

NEBRASKA'S RICHES

ASSESSMENT FIGURES SHOW INCREASE IN WEALTH

NEWS FROM STATE CAPITAL

Items of Varied Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources at the State House

Nebraska hogs assessed for taxation in 1917 are worth \$10,000,000 more than the swine owned within the state last year, taking actual value as a basis of comparison or \$2,000,000 increase in the assessed value.

Cattle this year are valued at \$30,000,000 above 1916, actual worth, or \$6,000,000 on the assessed value basis.

Corn on Nebraska's farms and in her elevators shows a gain of \$11,000,000 actual value, or \$2,200,000 assessed value.

The total value of automobiles owned and used in Nebraska this year is \$12,000,000 in excess of 1916, giving an increase of \$2,400,000 in assessed worth of this class of property.

Money on hand or deposited in banks registers a gain of \$15,000,000 this year, swelling the taxable property list by \$3,000,000.

These are a few of the items in a compilation prepared by Secretary Bernicker of the state board of equalization. The total gain in all kinds of wealth within the annum is \$14,000,000 actual value, or \$28,000,000 assessed value.

Navy Wants Wireless Men

Any young man of good character, 18 years or more of age, who has had a high school education, or has done such work as stenography, can enroll in the United States navy for the duration of the war, learn wireless, see the war from a reserved seat, and become acquainted with the richest parts of the earth. At the end of the war, the young man will know a trade which will carry him at any time to almost any place in the world. He will be able to go to a steamship line, with the best recommendation possible, from the United States navy, and obtain passage to South America, Russia, Japan or elsewhere, simply by offering his services as a wireless operator. He will be able to make a world tour just for the fun of it, and receive a good salary in addition. He will be able to enter the world commerce as a merchant prince, a traveling salesman in South America or Russia on his own responsibility because he can earn money and his keep while going. You do not have to know wireless now to enter this branch of the navy. If you can show that you can learn quickly, and you can pass the physical examination, besides writing twenty-five words a minute legibly with a pencil, you can enroll for the duration of the war. The limit in the number to be enlisted in the regular navy, and in the wireless branch of the reserves, has been taken off. Go to the nearest recruiting station. The stations in this district are: Sixteenth and Parnam, Omaha, Neb., Sioux Falls, S. D., Aberdeen, S. D., Lead, S. D., Hastings, Neb., Norfolk, Neb. and Sioux City, Ia.

Nebraska's Four-Minute Men

Professor M. M. Fogg, Lincoln, state chairman of the "four-minute men" of Nebraska, organized eight additional Nebraska towns last week. To date there are more than sixty towns in the state which are organized, making a total of 300 speakers. At present there are 200 moving picture theatres in Nebraska. Of this number over 100 are being talked in every night by four-minute men. The total number of towns in the United States organized is 1,200. The total number of speakers is 13,000. At present the subject of their talks is Liberty bonds. After this campaign is over they will be instructed to talk on something else. The organization will be continued until the end of the war.

Seventh Regiment Now in Service

Under an order from the adjutant general's office the new national guard regiment of Nebraska, of which Governor Keith Neville was appointed colonel, has been designated as an active militia organization and will hereafter have the same status as other regiments of the state before they were taken into federal service.

It is to be known as the Seventh Infantry, Nebraska National Guard.

Following is the composition of the Seventh Infantry under the new order: Headquarters company, Lincoln. Supply company, Grand Island. Machine gun company, Kearney. Sanitary detachment, Lincoln. Company A, Seward. Company B, Crete. Company C, Nebraska City. Company D, Beatrice. Company E, F and G, Omaha. Company H, Lincoln. Company I, Minden. Company K, Loup City. Company L, Scottsbluff. Company M, Trenton.

Will be Permitted to Finish Studies

Governor Neville has been notified of a new ruling by the war department under which students in dental colleges will be put upon the same basis as medical college students. Upon application to the surgeon general of the army for assignments to the dental reserve corps their names will be certified to exemption boards for discharge from the draft and they will be allowed to stay in school until they finish. After that time they will be called into the dental reserve of the army.

