

NEWS OF THE WEEK

General Resume of Important Events Throughout the World.

Turks are routed by the British when they made a second charge on the Suez canal.

A sharp campaign for members by the Portland Chamber of Commerce resulted in adding 1647 in one day.

Italy is fortifying the Islands of the White Sea with heavy guns and it is said steamers are taking munitions of war there.

Fifty-six bodies have been recovered from the avalanche at the Britannia mine in British Columbia. No hope of recovering many others is entertained.

Many passengers and a crew of 65 were rescued from the sinking steamer Denver in mid-ocean, through the aid of the wireless.

It is reported that the Washington government will seize the German steamer Odenwald which is at Newport News for repairs.

The Prussian diet has given permission to English subjects residing in Germany to appear as plaintiffs in cases before the court.

Sir Thomas Lipton declares that the only hope of eliminating the plague in Serbia is by fire, such as was done in London many years ago.

Bombardment of the forts of the Dardanelles is again begun by the allies, and Constantinople fears they will eventually be beaten.

Riots in Constantinople are reported untrite and the city is calm. The allied fleet is proceeding slowly up the Dardanelles to the Turkish seat of government.

An American warship will carry \$625,000 in currency to Yucatan to aid in harvesting the sisal crop, which is used in making most of the United States' binding twine.

Later reports concerning the capture of Przemyel by the Russians include 119,600 men, 2400 guns, 1000 of which were heavy cannon. Many are reported to have gone insane from want.

"Seventeen Belgians, most of whom were young peasants, were shot at daybreak Wednesday in the Ghent barracks. They were found guilty by a German court-martial of espionage in the interest of the allies," says dispatch.

The German emperor has ordered the removal to Berlin of valuable paintings and tapestries from his mountain castle known as the Leatkoenig on the Alsatian side of the Vosges mountains. French aviators recently flew over the imperial summer residence, which formerly belonged to a king of France.

Governor Spry of Utah has vetoed the Shields initiative and referendum bill. He gives as his reasons that the initiative is unnecessary at this time, as the people of the state may petition the legislature if they wish; that the expense of its operation will be disproportionate to the benefits to be derived and that the constitutionality of the measure is questionable.

Italy buses in San Francisco now give transfers to the municipal street cars.

Germany is reported to be building two railroads to the frontier of Alsace-Lorraine.

It is reported that the Russians have pillaged and destroyed 80,000 homes in East Prussia.

One of Washington's largest shingle mills, located at Centralia, has reopened since shutting down the first of the year.

Numerous plagues and diseases prevalent in Serbia are reported to be devastating a large percentage of the population.

It is estimated by Alice Clement and Mary Riley, policewomen of Chicago, that one woman in each twenty in that city smokes cigarettes.

Governor Spry, of Utah, vetoes prohibition bill passed by the legislature, declaring that the saloon is simply transferred to the drug store.

Another British steamer, the Glenartney, from Bangkok for London loaded with rice, has been torpedoed by a German submarine off Beachy Head in the English Channel. Only one of the crew was drowned.

Mine-laying drills by the troops at Fort Stevens, Oregon, were completed this week under the direction of the officers on board the steamer Major Ringgold. The drills are being held in the night, a short distance below the government wharf. The practice will be continued until the opening of the fishing season on May 1.

City of Portland has just completed a municipal barn of the most modern type. The horses will have sanitary stalls, washroom and hospital.

Protesting against the action of the board of regents of the University of Utah, in dismissing four teachers, 14 other professors have resigned.

Testifying before the "American land" investigation, an owner of 12,000 acres in Texas, admitted that tenants with large families were desirable because the children could be pressed into work, especially during the rush season.

Allies Lose Three Ships by Turks' Floating Mines

London—The British battleships Irresistible and Ocean and the French battleship Bouvet were blown up by floating mines while engaged with the remainder of the allied fleet in attacking the forts in the Narrows of the Dardanelles Thursday.

