

BOLSHEVIKI ARMING RELEASED TEUTON CAPTIVES

The Weather Report

For Bridgeport and vicinity: Fair and continued cold tonight and Friday.

The Bridgeport Times

and Evening Farmer

The Want Columns

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BRIDGEPORT, CONN., THURSDAY, FEB. 21, 1918

PRICE TWO CENTS

HUNS SEIZE 2 RUSS TOWNS; ADVANCING TO TAKE 4 MORE

GERMAN AIRMEN RAID AMERICAN LINES AT WILL

LACK OF YANKEE MACHINES AT FRONT MAKES PERSHING'S MEN UNPROTECTED TARGETS OF HUNS—TROOPS HELPLESS AS AEROPLANES TURN MACHINE GUN ON THEM.

With the American Army in France, Feb. 20—(By the Associated Press)—Control of the air in the American sector belongs to the enemy. Any officer at the front will make this declaration—all have made it. The control is obvious. German aeroplanes come and go over the American lines almost at will. Every time the Germans come over their path through the sky is followed by fleecy straggle puffs, but the chances of hitting an aeroplane with anti-aircraft shells is so remote that the enemy aviators calmly fly along as if on a pleasure trip.

Every now and then aeroplanes on this side attack the enemy. They always do this when they get a chance. But the heche is clever while flying and manages to come over and take pictures, make observations and do virtually whatever else he desires and then calmly sail home without interruption. Nearly always he is at an altitude of about 3,000 metres where he is comparatively safe from anti-aircraft fire and knows it.

It is not permitted to name any officers of the American expeditionary force. It is not permitted to quote them. If both were allowed it would be possible to carry quotations from virtually every officer at the front using a speedy appearance of large numbers of American aeroplanes with American pilots.

For there is only one way to wrest control of the air from the enemy. That is to fight him for it in the sky and to relieve him of it by force of overwhelming numbers.

Right now, if the Germans knew American aeroplanes were waiting for them every time they came over the line their trips would be less frequent. Neither would they dare to attempt such a bold piece of work as when they recently flew over the line in an aeroplane disguised with the Allies' red, white and blue bullseye markings and cut loose with a machine gun on American soldiers in the trenches.

Had there been American planes nearby the chances of the Germans getting back home after such a trick would be small. And it is extremely doubtful, officers say, whether they

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BRITISH TROOPS TRUMPETING AT JERICHO WALLS

London, Feb. 21.—A further advance of three and a half miles on a front of seven and three-quarters miles has been made by the British forces in Palestine, the war office announced. The British are now within four miles of Jericho. The operations are continued. The British losses on Tuesday when an advance was made on a 15 mile front east of Jerusalem were very small. Yesterday's losses have not been reported.

The British also advanced northwest of Jerusalem to a maximum depth of one mile on a front of four miles.

AMOROUS UNCLE GETS TRIMMING

George De Mugerichin, of 133 Bunnell street, complained to the police today that when he visited his nephew, Mike Krikorian, at his home, 187 Holey street, last night, he was set upon by Krikorian and his wife, beaten, tied hand and foot and robbed of \$250. When the police investigated Krikorian and his wife denied the charge and allege that De Mugerichin had made himself so obnoxious at their home by his persistent love making to Mrs. Krikorian that a sound thrashing was administered to him when he called last night.

SIEMON SEEKS ABOLITION OF EARLY CLOSING ORDER

CONSERVATION MEASURE IN VIEW OF LENGTHENING OF DAYLIGHT HOURS DOES LITTLE GOOD AND IS INJURING BUSINESS OF CITY.

Garfield Mondays having been abolished, Local Fuel Administrator Carl F. Simon recommends rescinding the governor's proclamation regarding shortened business days for saloons, merchants, and places of amusement.

"Because of the lengthened days," Simon says, "the conservation measure is doing little good now, but is working a hardship upon scores of merchants."

The administrator has appealed to officials at Hartford, asking exemption for Bridgeport business men on the ground that they have done more toward fuel conservation than any other group of business men in any city or town in the state. Simon points out that before the governor's proclamation was issued local bodies had formulated regulations of their own, which were more favorable for fuel conservation than the hours set by the governor.

The local administrator also declares that Bridgeporters have closely followed the conservation orders, while they were grossly violated in many places. For this reason Simon believes the hours should be suspended immediately. The governor's proclamation automatically ceases on March 31.

"The original hours should prevail now," says Simon, "because Bridgeport has done most for fuel conservation."

STILL SERIOUSLY ILL

Deputy City Auditor Henry Waters continues to be critically ill at his home in Elmwood place.

TAKING OF UTILITIES IS SEEN

Senator Lewis Predicts Public Ownership Policy for U. S.

