

MOST IMPORTANT NEWS OF WORLD

BIG HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK CUT TO LAST ANALYSIS.

DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN ITEMS

Kernels Culled From Events of Moment in All Parts of the World—Of Interest to All the People Everywhere.

Mexican Revolt

Maj. Gen. Hugh F. Scott and Frederick Funston met Mexican Minister of War Alvaro Obregon in the customs house in Juarez. The meeting was the formal preliminary to the opening of the international conference by which the right of the United States troops to continue the pursuit of Villa and his bandits in Mexico is to be settled.

Minister of War Alvaro Obregon will demand that American troops be withdrawn from Mexican soil in his conference with the heads of the United States army. General Obregon stated at Juarez that he will make these representations to Generals Scott and Funston.

Four Mexican prisoners at Casas Grandes are reported in a dispatch to Columbus, N. M., to have been killed by American sentries on attempting to escape.

Gen. Agustine Castro, governor of the state of Oaxaca, telegraphed to Mexico City that on April 24 a large force of insurgents surrounded the capital and delivered an attack. After terrific fighting the rebels were repulsed, leaving 500 dead.

In an engagement lasting several hours near Tomachio U. S. troops under Colonel Dodd routed a superior force of Villistas, killing six and wounding nineteen others. Two members of Colonel Dodd's command were killed and three wounded. In an engagement at Comocorachic a detachment of Colonel Erwin's command mortally wounded four Mexicans.

American Consul Coen at Durango City has advised all Americans to leave the city, and is himself considering the advisability of going to the border.

Domestic

Letters to the Louisville & Nashville and Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis railroads, requesting passes for judges, legislators, witnesses and newspapers were read into the record of the interstate commerce commission's investigation held at Nashville, Tenn., of alleged corrupt practices by these carriers.

The Anchorage labor union rejected the wage scale offered by the federal arbitration board, endeavoring to settle the strike among workmen on the government's railroad in Alaska.

Mobilization of American industries and commerce as a prime factor of preparedness for national defense was urged at New York by Secretary Baker of the war department in an address before the annual banquet of the American Newspaper Publishers' association.

Ira Nelson Morris, American minister to Sweden, left Stockholm for the United States on two months' leave of absence.

A crowded street car ran wild on a down grade for six blocks at Cincinnati, jumped the track, crashed into a telegraph pole and caused the death of one woman and injury to 28 others.

Mrs. Ronald McLean, past-president of the Daughters of the American Revolution, is said to be sinking rapidly at a hospital in Baltimore, Md.

United States Senator Thomas Taggart was nominated for United States senator for the short term, by the Democratic state convention at Indianapolis.

Two thousand employees of the Westinghouse Airbrake company joined the strike of 18,000 Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company employees at Pittsburgh, Pa.

The joint subcommittee of anthracite miners and operators, which has been attempting to negotiate a new contract for the hard-coal fields, announced at New York that a satisfactory tentative agreement had been reached.

Dr. E. H. Trezona, his mother-in-law, Mrs. MacLean, and Miss Gertrude Shaw, all of Gibson City, Ill., were killed instantly and Mrs. Trezona was badly injured when their automobile was struck by a Wabash train.

Almost a thousand Methodists, representing a total of over 4,000,000 communicants in all foreign lands, gathered at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., for the general conference. Important legislation that will vitally affect Methodism will be acted upon.

Georgia's new prohibition law, designed to drive breweries, locker clubs and "near beer" saloons from the state, became effective Saturday.

Col. Theodore Roosevelt brought 1,500 lawyers to their feet in wild cheering at the Illinois Bar association banquet at the Hotel La Salle in Chicago when he demanded universal service in the United States, modeled on the Swiss and Australian systems. The demonstration came after he had been urging for an hour the gospel of "genuine Americanism" with no hyphen.

Count Max Lynar Loudon, at one time hunted by the federal authorities as an alleged German spy, in a statement to the assistant district attorney at New York outlined the details of a proposed invasion of Canada by a German army recruited in the United States.

Washington

Each member of the house judiciary committee at Washington was presented with a boutonniere of violets and daisies by the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage. The flowers are the woman suffrage colors—purple, white and gold.

Admiral Dewey will recommend to the house naval affairs committee at Washington that a building program be adopted which will put the American navy in second place within three years. The recommendation will be a formal communication from the admiral containing the report of the navy general board.

Submarine warfare upon commerce was denounced by an array of prominent jurists before the American Society of International Law at Washington.

