

Spray Courier

THE COURIER
Is devoted to the best interests
of SPRAY and WHEELER
COUNTY. The liberal patron-
age of the citizens of this sec-
tion is respectfully solicited.

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WORLD'S DOINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume of General News
From All Around the Earth.

UNIVERSAL HAPPENINGS IN A NUTSHELL

Live News Items of All Nations and
Pacific Northwest Condensed
for Our Busy Readers.

Northwest lumber mills receive big
orders for railroad ties.

A combination of six million farmers
of the United States is proposed in a
meeting in Chicago.

Senator Borah, of Idaho, declined to
permit his name to appear on the Min-
nesota state primary ballot as a candi-
date for the presidency.

Ohio C. Barber, millionaire match
manufacturer of Akron, Ohio, aged 75,
sometimes called the "Match King,"
married Miss Mary F. Orr, aged 44,
for 12 years his private secretary.

Lamont M. Bowers, of Bingham-
ton, N. Y., until recently manager of
the Colorado Fuel & Iron company,
will resign on January 1 a \$30,000
post with the Rockefeller interests be-
cause he believes that men past 60 are
"either foolish or irritable." Mr.
Bowers is past 70.

Reports received by the London
board of trade during November tell of
the sinking of 53 British steamers,
with a total net tonnage of 61,072,
with the loss of 646 lives. In the
same period, the loss was reported of
35 British sailing vessels of 4977 net
tonnage with six lives.

William O'Keefe, a pioneer theat-
rical manager and actor, known all
over the Northwest, shot himself
shortly after midnight on the steps of
the county jail in Helena, Mont., dying
instantly. O'Keefe, who was 55 years
of age and a bachelor, left a pathetic
note, declaring his efforts to give up
liquor had resulted in torture.

John H. Fahy, president of the
Chamber of Commerce of the United
States, told President Wilson that busi-
ness men want congress to establish a
non-partisan tariff commission and
provide means to strengthen the merchant
marine. Mr. Fahy declared there
was great need for more ships to carry
the exports of the United States.

Official announcement that the Ameri-
can steamship Hocking had been re-
quisitioned by the British government
without the formality of prize court
proceedings, was received by the State
department in a dispatch from Halifax,
where the ship was being detained since
she was seized by a British war-
ship while on the way from New York
to Norfolk.

Three high officials and subordinate
officers of the Hamburg-American line
were found guilty in the Federal Dis-
trict Court of New York of having
violated the laws of the United States
in sending coal and other supplies to
German cruisers in the South Atlantic
in the first few months of the Euro-
pean war. The jury returned a ver-
dict of guilty on each of two indict-
ments. The specific charge against
the defendants was conspiracy to de-
ceive and defraud the United States.
The maximum penalty for each indict-
ment is two years' imprisonment and
\$10,000 fine.

Senator Works, of California, will
not seek re-election in 1917.

The reichstag is considering a bill to
tax war profits and incomes.

The French government is reported
seeking a large loan in England.

Nineteen miners are killed by an ex-
plosion in a mine at Boomer, W. Va.

A police census of Greater New
York gives that city 5,253,888 inhabi-
tants.

Winston Churchill, who has gone to
the front for England, will soon be
made a general.

Two hundred and twenty acres of
wheat land near La Grande, Ore., was
sold for \$16,000 cash.

Jane Adams, settlement worker and
noted peace advocate, has been sent to
a Chicago hospital. Her illness is re-
ported as not serious.

Shipbuilders at Hoquiam, Wash.,
are constructing one of the largest
schooners on the Coast, which will
transport lumber when finished.

A collic, locked out of the house at
Binghamton, N. Y., leaps through a
window and alarms the occupants in
time to save themselves from death by
fire.

SEIZED AMERICAN SHIPS MAY BE CONVERTED TO BRITISH USE

Washington, D. C.—The State de-
partment Wednesday made formal re-
presentations to the foreign office of
London concerning reports that vessels
belonging to the American Trans-At-
lantic company were about to be
requisitioned by the British admiralty.

