

MAILS
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For San Francisco: Venezuela, Mar. 23.
From Vancouver: Niagara, April 18.
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BAKER CALLS WAR COUNCIL; NAVY SPEEDS UP WARSHIPS

FIVE STEAMERS TO BE ADDED TO P. M. FLEET, IS PLANNED

Vice President and General Manager, Who is Here on Venezuela, Tells of Request He Will Make on Directors

Tremendous increase in transpacific transportation by way of Honolulu and more ships Hawaii bound with the good news received today with the arrival here of the Pacific Mail steamer Venezuela in this morning from the Orient and out tomorrow for the mainland.

On the Venezuela came Honolulu's distinguished guests for the day, J. H. Rosseter, vice president and general manager of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. of San Francisco, and Mrs. Rosseter, who went to the Orient on the Venezuela on her first trip in October.

Five princely ocean liners, the best that are built, flying the Pacific Mail flag—two the finest and fleetest in the west; fortnightly trips to Honolulu from the coast, this was a flash of the picture the big shipping man drew and he says it is no dream.

Rosseter made the six-month trip for the sole purpose of sizing up the possibilities of shipping on the Pacific and he is going back to report a most glowing state of affairs to his directors.

"I'm going to ask the directors for five Pacific liners," is Rosseter's glowing promise, "to be placed in the Pacific as soon as possible. Whether I will get them or not I can not forecast but that is my plan. I know the situation in the Orient pretty well now, of course, I have been away from the United States for some time and am not fully informed of conditions there.

Parent Company Has Plan
It is well known that the American International Navigation parent company of the Pacific Mail, the United Fruit Co. and the International Merchant Marine under which comes all such transatlantic lines such as the White Star, American, Leyland and others, paid \$20,000,000 for the New York Ship Building Company of Camden, N. J., and here Rosseter plans the massive Pacific greyhounds will be assembled.

"It was too difficult to buy ships from other yards so we bought a yard of our own and will build our own liners," says Rosseter. "Of course, I

Steels Drop on Weaker Market

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:

Stock	Today	Yesterday
Alaska Gold	107 1/2	107 1/2
American Smelter	103 1/2	103 1/2
American Sugar Ref.	112 1/2	112 1/2
American Tel. & Tel.	127 1/2	127 1/2
Anaconda Copper	94 1/2	94 1/2
Arizona	103 1/2	103 1/2
Baldwin Loco.	26 1/2	27 1/2
Baltimore & Ohio	78 1/2	78 1/2
Bohler Steel	114 1/2	114 1/2
Calif. Petroleum	24 1/2	24 1/2
Canadian Pacific	102 1/2	102 1/2
C. M. & St. P. (St. Paul)	128 1/2	128 1/2
C. O. Fuel & Iron	32 1/2	32 1/2
Crescent Steel	27 1/2	27 1/2
Electric Common	28 1/2	28 1/2
General Electric	107 1/2	107 1/2
General Motors, New	118 1/2	118 1/2
Great Northern Pfd.	114 1/2	114 1/2
Inter. Harv. N. Y.	117 1/2	117 1/2
Kennecott Copper	46 1/2	46 1/2
Lehigh R. R.	88 1/2	88 1/2
New York Central	97 1/2	97 1/2
Pennsylvania	54 1/2	54 1/2
Ray Consol.	28 1/2	28 1/2
Reading Consol.	27 1/2	27 1/2
Southern Pacific	85 1/2	85 1/2
Studebaker	103 1/2	103 1/2
Texas Oil	128 1/2	128 1/2
Union Pacific	100 1/2	100 1/2
U. S. Steel	115 1/2	115 1/2
Utah	128 1/2	128 1/2
Western Union	97 1/2	97 1/2
Westinghouse	52 1/2	52 1/2
Wyer Wheat	1.98 1/2	1.98 1/2

SUGAR
SAN FRANCISCO, March 21.—Sugar: No. 12, 5.27 cents. Previous quotation, 5.25 cents.

CHARTER SESSION TONIGHT OPEN TO ALL, SAYS WILDER

Tonight the Chamber of Commerce as a whole is to go before the Oahu delegation in the houses of representatives to show why the amendments to the charter, as proposed by them, should be passed.

The hearing was to have been held last Monday but due to the rain it was postponed until tonight.