An envelope containing \$5,000 addressed to the "conscience fund" was received at the treasury department at Washington. No word of explanation accompanied the money.

In a stirring speech on the floor of the senate at Washington, Senator Huston of Wisconsin demanded a congressional investigation into the flood of telegrams pouring into congress on the German-American situation.

Secretary Lansing announced at Washington that the United States had sent another note to Great Britain demanding the release of the 28 Austrians, Germans and Turks taken from the American steamship China by a British cruiser off Shanghai.

The state department at Washington inquired of the Turkish government whether Abram L. Elkus of New York would be acceptable as ambassador to succeed Henry Morgenthau, whose resignation has been accepted by President Wilson.

European War News

The captain of the Dutch ship Berkelstrom, which was sunk in the North sea by a German submarine, declared at Rotterdam that the Germans intend to sink all ships of every nationality carrying food to England.

The unarmed British steamer Teal of London has been sunk by a submarine. The crew was rescued after having taken to the boats. The Swedish bark Niola has been torpedoed.

Maj. Gen. Charles Townshend has surrendered at Kut-el-Amara, Mesopotamia, with his entire garrison after a siege by the Turks lasting 143 days. British official announcements issued at London place the strength of the garrison at 2,970 British and 6,000 Indian troops.

All the leaders of the insurrection are reported to have surrendered unconditionally. The Four Courts district has been recaptured.

Loss and recovery of trenches north of Moutavitz in a desperate fight with Austrians and the capture of 600 men is told in an official communication issued at Petrograd.

Capture of a German trench north of Dead Man Hill with 53 prisoners, the ejection of the Germans from trenches they had taken south of Lasigny, and the repulse of German assaults in the Vosges, are reported in the official statement issued by the Paris war office.

Al Cole, who returned to London from Dublin, says a gunboat came up the river and demolished Liberty hall, the headquarters of the Sinn Fein society. Three hundred Sinn Feiners were said to have been inside the building at the time.

The admiralty announced at Berlin that in a naval engagement between German and British forces a British submarine, the E-22, was sunk and a British cruiser was hit by a torpedo.

The Dublin rebels have been driven out of their positions in St. Stephen's Green with bombs, after sustaining heavy losses, says the London Daily News. Four hundred Irish rebels were made prisoners.

Loss of the British battleship Russell and a large British patrol boat, capture of an English trawler and destruction of a German submarine was announced in London. The loss of life is fixed at 124 men. The Russell was sunk by a mine in the Mediterranean.

WAYNE COUNTY WILL BE THE GOAT

RAISE OF VALUES WILL MAKE THE COUNTY PAY HALF THE STATE TAXES.

ABNORMAL CONDITIONS CAUSE

Will the Equalization Board Give the Case Fair Consideration? De-troiters Are Alarmed.

Detroit—The valuation of Wayne county, now being ascertained by the state board of assessors, based on highly inflated value due to frenzied real estate speculation and huge production increases, attributed directly and indirectly to war orders, will force Detroit and Wayne county to pay half the taxes of the state, unless the board of equalization can be convinced that the final Wayne county valuation is inflated and does not represent normal increase.

The question, which is beginning to alarm business men, industrial heads and small property owners is that the valuation eventually determined by the equalization board must stand for three years and if the war should suddenly cease, putting an end to the volume of business tractable to war orders or the boom in real estate should slump, the burden would fall on the small taxpayer.

Two years ago Wayne county was assessed at \$928,728,000, equalized to \$707,000,000 in round numbers, and the state was assessed at \$3,324,000,000, equalized to \$2,968,000,000, so that Detroit was paying approximately 25 per cent of the state's taxes.

The present situation is peculiar in that nearly all the rest of the state has already been valued by the state board, during normal conditions, and although all counties reported on show a normal and fair increase, it is feared the boost given Wayne county will be far greater proportionately, on account of the unprecedented prosperity of the city, a great deal of which is due to abnormal increased value of industrial products shown on books of many of the city's largest industries.

Students of conditions declare that an accurate, normal increase for Wayne county should be approximately \$200,000,000, or a total valuation of about \$900,000,000. The board of Commerce has been working on the taxation problem for weeks. They have tabulated startling statistics revealing enormous individual increases of products caused by the war demand. One factory alone, the committee conducting the work declares making war munitions, will be given a value five times its value two years ago. It is shown that scores of companies are affected by the war directly or indirectly. Companies manufacturing metals and alloys, for example, have contracted orders for six and eight months delivery, the cost of the materials for which will exceed the price of the finished product today.