In diplomatic parlance the communi-
cation is known as a request for in-
formation concerning the facts, be-
cause all of the data in the possession
of the department were presented by
the owners of the vessels. While the
statements are accepted as true, the
department desires to have the British
plan verified by the Foreign office.

The communication in effect amounts
to a protest and notice that the United
States will not tolerate such high-
handed methods. In the event that
Great Britain admits that she purposes
to take steps to requisition the ships,
the communication will be followed
immediately by a sharp protest against
the entire procedure.

CAPT. WILLIAM S. SIMS



Capt. William S. Sims, U. S. N., will
command the great battleship Nevada,
which recently underwent her trial
tests off Rockland, Me.

In the event that the unofficial
advice should be verified or any attempt
made on the part of Great Britain to
use an American vessel it is believed
the action would precipitate a situa-
tion much more grave than any that
has confronted this government in its
dealings with Downing street.

The law experts of the department
are unacquainted with any precedent,
or any theory of law or reason that
would support such a course. They
appear to believe that Great Britain is
pressed for ships just at present and
that she would be assisted greatly by
using American vessels, pending the
adjudication of their cases before prize
courts.

Italy Now Pushing Against Austrian Front at Three Points

London—With the retreat of the
greater part of the Serbian army
across the Albanian frontier, the slow-
ness of the operations against Monte-
negro and in Southern Serbia, owing
to the wintry weather, and the ab-
sence of any major operations on the
western and eastern fronts, interest in
the military side of the war is now
transferred to the Austro-Italian fron-
tier. There King Victor Emanuel's
troops are carrying on an energetic
offensive against the Austrians.

The fighting on this front has been
the most sustained and fiercest of the
whole war. For weeks the Italians
have been attacking the Austrian
bridgeheads and mountain positions,
along the Isonzo river, and are slowly
but surely drawing their nets around
Tomino, Gorizia and Doberdo.

Their attacks have been repeated
time after time against positions
which had been most carefully pre-
pared, and, while the Austrians report
that most of these assaults have been
repulsed, their accounts are considered
here to have been so worded as to pre-
pare the public for their retirement
from Gorizia at last.

This, for the time being, is Italy's
contribution to the Balkan operations
of the allies, for it keeps a large force
of Austrians busy and it compels them
continually to bring up reinforcements
which could be successfully employed
against the Montenegrins and Serbians.

The Serbians, unless followed into
Albania, in time will probably reap
as a rejuvenated army, for it is
said that 250,000 of them, including
soldiers and civilians, have taken ref-
uge there and that they have saved all
their mountain batteries and a portion
of their field guns.

KAISER REPORTED READY FOR PEACE

Permission Given Reichstag to
Consider Ending of War.

REPORT, IF TRUE, MOST MOMENTOUS

Letter to Wilson Said to Be Under
Contemplation—War of Exter-
mination Is Alternative.

London—The momentous decision
reached by the German government to
permit the discussion of peace in the
reichstag is regarded here as the clear-
est indication that Germany is pre-
pared to lay down her arms if acceptable
conditions can be obtained.

The government's decision, follow-
ing the authorization given to the Ger-
man press for a free discussion of
peace possibilities and the discussion
of an almost unanimous desire to end
the war, along with the governmental
sanction of the Socialists' plan to
bring about peace debate in the reich-
stag, lends to Monday's session of that
body an importance which it is impos-
sible to overestimate.

The entire world is awaiting eagerly
the speech of the imperial chancellor.
Meanwhile the wildest rumors are cur-
rent.

The latest of these, coming from The
Hague and obviously from a German
source, is to the effect that the kaiser
intends to proclaim peace on his arri-
val at Constantinople. It is asserted
on the "highest authority," according
to the rumor—but the name of this
"highest authority" is not given—that
the kaiser will send a letter to
President Wilson urging him to accept
the role of mediator. The letter, the
rumor goes on, will declare that Ger-
many did not want the war, which,
the letter will say, was forced by England
and Russia. Atrocities will be denied
energetically. The hour is at hand,
the letter will continue, to stop the
bloodshed and permit Europe to heal
her wounds with a bountiful peace.

