



1—Lieut. Gen. Sir R. Haking and his aide of the British armistice commission at Spa, acknowledging the salute of a German soldier on guard duty. 2—Czecho-Slovak soldiers going over the top in a raid on bolshevik trenches in Siberia. 3—Vincent Astor, who is to command a yeoman guard that will form part of the guard at the Palace of Versailles during the peace conference.



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## NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

**Poles Fighting the Germans on the West and the Advancing Bolsheviks on East.**

### CALL ON ALLIES FOR HELP

**Lenine's Forces Meet Disastrous Defeat at Perm, but Capture Ufa—President Wilson Visits Rome—Secretary Daniels' Program for the Greatest Navy.**

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

So far as fighting is concerned, the absorbing news is coming from Poland just now. The Poles, having enthusiastically welcomed the head of their new republic, Ignace Jan Paderewski, the famous musician, are following his lead against the Germans on the one side and the Russian bolsheviks on the other. They are determined to add to their state the province of Posen, Danzig and other parts of Prussia, and the government at Berlin is equally determined that they shall not lay hands on German territory. The result is a series of conflicts, with varying results. As this is written a report comes that a Polish army of 30,000 men is marching on Berlin and that Gustav Noske, member of the Ebert cabinet in charge of military affairs, has ordered the Fifth German division to advance to meet the Poles.

The Poles entered Frankfurt on the Oder, 50 miles east of Berlin, and also Beuthen in Prussian Silesia, and Bromberg, in the province of Posen. In the city of Posen the Poles occupied the fortress, disarming 20,000 German soldiers, and the fighting there has been almost continuous. Many Jews are said to have been slain.

The German authorities admit the Polish question is serious and that it will be difficult to prevent the establishment of a free Poland. The Poles are masters of most of the towns and have cut all means of communication. It is on their eastern borders that the Poles are having the worst time. There they are contending not only against the bolshevik armies in their sweep through Lithuania, but also against the Ukrainians, who are disputing with the Poles the possession of the southern part of Lithuania. General Pilsudsky commands a rather small army of loyal Poles, and General Haller, who commanded the Poles in France, has landed at Danzig with a body of troops; but they are a long way apart, with hostile armies between them. There is considerable demand that the allies extend quick and strong aid to the Poles, since the establishment of Poland as a buffer state not only would keep Germany from grabbing the Baltic provinces and eventually controlling Russia, but also would deprive the Germans of most of the coal deposits on which they rely. The bolshevik menace and the industrial disorder in Poland make it impossible for the Poles to await the settlement of their problem by the peace congress, say their leaders. Most of their factories were destroyed by the Germans and the thousands of Poles now sent back by Germany are clamoring for food and employment and in some places are taking the law into their own hands and plundering their former employers.

Lately the bolsheviks have both lost and won in eastern Russia. Their chief loss was at Perm, in the Urals, which was captured by General Gaida at the head of Czecho-Slovak and Siberian forces. The bolshevik Third army was virtually destroyed and Nikolai Lenine, the bolshevik premier, who was directing operations from an armored train, narrowly escaped capture. Gaida completely surprised the bolsheviks and captured 31,000 men, 5,000 railway cars, 120 field guns, 1,000 machine guns and much other equipment. Ten regiments were annihilated and the remainder of the enemy driven across the Kama river.

The bolsheviks claimed the capture, on Tuesday, of the city of Ufa, capital of the nonbolshevik government in the region west of the Ural mountains, and also of the town of Sterlitamak, south of Ufa.

In Lithuania the advance of the bolshevik forces was so threatening that the bourgeois government was moved from Vilna to Kovno, and in Estonia and Livonia the Lening troops were moving forward against Reval and Riga, occupying Romershof on the Dvina. Swedish volunteer troops have gone to the aid of the Estonians.

At the time of writing this, news comes that the Germans have evacuated Riga and that the British have landed troops, under all arms, at that port and also at Libau and Windau, the chief ports of Courland on the Baltic.

The allied forces in the Archangel region are still awaiting an announcement of policy by their governments, but they are not inactive, having recently defeated the enemy along the Onega river and greatly improved their positions. Michigan and Wisconsin troops played a notable part in these operations, which were carried out in zero temperature and deep snow.

