

NATIONAL DEFENSE IS IMPERFECT

SENATOR LODGE DECLARES CONGRESS TO BLAME FOR MILITARY UNPREPAREDNESS OF NATION.

MILITIA IS HIGHLY DEFECTIVE

Recommendation by Secretary of War Garrison for 25,000 More Men Is Moderate.

Washington, Jan. 15.—In urging upon the senate the need for a commission to report on military preparedness, or for a permanent council of national defense, Senator Lodge today declared that the national defense of the country is not only imperfect and unbalanced, but that it has grave and in some instances fatal deficiencies. He designated what he termed many of the defects and said they were "almost wholly due to congress."

No Added Expense. An adequate national defense, the senator said, could be obtained without additional expenditures. "Cut off our needless army posts, navy yards and stations," he advised the senate. "Lay aside for a few years appropriation for public buildings and river and harbor improvements where they are not needed. Drop all the expenditures which are designed for spots where votes are being thickened, and you will have money enough to provide for a sufficient army and an adequate navy without adding to the burden of taxation."

He warned that the ocean barrier that defended the country in 1776 and in 1812 had been destroyed by steam and electricity. "Armed, unready, undefended, the nation stands an invitation to aggression and attack, he said.

Militia Defective, Too. Senator Lodge asserted that not only the regular army, but the militia was highly defective, adding that the Panama canal was "miserably and most inadequately protected" against being blown up and blocked for months by agents or spies of a hostile nation.

He said the recommendation of Secretary Garrison for a 25,000 men was very moderate. He expressed regret that only 16 men are on the reserve list subject to be called back to the colors to fill up the gaps which war would make in the regular army.

Senator Lodge declared the army was without sufficient artillery and artillery ammunition and said available testimony showed that the guns in the fortifications were of shorter range than those carried by foreign warships of the latest designs.

STUTSMAN GETS BACK. Mandan, N. D., Jan. 15.—President W. H. Stutsman of the state railroad commission returned this morning from Fairmount and Oakes where the board had held hearings concerning the erection of new depots. Mr. Stutsman says that the railroads will accede to the demands of the people of the two cities. He will leave tomorrow night for Des Moines, Ia., where he will attend a national conference of railroad commissioners.

ITALY IS ANXIOUS FOR INFORMATION

Proposed Conference of North and South American Ministers

Interests That Nation.

Rome, Jan. 15.—Carlo Cavanari, member of the chamber of deputies from Genoa, has presented an interpellation to the government, requesting what action Italy is likely to take in view of the American initiative in calling a conference of nations of the American continent in Washington next spring.

To Discuss War. The conference referred to by Deputy Cavanari has been called by the United States to study the financial and commercial problems confronting the two Americas as the result of the European war. All Central and South American nations have been invited to send their ministers of finance and leading bankers to Washington to meet the treasury department officials and financiers of this country for discussion of these problems. American government officials, it has been stated, look forward to this conference as an important step toward bringing the two American continents into a closer commercial relationship. So far as has been indicated the questions to be discussed are purely of American interest only.

THE WEATHER. North Dakota—Fair Saturday and Sunday.

HUNDRED LIVES LOST IN MEXICAN FLOODS

Refugees Bring Word of Fatalities That Attended Disaster in State of Sonora.

Douglas, Ariz., Jan. 15.—Belated news of the loss of life during the recent floods in the state of Sonora, Mexico, puts the number of drowned and those killed in the collapse of houses, as over a hundred, according to word brought by refugees today.

BISMARCK TEAM DEFEATS MINOT

High School Basketball Honors Go to Capital City Five by Score of 27 to 9.

Bismarck high school continued its mad dash pennantward last night, when the representative basketball team added Minot's scalp to its belt with a clean cut victory over the opposition on the Minot floor by a score of 27 to 10. Throughout the evening, the Tribune office was besieged by an army of rooters anxious for the result, while "first aid" was also rendered to telephone callers who kept the wires hot for several hours. When the result was finally flashed over the city that Bismarck had been returned a winner, outbursts of enthusiasm greeted the information.

