

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.

WAR NEWS.

The Turkish fleet, assigned to give battle to the Anglo-French warships inside the Dardanelles, has fled, according to Athens dispatches.

Swiss advices says work is going on day and night at Friedrichshafen in the construction of Zeppelin airships to replace the four recently lost.

The British parliament has voted the total sum of \$1,810,000,000 asked by Premier Asquith for the prosecution of the war, covering the expenses of the current year up to the end of the present month.

That an agreement that will give Russia free passage of the Dardanelles has been reached between Great Britain, France and Russia is the assertion made by a Paris newspaper.

French cruisers have arrested the American steamer Dacia in the channel and taken her to Brest. The steamer Dacia left Galveston for Rotterdam January 31 with 11,000 bales of cotton to be transhipped to Bremen.

In the Prussian Diet the minister of agriculture declared that on the present basis of allotment of flour and bread Germany would not only be sufficiently provided, but probably would be able to accumulate a reserve for all eventualities.

Preceded by mine sweepers, the allied fleet under Vice Admiral Carden has moved past the destroyed Turkish forts at the entrance to the Dardanelles and has begun shelling land fortifications on both sides of the strait, according to Athens dispatches.

Enver Pasha, the Turkish chief of staff, expresses himself as confident that the allies will not succeed in making their way through the Dardanelles. He declares that only the outer fortifications have been damaged and that these were old defenses, the speedy subjugation of which had been expected.

The plan of Great Britain and her allies, whereby they will attempt to cut off supplies from Germany and at the same time prevent commodities from leaving German ports, has been announced and communicated to the United States. This action is in retaliation for the declaration of Germany of a naval war zone.

GENERAL.

A bill has been introduced in the Cuban legislature to legalize bull fighting.

The Omaha street cleaning department has broken all records this winter in the matter of expenditures for cleaning snow from the streets. For three months ending March 1 the department paid out a total of \$34,994.63, as against \$18,759.26 for the corresponding three months of a year ago.

More than half the apparatus in California, inspected by sealers working in the department of weights and measures, has been found incorrect and the public has been misled on hundreds of thousands of dollars annually by the short weight and scant-measure system, according to the first report which the state superintendent has made.

A Chinese boycott on all Japanese industries and business houses as a form of retaliation, it is said, against the demands made on the Chinese government by Japan has been started in San Francisco and word of this action has been sent broadcast throughout the region under the jurisdiction of the Chinese Six companies, which includes all the states west of the Rocky mountains and as far south as the Mexican border.

The veto of Mayor Ross of Los Angeles of the ordinance to regulate jitney buses was overridden by the city council, which re-passed the measure by a unanimous vote.

Rate raises on transportation of cattle, sheep and hogs to Chicago and St. Louis markets from Nebraska points were announced by the Nebraska state railway commission. Unless the interstate commerce commission holds them up they will go into effect on April 1.

With the probability that the death list will reach nearly 180, rescue crews continued the search of the workings of the Layland mines at Hinton, W. Va., wrecked by an explosion.

Sarah Bernhardt, whose right leg recently was amputated at Bordeaux, France, is suffering from indigestion.

The buildings of Illinois, Norway and the Philippine islands were dedicated at the San Francisco exposition.

The Minnesota senate defeated the bill providing the submission to the voters of a constitutional amendment granting full suffrage to women.

Three persons were seriously injured, six slightly hurt and two unidentified foreigners are missing as a result of a \$50,000 fire at Minneapolis in two small hotels.

Horse racing in Nevada became an assured fact when Governor Boyle at Carson City affixed his signature to the race track bill recently passed by the Nevada legislature.

Owing to the tremendous rise in Chile of the price of flour and wheat, the government has made an announcement to the effect that both these products could be imported free of duty.

Tom Shiyun, president of the Chinese Merchants' association and known as the mayor of New York's China town, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment in the penitentiary at Atlanta for manufacturing opium.

