

MINOR NOTES FROM ALL PARTS OF NEBRASKA

DATES FOR COMING EVENTS.

May 1-2—Modern Woodman State Camp at Norfolk.
 May 4—Group No. 2 Nebraska Bankers' Association Convention at Columbus.
 May 8—Biennial Session A. O. U. W. Grand Lodge at Omaha.
 May 8-9—Knights of Columbus State Meeting at Alliance.
 May 12—State High School Track and Field Meet at Lincoln.
 May 16-17-18—Annual Encampment Nebraska G. A. R. Ladies of the G. A. R. Women's Relief Corps; Spanish War Veterans and Sons of Veterans at Columbus.
 May 22-25—Nebraska Sportsmen's Association Annual Tournament at Fremont.
 May 24-25—State Association of Commercial Clubs' Meeting at Alliance.
 June 5-6-7—State Association of Postmasters' Meeting at Lincoln.

Three persons lost their lives when a rowboat in which they were attempting to cross the Missouri at Decatur swamped, as the result of the rise in the river, and turned over. The victims, two men and a woman, lived on farms on the Iowa side of the river.

The Norfolk Commercial club is negotiating with the representative of an iron foundry, which considers moving to that city. The tractor and stacker factory has developed the need for an iron foundry there.

The date of the interscholastic track meet of Nebraska high schools to be held at Hastings, has been changed from May 11 to May 5, on account of the former date conflicting with the state college meet.

Callaway is showing its patriotism by contributing a goodly number of recruits to the Nebraska National guard. Up to April 18 twenty-two lads from that place had joined Company L Fourth regiment.

Many wheat fields reported 50 per cent dead in Cheyenne county are now a bright green and will make a large yield. The recent heavy rains have worked wonders on the crop.

A Gage county farmer was fined \$5 and cost the other day when he pleaded guilty to the charge of using obscene language in conversing over the telephone with the central girl.

The Dodge county branch of the Nebraska Defense league held its first meeting at Fremont last Thursday. Over 800 persons have signified their intention to join the league.

Members of Group No. 2, Nebraska Bankers' association will assemble at Columbus, May 22, for their annual meeting.

Motormen and conductors on the Lincoln street car lines quit work to enforce a demand for increased wages and better working conditions.

Citizens of Silver Creek are making an effort to secure a Carnegie library building. A two-mill levy to sustain such an institution has been voted.

Prices of twenty-two staple food products show an average increase of 66 per cent in Omaha during the last six months.

Cuming county is making rapid strides toward the organizing of a county fair association, and the enterprise seems assured.

Seed potatoes are a scarce article just now. At Norfolk the other day not a bushel could be bought in the city.

Lightning struck a barn on the farm of Jacob Stan, near Greeley and nine horses, three cows, a quantity of grain and implements were destroyed.

Clover fields in Dodge county are dead and will have to be plowed up and seeded to other crops. It is said.

Work has commenced on Kearney's new \$200,000 hotel. The structure will be seven stories high.

Hundreds of tons of dead fish, mostly carp and buffalo, strewn along the banks of the Elkhorn river in Dodge county are being hauled by farmers onto fields for fertilization purposes. The fish are believed to have either frozen or smothered to death during the past winter.

Farmers in Dodge and surrounding counties are plowing up the winter wheat fields and re-seeding to spring wheat or other grain. Much of the land will be planted to corn. It is estimated that there is not over a tenth of the winter wheat crop alive.

The big questions to be taken up by the Nebraska Association of Commercial clubs at the annual meeting next month at Alliance will be irrigation, dry farming and co-operation between the farmer and federal government in relation to the present intensive farming agitation.

"If a stranger refuses to halt after being challenged, shoot first and investigate afterward." This is an order given to guardsmen stationed on bridges near Omaha as the result of an attack on a member of company B recently.

An apple crop, far in excess of 1916, and probably among the largest yields in the state, is predicted this year by horticultural experts unless unforeseen dryness of the summer should be felt.

The Gering Community club is conducting a campaign to obtain support for a municipal band. It is planned to have a band as a part of the club's welfare work.

Word has reached Harrison that Fort Robinson, a military post 25 miles east of town, has been chosen as a training camp for soldiers.

Nebraska is the only state that has not produced a single favorable reply for universal military training in a canvass by the National Security league of New York City. Mayors of cities of more than 5,000 in every state were asked to sum up the situation in their community. Of 378 answers 200 favored a universal training law by congress. Thirty-four mayors said their citizens were opposed to such action. Mayor William Mudgett, Hastings, and former candidate for governor of Nebraska, wrote that he was personally in favor of universal training, but said Hastings seemed to want peace at any price.

