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THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER
Fair

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OMAHA, TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 23, 1915—TWELVE PAGES.

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THOMPSON TAKES HAND SEEKING TO KILL ANNEXATION

Democratic State Chairman Butts In at Lincoln and Tries to Prevent Senate Agreement.

DOUGLAS MEMBERS WRATHFUL

Richmond and Howell Give Voice to Feelings Over the Action.

TEST TO COME ON CONCURRENCE

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
LINCOLN, March 22.—(Special Telegram.)—State Chairman W. H. Thompson of the democratic state committee got into trouble this afternoon in the senate chamber soon after adjournment of that body. His action in coming here and opposing the Omaha annexation bill today, after it was understood that the Parrott amendment giving the people a chance to vote on the proposition was satisfactory not only to himself but to Charles Bryan, has made many democrats decidedly angry and many of them are not backward in so expressing themselves. Probably Representative Richmond of the Douglas county delegation is as much nettled as anybody by the activities of the state chairman of his own party.

Richmond Scores Thompson.
He said this evening: "I think it is utterly out of place for Mr. Thompson to come here and take the stand he has on a matter which concerns us people in Douglas county and which is not a political issue. I opposed the Parrott amendment at the time it was talked of, but Judge Breen and other friends of annexation thought it was the only thing to do in order to insure annexation, and as we understood that both Chairman Thompson and Charles Bryan approved the amendment I did not care to make any talk against it."

"Now Mr. Thompson comes here and goes over to the senate and tries to have the whole bill killed by opposing the amendment, which is the same thing. It is a subterfuge used by him to thwart the wishes of the people of Omaha and a large number living in the proposed territory to be annexed, and we do not like it."

Unfair Meddling.
"It is no affair that he has any right to meddle with. This legislation could have gone through had he not interfered and the people would have been satisfied, but he takes advantage of the fact that he is chairman of the state committee to use his influence to defeat legislation of a local matter and in which there is no political issue at stake."

Senator Howell, like Representative Richmond, is not at all good natured over the action of Chairman Thompson. He said this evening that Thompson was opposing the amendment for no other reason than he believed it would kill the bill.

The test will come on the ability of the Thompson steam roller to flatten Douglas county democrats who favor the annexation bill when the bill comes up in the senate for confirmation of the same with the Parrott amendment.

What Move Means.
Should it be stricken out, it means that the democratic chairman can swing a good whip successfully and that the bill will go to a conference which it is said is just what he desires as he believes it will get no further.
Chairman Thompson was accused by Representative Jerry Howard just as the senate adjourned in the evening and the late member from South Omaha turned loose on the chairman in a manner characteristic of the South Omaha representative. He called him a "lobbyist" and accused him of butting into a proposition which was none of his "business anyway."

ONE OF WAR'S PALER GLORIES—Russian outpost in forest of Galicia strengthening barbed wire protection against expected Austrian attack.



VICE REPORT READ TO CITY COUNCIL

Ministers Appear in Person to Present Views and to Ask Commissioners Questions.

COUNCIL TO ACT ON TUESDAY

The submission of a "vice report" by a committee representing the Omaha Ministerial union, to the city commissioners Monday morning, brought forth a spirited and interesting discussion on the subject of morals in a metropolitan city.
The report handed to the city clerk by Rev. A. C. Douglas, president of the Ministerial union, contained the names and addresses of about thirty places where it was alleged investigators found violations of laws on recent dates.

The tenor of the report had been softened materially after several meetings of the special vice committee and by the Ministerial union itself. The ministers said they came to the commissioners in a spirit of helpfulness. The commissioners declared they stood for enforcement of the laws and they individually explained their viewpoints and conditions which must be faced in a large city.
Commissioner A. C. Kugel, superintendent of the police department, said that it takes public influence and public sentiment to properly administer the laws. Commissioner J. J. Ryder ventured the statement that conditions might be even worse than represented by the report of the ministers. The mayor said he was not cognizant of the conditions outlined in the report.

Report of Committee.
The gist of the statements made by the vice committee in the report follows: "We beg leave to say further in regard to these matters that the persons who made the investigations are ready to appear before your honorable body or any other properly constituted authority and submit their evidence. We are far from (Continued on Page Five, Column Two.)"