A large delegation from the chamber is expected to be present as practically every member promised to be present last Monday and many have reiterated their promise today.

That the movement to have a short ballot form of government, which is embodied in these amendments, is gaining ground is the belief of Emil Berndt. "A number of things have happened during the past few days which make me believe that the amendments have now a better chance to pass than they ever had," he said today.

Berndt also pointed out that the adoption of these amendments was not a chamber of commerce affair alone but a community affair and that everyone who is interested in their passage should be present tonight.

It is also expected that the convention charter backers will be out in force to argue their cause.

There is to be present a large number of Kalaheo residents. Whether the longshoremen will carry out their program to march to the capitol this evening was not certain this morning although it is believed that no special demonstration will be undertaken.

No favoritism will be shown at the public hearing tonight on the city charter bill, declared Representative G. P. Wilder, chairman of the Oahu delegation of the house, which has had the measure under consideration since its introduction.

"Every person desiring to talk on the charter, whether for or against it, will be given a chance to be heard," says the chairman.

The hearing will be held in the hall of representatives, capitol building, and will be called to order promptly at 7:30 o'clock. Chairman Wilder will preside.

COST OF PRISON CONSTRUCTION IS SENSATION OF SENATE'S SESSION

Forbes, Called to Explain Need of Further Funds, Attacks Plans of Architects as Impossible of Being Carried Out—Convict Labor Termed Failure in Course of Debate By President Chillingworth

Summoned before the senate this afternoon to explain alleged "blunders" that are said to have been made in the estimates on construction work at the new territorial prison structure at Kāhiki-kai, Charles R. Forbes, superintendent of public works, made allegations against Ripley & Davis, architects, that turned the session into one of the most stirring yet seen in the present legislative session.

Picks Out Many Flaws
Outlined briefly Forbes' allegations were these: That the prison plans, drawn by the architectural firm in 1914, were incapable of being carried out in construction work; that the estimate submitted by the firm for the work was too short by tens of thousands of dollars; that the architects consented to an allowance of approximately \$2000 from the first charge of \$6000 for the re-designing found necessary in the territorial office; that the wall as designed by the architects was only four inches at the top and 16 inches at the bottom and was to set but a few inches beneath the soil.

Forbes said the acceptance of the plans dated back to the time when Marsden Campbell was superintendent of public works and that Governor Frear had approved their acceptance.

"It was impossible to stop payment for them," he said, "although the company agreed to deduct from their bill for our work of redesigning the structure. This came to a deduction of approximately \$2000 and we still owe them about \$400.

Building on Estimate Impossible
"The prison could never have been built upon the estimate of the architect," Forbes declared time and again. "I questioned the policy of paying the architect anything for the plans, but he informed that they had been accepted. At no time did the firm object to the deductions we made."

Forbes' statements before the senate this afternoon was a sudden turn and entirely unexpected a few minutes before he was called. It came about during a session of the committee of the whole, called to consider an item of \$5,000 recommended by the ways and means committee for the completion of the prison structure.

Prison Labor Under Fire
President Chillingworth sitting in the place of Senator Shingle, who held the chair, started things in an attack upon the system of prison labor on the penitentiary building. He referred to how the estimates have grown more and more since the work was first contemplated.

"It now develops that we have not been saving, but losing," said Chillingworth. "If the original plans were correct and properly drawn then the first estimate should have been about correct. It's the result of not letting out the work under contract. It's proved a failure to the extent of \$125,000 more than was first estimated. There is something decidedly wrong. If estimates are going up like this lets get a bond from contractors, not go to the treasury to make them good."

Pacheco followed Chillingworth and on the same tenor. He declared that he was not satisfied with conditions surrounding the prison work.

"It is becoming the gossip of the streets," said Pacheco. "There is no end to it. It's a tower of Babel proposition."

Shingle suggested that the superintendent of public works be asked to the meeting to explain his side of the affair, and a motion to this effect was made by Pacheco, Forbes appearing in a few minutes.

As the Star-Bulletin was going to press Forbes had finished his first statements and Auditor J. H. Fisher had been summoned before the senate committee for testimony as to the purchase of the prison site.

NATIONAL GUARDSMEN ENDING BORDER SERVICE
EL PASO, Texas, March 22.—All of the guardsmen on border duty in this district, with the exception of the old Michigan regiment, entrained today homeward-bound and will leave here by midnight, it is announced.