Five thousand Nebraska boys and girls are expected to take part in home-school gardens in forty-five towns in the state which have taken up the work, under the direction of the agricultural extension service of the State university. Last year, 2,222 boys and girls in twenty-five towns and cities took part in the project. As a result of their work, 1,259 back yards and 345 vacant lots grew gardens. The total receipts from these gardens was nearly \$12,000 in addition to nearly \$2,000 worth of canned products.

Directors of the South Omaha Live Stock exchange passed a resolution urging all stockmen and farmers in this trade territory to discontinue marketing young cattle, hogs and sheep and further urged that they put to the fullest use all rough pasture and grain in feeding, raising and fattening cattle. This action was taken in co-operation with a nationwide campaign now being carried on by the National Live Stock exchange in the conservation of meat and food sources.

Following the plea of President Wilson that the people of this nation bend every effort toward conserving its productiveness and resources of all kinds in this time of war, the Union Pacific issued circulars to 15,000 of its employees between Omaha and Ogden, and on the branches, urging the men immediately to plant gardens, as large as they can secure and handle.

Blanche Trader, 2-year-old daughter of William Trader, a farmer living near Ashland, was killed by being drawn into a corn sheller driven by steam power. Her little body was literally crushed and chopped into shreds. The little girl was playing about the sheller and was drawn into the machine before she was seen. Before the power could be shut off she had been pounded into its jaws.

A rancher in Holt county has a Shetland pony that is very much human. The animal eats peanuts and candy and chews gum like any ordinary person. Its owner offered the horse a chew of tobacco the other day and to his astonishment it took a good sized chew of the weed.

Officers of the Deutsche Kriegerbund Landwehr Verein of Beatrice gave to the postmaster a German flag belonging to their order and requested that it be forwarded to President Wilson "as proof of the loyalty of German veterans."

The Dorsey ranch in Dodge county, formerly owned by Congressman G. W. E. Dorsey, was sold at referee's sale for \$35 an acre. The ranch comprises 900-acres. John Lingo of Essex, Ia., bought it, paying \$75,500.

Farmers in the vicinity of Mason City have expressed the opinion winter wheat is not as badly hurt as previous estimates indicated. With warm rains the wheat is coming out nicely.

A movement is on foot at Hastings to erect an auditorium in the city that will cost in the neighborhood of \$60,000.

Gage county farmers are contemplating planting more corn this year than ever before.

James Peters, an old army man, is organizing a company of rookies at Harrison.

One Nebraskan was indicted on a charge of threatening the president of the United States by the federal grand jury at Omaha. He is Henry Van Tighre, Clearwater. He was placed under a bond of \$3,000. Penalty for the offense is \$1,000 fine or five years in prison, or both.

Seven hundred telegraph poles were blown down and several hundred miles of telegraph line put out of commission on the Burlington west of McCook by the sleet and snowstorm that swept over that section of the state just recently.

Sixty city lots that ordinarily grow to weeds have been leased by the Fremont Community Garden club, plowed and harrowed and will be assigned to members of the club for gardening. A rental of \$2.50 a lot will be charged and assistance in a financial way will be given those who are unable to pay for seed at the time of planting. Interest in the movement is growing.

The revival meeting held in the Methodist church at Cedar Rapids resulted in sixty-five conversions and many reconsecrations.

The New Friends' church at Springbank, Dixon county, was dedicated recently. The new church cost about \$6,500. Springbank is the oldest religious organization in northeastern Nebraska.

The farmers in the vicinity of Bruning turned out en masse the other day and hauled gravel onto the streets of the town and in appreciation of the work the Bruning community club gave them a banquet.

There is an unusual scarcity of hay in Gage county and it is hard to buy at any price.

FRENCH IN BIG DRIVE

PRISONERS TAKEN IN FOUR DAYS TOTAL 19,000—ADVANCE IS UNCHECKED.

MORE THAN 100 GUNS TAKEN

Further Progress Made by General Nivelle's Troops North of the Aisne, in Champagne and the Argonne Forest, Paris Reports.

Paris, April 23.—Hard fighting continues between the French and the Germans all along the southern front in France. The French war office, in its latest communication, records further progress for the forces of General Nivelle north of the Aisne, in Champagne and in the Argonne forest.

More than 19,000 Germans have been made prisoner and guns in excess of 100 have been captured by the French since the offensive began last Monday. "To the north of the Aisne our troops, harassing the enemy, have continued to progress toward the Chemin des Dames. We have occupied the village of Sancy," says the report.

"About six o'clock this evening, after violent preparation by their artillery, the Germans launched an attack with large effectives in the region of Alilles and Hurtebise, which was broken by the fire of our artillery and machine guns and completely dispersed. The artillery fighting in this region continues very effective.