Villa Says Tax On Foreigners is For Benefit of the Poor

WASHINGTON, March 22.—General Villa at Monterey has explained to the American consul there, Secretary Bryan today announced, the purpose of his tax on foreigners and others was for the relief of the destitute and poor.
In consideration of the relief rendered by the American Red Cross, Americans were taxed, only a few foreigners were taxed, some moderately and others not at all, the general explained.
Villa stated that measures would be taken to keep food prices low as far as possible. The city was reported quiet.

Kills Self, Leaves Note She is Sane

KINGSTON, N. Y., March 22.—Mrs. William P. Dutton, formerly of Chyenne, Wyo., and her year-old daughter were found dead today behind doors that had been nailed fast in their home at Ellenville. A note addressed to the coroner read:
"It is usual in cases like this to render a verdict of suicide while insane. Your verdict, to accord with the facts in this case, should be suicide with perfectly sound mind and body."

GRAIN RATES INTO OMAHA LOWERED

Mr. Townsend Says This Would Be One Effect of Raise Western Roads Want to Make.

CITES LONG LIST OF FIGURES

CHICAGO, March 22.—Although forty-one western railroad systems are applying for increases in freight rates on certain commodities which, they estimate would increase their revenues \$10,000,000 a year, the new schedule which they propose would, in the case of grain in some instances, result in actual reductions from the present rate.
F. B. Townsend, traffic manager of the Minneapolis & St. Louis road, so testified in the Interstate Commerce commission hearing on the railroads' application for higher rates.

Mr. Townsend sought to justify the railroads' proposal to increase the rate on grain and grain products an average of 1 cent a hundred pounds on certain shipments to Chicago and 2 cents a hundred pounds to Gulf ports. He dealt particularly with the effect of the advance on traffic from South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa. He said actual reductions are effected by the establishment of a new line of rates from South Dakota to Omaha, where commodity rates never have been in force before.

Analysis of Effect of Rates.
An analysis of the present and proposed rates from these states to the various grain markets was presented, purporting to show that to many no advance would be effected, while to others present rates would be actually reduced because of the inauguration of commodity rates on grain, where at present no commodity rates apply, the grain being hauled under class rates.

"From South Dakota," said Mr. Townsend, "there are no changes in rates to Chicago, Peoria, Minneapolis or Duluth. From thirty-four South Dakota stations to St. Louis the advance averages 34 cents on flaxseed, 41 cents on wheat and 55 cents on coarse grain, plus thus in each case about 1/2 cent per hundred pounds."

South Dakota to Kansas City.
"From South Dakota to Kansas City there is an advance of 1/2 cent from six stations and 1 cent from five stations, while from thirteen stations there is no change."
(Continued on Page Five, Column Five.)

STOP OFF IN OMAHA THE GATE-CITY-OF-THE-WEST

Omaha skyscrapers testify to its metropolitan character. Our tallest building, built by the Woodmen of the World, is eighteen stories with a tower going 260 feet up in the air. The Union Pacific headquarters, City National and Fontenelle hotel buildings are also in the skyscraper class, and more a-coming.

GREY SAYS THIS IS LAST TIME PRUSSIA WARS UPON EUROPE

British Foreign Secretary Asserts Nations of Continent Must be Free to Live Their Own Lives.

GERMANS 'SUPERIOR PEOPLE'

One of Terms of Peace of Allies is that Belgium Must Be Freed of Invaders.

REVIEW DIPLOMATIC SITUATION

LONDON, March 22.—"War might have been avoided by a European conference when and where Germany desired," Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Grey told an audience in London this afternoon. At the time he was acting as chairman of a gathering which was listening to a lecture on the strategy of the war. Continuing along this line the foreign secretary said:

"Germany from its experience in the Balkan conference knew it could count on our good will and that we were ready to do last July what we did before. But Germany refused every suggestion, and on it rests for all time the appalling responsibility for the war. We now know that Germany had prepared for the war, and only those who have planned for war can prepare for it."

Must Be Lost.
Amid loud cheers Sir Edward added: "This is the fourth time within living memory that Prussia has made war upon Europe and we are determined it shall be the last."

The expenditure of hundreds of millions of money and the loss of millions of lives might have been avoided by a conference of the European powers held in London or at The Hague, or wherever and in whatever form Germany would have consented to hold it. It would have been far easier to have settled the dispute between Austria-Hungary and Serbia, which Germany made the occasion for the war, than it was to get successfully through the Balkan crisis of two years ago.

