

FROM ALL SECTIONS OF THIS MAJESTIC STATE

Occurrences Over the Cornhusker State Chronicled in Paragraph Form for the Busy Reader.

With the postmaster and his wife down with the "flu," the editor of the home paper sick with the same disease, the rural mail carrier likewise indisposed, and numerous other cases in the community, Wilsonville is having its share of the dreaded malady. The roads have been so bad for a week that the doctor can scarcely get out to see the sick, the automobile has been given up and horses are pressed into service on the road.

Six of the thirteen American balloon companies engaged in active service between the Meuse river and Argonne forest during the last two weeks of the war were trained at Fort Omaha and composed largely of men from this part of the country, according to word reaching Omaha from the war department, which commends the Nebraska units for unusual service.

The state supreme court has ruled that Nebraska banks must pay taxes on real estate mortgages in which they have invested their assets, unless the mortgage giver agrees to pay them. The decision holds valid the Smith mortgage law of 1915, which forbids banks and trust companies from deducting real estate mortgages from their capital stock assessment.

Bruce Dickinson of the U. S. navy, after investigating the killing of his sweetheart and fiancée, Miss Sylvia Kelley, of Fremont, near Henry, by Detective Lanby of Denver, told friends at Fremont that the killing was unwarranted and that the detective and Sheriff Schuman of Torrington, Wyo., are both being held for trial.

An inventory recently taken by the board of control of the real estate and buildings at the fifteen state institutions under its direction reveals that lands belonging to the state are valued at \$661,852, while the buildings, equipment and general improvements are estimated to be worth \$5,122,328, making a total of \$5,784,181 as the combined investment.

Postmaster General Burleson has appointed General Manager L. E. Hertz of the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph company to act as chairman for all telephone companies in Nebraska not under Bell control, which are known as the "independent group," for purposes of federal administration.

A letter received by Mrs. M. W. Jerome of Aurora from her grandson, Sergeant Lisle J. Alter, informs her that he is one of twenty men who have been chosen to act as messengers at the peace conference at Paris.

Health authorities at Omaha have lifted the "flu" ban from all public gatherings except dances. Conditions in the city are better now than at any time since the outbreak of the disease.

Merchants in scores of northern Nebraska towns suffered a big slump in their holiday sales this season, because the country roads were made almost impassable by freezing in ruts and bumps.

Deposits in state banks in Nebraska in the past two years increased from \$145,527,529.66 to \$239,815,326.66, according to a report of the state banking board.

Nebraska limited service men, working at local draft boards, will be discharged at Fort Omaha instead of Camp Funston, as formerly intended.

The University of Nebraska plans to send fifty-three head of show stock to the National Western Live Stock Show at Denver January 17 to 25.

The Norfolk health board has announced that the state board's ruling for an absolute quarantine for influenza will be observed in the city.

Violators of the state board of health's influenza quarantine regulations will be fined not less than \$15 nor more than \$100.

Five of unknown origin totally destroyed the American hotel in Sidney the other day.

Public dance halls have been closed up at Fremont because of the prevailing epidemic.

Charters have been granted by the state banking board to new state banks at Lowell and Gladstone, both capitalized at \$10,000.

J. W. Reinhardt, Lincoln, insurance man, formerly of David City, has been named deputy state auditor by Auditor-elect George W. Marsh.

It is estimated that 11,000 more persons joined the Red Cross in the last drive than one year ago. It is believed the final total membership in this state obtained during the Christmas roll drive will total nearly 85,000.

The state board of control will ask the next legislature for \$125,000 extra for new buildings and improvements in the fifteen state institutions, it has been announced.

Omaha citizens are advocating the erection of a new public library containing a large art gallery and an auditorium with a seating capacity of 2,000 to 3,000 people.

Exemption of local county, city, school and public improvement bonds from taxation to encourage investors is advocated in the annual report of State Auditor W. H. Smith.

State Auditor Smith has collected almost \$29,000 of old insanity fund tax due the state of Nebraska from 18 counties during the fiscal biennium. Another \$1,000 has come into his hands since the expiration of that period on November 30. Ten of these paid in full and canceled their indebtedness, but eight are still owing an aggregate of about \$18,000.

