

# 'S.O.S.' CALL FROM AN ARMY VESSEL

POWHATAN IN DISTRESS OFF ATLANTIC COAST—500 ARE ON BOARD.

500 PASSENGERS ON BOARD

Radio Message Reports Boiler Room Flooded—Steamers Western Comet and Cedric Are Nearby Ready to Take Off Her Travelers.

Boston.—The army transport Powhatan, with 500 passengers aboard, sent word that she was in distress about 500 miles east of New York. The boiler room was said to be flooded, with the water gaining and help from the pumps uncertain. The steamers, Western Comet and Cedric, which replied to the distress calls, were asked to stand by.

Capt. Randall, who signed the messages, gave the position of the Powhatan as latitude 41.05 north; longitude 62.01 west.

The first message said the transport's fire room was flooded, with the pipes choked and water gaining. In a second message Capt. Randall said: "We have 500 persons on board. Boiler room flooded. Desire ships stand by until results of attempt to raise steam to start pumps is known."

New York.—The United States army transport Powhatan, reported to be leaking badly about 500 miles east of New York, is in no immediate danger, and will probably be floated into Halifax, the nearest port, according to a wireless message received shortly after midnight from Capt. Randall, the ship commander, at the army transport office here.

The Powhatan, which was formerly the Hamburg-American liner Hamburg, and prior to that the private yacht of William Hohenzollern, sailed from New York for Antwerp on Friday morning with 271 military and civilian passengers. It was announced at the army transport office. She carried a crew of 150 men and had aboard a cargo of military supplies.

### Classification of List.

The passenger list of the Powhatan, army officials said, was classified as follows: One hundred and eighty-three military, eighty-four war department, two commerce department and two navy department.

Included among these was a party of seventy-five former service men and officers who were on their way to the French battlefields to begin the work of returning the bodies of American soldiers dead in this country. The expedition was in charge of Herbert S. Foreman, a former artillery officer of the Rain bow division.

The first wireless message received at the army transport office from Capt. Randall, the ship's commander, said: "Ship leaking in fire room. Fire room flooded. Steam not sufficient to operate pumps. Assistance requested. Northeastern gale blowing."

Shortly afterward another message reported that the White Star liner Cedric was standing by.

### THROW BACK SOVIET ARMY.

Powerful Counter Attacks Are Reported.

Copenhagen.—The bolsheviks are throwing large forces on the Lithuanian front, including Chinese regiments, says a dispatch to the official Lithuanian bureau from Riga.

"The Liths everywhere," says the dispatch, "have repulsed the enemy's powerful counter attacks with enormous enemy losses and captured a number of villages in the advance on Rzeszotza. They also have captured the junction of St. Pitalow and many villages in the direction of Pakov."

Berne.—Considerable bolshevik forces are menacing the Ukrainian and Polish fronts, according to a message received by the Ukrainian mission here. Gen. Petlura, the Ukrainian leader, has started for the front and important military events seem imminent, the message says.

The economic situation in the Ukraine is described as favorable. Despite the long period of warfare, there are large stocks of grain, sugar and other foodstuffs.

Berlin.—An official telegram received from Danzig reports a collision between German troops and Poles near Argenua (province of Posen) in which the greater part of the German occupation force fell into the hands of the Poles.

The dispatch places the entire blame for the affair on the Poles, saying that they advanced several hours before the time agreed upon for the German evacuation of the district.

### National Banks Prosperous.

Washington.—With resources aggregating \$23,444,992,000 on November 17, national banks of the United States have established a new record for growth and development, it was said by John Skelton Williams, controller of the currency, in making public figures as to the bank call of that date. Between the calls of September 12 and November 17, national banking resources increased \$29,576,000. A gain of \$3,623,538,000 in resources for the year ending November 17 was reported.

# HERE COMES THE UNDERTAKER



CHICAGO TRIBUNE.

# BRITAIN FACES WAR? U. S. MARINES IN FIGHT

LONDON FEARS NEW CONFLICT WITH RUSSIAN REDS.

Cabinet and Military Chiefs Called to Paris for Conference on Situation.

London, Jan. 16.—Before peace with Germany is a week old the British public has been brought up sharply against the possibility of another war.

Winston Spencer Churchill, secretary for war; Walter Hume Long, first lord of the admiralty; Baron Beatty, commander of the grand fleet, and Field Marshal Sir Henry H. Wilson, chief of the imperial staff, left London having been hurriedly summoned to Paris for a consultation with Premier Lloyd George and other British officials there on important military and naval matters.

