

Rogue River Courier

DAILY EDITION

VOL. VII, No. 89.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1917

WHOLE NUMBER 1948.

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

CYCLONE IN OKLAHOMA KILLS 8

School House Is Wrecked By Twister, and Eight Children Are Reported Killed In Pittsburg County

Tulsa, Okla., Jan. 4.—A country school house seven miles from Blocker, Pittsburg county, Oklahoma, and about 25 miles from McAlester, was completely wrecked and eight persons killed by a cyclone today, according to reports this afternoon from McAlester. Telephone wires are down and communication with parties sent from McAlester to give aid is impossible. All of those reported killed are children, five girls and three boys.

ALLIES PROGRAM NOT YET ACCEPTABLE TO GREECE

London, Jan. 4.—Indications that the Greek situation is by no means settled were given in despatches from Athens today. King Constantine's government, it was said, had demurred to granting complete acquiescence in all allies' demands because of "certain currents of public opinion."

The allied blockade of Greece is still in force and will remain so until the Greek government complies with all demands.

WOMEN STUDENTS AT NAVIGATION SCHOOL

San Francisco, Jan. 4.—Women have invaded the science of navigation. For the first time in its history, the free public navigation school is to have students of the gentler sex. Ranged in the class alongside middle aged seamen and ambitious youths, will be Miss Barbara Clay and Vivian Anastasia Foster, who have matriculated for the year and a half course to qualify as competent mariners.

CONSIDER NIAGARA FALLS POWER LEASE

Washington, Jan. 4.—The house today took up the Wadsworth bill, authorizing the secretary of war to lease to the companies already using Niagara Falls power to the entire twenty thousand cubic feet of water. All grants expire automatically March 4 and in the meantime are revocable at will. An amendment by Congressman Mann providing an annual charge of \$100 per year per cubic foot diverted by foreign companies was adopted.

GERMANY IS PREPARING NOTE ON WAR CAUSE

Amsterdam, Jan. 4.—Rebuttal of certain statements as to the war's cause and its developments in an explanatory note to neutral nations is reported to be under consideration by the German government according to Berlin advices today.

Berlin is strongly adverse to permitting a number of claims and statements made by the allies to go unchallenged, in official documents.

NOTHING DOING ALONG THE WESTERN FRONT

Paris, Jan. 4.—A calm night along the whole western front was reported in today's official statement.

REPORT OF NEW REPLY TO ALLIES BY THE KAISER

London, Jan. 3.—Persistent reports from Italy and Switzerland today that Germany is to make a reply to the allied refusal of peace terms and in that reply will list its demands and concessions, aroused the great interest here today.

Lugano, Switzerland, had reports of this nature. From Rome came news that the newspaper Corriere Del Ticino asserted its receipt of information that Germany was preparing a counter-reply which "would be less ambiguous as to terms."

Both of the reports have strengthened the belief recorded in despatches of yesterday, that Germany is now on the brink of a social and economic breakdown and that her peace proffers come through absolute necessity. One theory which found support in certain quarters today was that United States Ambassador Gerard's conference with Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, reported yesterday, had to do with a further German note.

Reply of the allies to President Wilson's note is receiving its final "polishing off." Probably it will be forwarded to America within the next 48 hours. Apparently the governments concerned are anxious to avoid any of the criticism as to phraseology which was framed in the allies' reply to the Germany proffer.

RUSSIAN REPORT TAKING 600 GERMAN PRISONERS

Petrograd, Jan. 4.—Capture of 600 prisoners, three cannons and mine throwers and bombing mortars from Teutonic forces on the heights near Botocov, Roumania, was announced by the war office today.

REPORT GERMAN COMMERCE RAIDER

New York, Jan. 4.—Reports of a German commerce raider in the Atlantic were given added color today by stories of officers and passengers who arrived on the French liner Espagne. They told of the ship's changing its course suddenly when entering the bay of Biscay, after having sighted an unidentified vessel at night.

All lights aboard were extinguished when the unknown ship began asking the liner's name and destination. Full speed was ordered. The liner pursued a zig-zag course for some time, finally losing her pursuer astern.

In addition to the customary notices regarding lifeboats on the Espagne, additional notices gave diagrams of the boats. Each passenger's seat in lifeboats was identified in the charts.

LEAK CHARGE PROBE STARTS TOMORROW

Washington, Jan. 4.—Investigation by the house rules committee of the note leak charges will start tomorrow with Representative Wood, Indiana, as the first witness, the rules committee announced today, following a two-hour session.

Wood introduced the original resolution demanding the probe of reports that "high administration officials or relatives of high officials profited in Wall street through advance information of the president's note to belligerents."

Thomas W. Lawson, who charged there was a \$60,000,000 clean-up in Wall street, will be summoned by wire.

