

STOPPED SHOOTING

MEXICAN FIGHTER DRAWING AWAY FROM BORDER.

VOTE ON PROHIBITION NEXT

Will Feature Session of the House This Week—Mexican Troubles May Lead to Embarrassing Complications.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Washington.—Consular Agent Carothers has telegraphed the state department that Governor Maytorena, commanding the Villa forces besieging General Hill's garrison at Naco, Sonora, was preparing to withdraw his troops to a point ten or twelve miles from the border to eliminate the possibility of firing into American territory. This move has been awaited by officials here since Provisional President Gutierrez announced that he had directed Maytorena to abandon the attack on Naco, unless the operations could be carried on without sending bullets across the international line.

To Safeguard English Interests.
Washington.—Further complications with Great Britain, in connection with the Mexican authorities, are threatened. Following the admission that the Carranzista officials holding Vera Cruz were auctioning all merchandise stored in the customs house, there came the announcement that Francis and Dunn, supposed Americans killed near Naco, Ariz., a few days ago, were British subjects. England is expected to demand that the United States take steps to safeguard her interests at Vera Cruz and to see that proper redress is made for the murder of the two men, who, it is understood now, were slain in cold blood.

VOTE ON PROHIBITION NEXT.

Test of Strength in Congress to Be Shown This Week.

Washington.—Chief interest in congress this week centers on the vote in the house on the rule to take up the Hobson resolution of submission to the states of a constitutional amendment for national prohibition. Debate on the rule promises to be spirited. Although it had been proposed to vote also before the holiday recess on a rule for a woman's suffrage constitutional amendment, administration leaders predict that there will not be opportunity to reach the suffrage amendment until after the holiday recess.

Russia to Try American Guns.
Seattle, Wash.—American-made heavy artillery will be tried out by the Russian army in Poland next month. The Russian volunteer fleet steamship Novgorod, now on the ocean bound from Vancouver to Vladivostok, is carrying 165 carloads of war supplies, mostly siege guns and projectiles. The guns, made in Pennsylvania, weighed 105 tons each. Other trainloads of American big guns and shells are on the way to Vancouver, to be loaded on the Russian liner Tambor, which will arrive at Vancouver Dec. 31.

Simply the Prelude.
Rome.—On his arrival here, Prince von Buelow, the former imperial German chancellor, now ambassador to Italy, was informed of the bombardment of the English coast by German ships, but showed no surprise. He said this achievement had been arranged for prior to his departure from Berlin, and added: "This is simply the prelude to what the German fleet is soon to undertake, which may astonish the world."

Seats Draped in Crepe.
Paris.—There will be a number of empty seats in both houses when the French parliament meets on December 22. Those of Senator Emile Raymond and Deputies Pierre Gouyon, Edouard Nortier and Paul Proust, who were killed in battle, will be draped in crepe.

Reduce Rates on Coal.
Grand Junction, Colo.—A reduction of 50 cents a ton in freight rates on coal from Mesa county mines to Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma will be made early in January by the Colorado Midland railroad.

Much Wheat for Europe.
New Orleans, La.—Wheat cargoes estimated at 1,000,000 bushels were aboard seven steamers here Thursday ready to sail for Europe. The shipment of nearly 900,000 bushels broke all records for the year.

Immense Increase in Exports.
Washington.—A three hundred per cent increase in exports of foodstuffs from the United States, due principally to the European war, characterized the foreign trade of November compared with that month a year ago.

Panama Tells Making Record.
Washington.—The Panama canal had been opened for three months before it was made use of by a sailing vessel. In November 29 two such vessels were passed through the locks together, one being the British schooner Zeta, plying between Gulfport, Miss., and Balboa on the west coast of the Isthmus loaded with lumber. The other vessel was the pleasure boat Athene. The tolls on vessels making use of the canal reached and passed the \$1,000,000 mark November 18.

WITH THE LAWMAKERS

WHAT IS BEING DONE IN HALLS OF CONGRESS.

Epitome of the Work of the Daily Sessions of the National Lawmakers.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Saturday.

The Senate—Met at noon. Walter L. Fisher, former secretary of the interior, testified before the lands committee on the water power site leasing bill.

Efforts to agree upon a vote on the immigration bill on January 4 were defeated by objection of Senator O'Gorman.

