



1 and 3—Examples of the way in which the retiring Germans willfully destroyed the coal mine workings in northern France. 2—Battery F, Seventh field artillery, of the American army of occupation having a boat ride on the Rhine. 4—The mansion house, Dublin, where the Sinn Fein "Irish parliament" meets.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Captured German Colonies Are to Be Placed Under International Control.

WILSON'S PLAN IS ADOPTED

British Dominions Protest in Vain—Mandatories of League of Nations Will Rule the Territories—Little Progress With Russian Problem.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.
Germany's lost colonies occupied much of the time and attention of the peace delegates last week, and the result of their deliberations apparently was that those colonies, and probably some of the territories that are to be lopped off the Turkish empire, are to be internationalized by being intrusted to governments designated as "mandatories" by the league of nations. These mandatories presumably will have a certain liberty of action in executing their control of the colonies, and the league, it is supposed, will enforce, by safeguards, a system very similar in effect to the British colonial administration.

This disposition of the former German possessions, if it is finally accepted by the peace conference, will prove another triumph for President Wilson, for while he has yielded somewhat in compromise, it is mainly his idea. The British imperial cabinet accepted his theory, despite the strenuous objections of the representatives of the British dominions, and the admission of France also was announced. Japan was not very well pleased, and neither was Italy.

In another way this decision, if made, vindicates Mr. Wilson's ideas, for it is admitted that the creation and maintenance of the league of nations is necessary to carry out the colonial plan, and the president asserts that, inasmuch as the league was unanimously agreed to, it is necessary to "turn the colonies over to the league under the protectorate of the nations best fitted to hold them.

The question of the German colonies developed the most serious diplomatic contest the conference has engaged in, and at the time of writing the end of the fight was not in sight. Those colonies were Germany's greatest asset, and some of the allied nations had counted on them to make up in part their immense financial expenditures in the war. Secret agreements had been entered into giving Australia and New Zealand the German possessions south of the equator and giving Japan the Caroline and Marshall islands. Despite the action of the British imperial war cabinet in London, the British delegates to the conference were disposed to stand by these agreements. The representatives of Australia and New Zealand were especially insistent on their claims, and were supported by the Japanese, who expected in return the support of Great Britain for positions in the Shantung peninsula and Manchuria. The South African representatives, also, were displeased, believing the plan would encourage the rebellious elements there that are still agitating for an independent South Africa.

Assuming that the internationalization plan is adopted, it is likely the control of the lands in question would be about as follows: German West Africa to France; the Kamerun to France Congo; German Southwest Africa to the South African Union; German East Africa mainly to Great Britain, a small part going to Belgium Congo; the Carolines and Marshall islands to Japan; New Guinea to Australia; Samoa to New Zealand. Japan expresses willingness to give Kiaochau back to China, under conditions that have not yet developed. These are in the main the claims that were made by the allied nations; but President Wilson and his American colleagues made it clear they would not agree to the plan by which absolute possession of the German colonies

would be granted as a means of recouping war losses. The dividing up of the spoils of victory, they held, would be in absolute violation of the promises that the rights of communities and small nations shall be protected. It was understood that if Italy agreed to the internationalization plan she would surrender her claim to Fiume and the Dalmatian coast as absolute possessions, perhaps being given control of the latter until the territory is ready to assert the principle of self-determination.

The supreme war council tentatively decided that the spread of lawlessness in Turkey made it necessary that allied troops should be sent there, and the military representatives were directed to prepare a report on the most equitable distribution of this military burden among the allies. The occupation of Turkey will continue until the peace conference has determined on the future government of the Turkish territories. It is understood that Palestine, Armenia, Syria and Mesopotamia will come within the scope of the plan of dealing with colonies by the mandatory system.

The labor question bulks big in the doings of the peacemakers at Paris, and their international commission on labor regulation is now considering an elaborate scheme for the international regulation of conditions of employment drafted by Mr. Barnes, British minister without portfolio, in conference with British trade unionists and representatives of India and the dominions.