TEDDY BUSY WITH THE BIG STICK

Rough Riding Colonel Still Out Opposing President and Will Fight Against Wilson Endorsement

New York, Jan. 4.—Republican senators will have the support of Colonel Roosevelt in their fight against President Wilson's notes to belligerents. Two months of silence have not resulted in any loss of Roosevelt's power of invective, nor has the result of November 7 changed his unyielding antagonism to Wilson, as shown by a vigorous statement by the colonel today attacking Wilson's note and its handling.

"Fog of obscurity," "profoundly mischievous," "profoundly immoral," "wickedly false," "callous and immoral falsehood," "preposterous absurdity," and "nervously backing away," were some of the phraseological bombshells with which the former president embellished his attack on Wilson.

He announced his support of Senator Lodge's fight against endorsement by the senate of the president's peace note. The colonel's sarcastic floodgates were unloosed at the idea of Secretary Lansing interpreting the Wilson note in two different ways within six hours, representing, he said, a rather longer interval than usual between the "changes of mind of the administration."

Roosevelt held the phrase "circular note" was correct in application to the Wilson peace message. The adjective "circular" can be accepted with both its explicit and implicit implied significance, Roosevelt declared. He savagely assailed the statement that both sides were fighting for the same thing as "palpably false," "wickedly false," "not only a falsehood, but a wicked and callous falsehood," and cited again Germany's Belgian oppressions.

"But perhaps the most preposterous absurdity," he continued, "is the statement that the United States is ready and eager to guarantee the peace of the world. The spectacle of the president trying, by the aid of Messrs. Daniels and Baker to guarantee the peace of any single nation under the sun against a single powerful and resolute foe, is as comic as anything that was ever written by Artemus Ward.

"Let the president keep the promise he made in The Hague convention and let him bend all his energies to secure the ideal of universal, obligatory military training for our young men before, in the interest of the nation that has wronged Belgium and murdered our citizens he make promises which he could not fulfill and fulminate threats which, when his own secretary of state takes them seriously so frightens Wall street that the same secretary is forced immediately to announce that his interpretation was mistaken."

BRITISH FIRM UNDERBIDS AMERICAN COMPANIES

Washington, Jan. 4.—In spite of increasing demand upon British munitions plants, a British company has underbid American companies by a wide margin for the manufacture of armor piercing, 16 and 14 inch projectiles for the American navy.

The lowest bidder to the navy this afternoon is Hadfields, Limited, which agreed to furnish 8,000, 16-inch projectiles in 16 months at \$513 and 4,500 14-inch projectiles in 11 months for \$358 each.

NO PITILESS PUBLICITY FOR WILSON

President Now to Conduct Mexican Diplomacy With Secrecy, Following Break-Up of Peace Commission

Washington, Jan. 4.—The administration today added Mexican matters to its list of diplomatic moves shrouded in secrecy.

President Wilson himself is now in full charge of the Mexican problem, the American peace commissioners having informed him that its work for a troop withdrawal and border protection protocol was fruitless.

While the Americans plan a meeting with their Mexican colleagues, this was understood to be merely a formal farewell. Thereafter, according to official indications, the president will move to send Ambassador Fletcher to Mexico City, take steps for withdrawal of Pershing's forces from Mexico, and then handle the situation minus any peace commission.

VILLA PREPARES NEW GOVERNMENT

El Paso, Jan. 4.—Adherents of Francisco Villa are already arranging details of a Mexican provisional government to be set up by the bandit chief. Officials have been appointed to write laws and a tentative seat of government has been chosen, according to information in the hands of United States agents here today. Copies of a new proclamation issued by Villa have been secured by federal agents here and are now being translated.

Heavy fighting is still in progress at Horcasitas, about 30 miles south of Chihuahua City, according to reports obtained today by federal department agents.

Villa is fighting his way northward, the reports indicate. Both sides are using artillery and losses have been large. United States agents are investigating recruiting in this city for revolutionary bands of Mexicans, following receipt of a letter by a Mexican from Quevedo, leader of bands now hovering below Juarez. In the letter it was admitted that 28 men recruited in this vicinity eluded government agents, crossed the border below El Paso and are now awaiting orders from Villa to cut the Mexican Central railway line between Juarez and the northern capital when Villa starts his attack upon Chihuahua City.

BRITISH TRANSPORT HAS BEEN TORPEDOED

London, Jan. 4.—The transport Invernia was submerged in the Mediterranean and 150 of those on board her are missing, the admiralty announced today.

The Invernia is listed as a vessel of 14,278 tons, built in 1900 and was the property of the Cunard line, registered at Liverpool.

LAWSON "DUCKS" HOUSE PROBE OF LEAK SCANDAL

New York, Jan. 4.—Thomas W. Lawson is sailing for Europe Saturday and will not be able to tell the house rules committee what he knows about the leak to Wall street, he advised Speaker Clark today.