The crews of the two British ships were virtually all saved, having been transferred to other ships under a hot fire, but an internal explosion took place on board the Bouvet after she had fouled the mine and most of her crew was lost.

The Bouvet sank within three minutes of the time that she hit the mine.

The waters in which the ships were lost had been swept of mines, but the Turks admirably asserts that the mines and Germans set floating containers of explosives afloat and these were carried down by the current on to the allied ships gathered inside the entrance of the straits.

All the ships that were sunk were old ones, the Bouvet having been completed nearly 20 years ago and the Ocean and Irresistible in 1898. They were useful, however, for the work in which they were engaged in the Dardanelles.

The destroyed British ships are being replaced by the battleships Queen and Implacable, vessels of a similar type. They are said to have started some time ago for near Western waters in anticipation of just such losses as have now occurred. Two other ships engaged in the fighting, the British battle cruiser Infelixible and the French battleship Gaulois, were hit by shells and damaged.

The British casualties, according to the British official report, "were not heavy, considering the scale of the operations."

The damage done to the Turkish forts by the heavy bombardment has not yet been ascertained. It is said that the operations against them are continuing. The damage done to the Turkish forts by the heavy bombardment has not yet been ascertained. It is said that the operations against them are continuing.

The Kephz forts replied strongly when the battleships advanced, firing up the Dardanelles, and all the ships were hit. It is asserted that these forts finally were silenced and a bombardment of those in the Narrows was under way when the three battleships struck mines. The blowing up of the ships did not cause a cessation of the fighting, which continued until darkness intervened. It is understood that the bombardment was resumed.

Five Russian Lines Fall Before Austrian Attack

Vienna, via London—Herr Lennhoff, correspondent of the Zeitung Am Mittag, sends the following dispatch from Austrian headquarters under date of March 18:

"The Russian offensive against the Carpathian line has broken down more quickly than was first expected, considering the vigor with which the attack was begun. The Russians' hope was to break the Austrian and German lines east of Lupkow pass. They sent forward huge forces there, but all attacks were repulsed with enormous Russian losses, and the Austrians and Germans are steadily, if slowly, gaining ground."

"The Russian tactics consisted in charging in five successive lines. As soon as one line was cut down another advanced, until all five had been shot down. The Russians sent forward all available troops, even adjuncts, like the older men who previously were used only as guards for the military workshops. Even military tailors and cooks were forced into the attacking line."

"This caused an apparent relaxation in the vigilance of the Russian vedette service. German troops making a flanking movement over difficult terrain found all the pickets, even the machine gun divisions, sleeping. In battle, however, the Russians fought recklessly, firing while standing with their bodies entirely exposed to the hottest hail of bullets."

"The attacking forces, chiefly Siberians, held their ground stubbornly. Although many hundreds were taken prisoners, none of them surrendered readily, but had to be overpowered in the trenches. It finally became evident that the Russians lacked reserves of equal quality."

Paris Statesman Killed.

Paris—The death of Henri Collingnon, counsellor of state, on the field of battle in Eastern France was announced Saturday. M. Collingnon, although 58 years old, volunteered as a private soldier and used his great influence in public affairs to secure an assignment in active service. He had been fighting for months in the trenches, according to his officers, showing remarkable coolness and bravery. He was recommended several times for promotion to the rank of second lieutenant, but preferred to serve as a private.

Karlruhe Rumor Grows.

London—The secretary of the British admiralty announces that there is every reason to believe that the German cruiser Karlruhe was sunk in the neighborhood of the West Indies at the beginning of November. Those of her crew who were rescued, he says, reached Germany early in December on the steamer Rio Grande, which had been acting in concert with the Karlruhe.

Hood River Fruit Agency Will Not Quit Distributors

Hood River—While the growers of other Northwestern fruit districts are prone to regret that Hood River has seen fit to announce a probable withdrawal from the North Pacific Fruit Distributors, H. F. Davidson, a member of the board of directors of the Applegrowers' association, the local affiliate of the central agency, and president of the Fruit Distributors, who returned from a meeting of the board of trustees of the latter organization, says the central marketing concern will continue to exist.

