

RAILS
From San Francisco:
Ventura, March 5.
For San Francisco:
China, March 5.
From Vancouver:
Niagara, March 22.
For Vancouver:
Niagara, March 5.

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NEW GERMAN SUBMARINE WAR OPENS; ULTIMATUM IS SENT TO PORTUGAL

RESIGNATION OF GARRISON HELPS ARMY LEGISLATION

War Secretary's Insistence on Pet Plans Very Irritating to Many Members of Congress, Writes C. S. Albert

ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM SAVED FROM EXTINCTION

Hot Fire Now Started Under Leader Kitchin to Make Him Assist Preparedness Bills or Relinquish Position

By C. S. ALBERT
(Special Star-Bulletin Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17.—The matter of preparedness for national defense has moved forward to a much better position in both branches of Congress. This welcome change was occasioned by the sudden, although not entirely unexpected, resignation of Secretary Garrison as head of the war department. It removed much bitterness and relieved the general situation to an amazing degree.

It was the evident intention of Secretary Garrison to fight until the last breath for a continental army and in opposition to a federalized militia. This unbending purpose caused great friction among many members of Congress. This extended in all directions and made certain a prolonged and unpleasant fight. It was evident from the outset that Mr. Garrison's plan was overwhelmingly rejected and would either in the senate or house fall and make the struggle seem useless and productive of nothing but delay and wrangling.

The retirement of Mr. Garrison made the outlook brighter among all the congressional factions. It became apparent that valuable time would be saved and the proposed legislation would become more nearly non-partisan than was expected heretofore. It was predicted on all sides that the secretary's action opened the way for "safe and sane" preparedness legislation without the possibility of certain the administration program down by the senate, because of the bitter fight that previously was inevitable.

Following close on the heels of Mr. Garrison's resignation, and before his successor was named, a bill was introduced under Representative Claude Kitchin, the Democratic floor leader. This was for the purpose of building him assume real leadership and assist in putting through the preparedness bills, or relinquish his position. Speaker Clark was named as the man most desired for successor as majority leader.

A number of Mr. Kitchin's most valued personal friends were detailed by their associates to visit the majority leader and talk to him like a "Dutch Uncle." He must be told, it was declared, to either stand aside or become an extremely busy man in helping along the administration program. Representative Page of North Carolina was assigned the distinguished duty of breaking the news to Mr. Kitchin.

Shortly after the Democrats agreed with Speaker Clark that there is no objection to his bringing Mr. Kitchin, but to bring him into line and get the preparedness bills under way.

Representative Hay now predicts, with the conclusion of hearings, that the army bill will be ready for action in about three weeks.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET TODAY

Following are the closing prices of stocks on the New York market today, sent by the Associated Press over the Federal Wireless:

	Today	Yesterday
Alaska Gold	21	21
American Smelter	50 3/4	50 3/4
American Sugar Rfgs.	109 1/2	111 1/2
American Tel. & Tel.	127 1/2	127 1/2
American Copper	85 1/2	85 1/2
Atchafalaya	102	102 1/2
Baldwin Loco.	102 1/2	102 1/2
Baltimore & Ohio	85 1/2	85 1/2
Bethlehem Steel	460	460
Calif. Petroleum	527	28 1/2
Canadian Pacific	164	167
C. & N. P. (St. Paul)	92 1/2	93 1/2
Colo. Fuel & Iron	40 1/2	41
Crucible Steel	73	73 1/2
Erie Common	35 1/2	35 1/2
General Electric	165 1/2	167 1/2
General Motors	460	460
Great Northern Pfd.	120 1/2	120 1/2
Inter. Hav. N. J.	103 1/2	103 1/2
Lehigh R. R.	103 1/2	103 1/2
New York Central	103 1/2	103 1/2
Pennsylvania	57	57 1/2
Ray Consol.	24 1/2	24 1/2
Southern Pacific	94 1/2	97 1/2
Studebaker	135 1/2	135 1/2
Tennessee Copper	83 1/2	83 1/2
Union Pacific	131 1/2	131 1/2
U. S. Ste.	80 1/2	82 1/2
U. S. Steel Pfd.	116 1/2	116 1/2
Utah	84	83 1/2
Western Union	87	87 1/2
Westinghouse	82 1/2	83 1/2

•Bid. Ex-dividend.

