

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

Timely News Culled From All Parts of the State, Reduced for the Busy.

SCORES OF EVENTS COVERED

The city of Aurora has obtained a judgment for \$65,000 against M. Ford, paving contractor. Suit was brought on the five-year guaranty contract made by Ford when he laid in the city pavement. The asphalt on this pavement cracked and rotted badly within the five-year period. The case was held to be an important one and paving contractors of the state testified as witnesses.

It is estimated that the special session of the legislature, which convened Tuesday at Lincoln to enact measures authorizing Douglas county to issue bonds to restore the courthouse and damaged records resulting from the recent riot, will cost about \$12,000. It is understood that some arrangement is to be made to have Douglas county reimburse the state for the expense of the session.

At a state meeting of the county chairmen of the Roosevelt Memorial association held at Omaha plans were laid for the raising of Nebraska's portion of \$5,000,000 to be solicited the last of this month in all states of the union for the building of a suitable memorial at Washington and a shrine at Oyster Bay, in memory of the departed ex-president.

In response to recommendations of Major General Leonard Wood, who was assigned to quell rioting in Omaha following the recent disturbance, the city council voted to appoint 100 new policemen and carry out a proposed semi-military organization.

Advices from New York state that Omaha and several other Nebraska cities will be on the route of the great air derby around the world, planned by the Aero Club of America and the Aerial League of America for next year.

Airplanes participating in the air race across the United States from Mineola, N. Y., and San Francisco, Calif., met at North Platte, it being the center point of scheduled stops. Lieutenant Maynard, the flying parson, was the first to reach the city.

Flying at an altitude of 250 feet, an airplane driven by John Wamburg and carrying Gus Renard, dropped to the earth near Wausa, killing Wamburg instantly and seriously injuring Renard. Both men resided at Wausa and had seen service overseas.

Bids for the construction of a dormitory at the Kearney Normal and a science building at the Peru Normal were rejected by the State Normal board. Lowest bids on the two buildings were \$219,167. The board estimated the cost at \$180,000.

Captain Daniel Schaffer of the Salvation Army, who was killed by a U. P. train near Kearney, was slugged and robbed of probably \$200 before the fatal accident, according to police of the city.

Twenty-five dollars an acre was the price paid by the new owner of the 4,000-acre Rhody ranch in Cherry county. This land has doubled in value within the last five years and has almost tripled since 1910.

Mary Wagner, housekeeper for the Rev. John W. Jungles, pastor of St. John the Baptist's German Catholic parish at Petersburg, has appealed to the state supreme court from a 1-cent slander verdict against a parishioner.

Ross L. Hammond, for forty years editor of the Fremont Tribune, has disposed of his interest in the paper. Mr. Hammond is to engage in the banking business at Riverside, Calif.

Phil Hall of Lincoln, formerly adjutant general of Nebraska and colonel of the Nebraska National guard, has been made a colonel in the U. S. reserves.

King Albert and Queen Elizabeth of Belgium were heartily greeted at the many points their train stopped on the journey through Nebraska last week to the Pacific coast.

Lieutenant Colonel C. C. Benedict, plotting plane No. 21 in the transcontinental air race, is the son of F. J. Benedict of Hastings, this state.

The state normal board has awarded a contract for the construction of a \$110,000 gymnasium at the Chadron Normal college.

Winter wheat is already up in many fields in the southeastern part of the state and the outlook is indeed promising.

The special bond election for \$50,000 worth of paving intersection bonds carried, two to one, in Norfolk.

The village board of Diller has granted a franchise to John Krug of Marysville, Kan., for the construction of an electric line in that town. Current will be supplied from Wymore.

I. W. W. agitators are reported to have begun to arrive at Scottsbluff and other western Nebraska cities in small groups for the purpose of stirring up strife and dissension. They camp in the fields until ordered to get out of the country.

The federal railroad administration has notified the state railway commission that the law passed by the last legislature which provides that care-takes of stock shall be provided with sleeping accommodations enroute is unconstitutional. The administration holds that it is giving to Nebraska privileges not allowed in any other state and therefore cannot be permitted.