Worthy of Support. A number of the more skeptical who believed that the previous success of the Bismarck team on its own floor this season, might be offset by the showing of the players when "bearding the lion in his own den" are now sitting up and taking notice of the class of the high school aggregation, representing Bismarck's interests in a basketball way. In the three games staged with Mandan, Valley City, and Jamestown here, the home guard totaled over 160 points to 27 for the opposition. Last night the team added an additional 27 counters while the combined strength of the enemy to date in points is no more than 35. There is no reason to believe that Bismarck will not keep up its present pace in the remaining contests and then clinch state honors.

How They Scored. Team work, which has featured Bismarck's success since the opening of the season, last night spelled another victory at Minot. The line-up and score: Bismarck L.F. Minot R.F. Mille Smith Hayses R.G. Sherman Smith R.G. Frank Floe L.G. Nichols

Substitutes—For Bismarck, Grambs. For Minot, Jacobson. Summary—Goals from field, Sherman, Hayses, Alberston, 2; Smith, 2; Houser, 4. Foul Throws, Minot, 6. Bismarck, 3.

DEMOCRATS ARE UP AGAINST IT

Stumped by Minority of Senators They Have Little Hope for Remaining Weeks.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 15.—Democratic leaders in the senate, beset by every parliamentary obstacle the minority senators can resort to, practically abandoned hope today of accomplishing any general legislation in the few remaining weeks of the sixty-third congress, except the appropriation bills, and the government ship purchase measure.

Inform President Wilson. Even the ship purchase bill is in danger of failure according to some opinions. It has also become known that certain democratic senators told President Wilson in a conversation regarding the measure of a Philippine independence bill which he urged in his annual message is not to be passed this season.

SULTAN HAS HONORS FOR AMERICAN WOMEN

Uplift Work of Mrs. Henry Morgenthau and Three Daughters Recognized in Turkey.

London, Jan. 15.—The Sultan of Turkey has conferred the grand order of Nishan-i-Chetakat on Mrs. H. Morgenthau, wife of the American ambassador to Turkey. The decorations of the second class of the same order were conferred on Morgenthau's three daughters as a recognition for the services they are rendering in philanthropic and educational institutions in Turkey, says the Jewish Chronicle.

PREPARE TO GRIP ENEMY IN BIG VISE

RUSSIAN ARMIES IN NORTHERN POLAND AND EAST PRUSSIA INITIATE A FORWARD MOVEMENT.

GERMAN TRIUMPHS IN WEST

Retake Ground Near Soissons That Required French a Fortnight to Capture.

London, Jan. 15.—The latest official reports from the Russian general staff disclose a new operation on the part of the Russians which may have far-reaching results.

In the East. Starting on New Year, the Russian gala day commenced a forward movement in northern Poland on the right bank of the Skwra river, 49 miles east of the German fortress at Thorn in west Prussia, driving a small force of German cavalry and infantry before them. It is believed that Grand Duke Nicholas, commander in chief of the Russians, intends to use in this regiment an entirely new army, consisting of 800,000 to 1,000,000 men and operating in conjunction with the army advancing in east Prussia, according to Petrograd dispatches. This will place the Germans at Mlawa in a vise and at the same time threaten the rear of the Germans in front of Warsaw, the latter making occasional attacks on the Russian line. Berlin claims to have taken a Russian point of vantage near Bawka.

In the West. In the west the German success in retaking French ground near Soissons, which took the Allies a fortnight to capture, remains the outstanding feature, although somewhat offset by the reported British success near Labassee and the capture by the Zouaves of some German trenches in the region of Arras.

The Russians continue to press the Turks, who made a stand on the borders of the trans-Caucasia, after their recent defeat, and claim to have captured numerous prisoners.

POPE FAVORS EXCHANGE. Rome, Jan. 15.—Pope Benedict today opened negotiations with representatives of the warring nations with a view of procuring an extension of the agreement for the exchange of prisoners. The pope suggested the agreement be so modified to have it include provisions for the exchange of certain classes of civilians who are detained in the various countries. Reference was made particularly to the women and children, aged persons and men who, while of age for military service, are physically unfit.

Germans Make Haul. A wireless dispatch from German headquarters at Berlin announces "as a result of the three days' fighting to the northeast of Soissons, about 3,200 prisoners, 14 guns, 6 machine guns and some revolver guns were captured."