Liebknecht has not yet succeeded in overthrowing the Ebert government in Berlin, but the independent socialist members of the government have been ousted, and it is now reported that Ebert and Scheidemann are in secret agreement with the leaders of the bourgeois party to combat the extremists, who include the Independents, the Spartacides and the sailors. The bourgeois leaders, it is said, are convinced that civil war cannot be averted. The Spartacus group, assembled in congress, howled down a proposition made by Liebknecht that they take part in the election of members of the new national assembly. Led by Rosa Luxemburg, they declared the meeting of the assembly must be prevented at all costs. Radek, head of the bolshevik mission to Germany, tells the Spartacides he would welcome an entente occupation of Germany, because the invaders would become infected with bolshevism and spread its doctrines to the west. Kurt Eisner, premier of the "republic" of Bavaria, is said to be siding with the independent socialists against Ebert, and Hindenburg is so discouraged by the disorder in Berlin that he has said he would support the occupation of the city by the British.

Returning from England to Paris early in the week, President Wilson left for Italy Wednesday evening. When he arrived in Rome he was welcomed by the king and queen and a host of other notables, and the Roman population gave him so enthusiastic a reception that it was evident they had made up their minds to outdo the Londoners and Parisians. The streets and buildings were lavishly decorated and the freedom of the Eternal City was bestowed on the American president. Banquets, official calls and conferences took up most of his time in Rome. While he was in Italy, it is understood, President Wilson studied carefully the conflicting claims of Italy and the Jugoslavs for possession of the lands along the east coast of the Adriatic.

When on the same day President Wilson in Manchester declared against the old "balance of power" methods and in favor of the league of nations, and Premier Clemenceau told the French that he still stood for a balance of power, the croakers at once discovered that there was to be great difficulty in bringing about a reconciliation between the views of the two leaders. There really did seem to be a chance for trouble there; but Colonel House called on M. Clemenceau and on New Year's day he told Mr. Wilson all about it. The result, according to hints thrown out by some of the American delegates, was that the president was assured there was nothing in Clemenceau's attitude that would justify an apprehension of any marked differences between the entente powers and the United States. Colonel House also saw Mr. Balfour and found that they were in full agreement. It is stated that Clemenceau meant that he stands for a dominating league of nations ready to use force to maintain peace.

President Wilson, it was announced,

would be back in Paris by the beginning of the week, and M. Clemenceau was expected back from a brief vacation at the same time. Mr. Lloyd George arrived in the French capital Saturday. Conferences among the representatives of the allies were to begin at once. It seems probable that the number of delegates to the peace conference will be enlarged so that experts in certain lines may sit at the board when the things they know most about are being discussed. Great Britain's delegates include Lloyd George, Balfour and Bonar Law, and among the advisers on special matters are such men as Viscount Hardinge, Sir William G. Tyrrell, Sir Louis Mallet, Sir Esme Howard, Sir Ralph Paget, Sir Eyre Crowe and Lord Robert Cecil—an imposing list of truly big men thoroughly trained in diplomacy and statecraft.

The numerous and complicated questions that the peace conference must take up and settle have given rise to the suggestion that the congress should be a continuing body so that future developments might be taken into consideration and matters decided that are now too hazy for clear vision. If this plan were adopted, the formation of the league of nations might not be so pressing a question as it is now considered by President Wilson and many others who support his views.

General satisfaction is expressed with the desire of the department of justice to have deported most of the enemy aliens now interned for their pernicious activities. These men and women—a few of the gentler sex are included—were either German spies and agents, taking their chances as such, or else traitors to the country that had given them shelter. In either case they are not wanted in America and should be sent back to the land they came from or that they served. There are a lot of others who might well be deported, but we are too ill-mannered a people for our own good in such matters.

Secretary Daniels tells the congressional committee that his determination to have a great navy is based on the argument that if the league of nations is formed the United States will be shirking its share of the policing of the world if its navy is not as big as Great Britain's; and that if the league is not established and a curtailment of armament is not agreed upon, we must have "incomparably the greatest navy in the world" to defend the Monroe doctrine and protect the weak nations. His program, according to his own admission, is intended as an argument by which President Wilson can bring the other nations to accept the proposed reduction of armament. The secretary says the president backs up his policy if competitive building is to continue. Mr. Daniels' new three-year building program calls for the appropriation of \$600,000,000 to provide for 156 additional naval ships, including ten dreadnaughts and six battle cruisers.