Hearings were continued on the bill for ultimate independence of the Philippine islands.

In response to Senator Hitchcock's resolution Secretary Redfield submitted a report on exports of war munitions to Europe.

The House—Met at noon. The army appropriation bill was perfected in committee and debate on the postal bill proceeded on the floor.

Representative Bulkely assailed the proposal to let the rural credit legislation wait for the next congress.

The rivers and harbors bill was formally reported by the committee.

More drastic legislation for arrest of offenders against the fur seal fisheries laws in Alaska was recommended by the ways and means committee.

Friday.

The Senate—Hearings were resumed on the Philippine bill.

The agriculture committee began an inquiry into the recent epidemic of foot and mouth disease among cattle.

Senator Sheppard spoke on his constitutional prohibition amendment.

Rejected the nomination of W. N. Collins as postmaster at Kansas City, Mo.

The House—January 24 was selected as the day for eulogies for the late Representative Bremner of New Jersey.

Representative Gardner testified before the naval committee, urging increases of sea defenses.

Hearings were continued on the bill to limit cold storage of food.

Passed legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, carrying about \$36,000,000.

Began consideration of postoffice appropriation bill.

Indian appropriation bill, carrying \$8,318,600, reported.

Naval affairs committee concluded hearings on annual appropriation, heated argument between Representative Gardner of Massachusetts and committee marking close of session.

Wednesday.

The Senate—Foreign relations committee ordered Nicaragua treaty reported for ratification.

Administration ship purchase bill reported favorably from commerce committee after democrats had voted down all amendments.

Hearings continued on power site land leasing bill and Philippine independence bill.

Ratified the London convention for safety at sea, with resolution reserving certain rights to the United States.

The House—Colonel Roosevelt declined to appear before naval committee.

Legislative appropriation bill debated on the floor.

Passed bill authorizing sitting of federal court for eastern district of Ohio at Steubenville as well as at Cincinnati.

Tuesday.

The Senate—Hearings on the water power site leasing bill were continued before the lands committee.

The banking committee considered rural credits legislation.

The commerce committee worked on the administration bill for buying a merchant marine.

The House—Passed a concurrent resolution for a holiday recess from December 23 to December 29.

The naval committee resumed hearings on the naval bill.

The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was debated upon the floor.

Passed omnibus pension bill carrying \$37,980.

Lions Loose in Theater.

New York.—Six trained lions escaped from their cage on the stage of a vaudeville theater here and bounding into the audience, consisting principally of women and children, created a panic. One lioness, Alice, the largest of the pack, escaped into a crowded street. Policemen pursued her into the hallway of a nearby apartment house and in shooting at her probably fatally wounded a companion. Two other officers were slightly wounded by the claws of the beast in a battle at close range.

Omaha, Neb.—A public meeting to organize for navigation of the Missouri river has been called by the trade extension committee of the commercial club for January 8. The speakers from Kansas City will be: Judge W. T. Bland, head of the boat company, and a heavy shipper; A. W. Mackie, general manager of the line, and a practical navigator of the river, and W. S. Dickie, pioneer in the movement for a line.

It is the plan of navigation boosters to arouse interest in a starting a line to Kansas City and St. Louis.



WHEAT ACREAGE IS LARGE

BELGIANS SUFFERING FOR SINS OF OTHERS.

Farmers Figure on Heavy European Demand—Egypt Casts Aside the Yoke of Turkish Rule.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. London.—The members of the American commission for relief in Belgium was entertained by American business men at the luncheon club. In introducing Herbert C. Hoover, the chairman, Ambassador Page gave high praise to the work of the commission.

He said it was the only existing link between the great belligerent nations and the farmer of the Mississippi valley. Mr. Hoover spoke of the organization and work of the commission and the plight of the Belgian people which called it into being. He said that close harmony existed between the commission and the national committee in Belgium.

Among other things Mr. Hoover said:

"The Belgians are not a people who dragged the world into war by the ambition of their soldiers or their sailors. They, like our own people, have sought to conquer only by the ways of peace, industry and intellect. They have fought a hard fight. I have not yet met a man in Belgium who regrets in the least having made the struggle. At this moment, surrounded by a ring of steel, 1,500,000 persons are in the bread line and no household in Belgium has bread to eat except it comes through us."

