

## FROM ALL SECTIONS OF THIS MAJESTIC STATE

Reports of Interesting Happenings Throughout Nebraska Condensed to a Few Lines for Quick Perusal.

Headquarters have been established at Lincoln by leaders in a movement to invoke the referendum for the recall of Governor McKelvie's code bill, passed by the late legislature. Fred Ayers, former deputy food commissioner, is understood to have been selected to look after the details of the organization, and the men who are backing the referendum have not been publicly named, as yet.

Gus Myers, chief prohibition officer for Nebraska, expects to have his law enforcement squad reorganized by July 1, under the provision of House Bill No. 585, passed by the recent legislature. It is claimed the force will be virtually a state constabulary, as it will be empowered to suppress riots and strike violence.

Following a complaint of citizens of Franklin, that the Burlington road be compelled to build a new depot, the state railway commission was advised by the government railway administration that there will be no construction of new depots recognized at the present time.

The Madison city council approved estimates and advertised for bids on 23,300 yards of brick paving for the city, and passed an ordinance providing for the laying of about 15,000 square yards, which will also be paved this year.

William J. Bryan of Lincoln, it is said, will be a candidate for the office of moderator of the Presbyterian church of the United States, during the sessions of the church's general assembly at St. Louis May 15 to 23.

Word from Washington is to the effect that the advocate general of the army has promised executive clemency in the case of Louis Gibson of Ansley, sentenced to two years' imprisonment in France for sleeping on sentry post.

A project is under way at West Point for the harnessing of the Elk horn river with the object in view ultimately of "lighting every home in Cuming county with electricity" supplied by water power.

Dr. E. E. Barr, practicing physician in Grant county for more than twenty years, died suddenly while on a professional call near Hyannis. His was the third sudden death within four days in the district.

The state engineer and the county commissioners of Pawnee county have changed the routing of the east and west road from Falls City to Pawnee City, being built under federal and state direction.

The battle of St. Mihiel will be reenacted nightly at the Nebraska state fair, Lincoln, Aug. 31 to September 5, according to Secretary Danielson. A stage 500x500 feet will be built for the exhibition.

After five years without a football team, the Columbus Board of Education voted to permit the reinstatement of football in the list of sports at the High school next fall.

Peter Haler, who lives on a small farm near Table Rock, claims to be the champion hunter of the vicinity, having captured twelve wolves in two days, near his farm.

Three thousand pints of whisky was found in four large automobiles, and nine people were arrested by state booze agents just south of Falls City one day last week.

Senator Norris of Nebraska has made known that he is opposed to going on record as being against the revised covenant of the league of nations.

A record for farm land in the vicinity of North Bend was made when a 100 acre farm changed hands the other day for \$300 an acre.

Arrangements are nearly completed for the state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic to be held at York May 19, 20 and 21.

The Nebraska association of commercial clubs will hold their annual meeting at Broken Bow, June 3-4.

Farmers of the Blue Springs vicinity have organized a co-operative association capitalized at \$50,000.

Grand Island was the first large city in Nebraska to record its Victory loan quota oversubscribed.

All churches throughout Nebraska are expected to observe Mother's Day, next Sunday, May 11.

The annual state troop shooting tournament is to be held at Columbus May 29 to 30.

The people of Fairmont have turned the clocks back one hour. Sentiment in the community is very strong against the daylight law.

Births in Nebraska for 1918 numbered 25,894, according to records compiled by the State Board of Health. In 1917 the births were 20,503.

Mrs. Calvin Jewett, Nebraska's earliest living pioneer, died at her home in Papillion. She came to Nebraska 67 years ago, long before this state was even a territory. At a reunion of state pioneers at Omaha in 1914 it was definitely established that Mrs. Jewett and her two sisters, also residents of Papillion, were the first on the list of living pioneers of the state at that time.

The Beatrice city council has asked the state for \$20,000 to pay one-half the cost of building one mile of permanent highway connecting the state institution for feeble-minded with the paving at the east limit of the city, under the provisions of house roll No. 308.

