

## LANDS REAPPRAISED

WILL REVALUE SCHOOL LANDS IN FIFTY COUNTIES.

## LATE NEWS FROM CAPITOL

Items of General Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources Around the State House

### Western Newspaper Union News Service.

The board of educational lands and funds has decided to reappraise school lands in fifty counties. All lands not appraised since 1910 will again be appraised in the hope that the increased value will add to the income of the state. County commissioners make the appraisements and the state board has power to review. Some lands in Cherry country are now valued for leasing purposes at 15 cents an acre. As the lessees must pay the state 6 per cent of the appraised value, they are in some instances paying the state 9-10 of 1 cent an acre rental. Land Commissioner G. L. Shumway believes no land will be appraised in the future at less than \$1 an acre for leasing purposes.

### Railroad Acreage Increasing.

For some reason not explained in reports to the state board of assessment the acreage used by railroads for right-of-way in Nebraska has increased since 1916 from a total of 106,933.55 to 112,947.60 acres. Each road reports some increase. The acreage of each as reported to Secretary O. E. Bernecker is as follows:

	1917	1916
Union Pacific	30,746.92	30,544.84
C. R. I. & P.	3,925.84	3,616.66
Missouri Pacific	3,858.70	2,394.59
C. St. P. M. & O.	5,861.50	4,191.37
C. & N. W.	19,459.29	19,210.02
St. J. & G. L.	2,055.60	2,054.47
C. B. & Q.	47,040.00	45,978.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>112,947.60</b>	<b>106,936.55</b>

### COST OF STATE GOVERNMENT

Nearly \$2,000,000 For Four Months, Including Legislative Expenses.

State Auditor Smith has compiled a statement showing that state warrants issued the last four months aggregated \$1,837,741.12. This period included expenses of the legislature. For the same period one year ago, when there was no legislature in session, the warrants issued on the state treasury totaled \$1,693,658.22.

The warrants issued by months totaled January, \$738,422.74; February, \$327,194.48; March, \$518,281.97; April, \$273,841.93.

The warrants issued in April were on the following funds:

General	\$120,879.63
University	15,221.58
Smith-Lever	1,421.74
University cash	23,448.40
Merrill	100.00
Experiment station	597.50
University income	3,756.18
Special University bldg.	23,314.69
Fire commission	481.68
Institution cash	27,663.12
State library	5.00
State aid bridge	27,663.13
Special motor vehicle reg	936.44
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$273,841.93</b>

### All Veterans are Eligible

Circular letters to all civil war veterans, both union and confederate, who have lived in Nebraska for one or more years, are being mailed out by J. H. Presson, secretary of the commission in charge of the \$20,000 state appropriation for transportation expenses to and from Vicksburg anniversary celebration next October. The purpose is to ascertain how many of the old soldiers wish to make the trip and are physically able to do so. Any veteran is eligible to go, no matter whether he fought at Vicksburg or not. However, the commission calls attention in its letter to the fact that the journey will be over 2,000 miles long, going and returning, and that each man should consider his physical condition before he undertakes the trip.

Arrangements have been fully completed by the board of control for the joint operation of the orthopedic hospital and the state home for dependent children, under one management.

### Labor Bureau and Farm Help

State Labor Commissioner Norman has received applications from eight Chicago men who want farm work in Nebraska. The applications came through the labor bureau conducted by a Chicago newspaper. Two of the applicants were born in Nebraska and desire to come back. The applicants ask for wages ranging from \$20 to \$40 a month and board. Labor Commissioner Norman is receiving applications from farmers for farm hands and is furnishing many farmers with the names of men who want work.

### War Prices Will Hit Farmers

War prices this year will strike Nebraska farmers when they come to pay their taxes. Secretary O. E. Bernecker of the state board of assessment instructed county assessors to see to it that grain on hand April 1, is assessed at the market price on that date, less 10 cents a bushel. The price at the nearest market on the date of assessing property, which is April 1, is to govern. The 10 cent deduction is supposed to represent the cost of getting the grain to market.

### COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

State Organizes to Co-Operate With the Government

The state council of defense was organized at a meeting at the office of Governor Neville by electing officers and selecting Representative Henry Richmond, a member of the legislature, to serve as secretary at a salary of \$2,000 a year. The council established departments in conformity with the wishes of the national council, each member being given a department to supervise. It also arranged to have county councils of defense organized.