REPEAL OF FREE SUGAR DEFINITE DEMOCRATIC IDEA

Underwood-Simmons Clause Wiped Off Statute Books Without Any Strings

MEASURE IN FULL AS IT GOES TO VOTE TOMORROW

House Leaders Decide to Put Bill Through Without Other Legislation

(Note: Since this was written the Democratic house leaders have set the final vote on the bill for tomorrow. It is expected to pass by a large majority.)

By C. S. ALBERT
(Special Star-Bulletin Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17.—The bill to prevent refined sugar from being placed on the free list May 1 was introduced on schedule time by Representative Kitchin, chairman of the ways and means committee of the house. It subsequently was laid before a caucus of Democratic members and approved. Later, it was urged for passage, the idea being to dispose of the entire matter in the house by Saturday, February 19.

It was originally intended to leave this measure for discussion until the latter part of March. The leaders finally determined to bring it in about the middle of February and make it the first revenue bill to receive attention and action. It further was decided to not couple it with the consumption tax measure or any other form of legislation.

All these various phases of the situation were indicated in the Star-Bulletin as they developed.

It was agreed among the house leaders that the word "repealed" should be used in a flatfooted manner. Suggestions were made at different times that the word "suspended" be substituted. Several favored the word "rescinded." An offering of the bill merely wipes the free sugar feature off the statute books without any strings as to its subsequent restoration. The bill in full as presented by Representative Kitchin follows:

"That the proviso of paragraph one hundred and seventy-seven of the Act entitled 'An act to reduce tariff duties and to provide revenue for the government, and for other purposes,' approved October 3, 1913 (Statutes at Large, volume 38, pages 114 to 202, inclusive), which provides as follows: 'Provided further, That on and after the first day of May, 1916, the articles hereinbefore enumerated in this paragraph shall be admitted free of duty; be, and the same is hereby, repealed.'

"That the proviso of paragraph 178 of the aforesaid act, which provides as follows: 'Provided, That on and after the first day of May, 1916, the articles hereinbefore enumerated in this paragraph shall be admitted free of duty; be, and the same is hereby, repealed.'

VAUGHAN FINDS SCANT EVIDENCE ON 'WAR PLOT'

Has Been No Breach of Neutrality, Says Statement By District Attorney

NO SIGN OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT INVOLVED

Documentary Evidence Against Only Two Persons, He Says, Randell and Seligson

There has been no breach of neutrality by the United States or any of its citizens and, thus far, there is no evidence that the British government is implicated.

This is the opinion of U. S. District Attorney Horace W. Vaughan, as announced today following an investigation by him of the so-called "war plot" in which it is alleged, an attempt was made to buy soldiers out of the American army here and send them abroad for enlistment with the Allies.

District Attorney Vaughan says that there is no "great mass" of evidence before him connected with the case of W. R. Seligson, alias Stein, and Guy D. Randell, alias England, who, with R. B. Jefferson, a former enlisted man, were arrested by Inspector J. J. Smith last Sunday as alleged conspirators in a plot to recruit men from Hawaii to send to the battlefronts of the Allies.

Jefferson Out of It.

At the instance of Mr. Vaughan, the case against Jefferson was dropped last Saturday afternoon the district attorney merely stating that he did not believe Jefferson was guilty. It is understood that for the last several weeks Jefferson has been working on the "war plot" for the Allies and for the city and county attorneys' office.