PREPARING FOR MEETINGS

Organized Agriculture Will Convene at Lincoln, January 14

Officers of the associations comprising organized agriculture of Nebraska held their annual meeting at agricultural hall at the state farm last week to elect a committee to take charge of the seventeenth annual meeting of organized agriculture January, 1918. The committee named were W. R. Mellor, chairman; Dean E. A. Burnett, W. S. Whitton, R. W. McGinnis, Prof. C. W. Pugsley, H. J. Gramlich and E. R. Danielson.

There are now thirty-five associations affiliated or connected with organized agriculture and twenty-five of them are expected to furnish programs. Prof. C. W. Pugsley is the secretary of the committee. It is planning for the biggest and best meetings in the history of organized agriculture. Special emphasis will be given in making up the programs to war conditions now prevailing in the country. The date of the meetings is from January 14 to January 19.

To Save State Corn Crop

Governor Neville has issued a proclamation requesting school boards and university heads to devise some means whereby students may be utilized in harvesting the huge corn crop.

The governor does not attempt to suggest any methods by which student labor may be released during the harvesting period. His proclamation is in line with what the national and state councils of defense are doing toward the conservation of foodstuffs and prevention of waste in seeing crops are properly cared for.

The proclamation follows: The shortage of labor available for husking Nebraska's enormous corn crop and the necessity for its being cribbed at the earliest possible moment creates a situation that should challenge the attention of the people of the state.

The largest crop in our history is assured, as is also the greatest shortage of labor. Thousands of available corn huskers have been enlisted or selected for service in the military establishment. Many who are available, taking advantage of the unprecedented conditions, are demanding prohibitive prices for their labor. Men must be supplied to fill the depleted ranks. There are, without doubt, many students in schools, colleges and universities of the state who could render valuable service as corn huskers. Various methods for utilizing these men available have been suggested. Among others, to declare a general holiday of three weeks in November, to shift the regular holiday season coming later in the year to November; to dismiss the grades from which corn huskers could reasonably be expected to be secured; to furlough students pledging themselves to assist in harvesting the corn crop.

Mascot for Seventh N. N. G.

Baby Keith Neville Thomas of Gresham—named after Nebraska's war governor—has been commissioned by Governor Neville as mascot of the Seventh national guard regiment. He will not accompany the regiment to camp, nor go with it to France, but his photograph will adorn the headquarters of Colonel Neville and will be guarded by Captain Lee Metcalfe, adjutant on the regimental staff. The Gresham youngster is a son of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Thomas of that place.

To Be Given Leave of Absence

Within the next few weeks boys in attendance at the farm school will be given leave of absence to husk corn. Those who take the necessary two or three weeks off at that time will attend school during the Thanksgiving vacation and also during the Christmas vacation, private tutoring also being offered by the School of Agriculture. For those students there will only be a day off at Thanksgiving and a day off at Christmas. They will complete the school year in the spring.

Issues Circular on Fire Prevention

The state fire commissioner's office is sending out circulars announcing fire prevention day, November 2, as designated by Governor Neville in a proclamation, and asking all citizens to cooperate in reducing fire hazards. A general cleanup of old rubbish is urged, and property owners are requested to look after electric wiring, defective chimneys and other sources of conflagrations. City officials, commercial clubs and women's clubs are appealed for assistance in securing a general observance of the day.

Dairy Judging Team Selected

After a long series of tryouts the students who are to represent the university in the dairy judging contest at the national dairy show, to be held this year at Columbus, O., have just been picked. They are L. F. Lindgren, J. D. McKelvey, J. R. Shepherd and Eli Duncombe. In final preparation for the judging contest the team will visit some of the leading dairy farms in Iowa and Wisconsin. Advantage will be taken of this trip to visit some of the best milk plants and creameries.

Status of Eligibility

Any man between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years may enlist in the Seventh Nebraska national guard regiment, of which Governor Neville is colonel. But any one subject to draft who enlists in this regiment must leave the regiment and respond to a call for examination for draft. If he should receive such a call before the regiment is actually called into the federal service, if the regiment is called into the United States service all enlisted men will remain members of the regiment.



1—American troops receiving supplies at a village somewhere in France. 2—Not the grave of Kaiser Wilhelm, but the resting place of Wilhelm Kaiser, a humble grenadier, in the cemetery of Pargny. 3—Italians hoisting field guns up the steep sides of Monte Santo.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Germans Capture Oesel Island and Defeat Overmatched Russian Fleet.