The Eighty-ninth division, with the American Army of Occupation in Germany, which is made up of men of middle west states, including Nebraska, has been assigned for early convey to the U. S. A. by the War department at Washington.

George Greder, a wealthy retired farmer, in a fit of insanity, beat his wife's brains out with a baseball bat, killed his baby daughter by severing her head from the body with a butcher knife and then hung himself at the family home in Omaha.

E. O. Mayfield of the Board of Control, who resigned following an investigation of a legislative committee which asked for his removal, promises to make a full statement of his acts when he goes out of the office July 1.

Two children of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Meskle of Beatrice, aged 5 and 13, were burned to death as the result of starting a fire with kerosene. Another child of the family was seriously, but not fatally, burned.

At an election held at Nebraska City a \$52,000 sewer bond proposition carried by a vote of 677 for to twenty-four against. Women took a prominent part in the election, it being their initial venture at voting in the city.

Omaha police authorities prevented a pre-arranged I. W. W.-Socialist mass meeting from being held in the city May Day. No demonstrations of any consequence marred the day at Omaha.

The state railway commission has issued an order extending for six months the emergency exchange and toll rates of the Nebraska Telephone company and the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph company.

A splendid program has been prepared for the semi-centennial celebration at the State University at Lincoln, May 23 to 26. People from all parts of the state are expected to attend the exercises.

Plans have been made for calling an election to vote bonds for the erection of an up-to-date consolidated school building south of Aurora to be in readiness by Sept. 1. It will accommodate five school districts.

According to Mayor Dayton of Lincoln the I. W. W. will not be permitted to meet in the city, and if necessary, the returning soldiers will be called out to drive them out of town.

Bids for the new paved stretch of Lincoln highway, extending from Fremont to Ames, expected to cost about \$35,000 will be received June 3 by the state engineer at Lincoln.

John Gerdes, wealthy retired farmer, who was found guilty some time ago of sedition, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$1,000 and costs at Beatrice by Judge Pemberton.

An Omaha architect has been given a contract for the erection of a \$25,000 women's building and a \$15,000 sheep barn on the Nebraska fair grounds at Lincoln.

Promoters of the Nebraska branch of the American World War Veterans, organized at Lincoln, expect to eventually have 40,000 members in this state.

Freeman Merryman, wealthy Buffalo county farmer, set a new record for individual subscriptions to the victory loan when he invested \$25,000 in bonds.

Word has reached State Game Warden Koster at Lincoln that a number of Antelope have been killed in Sioux county by hunters.

All the Geneva High school teachers have made known that they will not resume their duties with the institution next term.

Preparations are being made for the annual meeting of the Nebraska Stock Growers' association at Gordon, June 15th.

The ninth annual meeting of the O. L. D. Highway association will be held at Holdrege, May 13 and 14.

The Hall county farm bureau, reorganized under the new law, has more than 300 members.

A paving program adopted by Douglas county commissioners provides for the paving of three highways across the county. A special election will be held soon to pass on a \$3,000,000 bond issue to carry on the project.

Public schools at Geneva now open at 10 o'clock a. m. instead of 9. Business houses of the city open in the morning one hour later than has been the custom, the clocks meanwhile continuing to run in accordance with government standard time.

Fifteen thousand Odd Fellows and Rebekahs from Nebraska and Iowa marched in the L. O. O. F. centennial parade at Omaha.



1—The 389th infantry in the stadium of City College, New York, to be decorated by General Collardet on behalf of the French government. 2—Delegation of the peace conference inspecting the devastated regions of France to determine the indemnities. 3—Latest photograph of Premier Paderewski of Poland, made in Paris, where he was presenting the claims of his country for Danzig.



## NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

### Wilson Consents to Compromise on the Japanese Claims to Rights in Shantung.

### GERMANS ARE IN VERSAILLES

### Meet Representatives of the Allies and Present Credentials—Plan for Trying Former Kaiser—Great Bomb Plot in America Attributed to Radicals.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

In the interest of an early peace and of the successful organization of the league of nations, President Wilson relented last week somewhat from his hitherto uncompromising attitude in the matter of secret treaties and self-determination. As a result the controversy over Kiau-Chau and the Shantung peninsula was ended in favor of Japan, which is to get all the old German concessions and grants. The Chinese delegation argued and protested in vain, and there was an intimation that, though it would not withdraw from the conference, it would appeal to the United States senate.