The seven former striking miners on trial for the murder of Luke Terry, chauffeur, near La Veta, November 8, 1913, were declared not guilty in the verdict of the jury returned in the district court at Pueblo, Colo. The jury was out one hour.

A bill appropriating \$1,500,000 for the reimbursement of farmers and stock raisers who suffered financial losses through the killing of their stock in an effort to check the spread of the foot and mouth disease was passed by the Illinois senate.

Ralph W. Feeney, superintendent of the Horticultural Fire Relief company, and the Oregon Merchants Mutual company of Portland, Oregon, both of which were placed in the hands of a receiver recently, committed suicide by taking poison.

The arbitration treaty between the United States and Peru of July 14, 1914, designed to cover all questions, which may arise between the two countries, was ratified at Lima by Foreign Minister Pola and the American minister to Peru, B. McMillin.

The American legion, to be composed of between 250,000 and 300,000 former army and navy militiamen, to act as first reserves in event of war, will soon be organized. Captain Gordon Johnston, aid-de-camp to Major General Leonard Wood, has announced.

Following hard upon the heels of Representative Fitzgerald's protest against the nomination of certain persons to fill positions in New York comes the protest of Iowa senators that they were not even consulted as to the postmasterships at Sioux City or Des Moines.

WASHINGTON.

American Ambassador Morgenthau at Constantinople has cabled to the Department of Commerce that quotations were wanted in the Turkish capital on the various grades of flour at New York.

Nineteen applications to organize national banks were approved during February, according to an announcement by the comptroller of the currency. The total number of national banks doing business February 27 was 7,610.

President Wilson told callers the European situation was demanding so much of his attention that he was doubtful if he would be able to leave Washington this spring even, possible, to make his proposed visit to the San Francisco exposition.

Representatives of the Chinese Young Men's Christian association of the national capital appealed to President Wilson to use his influence in "moulding the public opinion of the Christian world" to support their native land in its opposition to the demands recently made upon her by Japan.

A few laws enacted by the sixty-third congress: New tariff and income tax, new currency system, creating a federal trade commission, amending the anti-trust and repeal of the Panama canal "free toll" provision, authorizing a government railroad in Alaska, empowering use of armed forces in Mexico, the war tax, creating a war risk insurance bureau, ratification of twenty-one treaties, passage of seaman's labor bill.

Nebraska's alien land law was attacked as unconstitutional in a brief filed in the supreme court by attorneys for non-resident aliens who have been deprived from inheriting land of John Toop, an Englishman, naturalized in the United States, and living at Ulysses, Neb.

The treasury department has received a check from Postmaster General Burleson for \$3,500,000 representing the surplus in the revenues of his department for the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1914.

NEWSPAPER MEN PROTEST

Publishers of State Appear Before Committee and Oppose Bill Prohibiting Free Speech.

A warm discussion occurred last week before the judicial committee of the house over H. R. 734, by Meyenburg, which prohibits a newspaper from publishing criticism, ridicule or censure of parties running for office, or anyone else, and compels the newspaper to give such party space to get back. Colonel John O. Yeiser is sponsor for the bill. Among the speakers were H. M. Davis of Ord, J. W. Cutright, editor of the Lincoln Star; N. J. Ludi of Wahoo, state printer; Fred Cary of the Omaha News and P. A. Barrows, Lincoln, representative of the Omaha Bee. The bill practically denies free speech to the newspaper men and places the paper in the hands of the public instead of the owner. Mr. Cutright said that if he should criticize as a democrat the republican party that party's committee had the right to come back and fill his editorial page with the other side of the argument. Mr. Ludi said that it would practically put a newspaper man who took pride in his editorial column out of business, for no editor would dare pass an opinion knowing that he would be compelled to give space to the other side, no matter whether the opposition was right or wrong.

With most of the centralizing and compulsory features cut out, the county unit school bill has been recommended for passage by the senate.