SLAVS RESISTING STOUTLY

Kaiser's Hurred Trip to Bulgaria and Turkey—American Destroyer Torpedoed, One Man Being Killed—President Wilson's Latest Move Toward Bottling Up Germany.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The week brought no real relief to beleaguered Germany, externally or internally. While the kaiser was hurrying down through Bulgaria to Constantinople to mend his crumbling fences, and Chancellor Michaelis was struggling to hold on to his job, and the German armies on the west front were making costly and futile counterattacks and slowly giving ground before the British and French, the land and sea forces of the empire did strike at Russia what, considered superficially, might be thought to be a serious blow. But the operations in the Baltic cannot be considered of prime importance and cause no special concern among the allies, not even Russia being greatly worried.

Troops landed on the Island of Oesel, supported by the fleet, have succeeded in capturing or driving off the garrison, which resisted stoutly, and the kaiser's warships are pushing back the Russian naval forces toward the Gulf of Finland. In the sea fighting both sides lost several vessels. The Russian fleet fought well but was hopelessly outclassed in strength. The Germans made aerial attacks on Pernau, and it was reported that they were attempting to gain a footing on the mainland. At last reports both sides were hurrying up strong naval reinforcements. The real objective of the German high command is not revealed, but it does not seem probable Von Hindenburg, who is directing the operations in person, will attempt to capture and hold Petrograd. That would mean a perilous extension of his lines in view of the fact that winter is at hand. South of Riga the Russian artillery prevented the Germans from throwing bridges across the Dvina.

Trying to Hold His Allies.

Increasing signs of a break-up of the alliance of the central powers probably sent the kaiser on his trip to the near East. First he jolted the Bulgarians, who, like the Austrians, are sick of the war; and it was significant that Emperor Charles grasped a puny excuse not to accompany his overbearing ally. Then William ran down to Constantinople, where Turkish girls strewed flowers in his path and he and the sultan exchanged decorations. If the kaiser can hold his coalition together much longer, it will be because the allies do not make sufficiently attractive separate peace suggestions to Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey.

As was expected, the opponents of Chancellor Michaelis were quick to take advantage of the Wilhelmshaven naval revolt incident. The Socialists now present a united front against him and have decided to vote against the war credit of \$2,500,000,000 at the December session of the reichstag unless he resigns. Foreign Secretary von Kuehmann or Prince von Bulow is said to be his probable successor, though the war party still fears Count von Bernstorff may be appointed. In the effort to save himself Michaelis offered Friederich von Payer the post of chancellor, displaying readiness to throw overboard Doctor Helfferich and also Minister of Marine von Capelle. There are rumors that Michaelis is contemplating the establishment of a military dictatorship.

On the West Front.

In Flanders the British practically completed their occupation of the important Passchendaele ridge and the Germans were observed to be hurriedly building a long dam for the purpose of flooding the low land east of the ridge. Meanwhile the French on the left flank of the British steadily widened the base of the wedge that is being driven in between the German

armies and the Belgian coast. The allied aviators made many raids and dropped vast quantities of explosives on German military establishments with destructive results. The German airmen were not idle, but their main raid was made on Nancy, where a number of civilians were killed.

The British government on Tuesday announced formally, through Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, that reprisals would be made for the German raids over London and other unfortified places. German towns, Mr. Law said, will be bombarded so far as military needs will release the necessary machines. The threat may be sufficient to check the barbarity of the Germans in this respect.

Realizing the danger of a collapse of the Austrian forces that are opposing the advance of the Italians, the central powers have withdrawn at least forty divisions from the Russian front and hurried them to the rescue of the defenders of Trieste. Large numbers of German, Bulgarian and Turkish troops are now on the Italian front.

American Destroyer Torpedoed.

The first real American casualty list from the war zone was given out Wednesday by Secretary of the Navy Daniels. It included one death, that of Osmond Kelly Ingraham, gunner's mate, of Pratt City, Ala., and the names of five other men of the navy who were slightly wounded. These men were of the crew of an American destroyer which was torpedoed by a German submarine while on patrol in British waters. The vessel was not sunk and soon reached port. The report came from Rear Admiral Sims and said Ingraham was blown overboard and his body was not recovered. Naval officers think it remarkable that until this occurrence Admiral Sims' fighting units should all have escaped damage in the fight against the U-boats.

