

### NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

**INTELLIGENCE HERE GATHERED COVERS WIDE AREA.**

**GREATER OR LESSER IMPORT**

Includes What is Going On at Washington and in Other Sections of the Country.

**WAR NEWS.**

Heavy diplomatic pressure is being brought by the allies on Italy to take sides with them in the war.

The fast German submarine U-29, off the Scilly Islands, has attacked not less than eight steamers, five of which it sank.

It is reported from Rotterdam that four more British shipping firms have ceased their services in the fear of submarine attacks on their vessels.

Fifteen wounded Germans from the cruiser Dresden, sunk by the British off the island of Juan Fernandez, have reached Valparaiso. They report three men killed in the action.

The American club of Dresden has issued an appeal which will be distributed throughout the United States against the shipment from America of arms and ammunition to the nations at war.

American citizens in Austria are said to have requested Secretary of State Bryan to take steps to secure the safe passage to Austria of an American shipload of foodstuffs for them.

The crew of the German cruiser Dresden took everything of value off the British bark Conway Castle before sinking the ship with a bomb, according to the crew of the British vessel, landed at Valparaiso, Chile.

The British admiralty reports the sinking of the German cruiser Dresden off the island of Juan Fernandez. The crew of the Dresden, which for three months has eluded the vigilance of hostile ships, were saved, it is said.

Great Britain has announced the details of the retaliatory measures, which, in conjunction with her allies, she proposes to take against Germany. These are aimed at the stoppage of all commerce by sea to and from German ports.

In an editorial article discussing the position of Italy, with relation to the European war, the Giornale d'Italia says: "Greece, Roumania and Bulgaria are awaiting Italy's move and will follow suit. Thus Italian influence is great at this moment, which must be seized, as it is in her power to contribute to the formation of a new international agreement."

The British casualty list for the five days from March 10 to March 14, inclusive, during which the battles of Neuve Chapelle and St. Eloi were fought, show that 112 officers were killed, and that 19 officers were wounded. The list of casualties among the men is estimated at about two-thirds of those suffered by the Germans, which it is said were between 17,000 and 18,000.

The British admiralty announces that the British battleships Irresistible and Ocean have been sunk. The admiralty also announces that the French battleship Bouvet was blown up by a mine in the Dardanelles and sunk and that virtually her entire crew was lost. 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.

#### GENERAL.

The United States battleship Pennsylvania, the largest warship afloat, was recently launched at Newport News Va.

The supreme court announced it would take its usual Easter recess after giving decisions March 23 and would reassemble on April 5.

A constitutional amendment providing for woman suffrage was passed by the lower house of the Missouri legislature at Jefferson City.

The New York senate passed the assembly bill amending the workmen's compensation laws so as to empower employes and employers to settle injury claims between themselves.

More than \$100,000 is bequeathed to New York City charitable institutions, hospitals and churches by the will of William Washington Cole, a veteran circus man, once partner of P. T. Barnum, which was admitted to probate. The will disposes of an estate valued at about \$5,000,000.

A national convention of owners and operators of jitney buses will be held in Kansas City, May 4, 5 and 6. That announcement was made by E. K. Carnes, traffic manager of the Kansas City Jitney association.

All danger of raid by Pite Indians having passed, the posse leaves Bluff, Utah, after having been on duty more than a month.

The United States court of appeals upholds the prison sentences of Maury Diggs and F. Drew Caminetti of San Francisco under the white slave law.

As preliminary to a general campaign for a national prohibition in 1916, the national committee of the prohibition party has decided to concentrate its activities upon Massachusetts this year.

Edward J. Williams of Chicago, who was chief disbursing officer of the Panama canal, has accepted the appointment as assistant treasurer of the Commission for Relief in Belgium. It was announced at New York.

W. L. Mackenzie King, former Canadian minister of labor, and now connected with the Rockefeller Foundation, arrived at Denver to spend several weeks studying the labor situation in Colorado.

