

New York, Feb. 8.—Silver, 56 5/8c; lead, \$6.12; spelter, not quoted; copper, firm, electrolytic, \$26.00, \$27.00 and \$28.00.

WEATHER—Utah: Tonight and Wednesday Generally Fair, Not Much Change in Temperature.

Germans Are Concentrating For Big Fight On Baltic And Western Fronts

LIVELY ARTILLERY FIGHTING IS KEPT UP BY ALLIES AND GERMANS

French Take Small Trench Section—Strong Fight South of River Somme—German Aeroplane Squadron Attacks Enemy Flyers But Is Driven Back Without Loss—Great Force Is Gathering to Attack British and Franco-Belgians.

Berlin, Feb. 8, wireless to Sayville.—Active fighting on the French front south of the river Somme was announced today by German army headquarters. In the course of the engagement the Germans lost a small section of one of the trenches they had conquered but afterward re-took the position by a counter attack.

conversations here with various diplomats and government officials, left this morning for England.

BERLIN REVIEWS WAR STORIES

Victories Announced by Allied Newspapers Failed to Materialize—Many Reports Purely Fanciful.

Berlin, Feb. 8, by wireless to Sayville.—Reviews of the Franco-British offensive movement on the Franco-Belgian front are being published in the Berlin newspapers.

Lull On Russian Front. Petrograd, Feb. 8, 12:40 p. m., via London, 4:05 p. m.—The Russian front with the exception of a recrudescence of unimportant artillery, aeroplane and mining warfare on the Dvinsk-Riga line and information of the recent transfer of large bodies of German troops to the westward, are taken by the Russian authorities as an indication that the Germans are content for the present with holding their own in Bukovina and the northern sector, and are again preparing to apply the greater part of their strength on the western front.

ITALY MUST STAY IN GREAT WAR

Premier Briand Visits Rome—Italians Facing Difficulties Which Must Be Overcome.

Paris, Feb. 8, 5:05 a. m.—In explanation of Premier Briand's visit to Italy, the Matin says that the prolongation of the war led to certain difficulties for the Italian government which, however, realizes that, if Italy is to profit by the victory of the allies, she must take an active part in the operations.

Paris, Feb. 8, via London, 3:38 p. m.—The following statement was given out this afternoon at the war office: "South of the Somme between Loya and Chaumes, our artillery cannonaded a train."

RUSSIA'S CRISIS HAS GONE BY

Need of Munitions Now Thing of the Past—Spirit of Troops Excellent—Number of Recruits Doubled.

Review of War Situation. Except for a continuation of the intensive bombardment along the Franco-Belgian front, there are few reports of activity from the major fields of military operations.

Col. House Off for England. Paris, Feb. 8, 11:30 a. m.—Colonel E. M. House who has concluded his

the front above-normal men. This is of great importance for it has been observed that the morale of the soldier is apt to deteriorate when he sees his company, which originally had 250 or 300 men, reduced to a few dozen."

KITCHENER TO TAKE COMMAND IN EGYPT

London, Feb. 7, 11:02 p. m.—The Weekly World says it hears that Field Marshal Lord Kitchener is likely to take over command of the British forces in Egypt and that the Earl of Derby, the director of recruiting, will be the new secretary of state for war with a seat in the cabinet.

The World gives no authority for the report but says it is general public opinion with recent intimations that Earl Kitchener might withdraw from the war ministry to assume more active duties.

GERMANS CAN STAND BEING IMPOVERISHED

Berlin, Feb. 8.—Wireless to Sayville.—"We Germans can stand it if we become poorer, since we will remain what we are now," said Dr. Karl Helfferich, secretary of the German imperial treasury, in a supplementary section of his reply to the question propounded by Sir Edward Holden, the English financier, as given out today by the Overseas News Agency.

HIGH PRICE OF SUGAR IN LONDON

British Royal Commission Recommends More Restrictions on Importations and Economies in Use.