From Amsterdam the other day came the report that Germany was about to include American waters in the submarine zone. This meant nothing to American naval authorities, for they had considered our waters so included since we entered the war. The best informed opinion is that American transports, with their speed and their convoys, will be quite safe from the submarines.

The week's list of victims of U-boats was small in number, but the loss of life was greater than usual. This was due mainly to the destruction of the French steamer Medie with the loss of 250 persons, including soldiers and prisoners of war. It is an undisputed fact that service on German submarines is becoming more dangerous every day, and this probably is responsible for the latest reported mutiny in the German navy. Sailors at the port of Ostend refused to go aboard the U-boats and are said to have thrown one commander into the sea.

There is trouble in the Austrian navy also. Soldiers and the crews of submarines have had several conflicts at Pola, officers on both sides being killed. The Austrian government thereupon decided to change the naval base to another port.

Wilson's New Blow at Germany.

Determined that Germany and its allies shall not benefit from the trade and industry of the United States, President Wilson started off the week by setting in motion machinery to stop trade with the enemy and transmission of information valuable to him, to control enemy aliens and enemy property and to check the activities in America of German sympathizers. By executive decree the president created a war trade board, with Vance McCormick as chairman, supplanting the exports administrative board, and a war trade council to advise the board on questions of policy; gave the secretary of the treasury power to regulate the export of gold, silver and currency, transfers of credit, transactions in foreign exchange, and enemy insurance companies, and authority to prevent the transmission of written or photographic information from this country except through the mails; created a censorship board to prevent the transmission of intelligence to the enemy by any means; gave the trade commission full authority over enemy patents; gave the postmaster general power to regulate the publication of war matter by foreign language papers, and in other ways took control of enemy interests in the United States.

The provisions of this sweeping decree when put into full force should help a lot in the process of bottling up the German empire. The United States

and its allies show no disposition to yield to the pleas of the so-called neutral nations that have been supplying Germany with food and other materials. According to reports received in Washington, the food situation in Germany is growing acute. The weekly ration there amounts approximately to four and a half pounds of bread a half peck of potatoes, a cupful of beans, peas, or oatmeal; a half pound of meat, twelve cubes of sugar, six individual patties of butter and an equal amount of other fats. The caloric value of these foods in the aggregate is less than half the amount estimated by the American food administration as sufficient for a person in a sedentary occupation.

Coal Strike Makes Trouble.

The coal situation, especially in Illinois, caused the administration a great deal of trouble. Strikes, unauthorized by the union, stopped production and the operators declared they could not pay the wages demanded unless they were allowed to charge the general public 50 cents more a ton. Coal Administrator Garfield was swamped with appeals and protests, and sent out a message to the effect that unless mining was resumed the federal government would seize the mines. The whole affair has the appearance of greed fostered by underhanded pro-German influences.

Food Administrator Hoover has been brought to a realization of the fact that the retail grocers of the country are robbing the ultimate consumers, and he proposes to go as far as his powers permit in stopping the extortion. In a statement issued Thursday Mr. Hoover said that though neither the food administration nor the government has authority to regulate the retailer as it does the wholesaler, he would, beginning November 1, expose the former each week by publishing the wholesale prices of all commodities in every section. Thus the purchaser will know how much the retailer is paying and how much undue profit he is exacting. Mr. Hoover cites particularly the retail price of flour, which is out of all proportion to the wholesale price fixed by the government, and also the recent unwarranted advances in the retail price of sugar.

Unless the retailer grocer behaves, the food administrator hints, congress may be asked for legislation giving the government power to regulate him. Mr. Hoover asserts that the corner has been turned in high prices and that if the farmer and retailer cooperate with him, the essential commodities one after another should continue to show reductions between now and the end of the year.

The war department issued orders Thursday for the entrainment of the final quotas of the first draft from the northwest states and the entire mobilization of the 687,000 men of the first army is expected to be complete by the middle of November. The call for the second draft is not expected before the first of the year, but arrangements for it are under way and it may be that the remaining 7,000,000 eligibles will be examined in advance so as to establish a waiting list. Preparations for the winter in the training camps are being made rapidly and there is reason to believe that there will be no shortage of warm clothing, arms and all other necessary supplies.

