



1—Statue of Wilhelm I, grandfather of the kaiser, overthrown in Metz after the French occupied that city. 2—Singing of Te Deum in front of the Milan cathedral in honor of the defeat of the central powers. 3—General Trepoff, former premier of Russia, at the head of a movement to put Grand Duke Cyril on the throne.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Attitude of President Wilson Assures Harmony With the British and French.

IN ACCORD ON MAIN POINTS

Destruction of Surrendered Enemy Warships Is Favored—Bolsheviks Out-Voted in Germany and Ebert Government Given Greater Power—Poland Becoming Very Aggressive.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The tact with which President Wilson has received the ovations accorded him in France has created a most favorable impression abroad and at home. Still more pleasing is it to record the fact that he has gone to Europe with a much more open mind than many had feared was the case. Though standing firmly on his fourteen points, he is open to conviction as to the best means of applying his ideas. In brief, he went across with no set program for the adjustment of the many problems that must arise, and he is devoting himself wholeheartedly to learning the views of the representatives of the other nations. On some of the greatest questions to be determined, the organization of a league of nations, the indemnity to be assessed against Germany and the disposition of the surrendered German war fleet, it appears the American and British delegates will be in full accord, and there is reason to believe the French representatives will be satisfied in these matters. Furthermore, Mr. Wilson, it is asserted in Paris, insists that in formulating the peace treaty no one nation shall be allowed to assume the role of master, dictating to the others their line of conduct.

The president has not changed his views as to the foundation of a league of nations, and those, in general, meet with the approval of the British and French. The French Society for a League of Nations, of which Senator Bourgeois is president, already has drafted a complete plan for the constitution of such a league and submitted it to Premier Clemenceau. This society is not of recent formation. Its delegates will confer with members of similar organizations in the other allied countries and probably the result of their deliberations will be submitted to the peace conference. One of President Wilson's demands concerning such a league, namely, that its organization shall be a part of the peace treaty, will meet with opposition in America. If not at the conference, some Republican senators are against what they think would be unwise haste in committing this nation to such an alliance and urge that the formation of the league should be delayed and made the subject of a separate treaty, if adopted at all. Senator Knox started the debate by proposing a resolution putting the senate on record as favoring the postponement of both the league of nations and the freedom of the seas questions until after the settlement of the immediate issues of the war.

Mr. Taft, who for long has been promoting the League to Enforce Peace, is combating this Republican opposition and, it is said, has warned the Republican senators that their course may largely help the Democrats to win the next presidential election.

As for the matter of indemnity, President Wilson has let it be known that he is as determined as anyone that Germany shall pay for the devastation she has wrought, and doubtless his visit to the regions the Huns ravaged will not lessen this determination. But, so far as is known, he does not contemplate the exaction of punitive damages from Germany. The entente allies have a very clear idea of what should be demanded of the Germans in the way of payment, for they have been the actual sufferers, and it is likely their views, when they reach

full agreement, will prevail in the main.

America's delegates to the peace conference, it is declared, have agreed to recommend the destruction of the surrendered enemy warships, in order to avoid any disputes as to their distribution. In this they are supported by the British who, through Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the admiralty, already had acquiesced in the plan. The smaller nations probably will protest against this plan, for they had counted on building up their navies with some of the Hun vessels.

That vague proposition, the "freedom of the seas," is becoming a trifle less vague, and the chances that it will cause any serious dispute between the Americans and the British at the conference table are growing daily more remote. It is understood that Mr. Wilson has assured, or will assure Premier Lloyd George that he has no intention of suggesting that the British navy be reduced to a point that would endanger the safety of the empire. In this, as in all else, the president's frequent conferences with the statesmen of Europe are having decided effect and the possibility of clashes between the American delegates and those of the other nations is fading away rapidly.

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy and the prince of Piedmont, heir to the throne, arrived in Paris Thursday and met President Wilson, formally inviting him to visit Italy. Over in England there was much confusion owing to Mr. Wilson's sudden change of plans regarding his visit to London. He determined to be there on December 23, instead of waiting until later, the reason given being the possibility that he might find it necessary to return to the United States earlier than had been expected.

