

New Haven, Feb. 20—For Bridgeport and vicinity: Fair and much colder tonight and Thursday.

The Bridgeport Times

and Evening Farmer

VOL. 54—NO. 44—EST. 1790

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20, 1918

Classified advertising in this newspaper is effective, no matter what you may desire to advertise. Try it once and see.

PRICE TWO CENTS

GERMAN TROOPS PUSH PAST DVINSK; TEUTONIC PEOPLE PROTEST INVASION

ARABIAN TROOPS JOINING ENGLISH IN HOLY LAND

TURKS IN PALESTINE FACING NEW FOE, DECLARES SECRETARY BAKER IN WEEKLY REVIEW—ALLIED FORCES GETTING READY FOR EXPECTED OFFENSIVE BY HUNS.

Washington, Feb. 20—After extensive preparations silently and systematically carried on, it is apparent that both the Germans and the Allies are ready for the long expected offensive in the west, Secretary Baker says today in his review of military operations for the week ending Feb. 16.

"While there have been outwardly no new developments in the military situation in the west during the period under review," says the communique, "yet it is apparent that both the enemy and the Allies, after extensive preparations, which have been silently and systematically carried on, are ready for battle. The Germans have recently withdrawn a number of their veteran front units from the first line trenches and are busily training them in mobile warfare.

"According to advices received, the German general staff hopes that by massing a large number of these picked shock battalions, which have been intensively trained, they may deliver a crushing blow.

"The bulk of the German forces are now assembled in the west. But a large number of these units are wholly untrained in the method of western front warfare which differs radically from that conducted along other fronts. Furthermore, the German higher command realize fully that their forces will meet with far more difficult tactical obstacles than any hitherto encountered by an attacking army. A break through was possible in Russia only after the morale of the Russians had been undermined; the same was true in Italy and we witnessed how speedily the Italian line was mended.

"During the week there has been much activity of a military character along the entire western front.

"As has already been announced, in Lorraine a segment of the line is entirely under the control of our forces. Along our front patrol encounters were numerous. The Germans undertook a raid against our positions and succeeded in inflicting a few casualties. A small American patrol, while scouting in No Man's Land, was ambushed by the enemy.

"The weather was very rainy during the first part of the week and our troops were busy manning the pumps in an effort to keep their trenches dry. Later clear weather prevailed and hostile air craft made frequent flights to reconnoiter our positions. A marked improvement in our anti-aircraft barrage is reported. Artillery duels took place and the Germans showered our lines with gas shells, which, however, caused no casualties owing to efficient gas mask protection.

"In Champagne, units of American artillery participated in an engagement undertaken by French forces. This operation was the most important of the week in the west. After

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SIXTY MACHINISTS WALK OUT OF ORDNANCE PLANT

MEN CLAIM THAT ONE OF WORKERS WAS DISCHARGED THIS MORNING BECAUSE HE HAD REFUSED TO WORK OVERTIME—MADE TO WORK 10 HOURS A DAY.

Because one of the machinists employed at the Liberty Ordnance Co. plant refused to work overtime and was discharged this morning about 60 machinists, toolmakers and inspectors on the day shift walked out at 8 o'clock today.

EARTHQUAKE KILLS 10 SCORE IN SWATOW

Amoy, China, Feb. 20—Reports reaching here today from the districts visited by earthquakes last Wednesday show some loss of life and heavy damage resulting. Two hundred deaths were reported from Swatow. Many persons were injured. One-fifth of the buildings, it was said, were destroyed and the rest were damaged. Great damage was reported from Chong Fue and delta towns.

BERLIN APPROVES UKRAINE TREATY

Amsterdam, Feb. 20.—The Federal Council of the German Empire, a dispatch from Berlin says, has approved the peace treaty with the Ukraine.

HALF TON COAL LOTS TO PUBLIC ON NEXT MONDAY

The family portion of one-quarter ton of coal may be increased to one-half ton on Monday, according to Fuel Administrator Carl P. Siemon, who said today, "We will do it if the present weather continues and the coal keeps coming in." Approximately 3,500 tons was added to the city's supply by arrivals last night.

"The situation has let up tremendously," declared the administrator, "and shipments seem to be coming with greater regularity." Several large loads are reported to be headed for Bridgeport and large train shipments are expected today.