The bill, known as S. F. 22, was introduced by Bushee, but it met with so much opposition that a comparatively new bill was prepared cutting out the objectionable features, and it now goes to the general file with a provision that the weaker counties can help the poorer districts by distributing the railroad taxes among the districts of the county instead of going to the districts through which the roads run.

The unit system is optional and can be put in force by a vote of the people on the petition of 2 per cent of the voters. It makes the county superintendent's office non-partisan and election at the annual school meeting.

Interest charges at the rate of 4 1/2 per cent a year by persons and companies loaning money on salaries, household furniture and similar security, will be legalized if house roll No. 44, approved by the house judiciary committee, becomes a law. The measure limits the rate of interest to be charged to ten per cent a year, but permits a brokerage charge of one-tenth the amount loaned when the loan is made for four months. The new rate, however, will be only a little more than one-third of the rate generally charged under the present law, as on most loans the rate of interest is 10 per cent a month, or 120 per cent a year.

Regardless of what the present legislature does, baseball will be played next Memorial Sunday. The bill as passed by the house provides that no baseball games shall be played on the Sunday before Memorial day but will not go into effect until July 1, or after this year. The senate according to a "gentlemen's agreement" in the house, will amend the bill so as to permit baseball games after 3 p. m. on Memorial Sunday.

Approximately one-third of bills introduced in the legislature have been passed or otherwise permanently disposed of by either house or senate, but only ten measures have passed both houses. The senate has passed eighty-two senate bills and three house measures, while the house has passed 113 measures originating there and seven senate files.

Seventeen thousand names were on a petition presented the house recently asking "fair and favorable treatment" for the railroads. More than 5,000 signers were classed as wage earners, 6,900 as business men, 2,900 as farmers and the remainder unclassified.

Provision for payment to those dependent upon them of earnings of persons sentenced, is one of the main provisions of the county workhouse bill introduced by Representative John Larsen and recommended for passage by the house judiciary committee.

The house committee on railroads reported out for passage the Osterman bill, H. R. 442, requiring a uniform width of right-of-way through any county in the state. The bill affects the Union Pacific and the principal kick comes from Merrick county.

By the narrow margin of two votes, the Larson-Drucadow bill, prohibiting barber work on Sunday, lost out in the house. The vote on Chamber's motion to indefinitely postpone was 36 to 34.

County treasurers from now on will have to make remittances to the state treasurer every month, according to an opinion handed down by Attorney General Reed and a ruling by State Treasurer Hall.

ROAD BILL PASSED

HOUSE PUTS THROUGH HIGHWAY MEASURE WITH EASE.

PROVIDES \$150,000 ANNUALLY

Motor Trucks Taxed \$5, Autos \$3, Motorcycles \$2.—And Creates State Board.

Lincoln.—An annual good road fund of at least \$150,000 is provided for in house roll No. 261, which passed the house last week without a dissenting vote.

The bill provides a yearly license fee of \$5 on motor trucks, \$3 on automobiles and \$2 on motorcycles. Fifty cents of each fee of the last two goes to the state and \$1 of the motortruck license money.

The remainder is retained in the county treasuries to be used in improving the highways in those counties.

The second bill provides for an advisory state highway commission of three persons and appropriates \$500 a year for their traveling expenses yearly.

Militia Fund Cut.

Lincoln, Neb.—Uncle Sam's voice, calling for increase of the Nebraska National Guard to 4,000 men, or 2,400 more than are now upon its rolls, has apparently not been heard by the state legislature. For instead of providing as well for the guard as in the past the finance committee of the house has reported the maintenance bill out with a decrease of \$30,000 in the sum laid aside for that department.

The reduction has caused much talk among guardsmen of the state. Officers of many of the companies and officers on the staff of General P. L. Hall, jr., say that the retrenchment is not justified and that if carried to a conclusion would force them to sever their connection with the department.