It further announced that the French suffered heavy losses, there being from four to five thousand French dead found on the battlefield.

Permit Wool Shipments. Melbourne, Australia, via London, Jan. 15.—The Commonwealth, it is announced, has decided to permit the shipment of merino wool to the United States, provided a guarantee is given that it will not be re-exported. Australian restrictions regarding the export of wool were inaugurated soon after the war started and were in line with the policy pursued by Great Britain in endeavoring to prevent this produce from reaching Germany. On November 23 the restrictions on the export of wool, so far as Canada and Japan were concerned were rescinded.

TOLL OF DEAD AND INJURED IN EARTHQUAKE CATASTROPHE LIKELY TO REACH 50,000; FIRE ADDS HORROR

TO REDUCE THE MEMBERSHIP

Reapportionment Resolution Introduced in House by Treadwell Twichell.

Treadwell Twichell yesterday afternoon introduced a house resolution paving the way to a reapportionment of the legislative districts of the state so as to reduce the number of members of house and senate as near as possible to the minimum of 30 in senate and 60 in the house. The resolution stated that it was the general belief that the legislative body was too big and that the membership of each house should be reduced and a means to economy and efficiency.

It further provided that the house committee on reapportionment be requested and instructed to figure out the means and present a measure in accordance with the constitutional plan which would reduce the membership of both houses as near as possible to the constitutional minimum. The resolution was adopted.

UNITED STATES SENDS RELIEF

Red Cross Society Cables \$20,000 for Earthquake Sufferers and Appeal for More.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The American Red Cross has decided to cable \$20,000 immediately to the Italian Red Cross and to ask President Wilson, as the head of the organization, to issue an appeal to the people of the United States for funds to aid the earthquake sufferers.

MEETS HORRIBLE DEATH. Wibaux, Mont., Jan. 15.—Nearly every bone in his body was broken, his face was mutilated almost beyond recognition, and death came instantly when a heavy coal bank in a mine two miles south of the city caved in on John C. Miller, James Brooks, working less than six feet away, jumped and was not caught. He dug frantically to get Miller out, but no help was possible.

GUTIERREZ AGAIN CONVENTION CHOICE

Chosen to Serve as Provisional President of Mexico Until Election on Jan. 1, 1916.

Mexico City, Jan. 15.—The national convention Tuesday night reappointed Eulalio Gutierrez, provisional president, to serve until the general election of January 1, 1916, not until Nov. 1, 1916, when the original Diaz term would expire. This was done on certain conditions accepted by the general, but details of which are to be debated at another session.

REPORTS FROM ROME SAY ITALIAN DISASTER IN NUMBER OF VICTIMS IS CONSTANTLY GROWING; MANY INJURED AND DYING STILL REMAIN IN WRECKAGE AND TROOPS ARE HANDICAPPED IN WORK OF RESCUE AS BUILDINGS CONTINUE TO FALL.

ROME, Jan. 15.—Tricking in from the region devastated by Wednesday's earthquake, come reports that the casualties at the various cities and towns are gradually increasing the first estimates of the number of dead and injured. But accurate estimates are still impossible, as it will be weeks, probably, before the numbers crushed beneath the ruined houses in the stricken district are ascertainable. That the dead and injured will reach 50,000 thousand seems likely.

FOUR NEGROES LYNCHED BY MOB

Mob of Hundred Men Overpower Sheriff at County Jail in Monticello, Georgia.

Atlanta, Georgia, Jan. 15.—Dan Barber, his son, Jesse, and two daughters, Eula and Mrs. Ella Charles, were taken from the Jasper county jail at Monticello last night by a mob of a hundred men, and lynched, according to a related message by telephone received tonight. All of the victims are negroes.

Sheriff James Ezelle said he was overpowered and the four negroes forcibly taken from the jail. Their bodies were riddled with bullets when found on the outskirts of town today. The negroes had been arrested for an alleged assault on Chief of Police Williams, who attempted to arrest Barber.