WITHDRAW TRIAL OF SLANDER SUIT

Owing to illness of some of the parties the suit of Julia Fleischer against Jacob Weinstein, in which damages of \$5,000 are claimed for alleged slanderous remarks, has been withdrawn from the trial list in the Superior Court for the present. The case was assigned for trial this morning before Judge William M. Maithe and a jury.

CORONER PHELAN AWAY.

Coroner John J. Phelan left this afternoon for the West on a business trip to Chicago and St. Louis which will last for several weeks. During his absence the business of the coroner's office will be cared for by Judge Henry C. Stevenson, deputy coroner.

Proposed \$2,000,000 Bond Issue To Be Halted By Priority Board

TROLLEY BRAKES FAIL TO WORK; OFFICER CRIPPLED

TRAFFIC POLICEMAN JOHN RYAN KNOCKED DOWN BY CAR AT STATE AND MAIN STREETS—THROWN 12 FEET, BREAKING RIGHT KNEE AND INJURING HEAD.

Traffic Policeman John Ryan, was hurled twelve feet, had his right knee broken, his left leg badly lacerated and his right arm and head injured, when brakes on a Connecticut Company's trolley car, "1747", in charge of Motorman Daraly McClosch, failed to operate this morning at State and Main streets.

The accident happened a few minutes before nine o'clock while the policeman was directing traffic at the intersection of State and Main streets. He had just closed the traffic along Main street and was giving his attention to the vehicles on State when the trolley in charge of McClosch, coming north on Main street struck him.

According to the story, told by the motorman, he tried to stop his car at the dead line, but his brakes refused to work, and although he shouted a warning to the injured policeman, the latter failed to hear him owing to the fact that the trolley vestibule was closed and there was no time to open the front window shield.

An automobile belonging to the U. M. C. Company happened to be near at the time of the accident and Sergeant Connerly, who had come to the assistance of the injured policeman, carried him to this machine and to the Emergency Hospital. Dr. J. F. Keegan attended the minor injuries and then had Ryan removed to St. Vincent's hospital where he now lies awaiting an X-ray examination of his injured knee cap.

From what doctors say there is little chance of the policeman ever resuming his duties on the force again, as the chances are he will be permanently crippled.

ALLIED SHIPPING SITUATION GROWS BETTER STEADILY

Washington, Feb. 20.—The low point of available Allied shipping has been passed, two or three weeks earlier than officials expected, and confidence was expressed today that the amount of shipping available for the future would increase steadily.

Several factors were said to have contributed to advancing the amount of available tonnage. Included among them were the increased efficiency of the offensive against the submarines and the beginning of deliveries from American shipyards.

The transfer of neutral shipping to trade outside of the war zone, thereby releasing Allied tonnage for transatlantic service, also contributed to the increase of available bottoms. Improvement in harbor defenses and facilities in France, so as to facilitate the unloading of transports, likewise tended to speed up the release of ships.

Food Administrator Hoover in a statement today declared that all patriotic ship workers in the public service reserve. No amount of increased food production, decreased food use or food substitution and saving will help unless ships for sending food across the Atlantic are available, he said.

RESUME SERVICE BY WATER LINES

Water transportation between this city and New York has been resumed after much delay and a cargo by way of the Merchants' Line was received in this city this morning, the first shipment in two months. The "Seaboard" of the Merchant Line docked this morning.

The freight service of the New England Navigation Company has been resumed and the "City of Brooklyn" is making daily trips between this city and New York.

CORPORATION TAX BLANKS RECEIVED

Blanks for federal returns of corporations have been received in this city according to information at the federal income tax office this morning. These were mailed from the office of James J. Walsh at Hartford and as soon as they are made out will be returned to that office. The stream of applicants to the individual returns continues and a large number are accommodated by the federal officers this morning.

HOLDING UP DRAFT FOR NEW LAW

Second Conscription Awaits Passage of Pending Legislation.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Secretary Baker authorized the statement today that no date had been selected for the beginning of the second draft.

The government's disposition not to disturb the labor situation, particularly on farms at the planting season, is one of the factors entering the situation.

The provost marshal general's office, it is understood, is disinclined to go ahead with the second draft until congress has perfected the law by pending amendments to change the basis of apportionment and to authorize the president to call the military service men skilled in industry and agriculture regardless of previous classification.