IRISH QUESTION AGAIN TROUBLESOME
LONDON, Eng., March 22.—Chancellor Bonar Law, in the house of commons this afternoon, said that the government has decided to make another attempt to solve the Irish question on its own responsibility.

HOUSE MEMBERSHIP VIRTUALLY A TIE
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—A Republican house caucus has been called for Saturday to discuss the organization of an executive program. The Democratic caucus will be held Friday. An unofficial list of the members of the new house shows that there will be 214 Democrats, 214 Republicans, two Progressives, one Independent, one Prohibitionist, one Socialist and two vacancies.

U. S. Navy Rushes Enlistments to Man All Warships

Department Would Bring Personnel Up to Full Authorized Strength

(Associated Press by Cable)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 22.—The United States navy is short 13,514 men of the present authorized strength of 74,560, according to news given out at the department today together with announcement of plans to remedy the situation.

Efforts to speed up enlistments are being redoubled. The authorized strength is sufficient to place all the immediately available ships in commission.

Moewe Back After Raids

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless)
BERLIN, Germany, March 22.—The German auxiliary cruiser Moewe has returned to her home port from her second cruise in the Atlantic, the admiralty announced today. During this cruise she captured 22 steamships and five sailing vessels, aggregating 123,100 tons.

The Moewe has been credited with the capture of the British steamer Appam, afterward sailed across the Atlantic to the United States as a prize ship. When a German raider was recently reported in the south Atlantic, it was rumored that it was the Moewe. The rumor was later denied by officers of vessels who said they had seen the mysterious steamer.

Germans Elect Man Opposed to The War

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless)
LONDON, Eng., March 22.—Dr. Franz Mehring has been elected to the seat which Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the Socialist leader, occupied in the lower house of the Prussian Diet until he was convicted of fomenting disorder and sentenced to imprisonment. Reuter's agency says that Mehring is a member of the Socialist minority which is opposed to the war.

ALLIES HARASS TEUTON RETREAT

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless)
LONDON, England, Mar. 22.—The greatest advance of the two allied armies yesterday was made by the British, who last night reported that they had driven the German troops back more than ten miles to the south and southeast of Peronne, and that the foe are still retreating although fighting stiff rearguard actions with the British and endeavoring to hold them back as much as possible.

The British have now advanced their lines 10 miles and more east of the river Somme, which for so long held back the French troops, and yesterday succeeded in recapturing from the German invaders of France more than 40 villages.

Between Arras and Nurla yesterday there was some very heavy fighting with the Germans making use of their machine guns to advantage, but being unable to stop the advance of the British troops. In the Ailette valley they found the Germans making a stand and on the east bank of the Crozat canal von Hindenburg's troops also attempted to stand, and managed to hold the victorious French پوليس in for a time. The fighting there is continuing.

In the eastern fighting, in Persia and Mesopotamia the Russians report that the power of the Turks has been shattered completely and that the Ottoman is falling back as rapidly as possible. They have been driven out of the Sakhalin region, and the Russians have crossed the Persian border into Mesopotamia, and are taking the Ottomans retreating before the British in the Tigris valley in the flank, threatening the whole Turkish army with capture or extinction.

FRENCH THROW ENEMY OUT OF STRONG POSITIONS; RETREAT OF TEUTONS STILL CONTINUES

"Strategic Stroke" of Berlin Not Yet Delivered—Fresh Revolt in Russia Denied

(Associated Press Service by Federal Wireless)
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—Secretary of War Baker, chairman of Council for National Defense, today called a meeting of the council for Saturday to discuss work necessary to put the country into a state of adequate defense.

President Wilson took action this afternoon to speed up the work of construction and repairs on warships; when he suspended, by executive order, the eight-hour day regulation applying to navy department contracts in private plants. This allows the plants to work their experts overtime to get out the navy vessels.

Indicating the danger which American shippers feel from the German U-boats, a deluge of applications for cargo and ship insurance from virtually every section has been received by the government war-risk bureau, despite the recent increase to high rates.

Announcement was made today that food exports from the United States during the month of February were reduced about one-third by Germany's submarine campaign. The value of such exports fell from \$105,000,000 to \$67,000,000.

