

Have Lobbyists Attempted to Influence State Officers Improperly? Brisk Investigation Ordered Today by the Board of Equalization

For the Active Development of Idaho

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GERMANS GIVE UP AIR ATTACKS ON LONDON; NO PROFIT GAINED

Raids on British Capital Abandoned, but Zeppelins May Be Sent Against the English Coast Provinces.

THEIR ONLY VALUE IS WITH THE NAVY

Used for Scouting Purposes for the German Fleet—Last Disastrous Raid Given as Cause of the Change in Policy.

Geneva, Feb. 19.—The Zeppelin campaign against London has been found to be unprofitable. The cessation of German air attacks on the British metropolises after the latest appearances of the big dirigibles over the city last fall, has been due, not to fortuitous circumstances, but to the deliberate determination of German leaders to abandon these attacks, as has long been done in the case of Paris.

A correspondent who was then in Berlin was informed from a trustworthy source a few days after the final London raid of the decision to send no more Zeppelins against London, but they may be sent against English provinces. Zeppelins in land warfare are now regarded in expert circles in Germany as secondary to their great value as scouting agents for the operations of the fleet.

GREEKS IN CHICAGO FIGHT THE WAR OVER

Chicago, Feb. 19.—Police today are keeping close watch for hostilities in the Greek section of Chicago following the clash between Venizelos sympathizers and 150 former soldiers in King Constantine's army yesterday. The Greeks fought for nearly an hour at the Coliseum annex before police reinforcements arrived to quell the riot.

Dr. Panos Arvanitinos, of the University of Athens, and Dr. George Katantariou, ex-minister of the interior of Greece, were Venizelos representatives at the meeting.

WHEAT CROP BIGGER THAN THE ESTIMATE

Ottawa, Feb. 19.—The western wheat crop has turned out 30 per cent larger than was first estimated. The crop has proved to be 225,000,000 bushels as against an estimate of about 175,000,000.

MAKES APPEAL TO TURN BACK CLOCKS

New York, Feb. 19.—Marcus M. Marks, president of the Daylight Saving association, announced today he had written the president urging him to expedite for passage the Gallinger-Borland bill now in the hands of congressmen, providing for turning the clock forward one hour during the summer months.

DEPARTMENT LAX IN ENFORCEMENT OF LAW SAYS BORAH

Idaho Senator Believes the Present Statutes Sufficient to Cope With Food Problem—House Refuses Appropriation.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Charging the department of justice had been derelict in administration of laws affecting food prices, Senator Borah on the senate floor today suggested the attorney-general "recommend additional legislation," if such was necessary.

Borah said he was convinced a "proper administration of existing laws would bring down the cost of living."

CITES RECENT VICTORY. Borah cited the recent victory of the federal trade commission in its news print paper fight as an evidence of a "potentiality of federal regulations."

APPROPRIATION REFUSED. The house today refused to give the federal trade commission a \$400,000 appropriation which had been estimated as the cost of a food investigation such as that ordered by President Wilson.

Provision for the \$400,000 was made in a bill by Representative Borland, Missouri, providing for an investigation, which was stricken from the unanimous consent calendar on objections by Representative Mann, Illinois, and Representative Austin, Tennessee.

NEW RULES FOR THE CORRESPONDENTS AT NATIONAL CAPITAL

Washington, Feb. 19.—The public rules committee today took the first constructive step in its leak investigations, when it appointed Representatives Garrett, Harrison and Lenroot, a sub-committee to confer with the committees of press gallery correspondents to prepare new rules governing admission of reporters to the gallery.

THE committee, after a conference, also appointed a sub-committee to prepare the leak report and submit their findings to the full committee. The sub-committee consists of Chairman Henry and Representatives Garrett, Pou, Campbell and Lenroot.

AUTO KILLED MAN; BALL PLAYER HELD

Philadelphia, Feb. 19.—"Chief" Bender, former star pitcher of the Athletics, will be arraigned in police court today following the death of a 31-year-old man who was run down by Bender's automobile.

IT was learned early today that the "chief" called at the office of Superintendent of Police Robinson following the accident and surrendered himself. It is not yet known whether Bender was responsible for the accident, or whether he was in the car at the time.

