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NO. 4124

WEATHER—LIGHT RAIN.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1918.

ONE CENT In Washington and Suburbs. Elsewhere Two Cents.

U. S. SHIPPING BOARD FACES NEW SHAKE-UP

Amazing Revelations of Lax Methods Bring Announcement from Hurley.

A new reorganization of the Shipping Board is on the way. Chairman Hurley, so informed the Senate Commerce Committee, at a secret session late yesterday.

Declining to make public details, Chairman Hurley said the various districts having large powers of supervision. Districts probably will be: New England, Central Atlantic States, Great Lakes, Gulf States, and the Pacific Coast.

Planning Details. Announcements of names and plans are to come today. Hurley saw the President Tuesday night of this week, following the cabinet meeting, and laid his plan before the Executive.

He left the committee to hurry to an appointment, he said, with the men whom he has asked to help him.

He declared he had instructions not to interfere with the contracting company officer than necessary. He said not one contract which the company proposed to him had been rejected.

Asked the theory of what Senator Harding called this "remarkable arrangement," he said the government had believed it could get best results by giving wide authority to private concerns, and holding them to responsibility.

No Fixed Responsibility. He admitted that no responsibility had been fixed, however, which would increase the cost of the government money losses. His estimate was that the yard would be completed for \$2,000,000, as against half that originally estimated.

Senator Vardaman—"The government paid all bills and there was no attempt at economy."

Read—"It is true that economy was always a secondary consideration."

Read—"You tied up thousands of cars of freight; you employed hundreds of men you couldn't use. Now, why?"

Hired Everybody. Senator Fletcher—"When did too many men begin to be hired?"

Read—"At once. They hired all who came. They ordered material far in advance. I don't feel in a position to stop them. The government wished to leave the job to them."

Vardaman—"Many were absolutely untrained."

Read—"You had but much work common labor."

Hun Battery Blown Up by U. S. Artillery Fire; Raid Repulsed

With the American Army in France, Feb. 8.—Our "snipers" this morning blew up a German battery. A heavy explosion was observed behind the enemy's camouflage, and the German battery was set afire, one of our shells evidently having landed in a munitions dump.

Sometimes prior to this our barrage forced an attempted raid of two strong enemy patrols, which were unable to advance through harassing machine gun, automatic rifle, and grenade fire.

The Germans attempted to "strike" our trenches and were answered by effective counter battery work, the Americans joining in breaking up the enemy fire.

Our patrols have displayed increased activity within the last twelve hours. The enemy patrol activity, on the other hand, is diminishing.

EIGHT STATES IN SOUTH FREE OF COAL BAN

Garfield Order Modification Indicates Monday Will Be Last Fuelless Holiday.

Indication that next Monday will be the last fuelless holiday was given yesterday by Fuel Administrator Garfield, when he received the coal-saving regulation affecting eight southern States.

In a series of conferences a co-operative program affecting transportation of fuel, food and shipbuilding material was discussed by Director McArdoo, Fuel Administrator Hoover, Dr. Garfield and Chairman Hurley, of the Shipping Board.

With this program as a basis and reports from all parts of the country showing improved weather conditions, the officials charged with handling of war necessities were hopeful of speedy relief.

Transport Lines Gain. Director McArdoo announced that the transportation systems were operating under better schedule than in a long time since the Monday closing list.

He issued an order giving preference to box cars for movement of grain and grain products in the West. "Every effort should be made by farmers, grain dealers and others to facilitate the accumulation, prompt loading and shipment of all kinds of grains," the instructions read.

In particularly fixing the fuel ban in the East, Dr. Garfield notified the administrators in the States east of Mississippi and Minnesota that necessary fuel may be furnished on Mondays to heat and light hotels and workshops occupied by members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

The States in the South which are removed from the Monday closing list are North Carolina, Tennessee, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Reports from New England states received by the fuel administrator indicated that shipments of coal were going through rapidly and at the same time the material required at the government shipyards is being delivered in larger quantities.

The Middle West also reported the opening of many transportation lines which were blocked by storms.

40 HELD PRISONERS ON SUSPECTED LINER

Secret Service Agents Making Rigid Probe of Alleged Hun Plot.

An Atlantic Port, Feb. 8.—Forty persons were detained by the Federal authorities on board of the Nieuw Amsterdam, Holland-American liner, and the vessel is still in charge of the navy officers, and marines are walking the decks with drawn bayonets tonight.

The forty prisoners—as they may now be termed—are detained on board until the Secret Service men, detectives, special agents of the Treasury Department and the Department of Justice are able to decide their cases. There are thirty-three men and seven women held.

CHARGES MADE POLITICS BACK OF WAR PROBE

Senate Debate Develops Warm Exchange Over Baker Quizzing.

Administration Democrats charged yesterday in the Senate floor that Republicans were trying to distort the war probe so that Secretary of War Baker might be used as a campaign issue.