The government's order releasing the restrictions imposed on alien enemies affected 14,000 persons in Nebraska—8,000 men and 6,000 women, according to figures at the U. S. marshal's office at Omaha. Only twenty-five Nebraskans—all men—have been interned. Five of these have been paroled.

Nebraska leads the United States in its Junior Red Cross memberships, 237,618 of them, according to word received by Leonard W. Trester, Nebraska director for Junior Red Cross. There are 5,967 schools in this state organized for Junior Red Cross work, according to Mr. Trester.

Provost Marshal Anderson, in charge of Nebraska draft boards, stated upon his return to Lincoln after a conference with General Crowder at Washington, that it will take from six weeks to six months for local draft boards to close up their records in proper shape.

Word has reached St. Bernard from Albuquerque, N. M., that Anton Wagner and his wife both died there from influenza, leaving a week-old baby boy. Mr. Wagner was raised in Platte county, having been born on a farm near St. Bernard.

Mrs. Margaret Mauzy, former Omaha nurse, who shot Dr. George E. Spear during the peace celebration in Lincoln, November 11, was found guilty of first degree murder by a jury at Lincoln. The verdict of the jury designated life imprisonment.

The central division of states, comprising Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan, lead all other portions in the United States with the largest number of members per capita in the recent Christmas Red Cross roll call.

The Farmers' Co-operative Mercantile company at Scribner, one of the largest milling concerns in the state, has had its license permanently revoked by the federal food administration for alleged profiteering.

Deserters from the military service are to be prosecuted, Provost Marshal Anderson of Nebraska was told at a conference of draft heads in 26 states with Provost Marshal Crowder and his assistants in Washington.

Because of the prevalence of influenza in Nebraska and elsewhere the inaugural ball and public reception arranged for new state officers at Lincoln has been called off by Governor-elect McElvick.

The eighth annual convention of the Nebraska Irrigation association, held recently at Bridgeport, was the largest attended and the most profitable meeting in the history of the association.

Omaha reported to the state board of health a total of 92 deaths from Spanish influenza during the past week, which was about the same as in previous weeks since the epidemic started.

The "flu" carried off one of Nebraska's oldest residents when John W. Prince of Trumbull succumbed to the disease. He observed the 100th anniversary of his birth December 8.

A conference of milk producers to discuss the various problems confronting that industry will be held in the dairy building, University Farm, Lincoln, January 17.

One telephone company in the northern part of the state reports the loss of over 300 poles as the result of the storm which swept over the district a few days ago.

Four short courses, each four weeks long, and open to any one in the state over 15 years old, will be given by the University of Nebraska at Lincoln beginning January 27.

More than 100 homes at Fremont are quarantined with influenza. The quarantine order of the state board of health is being rigidly enforced in the city.

Nebraska's 30,000 home guards are to be mustered out in a few days, reports from the state house at Lincoln say.