"In the Champagne we have captured several important points of support in the grove of Monroville, notwithstanding the stubborn resistance of the enemy."

Fighting in the Argonne is the new feature of the report.

"In the Argonne," says the official statement, "after sharp fighting our detachments penetrated up to the second enemy trenches. They found a great number of German dead."

The afternoon report told of violent fighting during the night, in the course of which the French made further gains in the region of Laffaux and the Vauclere plateau. Several lines of trenches east of Loivre were captured. Heavy counter-attacks by the Germans in the Champagne were repulsed.

GENERAL VON BISSING DEAD

German Governor General of Belgium Dies—Von Zwehl Named as Successor.

London, April 20.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent says that, according to a Brussels dispatch General von Bissing, German governor general in Belgium, died Wednesday evening.

Another dispatch from Amsterdam says General von Zwehl has been named as his temporary successor.

[General von Bissing was appointed governor general of Belgium in November, 1914, in succession to General von der Goltz. He was born in 1844. General von Bissing came into prominence many times, notably in connection with the execution of Miss Edith Cavell, in frequent clashes with Cardinal Mercier and in the deportation of Belgians.]

FLAGS ON THE PLOWS

Oella, Ga., April 20.—"Nail a flag to your plow and work for your country as you would fight for her," is the slogan adopted by farmers of Ben Hill and Irwin counties. Preparations are under way today by a committee of safety of the two counties to provide the flags, following a mass meeting here, at which south Georgia farmers were urged to produce larger food crops.

KILL STRIKERS IN GERMANY

Kaiser's Troops Slay Krupp Rioters—Town is Besieged—Magdeburg Scene of Outbreak.

London, April 23.—Ten thousand strikers, mostly munition workers, tried to burn the townhall of Magdeburg, according to a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Oldenzaal, Holland. Soldiers fired on the rioters, killing and wounding many, and the town now is in a state of siege.

NICARAGUA BACKS THE U. S.

Central American Nation Has Aligned Herself With the Latin-American States.

Washington, April 20.—Nicaragua has aligned herself with the Latin American nations endorsing the entry of the United States in the war with Germany.

American Fined in Japan.

Yokohama, Japan, April 23.—Ralph Hoyt, formerly of Utica, N. Y., was convicted of violating the law for the protection of military secrets and fined \$10. The judge found Thayer had no intention of violating the law.

Brazil Labor Spurns War.

Rio de Janeiro, April 23.—The Federation of Labor notified the government that its workers will not fight in the event of war, adding that the government "had better employ idle workmen than to engage in war."

THE VICTORIOUS HOSTS OF LIBERTY RETURNING



GERMANY HITS FIRST STRIKE IN GERMANY

U-BOAT ATTACKS AMERICAN DESTROYER SMITH. MUNITION PLANTS ARE AFFECTED, TAGEBLATT SAYS.

U. S. Vessel Escapes Damage When Torpedo Misses Target Thirty Yards—Blockade Seen.

Washington, April 19.—American patrol ships are sweeping the North Atlantic coast of the United States in an effort to locate and destroy the German submarine which fired a torpedo at the United States destroyer Smith.

The presence of enemy submarines in American waters indicates that the threatened German submarine blockade of American Atlantic ports has begun.

This announcement was made on Tuesday at the navy department: "Reported from Fire Island lightship to the naval stations at Boston and New York at 3:30 a. m., on the 17th, an enemy submarine was sighted by the U. S. S. Smith, running apparently submerged. Submarine fired a torpedo at the U. S. S. Smith, which missed her by 30 yards. The wake of the torpedo was plainly seen crossing the bow. Submarine disappeared."

The navy department announced that the report of the Smith's encounter had been substantiated by official investigation.

No further details are available here.

6,000 MACHINE GUNS FOR U. S.

Once Rejected Fieldpiece Becomes Important Factor in Entente Armaments.

Washington, April 20.—Emergency orders for 6,000 Lewis machine guns for the army and navy have been placed by the government, although the American-made weapon, which has been the subject of such bitter controversy, has not been adopted as the standard light machine gun for the army.

Tests of the Lewis and other light weapons will take place May 1, it was said at the department, as a result of which a final decision would be reached. The Lewis gun, once rejected by the American government, has become one of the great factors of the entente armaments on the western front.

WILSON TO CONTROL EXPORT

Senate Commerce Committee Recommends the Passage of the Fernald Bill.

Washington, April 20.—The senate commerce committee unanimously voted to recommend passage of the Fernald bill, giving the president absolute authority over exports "so as to insure their wise, economical and profitable distribution to other countries."