The officers elected by the state council are: Robert M. Joyce of Lincoln, chairman; George Coupland of Elgin, vice chairman; C. A. McCloud of York, treasurer; Henry Richmond of Omaha, secretary. The work of organization is to be further pushed at a meeting to be held at Lincoln on the evening of May 15.

The following departments were established:

Publicity—Chairman, Robert Joyce. Finance—Chairman, C. A. McCloud, Robert Joyce, George Coupland.

State Defense and Security—General P. L. Hall.

Food Production, Conservation and Distribution—George Coupland.

Co-Operating Agencies—Miss Gertrude Keating.

Hygiene, Medicine and Sanitation—Dr. E. O. Weber.

Labor—T. P. Reynolds.

Industrial Survey and Topography—George E. Johnson.

Secret Service—Richard L. Metcalfe.

Volunteer Recruiting and Selective Draft—General George H. Harries.

Organization of County Defense Councils—Robert Joyce, George Coupland.

It was agreed to organize county defense councils in each county of the state. This council is to be organized in a mass meeting to be called by someone designated for that work by the governor.

This mass meeting is to organize by the election of a chairman, vice chairman, secretary and treasurer, to all of whom commission will be issued by the governor. Then there is to be chosen by either the mass meeting or the four officers named a precinct chairman in each voting precinct in the county. Every officer of the county council, including the precinct chairman, must subscribe to the customary oath, the same to be filed with the state defense council. County councils are to report to the chairman of the state council.

County councils are to have the following described committees: Finance, publicity, food production, conservation and distribution; co-operating agencies; hygiene, medicine and sanitation; recruiting.

The governor has sent letters to each county, urging immediate organization of these defense councils.

### Is Well Pleased With Nebraska

Washington.—Major General A. W. Greeley, a man of long years' service on the frontier, much of it in Nebraska, is alive and hale and living in this city. Interest in the approaching semi-centennial celebration in the Goldenrod state is no keener anywhere than in this venerable warrior's bosom.

As he expressed it while standing on the war department steps the other morning, "I saw that state fifty years ago, just a short time before it entered the union. I was on duty there, and often thought it would take several hundred years to put it along with the other states in all matters of civilization."

"I certainly was wrong. Nebraska has leaped to the front within my own lifetime. I'd like to see Nebraska now."

### To Take Half Million of Bonds

State Treasurer George Hall has telegraphed United States Treasurer McAdoo that the state of Nebraska will invest \$500,000 of its educational trust fund in the liberty loan bonds.

Mr. Hall was authorized to take such action at a meeting of the board of educational lands and funds.

The temporary school fund of Nebraska will suffer \$7,500 a year as a result, representing the difference in interest which the liberty loan bonds draw and those investments which can be secured in this state.

The board thought the sacrifice could well be made, however, and a movement will be started to have all Nebraska municipalities subscribe to the liberty loan.

### Registration Breaks Record

For the first time in her history the registration at Nebraska University has passed 5,000, totalling 5,405, May 1, according to figures given out by Miss Florence McGahey, acting registrar. The net increase for the past year is 579. Of the total number of students, 3,141 are men and 2,264 are women. Half the number are in the freshmen class of the arts and science college, with a total of 2,584, 1,227 men and 1,357 women. Two women are registered in the college of law.

Wholesale and retail druggists who desire to buy and sell alcohol must apply to the governor for a permit. Twenty days before doing so, however, they must file with the county judge notice of their intention to make such application. If there is no protest the county judge shall so certify to the governor, who will grant the permit. Any person desiring, however, may file a protest and a hearing will be had before the county judge. If he decides against the applicant the latter may appeal to the district court.

## DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

FANCY DRESS PARTY.

"The Brownies," commenced Daddy, "were giving a fancy dress party. 'You must all come in queer costumes,' said the Brownies, when they went around to give their invitations. 'You may be funny, or you may be beautiful, but you must be different from the way you are now. That will make you queer. It's only when you look natural that you don't look queer.'"

"Now the Brownies said this little speech to everyone they invited to the party. They asked Mr. Giant, old Witty Witch, the Elves, Fairies, Gnomes and the little Goblins.

"The Fairies laughed when they heard the long speech of the Brownies. For each Brownie said it all without taking a breath, and at the end of it he was quite red in the face and gasping a little bit for a good, long breath.