TROOPS CALLED TO PREVENT LYNCHING

Murray, Ky., Feb. 19.—Two companies of state troops were sent out today to prevent mob violence when Luke Martin, negro, charged with murdering Gurthrie Guidig, patrolman, went to trial.

WHEN the negro was arraigned three weeks ago a mob threatened to lynch the judge and prosecutor unless Martin was turned over for lynching purposes. The trial was postponed until today.

SUNDRY CIVIL BILL REPORTED TO HOUSE

Washington, Feb. 19.—The sundry civil bill, carrying a total of \$138,241,962—includes preparedness items totaling \$20,234,357—was reported in the house today.

THE money appropriated is for expense of running the government for the year. The bill provides an appropriation of \$35,000 for a post office building at Twin Falls.

PIER COLLAPSES.

New York, Feb. 19.—Loaded to the top of its superstructure by freight that is immovable, owing to congested shipping conditions, a portion of pier No. 10 of the United Fruit company, collapsed today under the added weight of 2000 bags of coffee, each weighing 240 pounds. The pier sank about three feet, with no loss of freight.

POSTMASTER NAMED.

(Capital News Special Service.) Washington, Feb. 19.—Louis R. Moore has been named as postmaster at Hatch, Bannock county, Idaho, vice Maggie Hatch resigned.

Named as Envoy to U. S. by Carranza



Ignacio Bonillas.

Ignacio Bonillas, formerly a member of Carranza's cabinet, has been named as Mexican ambassador to the United States, and will soon enter upon his duties at Washington. Bonillas was one of the three Mexican commissioners named by Carranza last year to confer with American commissioners in an attempt to adjust differences between the United States and Mexico.

MEN IMPRISONED IN BURNING MINE; RESCUERS BUSY

Fourteen in Oakdale Coal Mine in Colorado When Fire Started, but Eleven Make Their Escape.

Denver, Feb. 19.—Three men are imprisoned in the burning Oakdale coal mine near Layeta, Colo., today, while a corps of helmet men are fighting the fire in the hope of rescuing the men before they are overcome by gases.

THE men were caught below the fifth level of the mine at midnight last night when fire broke out, causing the setting off of a shot.

FOURTEEN men were in the mine at the time the fire started. All but three were on upper levels and escaped.

HARRY J. Nash, manager of the Oakdale company, does not fear for the safety of the imprisoned men and expects they will be rescued alive some time today.

JAPANESE ATTACHE IS MERELY LOOKING OVER THE COUNTRY

Dallas, Tex., Feb. 19.—Captain Y. Hirose, military attache of the Japanese embassy at Washington, was in Dallas today en route to San Antonio "to look around." That was all he would divulge regarding his plans.

AMONG his visitors at the hotel was S. Izaw, of the local branch of the Southern Products company. Izaw intimated that most prominent Japanese in the United States are on their way to the Texas border, also to look around.

FIREMEN KILLED BY FALLING OF WALLS

Quebec, Feb. 19.—Falling walls of buildings wrecked by flames crushed three firemen to death and badly injured five others. The fire was the city's seventh serious one within a month and a searching inquiry is underway. Six business houses were destroyed.

VILLISTAS CAPTURE TOWN OF PEARSON

El Paso, Feb. 19.—Villistas have captured the town of Pearson in western Chihuahua, it was reported to United States government agents here today. The mills of the Madera company, limited, a Canadian syndicate, are located at that point.

THREE SHIPS OF HEAVY TONNAGE FALL VICTIMS TO SUBMARINES

One Norwegian, One British and One Spanish, With a Total Tonnage of Almost Ten Thousand, Are Destroyed.

STEAMER OKEMENT BIGGEST OF VESSELS

Dalmata, Another of the Victims, Was Formerly of Argentine Registry—Mar Adriatico, a Steel Steamer from Bilbao, the Third Lost Ship.

New York, Feb. 19.—The Norwegian ship Dalmata and the Spanish steamer Mar Adriatico, have been sunk, the Kerr Steamship company announced today.

THE Mar Adriatico was a steel screw steamer of 2410 tons, registered at Bilbao, Spain.

THE Dalmata, formerly of Argentine registry, was a steel screw steamer of 2117 tons. She was built in 1902 and her former registry was formerly Buenos Aires.

BRITISH SHIP OKEMENT SUNK, LONDON REPORTS.

London, Feb. 19.—The British steamer Okement has been sunk.

