

NEWS OF THE WEEK

CONDENSATIONS OF GREATER OR LESSER IMPORTANCE.

A BOILING DOWN OF EVENTS

National, Political, Personal and Other Matters in Brief Form for All Classes of Readers.

WASHINGTON.

An amendment revolutionizing the conduct of the government reclamation service was ritten into the irrigation bill in the house by a vote of 178 to 40.

Information from democratic leaders in congress that adjustment might be expected about August 25, led President Wilson to begin laying plans for his vacation.

Money from the federal treasury will be deposited in national banks throughout the country again this fall to facilitate the movement of crops and promote business generally.

Members of congress are hearing from their constituents, urging them to get through with their legislative business as soon as possible and come home to look after their political fences.

President Wilson has nominated Clarence W. Amford of Honolulu to be first judge of the first circuit court, and William E. Edings, also of Honolulu, to be judge of court of the second circuit in Hawaii.

Secretary Bryan, with the approval of the president, has urged members of the foreign relations committee to take favorable action on the twenty new peace treaties sent to the senate last week.

Congress passed the last two big general appropriation bills of the session, the sundry civil and general deficiency measures. But two supply bills, the Indian and river and harbor bills, remain to be passed.

President Wilson plans to appeal to the patriotism of the managers and employes of the western railways to avoid a strike in the face of a threatened general European war and the consequent paralysis of crop moving.

A new breathing spell was vouchsafed the homesteaders of the semi-arid west through amendments made in the house of representatives to a senate bill to extend the time from ten to twenty years in which to make water right payments.

In order for the government to keep in close touch with the war developments in Europe and to have prompt information about Americans living or traveling in the affected countries, all American ambassadors and ministers abroad are to be kept at their posts.

Satisfied that Paul M. Warburg of New York will be confirmed as a member of the Federal Reserve board following his appearance before the senate banking committee, President Wilson will proceed immediately to choose a successor on the board to Thomas D. Jones, whose nomination was withdrawn.

Strenuous efforts being made by Austria and Serbia to recall from the United States for military service the many thousands of their citizens who are employed in American factories has attracted official attention and the question has been raised whether such activities are being carried beyond the limits prescribed by the neutrality laws.

DOMESTIC.

"Home Run" Baker of Philadelphia has pounded his way into a tie for the batting leadership of the American league.

A tour of South America this winter by the Chicago American league baseball team is contemplated by Charles A. Comiskey.

Possibility of the absolute withdrawal from ocean commerce of the ships of Great Britain, Germany and other nations in the event of a general war was thought by authorities on export business to mean an over-production of oil in California.

The Boston, Cape Cod and New York canal, connecting Buzzards bay with Massachusetts bay and enabling coastwise vessels to avoid the dangerous passage around wreck-strewn Cape Cod, was opened.

Two thousand girls, members of the bathing suit-makers' union of New York, have decided that a higher wage scale must be paid. The executive committee of the union at New York voted to call a strike, the demand for an increased wage scale having been refused by the employers.

With a crack four inches deep extending from rail to water line in her starboard bow, the Red Star liner Zealand arrived at New York bringing a story of a collision in a dense fog in mid ocean.

A strike of 55,000 firemen and engineers on ninety-eight railroads operating west of Chicago has been set for Friday, August 7. It was officially announced at Chicago.

The transport Hancock has sailed from Norfolk, Va., for Guantanamo, Cuba, with 400 marines to add to the force mobilized there for possible developments in Haiti.

The wildest scenes in the wheat pit of the board of trade at Chicago since the opening of the twentieth century were precat by Austria's declaration of war against Serbia.

War in Europe would threaten the mining industry in Pennsylvania and adjoining states if even a majority of the subjects of those countries likely to receive a military call responded.

The first body of Austro-Hungarian reservists and volunteers in the United States are assembling in New York preparatory to sailing on the first liner bound for Austrian ports.

Stage coaches of four of the largest transportation companies operating in Yellowstone park were held up by two men near Gardiner, Mont. The 165 passengers on the stages were robbed of \$3,000.