Two severe attacks on the administration were made in the senate last week. First Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the committee on military affairs, assailed the "dilatory" policy followed in demobilization, asserting that the administration is unprepared for disbanding the army as it was for the war itself. He warned his party that it would be held responsible politically by the returning soldier if it failed to adopt an adequate program for taking care of them. The other attack was made by a Republican, Senator Weeks of Massachusetts, who bitterly criticized the war department for delays and errors in compiling casualties among the expeditionary forces and for failure to co-operate with the Red Cross in the matter of forwarding letters from wounded soldiers to their relatives in this country. In many instances, Mr. Weeks said, parents were incorrectly informed that their sons had been killed. Also several hundred American soldiers reported as missing by the war department had been located in French hospitals by the Red Cross and letters written by them had not been forwarded because of an order by the department.

The senate commerce committee has extended its investigation of the Hog Island shipyard to a general inquiry into the doings of the shipping board.

## NEBRASKA INCIDENTS BOILED TO A FEW LINES

Occurrences Over the Cornhusker State Chronicled in Paragraph Form for the Busy Reader.

In 1913 a total of 25,617 automobile licenses were issued in Nebraska. During the year just passed the number totalled over 175,000. Based on population, this is one automobile to every 6.7 persons in the state. Douglas county has the largest number, 14,988, Lancaster coming next with 9,651. Custer county stands third with 4,239, while Hooker has the least number, 145.

Omaha police are in possession of a signed confession made by J. J. Williams, 21-year-old negro, to the murder of Max White, 17, high school lad, who the negro held up and killed while he attempted to shield his companion, Miss Libby Minkin. The murderer, who is in the hands of the Omaha police, claims the killing was accidental.

"Bill" Barnes, who ended his own life after he had murdered five members of the Wilbur Johnson household, on Hohenau Island, near Omaha, Ia., and which has stirred the entire district, was well known on the Nebraska side of the river, he having had his arm shot off in a shooting scrape in Washington county twenty years ago.

Leaving a baby alone in a house again resulted disastrously, when Miss Anna Stutzman of Grand Island left her 2-year-old nephew while she went to a neighbors. Five minutes later she returned and found the child burned so severely that it died. The baby's father and mother were both dead.

Dr. C. K. Gannaway of Stuart has sold his hospital there, disposed of his practice, and within a month will leave, with Mrs. Gannaway, to spend their lives working to save the people of the stricken districts of Armenia and Syria in Europe.

The South Omaha stock market landed in second place again last year among the big packing centers of the world. Only Chicago leads Omaha.

The next war saving stamp campaign is to be launched soon. Stamps are now on sale.

During the past month sixty-seven automobiles were stolen in Omaha, compared with seventy-one the corresponding month a year ago. This is a warning to lock your flivver when you go to the metropolis.

A movement is on foot at Omaha to organize an Aero club for Nebraska. It is estimated that over 400 men in this state have had aviation experience. The club would be patterned after aero clubs in the east.

Alliance delegates to the annual State Firemen's convention at Fremont January 21, 22 and 23, will be accompanied by the Alliance fire department band. Alliance business men have raised \$1,000 to send the band to Fremont.

Hundreds of cottontails and jack-rabbits were killed, but not a wolf was sighted in the big hunt staged in Saunders county by more than 200 men and boys. Farmers say that wolves are numerous in the county.

Merchants throughout the northern part of Nebraska are unanimous in the declaration that 1918 was a record-breaker in every line, despite the six weeks' slump due to the "flu" epidemic.

The Dodge county Medical society passed a resolution at Fremont declaring it was the sense of the society that the state-wide quarantine for influenza was absolutely worthless.

New express rates, considerably higher than former charges, went into effect in Nebraska the first of the year, in spite of the opposition of the state railway commission.

State Food Administrator Wattles was presented with a silver platter by the county food administrators in appreciation of his work. The presentation was made at Omaha.

The elevator of the Nye-Schneider-Fowler company at Colon burned to the ground, causing a loss estimated at \$5,000.

Burchard is without a newspaper, the Times having suspended publication because of lack of patronage.

Commissioners of Madison county have organized a health board to combat the influenza epidemic.

Of the 27,365 exemption claims filed with the South Platte draft appeal board, 8,714 claimants were held for service. Deferred classification was allowed 10,000 farmers. Of 4,087 dependency claims, the board allowed 2,206 appeals.