The Nebraska Lutheran synod at the 47th annual convention at Omaha elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Rev. C. H. B. Lewis, Emerson, president; Charles R. Lowe, Dakota City, secretary; Joseph H. Miller, Surprise, treasurer; Rev. G. B. Weaver, Beatrice, statistical secretary; R. A. White, Wollbach, historian. The session was attended by over 200 delegates.

A special election is to be held in Johnson county November 4 to pass on a bond issue of \$230,000, which, if voted upon favorably, will be disposed of at par, the same to bear 5 1/2 per cent interest, to lift a county indebtedness of something like that amount on which 7 per cent is being paid.

Postmaster Morgan of Plattsmouth, Laud of Wahoo and Grosvenor of Aurora, were chosen at a meeting of postmasters at Lincoln to present the claim of the second class men of Nebraska for wage increases at a joint commission hearing on postal salaries to be held at Kansas City.

Clergymen from all parts of Nebraska attended the opening of the Western Theological seminary at Midland college at Fremont. Dr. F. H. Knobel of New York, president of the United Lutheran Church of America, made the principal address.

Walter Briggs of Seward captured a silver cup for the best pig at the National Swine Show at Des Moines, and Cyril Winkler of Lexington won first in the sweepstakes battle. These boys won several prizes in various classes besides.

Sixteen Omaha men, merchants, professionals and laborers, have been chosen as a grand jury to consider indictment of those taking part in the destruction of the Douglas county courthouse and the lynchings of a negro.

A report submitted at the annual convention of the Nebraska Woman's Christian Temperance union at York showed a gain in membership of 631 in this state the past year, the present membership being 5,736.

During a quarrel arising over the removal of a fence David A. Hancock, well known ranch man of northern Nebraska, shot and instantly killed his brother, Larkin Hancock, at the Hancock ranch near Valentine.

A time system has been installed in the state house at Lincoln for the purpose of keeping accurate account of the hours put in for the Nebraska government by employes in the various offices.

Figures compiled by the state board of control, based on contracts for supplies for fifteen state institutions, shows that meat prices have decreased about 15 per cent in the past three months.

Governor McKelvie has designated November 4 as a special election day throughout Nebraska when delegates to the constitutional convention, to be held at Lincoln in December, will be chosen.

Reports from the Salvation Army headquarters at Omaha are to the effect that but about half of Nebraska's quota of \$512,000 home service fund has been raised.

Several prominent Lincoln business men have organized an aircraft corporation, capitalized at \$750,000. Headquarters of the firm will be in the capital city.

It is reported that the weevil has appeared in much wheat grown in Nebraska and surrounding states this year, and that some damage has already been done.

A crowd of 30 I. W. W. agitators was rounded up near Mitchell and sent to jail. They have been warned by authorities that they are not wanted in the district.

Rumors current in the northwestern part of the state have it that strangers are leasing land in Box Butte county for the purpose of prospecting for oil.

A lively meeting of returned service men was held at Aurora last week and Post No. 40 of the American Legion organized.

Kearney is to have a new flour mill of the strictly modern type. The enterprise is expected to cost \$100,000.

A modern and up-to-date playground has been completed at Ulysses for the little folks of the town.

North Platte clerks have organized a union with a membership of more than 100.

The Nebraska University football team inaugurated its 1919 gridiron campaign by losing a bitterly contested battle to the Iowa state squad at Iowa City by a score of 18 to 0.

A statement issued by the state treasurer shows that it took \$1,012,825 to operate the state government during the month of September, while the receipts were only \$564,177.

Colored persons are daily leaving North Platte in large numbers, due to the feeling which exists in the city since the murder of the late Conductor Massey by a negro.

The Farmers State bank of Spaulding is a new institution granted a charter by the department of trade and commerce with a capital of \$30,000.

Some damage was done to farm property in the vicinity of Schuyler when a small tornado passed over the district.

Practically all the Buffalo county potato crop has been shipped to eastern markets, representing the yield of approximately 1,500 acres with an average of not less than 100 bushels to the acre. The price received averaged \$1.80 a bushel.



