

BAKER TAKES BLAME

SECRETARY OF WAR REPLIES TO CHARGES MADE BY GENERAL CROZIER.

PUBLICITY WOULD AID FOE

Chief of Army Ordnance Tells Senate Committee Baker is Responsible for Delay in Procuring Machine Guns.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Secretary Baker on Thursday made this reply to General Crozier's charge that he is responsible for the failure, until June 17 last, to make a choice of machine guns:

"I am responsible for anything that goes on in the war department. I have been much interested in the subject of machine guns. I appointed a board to pass on them.

"There's no need for defense. The senate committee can very properly seek to find out everything that has been done, and it is General Crozier's plain duty to tell them the whole story.

"But I can't say anything for publication. It's a matter concerning which, above all others, our adversaries would be glad to acquire information.

"There's no need for taking sides. Clearly the department cannot allow itself to state what should not be stated, because somebody expresses a confused view of it. The military defense of the country is a thing that can't be stated in detail.

"The Browning gun is a new gun invented by a man who has invented more ordnance than anyone else. It is a light gun. A long time ago it was tested and operated under the auspices of a board of experts which I appointed. It is not true that the gun has not been thoroughly tested. The board of experts was appointed to pass on all machine gun questions.

"The full capacity of this country for the manufacture of machine guns has been laid under contract. The entire capacity of every maker of machine guns is being used.

"It is not the intention of the department to concentrate on the Browning gun. The intention of the department is to get every machine gun it can get.

Secretary Baker declared American overseas forces are adequately supplied with machine guns. He added that all other forces going to France will be adequately supplied with these weapons.

U-BOAT PERIL STILL SERIOUS

First Lord of Admiralty Declares Submarine Menace is Being Held Within Bounds.

London, Dec. 15.—"The submarine menace, in my opinion, is held but not yet mastered," said Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the admiralty, in the house of commons on Thursday. "Our shipbuilding is not yet replacing our losses.

"Since November 1, when I made my last statement, the downward trend of mercantile marine losses has continued satisfactorily. The upward curve of merchant shipbuilding and the upward curve of destruction of enemy submarines have been equally satisfactory."

FIRST U. S. SHOT AT AUSTRIA

Representative Tinkham of Boston Fires First American Shell From Italian Front.

Italian Army Headquarters, Dec. 14.—The first American shot of the war against Austria was fired Wednesday when Representative Tinkham of Boston pulled the string of a 1.49 millimeter gun, hurling a shell across to the Austrian lines.

BRITISH LOSE 21 SHIPS

Fourteen Vessels of More Than 1,600 Tons During Week by U-Boats and Mines.

London, Dec. 14.—A slight increase in the losses of British merchantmen by mine or submarine in the last week is noted in the admiralty statement. Fourteen vessels of more than 1,600 tons were sunk, as well as seven under that tonnage.

Marines at Buenos Aires.

Buenos Aires, Argentina, Dec. 13.—Three thousand marines have been mobilized in Buenos Aires. The official explanation is a precaution against the threatened general strike, but it is believed the move is to obtain support for the president during the special session of congress.

2 Austrian Warships Sunk.

New York, Dec. 15.—The torpedoing of two Austrian battleships in the harbor of Trieste by Italian torpedo craft on the night of December 9 is reported in a message received here by Commander C. Pfister of the Italian navy.

Interned for Kaiser Cakes.

New York, Dec. 14.—Because Frederick J. Heuser, a confectioner, sold cakes decorated with the German colors, federal authorities decided he was spreading German propaganda. He was arrested and interned on Ellis Island.

Wyoming Mob Lynchs a Negro.

Rock Springs, Wyo., Dec. 14.—An unidentified negro charged with molesting woman residents of Blairtown, a suburb, was taken from the city jail and hanged to a bridge north of Rock Springs. His body was found.

CURTAILING HIS STRENGTH



New York Telegram

TAKE THE HOLY CITY 13 NEGROES HANGED

JERUSALEM WON FROM TURKS BY BRITISH TROOPS.

Victory Delayed to Some Degree in Order to Avoid Damage to the Sacred Places.

London, Dec. 12.—Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, announced in the house of commons on Monday that Jerusalem, after being surrounded on all sides by British troops, had been surrendered by the Turks.

The chancellor said British, French and Mohammedan representatives were on the way to Jerusalem to safeguard the holy places.

General Allenby reported that on Saturday he attacked the enemy's positions south and west of Jerusalem, the chancellor stated. Welsh and home county troops, advancing from the direction of Bethlehem, drove back the enemy and, passing Jerusalem on the east, established themselves on the Jerusalem-Jericho road.

At the same time London infantry and dismounted yeomanry attacked the strong enemy positions west and northwest of Jerusalem and placed themselves astride the Jerusalem-Shechem road. The Holy City, being thus isolated, surrendered to General Allenby.