THE Okement was a 4249 ton vessel, registered at Sunderland and was the property of J. Westoll.

PREPARING TO SEND HOME THE TROOPS

San Antonio, Tex., Feb. 19.—The entire national guard now in the field has been divided into two contingents for departure from the border, General Funston announced today. The first contingent will start moving "without delay." It is planned to dispatch each group at an interval of about a week.

THE troops will leave in the following manner, dates for their departure not having been fixed:

FIRST group—Central department, Fourth Illinois infantry, troop B Wisconsin cavalry, to Fort Sheridan; troop A, Kansas cavalry, to Fort Riley; Second Iowa infantry, to Des Moines; batteries C and D, Colorado artillery, two battalions Wyoming infantry to Fort D. A. Russell, Fifth Indiana infantry, battery D, Indiana artillery, to Fort Benjamin Harrison.

EASTERN department, batteries E and F, Connecticut artillery, all District Columbia troops, Second Florida infantry, First battalion Georgia artillery, Third Kentucky infantry, less company N, Kentucky field hospital, brigade headquarters, battery A, New Hampshire, battery C, New Jersey artillery, brigade headquarters.

SHIP HAS DEVISE TO ELUDE SUBMARINES

Baltimore, Feb. 19.—The Donaldson line freighter Lakonia, provided with a new smoke device of the British admiralty to render shipping immune from submarine attacks, arrived here today. She also carried a three-inch gun mounted astern with several trained gunners to man it.

ACCORDING to one gunner the new device was perfected by a British chemist and can generate enough smoke in several minutes to mask the vessel from the enemy's view for several hours.

OVERDUE STEAMER NOW AT BERMUDA

Boston, Feb. 19.—Word was received here this afternoon that the steamer Borinquin, reported 13 days overdue from the Azores and destined to this port, has been towed into Bermuda by a Dutch boat. No word as to the trouble has been received.

ACTIVITIES OF LOBBYISTS IN BOISE WILL BE INVESTIGATED

Board of Equalization Orders Investigation Into Alleged Attempts by Idaho Corporations to Influence State Departments.

TAKE UP RECORD CUT ON RAILROAD TAXES

Effort to Raise Intermountain Company's Assessment from \$5000 to \$75,000, the Difference Having Been Lopped Off on the Minutes.

The activity of representatives of public utilities in Boise and especially with regard to alleged attempts to influence state departments, is to be investigated. The state board of equalization, at the request of Governor Alexander, ordered the investigation to be made forthwith by the public utilities commission.

THE board also took up the previous discovery that no less amount than \$70,000 had been dropped from the assessed valuation of the Intermountain Railway company; that the minutes of the board of equalization show that instead of an assessment of \$75,000, the assessed valuation of that road as found by the board and reported in the minutes is but \$5000.

CHARGE LOBBY A BIG ONE.

THE attorney general on motion of Governor Alexander, has been asked to (Continued on Page Three.)

ONLY SCOUTING OPERATIONS.

Petrograd, Feb. 19.—Except for scouting operations there has been little activity along the fronts in Russia, Galicia, Rumania and Caucasus, according to the war office.

Legislature Today

HOUSE.

Passed memorial to congress urging passage of pending volunteer officers' retired bill; Cowles bill appropriating \$3500 state funds for establishment of high altitude station.

Defeated proposed amendment to the state constitution to abolish senate and create a one-house legislature of 21 members; constitutional amendment to abolish the office of immigration, labor and statistics.

Resolution to divide the state appears on general orders and may come up for consideration late in the afternoon.

SENATE.

Passed Wedgwood corporation statement bill, Clearwater river dam and boom act, Newport measure allowing state banks to buy federal farm loan bank bonds, and house resolution ascending constitution so that co-operative associations shall not be governed by provision relating to election of directors and managers of corporations.

Killed house memorial by Storey and Johnston, asking congress to take necessary action to purchase and condemn Colliester flats. Made Thomas public utilities commission amendatory act and Shepherd school bond district bills special orders for night session.

Woman Member of New Federal Board



Mrs. Frances Axtell.

Mrs. Frances Axtell, of Bellingham, Wash., recently appointed by President Wilson as a member of the federal workmen's compensation board, is being lionized by the National American Woman's Suffrage association in Washington. She did a good deal of effective work toward obtaining minimum wage legislation in the Washington legislature, where she was a member.