The Polish commission of the supreme council, made up of representatives of America, Great Britain, France and Italy, prepared to depart for Warsaw. It would seem that this commission has a big job before it, for while the Poles themselves are working fairly harmoniously under the leadership of Paderewski, they are beset by enemies on three sides and are engaged in continual warfare. The Russian bolsheviks and the Ukrainians are unrelenting in their attacks, and now the Czechs are assailing the Poles along their southern border. The former have captured a number of towns which they claim are properly within the boundaries of Czechoslovakia, and they also have seized the mining regions of Karvin, upon which the Polish state relies largely for its mineral supplies.

This fighting, of course, is in direct disobedience of the recent order of the great powers that all hostilities must cease everywhere, but the Polish representatives in Paris say their country cannot stop fighting when it is under constant military attack.

Diplomatically, Russian matters were at a standstill, awaiting replies to the invitation to a conference of all factions on the Princes' islands in the Sea of Marmora. The bolsheviks organs rather resented that plan, for they asserted the bolsheviks were gaining victories in the field that entitled them to more recognition. The representatives in Paris of the other factions continued in their attitude of passive opposition to the conference, and General Miller, head of the north Russian government in the absence of President Tschalkovsky, stated that it is not only inadvisable to hold any parley with the bolsheviks, but it would be physically impossible for the representatives of north Russia to reach the Princes' islands by February 15 without passing through bolshevik territory, which he considered impossible. The Omsk government insisted that the campaign against the bolsheviks must be pushed vigorously.

The claims of the bolsheviks to victory in the field were not without foundation. In the Archaangel region they have forced the American and allied troops to withdraw quite a distance from their advanced positions, and they have driven General Duffout out of the important city of Orenburg on the Ural river. On the other hand, they lost Saranpel, province of Toholak, to the Siberians and are reported to have been overthrown in Tashkent, capital of Russian Turkestan. In the Ukraine the soviet forces inflicted a severe defeat on the army of General Petlura and occupied Ekaterinoslav. There is little to choose between the contenders there.

Just why the allied forces are in

north Russia and what they are expected to do there is still much of a mystery and it engaged the attention of the American senate last week when Senator Johnson of California vigorously attacked the policy, or lack of policy, of the administration in this matter. The course that is being pursued is equally displeasing to many Britishers, and the French never did approve of it.

One important point concerning payment by Germany is reported to have been settled by the peace conference. It was decided that while Germany must make full reparation for unjustifiable damage done, she and her associates will not be called on to pay heavy indemnities to reimburse the victorious nations for their war expenses. Nor will Germany be compelled to relinquish the indemnity she took from France in 1871. Belgium's reparation claims will have first consideration, and perhaps those of Serbia will come next.

On the eve of the assembling of the German national convention in Weimar, the Ebert government seemed firmly seated in the place of power, though there was a possibility of combinations that would dominate it. The Spartacists were in a hopeless minority, however, and there was every reason to believe the "revolution" would run the course laid out for it by the old-time leaders, who never have relinquished control actually. That the change of form of government has not wrought a miraculous change of the German heart or the German intention to rule is the opinion of General Gouraud, the French commander, as it is of many less well informed persons. This view is borne out by the increasingly insolent attitude of the conquered Huns, and by their naive surprise and indignation when they realized that they might not be admitted to membership in the league of nations immediately and on an equality with the nations that saved civilization from their criminal assault.

A French expert has summarized the policies of the present German government as follows:

Interior—1. Complete unity. 2. Redivision of the nation for administrative purposes into a number of departments approximately of equal size without taking account of the present divisions.

Exterior—1. The annexation of German Austria. 2. Opposition to the formation of a strong Poland.

The annexation of German Austria may be balked by the formation of the proposed Danube confederation of all the states along the Danube, including German Austria and Bulgaria, for it is figured that if Germany is permitted to annex the part of Austria she covets she would be stronger than ever in territory and population.

