

FORECAST
Tonight and Tomorrow Rain
or Snow.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WEATHER
Max. Yesterday 47; Min
Today 29; Precip. .04.

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1917.

NO. 285

WHITE STAR LINER CELTIC STRIKES MINE

CELTIC TOWED BACK TO PORT BY TROOPSHIP

No Lives Lost, But Ship Badly Damaged, Report Passengers of American Liner Philadelphia Which Arrives at New York From Trip Through War Zone.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—Reports that the big White Star line steamship Celtic had hit a mine February 14 and was towed back into Liverpool in a damaged condition were brought here today by passengers on the American line steamship Philadelphia, also from that port.

The Philadelphia, the passengers said, sailed about thirty minutes after the Celtic and the British steamship Canada, a troop ship. Wireless calls from the Celtic asking for aid are said to have been picked up by the radio operators on the American liner, which, however, did not respond as the Canada was already reported to have reached her. The Canada, it was said, towed the Celtic back to Liverpool.

Report Kept Secret.
An effort was made to keep the report secret in fear of alarming the Philadelphia's passengers, but it leaked out after the danger zone had been passed. The Celtic, it was believed, carried no passengers.

Officers of the Philadelphia declined to discuss the report today under plea of neutrality restrictions forbidding them to talk. It was said here by officials of the White Star line that no word had been received of the accident. The Celtic is a vessel of 20,904 tons and was last reported as having arrived in Liverpool on an unannounced date after leaving here January 21.

The Philadelphia, which sailed February 14, was the first American liner to leave Europe after Germany's declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare. She was not armed. She carried a large passenger list, of whom many are Americans. Passengers were obliged to sign waivers releasing the company from responsibility in event the ship was sunk by a mine or submarine.

She has a general cargo and two tons of dispatches from the American embassy in London for the state department, among them being many important documents forwarded from American embassies and consulates in nearly all the countries of Europe. A quantity are from Germany, dispatched before the break in diplomatic relations.

Not a submarine was sighted during the Philadelphia's passage through the German zone, the officers said. From Liverpool to the Irish coast, the vessel sailed with lights shrouded at night before passing out to sea.

Among the passengers were fifteen members of the crew of the American ship Housatonic, sunk by a submarine off the Scilly Islands; 26 of the crew of the British steamship Japanese Prince, torpedoed and destroyed off the British coast; fifteen of the crew of the former American steamship Edwin L. Fisher, sold to the French government, and three of the crew of the American tugboat.

(Continued on Page Two.)

RAIDING OPERATIONS ALONG WAR FRONTS

BERLIN, Feb. 22.—Continuance of raiding operations along the Russian front is reported in today's army headquarters announcement. In Macedonia near the Vardar the British were defeated in a hand grenade engagement. Bad weather prevails on the Rumanian front.

A sharp attack by several British companies on the German lines in the vicinity of Armentieres is reported in today's army headquarters statement. The British penetrated the German position, but were immediately driven out leaving behind it is declared, 200 killed and 39 prisoners.

FIVE AMERICANS ON SHIP SUNK BY SUBMARINE

Swedish Steamer Skogland Victim of U-Boat—Crew Given Ten Minutes to Take to Boats—No One Injured—Neutrals Suffer in Today's Shipping Losses.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Sinking by a German submarine of the Swedish steamer Skogland, which had five Americans aboard, after the crew had been given ten minutes to take to their boats, was reported by Consul General Hurst at Barcelona, Spain, in a message today to the state department. No one was injured and the crew landed safely at Tarragona, Spain.

The Skogland, a vessel of 1,837 tons net, sailed from Norfolk January 26 for Bagnoli, Italy. Consul General Hurst in his dispatch said there were 26 in her crew, five of whom claim American citizenship. He gives their names as James Brauer, Brooklyn, New York; Leo Cartwright, Portsmouth, N. H.; Jack Burke, Brooklyn, New York; Jay Lewis, Uniontown, Pa., and Joseph Brown, Elizabeth, N. J.

Stopped by U-Boat.
The Skogland was stopped in the Mediterranean by a submarine six miles south of Tarragona, Spain, at 6 a. m. February 18. Consul General Hurst reported, and the crew were given ten minutes to take to their boats. As the crew left the ship, sailors from the submarine went aboard and placed a bomb which was exploded and destroyed the ship. The crew landed at Tarragona after 17 hours in their boats.

Other Steamers Sunk.
PARIS, Feb. 22.—Official announcement was made today of the sinking February 21 of the Dutch steamship Anthon, 3,598 tons gross and of a British trawler.

The sinking of the Norwegian steamship Alice, 700 tons, and of a Russian steamer of 2,194 tons also was announced.

The Russian steamship was the Sigrid.