WARN CARRANZA TROUBLE AHEAD

Secretary Bryan Informs Mexican Leader to Keep Hands Off Oil Wells.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 15.—Secretary Bryan announced today that the United States government had warned General Carranza that "serious consequences will follow" the threatened confiscation of foreign oil wells at Tampico.

Earlier today, the British ambassador, Spring-Rice, filed a protest with the state department against the Carranza embargo on oil there, where the British navy secures some of its fuel.

Already Carranza officials have practically enforced the embargo on exportation of oil by a big English company. The British ambassador, at the suggestion of Secretary Bryan, sent an urgent telegram to the British consul at Vera Cruz which he was instructed to show Carranza. That "there is a possibility of serious complications over the Carranza government's attitude is fully realized by the American government. Bryan said foreign owned oil companies "feared the confiscation of their wells" by Carranza, and urgent representations made to forestall such action.

WHOLE TOWNS DESTROYED.

There is every reason to believe that only a few hundred out of 17,000 who inhabited Sora were saved. Relief expeditions hurried to Sora, every hour are bringing word of more harrowing particulars of the destruction of the town. The shops were so severely there that some buildings were apparently removed from their foundations and overturned some distance from their original positions. The river Liri is overflowing.

A message says in Sappadocio all houses are uninhabitable and the people are camping in the snow. Twenty bodies were recovered from the ruins there, and it is estimated 30 more are still beneath the debris. The town of Sora is now but a pile of ruins, beneath which are buried hundreds of bodies. Of a population of 900, only thirty escaped. At Magliano-di-Marsi, 1,300 were killed. Capelle was destroyed with a loss of over 12 hundred. Nearly the entire population of San Benedetto, numbering 3,000 met death. The towns of Aranchio, with 2,500, and Glosanai, with 3,500 inhabitants are in ruins. At Pescara, the number of deaths are about 4,000, which is approximately half of the population.

Fire Adds to Horror. The amount of damage cannot be determined from the meagre descriptions of the catastrophe reaching Rome over hampered lines of communication. Such details as come, however, leave no doubt that nearly a hundred towns and villages were utterly demolished or partly wrecked, with a great loss of life. Thousands of persons have now lain nearly three days beneath the crumbled buildings throughout the earthquake zone. Some are dead and others are still living.

Many removed from the wreckage and brought to Rome hospitals for treatment, are being cared for in temporary structures. Many caught in the wreckage are not believed injured, but perished from the cold and hunger or were incinerated in the fires which broke out amid the ruins. The number of burned is probably greatest at Avezzano and Magliano-di-Marsi, as there was no water to quench the fire. Besides the listed cities, other places report the death toll running from two to 10,000.

Rome, Jan. 15.—William Marconi, who returned from devastated Avezzano aboard a train with King Victor Emmanuel, declared words are insufficient to describe the horrors he witnessed. "The town is leveled and those residents escaping are now destitute."

"King Victor Emmanuel told me," said Marconi, that "he visited scenes of all the earthquake disasters in Italy since he was a child, but this one surpassed all, even the Messina horror."

The king said the survivors of Avezzano numbered only two or three per cent of its population, while in Messina a third escaped.

Describes Scene of Horror. Describing the damage, Marconi said: "Avezzano has absolutely ceased to exist. In Messina some buildings. (Continued on Page Two)

ON RECORD FOR LOWER INTEREST

FIRST OF GOVERNOR HANNA'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE PASSED UPON BY BOTH HOUSES.

PASS INDEPENDENT BILLS

House and Senate Within a Few Minutes Act on Money Rates

It was a race between the house and the senate yesterday to pass a bill lowering the legal rate of interest from 7 per cent to 6 per cent and contract rate from 12 to 10. Both houses passed measures providing for this decrease yesterday.

Now it remains to be seen whose bill will be enacted into law.

The bill that passed the senate was a committee measure bearing the name of the ways and means committee, which took all the interest measures and worked them into a committee bill. There was not a dissenting voice in the senate.

This issue figured prominently in the recent campaign. Governor Hanna was attacked as being in favor of holding up the interest rate, although he had denied the accusation repeatedly in printed statements. His message came out directly for 6 per cent legal rate and 10 per cent contract rates.