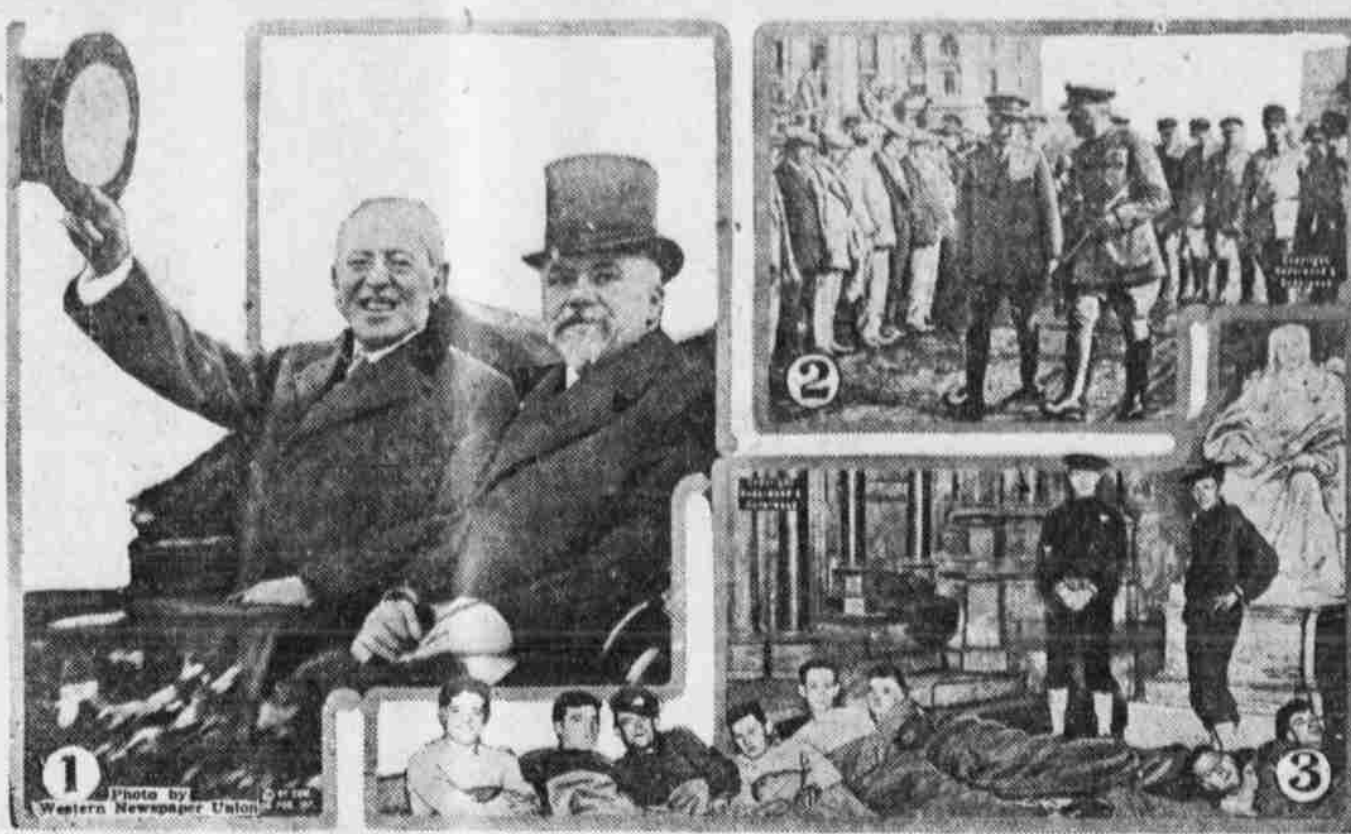
Antioch boasts of having a 100 per cent Red Cross membership among school children of the city.

J. N. Wilkinson, Omaha detective, who achieved considerable prominence as a witness for the defense in the Villisca, Ia., ax murder case, has been denied permission to practice in the Nebraska courts by the state bar commission.

Charles E. Gunnels of Crete has resigned as director of the extension service at the University of Nebraska college of agriculture to become assistant director of state relations service, north and west departments of agriculture, at Washington.

Professor Fogg, instructor of Journalism at the University of Nebraska, left Lincoln for France to serve in the college division of the government's educational program, to be conducted during demobilization of the American expeditionary forces.

Plans are being made for the annual conference of county agents and related workers at the University Farm at Lincoln, the third week in January. Plans will be discussed for the coming year's work. It is expected that more than 100 will be present.



1—President Wilson and President Poincaré of France riding down the Champs Elysees on the day of Mr. Wilson's arrival in Paris. 2—First photograph showing the British occupation of Constantinople; Gen. Sir Henry Wilson inspecting released prisoners of war. 3—American sailors in London on shore leave sleeping in the great hall of the royal courts of justice, turned over to them by order of the lord chancellor.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

PRESIDENT WILSON GIVEN ROYAL WELCOME BY THE BRITISH KING AND PEOPLE.

