J., when he received the order and that he telegraphed his chief engineer here to disable the engines. The work of destruction, he said, was done on January 31 and February 1.

When asked to give the name of the person from whom the order was received, Captain Polack said: "Your honor, I am an officer of the German navy and if I should have to disclose the name of this gentleman in this hearing I might be tried for treason when I went home to Germany. I wish you would not oblige me to answer that question."

Held by Government.
The question was not pressed and Judge Martin decided that it would not be necessary for the captain to answer it at this time.

The Kronprinzessin Cecilia is in the possession of United States Marshal John J. Mitchell pending the determination of a suit for damages brought against the North German Lloyd Steamship company by the Guaranty Trust company and the National City Bank of New York for failure of the vessel to deliver a shipment of gold to bankers in England and France which she had on board at the outbreak of the war.

The vessel was turned back and put into Bay Harbor, Me. The banks seek to recover \$2,300,000.

CUBAN REBELS SUFFER DEFEAT

HAVANA, Feb. 17.—It is officially announced that Colonel Pujol's forces have occupied Ciego de Avila, the rebel headquarters in Camaguey province. The town was entered on Thursday afternoon, the rebels fleeing at the approach of the troops. Government forces now hold the Cuba and Juacero Moron railroads and have captured sufficient rolling stock for the transportation of the troops.

The rebels are reported to have broken up into small groups, some heading for Camaguey and others for Las Villas and their escape is believed to be practically cut off. Administration officials claim that the backbone of the uprising in Camaguey province is broken.

FIGHTING RESUMED ON RUMANIAN FRONT

BERLIN, Feb. 17.—Fighting was resumed in the Rumanian front the war office announced today.

PARIS, Feb. 17.—Artillery duels in the sector of Maison-de-Champagne are reported in this afternoon's official communication.

The French made an attack at Ammerweiler. An appreciable loss was inflicted on the Germans, the statement says.

BERLIN, Feb. 17.—French troops made attacks yesterday on the Aisne, west of Barry-an-Buc and in the Champagne south of Ripont. Today's official communication says these efforts failed.