The capture of Jerusalem had been delayed to some degree, added the chancellor, in consequence of the great care that had been taken to avoid damage to the sacred places in and around the city.

The British campaign in Palestine was opened last March and has been prosecuted steadily since then, first by Gen. Sir Archibald Murray and then by General Allenby, who assumed command on June 29. The advance was northward along the Mediterranean coast, but was necessarily slow because of the arid desert that had to be crossed.

CONQUEST AND KULTUR

The more it (German kultur) remains faithful to itself, the better will it be able to enlighten the understanding of foreign races absorbed or incorporated into the empire, and to make them see that only from German kultur can they derive those treasures which they need for the fertilizing of their own particular life (And what glorious results will not victory bring to Germany herself?) . . . A victorious peace will mean the release of world-conquering energy for our industrial life . . . the losses suffered in the war, whatever they may come to, shall be made up . . . the black-white-and-red flag shall wave over all seas, our countrymen will hold highly respected posts in all parts of the world, and we will maintain and extend our colonies. The whole world shall stand open to us, so that, in untrammelled rivalry we shall unfold the energy of the German nature.—Otto von Gierke, "War and Culture," in Deutsche Reden in Schwerer Zeit (1914).

Bolsheviki Aided by Fleet. Petrograd, Dec. 15.—The Black sea battle fleet is co-operating with the bolsheviki forces in the fighting at Bostoff according to dispatches received here. The warship Koidin is firing on the Cossacks at Novo Teherkask.

St. Paul Strike Called Off.

Washington, Dec. 15.—George W. Lawson, secretary of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, telegraphed the strikers in St. Paul and Minneapolis to return to work in view of the order for a federal investigation.

Germans Have 3,000 Airplanes.

Paris, Dec. 15.—The Germans now have 3,000 airplanes on the western front, it was estimated. Whitney Warren, a well-known New York writer, urges the United States to speed up her construction of aircraft.

Surgical Dressings Needed.

New York, Dec. 15.—"A serious calamity and a national disgrace are inevitable" if surgical dressings are not sent to France with all possible speed, according to Major Murphy, head of the Red Cross in France.

ARMY OFFICERS EXECUTE SOLDIERS FOR RIOTING.

Forty-One Were Sentenced to Life Imprisonment—One Man Dishonorably Discharged.

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 13.—Thirteen of the negroes of the Twenty-fourth Infantry, U. S. A., found guilty of complicity in the riot and mutiny at Houston August 23, were hanged on the military reservation at Fort Sam Houston at 7:17 a. m. Tuesday. Announcement of the carrying out of the sentence was made at headquarters of the Southern department of the army at 9 a. m.

Only army officers and Sheriff John Tobin of Bexar county were present when the sentence was carried out by soldiers from the post. No newspaper men or civilian spectators were allowed, the time and place of execution having been kept a secret.

The execution took place in an arroyo about two miles east of Camp Travis on a great scaffold erected during the night by engineers from the post.

Of the 63 men tried by the same court-martial 41 were sentenced to life imprisonment.

One man was sentenced to dishonorable discharge from the army and to be confined for two and a half years.

The negro soldiers who paid the death penalty were: Sgt. William C. Nesbit, Corporal Larnon J. Brown, Corporal James Wheatley, Corporal Jesse Moore, Corporal Charles W. Baltimore, Private William Brackenridge, Private Thomas C. Hawkins, Private Carlos Snodgrass, Private Ira B. Davis, Private James Divins, Private Frank Johnson, Private Risley W. Young, Private Pat MacWhorter.

BAKER TO FACE SENATE QUIZ

Investigation Expected to Silence Many False Rumors and Forestall Criticism of Congress.

Washington, Dec. 13.—A comprehensive investigation into the entire National military situation, including the progress being made by the war department in organizing training and equipping the new army, was ordered by the senate military affairs committee.

The investigation will begin within a few days. It is the intention of the committee to call Secretary of War Baker and other high officials.

After discussing the situation, the committee decided to make an inquiry into the whole military situation. Such an investigation will silence many false rumors, forestall criticism in congress and force lagging departments to speed up, in the opinion of members of the committee.

TEST FOR ALL ARMY OFFICERS

Baker Orders Regulars and National Guard Commanders to Take Efficiency Examinations.

Washington, Dec. 13.—All regular and National Guard officers must undergo medical as well as efficiency examinations, Secretary Baker said, because of severe conditions of warfare abroad.