Germany will offer, through Presi-
dent Wilson, to evacuate the invaded
departments of France and all of Bel-
gium except Antwerp and to negotiate
with Great Britain regarding the pos-
session of Antwerp. Poland will be
declared autonomous, the invaded
provinces of Russia will be restored
and Serbia's independence will be
guaranteed.

On the other hand, the "freedom of
the seas" is to be guaranteed, and
special privileges are to be granted to
German commerce.

In case of a refusal of these terms,
according to the rumor, Germany is
determined upon a war of extermina-
tion.

Fair Seen by 18,871,957; Closing Day Brings 458,558

San Francisco—So great was the at-
tendance at the Panama-Pacific expo-
sition December 4—closing day—that
it took the department of admissions
until late at night to figure out that
458,558 persons passed through the
gates and took part in the farewell
celebration.

This was the largest attendance of
any of the 288 days the exposition was
open, and brought the total attendance
to 18,871,957.

The republic of Panama participated
in the exposition to the extent of
erection of a handsome building, but
because no funds were appropriated by
the republic to keep the building open
to visitors, it was learned, it remains
closed throughout the exposition.

Head of Boy Scouts Resigns.

New York—Ernest Thompson Seton,
naturalist and writer of books on na-
ture, announces his resignation as
chief of the Boy Scouts of America.
In a statement explaining his action,
Mr. Seton said he resigned because of
gradual change to policies to which he
is opposed, and for which he blames
James E. West, of this city, the present
Scout executive. Militarism now
comes first and woodcraft, the original
purpose of the movement, second.

German War Plant Lost.

London—Destruction of a large am-
munition factory at Halle, Prussian
Saxony, by an explosion with the loss
of several lives, is reported in a mes-
sage from Kolding, Denmark. Dis-
contented workmen are suspected, the
message says: It is said a similar dis-
aster was narrowly averted at Bogden,
Silesia, where the ammunition factory
was saved by the discovery that it had
been undermined.

FOOD AND WAR CONDUCT ARE PARAMOUNT TOPICS OF REICHSTAG

Berlin, via London—The Reichstag
assembled for its sixth war session—a
session which takes place under the in-
fluence of two absorbing topics of the
present moment, namely, the regula-
tion of the food supply and the aims
and the conduct of the war.

The session will, it is understood, be
marked by the introduction of a new
vote of credit for the war, presumably
for the accustomed amount of \$2,500,-
000,000, although no definite announce-
ment in this respect has been made.

The actual items already announced
for the working program of the session
include a bill for the modification of
punishments for minor offenses under
martial law, discussion of the govern-
mental report against the reduction of
the age limit for old-age pensions from
70 to 65 years, and minor legislative
projects.

It is generally expected, on the
other hand, that the members of parli-
ament will take this occasion to

WALTER SCHOLZ



Walter Scholz is one of the men
held in New York on charges of con-
spiring to blow up munitions and
steamships and damage American nu-
clear factories. He is a brother-in-
law of Robert Fay, the alleged chief
plotter.

launch a general criticism of the mea-
sures for the regulation of the food sup-
ply, on which the government has
promised to submit a memorandum to
the reichstag, and that certain ele-
ments, notably the radical wing of the
Socialists, will insist on bringing into
the discussion the ultimate aims of the
war and the terms on which Germany
could profitably make peace.

Whether Chancellor von Bethmann-
Hollweg will be drawn by this discus-
sion into a statement more or less de-
finite on the subject is uncertain.

A newspaper statement coming from
Major Ernest Bassermann, one of the
parliamentary leaders, who has been
in preliminary conferences with the
chancellor, asserts that the chancellor
will deliver an important speech on
the foreign and internal policies and
food supply question.

It is anticipated that the chancellor
probably will make a speech—probably
two—but it seems uncertain whether
he will touch at all on the delicate sub-
ject of the German peace program.