Egypt Bursts Turkish Bonds.

London.—A British protectorate over Egypt has been proclaimed. Prince Hussein Kemal has been appointed sultan and has accepted that position. He is an uncle of Abbas Hilm, until now khedive. The French government has recognized the British protectorate over the country in which France formerly had such important interests, and in return the British government has given notice that it adheres to the Franco-Moorish treaty of 1912, which, following the Agadir affair, gave France a protectorate over Morocco.

WHEAT ACREAGE IS LARGE.

Farmers Counting on a Heavy Demand from Europe.

Washington.—Influenced by the prospective heavy demand for grain by the warring countries of Europe, American farmers this year have sown a record area to winter wheat which the department of agriculture estimates at 41,263,000 acres. This is an increase of 4,135,000 acres over the area sown last fall and on which the record crop of 684,990,000 bushels of winter wheat was harvested this year. The area sown is 5,255,000 acres more than was harvested this year.

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Recommends Control by State.

Lincoln, Neb.—A summary of the report of the state water power commission appointed by Governor Morehead at the request of the house of representatives has been made public by the commission. The report recommends amendments to the constitution to give the state complete control of water power sites, with power to permit cities and private companies to engage in the business of furnishing power under state supervision.

Good Results from Alaska Coal.

Washington.—Formal announcement of successful navy tests of coal from government owned Matanuska fields in Alaska was made by Secretary Daniels before the naval committee of the house. Trials by the cruiser Maryland about ten days ago, Mr. Daniels said, had demonstrated that the Matanuska coal was as good as any to be found, and pointed the way to an adequate supply of fuel on the Pacific coast as soon as transportation facilities are available.

FATALITIES MOSTLY AMONG NON-COMBATANTS.

Figured at About Two Hundred Millions Monthly Expense—Raids Endeavor to Secure Higher Rates.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Hartlepool, England.—The two towns known as the Hartlepoles were subjected to a twenty-five minutes bombardment Wednesday morning from several German warships, estimated to aggregate from two to six, but which could only be dimly seen through the thick fog which enveloped the sea.

Soon after the first German shell fell in the town, the forts at the mouth of the river replied, and while they apparently did no damage to the raiders they succeeded in driving them off.

The number of persons killed is not definitely known, but is believed to be large. Many more persons were injured than killed, however. All the fatalities were among non-combatants. Women and children suffered equally with the men.

Move for Higher Rates.

Lincoln, Neb.—The test case of the Missouri Pacific Railroad company to try the right of the Nebraska state railway commission to increase passenger rates will probably be heard by the state supreme court the second sitting of the court in January. The commission dismissed the application of the railroad company on the ground that the legislature having specifically asserted that the passenger fare in this state shall not exceed 2 cents, the commission is not authorized to increase the rate; that the commission has power in the matter of regulation of railroad rates in the absence of specific legislation.

COST OF WAR TO FRANCE.

Spending at the Rate of About Two Hundred Millions a Month.

Paris.—The cost of the war to France for the first six months in 1915 is officially figured at 5,929,442,865 francs (\$1,185,888,573) or about \$200,000,000 monthly. This total is in addition to the usual expenditures of the army, but it includes \$101,400,000 allowed to families of soldiers, \$4,000,000 to persons out of employment, \$10,200,000 for the maintenance of persons driven from their homes by the German invasion, and to various other items directly due to the war.

Insurance Policy Loans.

Lincoln, Neb.—More loans have been negotiated on life insurance policies in the past few months than in a similar period for years past. Likewise more loans are now outstanding against such policies than at any time in the history of the country. This condition has been verified by home company insurance men who have been gathering statistics in the matter. They expect to call this condition to the attention of the legislature.

Postpone Peace Conference.

Copenhagen.—The peace conference summoned by the socialist societies of the Scandinavian countries which was to have opened here on December 6, has been postponed until January. The official explanation is that the American delegates were unable to reach Denmark in time for the earlier date. Several Danish papers doubt whether the conference will be held, as there have been protests that such a gathering might develop matters not consistent with strict neutrality.

Big Postal Appropriation.

Washington.—Appropriations aggregating \$321,700,514 for the conduct of the postal service are carried by the postoffice bill before the house. No provision for extension of the postal service to Alaska and Porto Rico, telegraph and telephone lines, as recommended by Postmaster General Burleson, was included, and other department proposals were rejected by the committee. The department, however, was authorized to experiment on contracts for rural free delivery routes.