DANGER IN WILSON PEACE NOTE SAYS SENATOR LODGE

Washington, Jan. 4.—Senator Lodge, republican, this afternoon interpreted President Wilson's note to belligerents as involving dangerous interference in European politics.

Lodge warned the senate not to endorse the message unless President Wilson openly asks it, and especially not until he takes the senate into his confidence. Assailing the administration for the second time in an many days, he again pointed especially to the secrecy surrounding all steps that have been taken.

Senator Lewis, democrat, held Lodge's interpretation to be unwarranted. Lewis viewed the note more as a justifiable mediation step.

These opposite views were aired in sharp debate in the senate over the Hitchcock resolution to endorse Wilson's note. Lodge was bitter in counselling against senate action "in the dark." He expressed extreme disapproval of the fact that the senate is not in the president's confidence. He said he felt the United States ought not to try to put a hand in peace affairs, in view of the entente's expressed temper toward peace suggestions, and he suggested that a world peace enforcement league, as hinted at by the administration, would mean throwing the Monroe doctrine overboard.

"The United States may find itself without a friend in the world if it meddles further," Lodge held. Incidentally he tempered his yesterday's attack on German Ambassador von Bernstorff.

Wilson was merely "offering the offices of this government," Lewis said, in defense of the president.

Lewis declared President Wilson's secrecy in diplomacy was preferable to President Roosevelt's "diplomacy," as shown in the seizure of Panama with "a bludgeon."

TOURISTS TO SPEND MILLIONS IN 1917

San Francisco, Jan. 4.—Northern California hosts and hostesses are beginning today to prepare for \$27,000,000 tourist money which is expected to pour into the state soon. Here's the way the railroads figure the amount:

Average number of first class passengers coming into the state each day, 300.

Average amount spent by each tourist during his stay, \$20 a day.

Average length of sojourn at \$20 a day, 30 days.

During the tourist season, 45,000 will visit northern California, hence, the \$27,000,000.

These are the figures of railway traffic managers. Hotel men who are doing the same sort of figuring place the amount at \$30,000,000.

Indications are that the 1917 tourist business in California will exceed all previous years except the exposition year. The heaviest travel will come during the next six weeks.

1,000 PRISONERS TAKEN WHEN CITY OF MACIN FELL

Berlin, via Sayville, Jan. 4.—About 1,000 prisoners were brought in when Macin and Ylyla were captured yesterday, the Berlin official statement announced today.

"Dobrudja is, thus cleared of the enemy except a narrow strip toward Galatz, where there are still some Russian rear guard hordes," the statement said, adding that German and Bulgarian soldiers "shoulder-to-shoulder" captured the towns which were tenaciously defended.

APPROVAL OF NOTE AGAIN PUT OFF

Senate Delays Action on Endorsement of Wilson Peace Move While Senator Works Valedictory

Washington, Jan. 4.—When the senate recessed about 4:30 this afternoon, instead of adjourning on the motion of Senator Hitchcock, it meant that Senator Works would continue his valedictory address and that the note endorsement resolution would not be brought up until Works finishes. He has about two hours more to speak.

Immediately upon Works' conclusion, Senator Hitchcock's motion to discuss his endorsement resolution will be in order.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Memories of Tillman's philippic against President Roosevelt were recalled today when Senator John Downey Works, who will be succeeded by Hiram Johnson, delivered his valedictory today.

Works declared President Wilson "has descended to the level of a lobbyist," has "flagrantly and unwarrantedly assumed positions that do not belong to the chief executive," and "has driven congress in a surrender of its conscientious convictions."

"Never in the entire history of the country," said Works, "has the president so completely and defiantly usurped the law-making powers of the government and dictated and forced the course of congress and never has congress been so submissive or subservient to a power outside itself.

"Never in all our history have we come so near a despotic government by a dictator as during the last four years. His descent to the level of a common lobbyist has been made infinitely worse by the fact that as such his office gave him a power far exceeding that of all other lobbyists.

"If this kind of executive is persisted in and submitted to by congress then our government is no longer a government by the people, it is despotism worse than any known monarchy."

Works also took a shot at the senate. He said members were careless regarding attendance.

"The experience of a senator who addressed that body when but four members and the vice-president, all reading newspapers, were present," said Works, "shows just how much attention some members of congress pay to business."

HONOR MAN FAILS TO RETURN "HOME"

Lansing, Kas., Jan. 4.—Tex Schappner, honor man, editor of the prison newspaper and exponent of the honor system here, had not "come home" yet, today.

Schappner, with sixteen other honor men, was given a holiday parole which was up at midnight January 2. Sixteen returned a few hours ahead of time. Schappner, whose home is Galveston, Texas, is still missing, and prison officials were considering today advertising for him as an "escaped convict."

F. S. Brand, of Medford, was a Grants Pass visitor today.

S. E. Duncumun, of Kerby, and Pete Payne, of Waldo, were Grants Pass visitors today.