The first step in connecting Nebraska cities with the Wyoming oil fields by pipe line is to be made next spring, when work will begin on the laying of a crude oil main from the Lance Creek field in Wyoming to the potash plants near Alliance.

Rural mail carriers in the southern part of the state are having their troubles because of the rough, frozen roads. Automobiles cannot be used and owners of good horses will not let them out on the horrible roads, consequently the delivery of mail is a tough problem.

In a letter to Nebraska county councils of defense the state council thanks the various bodies for their work during the war and reiterates the necessity of the prohibition of the teaching of foreign languages in public and private schools of Nebraska.

Using an automobile body and the rear wheel and motor from a motorcycle, John and Walter Launer of Fremont, have built a motor-driven bobbed and it is attracting much attention. An electrically operated set of sleighbells serves to give an appropriate reasonable jingle to the outfit.

The annual state conference of Nebraska Council of Social Service Workers (formerly Nebraska Conference of Charities and Corrections), will be held February 2, 3 and 4 in Lincoln.

Secretary Houston of the Department of Agriculture, in a report to congress showing the amounts appropriated to the several states for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, for the construction and maintenance of roads, etc., shows that for the years 1917 and 1918 there was appropriated to Nebraska \$320,321; allotments to approved projects, \$205,792; unallotted balance, \$114,519.

The 12,008 school teachers of Nebraska draw an annual wage of \$6,414,339.94. The average monthly salary of the women teachers is \$562.20, while that of men is \$863.31. The state has 300,011 school children in 7,681 buildings. School property is valued at \$19,436,377.57. There are fifty-five blind children in the state and 591 who are deaf and dumb.

Nebraska troops to the number of several hundred reached the shores of the United States from overseas last Tuesday and Wednesday. Many of the men were wounded in action. They came on the steamer Penehonas and the Powhatan and were members of the 338th regiment and the 127th field artillery, formerly the Fourth Nebraska National Guard.

A nation-wide campaign to enroll the children under the banner of health will be launched by the National Tuberculosis association, beginning February 1 and extending to May 21. Thousands of Nebraska children will be enrolled.

Omaha's new wheel tax law, which went into effect the first of the year, and which levies a tax ranging from \$2 to \$7 on all automobiles, trucks and horse-drawn vehicles, is expected to bring \$50,000 a year into the city treasury.

Nebraska's crops for 1918, consisting of wheat, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, flaxseed, potatoes and tame hay are valued at \$344,031,000, according to the annual resume by the department of agriculture at Washington.

Because it smacked too much of German flavor people of Kerl township, Burr county, changed it by due process of law to one appealing more to American patriotism. It is now known as Pershing township.

The ban on public dances and other amusements in Fremont has been lifted. The total number of influenza cases in Fremont since the epidemic first struck the country is 1,420. The pneumonia cases total 194.

During the last three months of 1918 Omaha had 1,394 deaths compared with 582 in the corresponding months in 1917. The increase was due to the influenza epidemic.

An agreement has been made whereby the Nebraska Gas and Electric company of Beatrice is to furnish Wyoming with current for the next five years.

Stella's board of health has lifted the ban on public gatherings, and church services are again being held for the first time since Thanksgiving.

During 1918 the people of Omaha donated \$1,228,207 to war activities outside of Red Cross memberships and invested \$23,012,446 in war securities.

Costs for the upkeep of county roads and the building of new bridges throughout Douglas county amounted to \$221,768.13 for the year 1918.

Ice cutting began throughout Nebraska last week. Some parts of the state report ice sixteen inches thick and a good harvest is anticipated.

The executive committee of the Nebraska State Press association has called the annual meeting for February 20, 21 and 22 in Lincoln.

R. H. Mann, widely known throughout western Nebraska as "Daddy Mann," was instantly killed by a Burlington train at Bridgeport.

For the first time in the history of Fremont schools classes were held on New Year's day, when the city schools took no vacation.

Only nine new residences were built in Fremont during the past year, as against fifty-four in 1917.

Buffalo county sent approximately 600 men to war, nearly 100 of whom volunteered their services.

As a special courtesy to the men of DeWitt and vicinity who have served with the colors, Rev. C. E. Brown, rector of the Episcopal church, has offered his services free to any of these who desire to be married.