"In recent years," the foreign secretary went on to say, "we have given Germany every assurance that an aggressive move upon it would receive no support from us. We withheld from it only one thing—the unconditional promise to stand aside, however aggressive Germany itself might be to its neighbors."

Germany Refuses.
"Last July, before the outbreak of war, France, Italy and Russia were ready to accept a conference. Germany refused every suggestion made for settling the dispute this way and upon it must rest now and for all time the appalling responsibility of having plunged Europe into this war."

"What is the issue for which we are fighting?" Sir Edward proceeded as follows:

"In the time terms of peace will be put forward by the allies. One essential condition must be the restoration of Belgium to its independent national life and free possession of its territory. The great issue is this:

"We wish the nations of Europe to be free and to live their independent lives working out their own form of government and their own form of national development in full liberty whether they be great states or small states. That is our ideal."

The German ideal.
"The German ideal is that the Germans are a superior people to whom all things are lawful and against whom resistance is unlawful and must be put down; that they must establish domination over the nations of the continent, and that all must be subservient to Germany."

"I would rather perish or leave the continent altogether than live in it under such conditions. After this war we and the other nations of Europe must be free to live without the interference, without the clang of armor and the sword continually rattled in the scabbard; heaven continually invoked, and without our policy being dictated by the military domination of Prussia."

We claim for ourselves and together with our allies we will secure that right to live and pursue national existence, not in the shadow of Prussian supremacy, but in the light of equal liberty."

Wilson Sees No Reason for Calling an Extra Session

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Formal announcement was made at the White House today that at present President Wilson has no intention of calling an extra session of the senate or of congress before the beginning of the regular session next December. It was said that the president sees no prospects of any contingency arising which would cause him to alter his present intention.

Italy Stops Rail Freight Traffic With Germany

LONDON, March 22.—The Central News states that the Italian government today stopped all railway freight traffic with Germany by way of Switzerland.

German Writer Gives Description of Recent Battle in the Dardanelles

BERLIN, March 22.—(Via London)—The correspondent at Constantinople of the Wolff bureau telegraphed today a description of the fighting at the Dardanelles on Thursday, March 18, in which the French battleship Bouvet and two British battleships were sent to the bottom. There follows an abridgement of the correspondent's story of this engagement.

The efforts of the allies to force the straits of the Dardanelles reached their climax in an artillery duel on Thursday, March 18, which lasted seven hours. The entire atmosphere around the Turkish forts was darkened by the clouds of smoke from exploding shells and quantities of earth thrown into the air by the projectiles of the French and British warships. The earth trembled for miles around.

The allies entered the straits at 11:30 a. m. and shelled the town of Chanak Hale. Four French and five British warships took part in the beginning. This engagement reached its climax at 1:30 p. m., when the fire of the allies was concentrated upon Fort Hamitieh and the adjacent fortified positions.

The attack of modern marine artillery upon strong land forts presented an interesting as well as a terrifying spectacle. At times the works were completely enveloped in smoke. At 2 o'clock the allies changed their tactics and concentrated their fire upon individual batteries, but it was evident that they found difficulty in getting the range. Many of their shells fell short, cast up pillars of water, or went over the forts to explode in the town.

At 3:15 o'clock when the bombardment was at its hottest, the French battleship Bouvet was seen to be sinking at the stern. A moment later it was going down clear of the water and its bow swung round. Roaring cheers from the Turkish garrisons and forts greeted this sight. Torpedo boats and other craft of the allies hurried to the rescue, but they were successful in saving only a few men.

Having been struck by a mine the Bouvet was above water. One projectile struck its forward deck. A mast also was shot away and hung overboard. It could be seen that the Bouvet when it sank was endeavoring to gain the mouth of the straits.

This, however, was difficult, owing apparently to the fact that its machinery had been damaged.

Shortly after the sinking of the Bouvet, a British ship was struck on the deck amidships and compelled to withdraw from the fighting. Then another British vessel was badly damaged and at 5:45 o'clock was seen to retire under a terrific fire from the Turkish batteries.

This vessel ran in toward the shore. For a full hour the allies tried to protect it with their guns, but it was apparent that it was doomed for destruction. Eight effective hits showed the hopelessness of the situation for this vessel. Then it withdrew toward the mouth of the Dardanelles, which it reached in a few minutes under a hail of shells. The forts continued firing until the allies were out of range.

