

The Evening Herald

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1919

"A HIGH-HANDED OUTRAGE"

Having taken under his control all means of communication in the United States, except by private messenger, thru seizure of telegraph and telephone lines, Postmaster General Burleson reached out for control of communication with foreign countries by inducing President Wilson to seize the submarine cables.

If this had been necessary to win the war there would have been some excuse for this latest expansion of government functions when the government was already burdened with functions which it performed badly. But the cables were seized when the war was already won, when Germany, the last of the enemy powers, had ceased to fight and had signed an armistice which made her powerless to fight again.

The action of Mr. Burleson indicates that he was conscious of being open to criticism for asking the President to exercise this extraordinary power in order to grab the cables when the war had actually ended, for there was some juggling of dates in the President's order.

I think the seizure of the cables was an utterly unjustified proceeding. I go so far as to say that it smacks of bad faith. When after the war had closed in fact, if not in law, the postmaster general took possession of the cables, not only those crossing the Atlantic Ocean to countries with which we were associated in the war, but also across the Pacific Ocean, which had no possible relation to the case.

That speech drew from Mr. Burleson a letter dated December 24th, denying that "I have of my own will ruthlessly seized and taken possession of these cables; that I have taken possession of them just to gratify my personal convictions, personal opinions and personal wishes; that I have reached out to control business activities the congress did not intend to put into my hands."

This letter was read to the senate on December 30th, and called forth the remark from Mr. Hitchcock that the alleged fact that the order was signed on November 2d was no justification for taking over the cables.

I am informed that, while the order may have been signed by the President on November 2d, it was entirely incomplete. It was not countersigned by the secretary of state. It was never published or exhibited to anyone until after the war had closed and the armistice had been signed.

Even the date, when it was exhibited to one of the telegraph companies, was blank, and the order was never made before the signing of the armistice.

Senator Watson followed this statement by saying that he had made some investigation, and he continued:

To the best of my knowledge and belief at this time, when that order was made the date was first put down in pencil as the 14th, the armistice having been signed on the 11th. Afterward that date was erased and the 2d inserted. I have every reason to believe that that fact is susceptible of proof.

This statement called forth the following rejoinder on the same day from Mr. Burleson:

I was present on the 2d of November when the President signed the proclamation taking over the cables. I saw him attach his signature thereto, and in his own handwriting insert with pen and ink the line date, November 2, 1918.

Mr. Burleson's statement is remarkable for the points which it does not cover. It does not say that the order was countersigned by the secretary of state on November 2d, nor does it deny that "the date was first put down in pencil as the 14th," as stated by Mr. Watson, nor does it deny that the order "was never published or exhibited to anyone until after the war had closed and the armistice had been signed," as stated by Mr. Kellogg.

All of this juggling with dates and facts is open to an explanation that is discreditable to the administration. There was an evident desire to grab the cables under the authority given by congress before hostilities ceased, but there may well have been some hesitation about so extreme a proceeding. That may account for the delay of Secretary Lansing's signature.

It was advisable, in order to justify the move, that it should appear to have been "made while hostilities were still in progress, hence, the date November 2d was permitted to stand. If the democrats had won the election the need of immediate exercise of the power would not have been so urgent from a party standpoint.

—Oregonian.

YANK ABROAD GRATEFUL FOR SWEATER SENT

Among the sweaters that were knitted for the Red Cross was one made by Mrs. W. B. Barnes, and when she finished the garment, she pinned her card to it. This week she is in receipt of a letter from a soldier in France, who acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the garment, which was given to him in the regular course of distribution.

"My Dear Mrs. Barnes,—I received today from the Red Cross a sweater from you which I am writing now to thank you for. I have been in France over fifteen months and am alive yet and looking forward to my trip back to the States. Again I thank you for the sweater and with my best regards, I remain, Cheerfully yours, Corporal, JNO. D. BEIL, Base Hospital 35, A. P. O. 780, A. E. F."

FAMINE RELIEF BILL GETS SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 10.—The Administration leaders after a canvass of the House Rules Committee, has decided to make another attempt tomorrow to obtain a rule for the immediate consideration of the hundred million dollar Famine Relief Bill. It is claimed that there are sufficient votes now in sight to change the decision rendered a few days ago.

New stationary, diaries and blank books at the STAR DRUG CO. 10-11

PERSONAL MENTION

LITTLE SIDELIGHTS ON LOCAL HAPPENINGS AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THIS CITY AND VICINITY. GOINGS AND COMINGS OF LOCAL FOLKS.

Frank Murry is in town for a short time from Silver Lake.

J. E. Paddock is a county seat visitor from the Bonanza district.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Foster left this morning for Phoenix, Arizona.

Mrs. A. W. Macken is in the city for a short time from the Malin section.

Ivon Young was among the train arrivals last night from Weed, California.

Fred Lisky is looking after matters of business in Klamath Falls today from the Merrill district.