The indirect effect of the war on Detroit and Wayne county industries is seen principally in the enormous increase in cost of raw materials and consequent boost in price to the consumer.

Building materials have jumped 20 per cent in the past six months. Structural steel has to be ordered months in advance for delivery at greatly increased prices.

All metals have gone to record heights and most of the raw materials used in Detroit manufacture have followed suit.

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LANSING BATTERY PASSES

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Lansing—The notification from war department that Battery A, First Field artillery of this city, had qualified under the new rules and regulations of the department and had been placed upon the list of batteries in the militia service, which are to be taken on the same basis as the regular field batteries, is considered a distinct victory for the Michigan National Guard.

The rules were that each officer must qualify and that in addition 17 of the men must pass the inspector's examination. The Lansing battery not only had all of its officers qualify, one of them as an "expert," but had 24 of its men pass the examinations. All will be given certificates from the war department, while they will also be eligible to a national competition which the government expects to stage among those who qualified.

The examination was the same as that given in the regular army, although not nearly so long a time was given the militia for preparation.

MICHIGAN NEWS ITEMS

The United States senate has confirmed the appointment of Samuel Folz as postmaster of Kalamazoo.

Michael Parks was killed in an explosion in the chemical plant of the Saginaw Plate Glass Co. Two other employees were slightly burned in an attempt to rescue Parks. The cause of the explosion is unknown.

The proposed \$80,000 new high school can be built in Hastings as a result of the decision of the supreme court. Citizens objected to the erection of the building on the park site and began litigation which has lasted ten months. Increasing price of materials during that time makes the cost of erection \$15,000 greater.

MICHIGAN NEWS BRIEFS

The scarlet fever epidemic has forced the East Lansing schools to close. Professors D. B. Yntema and F. G. Waide, of Hope college, have resigned.

Since the 1st of January about 40 cars of horses have been shipped from Bad Axe to the European war.

The University of Michigan faculty senate has set June 29 for the memorial service for the late James E. Angell.

The appointment of Everet S. Syebman as postmaster at South Haven has been confirmed by the United States senate.

W. Foreman, 71, pioneer resident of Rutland, in which he lived 70 years, is dead, of tropical fever, contracted last winter in Florida.

Bernard Smith and Harry Randall of Detroit paid fines of \$8.70 each for driving motor cars through Ypsilanti without 1916 licenses.

James Riley, foreman at Marshall Furnace Co., is father of three different sets of triplets who reside with his wife at Hamilton, Ont.

An industrial club was organized at Coldwater, when 1,000 citizens raised \$20,255 in one hour to interest factories in locating here.

Officers and members of Flint's newly organized Women's club have offered their services to aid in carrying on a clean-up week.

Both copper and coal production broke records in Michigan in 1915, according to reports published by the United States geological survey.

Thirteen-year-old Peter Vanreeman of Kalamazoo is worth \$200. The boy found a roll of bills in the street, and so far no one has claimed the money.

Mrs. Marie Camillo was "grandma" to everybody in Manistee and her death was an occasion of deep lament to the entire city. She was 91 years old.

Ed. S. Long, a deputy game warden of Alanson, Cheboygan county, is in a serious condition as a result of a spectacular fight in a boat with an unknown Indian.

June Smith, a farmer near North Oxford, was seriously injured when the tongue of a handroller broke, allowing the roller, loaded with stones, to topple over.

Richard Mason of Appleton was critically injured when his team turned a corner suddenly, throwing him from his standing position under the wheels of his wagon.

Following the denial of the motion for a new trial by Judge Law, Albert Cusino, convicted of perjury, was sentenced to from five to 15 years at Ionia with a recommendation of six years.

Because of the large numbers of aliens who have applied for citizenship papers in Detroit during the last few months, the naturalization bureau has opened a permanent office there.

The 31st Michigan Volunteer Infantry will hold its annual reunion in Ypsilanti May 17. Local members of the regiment, whose major was Gen. John P. Kirk, are making plans for elaborate entertainment.

The report of 20 cases of smallpox in York township, Washtenaw county, caused a flurry in the office of the state board of health and inspectors were immediately sent to see what had caused the epidemic.

Henry McMorran, former congressman, who owns a ferry line between this city and Sarnia, holds a certificate from the federal government as an "able-bodied lifeboat man." McMorran was aboard his boat when the inspectors held a drill to test the crew.