This is welcome news to local marketmen, who declare that an ideal situation will exist, since organization will be preserved in other districts.

"So far as I can observe," said Mr. Davidson, "there is no complaint among the Hood River growers against the Distributors. No objection has been raised against the methods employed in marketing the fruit. So far as I can gather, the fact is that Hood River growers feel that with about 70 per cent of their tonnage consisting of a specialty, namely, Newtowns and Spitzenbergs, they will not need the benefits of a large and extensive selling machine to the extent that it is necessary in other districts producing a large number of varieties and requiring distribution over a much wider area."

"The local organization will be strengthened," says Mr. Davidson, "since a few growers who have been shipping independently have expressed themselves as anxious to affiliate with the local agency, provided its entire efforts are expended in advancing the interests of Hood River."

New State Laws Will Reduce Cost of Elections

Salem—Important changes in the election laws simplifying the registration and election machinery and making material reductions in the expense were enacted at the recent session of the legislature. The new law providing for the election of delegates to party national conventions and Presidential electors will save the state about \$10,000 a year, for, under it, each person so honored must pay his own expenses. House bill 227, which provides for two judges of election instead of three, it is estimated, will save the state \$20,000 each election year.

Just what saving the permanent registration law will effect is difficult to estimate, but it should be a material one. This law, while not considered a perfect one, is regarded as a "step in the right direction." It provides that in registering the electors the county clerks shall use the card index system. The clerks shall register any unqualified elector who may request to be registered at any time after the first Monday in January, 1916, to within 30 days preceding any general or primary election.

As a result electors desiring to vote in the primary May, 1916, will have only about three and one-half months to register.

Electors absent from their county may register before any notary public or county clerk in the county where they may be. In such cases the notary public or county clerk shall mail the affidavit of the elector to the county clerk of the elector's county and may collect a fee not to exceed 25 cents from the elector.

It is declared that in cities and other growing communities precinct boundaries are changing constantly and as a result thousands of electors to vote will have to register at least every two years.

Big Cannery To Go Up.

The Dalles—After several months devoted to inspecting the various fruit-growing sections of the Pacific Northwest, Libby, McNeil & Libby have decided to erect their new plant in The Dalles.

This was announced officially by representatives of the company. Construction will be started within a few days and will be rushed so that the plant will be ready to handle the cherry crop in this section in June.

A large force will be employed on the plant and 300 persons will be required in the factory. A steady supply of labor is assured for the fruit raisers of this section. An entire block bounded by Second, Court and Washington streets and the Columbia river has been selected as the site for the plant, which will cost \$50,000.

Brother Gets Insurance.

La Grande—Like a letter from the grave came word to Edward Bussey, a cabdriver of this city, from his brother, the late Major General Cyrus Bussey, who died in Washington and was buried in Arlington Cemetery recently. The La Grande man knew nothing of his brother's death until a letter came that had been written in 1913, to be held until death visited the old general. With the letter came notice that considerable life insurance had been left in the La Grande man's name. The epistle was a brotherly farewell.

Hood River Growers Meet.

Hood River—Kenneth McKay, manager of the Fruit Growers' Exchange, the local affiliate of the Northwest Fruit Exchange, distributed \$2000 among its growers Thursday. To date the exchange has returned to the growers \$12,000, between 50 and 60 cents a box, owing to different varieties. With prominent officials of the Northwest Fruit Exchange, J. F. Sugrue, of Cashmere, and Dr. C. A. Macrum, of Mosier, here for addresses, the exchange is holding a series of meetings with growers this week.

City's Threats Cut Rates.

Baker—That the proposed municipal electric light plant would put his company out of business and that the company had been forced by threats of the municipal plant to lower its rates was the testimony of F. A. Harmon, general manager of the Eastern Oregon Light & Power company, before the State Railroad commission in its final hearing of the company's rates here.