Viseount Chinda successfully objected to the publication of the treaty of 1915 which was imposed on China, and the two countries will be left to agree on the details of carrying out that pact and the agreement of 1918. The understanding is that the city of Kiau-Chau will be given back to China, but that Japan will retain the port privileges. More important are the rights Japan obtains in the Shantung district, including the most valuable railway and mineral concessions.

Since Great Britain virtually refused to support the American contention in favor of China and evidently intended to stand by her Japanese ally, and as Japan made it clear that if her demands were rejected she would not remain in either the peace conference or the league of nations, there was nothing for Mr. Wilson to do but yield, and thus one of the most serious disputes of the conference was settled. The American delegation considered the agreement the best possible to be obtained, and confidence is felt that the league of nations will be able to protect China's rights fully in the future. The Japanese military forces are to be withdrawn from Shantung as speedily as possible.

If the Italian controversy can be settled as well as this, the peace makers may certainly congratulate themselves, but at this writing the end of that dispute is not in sight. The Italian delegation, returning home, was accorded wildly enthusiastic receptions everywhere, and the parliament gave Premier Orlando a vote of confidence, only a small group of Socialists opposing. It was expected that Orlando and his colleagues, strengthened by this vote, would go back to Paris and resume their efforts to put through the Italian claims; but Wilson, Lloyd George and Clemenceau, according to reports, were as firm as ever in the determination that Fiume should not be given to Italy. The probable outcome, it was predicted, would be the internationalization of that port.

In his memorandum to Orlando, Mr. Wilson said the town of Volpna should belong to Italy, and this has raised another row. Volpna is an Albanian port, and the Albanian delegation said its seizure by Italy would start a movement that would mean the dismemberment of Albania. Already the Greeks and Serbians were claiming parts of that country, because of Mr. Wilson's stand concerning Volpna.

Among the minor difficulties of the peace conference was a protest by the Belgian delegates against the indemnity arrangements. It had been provided that Belgium should receive \$500,000,000 as a part of the five billions that Germany is to be required to pay by the end of next year. This was unsatisfactory to the Belgians be-

cause it left undecided the proportion of the total reparation money to be allotted to them, and the Brussels government decided its delegates could not sign a treaty that did not provide for a complete fulfillment of the promises made Belgium by her allies.

These and several other matters having delayed the completion of the peace treaty, it could not be presented to the Germans last week, but this ceremony, it was believed, would take place Monday. The German plenipotentiaries arrived at Versailles on Wednesday and were received by a representative of the French foreign ministry with cold but carefully studied-out formality, after which they were housed in the Hotel des Reservoirs. On Thursday they handed over their credentials to an allied commission headed by Jules Cambon, and the same day witnessed their first formal meeting with the allied peace commissioners as represented by a special committee that included Americans.

Though these Germans are called plenipotentiaries, there was some doubt last week as to the adequacy of their powers and especially as to their qualifications to speak and act for Bavaria. Examination into this matter, it was said, might further delay the presentation of the peace terms. It is understood the Germans will be given enough time to study the treaty and to transmit it to the national assembly at Weimar, but that its terms would not be subject to any material modifications at their demand. Should the Germans refuse to sign the treaty their further resistance to the allies could be but little more than passive, and doubtless Marshal Foch has in hand full plans to meet that situation. These presumably would include the occupation of more German territory, the seizure of more material resources and the continuation of the blockade. Prominent Huns are quoted daily in protest against the "harshness" of the terms, which they aver will only throw Germany into the hands of the bolshevik. An argument that already has lost most of its force. The publication of the terms which Herr Erzberger had drawn up to be imposed on the allies after their defeat doesn't tend to increase the spirit of leniency toward the Huns, for they were planning to impose on France and Belgium the most crushing of terms.