About 7,000 members of the Inside Iron Workers' union in New York City have gone on strike, demanding a wage increase of 20 per cent, a fifty-three hour week instead of sixty or sixty-five hours.

Transatlantic service of passenger and freight steamships with sailings between Germany and American ports has been practically suspended for an indefinite period, owing to the international situation abroad.

The supreme council of the Loyal Order of Moose, meeting at Milwaukee, decided that when an adjournment is taken here it will be to meet in Baltimore September 7 at the time of the Star Spangled Banner celebration, when the new Moose home will be dedicated by Vice President Marshall.

The convention of the western federation of miners went on record in favor of amalgamation with the united mine workers of America. Action taken by the convention provides that a joint committee of three from each organization shall prepare a plan of merger to be submitted to the members by referendum.

Armed with repeating rifles and firing volleys in the air, eighteen former employes of Young Buffalo's Wild West Show seized the entire equipment of the recently disbanded company and drove off a train crew which attempted to take twelve of the show cars out of the railroad yards at Alton, Ill., near St. Louis.

FOREIGN.

Every military preparation short of mobilization has now been made in France.

Fifteen coal miners were killed at Dortmund, Germany, by a fire which broke out in the Hansemann pit.

Canada is making preparations to aid England with regiments should the mother country become involved in the European conflict.

Madame Henriette Callaux of Paris was acquitted by a jury in the court of assizes of the wilful murder on March 16, last, of Gaston Calmette, editor of the Figaro.

Jean Leon Jaures, the noted socialist leader of Paris, was assassinated while dining in a small restaurant near the bourse. The assassin was arrested, but refused to disclose his identity.

The British Transport Workers' federation of London is planning the organization of a special aerial transport workers' union. It predicts general employment of aeroplanes for this purpose.

The newspapers of the Portuguese capital have reminded the public that the treaty of alliance between Portugal and Great Britain requires Portugal to furnish 10,000 troops to England when it is at war.

The German emperor has made a war speech to the people of Berlin in which he expressed the hope that if he was unable to induce his opponents to maintain peace he would wield the sword and show his enemies what it means to provoke Germany.

The headquarters of the Women's Social and Political union, the militant suffragette organization, has sent a proclamation to all its branches in the United Kingdom ordering the cessation of all acts of militancy during the continuance of the international crisis.

Inquiries at the tourist agencies in London show that American travelers have not been influenced by the war scare and continue to book continental tours, trusting to escape in the event of conflagration in Europe.

The maneuvers of the British Imperial troops in South Africa have been canceled and the soldiers ordered to return to their posts in consequence of the critical situation in Europe. Special precautions have been taken for the protection of the ports and the naval station at Simonstown.

FOUR POWERS OF EUROPE AT WAR

GERMAN ARMIES HAVE CROSSED THE FRENCH FRONTIER—TWO FORCES MAKING THEIR WAY TOWARD PARIS.

RUSSIANS CROSS LINE INTO GERMAN TERRITORY

Czar's Column Accompanied by Artillery Passes the Frontier—Americans Stranded in London.

London.—Four great powers of Europe—Austria-Hungary, Russia, France and Germany—are now engaged in actual warfare, but two of them—Germany and France—not only have not declared war against each other, but have not even severed diplomatic relations! This is despite the fact that Germany's ultimatum to France has either been ignored or rejected.

The explanation of this would appear to be that Germany and France are each seeking to throw upon the other the onus of beginning the war. In fact, while the nations of Europe are flying at each other throat's, they are vying with each other in protesting their desire to maintain peace, and they repudiate the responsibility for plunging the continent into bloodshed.

London.—The German invasion of France has begun, according to authentic information received in London without, so far as is known, a declaration of war having been made.

Two German forces are now converging from the east in the direction of the French capital. German troops have crossed the French frontier at a point near the village of Cirey, between Nancy and Strassburg, and the German soldiers have invaded the

Two squadrons of Russian Cossacks are riding in the direction of Johanneburg in East Prussia, fifteen miles from the frontier.