BONDED INDEBTEDNESS OF COUNTIES

SIXTY COUNTIES HAVE NO OUTSTANDING BONDS

NEWS FROM STATE CAPITAL

Items of Varied Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources at the State House

The present bonded debt of counties in Nebraska is \$3,778,887, or only \$441,887 more than it was one year ago, according to records in State Auditor W. H. Smith's office. Only thirty-two of the ninety-three counties in the state have bonded debts. Sixty counties have no outstanding bonds. The counties that have incurred bonded indebtedness in the past year are Dodge, Pierce and Sarpy. Douglas county, in which Omaha is situated, leads the list with a bonded debt of \$1,967,000. Lancaster county, in which the capital city is located, is fourth on the list with a bonded debt of \$27,887, being exceeded by Otoe, with \$180,000, and Washington, with \$146,000. Dodge county is fifth with a bonded debt of \$100,000. It is possible that some of the indebtedness of some of the counties listed may have been reduced the past year, but if this has been done the county clerks have failed to certify to the auditor's office.

The following is the bonded indebtedness of counties as shown by the records:

Box Butte	\$ 62,000
Boyd	80,000
Buffalo	15,000
Burt	38,000
Chase	17,000
Cherry	10,000
Cheyenne	31,000
Deuel	20,000
Dodge	100,000
Douglas	1,967,000
Gage	67,000
Garfield	10,000
Greeley	83,000
Hall	6,000
Hooker	15,000
Howard	91,000
Kearney	51,000
Keith	35,000
Keya Paha	60,000
Lancaster	127,887
Merrick	990,000
Morrill	32,000
Nance	45,000
Otoe	180,000
Pawnee	73,000
Pierce	75,000
Scottsbluff	80,000
Sarpy	50,000
Sherman	30,000
Thurston	60,000
Valley	32,000
Washington	146,000
Total	\$3,778,887

Regent Haller Resigns as Chairman

Regent F. L. Haller handed in his resignation as chairman of the board of regents at the meeting last week. He will still retain his position as member of the board but will step from the presiding officer's chair on January 1. His term would have ended within a few weeks. Regent E. P. Brown was chosen to take his place.

Every member of the board was present at the meeting. In connection with his resignation Regent Haller presented the following statement:

"Inasmuch as I am intending to spend the winter in the south, leaving about the first of the year, I hereby resign my position as president of the board of regents, the same to take effect January 1, 1918, and recommend that my successor be elected at this meeting to take office January 1, 1918."

Discrepancy in Tax Returns

A discrepancy in tax returns from Colfax, Chase, Clay and Phelps counties between the figures sent in last summer and those lately received from county clerks has been discovered in the auditor's office. In each instance the assessor's figures were higher than those returned. Colfax falls off \$3,975 in state taxes; Clay, \$2,077; Chase, \$1,447 and Phelps, \$1,433. The auditor has written county clerks in each instance to discover if some mistake has not been made in computations.

Advised to Keep the Dairy Cows

The farmer who keeps his dairy cows during the present period of high-priced feeding will be repaid in the end, according to dairy experts of the agricultural extension service of the University of Nebraska. On account of the efficiency and economy of production the dairy cow will be called upon more and more as the war continues, and the loss of dairy cows in European countries will result in a heavy demand for American dairy products and breeding stock after the war is over.

Secretary of State Pool Has Filed His Report

Secretary of State Pool has filed his report with Governor Neville for the six months ending November 30th. This report shows that there has been collected and turned into the treasury in the six months, \$128,913.93. In the same period of 1914 a total of \$95,220.39 was collected; in 1915 a total of \$107,243.43 was turned into the treasury and in 1916 a total of \$116,317.57 was deposited. This shows an increase of \$18,596.30 in 1917 over the same period of 1916, and an increase of \$33,693.54 in 1917 over the same period of 1914.

STOCK JUDGING TEAM RETURNS

Bring Back \$1,100 from Chicago Live Stock Exposition

Members of the University of Nebraska's live stock judging team together with members of the animal husbandry faculty have returned from the International Live Stock exposition at Chicago, bringing with them \$1,100 won by the state farm's prize stock and probably the highest honors ever awarded to a student judging team.

Nebraska's team stood first out of twelve universities and colleges that sent representatives. Nebraska was first in judging horses, first in judging hogs, and first in judging sheep. Walter F. Roberts, a student at the College of Agriculture from O'Neill, Neb., was the highest in the entire contest out of sixty individual contestants. Earl Hogue of Crete won fourth place. A. E. Anderson of Lincoln tied for fifth place, Glenn Snapp of Belville, Kans., stood eleventh, and Chester Grau of Washington, Neb., twentieth. All of Nebraska's men were among the upper one-third which gave the championship of the entire exposition to the University of Nebraska.

Will Eliminate University Vacations

In accordance with the war times the university board has decided to eliminate vacations as far as practicable so school may be dismissed early enough in the spring to allow the students to go in to the corn fields. It is a time honored custom that the students shall have two weeks in which to renew home ties. But it has been decreed that students will have but one week starting December 22. The next important recess is the spring recess. This has also been shortened from a week to three days. All other holidays are done away with altogether. This elimination of holidays will bring the graduation on May 25 instead of the middle of June as usually is the case.