The Liberty bond campaign went with a rush last week, despite the disloyal opposition displayed in some localities. The government has taken steps to punish the pro-German workers who have fostered this hostile sentiment, and Secretary McAdoo has asked banks to report the names of those who have sought to intimidate bankers by threats to withdraw their deposits.

The senatorial committee investigating Senator La Follette's loyalty held several sessions but was temporarily foiled by the wily fellow's demand that he be given the opportunity to cross-examine those who had contradicted his assertion regarding Bryan's statement to President Wilson about the Lusitania. As the committee cannot well summon the president or Mr. Bryan, it adjourned to think the case over.

Former Senator Pettigrew of South Dakota is emulating the record of La Follette and defying the government to have him indicted. His utterances are if anything more reprehensible than those of the Wisconsin man, but he himself is much more negligible. If all their readers and hearers were persons of sound sense, neither one would be worth the powder it would take to blow him over to Germany.

CREW OF ANTILLES STICK WITH SHIP

SURVIVORS OF THE TORPEDOED TRANSPORT AT FRENCH PORT.

MANY KILLED WHILE ASLEEP

American Government Will Pay Insurance for Those Who Perished. Believe Troop Movements Being Tipped Off.

A French Port, Oct. 23.—Survivors of the United States transport Antilles, which was sunk by a German submarine October 17, were landed here Sunday.

The torpedo struck the ship at a quarter to seven o'clock Wednesday morning. Many were killed in their berths. The explosion killed the engineers, oilers and mechanics and those of the crew who were in bunks below.

All the survivors praise the captain of the Antilles and the members of the gun crew, who stuck to their posts until the waves closed over the ship.

When the Antilles sank, forty or fifty men were at the stern. Most of them leaped fifty feet or more into the sea as the stern rose to a perpendicular position. The sea was running high at the time, making it difficult to save the crew and passengers. Some survivors, clinging to debris, were in the water an hour.

All Who Perish Insured.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 23.—All hands in the military and naval services who perished with the lost American transport Antilles, torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine October 17, came within the scope of the new war insurance law, the treasury department announced and thereby automatically carried insurance to the amount of \$6,000 each.

This sum will be paid the families of the dead soldiers and sailors in monthly installments of \$25 each over a period of twenty years. It is in addition to compensations which will be paid to widows, children and dependent mothers of the men. Approximately seventy persons went down with the Antilles.

The sinking of the transport is believed to have followed another leak of information into Germany with regard to troop movements.

The war department took official cognizance of this with the issue of the following order:

"To the commanding generals of all national guard divisions:

"Communicate orders to each organization commander in your division that during the time they are in federal service, they are prohibited from making any report to the governor or authorities, civil or military, of their respective states, regarding any movement of their organizations, or of any other federal troops or personnel."

Adopt New Draft Plan.

Washington, Oct. 23.—Provost Marshal Crowder announced that the nine million men, still subject to army draft, will be divided into five classes and called according to class.

Economic considerations will govern the new system of selection and those least available, either for industrial or military reasons, will be the last called.

The system, based on recommendations of draft boards the country over, will simplify their tasks and make the drawings hereafter even more equitable than in the past.

Each man will be allowed seven days in which to answer a questionnaire as to his industrial status and the dependency of any relatives.

Half of Zep Fleet Lost.

Paris, Oct. 23.—The German Zeppelin fleet has met its worst disaster of the war. Of the eight Zeppelins which visited Paris as the first step toward carrying out the threat made in a German message which said it had been decided to destroy Paris in reprisal for French air raids on German towns, two were destroyed and two captured.

Russ Fleet Withdraws.

Petrograd, Oct. 23.—The Russians have succeeded in getting all their ships except observation elements out of Moon sound without losses and in perfect order, according to an official communication issued by the marine department. The communication says the Oesel and Moon islands have definitely passed into the hands of the Germans.

Famous Case Ends Quickly.

Alliance, Neb., Oct. 23.—The famous Chadron blackmail case, charging six Omaha men and three citizens of Chadron with conspiracy to blackmail, was virtually thrown out of court here.

After hearing testimony by two witnesses, that they knew of the alleged conspiracy before it was "discovered," Judge Grimes immediately instructed the jury to bring in a verdict for the defense. The jury did as directed, and was dismissed at once. The defendants were dismissed.