The Prussian squad which entered near Eichenreid, attacked the German guard at the railroad bridge over the Warthe. The attack was repulsed. Two Germans were slightly injured.

Time For Action Has Come.

London.—Germany having invaded France it is felt in London that the time for action on the part of England has arrived.

There is reason to believe that English preparations are completed for such instant action as the circumstances may demand.

Calls Naval Reserves.

Ottawa, Ont.—The royal naval reserves have been called upon by the British government admiralty for service. The Canadian government was officially notified of the call. The call is interpreted as meaning that the British army will be engaged shortly.

The royal naval reserves are officers and seamen of the merchant service, who have taken a special course of training in the British navy, have received a certificate of competence and have pledged themselves to answer a call to serve in the navy. They are scattered all over the world, there now being many thousands of them in the port of New York and other American cities.

This is the first time that such a call has ever been made and it is considered most significant.

U. S. to Aid Americans.

Washington.—Consuls in Europe have been instructed to have orders for transportation home for stranded Americans honored by European agencies. Relatives here may deposit funds with American agents of the transportation companies.

Leave Baggage Behind.

Antwerp.—The American tourists who are endeavoring to return home are in a panicky condition. The steamer Kronland has sailed with a full complement of passengers, many of whom left their baggage behind rather than remain in Europe.

Members of the Chicago Railway commission visited the port and ter-

FRONTIERS OF DISPUTING NATIONS.



Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, neutral territory between Belgium and Germany, are marching on the French fortified town of Longwy.

The German force which came into France near Cirey, which is forty miles from Nancy, were repulsed with heavy losses.

Repeats History.

Apparently, the German army is duplicating the first movement of the Franco-Prussian war. It was on August 2, 1870, forty-four years ago, that the French and Germans clashed in the first battle of that war at Saarbrucken, where the prince imperial, under the orders of the emperor, received his famous "baptism of fire."

It would appear that Germany is taking the fullest possible advantage of its supposed superiority in rapid mobilization over France. The plan of the German emperor, according to military observers here, is to vanquish or attempt to vanquish France in the interval before Russia will be able to create serious trouble on its northern frontier. It is supposed that Russian mobilization will take about three weeks.

Russians Cross Border.

Berlin.—A Russian patrol has crossed the German frontier near Eichenreid, in Posen, and attacked the German guard at the railroad bridge near the Warthe. Two German soldiers were slightly wounded.

Accompanied With Artillery.

The Russian column which crossed the frontier at Schwinden, was accompanied by artillery.

Italy May Become Involved.

Rome.—The war situation so far as Italy is concerned is considered grave. The censorship has succeeded in suppressing all news except a short, colorless official statement that "Italy is calm and will not mobilize, but will conform her conduct to treaty obligations."

This statement is interpreted differently here. According to the opinion of some Italians the neutrality of Italy is assured, while others believe that Italy will participate in the conflict only in case the general powers sus-

tain a reverse. Meanwhile all prefects in the kingdom have warned the press not to publish any military news or movements of troops.

The warships of the kingdom are under the same penalty as in the Italo-Turkish war. Apprehension is felt at the lack of coal owing to Italy's supply being entirely English. Efforts are being made to secure American coal.

Jam of Americans in London.

London.—Not even at the height of the tourist season are there more Americans in London than now. In addition to those who are spending a holiday here and the crowds coming from the continent to get away from the inconveniences of war, there is another contingent which has arrived, consisting of tourists who, armed with passports from the American embassy, started for the continent in the last few days, but found it impossible to get further than Calais, Diepe and other coast towns. As a consequence steamers from France and Belgium are crowded with what might be termed refugees.

In escaping from the dangers that now beset the travelers abroad, they have encountered a lesser danger which, however, they find inconvenient and embarrassing. Although the pockets of many of them are full of American and English bank notes and American express companies' bills, they might just as well have nothing, for only gold and silver are taken anywhere.

Has Hard Task Ahead.

J. S. Baer, clerk of the district court, has been quite busy for the past few days making up lists of judges and clerks of elections, who are to serve at all general and special elections, and primaries for the next two years. These lists are made up from names submitted by the county chairman of the parties polling the highest and second highest votes in the county.