BUSINESS RESUMES

Trade Revival in All Lines Is Noted Everywhere.

Bank Clearings Show Big Gains—Prospects of Large Crops Also Give Impetus.

Chicago—Trade in general lines all over the country has shown reasonable improvement. Encouraging reports come from all sections of the country, embracing the centers of large industries.

Significance attaches to the increase in last week's bank clearings at the agricultural centers, Kansas City showing a gain of 25.5 per cent over figures of a year ago. Minneapolis gained 23.8 per cent. Omaha increased 10.5 per cent. St. Paul and Duluth gained 4 per cent each.

Enormous orders for machinery are a feature of the trade situation, both for domestic and foreign account.

The steel and iron business has held its own. Railroad financing progresses and steel and equipment orders are being placed with more freedom for the more urgent requirements of transportation lines.

Steel mill operations averaged around 69 per cent in the past week, which shows that specifications against contracts are holding up.

Unmistakable evidence of strong underlying confidence that great business activity will come to the United States is reflected in preparations now being made by bankers to meet the conditions.

General business has been creeping steadily back to a normal basis, and as it moves ahead, each week gathering stronger momentum, the country is nearing another agricultural harvest, such an encouraging outlook and, in view of high prices received for the last yield, dealers believe it is safe to assume that spring plantings of all grains and cereals will be greatly enlarged in acreage this season.

Bankers have gone into seasonable conditions like this before, probably not exactly the same in respect of circumstances which the foreign war has brought up, but they know what the harvest period means to them in requirements of funds with which to finance the movement of farm products.

They also realize that the trade volume promises to attain great height if the coming crops are large ones and that they must prepare to meet two-fold force of financial requirements. The plethora of wealth created by the last agricultural production is expected naturally to double the effect of another year of equal proportions with high prices and world-wide demand.

State May Drop Suit Against Livestock Co.

Salem—While the members of the State Land board have decided that the suit filed by the state against the Pacific Livestock company to recover about 26,000 acres of land in Harney county should be dismissed, announcement was made that formal action would not be taken until Attorney General Brown had made an investigation of the litigation. The suit was started by ex-Attorney General Crawford, upon instruction of ex-Governor West. Circuit Judge Biggs recently overruled a demurrer to the complaint, and unless dismissed the suit will be tried soon upon its merits.

Lawyers for the company several days ago asked that the suit be dismissed on the ground that it was barred by the statute of limitation. They also contended that the company was an innocent purchaser, the land having been held by several concerns prior to the present ownership.

It was charged that the land originally was obtained through the use of dummy entries. C. B. McConnell, of Burns, has filed on the water rights in the tract, and has aided the state in its legal fight. Asked by Mr. West, then governor, at one of the meetings, if he would relinquish his water claim, if the state won the suit, Mr. McConnell said he would not, but that he would sell them for a low price.

Sitting Hen Has Journey.

Hood River—Mrs. A. T. Boynton, who recently removed from near Tillamook to the community lying between this city and Mosier, has an old Rhode Island Red hen which arrived at her new home, sitting on a nestful of eggs after having stayed on them while on a train, in a room at Portland and on a boat. The hen had been set on 18 eggs two weeks before the family moved. The hen and eggs were placed in a nest in a basket and Mrs. Boynton carried them. Fourteen of the eggs hatched a few days ago.

New Plant To Be Built.

Roseburg—Work on the Roseburg Sand & Gravel company's plant near Shady Point will begin Monday, according to O. T. Larson, of Portland, who arrived here to supervise the construction work. The plant will cost approximately \$25,000. The gravel bars to be developed have, according to Mr. Larson, an almost inexhaustible supply of material, and with their development and the consequent reduction of the price of gravel he believes the officials of Douglas and other nearby counties will see the economy of more durable roads.

Army Uses Neutral Food.

London—It was the German submarine U-23 which seized the Dutch steamers Batavier V and Zaanstroom, according to the Daily News' Rotterdam correspondent. U-23 has been for some days sheltering under the lee of the Maas lighthouse, taking toll from all shipping, especially British.