"As for Witty Witch—she said it was as good as any story to hear the Brownies giving their invitations, and old Mr. Giant roared out,

"'What's that you say?' For he wanted to hear them say it all over



Mystery About the Alligator.

again. 'I'm so high up and you're so low down that it would be kind of you to repeat it.'

"The Brownies did repeat it, and then Mr. Giant laughed for all he was worth.

"'We do believe,' said the Brownies, 'that you heard us the first time of all.'

"'To be sure I did,' said Mr. Giant. 'But I wanted to hear it a second time.'

"'Well, well,' laughed the Brownies. 'That was a joke on us. We thought you didn't hear the first time. We might have known that you have pretty good ears even if you are way up in the air from us.'

"'Never mind,' said Mr. Giant. 'A good joke is lots of fun, and I'll be delighted to come to your party.'

"'That's good,' said the Brownies. 'It will be tomorrow afternoon, so hurry and get your costume ready.'

"'Can't I just wear a mask over my face?' asked Mr. Giant. 'I could never disguise myself on account of my height. No matter what I wore, everyone would say at once, 'Oh, hello, Mr. Giant.'"

"'Of course you must wear more of a disguise than a mask,' said the Brownies firmly. 'Your own clothes and top boots will never do for this party.'

"'Oh, very well,' said Mr. Giant with a smile, for he had already thought up his costume.

"The next afternoon arrived, and no one could recognize another. It was very jolly and mixing and sometimes the funniest mistakes were made. The Gnomes thought they recognized the Brownies, and then they decided they recognized the Goblins, but as they were quite wrong both times, they decided they would not make any more guesses.

"At last a great alligator came crawling in. Every few minutes he held up his head and looked about him. No one could imagine what this meant.

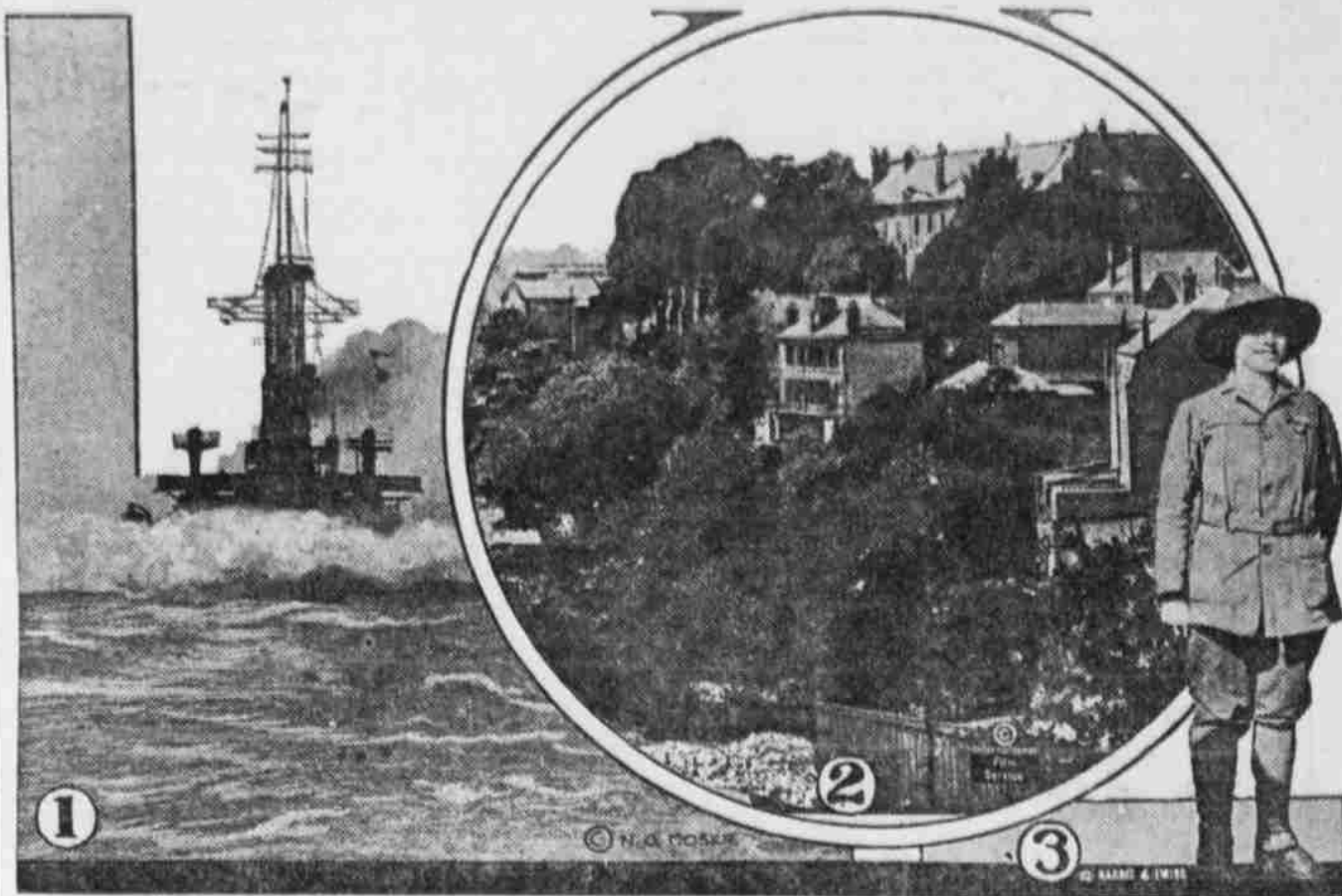
"'I think,' said Billie Brownie, 'that it is probably not one or two of our guests coming in together in this disguise, but that four of Jack Frost's brothers are there. We asked them, you know, for we thought it would be nice if things froze up a bit and there was some skating by moonlight. It's been too warm for that lately, and if we made the Frost brothers laugh, things would freeze pretty quickly.'