William Fordney who operates the James Mercantile Company at Lorella paid a business visit to the County seat yesterday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Reynolds, who have been here for some time from Portland expect to leave tomorrow for San Francisco, where Mr. Reynolds will undergo medical treatment in the hope of recovering his health. He suffered a nervous breakdown here a few weeks ago which proved very serious and his recovery has been very slow.

Mr. Lemuel Gehagen, who has been undergoing treatment at the Klamath General Hospital for several days is now able to be around on the street. Mr. Gehagen has a position at the Pelican Bay Lumber Camp on the west side of the Upper Klamath Lake and had the misfortune to strain some of his tendons when he slipped on the ice there.

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AT THE CHURCHES

Emanuel Baptist Church, Eleventh and High streets. The regular Sunday school service will be held at 10 a. m.

The Christian Science Society of Klamath Falls holds services at 113 Fourth street every Sunday morning at 11 o'clock and every Wednesday evening at 7:30. All are welcome.

The subject of lesson for Sunday, January 13, is "Sacrament."

The Sunday school session is from 9:45 to 10:45 every Sunday morning. The free reading room and free lending library is open from 2:30 to 4:30 on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

First Christian Church, corner Pine and Ninth streets. Bible school at 10 a. m. Communion services at 11 a. m.

Methodist Episcopal Church, Tenth and High. Rev. Simpson Hamrick, pastor, 1117 East street. Phone 67W. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Mrs. Roy Kinder, superintendent. Morning services at 11 a. m. Sermon subject, "The Victory That Overcomes the World."

Epworth League at 6:30 p. m. Mr. Lawrence Phelps, president. Evening service at 7:30 p. m. Subject, "Remember."

Everybody is welcome to the service. Strangers and people who have no certain place to worship will receive a hearty welcome.

Presbyterian Church, Pine street, near Second. Rev. E. P. Lawrence pastor.

The pastor, Rev. E. P. Lawrence, having returned from the East, regular services will be resumed. Sabbath school at 10 a. m.

Preaching service at 11 a. m., at which the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed. Christian Endeavor at 6:30 p. m. Evening service at 7:30.

At the evening service a sacred concert, consisting of solos, duets and anthems, will be given by the choir. A cordial invitation is extended to all these services.

First Baptist Church, corner Washington and Eighth. J. B. Griffith, pastor.

Sunday school at 10 a. m., C. R. DeLap, superintendent. Preaching at 11 a. m. All are cordially invited to worship with us.

SERB WOMEN WHIPPED BY BULGARIANS

LONDON, Jan. 11.—Evidence has been received from British officers who have been prisoners of war in Bulgaria of cruel treatment and tortures which they saw the Bulgarians inflict upon Serbian prisoners and interned civilians. Reuter's Limited learns. The evidence shows that the civilians were clothed in rags and were almost barefooted when they arrived in Bulgaria. The interned civilians used to visit the British prison camp in order to collect vegetable peelings to eat. Most of the British officers witnessed the brutal flogging of Serbian prisoners. They particularly mentioned the commandant, Ivan Nikolov, who himself ordered the floggings and personally struck prisoners as they lay on the ground. Women were flogged until their backs were lacerated. In several cases the victims died from the treatment they received.

The British officers report that they protested, but that the Bulgarians replied that the victims were subjected to such treatment because they were Serbians. The morality among the Serbians was so great that they were buried without coffins and with no religious services.

FINES INCREASED AS CULPRITS DIMINISH.

SPokane, Jan. 11.—Records compiled by the sheriff's office show that more than twice as much cash was contributed to the county in 1918 by delinquents as in 1917. While the arrests were fewer the officials levied heavy fines and forfeited bonds in the last few months. The sheriff has 10,000 pints of whiskey to destroy. Most of the contraband whiskey is said to have come from Montana.

WASHINGTON RAILROAD IN RECEIVERS HANDS.

SPokane, Jan. 10.—An order has been filed in the Federal Court naming Case F. E. Conners of Chicago, receiver of the Spokane and Inland Empire Railway Company which has been losing ten thousand dollars monthly due to the influenza and the increased costs of operation.

Carl's Liver Lifters, small in price, big in action. STAR DRUG CO. 10-11

At the Theaters

Reginald Barker, who was chosen by House Parlatto to direct her first Parlatto Play, has shown masterly work in "Madam Who," which is the title of the story, written by Harold MacGrath, and which will be shown at the Liberty theatre tonight. The story is not a war story, but the scenes are laid in the South during the period of the Civil War. All of the beauties and romance of the Southland have been faithfully adhered to in a faithful and historical manner, and the production is one that is bound to be an epic-marking achievement in the brilliant career of this talented artist.

"Lost on Dress Parade" one of O'Henry's famous stories, and a Mutt and Jeff cartoon also will be shown.

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You're welcome to a calendar for the New Year. We have a good supply of homely ones and some pretty ones.—Chilcote & Smith.

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Apply Cream in Nostrils, To Open Up Air Passages.

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