LONDON, Feb. 22.—The British steamer Persens has been sunk, Lloyd's Shipping agency announced today. Four men of the crew are missing.

Lloyd's announces that the British steamer Carso has been sunk.

PAJARO VALLEY UNDER WATER

WATSONVILLE, Cal., Feb. 22.—Half of Watsonville was inundated today when the Pajaro river leaped its banks. Business and traffic was suspended. The uptown business section was threatened by the fast rising waters.

Southern Pacific railroad tracks were covered for a distance of about 600 feet.

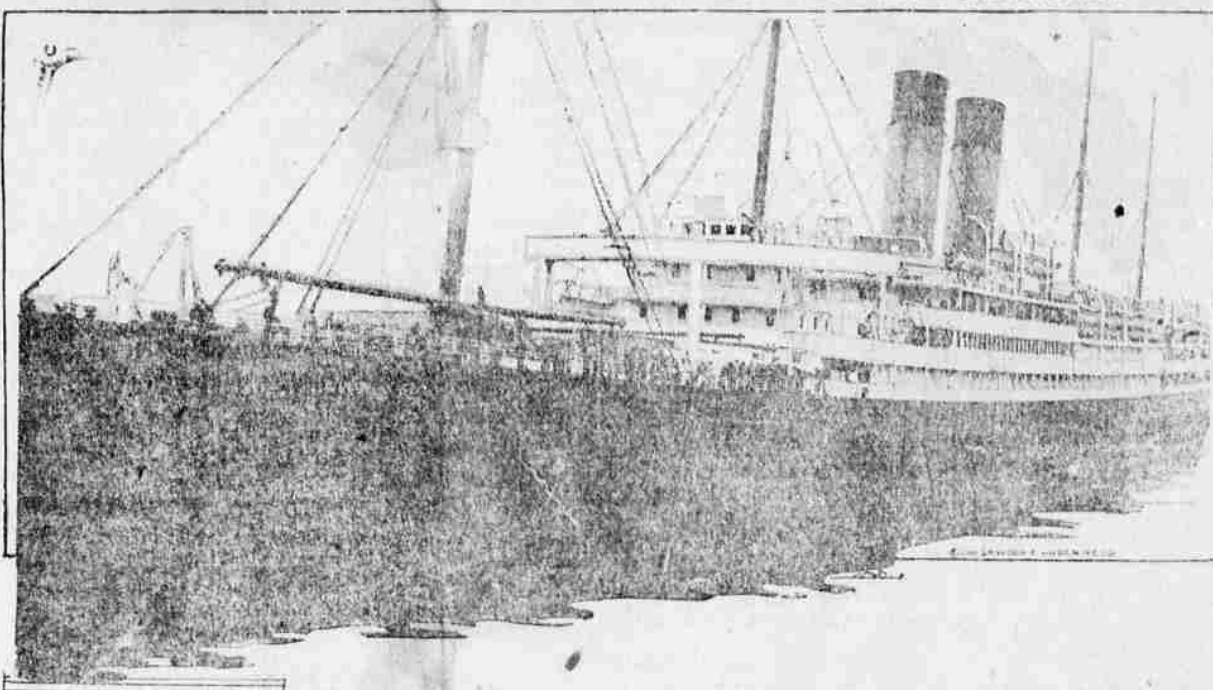
Four inches of rain in four days in this section taxed the capacity of the river which rises in the coast mountain range and empties into Monterey Bay.

The portion of the city flooded is slightly above sea level.

Scores of women and children were rescued from their homes in boats in the flood area while others were marooned on upper floors of their houses. Early this afternoon the flood waters reached the plaza near the center of the business district and business men harried their store fronts.

Watsonville Junction, one mile southeast on the main line of the Southern Pacific, was threatened with the flood waters which have inundated a section a mile long by a half mile wide in the city. Bean, potato, and sugar beet lands stretching five miles distant were flood covered.

BIG LINER CELTIC TOWED TO PORT BADLY DAMAGED AFTER STRIKING MINE OFF ENGLISH COAST.



The Celtic of the White Star Line, has a gross tonnage of 20,904 tons, is 697 feet long, 75 feet in breadth and 48 feet in depth.

WOMAN SHOUTS AGAINST ENGLAND DURING SPEECH

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 22.—The Washington birthday exercises of the University of Pennsylvania at the academy of music were disturbed today by a smartly garbed, elderly woman, who shouted from a box "about England!" when President Jacob G. Scherman of Cornell in the course of an address said that Germany had violated the law of nations.

Dr. Scherman paused in the middle of a sentence. He gave her a glance, made no reply and proceeded with his address. There was scattered handclapping.