"'But nothing seemed to be freezing. And still there was the greatest mystery about the alligator. 'The time for unmasking has come,' said Billie Brownie.

"'And with a leap and a bound the alligator came right out of his skin. Instead of the four Frost brothers, out came Mr. Giant.

"'Oh,' he said, 'None of you knew me! How fine that was! It was the only way for me to come disguised. If I had come in walking, you all would have known me, no matter what I wore, so I had to come in crawling.'

"'It was fine,' said the Brownies. And then they all admired each other's costume. The Frost Brothers came later in suits of fresh snow, carried by their cousins the 'Cold Breezes,' so there was skating after all, and the creatures in their costumes of turkeys, pigs, beryard animals, Court ladies, and Kings and Queens, all joined in the fun."



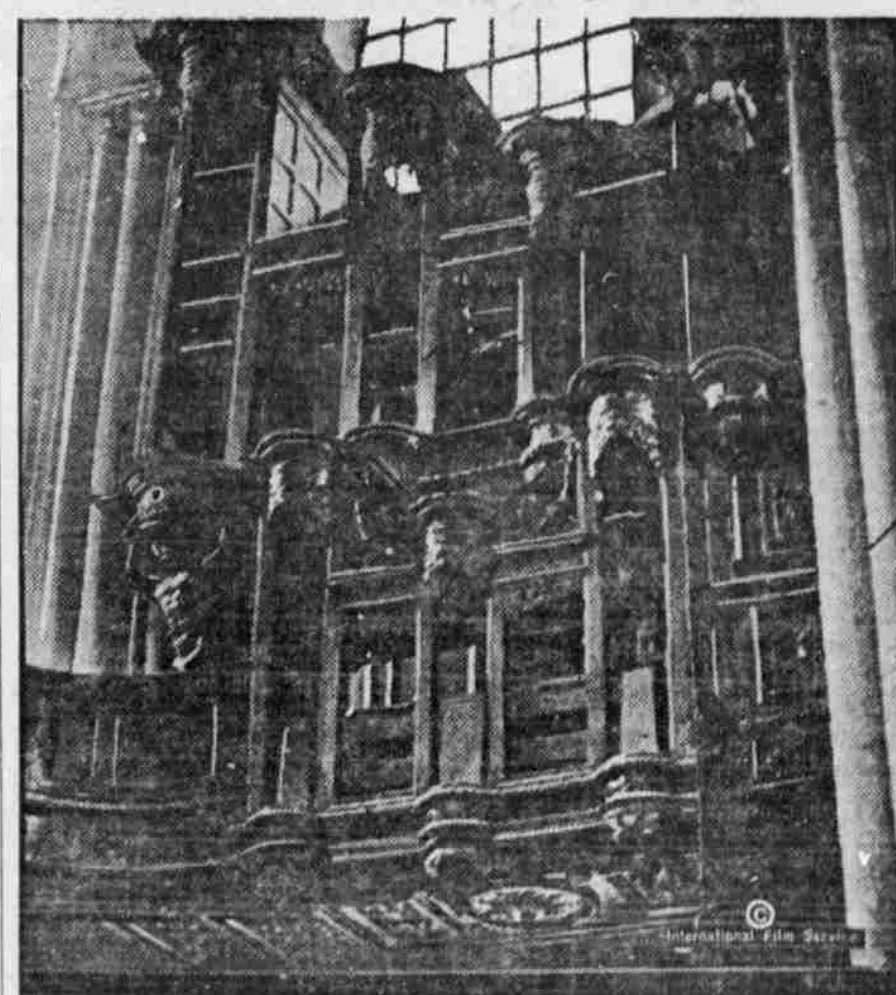
1—United States battleship Wyoming at full speed. 2—Laon, a French town that is an important point in the German line of defense and toward which the allies are steadily making progress. 3—Miss Dora Rodriguez, who has been aiding the recruiting officers in Washington and will go next to San Francisco.