The remaining increments of the first draft will begin to move forward to the camps beginning this week. It is probable that next month local boards may be asked to forward small increments necessary to succeed men going overseas, but the expected summons of half a million men will be later.

Plans for the second draft include calling for a month until the second quota is completed. In that way officials expect to avoid much of the confusion that accompanied the first call. The men will report in a steady stream and be assimilated into the military machine before the next lot is received.

It has been definitely settled that the first contingents will be used to fill vacancies in National Guard divisions caused by the withdrawal of men for the organization of special technical units. Similar vacancies in the National Army divisions will have been filled by that time from the final increment of the first draft.

BROKE CONTRACT ALLEGATION IN BUILDERS' SUIT

Breach of contract for doing the work of lathing and plastering the new Colonial apartments at State St. and West Ave., is the allegation in a suit for \$7,000 being tried in the Superior court before Judge William M. Maithe and a jury. The complainants are the Lenox Construction Co. against the Colonial Construction Co. The latter owns the buildings.

According to the complaint a contract was made March 21 last for doing this work. The total price to be \$9,500. Work was commenced, and carried on until June 23, when it was suspended because the plumbing work had not been done. The Lenox Co. was ready to resume July 9, but at that time was informed the contract was at an end. Only \$235 of the money due had been paid.

BOMBARD BELGIAN TARGETS

London, Feb. 20.—Naval airmen continue to bomb docks, aerodromes and other targets in Belgium and have accounted for four German aeroplanes, the Admiralty announced in a statement last night.

Action Would Be Viewed as Highly Unpatriotic of City.

PLAN TO INCREASE DEBT MEETS SNAG

Government Discouraging All Municipal Plans to Issue Bonds.

The city administration's plan again to increase Bridgeport's indebtedness by the issuance of bonds for sewers and warrents will be frowned upon by the Priority Board at Washington when proposals are submitted for approval. The Priority Board recently issued a request to states, municipalities and banks asking them to refrain from using bonds aggregating more than \$300,000 during the war. The city plans to float a bond issue of nearly \$2,000,000.

Before entering the market, bonds should be approved by the Congressional committee, financiers advise. This committee gives approval when necessity is shown. Despite the remark of City Auditor Bernard Keating today that the city might be able to prove the need of sewers and warrents, it is learned from an authentic source by The Times today that members of the Priority Board feel that conditions in this city do not warrant the saddling of the proposed issue and regard it as needless extravagance at this time.

Action of the Board of Apportionment yesterday in cutting more than \$1,000,000 from the requisition of the sewer committee and slicing more than \$200,000 from the Streets and Sidewalks committee, clearly indicates that the administration plans to float another bond issue.

Although the government has no power over states and municipalities in the matter of issuing bonds, the request is along patriotic and thrift lines and as a result many cities throughout the country have withdrawn proposals for bonds.

It is the government's intention to discourage the sale of municipal or state bonds during war times, setting the city administration persists in its desire to expand the city's indebtedness, it would not be able to sell the bonds at less than five per cent. discount.

The city of Cleveland recently advertised proposals for bonds at 4-1/2 per cent., but there were no bidders and a review of the Daily Bond Issue shows that none are being sold at less than 5 per cent.

MANY DEFENDANTS PLEAD GUILTY IN SUPERIOR CT.

CRIMINAL SESSION OPENS THIS MORNING WITH PRAYER BY REV. W. H. JEPSON—JUDGE JOHN P. KELLOGG IS PRESIDING—BABY DOLL MAY BE TRIED.

An unusually large number of offenders pleaded guilty today in the Criminal Superior Court which opened this morning, with Judge John P. Kellogg of Waterbury on the bench. Prayer was offered by the Rev. W. H. Jepson of St. Luke's church.

NOT REPORTING ALL HOLDINGS OF ALIEN PROPERTY

Washington, Feb. 20.—A. Mitchell Palmer, alien property custodian, urged all banks, trust companies, savings banks, United States attorneys and internal revenue collectors today to report at once any enemy owned property known to them.

Mr. Palmer says many persons, including banks and trust companies, have failed to report enemy property and he has ordered an investigation.

