

# Arks Sink Three of Allies' Battleships

NEWS SECTION

PAGES ONE TO TEN.

# THE OMAHA BEE

THE WEATHER  
Fair

VOL. XLIV—NO. 236.

OMAHA, SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 20, 1915—TWENTY PAGES.

On Trains and at  
Hotel News Stands, 5c.

SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

## GREATER OMAHA BILL PASSES HOUSE WITH AMENDMENT

Consolidation Measure Providing for Vote of People in Corporations Affected Goes Through, 72 to 25.

### MEMBERS CHANGE THEIR VOTES

At Close of Roll Call it Stood 54 to 42 and Rush Began to Get on Winning Side.

### IT NOW GOES TO THE SENATE

(From a Staff Correspondent.)  
LINCOLN, Neb., March 19.—(Special Telegram.)—The house this morning passed the Omaha annexation bill, as amended by the committee of the whole, by a vote of 72 to 25. At the end of the roll call the vote stood 54 to 42, and members began to change their votes. Among these were Barrett, Reiser, Taylor, Anderson of Boyd, Cronin, Fuller, Nustman, Kime, Harris, Stearns and Slevers.

The measure goes to the senate for action on the amendments made by the house. The amendment ordered by the house yesterday afternoon provides that the consolidation must be approved by a majority of the voters affected at a special election to be called by the governor not earlier than one month or later than two months from date he signs it.

May Postpone City Election.  
In order that the annexed territory may get in on the selection of officers for the greater city, it is understood that the election which was to have taken place in Omaha this spring will be postponed to enable the annexed territory to participate.

Charlie Bryan's Hand Visible.  
The introduction of the amendment is the result, so it is said, of Charlie Bryan and State Chairman Thompson of the democratic state committee taking a hand in the matter. For this amendment it was asserted, was against the Bryanistic principle of "letting the people rule," and as a consequence the influence of the two was brought to bear to bring about the securing of a chance to let the people vote in order to have the democratic party from going back on one of its planks built more to get in on than to stand on after getting in.

As a result of this attempt to carry out a so-called democratic principle, the people of Omaha will have to go to the expense of an election, fight among themselves for a couple of months, stir up hard feelings and continue the fight which has been going on for the last month, when it was a foregone conclusion that the bill could have been passed in its original form and the people spared the expense of the special election.

Following is the amendment:  
\* The Amendment in Detail.  
Amend section 1 by striking out all of said section after the word "city" in line 10, and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "Then it is the duty of the governor of the state to call and proclaim a special election to be held in such metropolitan city and such adjoining cities or villages, simultaneously, at which election there shall be submitted to the electors of said metropolitan city and such adjoining cities or villages the question of the consolidation of such adjoining cities or villages with the metropolitan city. Such question shall be submitted in substantially the following form, to-wit: Shall the city of \_\_\_\_\_ be consolidated with the metropolitan city of \_\_\_\_\_, or, as the case may be, shall the village of \_\_\_\_\_ be consolidated with the metropolitan city of \_\_\_\_\_, the ballot providing, in the usual manner, for a "yes" and "no" vote on the question. Such call or proclamation shall be filed by the governor (Continued on Page Two, Column Two.)

Amend City Light Bill to Buy Plant  
Water Board Managers Consent to Change in Order to Save the Measure.  
LITTLE OPPOSITION THIS FORM  
LINCOLN, Neb., March 19.—(Special.)—Evidently becoming alarmed over the prospects of his water board electric lighting bill going through, R. B. Howell today prepared an amendment, which provides for the appraisal of the plant of the Omaha Electric Light & Power company. This was adopted with few dissenting votes and the bill was recommended for passage, as amended.