About \$1,000,000 to reimburse farmers for ravages of the foot and mouth disease among their cattle is appropriated by the terms of a bill introduced in the lower house of the Illinois legislature.

Predictions that within five years there would be no more railway accidents except those due to human fallibility were made by T. S. Stevens, president of the Railway Signal association, at its annual meeting at Chicago.

The largest gold mining deal in recent years in Colorado was closed when A. E. Carlton of Cripple Creek and fifty associates purchased 96 per cent of the capital stock of the Golden Cycle Mining company for a cash consideration of \$4,500,000.

W. S. Nobel, secretary of the Land League of Texas, told the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations at Dallas, Tex., that he had found two land tenants in North Texas so poverty stricken that they were offering to give their children away.

Lincoln Beachey, famous aviator, was killed when the wings of his new monoplane crumpled back during a sensational perpendicular drop from an altitude of 3,000 feet, and the machine fell into San Francisco bay, in sight of several thousand spectators.

Superior Judge L. R. Works upheld the contention of the city of Los Angeles that its \$25,000,000 Owens river aqueduct system furnishes pure water, excellent for human consumption, and denied injunctions to two plaintiffs who sought to prevent distribution of the aqueduct water on the ground that it was polluted.

A year or two ago the gas company furnishing gas in Des Moines lobs a long battle to prevent reduction in the rate to 90 cents. By reason of statements filed with the city authorities it is shown the gross receipts of the company increased about 5 per cent in the last two years, or over \$28,000 under the allowed rates.

#### WASHINGTON.

Secretary Daniels, answering critics of the unpreparedness of the navy, declared that never before in its history was the navy in better shape to fight.

Paregoric, the old nursery standby, is exempt from the provisions of the new federal drug law, according to a ruling just made by the commissioner of internal revenue.

A protest has been sent by the United States to General Villa against the collection from Americans or other foreigners of part of a special tax of a million pesos levied at Monterey.

The Federal Trade commission will make no attempt to advise corporations in advance as to the legality under the trade commission act of any actions they contemplate.

President Wilson will not call a special session of congress to authorize an embargo on commerce to the belligerent nations of Europe, because such an act would be construed as a violation of neutrality, it was officially stated at the White house.

President Wilson has decided on the route for the Alaskan railroad, the building of which is to begin this spring, but an announcement will await the outcome of negotiations with one of the existing lines which the government may buy.

A flag for the vice president, the first in the history of the American navy, was authorized by Secretary Daniels. It is like the president's flag, except that it has a white instead of a blue field for the coat of arms of the United States.

The United States government does not know as yet whether Great Britain and her allies intend to maintain a legal blockade or propose to apply general rules of contraband and non-contraband in enforcing their embargo on commercial intercourse between Germany and neutral countries.

Because of the lack of shipping facilities between the Philippine Islands and the United States, army transports will be utilized for carrying goods from the islands which could not be transported in any other way.

### 2 CENT RATE STANDS AGAINST STERILIZATION BILL

HOUSE COMMITTEE KILLS 2 1/2 CENT PASSENGER RATE BILL.

### THOUSANDS SPENT BY ROADS

Many Speakers Were Sent Through State Urging Increase; Much Advertising Done.

Lincoln.—Nebraska railroads have lost the fight they have been waging for more than a year for an increase in passenger rates in Nebraska from 2 cents to 2 1/2 cents per mile. The bill, known as the Miner bill, was killed in the house railroad committee, which predicated its action upon the belief that it is not equipped to make rate studies and therefore not in position of deciding the technicalities of rate-making. More than a year ago the railroads doing business in Nebraska started agitating the increase in intrastate rates, insisting that the present rates do not compensate them for the expense. Railroad speakers went among commercial clubs throughout the state and succeeded in having many petitions gotten up by different business organizations, all asking for the increase.