Takes Trusty Back to Iowa.

C. McClaughray, warden of the Iowa state reformatory, called at the office of Governor Morehead for the purpose of securing papers for the return to the reformatory of Frank Johnson, a trusty, who had been working on the road in the Ames prison camp with a couple of dozen other prisoners. Johnson had been sent up for attempting to blow the safe of the Green Bay Lumber company at Harlan, Ia. He was serving a sentence of ten years. He is now in the hands of the chief of police in Grand Island.

BANK TAXES LOWER

ACTUAL VALUATION DECREASE OVER \$3,000,000.

ARE NOW UNDER STATE LAW

Four More Nebraska Banks Have Quit the National System and Become State Banks.

Lincoln.—With no report from Gage county the records of the state board of assessment show that the assessed value of state banks has decreased \$224,347 and the assessed value of national banks has decreased \$382,235, a total decrease of \$706,582 in the assessed value of all banks in Nebraska during the past year. As the assessed value is one-fifth the actual value of property the total decrease, actual value, is \$3,532,910, with no report from Gage county. If Gage county this year reports the same as last year, \$104,767 for both state and national banks, the total decrease will be \$3,009,075 actual valuation.

The number of state banks has increased during the year and yet there is a decrease in assessed valuation of such banks. Both state and national banks are assessed in the same manner under the state law. They are assessed on capital stock, surplus and undivided profits. Under a decision of the supreme court, as interpreted by assessors, banks are allowed to deduct mortgages from capital stock, and this is alleged to be the principal cause of the decrease in the assessment of bank stock as reported by assessors. Real estate owned by banks is assessed separately and as mortgages are deemed to be an interest in real estate, they are deducted from capital stock. In some counties no deduction was asked for by banks.

New State Banks.

Four national banks have incorporated under the state banking law as follows:

Citizens State bank of Diller, capital stock, \$25,000; A. H. Colman, president; Thomas P. Price, cashier.

Citizens State bank of Cedar Rapids, capital, \$25,000; Robert Alerton, president; A. C. Thompson, vice president; James A. Gleason, cashier.

Security State bank of Spalding, capital, \$30,000; H. Alerton, president; A. C. Thompson, vice president; John P. Dunning, cashier.

Sargent State bank of Sargent, capital \$20,000; Andrew E. Phillips, president; Clifford S. Lomax, cashier.

The Fort Calhoun State bank is a new bank filing incorporation papers with the State Banking board. The bank is situated in Washington county and has a capital of \$50,000. The incorporators are: Henry Rohwer, William Sievers, Jacob J. Slerk, William P. Cook, William Slerk, C. A. Schmidt and Lee Smith.

Date Set for Rate Case.

Lincoln.—The state railway commission set October 8 as the date for hearing of the South Omaha Stock Yards company in the matter of yardage rates. The complaint for a reduction was brought by the Nebraska Farmers' Co-operative society. R. B. Howell recently asked for a physical valuation in connection with the complaint, but the commission has not granted the request.

The state railway commission has canceled the date of hearing on distillery products from South Sioux City to Omaha. Distilleries no longer exist, so the hearing is not necessary.

Will Delay Valuation.

Lincoln, Neb.—Officials of the engineering department of the state railway commission are not likely to be seen on the streets of Omaha and nearby cities and villages within the near future, making a valuation of the property of the Omaha & Council Bluffs Street Railway Co. For the state supreme court, which has had under consideration the question of the railway commission's right to compel such a valuation did not rule on the matter previous to summer adjournment. That means that the opinion will be stayed until fall and that after it is rendered there will be the customary legal delays for filing of motions for rehearing and other turns in the litigation.

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NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

A new high school building is being erected at Exeter, at a cost of \$40,000. Lightning struck a stack of wheat on Peter Younger's farm just east of Geneva.

J. H. Arcnds and son, Harvey, of Syracuse, have returned from a trip to Canada.

Andrew Hatfield of Palmyra has sold his grocery store to Grant Flerling of Humboldt.