No roll call was had, the members simply voting viva voce.  
Under the amendment the same proposition now confronts the people of Omaha as in the case of the creation of the water board.  
What Amendment Provides.  
The amendment provides that before the water board can submit bonds for the construction of an electric light plant, three appraisers shall be selected, one by the water district, one by the owners of the Omaha Electric plant and they select the third, who shall appraise the plant, and then an election shall be called to vote bonds for purchase of plant in amount in appraisal. If the owner of the plant fails to accept the appraisal or starts suit, then the provisions of the original bill shall be in effect.

Water Board Lobby Busy.  
Debate over the bill was started in the house this forenoon. Members of the water board's lobby and their political allies were busy in the background, while their lieutenants on the floor boomed for the bill.  
Mr. Palmer, the chief sponsor of the water board measure admitted that he had received twenty-nine telegrams from Omaha men opposing S. F. 4, but he claimed that they all came from men who are interested in public service corporations. He denied that any politics is mixed up with the attempt of R. B. Howell's water board to extend its activities into the electric lighting field.

At the same time Palmer was making this statement, Howell himself was leaning over the gate. City Attorney Rine of Omaha, was busily conversing with Douglas county members and C. B. Sherman, another member of the water board was occupying a seat with the Douglas delegation, while ex-Governor C. H. Aldrich, one of Howell's close political associates, was sitting in the chamber.

Amendments Proposed.  
Mr. Palmer sent up some amendments to the bill providing that the water board might negotiate through appraisers for the purchase of privately owned lighting plant at Omaha subjects to a popular vote. This led Mr. Hoffmeister to remark that Palmer must have set up all night getting acquainted with the bill as the latter had told him only yesterday morning that he had never read S. F. 4, and did not know its provisions. Hoffmeister (Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

LATEST OF UNCLE SAM'S FIGHTING  
—Launching of the United States battleship *Irresistible*, Pennsylvania, photographed in the bottle of champagne of Miss Kolb broke the bottle of champagne over



## AMEND CITY LIGHT BILL TO BUY PLANT

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## IRRESISTIBLE AND OCEAN LOST WITH CRAFT OF FRANCE

Admiralty Announces that Two British Battleships and One French Man of War Sunk in Dardanelles.

LIKELY DESTROYED BY MINES

Another Gallic Naval Vessel in Straits Put Out of Action by Turkish Foes.

CARDEN ILL AND NOT IN CHARGE

LONDON, March 19.—The British admiralty announces that the British battleships *Irresistible* and *Ocean* have been sunk.

The admiralty announces that the French battleship *Bouvet* also was blown up by a mine in the Dardanelles and sunk and that virtually its entire crew was lost.

The admiralty statement adds that the battleships *Queen* and *Implacable* have been dispatched from England to replace the lost British ships.

The *Ocean* struck a drifting mine and the admiralty believes the *Irresistible* probably met with a like disaster. It is announced the operations against the Dardanelles are continuing.

Statement Concerning Losses.  
The admiralty statement says the British losses among the personnel of the ships were not heavy considering the scale of the operations.

The British battle cruiser *Infelix* had its forward control hit by a heavy shell and will need repairs.

The *Irresistible* left the battle line, listing heavily, according to the report. Vice Admiral Sackville Hamilton Carden, who is ill, has been succeeded in command at the Dardanelles by Rear Admiral John M. De Robeck.

Both the battleships *Irresistible* and *Ocean* recently have been engaged in the operations against the Dardanelles. A Berlin dispatch of Friday said the *Irresistible* had been put out of action and that another battleship had been seriously damaged in the fighting in the waterway.

Report of Turks.  
CONSTANTINOPLE, March 18.—(Via Berlin and Wireless to London, March 19.)—An official statement says a squadron of six British and four French battleships at 7:20 o'clock yesterday morning attacked three fortresses of the Dardanelles. At the same time another squadron of the allied fleets commenced operations against three fortresses in Saros bay. After a fierce artillery duel the hostile ships withdrew at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, but part of the squadron continued its fire until 8 o'clock at long range and at great intervals. The French battleship *Bouvet* struck a mine at 2:30 in the vicinity of the entrance to the straits and sank in three minutes.