That the former Kaiser will be tried for at least some of his crimes seemed reasonably certain, since the commission on responsibility recommended that he be arraigned before an international tribunal "not for an offense against criminal law, but for a supreme offense against international morality and the sanctity of treaties." This decision was reached despite the sentimental protests of the Japanese and the painfully technical objections of Mr. Lansing. The viewpoint of the Japanese is easily understandable, since for them to admit that a Kaiser of Germany is responsible for his actions to anyone short of divinity would be knocking off one of the legs of their own emperor's throne. Perhaps Mr. Lansing could make his position clear to a committee of the bar association, but the layman can scarcely comprehend it.

According to the recommendation of the commission, offenders of lesser rank are to be tried before tribunals of the country or countries whose nationals suffered by their crimes. The German government is required to furnish all documents and information in its possession necessary to discover the offenders and fix their responsibility. The Netherlands government is to be asked to surrender the ex-Kaiser, and the German government is called on to give up all the other accused persons.

The revised covenant of the league of nations was made public Monday and at a plenary session of the peace conference it was adopted unanimously on motion of President Wilson. He first explained to the delegates all the changes that had been made and the reasons therefor. Italy was not present at the meeting, but it was included among the charter members of the league. The French and Japanese amendments were offered and discussed briefly, but were not pressed and the covenant was adopted without their inclusion. Sir James Eric Drum-

mond was made secretary general of the league and the representatives of Brazil, Belgium, Greece and Spain, were selected temporarily to represent the lesser powers. At once began the making of plans for the first meeting of the league, and it was admitted that this would be held in Washington in October next, in the White House, under the presidency of Mr. Wilson. At that time the assembly will complete the organization and the next session will be held in Geneva, the permanent seat of the league.

Republican senators who are still unsatisfied with the league covenant—and they are rather numerous—agreed to hold a conference on the question as soon as the president issued the call for an extra session of congress. They are determined that the covenant shall be further amended, and some of them favor a plan to try to dissociate it from the peace treaty. The latter, they agree, must not be unduly delayed, and they are a unit in demanding the early return of all American troops from foreign lands. Half a dozen or more of the original opponents of the league in the senate will support the amended covenant, but some of the Republican leaders assert that there are still 33 on the list of those who will not accept it.

Once more we are asked to believe that the bolshevik regime in Russia is waning, and according to the story, Lenin and Trotsky have sought in vain for assurances of asylum in various European countries. Petrograd is being evacuated by the bolsheviks, say dispatches from Helsingfors, and the government is sending away many of the inhabitants. On their western and northern fronts the soviet forces met with decided reverses, but their leaders claimed these were counter-balanced by gains in the South.

The soviet government of Munich at last accounts was still holding out, but the city was being closely surrounded by troops of the German government and the rule of the communists, it was said, was near its end. Elsewhere in Germany it was the same old story of repeated outbreaks of the Spartacists, street fights and riots, and strikes.

The sensation of the week in the United States was the uncovering of a grisly plot to assassinate leading citizens in all parts of the country. Several scores of cleverly constructed bombs were mailed from New York city to members of the cabinet, senators, representatives, judges and wealthy men, and only the failure to attach sufficient postage prevented the murder or maiming of many of the intended victims. Practically all of those whose death was thus sought have been concerned in some way with the prosecution or deportation of members of the I. W. W. and other radicals, so the source of the bombs is not far to seek. The Reds had threatened a demonstration on May 1 in behalf of Thomas J. Mooney and others convicted of the San Francisco bomb outrage, and Eugene V. Debs, when sent to prison for violating the espionage act, had voiced a similar threat. Investigation showed the bombs had been mailed on different days with the evident plan that they should be received by the victims on the same day. The Socialists denied any part in the plot or any knowledge of it, but its discovery and the general feeling of indignation it aroused resulted in the suppression of their plans for elaborate May day celebrations in various cities.

Two great disasters occurred last week on opposite sides of the globe. In San Salvador there was a severe earthquake which resulted in great loss of life and property, though its extent is not yet fully known. A large section of Yokohama was swept by fire, fully 2,000 buildings being destroyed, including part of the business district.