Senator Thomas of Colorado said: "I hope the inquiry is not degenerating into what seems to be a gradually growing sentiment—that it is petty cross-examination of a public official."

He read from a newspaper article headed, "Baker Campaign Issue for Republicans," and purporting to be an interview with a Republican national committee man.

A stormy tilt ensued between Senator Lewis of Illinois and Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

Chamberlain Explains. "Why wasn't the Secretary called first in the inquiry?" demanded Senator Lewis of Senator Thomas who is a member of the Military Committee.

"Why if the investigation was to obtain information, were witnesses not called who made him the subject of attack, and he was later brought in as if he were a defendant answering an indictment?"

"May I answer that?" said Senator Chamberlain, rising to his feet. "Well, let me say," declared Senator Chamberlain. "It was at the Secretary's own request he was not first called. He preferred that the men under him should testify as experts first. And we suited his convenience."

"If the chairman," said Senator Lewis, "says he knows that from any conversation he had with the Secretary, it would close the question with me. But if the Senator tells it because he heard it from others, he deceives it."

Answers Lewis. "I don't state things on the hearsay of others," Chamberlain said very loudly and distinctly. "I state things as facts. I will say to the Senator from Illinois, the committee acted as it felt it had a right to act. And I will say to the Senator, it intends to proceed along that line."

This colloquy was precipitated when Senator Thomas read the newspaper article. He said he considered it "human nature" that partisan advantage would be taken quickly by one side or another. Senator Pindexter, of Washington, asked:

"Why make a political issue of it? Does the Senator imply that the question of efficiency in conducting the war should not be presented to the tribunal of public opinion? Have not the American people a right to render their verdict in an election?"

"It's perfectly proper," said Mr. Thomas. "I mention politics only because I am afraid we are going beyond the point in investigations."

Thomas Retorts. "Well possibly that's true," said Senator Chamberlain. "But it was on Mr. Baker's own initiative that he came again. If he is being prosecuted it is at his own request."

"I never said that," snapped Senator Thomas. "I did not say you did."

"But I do say there seems to be a sentiment to that effect in different parts of the country."

"That's not my information," came back Senator Chamberlain. "You admit the investigation has done good?"

"It certainly has."

"ON TO FRANCE!"



Berlin Envoys Renew Parley with Russians

Annexionists Demands Abandoned by Teutons at Brest-Litovsk.

Amsterdam, Feb. 8.—Annexionist sword rattling has been abandoned by the central powers at Brest-Litovsk. Suave, almost sweet, speeches, aiming at persuasion have taken the place of Gen. von Hoffmann's stinging threats.

How the Russians are acting as the result of the breakdown is not clear from today's dispatches, though their trend indicates the Bolshevik attitude has become firmer as the Teuton attitude has weakened.

Peace parleys have been resumed, and at last accounts no break seemed imminent.

Barely recovered from the internal crises, chiefly due to the annexationist demands, the central powers cannot now afford to court new trouble at Brest.

There is no doubt in the minds of well-informed observers here that the German government would like nothing better than a complete break with the Bolsheviks.

To both Teutonic governments the recent strikes, with their demands for non-annexionist peace, have been handwriting on the wall and they must continue to negotiate.

All the time the Bolshevik soldiers' hold on Russia is being strengthened. Today news came from Petrograd that the social revolutionaries, their erstwhile bitter antagonists, have realized there is no chance to break the Lenin rule and consequently have decided to get as much of a share in it as they can.

Victor Tchernoff, whom the short-lived constituent assembly elected chairman over the Bolshevik delegate, is one of the social revolutionaries who have accepted a seat in a new all-Russian soviet of 200 members, under Bolshevik sponsorship.

Polygamy Encouraged, Though Unofficially By German Government

Officially, the Kaiser dares not approve it. But unofficially, the German government encourages it, writes Victor Morgan.

Morgan is editor of the Cleveland Press. He was sent to Europe by The Washington Herald and other American journals to find out just what is going on in Germany today. His articles are appearing exclusively in Washington in The Herald. This is his tenth.

Improving Birth Rate. One thing the Kaiser dares not do—he dares not officially approve the introduction of polygamy into the empire.

For some time the semi-official newspapers of Germany carried on a discreet propaganda, doubtless at the behest of the authorities, to test the temper of the people on the subject. No progress could be made.

So officially the government condemns polygamy; unofficially it encourages it.

As a result, free love colonies have sprung up in many parts of Germany. The Berliner Tageblatt, presumably the mouthpiece of the Kaiser, recently commented on this fact. The tone of the comment was by no means condemnatory.

"All these organizations," says the Tageblatt, "desire to improve the German birth rate."

While the exact number of the German killed is not available, 1,500,000 would be a conservative estimate. Most of the killed were young men, the fathers of the future.