This summons is inevitably connected in the public mind with the semi-official statement published, calling attention to the threatening situation in the middle East as a result of bolshevik military successes, which have given the soviets virtual mastery of the whole of European Russia, for although it is not yet confirmed that they have entered Odessa, it is believed it cannot be long before they are in full possession of the coast regions in that vicinity.

By their victories the bolsheviks have obtained command of enormous supplies of food, raw materials, coal and rolling stock and other means of transportation of which they formerly were in need.

### TO STOP FEEDING THE WORLD

Hoover Says Europe Must Supply Food for Victims of War—Wants American Aid Stopped.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Herbert Hoover told the house ways and means committee that the United States should serve notice on the world that this government after the immediate emergency can no longer extend relief to Austria. While it was the duty of the United States to come to Austria's relief this year he said European nations responsible for her downfall by the treaty terms should bear the burden thereafter.

Mr. Hoover appeared in support of the request of Secretary of the Treasury Glass for authorization for the use of \$150,000,000 by the grain corporation for the purchase of food for the people of Austria, Poland and other European countries.

### WATER POWER BILL IS PASSED

Senate Ends Ten-Year Fight by Adopting Measure, 52 to 18—Goes to Conference.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Ending a ten-year fight, the senate passed the water power bill, which now goes to conference for the composing of differences between the house and the senate.

The bill provides for creation of a federal water-power commission, composed of the secretaries of war, interior and agriculture, which would be authorized, after investigation, to issue licenses for development of water-power projects "for a reasonable annual charge." The licenses would run for 50 years.

### SEVEN SUGAR MEN INDICTED

Chicago Federal Grand Jury Votes Thirteen More and Continues Its Investigation.

Chicago, Jan. 16.—Indictments against seven men, officials of three wholesale grocery houses, were returned by the federal grand jury before Federal Judge Carpenter, charging them with profiteering in sugar.

Seven Die in Fireworks Blast. Aix Les Bains, France, Jan. 19.—Seven persons were killed and many injured in an explosion in a fireworks factory here. Three adjoining factories were destroyed and the walls of a number of houses were cracked.

Mines Are Scattered by Storm. Stockholm, Jan. 19.—Many marine mines, which were carried away by the heavy storm which has prevailed over the North sea for several days, are floating through the Scandinavian straits, according to report.

AMERICANS AND GENDARMERIE REPEAL ATTACK IN HAYTI.

Yanks Pursue Outlaws Outside the Capital—150 Rebels Are Killed or Captured.

Washington, Jan. 17.—United States marines and Haytian gendarmierie repelled an attack on Port au Prince, the Haytian capital, by a force of 800 bandits, more than half of whom were killed, wounded or captured after being pursued outside the city, the navy department was advised.

The casualties of the marines were two privates wounded, according to the report of the engagement received at the navy department today from Col. J. H. Russell, commanding the marine forces and gendarmierie in Haiti.

The bandit force, Col. Russell said, approached Port au Prince in three columns, which immediately were met and driven back.

Certain revolutionary elements of the city attempted to join the bandits in the assault, he said, adding that he believed the fate of the attacking forces should be "sufficient to prevent an early repetition of the assault."

Honolulu, T. H., Jan. 17.—The Japanese foreign office has announced that a formal note will be sent to China asking the appointment of a commission to negotiate with Japan regarding the restoration of Shantung, according to a Tokyo cable dispatch to the Nippu Ull, a Japanese language newspaper here.

### MANY KILLED IN BERLIN RIOT

Members of Radical Mob Shot Down by Machine Guns When They Try to Storm Reichstag.

Berlin, Jan. 15.—Minister of Defense Noske showed his teeth to the radicals again when machine guns were turned on a mob of communists and independent socialists who attempted to storm the reichstag.

A furious battle on the very steps of the reichstag was the climax to a demonstration of a mob of radicals estimated at 30,000 who had left factories and shops at noon and poured through Unter den Linden and the Tiergarten to the parliament building in order to protest against the so-called "Betriebsratengesetz," a bill that would place the workmen's councils in the various industries on a legal basis.

Twenty of the mob are dead and more than one hundred wounded. The occasion of the demonstration was the second reading in the upper house of the act creating factory councils in the reichstag. Independent socialists declare that the act does not meet the demands of the workmen, and Die Freiheit, a radical socialist organ, published an appeal in the name of 15 unions—some unions say without authority—to all workmen to stop work at noon and assemble in front of the reichstag at three o'clock.