BRIEF NEWS OF NEBRASKA

Tecumseh sent 500 fifty-pound sacks of flour to Belgium.
Ainsworth Odd Fellows have dedicated their new modern hall.
At Henry Kuper's shorthorn sale at Humboldt one of the cows sold for \$400.

The Nebraska League of Municipalities will meet in Lincoln early in February.

Nebraska won from Iowa in the interstate fruit judging contest at Des Moines.

A municipally owned heating plant is being urged by business men of Hastings.

J. I. Adams of Adams has a dwarf orange tree loaded with fruit just beginning to ripen.

Three men suspected of burglary at Gering are being held in the county jail at Scottsbluff.

The contract has been awarded for the erection of the new city hall and engine house at Geneva.

C. J. Miles was re-elected president of the state baseball league at its meeting at Grand Island.

The general store of Jenkins & Co. at Murray, was burglarized recently for the third time in a year.

Rev. C. R. Tyner, of St. Luke's Episcopal church at Lincoln, was ordained to the priesthood last Sunday.

Anna Roberts has been appointed postmistress at Creston, in Platte county, to succeed J. L. Brown.

Fire, originating from a defective flue, completely destroyed the Odd Fellows' building at Humboldt.

Frank Rustler may lose an arm as the result of getting it caught in a corn sheller on a farm near Lushton.

The new Christian church, which was built at Sutherland last fall at a cost of \$3,500, was dedicated last Sunday.

Mrs. M. L. Coard sustained a fractured arm and other injuries as the result of a fall at her home at Pawnee City.

Walter Sammons, convicted of robbing the Kearney postoffice of \$5,000 a year ago, has been denied a new trial.

Otto Billows who shot and killed his mother at their home near York, and who fired two shots into his own head, is dead as the result.

Five horses and a quantity of hay and grain were destroyed when the barn on the George Pearson farm, near Tecumseh, was burned.

James Baker of Dunbar was knocked unconscious by the crank when a gasoline engine back-fired as he was starting it to pump some water.

The Northwestern Saengerbund will hold its 1915 song fest at Omaha. The membership of this association extends through twelve states.

The Hord elevator at Monroe, together with a large amount of wheat, corn, oats and other grains, was destroyed by fire of unknown origin.

The little son of George Ireland of Pawnee City was badly bitten and bruised by a vicious dog. Nine stitches were necessary to close the wounds.

For the fifteenth continuous time D. W. Carre has been elected consul commander of Washington camp No. 8, Woodmen of the World, at Beatrice.

Twin girls were born by the operation known as the Caesarian mode to Mr. and Mrs. George Heintz at Omaha. Mother and children are doing finely.

In order to get a jail sentence Ollie Saunders threw a brick into a plate glass window at Fremont, causing a damage amounting to \$27.50. He got it.

While working on an acetylene plant at the home of J. H. Kemp at Fullerton, the tank exploded, throwing one of the men a distance of twenty feet.

Rev. Charles Tyner, who was recently ordained at St. Luke's Episcopal church at Lincoln, was married last week to Miss Mary Sprague of Omaha.

Lincoln business men banqueted the victorious Cornhuskers at a local hotel last week. A "grill" of some of the guests was an interesting feature of the occasion.

Nebraska-Iowa hotel clerks were in session at Lincoln last week.

Richard Manning, an actor, was shot in the face, but only slightly wounded during a performance of "Madam X" at Omaha.

After waiting for over a year for a hearing on the charge of robbing a mail pouch, Al Harding has just been released from the Hall county jail at Grand Island.

During a paroxysm of coughing, K. C. Leonard, a Lincoln business man, fell from his bed to the floor in such a manner as to break his neck, dying almost instantly.

Because Robert Shiverick, former Omahan, while witnessing a Pavlova performance in Toronto two years ago, received a blow upon his head from a sword that slipped from the hands of the star's dancing partner, he got a \$5,000 judgment against the danseuse in Canada and levied on the proceeds of the charity ball at Omaha to collect it.

Students of Albion high school gave a benefit concert for the Belgian relief fund.

Preparations are being made for the annual state poultry show at Hastings to be held the middle of January.