FRIENDLY FEELING OF JAPAN DUE TO WAR CONDITIONS

Ambassador Sato Makes it Clear That There Is No Change in the Immigration Situation.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Relations between the United States and Japan are "more friendly," but this is principally due to war-created conditions, and not to any recent developments in the immigration situation, Japanese Ambassador Sato declared today.

THERE have been no recent exchanges in diplomatic channels, Sato said, to effect immigration. But the European war has increased the feelings between the countries and the immigration discussion debate at least temporarily set aside.

FURTHER reasons assigned by the Japanese envoy for more friendly relations are the doubling of commerce between the two countries since the war started and attempted co-ordination of efforts in the development of China.

BUSY TIME AHEAD FOR CONGRESS IF WORK IS FINISHED

Washington, Feb. 19.—Congress has 12 legislative days remaining in which to clean up its vast preparedness program, which may carry a total this year of \$871,500,037.57.

DURING the 12 days the senate must pass these bills: Fortifications, \$60,855,000; naval, \$368,500,000; army, \$247,000,000; military academy, \$1,225,043 and sundry civil (preparedness feature), \$2,234,839.

ESIDES the bills noted, the senate is expected to add to the naval bill a provision for \$150,000,000 for immediate completion of warships and to increase the bill itself by about \$15,000,000. This would bring the total to \$871,500,000, including the item of \$4,250,000 for families of militiamen which has been passed by both houses.

THE house has passed the fortifications, naval and urgent deficiency bills. The army bill is under consideration and the military bill is expected to come up next. The sundry civil bill was reported today.

A complaint by the Aero Club of America that only \$3,300,000 is provided in the navy bill for aeronautics is met in the house with the reply that if the senate puts in the \$150,000,000 item for completion of warships and construction of marine chasers, the navy department will be able to use some of this for aeroplanes.

RECORD FOR EXPORTS.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Exceeding by about one hundred million dollars the high monthly record, total American exports in January amounted to \$612,441,020, according to a statement issued today.

TENSION SEEMS LESS STRAINED BUT THE CRISIS NOT YET PASSED

Slackening in the Submarine Campaign Regarded as Reducing the Chance of Attack on American Merchant Ships.

NO WORD RECEIVED ON ARMING OF SHIPS

Not Known What the Attitude of the Central Powers Will Be on Placing of Guns on Merchantmen for Protection Against the U-Boats.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The submarine situation seemed at a standstill today with the government apparently closely watching developments, steadily preparing itself for eventualities and adhering to its plans for taking action to protect American rights when the moment arrives. The slackening of the ruthless campaign in the last few days is regarded as reducing the chance of attack on American ships or the loss of American lives, but with the coming of warmer weather it is expected to increase in intensity.

IT was authoritatively said at the state department that so far nothing has been heard from the central powers as to what course they would take in the event the United States authorized the arming of American merchant ships.

THE situation is such that it can be stated positively the president has "no present intention of going to congress to discuss it in any way."

NO "OVERT ACT."

"No overt act" has yet occurred and officials see no apparent change of attitude toward this government by Germany.

THE purpose of the president is unchanged, however. He does not intend to pause in the work of preparing, merely because there appears to be a material slump in the daily "bags" of U-boats.

FORMAL demands have gone forward as was expected at release of American Yarrowdale prisoners held in Berlin. When on Saturday confirmation of press reports that the prisoners had been released failed to reach the state department, the government cabied its demands.

MESSAGE NOT A RESPONSE. Twenty-four hours later Secretary Lansing was notified by the Spanish ambassador at Berlin that the prisoners would be released soon. This, however, Lansing intimated today, probably will not in response to Saturday's demands, but rather to inquiries already sent.

WITH this and other critical situations alleviated, the president today is laying plans for handling the situation after congress adjourns, March 5.

THE WEATHER.

Forecast for Boise and vicinity, RAIN OR SNOW TONIGHT AND TUESDAY. Highest temperature yesterday, 35; lowest temperature this morning, 30; mean temperature yesterday, 30. The cold is still severe in the northern plains states and Canada with a minimum at Winnipeg of 30 degrees below zero. Over the southern states the weather is warmer.

Precipitation is extensive over the country being reported from over half of the stations. The forecast for all sections of Idaho for tonight and tomorrow is rain or snow.