A British torpedo boat was sunk by the fire from the forts. The British battleship *Irresistible* was put out of action, while another battleship was seriously damaged.

Statement from Paris.  
PARIS, March 19.—The French ministry of marine tonight gave out the following communication:

"The French battleship *Bouvet* has been sunk during the operations in the Dardanelles by the explosion of a mine.

"The battleship *Gaulois* was damaged and put out of action.

"Two British battleships were sunk by mines.

"Part of the crew of the *Bouvet* is believed to have been saved."

Tells of Allies' Loss.  
BERLIN, March 19.—By Wireless to Sayville, L. I.—The Overseas News Agency today gave out the following item regarding the operations in the Dardanelles:

"Turkish headquarters reports that an enemy destroyer has been sunk in the Dardanelles and that one British battleship has been disabled and another damaged. The Ministry of Constantinople reports that two British battleships of the types of the *Irresistible* and *Africa*, which had already been damaged, were sunk last night by the fire of the Turkish batteries. A Turkish aviator has ascertained that one battleship of the *Cornwallis* type has been towed by several ships to the island of Tenedos."

Five Officers of Gordon Highlanders Are Killed in Action  
LONDON, March 19.—Owing to the anxiety felt in Scotland regarding the Sixth battalion of Gordon Highlanders, Joseph N. Rutherford, member of Parliament, made inquiries of the government, whereupon the under secretary of war department replied that he was greatly regretted to state that Colonel MacLean and four other officers had been killed and several wounded.

A dispatch to the Times gives a list of twenty-five British officers killed, whose names had not appeared in the official list, making a total of 33 officers killed or wounded in the recent fighting.

NEBRASKA MAN GUILTY OF FORGERY TAKES POISON  
ROOSE, Ia., March 19.—(Special Telegram.)—Clarence Smith, a young man from Huntville, Neb., arrested last night charged with forgery, pleaded guilty and was given fifteen years in state prison at hard labor. This morning in court he found a bottle of disinfectant and drank it. It is believed he will die.

James Hamilton Lewis Draws Dark View of Future for the United States  
JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., March 19.—Warning that the United States must decide on a definite foreign policy was given by Senator James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois who addressed the Missouri legislature today.

Senator Lewis said the United States should decide whether it would retain the Philippines and maintain two large fleets to resist aggression on the part of foreign powers, or the United States must decide to leave the Philippines and return to the traditional policy of isolation.

"Should the United States find it necessary to make a protest against Japan forcibly seizing China, Japan would probably ask its present allies—England, France and Russia—to support it against the United States," said Senator Lewis.

"Then America would be confronted with a remarkable situation. Should Japan be forced to vent the grievance of its people by war, it would seize the Philippines and then would seize Hawaii as the base from which to intercept our fleet on its way to recover the Philippines. Then Russia, the ally of Japan, would seize Northern Alaska."

"This would divide our army and navy. England because of its alliance with Japan, could render no aid to the United States in Canada or Alaska—nor would it dare to do so in view of English possessions and English citizens in Japan and China."

"Central America, which has a grievance against us because of the claim that we forcibly took Panama, might lend itself to aid our foe by destroying the Panama canal to prevent our fleet in the Atlantic and Pacific from joining."

It is plain that the United States has but one of two courses. Either we must come from the Philippines and remove any governmental interest from the far east, or we must maintain an Atlantic fleet large enough to cope with combined Europe, and a Pacific fleet large enough to combat the combined Orient."

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## TWO BRITISH SHIPS HIT BY TORPEDOES

Steamer *Bluejacket*, Loaded With Wheat, Attacked by Submarine Off Beachy Head.

## MR. DANIELS CALLS ATTORNEY COWAN

Commissioner Tells Lawyer Stockmen's Lawyer Not to Make a Nuisance of Himself.