Charles Richardson, who lives near Hastings, was kicked by a horse and sustained a fractured leg.

The wheat yield in the vicinity of West Point is averaging 20 bushels and oats 40 bushels to the acre.

Smallpox has broken out in Hartington, three families in town and one in the country being quarantined.

Rev. S. W. Wittenacker of Horton, Kan., has been elected pastor of the Baptist church at Nebraska City.

John Cottish, a Spaniard, is in jail at West Point, charged with burglarizing the farm house of Joseph Geiser.

All arrangements have been perfected for the three-day base ball tourney, to be held at Eustis August 12, 13 and 14.

The \$2,000 barn on the Henry Bessel farm, south of Cambridge, burned to the ground when lightning struck it.

A bond issue of \$2,000 for the addition of two large rooms to the high school building has been approved by the voters of Ayr.

A young child of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Paulsin, living near Lindsey, drank carbolic acid by mistake, and died several hours afterward.

Sheriff Aldrich of Falls City has caught the negro, Louis Brown, who is alleged to have held up and robbed William Rossler at Salem.

The large catholic church six miles east of Garrison burned and is a loss of over \$12,000, with \$6,500 insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Warner Brand of Pontonelle suffered a fractured ankle and was otherwise injured when he was pinned between a wagon and a corn crib.

James Bellows was found dead in a pasture near his home, five miles southeast of McCool. It is supposed he was a victim of the excessive heat.

The Peru Canning company expects to start operations August 1 and is now employing many laborers. The tomato acreage near Peru is large.

Miss Minnie Schlote, 14 years old, of West Point, shot herself in the left leg when she was playing with a .32 caliber pistol that she believed was empty.

An enterprise has been undertaken by Merrick county, at Clarkson, which, in the opinion of many, will revolutionize the bridge question on the Platte river.

The Nebraska territorial pioneers will hold their annual reunion at Omaha September 30 to October 3, and all Nebraska pioneers are invited to attend.

S. F. Gairardet has sold his general merchandise business at Weeping Water to John and Henry Crozier, who have sold their confectionery store to G. H. Olive.

Lieutenant Governor S. R. McKelvie has left for a trip to New York, Philadelphia, Boston and other eastern points. He expects to be gone until September 1.

A large barn belonging to D. N. Burroughs at Beatrice was destroyed by fire. Several tons of hay were also burned. The loss is estimated at \$1,500, with \$700 insurance.

Joshua Peek, a young farmer living four miles southeast of Burr, was struck by a bolt of lightning during a recent storm and paralyzed from the waist down. He will recover.

Lightning struck the plant of the Nebraska corn mills in Beatrice, which was totally destroyed by fire together with 50,000 bushels of corn and a large amount of cereal products.

The power and engine house of the David City water works was partially destroyed by fire. The fire is supposed to have started from the exhaust pipe. Estimated damage is about \$2,000.

Equal suffrage, national prohibition, the recall, a constitutional convention, municipal home rule in matters of taxation and a minimum wage law were strongly approved by the progressive state convention at Lincoln.

There was a large attendance of contestants and proponents at the hearing in Grand Island by State Railway Commissioner Taylor over the proposed change in train service by the St. Joseph & Grand Island railway.

James Coon sustained an ugly gash in the head and was severely bruised about the body when a derrick used in hoisting brick and other material on the new theater building now in course of construction at Beatrice, fell upon him.

A large barn on the farm of Edward Fram, seven miles west of David City, was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. Eight hundred bushels of wheat, 200 bushels of oats and 200 bushels of corn stored in the barn was destroyed.

Fritz Drewell of Brock lost about thirty-five acres of wheat by fire, caused by the burning of a straw stack.

Work is progressing rapidly on a new stone crushing plant at the Nelson quarry, a mile and a half west of Weeping Water. One of the two crusher heads that are to be installed is already in, the 125 horsepower steam engine is partly installed and a part of the frame work up. The plant is to have a capacity of 500 tons daily and is to be in many respects one of the most unique plants of its kind anywhere.