"So far as the case to date is concerned," Mr. Vaughan said today, "the only evidence we have is against two persons, Randell and Seligson, or Stein, for an alleged violation of section 19 of the penal code by attempting to hire men out of the army to go abroad for enlistment."

"I have no documentary evidence connecting anyone else with the alleged offense, with the exception of the two persons named," he added.

Have Three Witnesses.

It was learned today that Jefferson and two corporals from the 4th Cavalry who are said to have assisted army officials in bringing the case to a head, will be the principal witnesses against Randell and Seligson if their cases are brought to trial. Randell already has pleaded guilty before Commissioner George S. Curry, and has been bound over to the federal grand jury.

In a statement to the Star-Bulletin Monday, Randell said that he considered the matter a "put up job" of himself and that in offering to assist financially the 4th Cavalry corporals in getting out of the army, he thought he was "doing a favor" for Jefferson who, he declares, he believed to be his friend. Randell also said that Jefferson was introduced to him by W. F. Fennell, liquor license inspector.

Seligson is still out on bond, and his case was to be heard by Commissioner Curry this afternoon.

AD CLUB'S ALOHA IS GIVEN MEMBER OFF TO JOIN BRITISH RANKS



Harry L. Strange

Ad Club members in numbers and with enthusiasm today did honor to one of their most active members, Harry L. Strange, upon the eve of his departure for England to join the British colors.

Mr. Strange, secretary of the club and manager of the Honolulu Gas Company, was the subject of verbal tributes which culminated in the presentation to him by his fellow clubmen of a handsome jeweled watch fob, bearing the Ad Club "Truth" emblem prominently displayed.

The occasion today was billed as "Newspapermen's Day," but that served merely to cloak the real event of the weekly luncheon, which was the club's goodbye to a member leaving at the call of duty which he feels.

Mr. Strange, who has been given leave of absence by the Gas Company until next January, has been one of the club's hardest workers, most active in inside and outside activities, and one of the biggest boosters Honolulu has. It was pointed out by several speakers "The newspapermen were especially invited because Mr. Strange's club activities have been largely along publicity lines and in this work he has won the cooperation of every newspaperman with whom he has come in contact.

The "surprise" billed on the printed cards sent out to members proved to

(Continued on page three)

BERLIN MAKES TWO MOVES TO FREE COMMERCE OF BLOCKADE; VERDUN BATTLE SEEMS HALTED

German Offensive Stopped, Says Paris, While Teutons Try to Free Trapped Comrades at Douaumont

(Associated Press Service by Federal Wireless.)

LONDON, England, March 1.—Today marked the opening of the announced new German submarine campaign, under the policy which Berlin has declared of treating all armed merchantmen as warships, to be attacked without warning.

Simultaneously with the date for the opening of the new campaign comes the news that the British steamer Thornaby is reported sunk and the crew all killed or drowned.

With this despatch comes the following note by Associated Press:

"The censorship prevents giving details of this sinking. The reference to the crew being 'killed or drowned' indicates that the vessel was either torpedoed or struck a mine. It is not indicated whether the Thornaby was armed, or whether it sank before or after midnight.

Midnight was the exact time set by Berlin for the new campaign to go into effect.

Congress Soon to Vote on Travel Issue; Wilson Awaits Decision

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 1.—Out of deference to the wishes of the president there will be a vote in the near future in the house and senate upon resolutions warning Americans to avoid traveling on armed ships, but the form of the resolutions will be determined later.

Germany's latest assurance concerning the conduct of her submarines is not as broad as is desired by the administration and as complete as it was originally expected to be but it is indicated in the official circles that there will be no further steps taken until the administration is certain Congress will make no move which will embarrass it.

Germany Demands Portugal Release Seized Merchant Ships in 48 Hours

LONDON, England, March 1.—News has reached here that Germany has sent to Portugal an ultimatum demanding the restoration within 48 hours of the interned German ships recently seized at various Portuguese ports, the despatch being from Reuter's correspondent at Madrid.