### 400 LOST ON FRENCH LINER

Only Fifty-Seven Known Survivors From Steamer Afrique, Lost in Bay of Biscay.

La Rochelle, France, Jan. 16.—More than 400 persons are believed to have lost their lives in the wreck of the steamer Afrique on Roche Bonne Shoal, Bay of Biscay.

Only fifty-seven survivors are known to have been landed. Hope for the rest of the passengers and crew faded during the past night as hour after hour passed without cheering tidings, and 72 hours after the vessel foundered many feared one of the greatest marine tragedies of modern times was enacted off the coast before dawn Sunday morning.

Winnipeg Dailies Suspend. Winnipeg, Can., Jan. 19.—Because of the shortage of newsprint the three daily papers in this city announced that they would suspend publication. The three editorial staffs will unite in issuing a one-page paper.

Alleged Forger Is Held. St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 19.—I. D. Cornell, of Rochester, Minn., was arrested here by United States secret service agents charged with forging federal treasury checks issued to disabled soldiers in Minnesota.

# CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION NOTES

Lincoln.—The committee on committees, acting on the suggestion of the committee on rules, which in turn acted on the suggestion of the convention that there were many able bodied members of the committee serving on standing committees that has nothing to do, reported from two to four additional members of some of the larger committees. The report, which was adopted, makes the following additional assignments to standing committees: Bill of Rights—Wiltse and Norval. Legislative—Cleve, Cornell, Lahners and Strong.

Executive—Junkin, Beeler, Sullivan and Lehman. Judicial—Keefe and Price. Education—Elwood and Osborne. Revenue and Taxation—Abbott, Austin, Johnson and Widle. Municipal Government—Pugsley, Marvin, Sughroue and Norman. Industrial Conditions—Sprick, Svoboda, Halderman and Selleck. Miscellaneous Subjects—Rankin, Scott, Saunders and Ferneau. Schedules—Peterson, Malicky, Wilson of Douglas, Ross.

Delegate W. H. Pitzer of Otoe county has presented a proposal designed to withhold the ballot from native born children of parents who themselves are not eligible to citizenship under the laws of the United States, and to withhold the ballot from persons convicted of felony or treason, or convicted under such laws of the crime or offense of membership in or conspiracy with any society or organization engaged in advocating or attempting to effect the destruction or overthrow by force of the government of the state or United States.

Several proposals affecting the legislature were introduced in the convention during the past week. They would reduce the number of house members from 100 to eighty, the number of state senators from thirty-three to twenty-seven, repeal the sixty-day limit on the length of legislative sessions and permit two-thirds of either house to dispense with the reading of a measure on three separate days.

In the hope of doing away with a handful of legislators passing bills and amending them by adopting conference committee reports by a majority of the members present at the last days of the legislative session A. T. Bratton of Adams proposed an amendment requiring conference committee reports to be adopted by a majority of all members elected to both houses and permit the passage of bills by the same majority.

A number of prominent suffrage leaders appeared before the suffrage committee of the convention the past week and were assured that at least sixty per cent of the delegates were pledged to the suffrage measure before their election. They were told no fears need be entertained for an unfavorable decision when it comes to putting a suffrage plank in the new state constitution.

Up to the end of last week the convention had been in session twenty-four days, most of which has been consumed in submitting proposals and preliminary organization. The fact that the time limit for introducing amendments expired last Friday should act as an incentive to speed up the making of a new constitution.

Democratic members of the convention, it is said, regard Bryan's recent address to the assembly as advance notice an effort would be made to have the democratic party at its state convention declare for state and municipal ownership.

George C. Junkin, Gosper county, is the father of an amendment submitted to the constitution which would fix the limitation on the state debt at \$1 for every man, woman and child in Nebraska, or approximately \$1,500,000.

A proposal introduced by delegate Epperson of Clay county, will, if adopted, declare all exchanges such as the South Omaha Live Stock exchange, the Omaha Grain exchange and similar concerns to be "public markets."

A proposal by Jerry Howard of Douglas county would give the state power to regulate hotels and boarding houses, including rate for accommodation furnished, to be supervised by a state "tavern commissioner."

Following suggestions by W. J. Bryan, Delegate Stolley introduced an amendment to permit state development and operation of any industry after approval by the people.

Flensburg of Lancaster has offered a proposal which would prohibit an appeal from district court to the supreme court in civil cases where judgment does not exceed \$500.