For the time being, at least, the bolsheviks of Germany are beaten. The national convention of delegates of the soldiers and workmen's councils opened in Berlin and at once declared in favor of the calling of a national assembly to elect a president of Germany and the government set December 29 as the date. The Independent Socialists lined up in the convention with the Social Democrats, the party which is now in control and which is led by Ebert, Scheidemann and other of the people's commissioners. Liebknecht and his Spartacists vainly fought the plan for a national assembly, and the fiery Karl was barred from the meeting. Ebert continues to urge the orderly formation of a republic that shall be strongly socialist, but the belief that he really would foster a counter-revolution persists in some quarters. It was violently voiced in the Berlin meeting by Georg Ledebour, a radical leader of the Independent Socialists, but he was howled down.

The response of the congress to the attack was the adoption of a resolution transferring legislative and executive power to the Ebert government until some other arrangement is made by the national assembly. In many parts of Germany great disorder prevails. At Danzig, for instance, all the prisons were opened and the inmates set at liberty, and street fighting is general. Meanwhile the bolshevik menace is moving westward in Russia. The followers of Lenin and Trotsky have organized a formidable army and are steadily attacking the people of the Baltic provinces. The arrival of allied naval forces at several ports has not sufficed to stop this movement, and the provisional government of Estonia has placed that "republic" under the common protection of the entente powers "pending the decision of the peace conference." Livonia, Courland and much of Lithuania are in much the same plight as Estonia, and the retreating German troops are adding to the distress of the people.

There have been recently insistent demands for the withdrawal of British forces from Russia. To these Viscount Milner, secretary of war, replies with a statement explaining the continuance of the allied operations in Russia and justifying them, not only as the carrying out of an obligation of honor to protect the Russians and Czechoslovaks from bolshevik outrages, but also

a measure to prevent a reign of barbarism there that would menace all Europe.

The government of the recreated Polish nation is going ahead rapidly and with determination. Having come to the conclusion that Germany was in alliance with the bolsheviks, it severed diplomatic relations with Berlin and drove Count Harry Kessler, the German minister, out of the country. He was accused of having taken to Warsaw a corruption fund of 20,000,000 marks to organize a bolshevik coup there. The government also has ordered elections to the Polish parliament in the districts of Allenstein, Posen, Oppeln, Beuthen, Kattowitz, Flatau and Danzig, and this is denounced by the German press as the implied annexation of large parts of German eastern provinces. The Poles have ordered the mobilization of about 1,500,000 men.

On Friday came the news that a Polish army numbering 50,000 was being landed at Danzig, the seaport of West Prussia, which the Poles seek as an outlet to the Baltic sea.

Another anti-German leader of the Ukrainians has come to the front, General Petura, and he has occupied Odessa. He has the support of the working and middle classes, and has declared war against the Ukrainian government, the capitalists and the land owners. He advocates the extension of the Ukraine into the Ruthenian portions of Galicia, and consequently will find himself opposed by the Poles.

Having marched up to and across the Rhine, the allied armies of occupation now hold the three bridgeheads on the east bank of that river; as stipulated in the armistice. The British have the Cologne bridgehead, the French that at Mainz, and the Americans and French together hold the bridgehead of Coblenz. Forty-two per cent of this, the southern part, is occupied by the Poles. The American Third army, under General Dickman, was in its final position at the expiration of the original period of the armistice, exactly according to the plans made a month before, despite changes therein and the difficulties of moving a large army so far, with all its supplies.

The people of Cologne are not enjoying the restrictions on their movements instituted by the British, and hundreds of them have been arrested for being out in the streets in the evening. The French, also are very strict with the inhabitants of the territory they are occupying. There is no danger of any sympathy for the Huns being stirred up by this.

Practically every day sees the arrival of one or more transports laden with returning American soldiers, many of them wounded, and arrangements for their release from the service are being perfected. That their absorption into the civil life of the country will be accomplished without trouble is assured by leaders in industrial affairs. The casualty lists just now are longer than ever, for we are getting the names of the boys who fell in the great fight in the Argonne, the severest conflict in which the American troops were engaged.

Our navy also is coming home, piece-meal. Many of the vessels will be kept abroad for some time, and American naval stations will be maintained at Brest, Gibraltar and the Azores for a year at least, the consent of France, Great Britain and Portugal having been obtained. These stations, with their seaplanes and radios, will render aid to the merchant marine. Our other naval establishments in Europe are being dismantled as rapidly as possible.