A good deal of excitement and some resentment were stirred up in America by the announcement of a British embargo on many imports, effective March 1. Among the commodities named are numerous American products, and those who seek to arouse antagonism between the United States and Great Britain were quick to accuse the British of starting a trade war. More reasonable persons recognize that the embargo is an emergency measure to help England in the rehabilitation of her industries and that it is undoubtedly only temporary. At the same time, American business men were aroused by it to the necessity of looking after our own place in world trade.

Great Britain is having a serious time with the labor problem. Several thousand workers in England, Wales and Ireland have quit, either for more pay or for shorter hours without reduction of wages. Belfast seems to be in the worst predicament, for business and transportation are virtually suspended, riots are frequent, shops are being looted every night and the city is in darkness.

In the United States unpreparedness for peace is at the bottom of a great deal of unrest concerning the unemployment of returning soldiers. States and communities are getting busy, however, and it is hoped that soon there will be positions for all, at least as good as those they left to serve their country.

NEBRASKA INCIDENTS BOILED TO A FEW LINES

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

A furor occurred at Blue Springs when the board of education dismissed Superintendent of Schools James McDonald. The board's action was followed by a walkout on the part of the pupils and the resignation of all but one member of the school board. Pupils sympathized with the professor and refused to attend school. Members of the board, unable to cope with the situation, resigned, new members being elected and the superintendent being reinstated.

Casualties of the Eighty-ninth division, which contains hundreds of Nebraska boys, totaled 8,473, according to an official report. During the greater part of August, September, October, November, December and to January 11, the division was in line, with the exception of two days. The division was in the thick of the St. Mehiel and Argonne wood drives, and is now a part of the army of occupation in Germany.

The state supreme court has ruled that when non-resident aliens are legal heirs to Nebraska land, it becomes the duty of the county attorney of the county in which the land is located to start proceedings to forfeit the land to the state, which must pay the heirs an amount equal to the value of the property.

E. A. Holden, who disappeared from his home in Sterling in October, 1906, taking \$800, was declared legally dead by the Nebraska supreme court and the M. W. A. was ordered to pay his wife, Olive, his life insurance. The Woodmen sought to prove that Holden was seen after he disappeared.

R. V. Clark, superintendent of the State Industrial School for Boys at Kearney, has reported to the State Board of Control that the 69 cattle in the dairy herd of the school have been examined and found to be entirely free from tuberculosis.

As an inducement for the location of the permanent state camp for boys to be established by the Y. M. C. A., Columbus offers a twenty-five acre tract for a site for the camp; promises to build an artificial lake and offers a cash donation of \$2,000.

The making of brick and tile from pure western Nebraska sand, using large quantities of electrical energy developed by Nebraska streams, may be a reality in the near future, according to a number of Bassetts business men.

Four out of seven foreign language churches in Hastings have returned to the use of German in their church services since the ban was raised by the state authorities.

The State Banking board has mailed out a call to the 956 state banks in Nebraska, asking for a report on the condition of the banks at the close of business January 28.

Nebraska, population considered, stands first in the United States in number of banks, with a total of 1,120. Nebraska has one bank to every 1,207 of her population.

Ice in the Platte river in Nebraska has broken up and the river is being cleared of the crystal. It is something out of the ordinary for the river to break up during January.

Free membership privileges for a period of three months will be extended by the Columbus Y. M. C. A. to all Platte county boys returning from the war.

The annual meeting of the State Florists' society will be held in Lincoln during the meeting of Organized Agriculture, February 25 to 28.

Several Bassetts men and the eastern capitalists are making plans to establish the third bank in that city. Bassetts now has two banks.

The average number of automobile license plates mailed out by the secretary of state during January has been 4,133 daily.

Louis J. Koepff, for 17 years connected with the *Beatrice Daily Sun*, has bought the *Plymouth News* of M. M. Falk.

Norfolk's automobile show, which will be staged March 19 to 22, inclusive, promises to be an elaborate affair.