Nine units of the Pennsylvania Reserve Militia are scheduled to be mustered into the State service soon.

SLAVIC MESSENGER RUSHES TO FRONT WITH OLIVE TWIG

HUNS TAKE 2,500 PRISONERS AND SEIZE RAILROAD ROLLING STOCK—UNREST GROWS AMONG WORKERS OF CENTRAL POWERS OVER DRIVE—AUSTRIAN PUBLIC DEMANDS THAT HOSTILITIES STOP.

LATE WAR BULLETINS

Amsterdam, Feb. 20.—In an address to the lower house of the reichsrath in Vienna Dr. Von Seydler, the Austrian premier, declared that under the peace treaty with the Ukraine there had been placed at the disposal of the Central powers the Ukraine's surplus of agricultural products. This surplus, the premier asserted, was greater than the Central Powers could transport.

London, Feb. 20.—German workingmen may rebel against the resumption of war against Russia.

Opinion expressed in newspapers of Germany is strongly against the new invasion of Slavic country. Murmurings in Austria are growing more distinct daily and the public is demanding a statement from Count Czernin assuring them that Austria-Hungary regards her war against Russia ended.

In the meantime the invading German forces have advanced to the northeast and east of Dvinsk, the German War Office announced today.

The text of the statement adds that 2,500 prisoners, several hundred guns and a great amount of rolling stock were taken.

MAY CLASSIFY RAILROAD MEN AS ESSENTIALS

Washington, Feb. 20.—Deferred classification for railroad employees is under consideration between the war department and the railroad administration, it became known today.

The war department objects to giving special consideration to railroad employees as a class, insisting that the case of each man should be considered individually as to whether he is indispensable.

The policy does not satisfy the railroad administration, which contends that few railroad men are actually indispensable and that unless some uniform action is prescribed local exemption boards may be inclined to refuse deferred classification to thousands of necessary employees who have no dependents.

Nearly 500,000 railroad men are within the draft age. But the actual number that would be affected by such a ruling is estimated at less than 200,000.

The German Independent Socialists are arranging for a demonstrative strike in the munition factories of the empire beginning March 1, according to information received from Berlin and forwarded by the Amsterdam correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Co.

Gen. Hoffmann, the German military representative at the Brest-Litovsk peace conference, has telegraphed to the Bolshevik government for a written authentication of the Russian wireless peace message sent yesterday to Berlin. Gen. Hoffmann, according to a Russian official statement today, says the authentication must be sent to the German command in Dvinsk.

The Russian official statement says a messenger from Petrograd is sent to the German command in Dvinsk.

The Russian official statement says a messenger from Petrograd is sent to Dvinsk today with the original peace message, which was signed by Premier Lenin and Foreign Minister Trotsky.

When the Brest-Litovsk negotiations closed all talk in Germany was of peace. The school children were given a holiday and joy bells were rung. The public apparently did not discriminate between peace with the Ukraine and with Great Russia, but acclaimed it as a general peace with Russia.

George Bernhard in the Vossische Zeitung emphasizes this point and wants an explanation of who was responsible for this disappointment. The Socialist Vorwarts takes the same line and says:

"The more we meddle in Russian affairs the more we get away from peace. What must be done is to stick to the defense of our own soil and to make peace wherever possible without annexation or forcible amputation." (Continued on Page 2.)

HUTCHESON SEES U. S. WAGE BOARD

Washington, Feb. 20.—Newport News ship yard workers today asked the wage adjustment board to apply the recent Delaware yard wage award to the Newport News district.

The board conferred today with President Hutcheson of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and took up the demands of carpenters in the New York and Baltimore districts.

RULE TOMORROW ON HEATLESS DAY

Boston, Feb. 20.—Philip L. Spalding, recently commissioned as lieutenant colonel in the aviation service, and assigned to duty at the front in France, was re-elected president of the New England Telephone & Telegraph Co. at the annual meeting today. All other officers were re-elected. Matt B. Jones, vice-president, is acting president, while Mr. Spalding is engaged in war service.

TWENTY YEARS FOR EVADER OF DRAFT

Camp Funston, Kan., Feb. 20.—George Yeager, 23 years old, of Troy, Kansas, convicted here recently by court martial on charges of evading the draft, was sentenced today to 20 years in the Federal prison in Leavenworth.