Active campaigning has been started by the representatives of Hastings college for raising \$200,000 among the presbyteries of Nebraska for the benefit of the college in that city.

Live stock receipts at the South Omaha market during 1918 show a decided increase over the previous year. Cattle receipts for the past year were 1,985,835 head, an increase of 15 per cent over 1917. Hog receipts were 3,434,335 head, a 23 per cent increase. Sheep receipts increased 16 per cent, the total being 3,498,624.

A quadruple funeral took place at Randolph when three members of the Tatge family of Norfolk and a cousin, who lived at Randolph, were buried there. Influenza caused the death of the four young people.

## 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 19

#### THE PASSOVER.

LESSON TEXT—Exodus 12:1-35.  
GOLDEN TEXT—For even Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us. I Corinthians 5:7.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL—Psalms 106: 36-38; Matthew 23:23-29; Hebrews 11:28.

1. The Passover Instituted (12:1-23).

1. The time set (v. 2). With the institution of the Passover came a change in the order of time. The common year was rolling on as usual, but with reference to his chosen people the order is interrupted and everything is made to date from this. This signifies that redemption is the first step in real life. "Old things have passed away, all things have become new." Before this the man was dead in trespass and sin; now he has arisen to walk in newness of life. All before redemption counts for naught. The world thinks that real life ends when one accepts Christ, but this is a grave mistake. It is the beginning of real life.

2. The lamb set apart (v. 3). This previous setting apart of the lamb typifies the foreordination of Christ to be our Savior. Redemption was not an afterthought of God (I Peter 1:18-20). This lamb must be a male without blemish, indicating that it must be both representative and perfect.

3. The lamb was killed by the whole congregation (v. 6). This shows that it was not for the individual only, but for the entire assembly. The setting apart of the lamb was not sufficient, it must be killed, for "without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins." The lamb might have been tied to the door of the Israelites that night, but there would have been no salvation, notwithstanding its perfection. Had Christ's spotless life continued till the present time and his matchless teaching gone on without interruption, not a single soul would have been saved, for "except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die it abideth alone." (John 12:24).

4. The blood of the slain lamb was to be placed upon the sideposts and lintels of the door (v. 7). It was not sprinkled upon the threshold, as it must not be trampled under foot (Hebrews 10:29). When the destroyer passed through the land he passed over the houses where the door posts were sprinkled with blood. This blood was the evidence that a substitute had been offered for them. They could rest absolutely secure, because the matter had been settled according to divine arrangement. The blood was the ground of peace. The assurance is not when you feel your sins are pardoned, but "when I see the blood I will pass over you."

5. Israel feeding upon the lamb (vv. 8-10). This denotes fellowship. Judgment must precede feasting. The eating of unleavened bread signifies that no sin is connected or allowed in fellowship with Christ. All who have entered into the power of the cross will put away sin.

6. They ate the passover ready for action (v. 11). The loins being girt about, betokens separation from sin and preparation and readiness for service. The feet being shod indicates their willingness to leave the land. The staff in the hand indicates their nature as pilgrims leaning upon a support outside of themselves. They were to leave behind them the place of death and darkness and march toward the promised land.

7. The uncircumcised denied participation in the feast (vv. 43-49). Circumcision was typical of regeneration. The significance of the requirement is that only those who have become new creatures by the power of the cross have a right to sit at the Passover feast.

8. The Significance of the Passover (12:24-28).

It was a memorial institution, calling to mind the deliverance of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage—God's interposition on their behalf, freeing them from their oppression. This was to be taught to their children when they came into the land, from generation to generation.

9. The Awful Judgment (12:29, 30). That night the destroyer passed through Egypt and slew the first born in every home where the blood was not found. An awful cry went up from Egypt that night.

10. The Great Deliverance (12:31-36).

So mighty was this stroke that Pharaoh called for Moses in the night and requested him to be gone with his flocks and herds.

#### Inward Liberty.

No good action will hinder thee, if thou be inwardly free from inordinate affection. If thou intend and seek nothing else but the will of God and the good of thy neighbor, thou shalt thoroughly enjoy inward liberty.—Thomas a Kempis.

#### One Eternal Lesson.

The world is not a playground; it is a schoolroom. Life is not a holiday, but an education. And the one eternal lesson for us all is how better we can live.