Paid speakers were sent through the state, and two weeks ago a prominent business man from Missouri toured Nebraska in the interest of increased rates.

Thousands of dollars were spent in purchasing newspaper space, regular advertising rates being paid for the columns containing the railroad arguments. More than 300 weekly and daily newspapers in Nebraska printed the matter.

Publicity agents scattered the railroads' argument as widely as possible and promised a "return to prosperity" if the advance was permitted.

House Passes Merger Bill.

The house has passed the Greater Omaha annexation bill.

The bill carries the Parriott amendment, providing for a unit vote of the greater city within sixty days.

The vote for the bill was 72, carrying the emergency clause.

The amendment, proposed by Parriott of Nemaha, gives the voters of all municipalities concerned the right to settle the question at an election to be called by the governor not less than thirty days nor more than sixty days after the bill becomes a law. A majority vote of all voting on the question will decide the issue, it not being required that voters of each separate municipality favor annexation.

#### Insurance Bill Advanced.

State sick and death benefits for every worker, man or woman, earning less than \$1,000 a year is provided for in senate bill No. 258 by Senator Piller, has been advanced to third reading in the senate. It will affect thousands of people. The bill provides for the payment of \$150 annually for each person in the state between the ages of 15 and 65, the fund resulting to be administered by the state insurance commissioners. Each wage earner is to be assessed \$1.50 a year, each employer is to be assessed \$1.50 a year for each employee and \$1.50 is to be set aside from the general fund of the state to make up the fund. All employers of labor, including farmers and employers of domestic help, shall come under the provisions of the bill. In addition to the person contributing to the fund the wife, husband or children of such person shall also be entitled to sick benefits.

#### Summer Normal Work Ends.

The Crinklaw-Liggett bill to abolish junior normal schools has been favorably considered by the house and sent to third reading. It received no opposition. No appropriation for junior normals is provided this year in the general maintenance bill, already passed by the house.

#### Senate Names Its Sifters.

The senate has appointed a sifting committee which consists of Kohl of Wayne, chairman; Mattes of Otoe, Grace of Harlan, Buhrman of Howard, Bedford of Douglas, Ruden of Knox and Spencer of Gage. The committee was named in a motion put by Howell of Douglas.

#### Capitol Bill Postponed.

"Billy" Chambers' dream of a new state capitol building went up in smoke when his bill providing for the erection of a new capitol with the proceeds from a four-year mill levy was postponed. The levy would have raised an estimated \$2,900,000.

#### Trespassing a Misdemeanor.

Despite some spirited opposition Mallery's bill senate file 283, to make trespassing upon railroad tracks a misdemeanor, has advanced to third reading by the senate committee.

#### Road Paving Measure Killed.

The recent message of Governor Morehead urging passage of the Peterson bill allowing creation of road paving districts in rural sections of the state did not save that measure when it came before the house for action. The measure was killed after Taylor of Custer and a few other out-in-the-state men had waged a most insistent battle against it. The bill was deemed a proper and necessary part of the good roads campaign now going on in the state.

Governor Morehead Looks With Disfavor On Such Law—Recent Operations Successful.

Although there is no Nebraska law providing for the sterilization of defectives and little chance of one being enacted, because of the opposition of Governor Morehead, four operations for sterilization were performed recently at the Nebraska hospital for the insane, located near Lincoln, according to the biennial report of Superintendent B. F. Williams, filed with the state board of control.

All four operations were performed upon women and at their own request after they had so far recovered from attacks of insanity as to justify their release. Dr. Williams says the operations were performed with beneficial results and that all four women are now well.

As a means of affording an insight into the activities carried on at Nebraska institutions under the direction of the board of control, the report shows that institutions are being placed on a self-supporting basis so far as possible. Women at the Nebraska hospital make practically every article of wearing apparel and household use needed at the asylum. The report shows that 18,475 articles were made by the women at the Nebraska hospitals in the past two years.