Swift work on the finance bill has been done by the senate. Among the many important committee amendments adopted was one imposing a tax of 10 per cent on profits from child labor products entering interstate commerce. Twelve Southern senators, and they alone, voted against this amendment, which is designed to replace the child labor law declared unconstitutional by the Supreme court.

Admiral Castro was elected president of Portugal to succeed Doctor Paes, who was assassinated as the result of a conspiracy alleged to have been formed by the League of Republican Youth.

RIGID RULES FOR 'FLU'

Regulations Sent Out By State Board of Health in Effort to Crush the Epidemic.

Rigid regulations for the purpose of handling the influenza epidemic in Nebraska have been sent to local authorities by the state board of health at Lincoln. Here are some of the regulations put out: In order for the family to be released from quarantine, the attending physician, and when there is no attending physician, the head of the family must make application to the secretary of the county, city or village board of health, and the quarantine is not to be released until the board gives such permission. For Contacts—Four days after last exposure and exposure exists, when quarantine of the premises as a whole is in effect. For Those With Disease—Four days after the fever entirely subsides. When the patient is released, others who have been in quarantine are also released, unless new cases have developed, but they cannot leave the premises, except with the permission of the health board, and anyone re-entering will have to stay there until the premises are finally released. Anyone found guilty of violating the quarantine rules shall be liable to a fine of from \$15 to \$100.

Despite the war, the loss of the corn crop in a large part of Nebraska and the liberal response of this state to subscribing to all war funds, the people of Nebraska had almost \$240,000,000 deposited in state banks on November 1, according to a report issued by Secretary Tooley of the State Banking Board. That amount of deposits is only \$10,000,000 below the high-water mark for state bank deposits in the history of Nebraska, which was reached early in the present year. It is \$16,000,000 more than a year ago. The number of commercial and savings banks reporting to the department under the call for November 1 statements, was 924, an increase of 14. The commercial deposits aggregated \$235,500,000 and the savings \$4,300,000.

Nebraska voters at the recent election approved the calling of a constitutional convention by 9,000 votes in excess of the required majority of all votes cast at the election. The constitutional amendment requiring full naturalization papers before a foreign-born resident can vote also was approved by a margin of 11,000 votes.

Professor Fogg, instructor of Journalism at the University of Nebraska, left Lincoln for France to serve in the college division of the government's educational program, to be conducted during demobilization of the American expeditionary forces.

Nebraska arrangements for participating in the Armenian-Syrian relief drive, January 12 to 19, are well under way. During the week America will be asked to give \$30,000,000. Nebraska's share will be \$300,000.

For the third time the date for the dedication of the new Dodge county court house at Fremont has been postponed. December 31 was the last date. The prevailing epidemic was the cause of all postponements.

Exemption of local county, city, school and public improvement bonds from taxation to encourage investors is advocated in the annual report of State Auditor W. H. Smith.

The state board of control will ask the next legislature for \$125,000 extra for new buildings and improvements in the fifteen state institutions, it has been announced.

The Transmississippi congress, with representatives of agriculture, industry, labor and business, from eighteen western states, will be held in Omaha February 4, 5, and 6.

A total of 105,000 head of hogs were received at the South Omaha market last week or 35,700 more than the corresponding week a year ago.

For seventy-two hours last week an embargo was placed on hogs at South Omaha because of the glutted market. In an effort to stamp out the "flu" at McCook, medical inspection is being taken in all public schools daily.

Public funerals have been prohibited at Auburn as one measure to stamp out the spreading of influenza.

Since the completion of the new hotel McCloud at York, people of the city are boasting of having the finest hospitality in Nebraska outside of Omaha and Lincoln. The structure is six stories in height and has all modern conveniences.

The 20th annual report of the state banking board, just made public, shows that there are 72 building and loan associations in the state. Total assets of the associations have increased over two and a half million dollars the past year, the report shows.

According to an estimate of the State Agricultural association 3,511,000 acres of wheat have been sown in Nebraska this fall, compared with 3,015,814 acres last year.