CONFERS WITH WAR CABINET

League of Nations Subject of Warm Debate, Here and Abroad—Progress of Germany's Revolution Watched With Suspicion by Allied Nations.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Mingling business and pleasure, President Wilson spent a busy Christmas week in France and England. After two days of conference in which several pressing problems, notably that of supplying food to the hungry peoples of Europe, were thoroughly discussed, Mr. Wilson and his party were taken to Chaumont to spend Christmas day with the American troops there. General Pershing was his host, but the president devoted much of his time to the doughboys and both he and they enjoyed the day immensely. A review of 10,000 American troops was a feature of the day's doings. In the course of his address to the men of the First army Mr. Wilson said: "It was the privilege of America to present the chart for peace and now the process of settlement has been made comparatively simple by the fact that all the nations concerned have accepted the chart."

Next the presidential party traveled to Calais and thence to Dover and London, arriving in the British capital Thursday afternoon. Throughout the trip they were accorded all the honors that royalty could claim, and the short drive through London was like a royal progress. King George, Queen Mary and Princess Mary met them at the station and the Household Cavalry acted as escort. As it was a holiday—boxing day—the entire population of the metropolis seemed to be out, determined to see the famous American.

After a night's rest in Buckingham palace Mr. Wilson met the British war cabinet and discussed with it the British peace terms that the cabinet had formulated for presentation to the interallied conference preceding the peace congress. On Saturday he conferred with Premier Lloyd George, Foreign Secretary Balfour and Chancellor of the Exchequer Bonar Law, and on Sunday went to Carlisle, where his mother spent her girlhood.

In London there was more than a hint that the chief object of Mr. Wilson's visit to England, aside from the courtesy feature, was to ascertain definitely the views of the British government on the question of the terms of restitution to be imposed on Germany. It was said he had found opinion on the continent very hard set on this question, which is not in the least surprising. The people who were most directly hit by the hardships and horrors of the war are not likely to be forgiving and altruistic in their attitude toward the conquered Huns. If, as has been often said, America is to ask nothing from Germany, it would seem to most of us that the matter of payment might well be left to the victorious nations of Europe, who do intend to be repaid, so far as is possible, for their enormous losses.

The proposed league of nations and the cognate question of the freedom of the seas are still the subject of warm discussion, both abroad and in America. President Wilson seems to be seeking the support of the neutral nations in the matter of the league, and his plans are backed up by various organizations in France and England. It is reported that the neutrals will be permitted to participate in the deliberations incident to the formation of the proposed league, though they will not be admitted to the peace conference itself. It is believed many of them will favor the formation of the league, which, under

any plan of representation yet suggested, would give them much greater power in world affairs than they now wield.

In the United States senate there is likely to be a showdown on the league of nations plan in a very short time, as its opponents, and others, too, feel that the president should know definitely the majority opinion of the body that must finally accept or reject the peace treaty that he and his colleagues assent to at Versailles. Though the Republicans in the senate are nearly all opposed to the president's plan to make the organization of the league a part of the peace treaty, they do not stand alone. Quite a number of the Democratic senators also are against that proposition, believing that at least the question should be made the subject of a separate treaty after matters relating directly to the war shall have been disposed of.

As for the freedom of the seas, the expression is now interpreted to mean that Britain may not at one and the same time have the largest navy and be the exclusive interpreter of sea laws, and this it is believed Britain will accept, consenting to an agreement among nations regarding the laws and rules of the sea to which all must submit.

Prompt denial came from Paris of the report that the American delegation had agreed to the sinking of the surrendered German war vessels. The president said he was absolutely opposed to such a course, and Secretary Lansing declared the proposition had not even been discussed.

It is not likely that the general peace conference will assemble before the middle of January, nor is any official statement expected before then as to the number of governments to be represented. It is considered probable that the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy and perhaps Belgium will determine the matter of admission of delegates. The representatives of the central powers will not be called in until the final stages are reached, for they will be compelled to accept whatever the others decide upon and to have been present during the preliminary discussions would only prolong the proceedings unnecessarily.