RAILROAD HEADS ADMIT FAILURES

Government Control of Telephone, Telegraph, Etc., Inevitable.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Senator Lewis of Illinois, speaking in the Senate today, declared the administration railroad bill is a forerunner of government control over various public utilities and predicted that the question would be the great domestic issue in the next presidential campaign.

"Let us not deceive ourselves as to the meaning of this measure," Senator Lewis declared. "This is the beginning of the government taking the railroads as a government agency. The roads will never be permitted to return to the former state of personal control for private benefit. At the same time this country takes over the railroads it will take the telephone and telephone privileges and then the products for fuel, particularly the lands of coal and oil and put these under government direction.

"All agencies of this nature in this republic, necessary for the public welfare of man, will be taken by the government as a necessary protection of the public."

The railroads, Senator Lewis declared, confessed their inability to meet the situation and by surrendering to the government admitted that the one power capable of carrying on the work under the existing conditions was the government itself.

"The government now conducts the roads and directs them as the profit of its power and ability to do so," he asserted. "Private ownership of railroads failed us for the purpose of sending supplies to ships or for transport of soldiers for foreign service. What would be the calamity under private ownership if enemies were at our gates and in possession of our country.

"Let us announce that the United States is a government and shall assume governmental responsibility in protecting all public agencies of human welfare from being a monopoly of private pillage."

"If this is done, Senator Lewis said, any Bolsheviki uprising in the United States will be avoided."

WORK CAR GOES OFF THE TRACK

A work car of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad was derailed near the Burr Road crossing at 4 o'clock this morning, but, according to railroad officials, it was righted without delaying traffic. No damage was done and one of the crew was injured, officials report.

FLOOD DANGER IN N. E. IS PAST

Boston, Feb. 21.—Danger of serious floods in New England, at the end of a winter seldom equalled for its severity, is believed to have been considerably reduced by the alternate thaws and freezes of this month.

A great deal of the snow and ice, particularly in the southern section of New England, has melted gradually this month.

DID BUSINESS AT LOSS.
Amsterdam, Feb. 21.—The Berlin Motor Omnibus Co., which was obliged to conduct its business last year almost entirely with horses and steel-tired vehicles owing to the prohibition of the use of gasoline or rubber tires, ended the year with a deficit of \$175,000.

SIBERIANIANS MAY JOIN INVADER

German Goods Already in Manchuria, Where Ex-Prisoners Work Mines.

Harbin, Manchuria, Saturday, Feb. 16.—German goods already have reappeared far east of Irkutsk, according to information received here. German merchants are active in Harbin and the Bolsheviki are arming released German prisoners to guard the Siberian railroad and facilitate the movement of traffic.

A British mining engineer named Piper, who has arrived here from Krasnoyarsk says the Bolsheviki have seized the gold mines there and that Austro-German prisoners are working them. The Austro-Germans have plenty of money and are purchasing permits allowing them to circulate freely in Siberia. The Germans are taking charge of electric power stations, railroads and depots. Quantities of raw materials are shipped to Germany from the district. Most of the Germans are said to speak Russian.

Piper declares that unless the Allies take immediate steps to send supplies and raw materials into Siberia the intellectual and present classes will throw themselves into the hands of the Germans.

U. S. AERO CLUB SEEKING REMEDY FOR AIR MENACE

New York, Feb. 21.—A special meeting of the executive board of the Aero Club of America was called here today to consider and take action on the aeroplane situation on the American front in France as told in dispatches from the American front.

"The reports would indicate that the situation is indeed serious," an official of the club said. "Our executive board will meet today and we shall take immediate steps to ascertain whether we can do anything that will assist the government in removing the menace. It has been truly said that 'the war will be won in the air' and if the Germans, as the dispatches say, are in control, we must speed up our preparations to wrest it from them."

The dispatches said "control of the air in the American sector belongs to the enemy," German machines coming and going "almost at will" over the American lines.

ELEVEN HELD FOR \$5,000,000 THEFT OF WAR SUPPLIES

New York, Feb. 21.—Eight clothing manufacturers, two employees and a clerk in the quartermaster department of the army were indicted by the federal grand jury here today, charged with being concerned in extensive army uniform cloth frauds.

Cloth and other army supplies worth approximately \$5,000,000 were stolen, according to Lieut. George D. Barnit of the New York police, who in conjunction with the federal authorities investigated the alleged frauds which he said included thefts in other parts of the country. He asserted that a plot of nation-wide proportions had been uncovered and that investigations in other cities probably would be undertaken.

The indictments are based on evidence gathered by the federal district attorney's office in connection with the arrest about two months ago of Louis Davidson, head of the Universal Cloth Shrinkage & Refinishing works here.

MARRIAGES FALL OFF

According to statistics prepared in the town clerk's office there were 128 marriages performed in the city during the month of January, while in the same month of the preceding year there were 187.

MOLL CASE ONCE MORE IN COURT

After Two Months Peace Sisters Would Take Farm From Gustav.