Southern Landlords Want Child Laborers

Dallas, Texas—J. Tom Pagitt, owner of 12,000 acres of Texas land, described some tenant problems on his estate from the land owner's point of view before the Federal committee on industrial relations at its American land question hearing Saturday. The Pagitt place in Coleman county, he said, has 22 tenant families on about 2000 acres, the remainder being leased to cattlemen.

He said his agent prefers to get tenants with large families of children, because the country is so sparsely settled that the women and children form almost the only available source of extra labor supply in cotton picking season. The women among his tenants, he said, usually chop, hoe, and help with picking cotton. Children begin work in the fields at about 8 years of age.

A tenant, he said, would have difficulty hiring farm hands, because he could not, as a rule, pay their wages until after the crop was sold.

Describing conditions, Mr. Pagitt said the cheapest tenant house on his place has two rooms and cost \$225, while the largest has four rooms, costing \$400. None are screened, he said.

"Would you object to a tenant who believed in certain principles of government or reform, advocating them while living on your place?" asked Mr. Walsh.

"No," replied Mr. Pagitt, "but I would not like a tenant who stirred up trouble by talking at the store and trying to make other men dislike his landlord."

"What hours should a tenant spend at work?" asked Commissioner Walsh.

"Well," replied Mr. Pagitt, "in crop season some of them go to work at 4 in the morning, some at 6, and they generally work until dark."

U. S. Considers Allies As Not Answering Note

Washington, D. C.—The United States government considers that Great Britain and France, in the British order-in-council and in the accompanying notes, have not answered the questions propounded to them as to what warrant there is under international law for the establishment of an embargo on all commercial intercourse, directly or indirectly, between Germany and neutral countries.

It was declared officially at the State department that this government still does not know whether the action of the allies is intended as a legal blockade or whether the ordinary rules of contraband and non-contraband are to be the legal basis for future detentions. On a determination of this question probably will depend not only the nature of any steps which may be taken by the United States at this time, but also the basis for any claims for damages arising out of interruptions to American commerce under the new policy of the allies.

Submarine Contract Let.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Daniels signed contract plans for the navy's first sea-going submarine and announced that it would be known as the Schlegel, in honor of the late Rear Admiral Schlegel. The contract, as well as contracts for three harbor defense submarines, was awarded to the Electric Boat company, of Groton, Conn.

Navy officials believe the new sea-going submarine, upon which construction will now be commenced, is the first of that type in the world. Her displacement will be in the neighborhood of 1000 tons, with a surface speed of 20 knots and in underwater speed of between 10 and 12 knots.

80,000 Homes Destroyed.

London—The Star has received a dispatch from its correspondent at Copenhagen who says that statistics furnished by the president of the province of East Prussia show that 80,000 houses have been destroyed in East Prussia by Russian troops. Three thousand refugees are said to have been unable to return to East Prussia because they have no means of livelihood. Out of 100,000 houses only 6,000 remain. A dispatch from Berlin says these houses were private apartments, and had been completely pillaged.

One Woman In 20 Smokes.

Chicago—One woman in every 20 in this city is a cigarette smoker, according to an estimate after an investigation by Alice Clement and Mary Riley, policewomen. In the Jewish, Polish and Italian districts the percentage of smokers was smaller, they said, only 2 per cent of the women using tobacco. "We covered all parts of the city," said Miss Clement. "Few working girls or girls of the middle classes smoke. The habit does not seem to be growing."

Officer Loss Is Growing.

London—A casualty list of officers received from the headquarters in the field, under date of March 15, gives the names of 83 officers, including Hindus, who were killed or have died from wounds, and of 123 wounded or missing. This brings up the total casualties among officers since March 10, as officially reported, to 195 killed or dead from wounds and 316 wounded or missing.

Poker Legal in Nevada.