Paris Says German Offensive at Verdun is Halted; Berlin Silent

PARIS, France, March 1.—Comparative quiet reigns today on the west front around Verdun, where for six days the battling has been terrific. Military observers declare that the German offensive has been definitely halted.

Only intermittent bombardment is taking place on the front between Regneville and Remanville. The situation at Verdun is well in hand, high officials declare.

The chief German efforts in this section are now directed toward effecting if possible a rescue of the remnant of the Brandenburg regiment, which is copped up in the ruins of the fortress Douaumont, the fortress being surrounded by French soldiers, who won their way there by hand-to-hand fighting.

The front is calm, enabling both sides to bring up fresh forces and large supplies of ammunition.

Military observers are uncertain whether or not the lull by the Germans is but a prelude to a renewal of the offensive along the Verdun salient. It is thought that the Germans are preparing to establish a front west of Pont-a-Mousson, eighteen miles southeast of Metz.

Italian Liner Thought in War Zone

NEW YORK, N. Y., March 1.—The Italian liner America, armed, is believed to be now in the war zone, carrying 182 cabin and 1700 steerage passengers for New York. The vessel sailed from Naples on February 23 and nothing has been heard from it since.

British Steamer With Oil Afire

MANCHESTER, England, March 1.—The British steamer Spira, from Philadelphia, loaded with oil from the Standard Oil Company, which was discharging her cargo, is on fire.

BIDS ON KAIEIE ROAD FORWARDED TO FORBES

Bids for the construction work on the Kaieie homestead road on Hawaii were opened yesterday at the office of the superintendent of public works and forwarded to him at Hilo. It is expected that he will award the contract before returning to Honolulu Saturday.

J. Ferrel's was low bidder on all three sections of the road. His bids were respectively \$5325, \$1505 and \$4831. The county bid \$4100 (less bids of \$7534.29, \$1175.48 and \$2311.12). William Cullen wanted \$8000, \$2000 and \$10,000 respectively for each of the three sections.

The statement that six citizens of St. Louis were swindled by a fake gambling syndicate, and that their losses would approximate \$175,000, was made by a New York detective working on the case. Four men, said to be connected with the scheme, were arrested in New York, and one was arrested in St. Louis.

LINE TO HAVE BIG NEW ARMORY TO COST \$8500

Georg Wilcox and Linne Plantatic Make Donations for Fine Building

With the arrival of Capt. Charles A. Rice, 4th Infantry, National Guards, yesterday from Hawaii, it was announced that a great donation from two big plantation interests amounting to \$85,000 was made Monday for the construction of an armory at Lihue.

The gift was from the Linne Plantation Company, which gave \$6500, and from Georg Wilcox, who gave \$2000. Work will begin on the armory immediately. Plans for the building were prepared by the territorial department of public works.

It is intended to have the building completed July 4, when a big military celebration is planned for on the Garden land. It will stand on a sandy ground just back of the present county courthouse.

A frame structure, with one story and a basement, the armory will be large enough for three separate companies, with company rooms, mess hall, and lockers in the basement, and also an inner rifle range.

On the line floor will be the offices of the regimental headquarters and company mess.

Captain Rice also brought word that the new company armory at Keala, Oahu, for which \$25,000 was donated by G. Z. S. Building, is nearly completed. The captain reports that guard staves are being everywhere on the Oahu island.

NAB ANTED MAN AS WILHELMINA DOGS AT COAST

Wanted upon a charge of embezzlement, the arrest of a Filipino traveling by the alias of Tiopto Salabao, was on off the Wilhelmina when it arrived in San Francisco yesterday and was held until arrangements could be made for his return to Honolulu.

Arresters also was made through advice cable, the San Francisco authorities by Sgt. Arthur McDuffie of the local police force. The captain received word a night that Ardeser is being held.