(Associated Press by Cable)
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—Offers of mediation to prevent actual war between the United States and Germany are expected among the next developments in the startling chain of diplomatic events.

Members of high administration circles have heard that a European neutral nation is contemplating this plan of attempted mediation.

It is frankly regarded as another effort backed by Germany to divide sentiment in Congress and embarrass the president, and it is declared authoritatively that no proposals for mediation will be considered.

Uncle Sam Considers Plan to Place Huge Funds at Disposal of Allies

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—Plans for rendering financial assistance to the Entente group of powers in case of war between the United States and Germany are under consideration by the federal reserve board and other government financial agencies.

Two courses have tentatively been broached. One is action by the United States to place a large sum at the disposal of the Entente Allies, the other the placing of general credits in the countries of the Entente powers with the individual banks there, to a much greater extent than heretofore. The latter plan would allow the Entente governments to place larger loans through these banks.

Allies Take Back 853 Square Miles

(Associated Press Service by Federal Wireless)
PARIS, France, March 22.—The total territory now liberated from the German invaders by the new Somme offensive movement of the Allies is 853 square miles. The territory thus redeemed for France is situated in four of the provincial departments and includes 366 towns and villages, populated by 200,000 French people.

The Germans still possess 7126 square miles but are being slowly forced to give up mile after mile.

The French today captured several villages, after forcing the Germans out of strong positions between the Somme and Aisne rivers.

Rumor of New Russian Revolt Denied

PETROGRAD, Russia, March 22.—Minister of Justice Kerensky, in an interview with the Associated Press today denied rumors of friction and discord between the workers, soldiers and the new government. Kerensky, who is a member of the radical workingmen's party, says that the rumors amount to nothing and are started by trouble fomenters. He emphatically denies that there is latent dissatisfaction which might be a cause of fresh revolt.

LONDON, Eng., March 22.—All members of the former Russian dynasty, including the czar, have placed themselves at the disposition of the provisional government, says a Reuter despatch. The despatch says that Grand Duke Cyril, son of the Duchess Vladimir and at one time a possibility to succeed the czar, has resigned command of the Russian naval guards.

Another Reuter's despatch says that there is robbery and incendiarism in Petrograd, with some murders. The disorders started among rowdies and the police encouraged them, reports say, but the soldiers put down the street rows.

Lloyd George Lauds Revolt

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless)
LONDON, Eng., March 22.—Premier Lloyd George telegraphed today to the Russian premier that he believes the revolution is the greatest service the Russians have rendered the Allied cause.

Libby, McNeill & Libby has requested the board of supervisors to repair the road near the property of H. C. Adams as it is now in the midst of the winter picking and in six or seven weeks the summer harvest will start.

Cuba Estimate Now Placed at 2,800,000 Tons

Alexander & Baldwin this morning received from its New York house a wireless which puts a different light on the Cuban sugar situation than did the Associated Press despatch of yesterday. It shows a considerable reduction from original estimates but of about 1 per cent instead of 30 per cent. The message received this morning was as follows: "NEW YORK, N. Y., March 21.—Mencal has cabled that 186 centrals are grinding. No mill has been seriously damaged during the disorder. Planters are estimating the crop at 2,800,000 long tons.

The New York market is firmer. April Cubas are worth 5.52; but the few nearby are weakly held. March and April Porto Ricos are 5.27."

FENCE FOR AALA PARK SOON TO BE ERECTED

The wire fence for Aala park has arrived after months of delay due to transportation congestion and work

of erecting it will start tomorrow. In ordering the fence the board of supervisors planned to turn part of the park into a playground for the children. Today the engineer's office is running the lines of the fence and when erected it will be a great addition to the park as it is ornamental as well as substantial.

Last night K. Uemura, working on the Manoa at Pier 20, was caught in a sling. An injured back was treated at the emergency hospital.

CALLS MEMBERS OUT

It is to be hoped that the members of the Chamber of Commerce who signified an intention of coming out to last Monday night's public meeting on the charter, and backing up the Chamber in its determination to secure a progressive charter for this city and county, will come to the public meeting tonight at 7:30 in the house of representatives.

Tonight's meeting will be on the same subject—the charter—and it's up to the business men to get what we need. COME OUT TONIGHT.
RAYMOND C. BROWN, Secretary.