LEGISLATURE STOPS ON SIXTH OF APRIL

Joint Committee Agrees to Run Nearly Week into the Coming Month.

GIVES BUT TWO WEEKS MORE

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
LINCOLN, March 22.—(Special Telegram.)—The special conference committees of the two branches of the legislature got together this afternoon and agreed on Tuesday, April 6, as the date of adjournment. This means that the clock will be stopped at that time and the two bodies will remain in session until the work is completed, the bills engrossed and signed. All unfinished business will go to the discard probably Friday night or Saturday morning following.

Taylor, Bass and Mockett were the members of the house committee, and Wilson of Frontier, Henry and Lehner represented the senate.

Monday was the fifty-seventh day in the house and the fifty-fourth day in the senate. If sessions are held six days next week and the same number of days next week it will run the house up to a total of sixty-eight legislative days, while the senate will have sixty-five as its record. Two years ago the session was strong out longer than ever before, the house journal showing seventy-one legislative days.

Another step toward closing up the business of the session taken by the house Monday when it unanimously adopted a resolution offered by Mr. Anderson of Boyd that all house bills left in standing committee at 9 a. m. next Thursday shall be indefinitely postponed. Appropriation bills are not included in this rule.

Snowslide Causes Death of Fifteen in British Columbia

VANCOUVER, B. C., March 22.—Fifteen miners were killed and as many more injured by a snowslide which swept away several hundred houses at the Britannia mine at How Sound, B. C., according to a dispatch received here. Besides the hundred houses part of the aerial tramway of the mine was carried away.

The mine level is on the side of a mountain and nearly 5,000 feet above the shore of the sound. The tramway developed extended from the mine to the beach.

Soon after reports of the avalanche were received here a steamer with physicians and nurses left for Howe Sound. Details are lacking, owing, it is believed, to the fact that communication with the mine has been cut off, as telephonic wires are down.

The Britannia is a coal mine employing more than 1,000 men.

Air Attack Upon Calais Repulsed

CALAIS (Via Paris), March 22.—The third Zeppelin attack upon this city, timed at almost the precise hour that the aerial raid was made upon Paris early Sunday morning, was made ineffective because the whirring of the aircraft's motors gave adequate warning of their approach. The Zeppelins came from the direction of the sea, but were repulsed by a vigorous bombardment from French artillery that they retreated before they reached the city. It is supposed that they intended making another effort to drop bombs in the harbor and on the railroad junction.

Enemy Aviator Shells A Town of Baden

BERLIN, March 22.—(Via London)—An enemy aviator appeared Sunday above Mueheim, Baden, and dropped three bombs on the city and the artillery barracks. Three soldiers were wounded.

PRZEMYSL FALLS, DEFENDERS YIELD TO MIGHTY ODDS

Garrison Holding Gateway to Cracow and Hungary Surrenders Without Fight After Long Defense.

BATTLE FAMINE AND DISEASE

Depleted by Scourge, Living on Horseflesh, Surrounded by Superior Numbers.

ALLIED CAPITALS CELEBRATE

The Day's War News

FORTRESS OF PRZEMYSL has surrendered to the Russians. It had been besieged by them for several months.

SIMULTANEOUS offensive movements against the German Austrians and Turkish armies from the Baltic to the Black Sea, have been undertaken by the allies, and in some sections definite progress is reported. In the extreme north the Germans are retreating from Memel, East Prussia, and the Russians are believed to have begun another drive at Tilsit. In Poland there is activity all along the front.

RUSSIAN ARMY in the Caucasus has announced a victory over the Turks in the fighting along the Black Sea coast, in Turkish Armenia.

GERMAN WAR OFFICE announced that the city of Memel, on the Baltic Sea in the northern tip of Prussia, had been retaken from the Russian force which captured it last week, following a battle near the city.

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE and Belgium were of much the same character as recently. Fighting continues in northern France near Arras in Champagne and in the Argonne.

LONDON, March 22.—The long investment of the Mid-Galician fortress of Przemysl has ended. Depleted by disease, subsisting on horse flesh and surrounded by a superior force of Russians, the garrison has surrendered to the besieging army after a defense lasting many months, which up to the present is recorded as Austria's most noteworthy contribution to the war.