Has Trouble Finding Physicians

The state board of control is having trouble to find physicians to accept positions in state hospitals for the insane and other institutions. Several physicians have left the service of the state to enter the army and others will soon leave. There is now a vacancy at the home for soldiers at Grand Island, and two other places of the same kind in other institutions will soon be vacant. The board of control has transferred Dr. Lawrence W. Sidwell, first physician at the hospital for insane at Hastings, to the same position in the Lincoln hospital.

Just how the next draft, which is expected before the end of this semester, will affect the classes in the university is a question that is beginning to disturb university professors.

Practically all of the men in the junior and senior classes and a large number in the two lower classes will be taken in the draft, and many of the classes will be totally disrupted. Whether or not those men taken in the draft will be given full credit for the work they began is another question that is worrying university men. A large number of seniors, who are within a few hours of graduation, will be called to the colors, and they are anxious to know if they will be given their degrees. The university authorities have made no ruling for next semester, but the probabilities are that such men will be given their diplomas.

If any one has more than a "reasonable" amount of whisky on hand, or if any one has a stock of confiscated liquors in his possession and is about to destroy the stuff, the war department will take it and be glad to get it. If the destroyer will stay his hand, the war department will take the liquor and redistill it into alcohol for military use. Governor Neville has been notified by H. P. McCain, adjutant general of the United States.

In reply the governor will inform the war department that liquors confiscated under the Nebraska prohibitory law can be turned over to the government after it has been used as evidence in court and confiscation has been ordered by a court. There is said to be a carload or more of whisky and other liquors in Omaha that may be turned over to the government.

Answering the complaint that there is laxity in the enforcement of the female labor law, Deputy Labor Commissioner George Norman declares that inspection is as complete as possible under present conditions. Mr. Norman says the office is severely handicapped for lack of inspectors.

Secretary O. E. Bernecker of the state board of assessment has induced the board to direct assessors to itemize household goods and agricultural tools and machinery when assessing personal property. The plan was tried in a few counties last year and resulted in a more equitable assessment of property and also uncovered property that had escaped assessment under the old method of guessing or lumping the value of such goods. Next spring assessors will be equipped with new printed blanks to be attached to the schedules.

Governor Neville has received a telegram from Provost Marshal Crowder warning draft boards in Nebraska not to discourage enlistments in the remaining days in which men had an opportunity to volunteer and choose the branch of service which they prefer. "If the situation applies to Nebraska," the provost marshal's telegram reads, "boards are urgently requested not to retard enlistments." The message states that President Wilson is anxious to make use of all of the voluntary enlistments for army and navy service.

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English Wear Clogs.
The greatly increased cost of labor in the British Isles has directed attention to a class of footwear that has been going out of fashion owing to the increased earning power of the working classes, Pearson's Weekly states. The clog is a shoe of leather with a wooden sole to which the upper leather is attached by small nails. The wooden sole is protected by a light garniture of iron running round the edge.

Hundreds of London schoolchildren are now wearing clogs which cost about three shillings a pair, and the London county council schoolteachers have been providing clogs for ill shod pupils who pay for them by weekly installments of three pence each.

Should the price of leather increase much more the city man will most probably be coming to business in clogs, though they will be of a better type, and already for country wear one can buy an elegant pair of lace-up clogs for a quarter of the price of an equally efficient shoe.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County—
Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid; and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for any case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE.

FRANK J. CHENEY
Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 4th day of December, A. D. 1884.
(Seal) A. W. Gilman, Notary Public.
HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE is taken internally and cures through the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. Druggists, 75c. Testimonials free. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

Dolorous Protest.
"Has Mrs. Dubwaite lost her interest in politics?"
"Temporarily," replied Mr. Dubwaite.

"She isn't going to quit campaigning, I hope?"
"Oh, no. But Mrs. Dubwaite is a woman who simply thrives on opposition. Suffrage is making such rapid progress she's afraid there will soon be nothing left to fight for."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Important to Mothers
Examine carefully every bottle of **CASTORIA**, that famous old remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher* In Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

On the Rocks.
"Their honeymoon is over."
"Dear me! Are you quite sure about that?"
"I haven't the slightest doubt of it. She's beginning to remind him that she was making \$25 a week when he married her."

When Noise Don't Count.
One of the peculiarities of the leather-lunged individual is that he hasn't discovered that it isn't the noise of a boiler shop that makes the boilers.

Lofty.
"Is he a man of high ideals?"
"I guess so. He wants to be an 'ace' in an airplane squadron."

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Tonawanda and North Tonawanda, N. Y., are to consolidate governments.

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