W. J. Bryan's unqualified endorsement of state ownership of public utilities in his address to the convention did not please delegates opposed to amendments encouraging growth of public ownership, it is said.

Charles H. Cornell of Cherry county, offered an amendment to permit the state to buy large tracts of land and sell it to bonafide settlers. His proposal No. 262 is designed to discourage farm tenantry, which in some portions of Nebraska, has become an increasing question.

# NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

Timely News Culled From All Parts of the State, Reduced for the Busy.

### SCORES OF EVENTS COVERED

North Platte was stirred by a most fearful tragedy last Thursday when Chief of Police C. Mecomber and Patrolman G. W. Rogers were shot and almost instantly killed by two Mexicans whom they attempted to arrest. The tragedy occurred in Nick Chires pool hall, where the men had been traced by the officers whom they resisted and opened fire on before other occupants of the place were aware of any trouble. One of the murderers was captured.

Platte county supervisors have been informed by the architect and engineer having in charge plans and specifications for the new county court house that if the structure is erected on the North street site at Columbus, a sub-foundation of costly piling will be necessary because of the quick sand conditions beneath the surface. This condition, it is said, is typical of the Platte river valley, and a change in location would be no improvement.

Allen V. Grammer and Alton B. Cole, who were sentenced to be electrocuted at the state penitentiary at Lincoln January 16 for the murder of Mrs. Lulu Vogt in Howard county in 1917, were granted a stay until January 30, following the granting of an appeal to the circuit court by Federal Judge Munger. Attorneys for the condemned men expressed the belief that many months would elapse before they would be executed, if at all.

Alleged high-handed methods of the federal reserve bank in dealing with non-member state banks were condemned in resolution adopted by the Nebraska Bankers' association in convention at Omaha. A committee was appointed to resist alleged attempts to force state banks into membership in the reserve bank system.

That the minimum salary for Nebraska school teachers should be \$1,000 was the conclusion drawn from the data tabulated by Lulu E. Wirt, dean of women of the normal school at Kearney, following an extensive investigation of living conditions in 10 counties in Nebraska.

The state banking board has closed the State bank at Valparaiso because of a shortage of between \$150,000 and \$200,000, due, it is said, to the institution through its former cashier, R. A. Lower, loaning large sums of money for deals in unsound land and oil stock.

During the last month feeder cattle have gained in price from \$1.50 to \$2 per hundred at the South Omaha Market. During the early part of December quotations on choice prime feeders were \$10.50 and \$12.50, as compared with \$12 to \$13.50 now.

The broom factory at the state penitentiary at Lincoln, which has been the means of employing convict labor in the institution for many years, will be discontinued February 15, the board of control announced.

The educational committee of the Lincoln Commercial club asked the board of education to incur a \$100,000 deficit to give a \$300 bonus to each of the 360 teachers in the Lincoln public schools.

Rentals to farm tenants in Holt county will be generally increased this year, owing to the increased value of lands. A like condition is general in virtually all counties of the state.

As soon as the weather permits, work on the new \$100,000 water works at Chadron will be started, since a settlement has been effected for the purchase of all needed land.

Expenditure of more than \$200,000 for a new municipal light plant and extension of the many water plant, a sewer system and paved streets is planned for Spencer this year.

Victor Rosewater, for many years editor of the Omaha Bee, has sold his interest in the paper to Nelson B. Urdike, prominent grain man of Omaha.

Stockholders of the Nebraska State Farmers' exchange in convention at Omaha voted to establish a \$2,000,000 co-operative sugar factory at Minatare.

The board of education at Beatrice has raised the salaries of school teachers 20 to 25 per cent for the remainder of the school year.

North Platte Methodists are laying plans for the erection of a \$35,000 community house in the near future.

It is reported that improvements costing above \$1,000,000 will be made on the Union Pacific roadbed and yards at Valley this year.

The Aurora city council has awarded a big paving contract, the aggregate cost being about \$346,000. It looks as though Aurora will be fully paved inside of two years.

Richardson county's new court house will be built in Falls City, according to an agreement between representatives of Falls City, Humboldt and the county board. The building cost \$350,000.

A rotary club has been organized at Aurora. It started off with a membership of twenty.

Nebraska suffragists are rejoicing over the refund by the state of the \$1,889.70 contributed for the court expenses of their fight against fraudulent referendum petitions gotten out by anti-suffragists two years ago.