Most of the men who are objecting have given years of their time to the guard without compensation. Patriotism and their desire to provide young men of the state with training in mentality, morals and care of their bodies.

General Hall in a statement says: "Nebraska, at this time, is in a very fortunate position. The government in order to minimize the enormous expense of transporting troops to the eastern rifle ranges for training and competitions, has thrown open to Nebraska the opportunity to buy and build a rifle range, at Ashland, Neb., composed of 800 acres of land—this to be from federal funds, with an annual allotment of about \$7,000 for the upkeep."

Factory Inspection.

The house bill giving the labor commissioner's office further factory inspection duties and providing for a sufficient corps of inspectors to make the law operative, has been favorably reported out of the retail and commerce committee.

Railroad Officials Before Solons. Three railway presidents and a number of other railroad officials appeared before the railroad committee of the house and many house members to urge passage of the 2 1/2-cent passenger fare bill, introduced by Representative Bert C. Miner of Omaha.

President Mohler of the Union Pacific, President Gardner of the Northwestern and President Holden of the Burlington spoke at some length on the need of the railroads for greater revenues.

Recall Bill Favored.

The house is unanimously in favor of the recall bill, including recall of judges, introduced by Representative J. N. Norton. The bill provides that 25 per cent of the voters of any electoral district may ask the recall of any public official. He is given an opportunity to resign, and if he does not an election must be called at which the only question to be submitted shall be whether or not such official will be recalled. If the recall is approved by a majority of the voters, the vacancy is to be filled according to the law governing vacancies in that particular office.

Senate Favors Hog Cholera Bill. The committee of the whole has recommended for passage senate file No. 197, the hog cholera serum bill. The measure, introduced by Weesner of Webster, puts the use and sale of all serum and virus for hog cholera under the supervision of the State Live Stock Sanitary board.

Will Try to Amend Merger Bill. The Omaha consolidation bill will be amended in the house committee of the whole this week if its opponents can manage it.

They propose to add the amendment proposed by Representative Broome, which would postpone the matter two years and then submit the question to a vote of the people living in all the municipalities affected by the bill as a whole, and not to the voters of each community.

Ireland's Patron Saint



On March 17, in or about the year 465, St. Patrick, consecrated bishop of Ireland, died at Saul, in County Down, Ireland, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. Today, more than fourteen centuries later, his day is celebrated with reverence and with rejoicing throughout the English speaking world, for the Irish are everywhere, and nowhere now are they hanging men and women, too, for the wearing of the green.

IRELAND'S SAINT, AND HIS WORKS

Colleen Tells the Story of the Life and Labors of the Beloved Preacher Who Brought Christianity to the Beautiful Shores of the Green Isle.

BY A COLLEEN.

Erin's a spot famous for greenery. But we do not match with our scenery. We're not so green we can make hay with you— Says the colleen, "Ah, get away with you!" —Modern Song.

AND is it green you're after thinking we are? Then turn your intelligent eyes upon us, for it's probably due to us that you have an intelligent eye to turn upon anything at all! A fit of the blues and a streak of yellow may make one kind of green—the green young thing that hops out of life at a halter's end, mayhap; or the pale green of envy in a foolish eye. But the sweet, restful green that nature painted the isle was never that kind of a color. 'Tis the bright, cool and happy shade of the leaves and growing things like the bit of a shamrock that best tell the story of it.

And the story of the shamrock and the story of Ireland are the story of Saint Patrick himself. Are you telling me you never heard it? More shame to you that don't know the praises of the greatest of saints.

Maybe you're one of them that thinks the blessed man was born in France—France, ochone! Heaven save the mark, 'twas in Dumbarton, called the Rocks of Clyde, in what is now Scotland. His father and mother were Christians, after a fashion that is, and they were subject to the Roman influence, Scotland having been licked by the Caesar, which Ireland was not.