London, Feb. 8, 1:50 a. m.—More restrictions on the importation of sugar during the coming months in order to reduce its consumption is the recommendation made by a British royal commission. The report of the commission says that economies in the use of sugar will influence the rate of exchange in favor of Great Britain as all the sugar consumed here is imported.

The commission states that since the beginning of the war the price of sugar never has been less than 50 per cent above normal and that now it is virtually double that price. Notwithstanding the rise in price there has been no considerable general reduction in the consumption of sugar and the commission urges, therefore, that less quantities of sugar and also of jams, biscuits, sweet meats and chocolates be used.

It is stated that there would be no shortage and less ground for the increases in the prices of these edibles, the commission says, and it also will reduce the tonnage problem and thus help to keep down the cost of other commodities.

GERMAN CONSUL IS INDICTED

Federal Grand Jury Brings Charges Against Franz Bopp for Conspiring to Blow Up Munitions Plants.

Washington, Feb. 8.—German Consul General Franz Bopp was indicted in San Francisco by a federal grand jury today in connection with the so-called Crowley plot to blow up munitions plants and interfere with interstate commerce in munitions of war, according to a report received at the department of justice.

SENATE HEARS FOES OF PREPAREDNESS

Washington, Feb. 8.—Opponents of military preparedness were heard today by the senate military committee. Miss Lillian D. Wald of the Henry Street Settlement of New York, and Frederick C. Howe, commissioner of immigration at New York, were among the first to be heard.

The preparedness committee which arranged the hearing submitted the names of John P. White, president of the United Mine Workers of America,

Governor Capper of Kansas and half a dozen others, but the committee decided to hear no more than five.

Other opponents of preparedness had a hearing before the house military committee.

Representatives of the National Grange opposed army and navy increases on the ground that they meant a burden of taxation that might really be a weapon in the hands of an enemy.

LUSITANIA CASE SEEMS HOPEFUL

Germany's Latest Reply Almost, If Not Entirely Satisfactory to United States.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Germany's latest reply in the Lusitania negotiations was characterized as almost, if not entirely, acceptable to the United States by high officials today after Secretary Lansing had conferred with President Wilson more than an hour and the case had been discussed at the cabinet meeting.

Later today Secretary Lansing will confer with Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador. It is expected he will communicate to the ambassador the American government's view of the latest proposal from Berlin which substituted for the word "illegal" reference to the sinking of the Lusitania a declaration that reprisals must not be extended to other than enemy subjects.

The view reflected by administration officials is that this declaration, with the assurances Germany previously had given and with the other features of the Lusitania agreement already agreed upon, is practically satisfactory.

Later high administration officials authorized the statement that "the United States and Germany are substantially in accord."

The same official said: "The wording proposed by Germany appears to cover the position of the United States. It is not fair to assume that there will have to be any further admissions or concessions from Berlin."

THOUSAND MEN FIGHT OIL FIRE

Blaze Starts on Stevenson Tract at Humble, Texas—Driller and Helper Severely Burned.

Houston, Texas, Feb. 8.—Nearly a thousand men battled today with an oil fire on the Stevenson tract at Humble. The loss, soon after the blaze started, was estimated at \$30,000. A driller named Hancock, and a helper named Watt were severely burned.

TRAINS UNDER CONSTANT FIRE

American Engineers From Vera Cruz Report Country Infested With Bandits.

New York, Feb. 8.—A party of four American mining engineers who arrived here today from Vera Cruz on the steamer Esperanza reported the train upon which they traveled from Mexico City to Vera Cruz had been under constant fire from bandits throughout the entire journey.

The engineers said they left Mexico City two weeks ago and traveled in an armored car which carried four 3-inch guns. According to their story, the whole territory between the Mexican capital and the seacoast is infested with bandits.

ARMOR BARONS THREATEN U. S.