The winter short course in agriculture, for men eighteen or more years old with an eighth grade education, will open at the University Farm at Lincoln January 26 and continue four weeks.

Attorney General Davis has started proceedings for an application for the appointment of a receiver for the Farmers and Merchants bank at Halsey, which was closed recently by the state banking board. It is reported that the Scandinavian bank at Fargo, N. D., has secured judgment against nearly every man interested in the Halsey bank. The Halsey bank has been in trouble for some time because the cashier had been issuing certificates of deposit in favor of the president of the bank.

Business was virtually suspended at Alliance during the two days preliminary trial of Lawrence Lackey, charged with causing the death of his eight year old daughter by giving her poisoned candy. The trial was one of the most sensational in the history of Alliance and people from miles around attended. Lackey will remain in the Alliance jail until the next term of district court, May 4, bail having been forbidden by the court.

Mrs. Charles G. Ryan of Grand Island, state director of the Nebraska economic campaign, plans to ask 250,000 housewives in this state to sign the following pledge: To purchase nothing at excessive prices. To keep a careful budget of household expenses. To buy only when necessary for service and economy. To aid other women in setting standards for careful conservation and economical buying.

The state board of control has located a state custodial farm at York, comprised of 80 acres and a 10-room modern house. The state will take possession March 1. The last legislature appropriated \$50,000 for the establishment of such a farm for female offenders.

The aged mother of Guy Cornelius Nowlin of Lincoln, who suffered the fate of his ship, the Cyclops, which mysteriously disappeared during the war, will be paid a \$5,000 government indemnity, according to the provisions of a bill now pending in congress.

Lincoln has been chosen for the 1920 national convention of the prohibition party. The executive committee of the party voted unanimously in favor of the Nebraska capital at a recent meeting at Washington and named July 21 as the time.

Governor McKelvie has appointed John M. Matzen, Fremont, state superintendent of schools to fill the unexpired term of W. A. Clemmons, who died January 8. Matzen was formerly superintendent of Dodge county schools.

With the inauguration of constitutional prohibition over the country January 17, James H. Hanley, Omaha attorney, assumed the office of superintendent of the prohibition enforcement organization for Nebraska.

Chris Keuch was burned to death and two other men were injured at Norfolk, when fire, which followed the explosion of an oil tank, destroyed the city gas plant, cutting off the gas supply in the city.

The Commercial club of Hebron is back of a project to establish a sorghum mill near the city. It has also promised to support the band and a lecture course for next winter.

The Christian church of Hebron recently celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. The church was chartered in 1869 with 20 members. It now has a membership of 243.

Thirty-one head of pure-bred Poland China sows sold for \$35,825, an average of \$1,155, at the William Ferguson auction sale at Fremont. This is believed to be a world's record sale.

On February 3 voters of Aurora will pass on a bond proposition to raise funds to erect an athletic building in conjunction with the public schools.

Joe Stecher of Dodge, this state, and Earl Caddock will wrestle for the championship of the world at Madison Square Garden, New York, January 30.

J. B. Evans, 33 years old, son of Congressman Robert E. Evans of Dakota City, was crushed to death in an automobile accident at Colton, S. D.

The First Presbyterian church of Madison will celebrate its golden anniversary February 12 with a jubilee and homecoming.

Preliminary moves are being made at Alliance to construct a new \$100,000 senior high school building the coming summer.

Contract has been awarded for \$400,000 worth of paving to be laid at Wayne. Work will begin April 1.

Fifty ex-service men met at Milford the other evening and organized Post No. 171 of the American Legion.

A movement is on foot to organize a post of the American Legion at Sutherland.

Physicians report that Nellie Buchholz, 16, of Silver Creek, who has been in a state of coma for several days, is afflicted with sleeping sickness.

D. M. Amshery secretary of state, George Marsh, state auditor, and Lieutenant Governor Barrows have filed to enter the republican primaries as candidates to succeed themselves.

A book showing the achievements of Americans in the great war, published by a firm at Washington, shows that forty-one Nebraska boys received the Distinguished Service Cross citation.

Provisions have been made by the city council of Valentine to pave Main street.

At a special election at Schuyler a bond issue of \$55,000 for the purpose of rebuilding the electric light plant was passed. At the same time voters favored the issuance of \$20,000 water bonds to lay new water mains.

Exra Perin Savage former governor Nebraska, and associate of Buffalo Bill, died at Tacoma, Wash., at the age of 77. He was known during his administration as Nebraska's cowboy governor.