Italians to Aid U. S.

Rome, April 20.—Italian newspapers are considering the possibility of regularizing the situation of Italian subjects in the United States who have not responded to the call to the colors by utilizing them in military establishments in the United States.

Boys March in Chicago.

Chicago, April 21.—Three thousand high school boys paraded through the downtown district in the afternoon, to show that the youth of the nation was ready for active service, whenever the call is given by Uncle Sam.

Yankees Reply to Snipers.

El Paso, Tex., April 21.—Snipers who fired at an American sentry stationed at the viaduct in the suburbs were fired upon in return. One Mexican was seen to fall after a volley had been fired across the border.

No Steps for "Dry" Nation.

Washington, April 23.—Final determination of the government's attitude on the production of intoxicating liquors during the war will await the return to the United States of Herbert C. Hoover.

URGES DRAFT LAW

VOLUNTEER PLAN SHOWN TO BE FAILURE, SAYS WILSON IN LETTER.

MEANS SERVICE FOR ALL

"Public Authority Shall Choose Persons for Military Service and for Rest of Nation's Work"—Majority Report to Senate Favors Plan.

Washington, April 21.—President Wilson sent a letter to Representative Helvering of Kansas explaining and strongly supporting the administration's army bill with its selective conscription plan. The letter indicated the purpose of the administration to insist upon enactment of the measure vigorously. It follows:

"I welcome the inquiry of your letter of April 19 because I have realized the truth of what you say from my own observations, namely, that what is meant to be understood by the selective draft is not generally understood throughout the country.

"The process of the draft is, I think, very clearly set forth in the bill drafted by the war department and which I so earnestly hope the congress will adopt, but it is worth while to state the idea which underlies the bill a little more fully.

"I took occasion the other day in an address to the people of the country to point out the many forms of patriotic service that were open to them and to emphasize the fact that the military part of the service was by no means the only part, and perhaps, all things considered, not the most vital part.

"Our object is a mobilization of all the productive and active forces of the nation and their development to the highest point of co-operation and efficiency and the idea of the selective draft is that those should be chosen for service in the army who can be most readily spared from the prosecution of the other activities to which it must devote a great deal of its best energy and capacity.

"The volunteer system does not do this. When men choose themselves they sometimes choose without due regard to their other responsibilities. Men may come from the farms or from the mines or from the factories or centers of business who ought not to come, but ought to stand back of the armies in the field and see that they get everything that they need and that the people of the country are sustained in the meantime.

"The principle of the selective draft, in short, has at its heart this idea, that there is a universal obligation to serve and that a public authority should choose those upon whom the obligation of military service shall rest and also in a sense choose those who shall do the rest of the nation's work.

"The bill if adopted will do more, I believe, than any other single instrumentality to create the impression of universal service in the army and out of it, and if properly administered, will be a great source of stimulation.

"Those that feel that we are turning away altogether from the voluntary principle seem to forget that some 600,000 men will be needed to fill the ranks of the regular army and the National Guard and that a very great field of individual enthusiasm lies there wide open."

SIX DIE AT INDIANAPOLIS

Flaming Fluid Causes Loss of Life in Office Building—Twenty Hurt in Fleeing Blaze.

Indianapolis, April 21.—Six persons were burned to death on Thursday in the Colfax office building and apartment house on Meridian street, opposite University park. About twenty panic-stricken persons were injured slightly in trying to escape. The dead are: Dr. Martha E. Keller, burned to death; Harry Rowland, eighteen, employee of the Cole Motor company; Mrs. Griffin, aged fifty; Miss Leona Griffin, eighteen, employed at the Holland photo studio; Robert Griffin, fourteen, son of Mrs. Griffin; unidentified woman. The fire followed an explosion in rooms occupied by a film exchange. A streak of what seemed to be flaming fluid permeated all of the second floor, catching some of the victims so they had no chance to escape. The victims were burned black.

ELKUS HAS SPOTTED FEVER

United States Ambassador to Turkey Said to Be Seriously Ill at Constantinople.

The Hague, April 21.—Ambassador Elkus of the United States is seriously ill at Constantinople with spotted typhoid, according to a dispatch from Berlin. The Vossische Zeitung says that a German specialist is assisting the embassy physician.

Montgomery, Actor, Is Dead.

Chicago, April 23.—"Dave" Montgomery, who, with his stage partner, Fred Stone, made thousands laugh, died in the Presbyterian hospital here from a complication of illnesses. He was in the hospital since March 12.

British Smash Turk Lines.

London, April 23.—Turkish positions in Palestine over a front of nearly seven miles have been smashed by a new British advance say official dispatches received on Friday from headquarters in Cairo.