Paving of public roads outside of cities and towns was recommended to the legislature by Governor Morehead in a special message as a method of utilizing the labor of state and county prisoners to best advantage. The governor recommended that some legislation be enacted along this line and suggested a tax of \$50 per year on automobiles to be used for defraying the cost of such work.

A bill somewhat along the line proposed by the governor, introduced by Mr. Peterson, is now on the general file of the house and will probably receive consideration soon. It is H. R. 483, and confers authority on county boards to order the construction of paved or graveled highways.

In the same message Governor Morehead urged that an appropriation be made to reimburse owners of cattle, which may be killed by order of the State Live Stock Sanitary board, if the foot and mouth disease should hereafter gain any foothold in the state.

The Osterman bill, known as S. F. 442, intended to deny the Union Pacific the right of condemnation unless it should gain possession of all land it now holds in excess of 200 feet of right-of-way, has been killed. The roll call on its indefinite postponement, resulted 58 to 31. Lanigan, the leading opponent of the bill, quoted court decisions of Nebraska and United States holding that the Union Pacific was entitled to a 400-foot right-of-way and that it cannot deed any of its land away. Mr. Lanigan asserted that many of the farmers along the Union Pacific, who have received quit claim deeds for everything except 200 feet are not now being disturbed in their possession, but if the bill should pass the Union Pacific in defense of its interest would be compelled to take back from these farmers the land included in the full 400-foot strip.

Chairman Henry T. Clarke of the state railway commission and Attorney General Willis E. Reed returned last week from Chicago, where they attended the hearing held by the interstate commerce commission on the application of western railroads for an increase in passenger and freight rates.

Reed says: "It is a titanic struggle on the part of the carriers to advance rates. They claim it would mean \$10,000,000 annually. From all of the evidence gathered and ready to be introduced on behalf of those who pay freight, it is quite evident the advance means \$70,000,000 annually."

The house committee of the whole considered H. R. 634, the compulsory voting bill, by Anderson of Boyd. It imposes a poll tax of \$6 upon each voter, but provides that \$3 of this shall be remitted when his vote is cast in the primaries and the other \$3 when he votes at the general election. A motion to indefinitely postpone this bill was defeated by only two votes, and it is doubtful if the measure will pass on third reading.

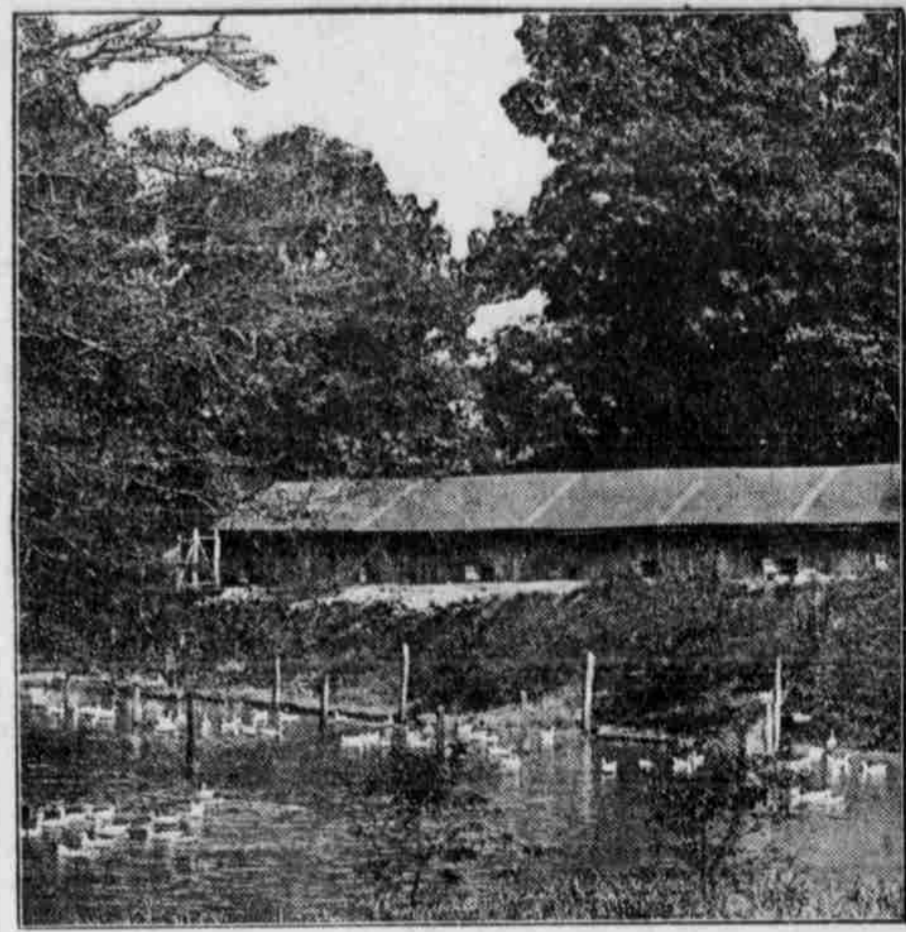
Despite the meeting of protest held by about a score of the county treasurers of the state, State Treasurer Hall says that he is going to stand pat on his recent order requiring the county officials to remit monthly the current taxes of the state collected by them.