The entente nations are rather coolly and skeptically watching the apparently desperate efforts of the new German government to establish itself. The distrust of the Hun, engendered by the war and destined to last for generations, is applied to present events and the attitude of the conquerors is rightly one of cynical watchfulness. The "revolution" was in the main so easily and smoothly accomplished and the unprotesting pliers of autocracy are so rapidly sliding into positions of power behind the nominal heads of the people's government that there is reason to be suspicious. Hindenburg still controls a large part of the army and his unexplained intention of forming a new defensive line a few miles from the Rhine has been accepted by Ebert and his colleagues. Such men as Prince Max and the treacherous and hypocritical Von Bernstorff are still powers in the land. It almost seems that the only genuine, sincere advocates of a real revolution in Germany are the bolsheviks. Under the leadership of Liebknecht and Ledebour, they are unremitting in their struggle to overturn the Ebert government, their latest manifestation being a bloody revolt in Berlin last week. Mutinous sailors seized the red palace and neighboring buildings and for two days fought the republican guard, about 100 persons being killed. The sailors demanded that Ebert and Haase resign, to be replaced by Ledebour and Liebknecht. In the end the mutineers were forced to surrender and were permitted to leave the city under guard.

This was regarded as a virtual victory by the Spartakides, and next day they seized the plant of the Socialist organ Vorwarts and the offices of the Prussian war ministry, and announced that they would at once proclaim the downfall of the Ebert government. The chancellor called out all the troops in Berlin. This was the last that had been heard from the German capital at the time of writing.

The German democratic party, in assembly at Coblenz, adopted a platform on which it will stand in the national assembly. Combating both the reactionaries and the socialists, it calls for a united Germany, including German Austria; equality of all citizens, male and female; freedom of thought, religion, press and speech. Officials of the Rhenish province have suggested another plan of reorganization, the formation of seven minor republics, which shall be united under a central government.

In all their planning and scheming the Germans of all shades of opinion and sincerity are counting more and more on the influence of President Wilson and of Americans generally to obtain easier terms from their conquerors. Their words and actions make this evident, notwithstanding the fact that there is little on which they have any right to base such hopes. Our army of occupation, according to reports, is having an elaborate exposition of the German policy of spreading soft soap, and the Boches there took full advantage of the Christmas spirit that pervaded the troops.

Charles R. Crane of Chicago, just returned from Siberia, says: "No one knows anything about Russia. It is a tragedy." That sums up the situation in the distracted, starving country that spreads from the Baltic to the Pacific. No one knows just what is happening there, still less what is likely to happen. The stories of those who claim to have accurate information are utterly conflicting and confusing. One says the bolsheviks are gaining in strength and are the only force that can be counted on to restore order and save the country from absolute disaster. Another avers that the bolshevik movement is waning and that the government at Omsk must be relied on. Yet others call loudly for intervention in force by allies, and they are opposed by those who declare the allied troops must be withdrawn and the Russians left to work out their own salvation.

In the Baltic provinces the bolsheviks continue to push back their opponents, including such Germans as remain there, and both Prussia and Poland are becoming anxious concerning their borders. On the Archangel front the Lenin forces are said to be numerous and well organized and the position of the allied expedition in that region is none too comfortable.

General Semenov, the anti-bolshevik leader who refused to recognize the authority of Admiral Kolchak, dictator in the Omsk government, is said to have consented to give his recognition provided Kolchak retires in favor of General Denikin, hetman of the Cossacks, as soon as a junction of the eastern and western forces is effected. The Russian statesmen who are in Paris, headed by Prince Lvoff, are relying largely on Kolchak and Denikin, but they are also urging that an allied expedition of at least 150,000 be sent. They have not received much encouragement of their plan for intervention.

Here is one of the many instances that made it impossible for the outsider to understand what is going on in Russia: Last summer Skoropadski, hetman of the Ukraine, was deposed and driven out because he was notoriously the tool of the Germans. A few days ago a dispatch from Warsaw said Skoropadski and the French troops were advancing from Odessa to bring the Ukrainian situation under control.

Italy and the Jugo-Slavs are no nearer agreement concerning the western coast of the Adriatic than they were a week ago, and their dispute undoubtedly must be settled by the interallied conference. Jugo-Slavia has not yet been recognized as a nation and its leaders want to know who will represent its component parts, Serbia, Montenegro and large parts of the former Austrian empire, in the peace congress.