What might be regarded as a disaster by many also hit the United States, for the tax on luxuries went into effect on May 1. This boosts the cost on innumerable articles if the price is in excess of specified sums, and also applies to soft drinks, druggists' sundries, candy and other things that have become almost necessities for many Americans.

## BELGIUM MAY BALK

LITTLE NATION WROUGHT UP OVER PEACE CONDITIONS.

### ASK KING NOT TO SIGN TREATY

Great Demonstration Held at Antwerp in Support of Claims—Italians Invited Back to Paris.

Brussels, May 6.—Belgium's three delegates to the peace conference have been recalled to Brussels to attend a cabinet council to be held in the royal palace at Laeken, at which it will be decided whether or not the conditions offered Belgium by the peace conference are acceptable.

A great patriotic demonstration was held at Antwerp, at which demands were made for the fulfillment of the allied pledges to Belgium.

The petition presented to King Albert by the national political committee urging him to refuse to sign the peace treaty, declares the nation would gain prestige in the eyes of the world if her sovereign declined to attach his signature to a document which did not guarantee her rights.

"In the last few days," says the petition, "vast bodies have joined us. We echo public opinion, which is constantly growing, and which is indignant at the little which is offered us for the safety of Belgium and the dynasty. We beg your majesty to refuse to sign the treaty rather than accept aims given us. By leaving the conference Belgium would show the immorality of a peace without her."

"By sacrificing herself she would gain prestige in the eyes of the world and the nations would demand that justice should be done her. We believe it would be better to risk having nothing rather than abdicate our rights to the reparation and guarantees promised by most solemn assurances. In the midst of the nation's distress we commit to your hands our desire and our confidence."

### Ask Italians to Return.

Paris, May 5.—President Wilson, Premier Clemenceau and Premier Lloyd George, composing the council of three, sent a communication Sunday to the Italian government inviting it to resume its place at the peace conference. It is hoped to bring the Italian delegation back to the French capital in time for the signing of the German treaty, if possible, or, at least in time for the handing of a treaty to the Austrian delegates who are expected in Paris shortly.

### Enemy Delegates Walled In.

Versailles, May 6.—The erection of barricades in "the German quarter" of Versailles, designed to prevent any of the Germans from straying off the section assigned to them, have been finished. The barricades consist of wooden palings bound with wire and set up on both sides of the Rue des Reservoirs, one side of which is reserved for the Germans while the opposite side has been left free for residents. Strict control will be established at all the exits to prevent the Germans from going out of bounds without authority.

### Bolshevik Drive Started.

London, May 6.—The long-heralded bolshevik offensive in northern Russia has started, according to an official report from General Ironside, British commander, received here.

The bolsheviks started by delivering a powerful attack against Vaga, at the same time shelling allied defenses from gunboats on the Dvina. Both attacks were repulsed.

A contingent of Americans was stationed recently on the Vaga front, where the bolsheviks are attacking.

### Bulgaria Swept By Revolt.

Berlin, May 6.—A rebellion against the Coburg dynasty at Sofia is reported. Ferdinand, the former king of Bulgaria, is a member of the house of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. He was the son of Prince August of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. Official notification of his abdication was published in November, 1918. Later he was reported to have arrived at Coburg and to have asked permission of the Swiss authorities to reside in Switzerland.

### Extra Session in June.

Washington, D. C., May 6.—Intimation that a special session of congress will be called by President Wilson to meet about June 1 is contained in confidential dispatches received in Washington from Paris. It was said in authoritative administration quarters that it was quite possible that if the situation in Paris should develop rapidly the special session might meet even before June 1. In that case, the call would be made by cable.

### Tornado in Hawkeye State.

Grant City, Ia., May 6.—Although seven dwelling and a church were demolished by a tornado which swept this city last Saturday, not a single person was injured.

### Predicts Labor Shortage.

New York, May 6.—Notwithstanding the return of the American expeditionary force the country will be confronted by a shortage of labor by 1920 in the opinion expressed here by Col. Arthur Woods, special assistant to the secretary of war. Colonel Woods declared that the employers were showing a disposition to give jobs to discharged soldiers and sailors and that the time was approaching when every man released from service would be at work.