The total number of licenses granted in Detroit last year was 1,377. Eleven saloons were located in the territory annexed last November, bringing the total number of bars in the city up to 1,388. The elimination of 73 brings this year's total down to 1,315.

Willard Huss, son of M. J. Huss, Three Rivers, has received notice of his appointment to West Point. He graduated here in 1914 and has been in the state university since. He will go to West Point June 15. His appointment came through Congressman Hamilton.

According to the monthly report issued by State Treasurer Haarer, there was a balance of \$7,337,017.76 in the treasury when the vaults were opened May 1. The general fund, available for immediate use, contained \$3,656,938.34, while the primary school interest fund contained \$3,595,832.63. During April the treasury receipts amounted to \$3,161,503.21, while the disbursements totaled \$830,791.81.

Millionaire E. K. Warren, of Three Oaks, has made arrangements with the government to get his herd of 5,000 cattle out of Mexico. His ranch has been raided many times by bandits and his losses from theft have been exceedingly heavy. He has just been successful in getting permission from the government to take down a fence along the border in order to let his stock cross the line.

An Albion Rifle club is being formed among the younger men of Albion. The organization will be affiliated with the National Rifle association and a local range will be established.

The proposed \$80,000 new high school can be built in Hastings as a result of the decision of the supreme court. Citizens objected to the erection of the building on the park site and began litigation which has lasted ten months. Increasing price of materials during that time makes the cost of erection \$15,000 greater.

LETTER FROM STATE CAPITOL

WHO FIRST ASSORTED LUMBER? MR. MCGILLIVRAY TELLS A FORESTRY CLASS OF IT.

LARGE SUM FROM AUTO TAXES

All the Latest Political Dope. Facts and Fancies Gathered From State House Politicians.

[By Gurd M. Hayes.]

Lansing—Reciting the history of lumber grading to the Michigan Agricultural College forestry class, J. H. McGillivray of the game, fish and forest department said: "It is likely that Noah sorted his lumber for constructing the ark, that Solomon segregated his Lebanon cedar for the building of the temple, and that both knew that ten-dollar culls would make as good a corn crib as sixty-dollar selects. The first distinctions in grading from a trade consideration of which we have definite knowledge, however, came to us from Stockholm, Sweden, about 1770.

"Evolution in Maine and lower Canada brought the grades to the Saginaw valley about 1850 as good, fine-common, common, shipping-culls and culls.

"Present standard divisions are: Clear: First, second and third; finishing: A-select, B-select, C-select, D-select; factory: A-select, B-select, C-select, No. 1 shop, No. 2 shop, No. 3 shop and "inch" shop; common: D-stock, No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3; culls: No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, of down grades of common.

"These are the wholesale terms on the Great Lakes docks. They are the fundamental base of all lumber grading on both hard and soft woods. When the Lansing, Detroit, Buffalo or Chicago dealer buys from the northern mill yards or docks he recognizes only these grades. What would only be a No. 2 common in Lansing might pass as No. 1 common in some places more remote from the initial market.

"Sliding, ceiling, flooring, shipplank are not grades as the layman is led to believe. They are simply forms of milling which may be of any quality of sound lumber.

"Thirty years ago in Michigan lumber went in to the mill burners as waste that is now bringing \$20 per thousand feet in the eastern market. There is opportunity for conservation of lumber in its proper utilization. When grades are mixed in exterior work, such as siding, the presence of the better grades serve only to accentuate the defects in the poorer boards. Thus the whole wall shows to a greater disadvantage than if it were all low grade.

"Builders and users of lumber, even the federal government, have talked much of a lumber trust. There is so such thing in a continental way. Local combinations are possible of course and doubtless some exist.

Raises a Large Sum.

If the supreme court upholds the constitutionality of the new automobile tax law, Secretary of State Vaughan will cut a melon in the form of a tax dividend of \$425,000 which will be divided among the counties and the state according to the number of machines credited to them on the state's books.

Already Secretary of State Vaughan has collected under the terms of the new automobile tax law approximately \$850,000. If the law is declared valid by the supreme court, half of this money will be placed to the credit of the state highway department for the construction of trunkline highways.

The remaining fifty per cent will be divided among the counties and the money can only be used for the construction and maintenance of highways.

When an automobile owner pays his license fee to the secretary of state, fifty per cent of the amount of the fee is credited to the county in which the machine is owned and the rest is credited to the state highway department.

Primary Vote Results.

