Brief City News

Have Root Print It—New Beacon Press.

For Xmas—Everything electrical Burgess-Granden Co.

Says Couldn't Sleep—Hans Eggers, suing Florence Eggers for divorce, alleges she kept him awake nights.

U. S. Grant Post Meeting—Regular meeting of U. S. Grant post will be held next Tuesday night in Memorial hall, court house.

Stores to Be Open at Night—Beginning December 17, Monday, and continuing until December 24, the retail stores of Omaha will remain open at night until 9 o'clock to take care of the holiday rush.

Visit in Omaha—Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Pitman of Chadron, Neb., visited in Omaha several days on their way home from Indianapolis, Ind., where they visited their son, Sergeant Pitman, stationed at Fort Harrison.

Discuss Socialist Party—The subject for discussion at the socialist party open forum Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock will be "The Socialist Party: A Force or a Farce." The speaker is Eugene M. Konecky, Fifth floor Lyric building.

Police Confiscate Beer—Two pints of beer were taken from C. C. Greene, 2528 Patrick avenue, when he was arrested Saturday morning at Twenty-sixth and Lake streets. This is the first beer to be confiscated in several months, according to police.

State Bank of Omaha, corner Sixteenth and Harney streets, pays 4 per cent on time deposits. Three per cent on savings accounts. All deposits in this bank are protected by the depositors' guarantee fund of the state of Nebraska.—Adv.

Glass Called to Buffalo—M. A. Glass, who has been manager of the R. G. Dunn company here for several years, has been called to Buffalo, N. Y., to take charge of the office there. Buffalo is his "home town" and he has been away from it for 25 years.

Holdup Victim on Way—B. F. Bingham of Logan, Utah, held up and robbed by two men at Fifteenth and Jackson streets November 22, is on his way to Omaha from Ogden, Utah, to identify, if possible Nick Larkovic, 1308 South Twelfth street, charged with the crime. Larkovic was arrested Tuesday.

Truth Center to Meet—Truth Center will meet at the Metaphysical library, Assembly hall, City National bank building, Sixteenth and Harney streets, at 11 a. m. Sunday. The speaker will be Lulie M. Cooke of New York and Chicago and the subject "The Greatest Gift." Week day meetings Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2:30 p. m.

Fine Fireplace Goods at Sunderland's.

BLAMES U. S. FOOD HEADS FOR LACK OF SUGAR IN EAST

Washington, Dec. 15.—Blame for the sugar shortage in the east was charged to the food administration's fixed import price by Claus A. Spreckels, president of the Federal Sugar Refining company, testifying today before the senate investigating committee. He asserted that raw sugar from Cuba was passing through New York for Canada, where refiners are permitted to pay higher prices.

Mr. Spreckels, who said his refinery was closed because of lack of supplies, also charged that Earl A. Babst, president of the American Sugar Refining company, and George M. Rolph, general manager of the California-Hawaiian Sugar Refining company, in their petitions as agents of the food administration had been unduly active in getting raw supplies for the American company. Mr. Babst is chairman of the international sugar committee, created by the administration, which fixed the price to be paid for raw sugar coming from outside the United States or its territories at $6.99 a hundred pounds. Mr. Rolph is head of the food administration's sugar division and a member of the international committee.

HOW PERSHING'S ARMY AT FRONT GOT 'BUM' SHELLS

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 15.—Charles Sholla, a former employe of the Frankford arsenal, was held by a federal commissioner today charged with having failed properly to set the fuses of shells intended for General Pershing's army.

William Lepowski, another former employe, was held on a similar charge last week.

Sholla and Lepowski admitted today that they left off certain paper wrappings which made the shells defective, because they could turn out more work and thus earn more money.

The men insisted they had no idea the shells would be defective. Both said they were loyal to the United States.

Big Men Mentioned for Railroad Director's Job

Washington, Dec. 15.—Without any reason for it apparent on the surface, the impression grew today that President Wilson will settle the question of how the government is to deal with the railroad problem about Monday.

The president is still debating over the various proposals that have been put before him.

In considering the appointment of a federal administrator or director, it is understood the president is occupied chiefly with the question of who the man should be. Secretary Lane, Associate Justice Brandeis of the supreme court, Charles E. Hughes and Secretary McAdoo have all been mentioned in this connection.

Submarine Chaser Sunk Off Atlantic Coast

Washington, Dec. 15.—The Navy department tonight confirmed unofficial reports that a small submarine chaser had been rammed and sunk off the Atlantic coast laset Tuesday. The crew was saved.

The department also announced that Gunner Arthur B. Toerpe and Seaman Thomas J. Rose were drowned Wednesday when a naval patrol vessel was sunk by a steamer the Atlantic coast last Tuesday. The Wednesday had told of the drowning of Rose and one other man and the rescue of the remaining seven of the crew of the patrol boat, including one officer. Toerpe came from Oak Park, Ill., and Rose from Baltimore.

Looking for work? Turn to the Help Wanted Columns now. You will find hundreds of positions listed there.