Verne, the young son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Sydenham of Broken Bow, is threatened with the loss of an eye as the result of a broken pen point penetrating that organ.

Cara Ford, aged six years, is dead at her parents' home near Weeping Water as the result of burns sustained when her clothing caught fire while she was playing with matches.

Frank Harrison, A. G. Cornell and Professor Schramm of Lincoln and Ray Harrison of Grand Island, have left Lincoln for New Orleans, whence they will sail for Central America for a tour of several weeks.

COURT REFUSES TO GRANT WRIT

BOARD OF CONTROL FILES EXPENSE ESTIMATES.

GOSSIP FROM STATE CAPITAL

Items of Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources and Presented in Condensed Form to Our Readers.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

The supreme court, in a decision handed down by Judge Barnes, decided the Bittenbender case in favor of the Lincoln excise board. It will be recalled that the suit was for a writ of mandamus to compel the Lincoln excise board, which is the supervising body over the saloons in that place, to enforce prohibition in Lincoln, and was brought by H. C. Bittenbender and Ada M. Bittenbender, his wife.

The district court, before which the suit was first filed, found in favor of the excise board, and refused to grant the writ for the enforcement of prohibition. The case was then carried to the supreme court, which has affirmed the finding of the lower tribunal.

Asks for Less Than Last Year.

The state board of control has filed an estimate with the state auditor of the expenses necessary to run the state institutions under its control for the next two years. The board cut off \$853,723 of the estimates filed by superintendents of state institutions and finally agreed to reduce its estimate \$312,195 below the appropriations of two years ago. The board therefore asks for \$2,304,470 for the institutions under its control for the next two years. The requests of superintendents of institutions was \$541,528 higher than the appropriations allowed two years ago. This does not include \$3,900 which the board asks for itself during the next two years. On the question of reappropriating \$150,000 for a reformatory the board is silent. Counting the \$150,000 appropriated two years ago and the \$57,150 appropriated two years ago for the board of control, the board now asks for \$480,945 less than was appropriated two years ago, counting nothing this year for the reformatory.

Inmates of State Institutions.

Inmates in the state institutions and under charge of the board of control have increased perceptibly during the biennium which drew to a close November 30. According to the reports of the institutional officers, there are now 4,551 inmates cared for by the state, and 721 officers and employes to look over them. In addition to this number, there are 718 inmates on parole who are virtually incurring no expense to the state. The Hastings hospital for the insane is the largest institution, and the Kearney tubercular hospital the smallest. The former has 1,127 patients and 168 officers and employes, and the latter twenty-five patients and sixteen officers and employes.

At the Culmination of Many Months' Effort on the part of the scientists in the departments of zoology, botany, forestry and entomology, the United States biological survey has consented to assist the university in carrying out a biological survey of the state.

The plan has been in formation for more than a year, and has been definitely settled very recently by the announcement of the appropriations which will be at the disposal of the survey. The field officer from Washington was in Lincoln last summer, conferring with Dr. Wolcott, head of the department of zoology.

Some Birds Scatter Hog Cholera.

Birds known as carrion feeders should be kept away from the herd of hogs, according to the veterinarians at the university farm, if the farmer expects to wage a thoroughgoing fight against hog cholera. One means of keeping away these birds, especially crows, is to allow no carrion to be exposed. Another means is the use of the shotgun. If cholera is in the neighborhood, birds of every sort visiting the lots may be looked upon with suspicion. It is possible for them to carry in their feet for many miles the germs of cholera found in excrement and wallows.

News has been received by the state railway commission that the further hearing of the Sioux City rate case and related cases before the interstate commerce commission has been postponed indefinitely. The complaints brought by Sioux City, Council Bluffs, St. Joseph, Kansas City, Atchison and Denver, assailing the class rates in Nebraska, have all been consolidated and will be heard at the same time. These matters were to have been taken up at Omaha on January 18, but it is not known now how soon the federal commission will reach them.

For University Maintenance.

If the coming legislature makes financial provision for the University of Nebraska, as suggested by Secretary J. S. Dales in his estimate filed with the state auditor, that institution will have at its disposal during the next two years a gross sum running nearly to \$3,000,000 for maintenance, salaries, new buildings and campus extension. This is not an increase, the request being the same as two years ago.