Manufacturers Notify Senate They Will Raise Armor Plate Prices Two Hundred Dollars a Ton.

TO FIGHT GOVERNMENT Committee, Nevertheless, Reports Favorably, Nine to Three, on Senator Tillman's Bill.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Private armor plate manufacturers notified the senate today that they would raise the price of armor plate \$200 a ton if congress decides to erect or purchase armor plate factories for the government.

After brief consideration, the committee ordered favorably reported the bill authorizing expenditure of \$500,000 to equip Mare Island navy yard for battleship construction and \$100,000 to enlarge facilities at New York navy yard and the bill to add 300 midshipmen to the entrance class at Annapolis next July.

Senator Penrose notified the committee of the stand of armor plate manufacturers, those chiefly concerned being the Bethlehem and Midvale Steel companies.

The committee voted, nevertheless, nine to three to report favorably Senator Tillman's bill to authorize the secretary of the navy to provide, either by erection or purchase of an armor plate factory, or both, with capacity of not less than 20,000 tons of armor a year.

Chairman Tillman and Senators Swanson, Bryan, Johnson, Maine, Chilton, Phelan and Newlan, Democrats, and Clapp and Poindexter, Republicans, voted for it.

The threat of the armor barons to hold up the government will not affect congress," said Senator Tillman. "We were given to understand that the armor manufacturers would increase their price because government manufacture of armor plate would force them to go out of that business and they would charge this enormous increase in order to provide themselves with an amortizing fund."

On motion of Senator Phelan of California, the committee agreed to consider his bill to appropriate \$10,000,000 for construction of a naval and aviation academy within 150 miles of San Francisco. Senator Phelan was directed to furnish the committee with data on the need of such an academy.

War Mobilization. Representative Britten asked if the navy had not failed to conduct a war mobilization recently because of lack of men to handle all the ships. Admiral Blue replied that no navy was kept filled to its war footing.

"How much time would we be likely to have to mobilize if we were attacked?" asked Mr. Britten. "That would be an important thing to know," said the admiral.

Rear Admiral Fiske's Testimony. "Do you know?" asked Mr. Britten, "if anybody has successfully contradicted Rear Admiral Fiske's testimony last year that it would take five years to get the navy ready to meet an efficient enemy?"

Admiral Blue replied that "the fleet could undertake anything in the Pacific as soon as it could get there. The navy is prepared to meet any enemy it could possibly meet in the Pacific," said the admiral, "at the present time."

VILLA TO FORCE INTERVENTION

Northern Chief With Band Determined to Force Action by United States.

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 8.—A declaration that he would force intervention by the United States within six weeks, attributed to Francisco Villa by the attention of American officials here and Mexican authorities at Juarez today. According to the Mexican informant, Villa declared he would cross the international border and hold up an El Paso and Southwestern railway train if intervention could be produced in no other way.

General Gavierra, commandant at Juarez, was without war early in the day on the progress made by Carranza troops in their search for Villa. The last work received at military headquarters in Juarez reported Villa with 25 men in Canyon de El Nido.

U. S. MUST DEPEND ON PRIVATE ARMS MAKERS — CROZIER

General William Crozier, chief of ordnance of the U. S. army, in his testimony before the house committee on military affairs recently, dealt a hard blow to the plan of many congressmen for exclusive government manufacture of munitions.

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ANONYMOUS NOTE REVEALS PLOT

Letter Tells Dominion Police of Destruction of Parliament Building and to Locate Certain Persons.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 8.—The Dominion police received today an anonymous letter written under a Detroit date line but with a Cleveland postmark, February 6, midnight, asserting that the destruction of the parliament building was the result of a plot.

The letter stated that if the authorities can locate certain persons having in their possession a thermic fuse material, almost invisible, but capable of sustaining a half pound weight and fusing at a temperature of eighty degrees, they probably will discover the origin of the fire.