A government land bank has been organized at Wymore to be known as the Wymore National Farm loan association.

Soldiers overseas who submit proper evidence that their families need them because of sickness or other reasons, may be discharged there, according to orders sent by the government to commanding officers.

New influenza cases in Nebraska reported to the state board of health ran as low as 131 a day during the past week. For several weeks the number of new cases have run close to 500 a day, and when the epidemic was at its height as many as 3,000 cases have been reported daily.

A wolf hunt in Center and Sheridan townships of Phelps county, resulted in the killing of eight wolves.

Government veterinarians are investigating a hog disease which is not cholera, and which has many of the symptoms of influenza, and is spreading over Iowa, Nebraska and other neighboring states.

Nebraska representatives in Washington are making an effort to secure public buildings at Scottsbluff, Broken Bow, David City, Seward, Geneva, Schuyler and Wayne. Kinkaid, Sloan and Stevens have already started the ball a rolling in the interest of their home districts, and other members have some towns on their lists for which they will make efforts.

Discharged soldiers and sailors of Buffalo county have perfected what is believed to be the first organization of veterans of the world war. The object is to organize all Buffalo county men who have seen service and been given an honorable discharge, no particular motive prompting the move other than a patriotic effort.

An organization of American business men who resent the tendency to the return to the use of German in Hastings foreign language churches, are uniting in protests to members of the legislature urging the passage of a more stringent law which will forbid the use of any foreign languages in any of the schools.

Two of the most unusual "camouflage" ever employed by booze smugglers were discovered in Omaha, when a mail sack was found to contain two quarts of whisky and a trunk containing seven hollow brass shells, war trophies, were containers of two quarts of whisky each.

Figures given out by General Crowder at Washington show that from April 1, 1917, up to November 11, 1918, the date of the signing of the armistice, Nebraska contributed 53,452 of her young men to the cause of helping win the world war.

Two David City school teachers, Miss Esther Able, 23, and Harold Townly, 22, were killed and two more teachers were severely injured when a Union Pacific passenger train struck the automobile in which they were riding at Schuyler.

There is no law except public opinion to stop the use of foreign language over the telephone, the Nebraska state railway commission informed R. J. Kemper, secretary of the phone company at Leigh.

Organization of Nebraska women into democratic and republican political camps by leaders of those two parties is expected to begin at once, following the decision of District Judge Flansburg at Lincoln, giving women partial suffrage.

Figures given out by the agricultural department at Washington show that 3,851,000 bushels of potatoes were held in stock in Nebraska on January 1, 76 per cent by the growers and the balance by dealers.

George S. Dick, head of the Kearney state normal school for the past four years, has resigned his position. During the remainder of the school term George Martin will act in the capacity of president.

A strip of land three miles wide and eighteen miles long between Grant and Gordon counties, disputed for thirty years by Grant, was awarded to Grant county by the Nebraska supreme court.

Mayor Miller of Lincoln proposes fitting auto speeders in proportion to their speed—81 per mile per hour—above a specified limit when motorist is hitting off 30 miles an hour by the speedometer.

A total of 21,486 head of hogs were brought to the South Omaha market in January in auto trucks, breaking all monthly records in the history of the yards transported in that manner.

Omaha is making preparations to entertain members of the Nebraska Farmers Congress which will hold its annual convention there Feb. 17-20.

On account of the mild weather many Nebraska coal dealers retailed no more coal in January than they did last August, so they say.

Fifty-six recruiting stations have been established in as many Nebraska towns to enroll Nebraska men for the merchant marine.

The Omaha city commission has voted to establish a municipal market in the city where producer and consumer can deal directly.

Word has just been received by Fremont relatives that Roy Sauer has been awarded the distinguished service cross.

Dick Slack, who lived near Pawnee City, was found dead in his barn, he having been kicked to death by a team of mules.

Another flare-up of the dreaded influenza appears to have started in Furnace county in and around Willsboro.