## RATE ON CATTLE IS LAID ASIDE

CHICAGO, March 19.—Clifford Thorne, chairman of the Iowa Railroad commission at the hearing of the Western railroad freight rate case before Interstate Commerce Commissioner W. M. Daniels, charged certain witnesses so they could not be cross-examined by counsel for the shippers.

S. H. Cowan, Fort Worth, Tex., had appeared on behalf of the shippers in opposition to the railroad's proposed increase of 34 cents a hundred pounds on live stock. He announced he had to leave the city and wanted the railroad witnesses on live stock put on for cross-examination. The question of advanced rates on cotton piece goods, however, have been scheduled for today.

"It must be evident to the commission that the carriers objected to putting in some of their live stock witnesses at a time when Mr. Cowan could be present to cross-examine them," said Mr. Thorne.

Mr. Cowan attempted to speak, but he was interrupted by Commissioner Daniels, who said:

"I want you to bear in mind the courtesies due this commission and those in attendance in this hearing. You have no charter to make yourself a universal nuisance."

Mr. Thorne, Mr. Cowan and others left the room. The hearing then proceeded on the proposed freight rate increases on cotton piece goods.

S. H. Johnson, assistant freight traffic manager of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad, testified that the present rate on cotton piece goods was abnormally low. The proposed increase, he said, would average six-tenths of one cent for three-cent basis on a shipment valued at \$1. In detail he testified the increases will be:

"First, an advance of 5 cents a hundred pounds uniformly from such points as Chicago, St. Louis and Minneapolis to western trunk line territory, Kansas and Nebraska; secondly, an advance of 5 cents from Texas producing points on the Missouri river and points west thereof, Missouri river and points west thereof, 10 cents to points east of the Missouri and west of the Indiana-Illinois line; 20 cents to territory east of Chicago, and 10 cents to the seaboard by way of the Gulf."

## Runs Amuck With Pistol in Theater; Dancer is Killed

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 19.—An Algerian dancer, known as the "Princess Eurkakt," a member of a ballet in a Russian amusement concession at the Panama Pacific exposition, was shot and instantly killed last night by her brother, Isaac Lisraki, during a performance.

W. T. Davis, a Colman county farmer, said he believes land owners in selecting tenants desire to "get a man with plenty of force (children) and a mule and push them down the road."

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## Wireless Apparatus Weighs Eight Pounds

NEW YORK, March 19.—A wireless telegraph instrument, weighing eight pounds, that can be carried in a hand satchel and operated from an automobile, was tested by officers of the United States signal corps on Bedloe's island yesterday. The instrument was connected with the antenna of the wireless station on the island and sent a message which was received at Fort Hancock twenty-one miles away. It is claimed that the instrument can send messages 1,000 feet or more without antennas and it would be valuable in trench warfare. The extreme radius of its operation is said to be 50 miles. M. B. Dilley, master signal electrician, who observed the test, said that the wireless machine could be operated with electricity from an automobile battery.

## ALLIED FORCES ACTIVE IN EAST AND WEST AREAS

Raid Into East Prussia and Thrusts Into Belgium Make it Impossible for Germans to Shift Their Armies.

KAISER MUST FIND NEW FORCES  
Tactics of Attempting Crushing Blows Alternately on Each Front Are Ended.

NEXT MOVEMENT IS UNCERTAIN

## The Day's War News

RUSSIAN INVASION of Germany apparently has led to the occupation of Menel, an important Baltic port at the northern tip of East Prussia. The German official report of today indicates that Russian forces have entered the city.

PETROGRAD believes that Field Marshal Von Hindenburg has decided to launch a new attack on Warsaw from the west.

RUSSIAN ARMY which is invading Turkish Armenia is said to have won another victory, capturing a Turkish base on the Black Sea near the Russian border.

TWO MORE British steamers have been destroyed by Germany's submarines. They were torpedoed in the English channel.