The entire family of Martin Steffensmeyer of near Howells has been wiped out by the influenza, father, mother and baby having succumbed to the disease.

An airplane hangar is being constructed at Omaha to house planes that will bring mail to the metropolises over the Woodrow Wilson postal airway from Chicago westward.

Complete official returns of the recent election in the state show that Railway Commissioner Taylor received the highest plurality of any state candidate. He defeated E. C. Simmons, his democratic opponent by 29,283 votes. Next to the railway commissioner, G. W. Marsh, for state auditor, has the largest lead. He beat his antagonist by 28,594. Governor-elect McKelvie's plurality over Governor Neville is 23,002, while Senator Norris has 29,393 over Morehead. The total vote in the state was 225,717, which is 77,000 below the record-breaking vote of the presidential election in 1916.

The eighth annual convention of the Nebraska Irrigation association, held recently at Bridgeport, was the largest attended and the most profitable meeting in the history of the association. While irrigation was the chief topic of discussion, good roads came in for a goodly share of attention and several addresses were made on that subject. State seed inspection and certification was indorsed and more adequate laws for the eradication of insect, rodent and weed pests were asked.

Nebraska's army of four minute men closed its work last Monday, the Red Cross Christmas roll call being the last drive conducted. The Nebraska branch has, in over 14,000 addresses, reached over 4,000,000 people since October, 1917. The men will be mustered out January 15-16, when the government will give a certificate of service to each chairman and each speaker, and a theater certificate to each theater manager who has cooperated.

Mrs. Margaret Mummy, former Omaha nurse, who shot Dr. George E. Spear during the peace celebration in Lincoln, November 11, was found guilty of first degree murder by a jury at Lincoln. The verdict of the jury designated life imprisonment.

Railroad crop experts estimate that more than 600,000 tons of alfalfa and 2,000,000 bushels of grain will be saved by Nebraska farmers this winter by feeding cattle on the pastures throughout the state. Pasture conditions were never better in the state.

The State Board of Health has inaugurated a campaign for the suppression of social diseases, which requires a physician's report of every case to the state health officer and which requires a person so registered to report regularly for treatment.

Teaching of foreign languages in grade schools and other educational institutions, if the parents of pupils request it, was recommended by the state Americanization committee in its report to Governor Neville.

The University College of Medicine and Hospital, Omaha, is one of the grandest and most useful state institutions in Nebraska. Dr. Irving S. Cutler is the dean, assisted by an able corps of doctors and nurses.

It is estimated that 11,000 more persons joined the Red Cross in the last drive than one year ago. It is believed the final total membership in this state obtained during the Christmas roll drive will total nearly 85,000.

Resolutions adopted at the conference of health authorities of the state at Lincoln, putting a ban on all public gatherings for pleasure, are aimed at pool halls, dances and lodge meetings.

Omaha citizens are advocating the erection of a new public library containing a large art gallery and an auditorium with a seating capacity of 2,000 to 3,000 people.

Frank A. Peterson, county attorney of Lancaster county, has been appointed assistant United States district attorney to succeed Howard Saxton, resigned.

A meeting of the Nebraska State Bar association, scheduled to be held at Omaha December 27 and 28, has been postponed because of influenza.

The paving laid at Kearney this year gives the city about ten miles of paved streets, practically all of which was laid in the past three years.

The power plant of the Lincoln Traction company at Lincoln was severely damaged when a big boiler, housed in the building, exploded.

A suggestion has been made that citizens of Dodge county vote bonds to erect a memorial to Dodge county soldiers on the site of the old county jail at Fremont.

J. W. Reinhardt, Lincoln, insurance man, formerly of David City, has been named deputy state auditor by Auditor-elect George W. Marsh.

Considerable damage was done in the northern part of the state last week by a severe sleet storm, which swept over the district.

Creighton university at Omaha has been selected as a reserve training camp, according to announcement of the War department at Washington.

Sixty million dollars are to be spent on good roads within the state of Nebraska and the money will be raised by statewide taxation, according to plans now being worked out by good road enthusiasts of the state.

The campaign at the beet sugar factory at Gering is progressing quite well, and is expected to last until the latter part of January.