Ushers quietly hastened to the box and the woman immediately left with another woman. In the lobby of the academy she denounced England and said it was a crime for people to sit silent and listen "to such rot as that man was speaking."

The university for 100 years has annually observed the anniversary of Washington's birthday. President Scherman, the orator of the day spoke on "Washington, Then and Now." The keynote of his address was that after a century and a quarter, Washington still remains the pole star of American foreign policy and that the example of Washington is inspiring to Americans today.

AMERICAN ENGINEER WOUNDED IN CUBA

HAVANA, Feb. 22.—A dispatch from Camaguey, Santa Clara province, reports that an American mining engineer, W. H. Lestrade, of La Carlota mine, was dangerously wounded by rebels when he refused to deliver dynamite to them. The rebels fled.

AMERICANS HELD ON YARROWDALE AGAIN RELEASED

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 22.—A dispatch received here from Berlin says that the American sailors who were taken to Germany on the steamer Yarrowdale have been released.

The Americans were released, the dispatch says, after the German government had been informed officially that German ships in America had not been confiscated and that their crews had not been interned.

Break With Austria.

BERNE, Feb. 22.—Austria's reply to the United States defining her position in the submarine war is known in Berlin, according to the Frankfurter Zeitung which predicts that a breach of relations between Washington and Vienna is inevitable. The paper's correspondent says:

"The memorandum which President Wilson has sent to the Vienna government leaves no doubt that the breach of relations between the United States and Germany will soon be followed by a breach with Austria-Hungary."

BEND SEEKS CHARTER FOR LODGE OF ELKS

BEND, Ore., Feb. 22.—Steps preliminary to formal application for a charter for an Elks lodge in Bend will be taken this evening. Practically all material to be presented asking for a charter has been assembled. Many assurances have been given to local petitioners by members of the lodge in large centers that they will give their assistance in securing for Bend a charter as soon as it is possible.

LEAK COMMITTEE REPORT EXONERATES PUBLIC OFFICIALS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The house rules committee today decided to report that its investigation of an alleged "leak" on President Wilson's peace note had shown that no public officials were responsible for any advance information on it becoming public. No other phase of the report was voted on. The full report will not be prepared before Saturday.

The house began being up today for the fight over President Wilson's request for a \$400,000 appropriation for the federal trade commission's investigation into the high cost of living. Chairman Fitzgerald of the appropriation committee announced he would fight the expenditure on the ground that nothing would be accomplished. Five republicans and five democrats joined in a letter to all other members urging them to support the appropriation.

The senate judiciary committee today failed to agree to the bill proposed by the department of justice to authorize the president to authorize the armed forces of the United States to enforce its neutrality obligations and it was declared by several senators that it probably would not be reported.

GERARD AND PARTY ARRIVE AT MADRID

MADRID, Feb. 22.—James W. Gerard, former American ambassador at Berlin and his party arrived here this morning on their way to the United States. The Americans were met at the station by representatives of the foreign office and by Joseph E. Wilford, the American ambassador and his staff.

GERMAN U-BOATS RETURN TO PORT SUNK 24 SHIPS

BERLIN, Feb. 22.—Two German submarines which returned to their base on February 20, sank during the period of their operations, 24 steamers, three sailing vessels and nine trawlers, says an Overseas News agency announcement today.

"The vessels sunk," adds the announcement, "were among others, a ship of 9,100 tons gross, laden with coal; one of 3,000 tons gross, laden with iron; one of 3,100 tons gross, laden with provisions, mostly butter and oleomargarine; one of 2,200 tons with wheat and hay; one steamer of 2,700 tons gross, carrying war materials for Italy; another of 400 tons with a general cargo; another of 300 tons gross with horse-hoys.

"Among the steamers destroyed was also one tank steamer of 7,000 tons gross. One cannon was captured."

STEAMER OWNER CONSULTS DANIELS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—F. A. S. Franklin, president of the International Mercantile Marine, owner of the American line, conferred here today with Secretary Daniels and Assistant Secretary Roosevelt of the navy. Some of the three officials would confer on the purpose of the conference.

Mr. Franklin recently informed the navy department that he had exhausted all available means in an attempt to secure defensive armament for the vessels of his company.

It is understood his visit was on the question of the navy furnishing arms for merchant ships.

The government, it is understood, has not yet decided the question.

WILLARD TO JOIN CIRCUS IN SUMMER

CHICAGO, Feb. 22.—Jess Willard, the heavyweight champion, through his managers, signed an eight month's agreement today to appear with a circus during the coming season. The contract stipulates, however, that Willard may quit the circus on three weeks' notice any time a match is arranged for him. The season will open April 14 and close November 1.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The Panama canal did its biggest month's business in January, according to figures available today, 476 vessels with a tonnage of 567,839 having passed through the waterway. The previous record was in July, 1915, when 170 ships of 547,370 tonnage passed through.