Henry Ford's majority over United States Senator William Alden Smith in the republican presidential primary held in Michigan April 3 was 5,185, according to the official figures given out by the board of state canvassers. The three candidates whose names appeared on the republican ballot polled 175,294 votes, of which Henry Ford received \$3,057, William Alden Smith

77,872 and William Gerald Simpson 14,365.

Theodore Roosevelt's name was not printed on any of the primary ballots, but 1074 electors voted for him by writing his name on the republican ticket. Charles Evans Hughes of New York received 303 republican votes and former governor Chase S. Osborn was favored by 139. Charley Chaplin received one vote on the republican presidential ballot.

Although Woodrow Wilson's name was the only one printed on the democratic ticket, 124 admirers of William Jennings Bryan took the trouble to write his name on the ballot. President Wilson received a total of \$4,972 votes, while Champ Clark polled 63, Henry Ford 55, Governor Ferris 3 and Gen. Carranza 1.

The national progressive party was without a candidate for president but Theodore Roosevelt qualified when 383 bull moose voters wrote the colonel's name on their ticket. Some of the bull moose voters evidently confused the candidacy of Gustavus D. Pope of Detroit, who was a candidate for national committeeman of the national progressive party, and Pope received 44 votes for president on the bull moose ticket. William F. Ferguson, prohibition candidate for president, who was unopposed, received 2728 votes.

Charles B. Warren of Detroit, who was unopposed for renomination as republican national committeeman, received 169,937 votes. Democratic National Committeeman E. O. Wood of Flint was renominated over William A. Comstock of Alpena by a majority of 13,901. Wood polled 48,707 votes and Comstock received 34,806. Gustavus D. Pope was renominated as the national progressive national committeeman without opposition. Pope polled 1919 votes.

Some Political Dope.

Democratic leaders in the state house are not at all elated over the result of the primary vote for democratic national committeeman as shown by the board of state canvassers. The majority of National Committeeman E. O. Wood of Flint, was only 13,901 over William A. Comstock of Alpena, out of a total democratic vote of 83,513, and administration leaders are of the opinion that the big vote for Comstock indicates trouble at the democratic state convention in Lansing May 17. Backed by Governor Ferris and every member of his official family and supported by hundreds of postmasters throughout the state, National Committeeman Wood was expected to beat Comstock at least two to one. Governor Ferris passed out the word that the defeat of Comstock should not only be an annihilation but a complete rout for the so-called original Wilsonites. Practically every democrat on the state payroll was busy in his precinct for Wood on election day, but notwithstanding the work of the administration forces Comstock polled 34,806 votes to 48,707 for Wood. Nearly twenty counties were carried by the candidate of the original Wilsonites and the administration forces have received word that these counties are planning to send delegations to the democratic state convention that will be antagonistic to the Wood-Shields faction.

Personally Political.

Governor Ferris does not want to be a candidate for a third term and he is planning to take up his work along educational lines at the end of the present year. However, this does not mean that Governor Ferris will not lead the democratic party of Michigan in the campaign next fall as the chief executive, according to democratic leaders and close personal friends, can be persuaded to carry the standard again, if he is convinced that his name at the head of the ticket will keep the party organization intact and result in a greater number of votes for President Wilson. At the present time, however, the governor is planning to retire from political life at the end of his present term. While he is making these plans, democratic leaders are actively engaged in urging him to make the race again. They think Ferris is politically stronger than any other man in his party.

Probable Keynote.

Congressman Frank Doremus of Detroit will be temporary chairman of the democratic state convention to be held in Lansing, May 17. The announcement that Doremus had been selected as presiding officer of the convention was made by E. C. Shields, chairman of the democratic state central committee. Congressman Doremus was recently re-elected chairman of the democratic national congressional campaign committee, and in his address as temporary chairman of the state convention it is believed that he will summarize the plans for the national campaign in the congressional districts this fall.

Governor Paroles Lifers.

Judson Black of Richmond has been reappointed by Governor Ferris as a member of the state veterinary board.

Governor Ferris has issued a parole to Millard Johnson, sentenced to Jackson prison for life June 12, 1912, for assault and robbery. Johnson, with a companion, attempted to rob a party of automobilists near Grand Rapids, and within 48 hours after the crime, was committed he had been sentenced to Jackson. He is now 23 years of age.

L. A. Weeks, sentenced from Flint September 14, 1901, to serve a life term at Jackson for murder, was also paroled by Governor Ferris.



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