English Soldiers Use Gas On London Peace Meeting

London—Canadian and Australian
soldiers, with a sprinkling of British
territorialists, Tuesday took charge
of Memorial hall, where the "Union
of Democratic Control," an organization
which is opposed to conscription and
favors peace, was advertised to hold a
meeting, and unceremoniously threw
the speakers from the platform and
turned the gathering into a recruiting
meeting.

The soldiers succeeded in gaining
admittance with tickets other than
those circulated to the members of the
union, and forming themselves at the
top of the staircase leading to the
great hall and galleries, forcibly took
possession of the building.

Bombs that contained "asphyxiating
gases" were launched and then the sol-
diers took the platform by storm.
Several of the speakers, including the
leader of the union, sought refuge in
an anteroom, as did the women who
were distributing leaflets.

Aeroplane Sinks U-Boat.

London—A German submarine, at-
tacked by a British aeroplane off Mid-
delkerke on Sunday, was sent to the
bottom according to the official report
to Field Marshal French which was
given out by the Press bureau. The
submarine, says Field Marshal French,
was seen to break in half. The British
commander further reports much activi-
ty on the part of the artillery and the
air craft, no less than 15 encounters in
the air taking place on the 28th.

KEEP PUREBRED FOWLS

No Branch of Farming That Pays
Better Than Poultry.

Progress Made by Farmers in Greater
Part of Country Is Encouraging
—Attention to Details Es-
sential to Success.

The progress made by the farmers
raising poultry in the greater part of
the United States in the past few
years is not only remarkable, but is
very encouraging to those who are
trying to establish this very impor-
tant branch of farming on a broad-
er and more profitable basis than it
has heretofore occupied. But still there
is plenty of room for further progress
and advancement. Some of the occu-
pants of farms who raise poultry
being rather slow in learning the dif-
ference between haphazard methods
and inferior stock, and careful, meth-
odical work with purebred fowls, you
can easily see from the returns of
their efforts that the state experiment
stations are doing much to overcome
this sort of poultry work and to show
these farmers who have neglected
poultry altogether as not paying that
there is indeed no branch of farming
that pays better, when equal attention



White Rock Cockerel.

is given to modern methods and the
little details which are now consid-
ered as absolutely essential to success
with poultry.

Until very recently the poultry on
most farms has been a mixture of all
sorts and breeds all running to-
gether, and you might travel for miles
and visit farms and not be able to
see one purebred fowl of standard
variety. But that time has passed
and many farmers are keeping nothing
but purebred fowls, though there
is still far too much of the mongrel
variety which is of very little value
being raised, though this is decreas-
ing year by year as the farmer
becomes educated better along this
line.

For a long time it has been the
rule that any place on the farm was
good enough for the hens and they
have often had to live and even raise
their young under the very poorest
conditions, often being obliged to live
in the hogpen and wade around
among their filth. What can be ex-
pected of poultry raised in any such
manner? Surely not very much. No
farmer would expect any return of
profit from any of the rest of his live
stock on the farm unless he fed and
cared for it well. The same rule holds
good with poultry. It is a fact that
the hens will give a better and clearer
profit without feed, except what they
pick up, and without the proper at-
tention (all but gathering up the eggs)
than any other living animal on the
farm. How much more could be ex-
pected of them, then, if the right kind
of attention be given them. The pro-
gressive farmer ought to make all
he can out of every branch on the
farm. Why pay all of his attention
to one line and entirely neglect an-

MUCH HORSE POWER IS LOST

Full Use of Animals Would Materially
Reduce Cost of Crop Production
—More Work Is Urged.

(By W. J. SPILLMAN.)

Carefully conducted investigations
by the agricultural department of the
University of Minnesota, as well as
those conducted by the office of farm
management of the United States de-
partment of agriculture, show that
under ordinary conditions on Ameri-
can farms work horses are utilized
only about three and a half hours a
day on the average. Horse power is
thus utilized to less than half its ca-
pacity. Per unit of work done this
power costs more than twice what it
should cost. The full utilization of the
power actually available would thus
reduce materially the cost of produc-
ing crops. The cost of keeping a work
horse is on the average about \$125 a
year. The average utilization of the
horse is about 1,250 hours a year, at
an hourly cost of ten cents per hour.
If we double the number of hours'
work the horse does—and this can be

other line? If he can be convinced
that it pays better to put in a stock
of purebred poultry instead of con-
tinuing to breed scrubs, he certainly
ought to make the change, and it is
up to us who believe in the best pay-
ing the most profit, to show this sort
of farmer the better side of standard
bred poultry.