Petrograd, London and Paris are celebrating the event tonight—Petrograd and Paris in the spontaneous manner characteristic of those cities; London with silent and grim satisfaction which is the Britons' way.

Call It Event of War.
The newspapers assert that the fall of the fortress marks the most important capture of the war, not excepting Antwerp, in that it not only releases considerable Russian forces which can be thrown into the fluctuating struggle in the Carpathians, but opens the door to Cracow and the plains of Hungary.

Yields Without Fight.
PETROGRAD (Via London), March 22.—The Przemysl garrison, which capitulated to the Russian army today, surrendered without a fight. The hoisting of the white flag over this fortress, which was said to be on the point of surrender on a number of occasions, caused little surprise, as it was generally known that it was in a terribly weakened condition, without food or ammunition and its endurance was only a question of days.

War office advises report that nine Austrian generals were taken, more than 500 officers and 50,000 men. The Russian general commanding the investing army has been decorated with St. George's cross.

A heavy snow storm failed to check the enthusiastic demonstrations in which (Continued on Page Three, Column Five.)

Rock Island Minority Not Allowed Access To Company's Books

NEW YORK, March 22.—John J. Quinn, vice president of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway company, and Robert L. Forbes, its transfer agent, were discharged when they appeared before a police magistrate today on summons charging that they refused to permit stockholders to inspect the company's stock transfer books. The defendants were summoned on January 23 upon complaint of Warren C. Crane, a member of the so-called "splitter" committee, representing the minority stockholders.

The magistrate declared that in his opinion it did not constitute a violation of the law for an officer of a foreign corporation in charge of stock books within this state to refuse to allow stockholders to see the share book.

The demands of the minority stockholders were prompted by a desire to secure proxies to vote at the coming annual meeting in Chicago.

Three Children Are Burned to Death

PROVO, Utah, March 22.—Three young children of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Riding were burned to death in bed last night when the parents were at church in Provo, Utah, near here. Two other children of the family escaped from the house. The five children were put in bed and a lamp left burning in the room. It is supposed the lamp exploded.

Shipping Trust Is Out of Funds; May Be Receiver

NEW YORK, March 22.—E. E. Parvin, secretary of the International Mercantile Marine company, which operates the White Star, Red Star Atlantic Transport and other trans-Atlantic steamship lines, issued today a statement concerning reports that a receiver might be appointed for the company's affairs.

"The International Mercantile Marine company, not being in funds of October 3, last, the date upon which the interest began to accrue on its 4 1/2 per cent bonds, took advantage of the provision of the mortgage which allowed six months' grace on payment of the coupons before the company could be declared in default. This time will not be up till April 1. Any action as to a receivership will not be taken, if at all till April 1."

"If a receiver is asked for it would not mean bankruptcy, for despite the war the International Mercantile Marine company has been doing a good business."

The bond issue upon which the payment of interest was deferred last October is for \$53,000,000.

Telephone Tyler 1000

THE OMAHA BEE

"Everybody Reads Bee Want Ads."

The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Tuesday.
For Omaha, Council Bluffs and Vicinity
Fair, no important change in temperature.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday.	
Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	29
6 a. m.	29
7 a. m.	30
8 a. m.	30
9 a. m.	31
10 a. m.	32
11 a. m.	32
12 m.	32
1 p. m.	32
2 p. m.	32
3 p. m.	32
4 p. m.	32
5 p. m.	32
6 p. m.	32
7 p. m.	32
8 p. m.	32

Comparative Local Record.

1915. 1914. 1913. 1912.				
Highest yesterday	32	32	32	32
Lowest yesterday	29	29	29	29
Mean temperature	30	30	30	30
Temperature and precipitation departure from the normal at Omaha since March 1, and compared with the past two years:				
Normal temperature	32	32	32	32
Deficiency for the day	3	3	3	3
Total deficiency since March 1, 1915, 1914	102	102	102	102
Normal precipitation	65	65	65	65
Deficiency for the day	35	35	35	35
Total precipitation since Mar. 1, 1915, 1914	124	124	124	124
Excess since March 1, 1915, 1914	59	59	59	59
Deficiency for cor. period, 1914, 1913	124	124	124	124
Excess for cor. period, 1913, 1912	124	124	124	124

L. A. WELSH, Local Forecaster.