They point out that before the state treasurer can collect the penalty exacted by law, he will have to ask for a legal monthly "settlement."

The Slevers bill, giving all county officials, except judges, a four-year term, beginning with the 1918 election, passed the house with but two negative votes. It will not lengthen the terms of present officials.

H. R. 44, the bill known as the loan shark bill, has been recommended for passage. A similar measure was passed two years ago, but was knocked out by the courts because of its unconstitutionality, the features which caused its downfall in the courts have been eliminated, and in its present form is expected to stand the test.

### PROFITABLE MARKET DUCK MANAGEMENT



Excellent Duck Pond and House.

I have kept Mammoth Pekin ducks with considerable pleasure and profit during the past ten or fifteen years. My method is to keep the birds out of the chicken yard so as to prevent the soiling of the water which the chickens have to drink, writes D. C. O. Wells of Fayette county, Illinois, in Orange Judd Farmer. A two-foot wire fence has proved satisfactory. Of course, the chickens can fly over this, but the ducks cannot. In eight weeks from hatching I can make young ducks weigh four pounds each, and by June 1 at this weight can usually get twenty to twenty-five cents a pound in Chicago. During the past years the demand has been increasing annually.

There is no trouble about rearing ducks. The brooding time is only about half as long as that for chickens and the ducklings do not need nearly as much heat in the brooders. Ducklings should always have a bulky feed. I give a mixture of one part each of bran and beef meal to two parts of corn meal. The beef meal must never be omitted as it is essential to make the ducklings thrive and grow large. To the mixture I add about five per cent of sand so as to supply grit. I always have an available supply of clean water for the ducklings to drink, but not enough for them to paddle in. They cannot do more than get their bills wet. It is necessary that they should do this so as to prevent clogging of the nostrils with food.

During warm weather I always provide ample shade. Any shed will do for old ducks if it is dry. I always supply plenty of bedding, such as straw. For nests I place ten-foot boards about a foot from the wall and leave openings at each end so the ducks will not pile up and break the eggs. This space is partly filled with straw in which the ducks bury their eggs.

When I have more than one flock I mate the birds about January, just as I plan to keep them; that is, I make no changes after once having mated the flocks. If this is not done early, any attempt to break up a flock into smaller ones may result unfavorably and any other attempt to unite smaller flocks is likely to be just as undesirable, because each set will separate as soon as they are not watched. It is therefore highly important to form the flocks by New Year's time.