A lad of sixteen he was when they nabbed him and, turning the prow of the coracle down the Clyde, headed for a spot near the Giant's Causeway. Once landed it was not long before he was sold to Milchu, son of Hau Bain, who was king of Dalaradia. His duty thereafter was none other than the tending of cattle in the valley of the Braid, not far from Broughshane. In that valley there is still a town called Ballyligpatrick or Patrick's Hollow.

Six Years of Slavery.

Six years he slaved and planned, and then at the age of twenty-two he ran away. Away from Milchu and the cattle and down to the sea at Killala in the County Mayo, he went. A boat was ready to sail when he reached there—it was about two hundred miles from the valley of the Braid—but he had no money and the sailors refused to give him passage. Fearful of discovery, he went into the wood of Foclut, there to hide till he could get away safely, but the sailors' hearts became softened, and they sent after him and gave him free passage back to his home.

Home again after six years of bondage, you'd think he would settle down and be content, now wouldn't you. But no. Contrary to the wishes of his family he determined to go back to Ireland and be a missionary; and he began to prepare himself for it. Now the time when most boys of his age were in school he had been away tending the cattle of his master, so it was small book-learning he had, and the task of preparing himself was a hard one, but he spent years in monastic schools and more than twenty of them had passed before he set sail to an-

swer the "voice of the Irish" that he declared was calling to him.

He would bring happiness to the Isle of Destiny by way of Christianity—wasn't that a noble mission? And they were ripe for his hand. He landed near the mouth of the River Slany, two miles from the place now known as Saul. At that time there were many divisions and as many rulers in Ireland, each brave clan being a law unto itself. St. Patrick made straight for the nearest chief, Dichu, who thought he and his companions were pirates and came armed to meet them, but when St. Patrick spoke to him the melting sweetness of his message turned Dichu into a staunch friend on the spot, and straightway he gave a barn to be used as a temporary church and land on which to build a permanent one—and the place is known to this day as Saul, (Saul meaning barn).

Peaceful Conquest of Erin.

So the blessed man went up and down the island leaving the broad track of light behind him. He gathered together the chiefs and their clans that had been warring among themselves and he made them into one solid body. For the Irish never do things by halves, and their love and chivalry responded to the appeal of the apostle of Erin. It wasn't giving to the church with one hand and snatching back with two they were—not a bit of it—only each one trying to outdo his neighbor in goodness and self-sacrifice. Don't think that it was all easy sailing. The saint met with much opposition and had many threats made on his life, but that didn't faze him one whit. The strongest opponents he had were the Druids, as the pagan priests were called. He determined to put a stop to them, and went right into their stronghold at Tara, where they were holding high jinks, and began the celebration of Easter by lighting the Easter fire, for it was Easter eve. The royal command was sent to Patrick to present himself to the court at Slane. There he was received with dudgeon and welcomed by the royal bard Dubhthack. It was just what he wanted and he began to preach to them and converted more than half of them on the spot, gaining the king's permission to preach in any part of Ireland he wished.

No need to tell him twice. From Connought he traveled to the Lakes of Killarney, from the east to the west and from the north to the south, back and forth he went baptizing thousands. His last years were spent near Saul, advising and teaching those who were to take up his work and follow after him. And on the 17th of March, in the year 463, "he was translated to heaven." Much has been said about just where his grave is, but as long as we know that his ashes rest in the soil of Inisfail, what matter?

And today Erin's sons are scattered far and wide doing the world's work. Literature, science and art have drawn from the Irish resources, not to mention that hardworking team, "Mike and Pat," that keep body and soul together for half of the vaudeville performers—nothing is so easy to attempt as the Irish brogue. Maybe you've noticed that the underdone bits are rarer than the overdone ones? Professional humorists, bad manners to them, would become extinct entirely if the same pair were not handy to have smart answers wished onto the ends of their tongues. 'Tis not saying the Irish are not witty I am, but only so good-natured that the sins of the world are grafted graciously upon them.