TREAT BARB-WIRE INJURIES

Do Not Apply Axle Grease or Any
Rancid Ointment to Wound—Re-
move All Foreign Substances.

(By DR. A. E. ALEXANDER, Wisconsin
Agricultural College.)

This is the season of the year when
stockmen are most frequently an-
noyed with barb-wire injuries to their
horses. Just a few things to bear
in mind at such times suggested:

After a barb-wire accident, do not
apply axle grease or any rancid oin-
tment to the wound. Wash the wound
thoroughly with warm water. Then
clip the hair as close as possible
around it, and wash again to remove
any hair or other foreign substance.

When sand or hair has lodged in
the depths of a deep cut never use a
wet sponge to clean it out. Use a
piece of absorbent cotton or cotton
batting. There will be much less risk
of infection.

It will be useless to put stitches in
a wound that is very deep or ragged,
or that is located in a place not in
perfect rest when the animal is mak-
ing natural movements.

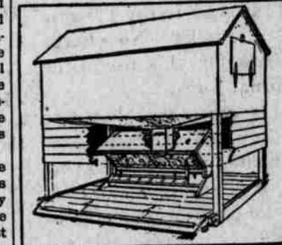
Dry dusting powder has a healing
effect on barb-wire wounds and other
large, moist cuts and abrasions. Such
a powder may be prepared cheaply by
mixing together equal parts of slaked
lime, sulphur and charcoal.

Prevent lockjaw dangers in nail
wounds of the hoof by opening them
up freely, which provides drainage for
serum and pus. Saturate with a solu-
tion of corrosive sublimate and water
in the proportion of 1 to 500. Cover
with dusting powder, absorbent cotton
and a bandage. This treatment should
be repeated daily until the wound is
healed.

FEEDER PLACED ON RUNNERS

Large Storage Bin Arranged With
Feeding Floor and Smaller Hopper
—Like Bin Inside.

Live stock on full feed is being
more and more left to its inclination
as to when it is to get its feed and
the amount. The balancing of the
rations is being also put in the work
of the steer in making the most eco-
nomical beef from the feeds available.



Automatic Stock Feeder.

The self-feeder shown here, which
system may be built for either hogs or
cattle, was patented recently by a
Topeka (Kan.) man. A large storage
bin, mounted on runners, is arranged
with a feeding floor and a smaller
hopperlike bin inside, a spout feeding
the smaller bin from the larger.

Stretcher for Wire Netting.

When making a fence of wire net-
ting, a very efficient stretcher can be
made from a piece of iron about one
foot long and about one-half inch
or so thick. Make notches in the iron
about half the length and file a point.
When using, insert the iron in the
meshes and stick the point into the
post. Pushing the other end way
from the post will stretch the netting.

done without injury to the animal—
we reduce the hourly cost to five
cents.

ENEMY OF THE GRASSHOPPER

Nothing to Be Gained by Encouraging
Blister Beetles—Destroy All Grass-
hopper Eggs in the Fall.

Among the natural enemies of the
grasshoppers are the blister beetles
or old-fashioned potato bugs, the
larvae of which subsist almost wholly
on grasshopper eggs. The blister
beetles become very abundant in
grasshopper years when food is plen-
tiful. However, little or nothing is
gained by substituting a plague of
blister beetles for a plague of grass-
hoppers and the wiser course is to
destroy as many grasshopper eggs as
possible in the fall, thereby cutting
off the development of both sorts of
pests.

Buy Feeds Intelligently.

Intelligence in buying feeds for the
dairy cow is one way of increasing
profits on the farm.