Douglas county is planning to construct at least one hundred miles of surfaced roads the coming summer.

Commissioners of Saline county have appropriated \$2,000 for farm bureau work during the year beginning March 1.

Plans for a large terminal station at Table Rock to take care of automobile truck lines radiating from the city have been made by the Co-operative Garage and Delivery system. The organization has acquired a site 200x100 feet on which the station will be erected. Seven lines out of Table Rock will be organized and a daily schedule started soon.

Farmers all along the Elkhorn river valley as far northwest as Ainsworth, have been in the fields for the past ten days seeding and preparing the ground for crops.

Plymouth citizens are making an effort to secure an electric lighting plant for the town and have requested the Beatrice company to construct such an enterprise in the village.

It appears to be the general opinion among good road enthusiasts of Nebraska that the western part of the state is outdoing the eastern half in enthusiasm on highway improvement.

YOUR CHANCE HERE

Unbounded Prosperity Ahead of Western Canada.

Opportunity Beckons Settlers of All Kinds—"With the Golden Wake That Marked the Way the Happy Reapers Went"—James Whitcomb Riley.

The war having been brought to a favorable conclusion more attention can now be given to the agricultural and industrial development of Western Canada, which were checked by the troublous times of the past four years. Now that these are over, the proper development of the country will be continued.

True, much agricultural progress has been made during this time. Crop production has been greatly increased, the number of live stock has steadily grown, and with each succeeding year the dairying and wool industries have become more important. But despite this forward march, many phases of development have been held in check. The activities of farmers, too, have been greatly hampered by shortage of labor, and, under the circumstances, what they have achieved can only be described as marvelous.

Excepting those industries closely allied to agriculture, such as butter and cheese manufacture, industrial activity in the Prairie Provinces has been almost at a standstill. And even in those branches extensions have been strictly limited to those of urgent necessity. Building has been considerably curtailed, especially in the towns and cities, though many commodious and up-to-date dwellings, barns and other buildings have been erected by farmers in the country. Indeed, the amount of building farmers have done is one of the outward signs of their prosperity; but considerably more of it would have been done had not the more important work of food production received priority in the labor available. Railway construction work has been almost entirely suspended.

With more help available, and the use of the labor-saving devices that have been adopted during the last few years great advances in the agricultural development of Western Canada might be looked for even if no new settlers were expected; but the coming of thousands of prospective settlers who have hitherto been deterred only by the unsettled conditions from making their homes in this last great West will give a considerable impetus to every phase of agriculture in these Prairie Provinces.

Hand in hand with the development of agriculture, there will be a renewal of industrial activity. For the establishment of such industries as sugar refineries, canneries, and many other industries for the utilization of the products of the land, as well as for the extension of the already important industries of butter and cheese manufacture, are splendid opportunities. Mining, lumbering, quarrying, the manufacture of clay products are also a few industries capable of considerable growth, and to which greater attention can now be devoted.

To provide accommodation for present business requirements alone would keep the building trade busy for a long time, but with further development in the cities it is impossible to foresee any slackness in any branch of this trade. And the number of farmers whose needs have outgrown their present accommodation and who have been awaiting an opportunity to replace their buildings by larger and more modern ones, is considerable and constantly increasing. Municipal work will be gradually resumed, and the railways have much work in contemplation.

All this points to a period of great prosperity in Western Canada—agricultural and industrial prosperity. The former is the more important, for on it the latter depends. Being primarily an agricultural country, Western Canada will probably pass through the readjustment period with little difficulty.

There is no reason to believe that farming will be less remunerative than it has been in the past; there are, on the other hand, many good and sound reasons for believing that the returns will be as large as ever. One thing is certain: Intelligent farming on the fertile prairies of Western Canada, requiring as it does the smallest possible capital outlay compared with that required to get a start in older settled countries, will continue to be one of the quickest and surest ways to independence that can be followed by the average man.—Advertisement.

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