The Kaiser has always had an affection for number in population. Early marriages have been encouraged; race suicide condemned. The various societies advocating the practice of polygamy advance so much of scientific cant in their reasons for existence that it is easy to trace in them the hand of the university savants, in peace time the pets of the Kaiser. No man is to have more wives than he can support. The rights of the wives shall be equal. Every marriage is for a lifetime. And so on.

NAMES OF U. S. SOLDIERS LOST ON LINER TUSCANIA ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE

Relatives of Men Who Sailed on Transport Sunk by U-Boat Beg for News. OFFICIAL SLOWNESS CRITICISED

2,134 of Tuscania's 2,418 Saved.

Here are the latest figures which the War and Navy departments have as to the number on board the Tuscania and known survivors: Total on board, 2,418, including 117 American officers and 2,060 enlisted men; 239 crew (British), and 2 civilian passengers.

Total reported saved, 2,134, including American officers and soldiers, passengers and crew. Total unaccounted for, 284, including Americans and British crew.

The State Department has received no additional figures since Thursday night, when the total number of Americans unaccounted for was placed at 261.

The War and Navy departments' latest figures as to survivors, received yesterday morning, did not, in all cases, separate the Americans from members of the British crew. They stated that survivors had been reported as follows:

Landed at Buncrana, Ireland, 76 officers and 1,274 American enlisted men. Landed at Larne, Ireland, 16 officers and seamen of the crew. Landed at Islay, Scotland, "approximately" 570 American officers and enlisted men.

Reported in addition in hospitals, "approximately" 99 soldiers and members of the crew. In military hospital at Londonderry, 6 members of crew and 72 soldiers. In Loughfoyle Hospital, Londonderry, 10 soldiers. County Infirmary, Londonderry, 9 soldiers and 2 members of the crew.

With the death roll of the transport Tuscania still a matter of uncertainty, the War Department late last night was still unable to give the names of the American soldiers missing and unaccounted for.

In the meantime, parents and relatives of men belonging to the military units that sailed on the ill-fated vessel are beseeching the government for definite information.

T.R.'S CONDITION SHOWS GREAT IMPROVEMENT

Wife Remains Near Bedside. Many Inquire About Distinguished Patient.

New York, Feb. 8.—Col. Roosevelt's condition showed marked improvement tonight. At 9 o'clock it was announced at the Roosevelt Hospital no further conference of his physicians would be held until tomorrow morning.

At that hour Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, the Colonel's daughter, left the hospital for the night. Roosevelt's illness, which has necessitated two operations and seriously endangered his life, permitted him to rest tonight. Dr. Walton Martin, the former President's physician, reported early in the evening that his temperature was again normal.

The bulletins that were issued at the hospital from 3 o'clock this afternoon until 9 o'clock tonight reported the Colonel improving with each hour. Mrs. Roosevelt, who spent last night in the room next to her husband, retired at an early hour tonight. There was an endless stream of callers at the Roosevelt Hospital all day. Although no one except the former President's immediate family was admitted, all were assured that the patient's condition showed progress. Cables from Europe poured in today in large numbers.

All were answered immediately upon receipt, but the names of the senders of the transatlantic messages were not revealed.

It is presumed that many of them were from officers and men of the American army in France, many of whom are intimate friends of the Colonel. The telephone switchboard at the hospital also did its part in setting at ease the fears of the anxious friends and admirers of the Colonel. About 8:30 this evening a boy called the hospital and after a wordy battle with the operator succeeded in getting the clerk on the wire. "How is my old friend the Colonel?" demanded the boyish voice. "Who wants to know?" retorted the clerk. "Well, it's only a newsboy; but I like the Colonel."

The boy learned that his "old friend" was resting well.

For Current Reports. "Consecutive numbers will not be given men of same surname. The number assigned a soldier will become a part of his official designation. It will never be changed and will never be assigned to another soldier. It will be entered on identification tags and will be entered plainly on all individual records of soldiers and will be used in connection with soldier's name in rolls, reports and returns in which his name appears. As some time will elapse before records of soldiers on file in the...

Empey's "Over the Top" Begins in The Herald Monday

ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, The Herald will begin the publication of Sergt. Guy Empey's "Over the Top." It will be continued from day to day until concluded. This is the most remarkable story of the war to date.

Guy Empey, a New Jersey boy, went to England, joined the King's army, and fought in Flanders for twenty-two months. His experiences have thrilled the world. The Herald will publish this serial exclusively in Washington, having paid a large sum for the privilege.

Deny Von Kuehlmann Will Wed Rich Woman

Amsterdam, Feb. 8.—The engagement of Dr. von Kuehlmann, the German secretary of foreign affairs, to Frau von Friedlanderfeld is denied in a telegram sent to Bureau papers by the semi-official Wolff Bureau of Berlin.

The betrothal of Dr. von Kuehlmann and Frau von Friedlanderfeld, who is said to be one of the richest women in Germany, was reported in an Amsterdam dispatch received in London February 8.