I always keep plenty of oyster shell in the laying quarters. From July 1 to January 1 ducks need scarcely any food if they have access to a good pond. As ducks are usually shy, especially at night, they should have a shed well protected from any possible night movements on the part of men and animals. If not so provided they will be excited all night and keep the whole neighborhood awake. Always during the laying season I keep my ducks shut up until at least seven o'clock so the eggs will not be dropped outside of the house.

### WAY OF FATTENING TURKEYS

Feeding Green Corn is Bad Practice—Always Have Grit and Charcoal Near Feed Troughs.

(By MRS. EMMA STACEY.) At the price per pound given for turkeys these last years it pays to feed them to good weight, as a couple of pounds more on the weight counts, but four or more pounds pays well. I put in new blood at good prices each year, and make special prices by sales of breeders each year.

After I have called in my orders for breeding stock from the farmers about me I go over my flocks and make selections of my best hens and gobblers, after which these are marked and as far as is possible kept apart from the main flock.

After losing several of my best turkeys one year from feeding green corn I shut off on that given raw, although I used it in plenty when cooked. I do not begin feeding until pretty well along in October, and then each morning new corn, shelled or sometimes cut in small pieces, is placed in a large outdoor kettle and boiled for several hours. By night this has cooled and is ready for their suppers. I have never known cooked corn to hurt them.

For morning they get a ration of ground oats, boiled vegetables, cornmeal mixed with either milk or water. Always they have grit and charcoal near by their feed troughs. At noon they get old corn, sometimes wheat, with an occasional feed of suet.

### SOME GOOD POULTRY FACTS

Early Hatched Pullets Produce Eggs in Fall and Early Winter—Best Time for Hatching.

Pullets must be well matured before they will lay many eggs.

Pullets that start to lay in the fall before cold weather sets in will, as a rule, lay all winter.

It is the early hatched pullets that produce eggs in the fall and early winter, when prices are high.

February, March and April are the months to do your hatching in order to secure early hatched pullets.

Yearling and two-year-old hens do not lay many eggs in the fall, as they are molting at that time, and the feed they consume goes not only to keep up the energy and life of the birds but also to put on or grow a new coat of feathers.

In properly matured pullets all surplus energy beyond that needed to meet the requirements of the body is available for the production of eggs.

### WHY NOT CAPONIZE TURKEY?

Improvement in Quality and Increase in Size Would Make Industry More Profitable.

There is every reason to believe that caponizing other poultry would prove as advantageous as it does with chicken cocks.

The turkey cock, particularly, would be a good subject to operate on, and if the increase in size and quality should prove as great as in the caponized cockerel I am sure that it would make turkey growing vastly more profitable than it is under normal circumstances, says a Missouri writer in Farm Progress.

So far as I know, no such practice has been set up in this country or elsewhere, but if the emasculating makes a so much finer bird than the ordinary cockerel, it seems to me that the improvement in quality and increase in size would surely be as great relatively in the turkey males.

I am presuming that the operation would be as simple in a turkey cock as in the chicken. Of course, there is no reason to believe that the turkey caponized would be affected in any wise differently from the chicken cock.

I am quite sure that anyone who will caponize some early-hatched turkey-cocks this summer and market them as capons next fall will find it a paying operation.

### BIG ADVANTAGE IN POULTRY

Soon After Hatching There Are Many Cockerels Ready for Market and Pullets Begin to Lay.

One of the advantages in poultry production is that returns come quickly. With the exception of strawberries, there is practically no line of small fruit on which you can begin to realize inside of three years. A milch cow does not approach her full power of production short of three years; apple trees do not begin to bear freely short of seven or eight years. How is it with hens? Three weeks from the setting of a hen you have a batch of chickens; four or five months after hatching you have a lot of cockerels for market and in from five to five and one-half months the pullets begin to lay.

### Importance of Rooster's Crow.

The importance of a rooster's crow as an indication of his general worth is recognized in Belgium where cock-crowing contests are held, the prizes going to the birds that crow oftenest in a given length of time.