The Filipino name according to the story told by police by his victims, was in the Filipino laborers on the plantation to give him their money, failing to that he would buy tickets and send them to make the trip to San Francisco in a body.

In all \$3700 was gathered, they say, the individual sums ranging around \$10 and \$15 by the men said to have taken their money from Maui, from Waipahu.

When Pedro appeared without giving them any as to his whereabouts, the seven became suspicious and reported to police.

Through another Filipino who had been seen with the detective force located Pedro was on the Wilhelmina boat at San Francisco under the alias of Salabao, and a de-

EX-MAYOR FERN MAY SOON TOSS HAT INTO RING

Joseph J. Fern, ex-mayor of the city and now municipal jailer, was on the brink of launching his candidacy again for the mayoralty last night. In fact in the opinion of several of his fellow Democrats who talked the matter over afterward, he did launch it.

The occasion was Judge Wilber's dinner at the Country Club to ex-Governor Walsh of Massachusetts. Ex-Mayor Fern spoke at some length, and after welcoming the present Republican municipal officials to the proverbial happy lake well, he declared that he was ready to take the field again—if his fellow Democrats want him.

"If you support me, and want me, I will run again and we can win," he declared. "These Republicans have got the city into debt and I am thinking of getting into the fight this fall."

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Safe, 2700 pounds, double-door, canopy-top, sure, cheap, conductor, in good condition. Phone 5330.

DIVIDENDS FOR FEBRUARY PASS \$650,000 MARK

Total Paid By Listed Hawaiian Stocks This Year to Date Comes to \$1,403,750

Exceeding by practically \$6000 the payments made for the same period last year, the February dividends paid out by various sugar stocks and the miscellaneous corporations listed on the local stock exchange stand at \$651,375. Payments last year were \$642,790 for the second month of the year. The figures are compiled from stock exchange sheets.

Following are the list of dividends paid out by various companies: HAWAIIAN, \$15,000; PAHA, \$22,500; KEKAHA, \$15,000; PIONEER, \$60,000; KOLOA, \$7500; TANJONG OTOK RUBBER COMPANY, \$3000; HONOLULU BROWING & MALTING COMPANY, \$17,000; HAWAIIAN COMMERCIAL, \$100,000; HONOLULU, \$11,250; HUTCHINSON, \$30,000; PANAHUA, \$20,000; WAIKUKU, \$30,000; POPEKOE, \$15,000; WAIKOLA, \$45,000; OAHU RAILWAY & LAND COMPANY, \$32,500; OAHU SUGAR COMPANY, \$50,000; HAWAIIAN SUGAR COMPANY, \$45,000; EWA, \$50,000; C. BREWER & COMPANY, \$45,000; INTER-ISLAND STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, \$18,718; KAHUKU, \$5000; HAWAIIAN PHOSPHATE COMPANY, \$2750; HONOLULU GAS COMPANY, Ltd., \$2300. Total, \$651,375.

February's payments bring the total for the year to date to \$1,403,750.

MAYOR IS MORE EAGER THAN MAN HE HAS CHOSEN

Walter F. Dillingham is still regarded as the most likely candidate for Robert W. Shingle's place on the board of supervisors. Rumor has it that the mayor is much more anxious to appoint him than Mr. Dillingham is to serve.

"Our new member must be a man of Mr. Shingle's caliber," says the mayor. "He must be tactful in order to keep harmony among the other members when the pest of the board is threatened, as Mr. Shingle has done. He must be a man who is used to dealing with big questions and who is deeply interested in the public welfare."

HAWAII DEFENSE PLAN IS CHARACTERIZED AS IMPERATIVE; LIGHTS

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 1.—The war department has asked Congress for an appropriation of \$40,000 for land defenses in Hawaii, including the installation of searchlights and acquisition of right of way. The appropriation is characterized as imperative.

George Anderson of Cleveland, O., convicted in the dynamite conspiracy case at Indianapolis, was released from the United States penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., having completed serving his sentence of three years.