The senate passed, without a roll call, the largest tax measure in the world's history. It is designed to raise \$6,000,000,000 in 1919 and \$4,000,000,000 in 1920. Among the amendments accepted was one making the District of Columbia "bone dry" and another levying a 100 per cent tax on all campaign contributions in excess of \$500. The latter, it is supposed, will weaken the influence of "big business" in politics.

FRANCE SHOWS HAND

NATION'S PEACE TERMS OUTLINED FOR FIRST TIME.

FAVORS OPEN DOOR POLICY

Intervention in Russia Inevitable—For League of Nations—Scene in Chamber of Deputies.

Paris, Dec. 31.—The storm which has been threatening in the French chamber for the past few days broke Saturday when Stephen Pichon, minister of foreign affairs, amid violent interruptions by the socialists and counter-demonstrations by the government supporters, outlined France's peace terms.

The minister declared that France is absolutely in agreement that full publicity be given to the proceedings of the peace conference.

He announced that intervention in Russia was inevitable, but that it would be of a defensive character so far as the French troops were concerned, and that if offensive operations were undertaken, it must be by Russian troops.

It has been evident for the past week that the opponents of Premier Clemenceau were determined to obstruct in every possible way voting of the budget of 10,500,000,000 francs for the first three months of 1919 unless the government stated its peace terms either through Premier Clemenceau or M. Pichon.

M. Franklin-Bouillon of the committee of foreign affairs, brought matters to a head, however, by a violent attack on M. Pichon and the government's policy. Since Thursday the government bench sat in obdurate silence, refusing to reply to any queries; but when M. Pichon ascended the tribune Saturday he was ready to answer. He declared:

First, that the government was in accord, that the utmost publicity should be given to the peace conference, thus replying to the interpellation of the socialist deputy, Marcel Cachin, of last Friday, when he asked Premier Clemenceau to state whether secret diplomacy would be abandoned in the peace conference and the discussion given full publicity.

Second, that the French government has adopted the principle of a league of nations and is now busy working toward its effective realization, thus replying to the interpellation of the socialist, M. Bracke.

Third, that the government does not desire any annexation, but reserves the right to fix the Alsace-Lorraine frontiers to guard against future attacks, thus replying to M. Franklin-Bouillon.

Fourth, that the government does not think that the question of diplomatic representation of the nations arises at the present moment.

Fifth, the intervention in Russia is inevitable. While Pichon was reading M. Clemenceau's instructions, pandemonium broke loose on the socialist bench. "The war is beginning anew," they shouted. M. Deschanel, president of the chamber, threatened to have one of the most unruly of the socialist members ejected.

Landslide for Lloyd George.

London, Dec. 31.—The broad features of the election results in Great Britain are the sweeping triumph of the Lloyd George coalition, the complete route of the Asquithians, the pacifists and the women candidates, and, perhaps most significant of all, the victory of the Sinn Feiners all along the line. Premier Lloyd George, with only four seats yet to be announced, has 519 results for his coalition, out of a membership of 707. The Sinn Feiners have elected 70 members and labor 75. Of 14 women candidates only one will be entitled to sit in the house of commons, namely a Sinn Feiner, Countess Markievicz, who was elected for St. Patrick's division of Dublin city. All the other women candidates, including many of the foremost in the women's movements, were rejected by their constituencies.

England and America Agree.

London, Dec. 31.—Premier Lloyd George and Foreign Secretary Balfour have publicly declared President Wilson's visit to London had resulted in a complete understanding between Great Britain and America. They expressed the greatest optimism in regard to future peace deliberations. The president previously had expressed a similar opinion. Balfour said the president's coming to England resulted in an understanding that otherwise would have been impossible, and assured the foundation of a definite, lasting peace.

Noted Ball Player Quits Game.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 31.—Napoleon Lajoie, for twenty years conceded to be one of the world's greatest infielders, has announced his retirement from professional baseball.

Oppose Teaching Foreign Language.

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 31.—The Iowa Teachers' association has demanded that use of "foreign languages" as a medium of instruction in Iowa schools be prohibited. The convention adopted a program for complete Americanization.