## EQUIPPING THE MANCHURIA WITH GUNS



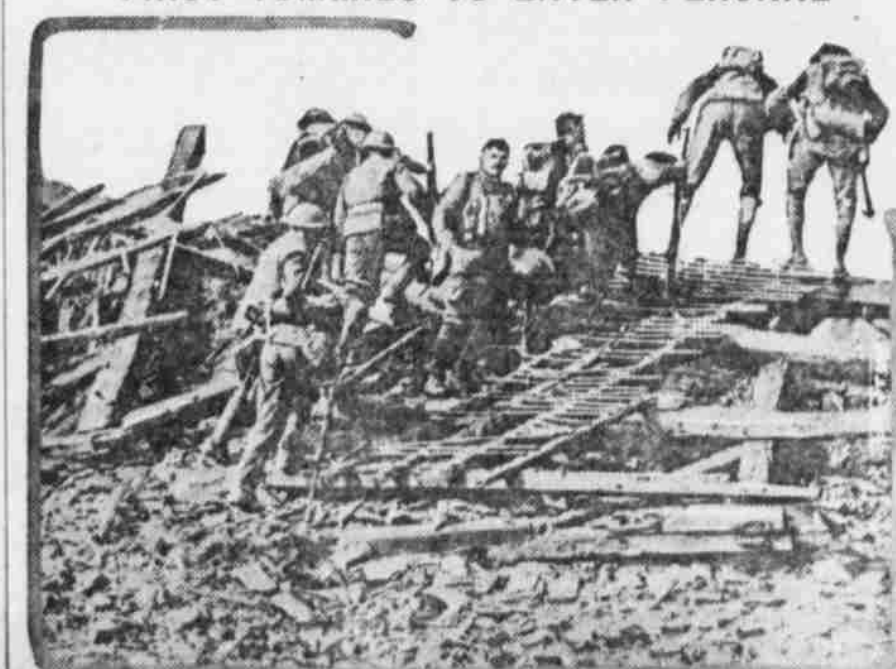
The big American freight liner Manchuria taking on guns and ammunition preparatory to sailing for Europe.

## GERMANS STRIP ORGAN OF ITS METAL



So hard pressed are the Germans for metal that as they retreated through the city of Noyon, in France, they stripped the organ in the cathedral of all the metal in its construction.

## FIRST TOMMIES TO ENTER PERONNE



This spirited official British photograph shows the first English soldiers to enter Peronne as they were crossing a roughly constructed bridge into the city after the Germans were driven out.

## FOURTH U. S. GRANT SERVES



U. S. Grant IV, grandson of President Grant, has enlisted as a private in Company H of the Seventh regiment, N. Y. N. G. He is twenty-three years old and was born at San Diego, Cal. His father is U. S. Grant, Jr., a retired lawyer of that city. The fourth Grant to bear the famous name was graduated from Harvard in 1915 and has been employed in the offices of J. P. Morgan & Co., the New York bankers.

### Going Too Far.

"As a rule, I don't censure the type of man who is more ornamental than useful."

"Yes?"

"But drat the chump who poses in a club window as if a sculptor somewhere in the background were molding his faultless lines in clay!"

### Great Pressure.

"The old-fashioned miser was said to squeeze a silver dollar so hard he made the eagle scream."

"Yes. You don't see many silver dollars nowadays. The modern tightwad puts a crease in a dollar bill that stays there until it is redeemed by the government."