For having discounted \$26,018.79 in worthless notes at the German-American bank at Chalco, Sarpy county, four agents of the Mutual Benefit Health and Accident association of Omaha were denied licenses to sell insurance for a year by the state insurance board. The board exonerated the insurance company on the ground that the notes were taken and cashed without its knowledge.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR JANUARY 5

PHARAOH OPPRESSES ISRAEL.

LESSON TEXT—Exodus 1:7-23.
GOLDEN TEXT—He shall save the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor.—Psalms 72:4.
DEVOTIONAL READING—Psalms 2.
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL—Exodus 5:1-6; Hebrews 11:23-27.

The book from which the next eight lessons are taken is a continuation of the story of the chosen people. Its central theme is redemption—the deliverance of Israel from bondage and their separation unto God. The question of relationship from Egyptian bondage is a type of our own redemption from sin's bondage (1 Corinthians 5:7). Pharaoh represents the devil, and Egypt the world.

I. The Increase of the Chosen Seed (1:7).

After Joseph's death Israel quickly grew into a nation. This increase was the fulfillment of Genesis 35:11, which promise was repeated to Jacob just before going into Egypt (Genesis 46:3). If it be the problem of how a little company of seventy persons could become an host of six hundred thousand men in so short a time, let us remember that God promised it, and all difficulties will vanish. There is a time coming when there shall be amazing increase in Israel (Ezekiel 36:10, 11, 37, 38; 37:29).

II. A New Dynasty (1:8-10).

Joseph's elevation in Egypt was during the reign of the Hyksos kings. Being of Semitic origin they were not hostile to the Hebrews, but when there "arose up a new king which knew not Joseph" (v. 8) the amazing growth of the Israelites excited his envy and fear (vv. 9, 10). This fear was twofold: (1) In case of war they might join the enemy and fight against them. (2) Lest they should remove from the land, thus cutting off a vital source of revenue and exposing to danger the eastern border of the land.

III. Measures to Check the Growth of Israel (1:11-22).

These measures place on exhibition the folly of worldly wisdom (1 Corinthians 3:19). Their fatal mistake was that they left God out of their calculations. God had promised that Israel should be great in numbers and mighty in power. He who plans against God shall miserably fail and shall be shown to be a fool.

1. Cruel Taskmasters (vv. 11-14). They were placed under heavy burdens. Cruel taskmasters were placed over them who forced them to labor in building treasure cities and all manner of service in the field. This measure was ineffectual, for "the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew." This rapid growth resulted in more intense burdens being heaped upon them.

2. Murder of Male Infants by the Midwives (vv. 15-21). This measure also miscarried, as the midwives feared God and chose to obey him, because they refused to destroy God's people he gave them homes and children and the joys thereof.

3. Drowning of Male Children in the River (v. 22). In order to make this measure effective all the people were charged with the responsibility of casting the Hebrew male children into the river. This mandate seems to have been given shortly before Moses was born. This plan likewise was foiled, and the very child who when a man upset his throne, was sheltered and nurtured in his own palace.

IV. The Birth and Education of Moses (2:1-8).

The measure which was designed to destroy the Hebrew menace, also brought to Pharaoh's palace and educated there the very man who afterward shattered the Egyptian power and set free the enslaved people. The faith of Moses' parents caused them to ignore the command of the king and hide him for three months (Hebrews 11:23). Faith in God is the antidote for fear (Psalms 27:1). His mother discerned in him a proper child, or a child fair to God (Acts 7:20), and believed him to be the deliverer of his people. She no doubt instilled this truth in his mind from his childhood. Perhaps led by the story of Noah's ark she made an ark of bulrushes and placed Moses in it and left it at the place where Pharaoh's daughter would be attracted when she came down to bathe. Miriam, his sister, was placed where she could watch the affair. She came with a suggestion at the opportune moment as to a nurse for the baby. Education at his mother's knee gave character, and education at the Egyptian court qualified him to be the historian and lawgiver of his people.

Necessary Ingredients.

"Love suffereth long and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself." Get these ingredients into your life. Then everything that you do is eternal. It is worth doing. It is worth giving time to.

Self-Denial.

Self-denial when regularly kept up and not only indulged now and then, out of laziness or partial affection, is one of the clearest tokens that God's holy spirit is with men, preparing them for eternal glory.—Keeble.