Carson City, Nev.—After rushing through a gambling law the Nevada legislature adjourned early Saturday. The gambling law makes all gambling a felony except poker, whist, solo and five hundred. When no percentage is taken these are lawful games. Otherwise they are felonies. Prizes Mutual betting on tracks of licensed associations is permitted.

BLOCKADE LIMITED

Diplomatic Notes Made Public by Washington Government.

Radius of Activity Defined Which Includes Mediterranean—England and France Reply.

Washington, D. C.—Six diplomatic notes were made public Thursday by the State department, constituting the entire correspondence of the last few weeks between the United States and Germany and between the United States and Great Britain and France relative to the abandonment of submarine attacks on merchant ships, the shipment of conditional contraband and foodstuffs to civilians in a belligerent country, the use of neutral flags by belligerent merchantmen, the removal of mines, and the proclamation of a virtual blockade by the allies against Germany.

The communications revealed that the United States government, realising the difficulties of maintaining an effective blockade by a close guard of an enemy coast, on account of the newly developed activity of submarines, asked that a "radius of activity" be defined. Great Britain and France replied with the announcement that the operations of the blockade would not be conducted "outside of European waters, including the Mediterranean."

While Germany agreed, it is disclosed, to abandon her submarine attacks on "mercantile of any flag" except when they resist visit or search, provided foodstuffs were permitted to reach her civilian population, Great Britain and her allies rejected the proposal, originally made by the United States government in an effort to bring the belligerents into an arrangement which would safeguard the interests of neutrals.

Furthermore, the documents show that in a message of inquiry to Great Britain and France the United States asked whether the embargo on all commerce between Germany and neutral countries was to be carried out under the rules of a blockade or by interference with ships and cargoes, "as if no blockade existed." The two together presented in the view of the American government "a proposed course of action previously unknown to international law."

The answer from both Great Britain and France replied for the first time that the allies officially regarded their policy as a "blockade," but desire to refrain from exercising the rights of belligerents under a blockade to confiscate ships and cargoes as a penalty for breach of blockade, substituting for it procedure in prize courts and compensation through sale of the detained merchandise.

German Consul at Seattle Is Arrested

Seattle, Wash.—Dr. Wilhelm Mueller, German consul at Seattle, and B. Mat Schulz, secretary of the consulate, were technically placed under arrest Thursday, charged with conspiracy with Dan Tarnatsky to violate the state law making it a penal offense to bribe an employe to influence his action in relation to his master's business.

The consular officials are charged in an information sworn to by County Prosecuting Attorney Lundin with offering a bribe to John Murdock, assistant shipping clerk of the Seattle Construction & Dry Dock company, for evidence to substantiate German Ambassador Bernstorff's accusation, filed at the department of State last month, that submarines were being made by the Seattle company and shipped to Canada, to be completed there for use against Germany.

Murdock was arrested on a warrant sworn to by an official of the construction company, charging him with grand larceny in abstracting bills of lading from the company's office.

Consul Mueller says that Tarnatsky called at the consulate and told Secretary Schulz that he could obtain "valuable information" concerning shipment of parts of submarines from Seattle to Vancouver. He had a "connection," he said, that enabled him to get this information.

Murdock next appeared at the consulate and was introduced by Tarnatsky as the source of the information, but did not say that he was employed at the shipyard, the consul said.

Karlruhe Thought Sunk.

London—Reuter's Copenhagen correspondent sends a story of the sinking of the German cruiser Karlruhe, taken four the Stiffentide, which asserts that it obtained the story from an authoritative source. According to the story, a sudden explosion broke the cruiser in two. One-half of the vessel sank immediately, carrying down part of the crew. The other half floated for some time, which enabled about 150 to 200 men to be rescued by a steamer. This steamer reached a German port with the survivors.

Escapes Three Submarines.

London—The Anchor line steamer Camerian, which arrived at Liverpool from New York March 15, with a cargo valued at \$5,000,000, successfully ran the German submarine blockade. The vessel reports that she was chased by three German submarines on her voyage through the Irish Sea.