BLOCKADE AFFAIR MUST BE SETTLED

British Press Urges Sending of Envoy to United States With Full Powers to Settle Controversy.

OLD SORE NOT HEALED Americans Still Remember Details of Last War and Alleged British Abuse of Sea Power.

London, Feb. 8, 10:20 a. m.—The Manchester Guardian in an editorial suggests that Viscount Bryce, formerly British ambassador to the United States, or Arthur J. Balfour, first lord of the admiralty, be sent to the United States with full powers to adjust the blockade controversy with the government in Washington.

It publishes a statement from its London correspondent to the effect that people close in touch with Anglo-American affairs express the opinion that some such step should be taken.

The Guardian says the blockade question is being pressed throughout the United States no less persistently than is the Lusitania question and with the dispute regarding the phraseology to be employed by Germany, once settled, the blockade matter The Guardian dwells upon the fact that the British people are puzzled that purely trade subjects should create as much excitement as the question of human life and says "British opinion has persistently overlooked the fact that German diplomacy possessed two great advantages over ours."

The first is that the critical and even hostile attitude of the American navy towards British sea power, as well as the theories on which it is based, is almost as old as the American nation itself. Our last war with the United States arose out of what was regarded by America as an abuse of our power at sea.

Following the announcement that Rev. Henry Ostrom, the eastern evangelist, is to conduct a revival series in Ogden under direction of nine federated churches, a flood of letters has reached the committee in charge of the arrangements, each one commending the evangelist as a "live wire" and also as a powerful preacher.

Among the letters received today regarding Dr. Ostrom was one from C. B. Willis, general secretary of the Young Men's Christian association in Milwaukee and another from Rev. Elbert B. Dille, of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church in Berkeley, California.

Secretary Willis gives the local committee an interesting but concise review of Dr. Ostrom's methods in the following words: "To my mind the meetings have been chiefly noted, first, for his adherence to the fundamental principles of the Word of God; second, to his sane and practical application of those truths, with his always apt and striking illustrations; third, in his thorough humanness, being at all times in close touch with the people; and fourth, his powerful spirit of love and charitableness, never uttering a word that could be construed as censorious or harsh."

C. C. Michener, who has known Secretary Willis for many years, said today that he considered the review from this Milwaukee man as of special importance as showing exactly what Ogden ministers and laymen can expect of the meetings that are to be held in March.

Dr. Dille, who has held prominent pastorates in several coast cities, starts his letter to Rev. G. F. Rasseweller by saying: "I congratulate the churches of Ogden upon their having secured the evangelistic services of Rev. Henry Ostrom. His preaching is eminently sane and his message gives forth no uncertain sound. I regard him as especially adapted to the field in your city and state."

COAL OPERATORS TO FIX RATES

Owners of Bituminous Mines and Union Representatives of a Quarter Million Coal Diggers in Conference.

Mobile, Ala., Feb. 8.—Bituminous coal operators from western Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois are here today representing a quarter of a million coal diggers in these states, met in joint conference here today to begin negotiations for a new interstate wage scale to take the place of the separate agreements which expire March 31.

The conference embraces the central competition soft coal fields and the agreements to be drawn up in the future soft coal states will be based largely upon the results of the present negotiations, it is said. The conference is made up of 32 representatives of the operators and an equal number of members of the United Mine Workers of America, representing the four states. In addition John P. White, president of William J. Hayes, vice president, and William Green, secretary-treasurer of the miners international organization are taking part in the deliberations.

The miners at their convention at Indianapolis formulated eleven demands to be presented to the operators. One demand calls for the payment of wages on the mine run basis, three relate to wage increases, ranging from ten to twenty per cent according to the class of work, and the others call for a uniform scale for all classes, readjustment of the machine differential at the basing point, an eight hour day from bank to bank, local grievances to be settled immediately, various districts, a two year contract, weekly pay days, and that every other day be an idle day in lieu of Saturday half holidays.



Gen. William Crozier.