The house passed the Everson bill, H. B. No. 2, by a vote of 105 ayes, no nays and seven absent and not voting. This bill provides for the same rates of interest as the bill passed by the senate.

JAPAN ADMIRAL AT EXPOSITION

Famous Naval Officer Named as Special Envoy to Pan-American Celebration.

Tokio, Jan. 15.—The Japanese cabinet has designated Admiral Baron Shigetō Dewa as a special envoy to the Panama-Pacific exposition.

is Famous Officer. Rear Admiral Dewa is one of Japan's distinguished naval officers. In the Russian-Japanese war he was with Admiral Togo all through the Port Arthur blockade and later commanded a squadron during the naval battle with the Russians in the Sea of Japan. Early last year he was appointed as head of the naval commission which inquired into the Japanese naval scandal, in which bribery was charged in connection with the allotment of construction contracts.

NEW YORK LEADS CITIES IN WEALTH

Assessed Valuation of Holdings Shown to Be Billion and a Half.

New York, Jan. 15.—The wealthiest land owner in the limits of the municipal jurisdiction according to a report by Controller Prendergast, is the city of New York. The assessed valuation of the city's holdings is \$1,447,547,893, of which \$1,429,491,350 is within the city limits.

Compared with the figures of 1913 the value of the property shows an increase of \$71,104,489. The increase in land values reflects the large figure of \$41,689,087, while in the value of buildings and other improvements it totals \$29,253,632.

BUILD SUBMARINES FOR ENGLISH NAVY

Order for Twenty Sea Fighters Placed With Canadian Company at Montreal.

Montreal, Jan. 15.—A fleet of submarines for the British navy is under construction at Montreal. An order for twenty underwater craft of the English design has been placed with the Canadian Vickers company of Montreal, and work has been started upon ten of the boats.

The company is a branch of the English ship building firm, Vickers, Sons & Maxim of England, which built the first dreadnaught and many other powerful boats for the admiralty. It is stated that the submarine work has no relation to the order which Charles M. Schwab obtained from the British government for submarines to which the Washington government objected as involving a breach of neutrality.

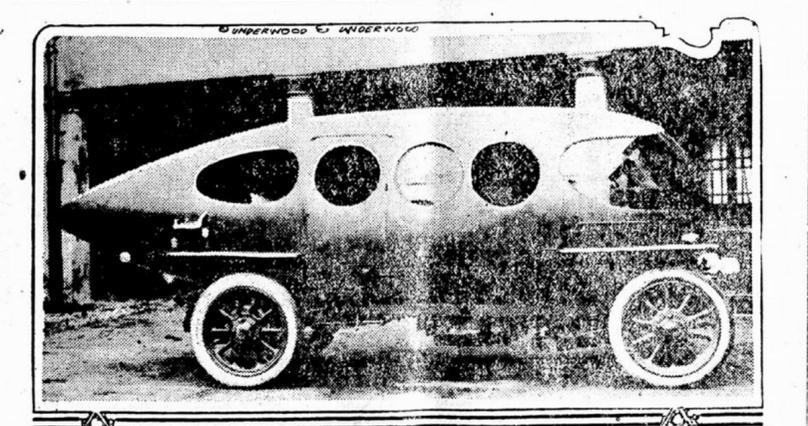
PEBBLE LIQUOR BY VEST POCKET ROUTE

States Attorney William Langer of Morton County Has Another Nut to Crack.

Mandan, N. D., Jan. 15.—Asserting that while blind pigs have been effectively closed in Mandan as the result of the campaign of States Attorney Wm. Langer, bootleggers or vest-pocket liquor merchants are doing business here, Chief of Police Mike Knoll is making a determined effort to round them up.

Last night Policeman Heisner cornered a man who had taken too much squirrel whisky aboard and locked him up to sleep the jag off. Today the man was around with the chief trying to find the fellow who sold him a pint of whisky for \$1.25.

NEW CAR PROMISES A REVOLUTION IN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY



This car, which is the product of the brain of Count Marco Ricotti, one of the high aristocracy of Milan, promises to change the entire science of motor car building. With a comparatively medium powered motor (50 H. P.—4 cylinders) this model has easily raced at a speed of eighty miles an hour.