ALSO SEEK MONEY FOR LAND'S USAGE

Will of Mother Left An Estate of \$60,000 to Three Daughters.

The Molls are at it again. After two months of peace, litigation in the famous Moll probate case has again broken out, starting on its 25th year in the Probate Court. The principal in the case was Theresa Moll, who died, a nonagenarian, last year. Gustav Moll, her son, had been conservator, and filed his final account Jan. 25.

The report was accepted by Judge Daniel B. Bradley, acting for Judge Paul L. Miller.

Today, Mrs. Lillie Moll Thorp filed notice appealing from the acceptance of the report, representing that she is aggrieved by the action. The other two sisters, Mrs. August Stadler and Theresa Oberly, are in sympathy with her.

In addition to the appeal from the acceptance of their brother's report, the sisters will file a writ of election in the Superior court today and will also file suit to recover a total of \$6,000, which they allege their brother owes them for rental.

Gustave Moll has been living on his mother's farm on Madison avenue for 20 years or more. The sisters claim rental on the theory that the place was devoted to them by their mother during her lifetime.

The aged woman left a will giving her estate, estimated to be worth more than \$60,000, to her two daughters, Lillie Thorp and Theresa Oberly, cutting off Gustave, Mrs. Stadler and another son, who lives in Chicago. The will was accepted in the Probate court, but an appeal is pending in the Superior court.

KETTLE OF HOT WATER Poured DOWN HER NECK

WIFE REMOVED TO HOSPITAL INFERS HUSBAND MERELY DEMONSTRATED AFFECTION FOR HER—REFUSES TO HAVE POLICE PROSECUTE IN CASE.

Josephine Maleska, 32, and comely, residing at 335 Willard street, is at the Bridgeport hospital in agony from scalds, but happy for she knows that her husband John, loves her dearly.

BOLSHEVIKISTS IN CHINA PROMPTING ANOTHER REVOLT

Peking, Saturday, Feb. 16.—Bolsheviki from Russian Turkestan as well as Germans and Turks are inflaming the Chinese Mohammedan population of province of Singiang, Chinese Turkestan, against the government, says a report from Gen. Yang Tseng Sin, governor of the province.

The general warns the government that arms and ammunition are supplied by the enemy. He says there are prospects of a Mohammedan rebellion similar to the one that began in 1861. Even the loss of Chinese Turkestan is possible, he added.

IGNORE PLEAS FOR PEACE MADE BY SLAVS' LEADERS

HAPSAL AND MOLODECSNO TAKEN, GERMANS PUSH ON TOWARD VITEBSK, MINSK, PSKOFF AND REVAL—ARMEN BOMB REGITSA—DVINSK ENTERED TWO HOURS AFTER ARMISTICE ENDED.

Petrograd, Wednesday, Feb. 20.—(By the Associated Press)

Dispatches received here indicate continued German movements along all fronts toward Vitebsk, Minsk, Pskoff and Reval. German airmen are reported to have raided Regitza, on Monday. Many bombs were dropped and several persons were killed.

Troops that occupied Dvinsk are advancing toward Pskoff, 180 miles south southwest of Petrograd, according to a Reuter dispatch. They also have occupied Hapsal, Esthonia, and their cavalry is pushing toward Mohilev, the former Russian general headquarters.

The Novala Viedomsty, the dispatch adds, says the Germans have occupied Moloodecsno, an important railroad junction northwest of Minsk. According to the Pravda, the Austrians have begun an advance on the Ukrainian front.

MANY STORES IN CITY WILL KEEP OPEN TOMORROW

Many of the business houses of the city will keep their doors open tomorrow, Washington's birthday. The holiday for the non-observance of the holiday is attributed to the many days which they have been forced to observe in the past few weeks.

The post office will be open as usual but only one delivery will be made by the carriers. The federal income tax office will be open from 9 o'clock in the morning until 5 o'clock in the afternoon to accommodate the holiday crowds. All of the theatres of the city will be open as usual with holiday bills.

The various schools of the city will be closed as will the banks and many offices. The draft board offices will be closed, it was announced today. The public library will be closed all day with the exception of the reading room which will be open from 2 o'clock in the afternoon until 9 o'clock in the evening. All of the city hall offices will not be opened. The barber shops will follow the custom of former years and remain closed.

This news reached the council early Tuesday morning, and influenced the delegates to decide for peace. Before the capture of Dvinsk Premier Lenine said he was opposed to peace, but finally urged that peace must be obtained.

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VAST AMOUNT OF BOOTY TAKEN BY HUNS IN RUSSIA

Berlin, Feb. 21, via London.—The war office announced that 1,531 guns and between 4,000 and 5,000 motor cars have been captured from the Russians.

The Russian town of Rovno has been cleared of the Russians, the war office reports. Trains with about 1,000 cars, many laden with food, have been captured, as well as aeroplanes and an incalculable amount of war material.