BAKER TELLS ABOUT PROBLEMS OF WAR

Secretary of War Hints Briefly at Tremendous Problems that Confront Nation With Outbreak of Hostilities.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 15.—Secretary Baker's annual report for the War department made public today constitutes only a brief historical review of the year, and so that it may be devoid of information for the enemy shows no recommendations, no detailed information of the transportation of the army to France or any army plans for the future.

Secretary Baker does say, however, that he does not favor universal military training as a regular national policy.

"The department has not sought and does not now seek legislation on the subject," he says, "chiefly for the reason that the formation of a permanent military policy will inevitably be affected by the arrangement consequent upon the termination of the present war. Civilized men must hope that the future has in store a relief from the burden of armament and the destruction and waste of war.

Wish for Harmony.

"However vain that hope may appear in the midst of the most devastating and destructive war in the history of the race, it persists—perhaps because we are encouraged by the analagous substitution of courts for force in the settlement of private controversies; perhaps because all the perfections of nature teach us that they are the product of processes which have eliminated waste and substituted constructive for destructive principles.

"When a permanent military policy, therefore, comes to be adopted, it will doubtless be conceived in a spirit which will be adequate to preserve against any possible attack those vital principles of liberty upon which democratic institutions are based, and yet be so restrained as in no event to foster the growth of mere militarist ambitions or to excite the apprehension of nations with whom it is our first desire to live in harmonious and just accord."

Praise for Guard.

As to the expeditionary force in France, Secretary Baker says it would be unwise to disclose details and therefore contents himself with telling of the sending of General Pershing, followed by a full division of regular troops and a contingent of marines as the first units. He describes also the organization of the Rainbow National Guard division (the 42d), adding:

"The purpose of this organization was to distribute the honor of early participation in the war over a wide area and thus to satisfy in some part the eagerness of these state forces to be permitted to serve in Europe."

High tribute is paid to the "splendid co-operation of the navy, by means of which these expeditionary forces have been safely transported and have been enabled to traverse without loss the so-called danger zone infested by the stealthy and destructive submarine navy of the enemy."

Big Transport System.

It became necessary, Mr. Baker says, to build up an elaborate transport system for the expeditionary force with great terminal facilities, both in this country and in France, and to gather a large surplus of supplies on the other side as a safeguard.

"This placed an added burden upon the supply divisions of the department," he says, "and explains in part some of the shortages, notably those of clothing, which have temporarily embarrassed mobilization of troops at home, embarrassments now happily passed."

The arrangements made have resulted, Mr. Baker continues, "in the transporting of an army to France fully equipped, with adequate reserves of equipment and subsistence, and with those large quantities of transportation appliances, motor vehicles railroad construction supplies and animals, all of which are necessary for the maintenance of effective operations of the force."

Mr. Baker turns to the method by which the army was placed on a war footing. He shows that under its full authorized strength the regular army includes 18,000 officers and 470,000 men and that the war strength contemplated by the national defense act for the National Guard was 13,000 officers and 456,000 men. With the million additional troops of the selected draft army added, these figures furnish the army of 2,000,000 men upon which all original war estimates were based.

The secretary describes the drafting of the national guard, the officers' training camps, the construction of cantonments, with the problems encountered and solved through the co-operation of the civilian agencies created by the Council of National Defense, and goes into some detail with various phases of the cantonment question to show the enormous size of the task. The aviation program is touched upon briefly and no additional information is given.

Taking up the quartermaster problems with the outbreak of the war Mr. Baker cites a few items of what it was found necessary to supply. They include: Twenty million pairs of shoes, 17,000,000 blankets, 33,000,000 yards of flannel shirting, 50,000,000 yards of tenting. The work is being done through the co-operation of civilian agencies, the secretary says and adds:

"The dollar-a-year man has been a powerful aid, and when this struggle is over, and the country undertakes to take stock of the assets which it found ready to be used in the mobilization of its power, a large place will justly be given to these men who, without the distinction of title or rank, and with no thought of compensation, brought experience, knowledge, and trained ability to Washington in order that they might serve with patriotic fervor in an inconspicuous and self-sacrificing but indispensably helpful way.

"The problems of supply are not yet solved; but they are in the course of solution. Sound beginnings have been made, and as the military effort of the country grows the arrangements perfected and organizations created will expand to meet it."

British Ship Sinks; Survivors to U. S.

An Atlantic Port, Dec. 15.—The foundering at sea of the British steamer Knight of the Thistle, was announced in a radio message received tonight from a steamer which reported it would land 84 survivors here tomorrow.

The message contained no details of the wreck or the rescue, but it was thought probable that the Knight of the Thistle went down during one of the series of terrific gales that have swept the north Atlantic during the last week.

Child Dies of Convulsions.

Little Edward McCune, 606 North Seventeenth street, died Friday afternoon of convulsions. His mother is totally blind. His father, W. L. McCune, employed in a coal yard, is partly blind.