TURKISH War department announced today that the French battleship *Bouvet* had been struck during the bombardment of the Dardanelles. The statement indicates that the Turkish fleet, whose location has been unknown for some time, again is engaged actively in the Black Sea.

AUSTRIAN statement says if it agrees to make territorial concessions sufficient to satisfy Italy, it will defer formal transfer of the territory until after the war.

INFORMATION from Bucharest is that the Austrian forces in Bukovina have been reinforced and are undertaking a strong offensive movement.

LONDON, March 19.—The apparent failure of Field Marshal von Hindenburg's various attempts to reach Warsaw, the re-appearance of Russians over the east Prussian frontier, near Tilsit, and the allied offensive in the west, has, according to British observers, put Germany in a position where it dare not shift any substantial force from either east or west.

Although there are rumors of reinforcements being hurried from Poland to France or Belgium to meet the French and British thrusts, military writers in London hold to the opinion that Germany must maintain its present armies in both areas of fighting intact. This will necessitate the finding of new forces for the east and west if it would effectively meet the increasing strength of its enemies. It is pointed out that the plan to deliver a crushing blow in one theater and then to rush across the country to the other has miscarried on both fronts.

This was seen first in the dash to Brest, the battle of Ypres, and then repeatedly in the east, as Field Marshal Von Hindenburg sought to break through the Russian lines to the Polish capital.

Considerable mystery surrounds the next move of the Germans, although the prevailing belief here is that it will be a big offensive in the west, probably against the British front.

Great Britain has made no official reply to the German allegations that a British squadron fired on the German cruiser *Dresden* while it was within the three-mile limit of Chilean waters, and no denial has been forthcoming of the German statement that the *Dresden* was blown up by its own crew.

The government is proceeding with the plan to mobilize women to replace men in factories who are needed in the war. Upward of 700 women, willing to substitute for men, have been registered during the last twenty-four hours.

## Someone is Looking

for what you have to offer, be it furniture, musical instruments, a business, furnished rooms or what not.

If they don't find an ad about it in The Bee's Want Ad pages, you're the loser.

Next Sunday will be a most favorable day for calling Bee readers what you have.

Write out an ad today and send, telephone or bring it in early. If you wish, have a solicitor call.

Telephone Tyler 1000

## THE OMAHA BEE

"Everybody Reads 'em Want Ads."

### The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Saturday:  
For Omaha, Council Bluffs and vicinity:  
Fair; colder.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:  
High.....29  
Lowest.....15  
Mean.....22

Temperature at Omaha Today:  
High.....30  
Lowest.....16  
Mean.....23

Comparative Local Record:  
1913, 1914, 1915, 1912  
Highest yesterday.....25  
Lowest yesterday.....12  
Mean yesterday.....18  
Precipitation......01  
Temperature.....32  
Departure from the normal:  
Normal temperature.....32  
Deficiency for the day.....16  
Deficiency since March 1.....16  
Normal precipitation......36 inch  
Deficiency for the year......36 inch  
Total rainfall since March 1......56 inch  
Excess since March 1......56 inch  
Excess for the year......56 inch  
Excess for the period, 1913......56 inch

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.  
Station and State Temp. High-Rain-  
of Weather..... T. B. est. fall

Cheyanne, clear..... 23 24 0  
Davenport, cloudy..... 23 24 0  
Des Moines, cloudy..... 23 24 0  
Laurens, snowing..... 23 24 0  
North Platte, part cloudy..... 23 24 0  
Omaha, cloudy..... 23 24 0  
Pueblo, clear..... 23 24 0  
Rapid City, clear..... 23 24 0  
Salt Lake City, clear..... 23 24 0  
Santa Fe, cloudy..... 23 24 0  
Sheridan, part cloudy..... 23 24 0  
Sioux City, snowing..... 23 24 0  
Valentine, clear..... 23 24 0

T indicates trace of precipitation.  
A. W. WELLS, Local Forecaster.