RIOTS AGAINST HIGH COST OF LIVING CONTINUE

Housewives of New York and Philadelphia Indulge in Disorderly Scenes—Carts Overturned and Smashed—Authorities Deny Stories of Starvation and Suffering.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—Housewives continued their demonstrations against the high cost of living here today. Police reserves suppressed outbreaks in various parts of the city. Dozens of pushcarts were overturned, the contents destroyed and the owners attacked. Two women were arrested charged with assault and later released. Hundreds of women, some with babies in arms, acted as pickets before provision stores in an effort to establish a boycott. Most of the disorder occurred when a would-be purchaser defied the pickets.

A police court magistrate in suspending sentence on one offender gave warning that hereafter he would send disturbers to jail.

"I have had a number of you women before me," he said "and not one of you has impressed me as though you were starving."

Deny Suffering.
Heads of city departments asserted today that a superficial examination of municipal statistics failed to show results that might be attributed to lack of sufficient nourishment caused by the high price of food. In obedience to instructions from Mayor Mitchell they began, however, an investigation to learn if there was any basis for complaints voiced at the mass meetings in the poorer districts this week and by committees that have called on the mayor.

At the offices of the board of health it was said that the death rate continued to be lower this year than last and that statistics of illness apparently did not show that lack of nourishment had been an increasing cause of disease.

Public charities officials said that applications for admission to the poor house had increased recently. On the other hand the municipal lodging house has of late been sheltering only about half its capacity.

Riots in Philadelphia.
PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 22.—Disorderly scenes occurred today in the southeastern part of the city populated largely by people of foreign birth when bands of women made demonstrations against dealers that have raised food prices. In a melee between a crowd of women and others attracted to one of the streets where stores were being attacked, a woman was knocked down and trampled and was taken to a hospital with a broken leg. The police later dispersed the crowd.

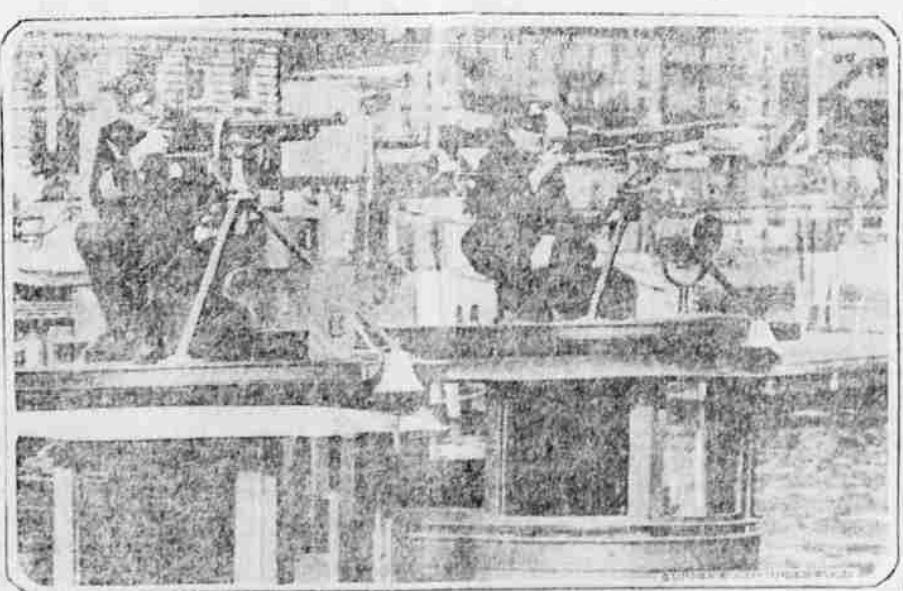
IRISH VOLUNTEER UNDER ARREST

LONDON, Feb. 22.—The arrest today of a number of leaders of the Irish volunteers and other persons who figured in the Irish uprising of last year is reported in a Central News dispatch from Dublin. Among those arrested, the dispatch says, are councillor S. T. Kelly, J. J. O'Kelly, editor of the Catholic bulletin; Daniel P. Keefe, a well known writer, and Captain Adam Mellows.

IOWA SENATE PASSES NEW BONE DRY LAW

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 22.—The Iowa senate today passed the "bone dry" bill making the place of delivery of intoxicating liquor the place of sale. The bill, if passed by the house, would permit prosecution of railroads or other common carriers bringing liquor into the state.

POLICEMEN USE MACHINE GUNS ATOP PATROL BOATS.



New York harbor police include expert marksmen who man machine guns on the cabin roofs of the boats patrolling the harbor and the rivers around the city. Two of the police are shown here on guard at the Battery, the busiest spot in the waters surrounding the city.