1—Secretary of Labor Wilson addressing the opening session of the industrial conference in Washington. 2—King and queen of the Belgians and crown prince with Mayor Peters of Boston and the welcoming committee on the steps of the public library. 3—Confiscated beer being poured into Lake Michigan at Chicago by order of Federal Judge Landis.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Industrial Conference Begins Its Efforts to Accomplish a Tremendous Task.

MANY PLANS ARE SUGGESTED

Radical Elements in the Steel Strike Getting the Worst of It—British Railway Strike Ended—Senate Deadlock on Peace Treaty Possible.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.
Alarm over the condition of President Wilson was considerably allayed by the favorable reports issued last week by his physicians. He was kept quiet, in spite of his protests, and was not permitted to pay any attention to the mass of public business awaiting him. The result of this treatment was his steady improvement, though he may not be able to resume his official duties for some time. The inactivity irked him greatly and Mrs. Wilson and the doctors had to exercise their ingenuity to keep him from getting in communication with public men.

Of course the president could not attend the opening of the industrial conference which he had summoned, but it began its sessions, in the Pan-American building, with 60 delegates present, equally divided among the public, the employers and labor. Secretary of the Interior Lane was made permanent chairman and then the delegates, split into groups, got busy on the program that should be followed. Naturally, they were swamped with suggestions of all sorts and from all parts of the country, and the job of sifting out the reasonable plans was a big one. The rules adopted were designed to prevent the wasting of time by extremists and cranks who might wish to talk at length on their theories, whether radical or reactionary.

The somewhat hazy but mighty task set for this conference is the discovery of some method of accomplishing industrial peace, of bringing about an understanding between employers and workers, of ending or lessening strikes and lockouts so that production may be increased and high costs lowered. Every group, and probably every individual delegate, has more or less definite ideas as to how all this may be accomplished, and it is to be hoped the conference can hit on the right ones and bring about their adoption.

The first plan presented to the conference was for an immediate industrial truce to continue three months, which would stop all strikes at once. This was proposed by Chairman Baruch of the public group, and follows the scheme adopted in France. The second proposition, made by Chairman Gompers of the labor group, was for immediate arbitration of the steel strike by a board of six, two to be appointed by each group in the conference; this contemplated the immediate return of the strikers to work pending the results of the arbitration. A third resolution, offered by Gavin McNab of San Francisco, of the public group, was for a permanent arbitration board, of which all living ex-presidents shall be members.

If Samuel Gompers and the other conservatives who have dominated, and presumably still dominate the American Federation of Labor, are wholly sincere, they must be secretly pleased with the developments in the steel strike. It is becoming more and more apparent that the strike was forced and is being managed by the radicals who have been trying to gain control of union labor in America, and there is increasing evidence that those radicals are going to fall in both their immediate and their ultimate aims. Uncle Sam is taking a hand in the situation and the "reds," most of whom are foreigners in sympathy with, if not in actual communication with the bolsheviks of Europe, are finding that he is not to be trifled with. When the radicals at Gary defied the local and

state authorities and staged some riotous demonstrations the federal troops were sent there in a hurry and quiet was at once restored. Gen. Leonard Wood, commanding the central department, hastened from Omaha, where he had been suppressing the race war, and took personal command in the steel town. He turned his attention immediately to the reds and a raid on their headquarters was productive of quantities of revolutionary matter, to say nothing of guns and ammunition. Martial law was proclaimed and then General Wood established a censorship on all news relating to raids and arrests by the military. It was made clear that the troops were there to preserve lives and property and not to interfere with the strike, but as soon as the radicals were routed and the soldiers were posted throughout the town the steel workers who wished to work returned to the mills in greatly increased numbers. In the entire Chicago district many more plants resumed operation, the average force being perhaps 50 per cent of normal.

In the East also the authorities were active against the radicals, the most spectacular happening being a raid at Weirton, W. Va., in which 187 alleged members of the I. W. W. were seized, marched to the public square and forced to kneel and kiss the American flag. Seven of them were held by federal agents and the rest were run out of the town. These were all Finns and the strike leader there said it was true that they were reds organized labor would not defend them.

Though the people of the United States generally have no great love for the United States Steel corporation, and though Chairman Gary did not arouse any increased sympathy for it by his talk to the senate committee on labor, there is a widespread feeling that a victory for it in this strike will be beneficial to the country as a whole. The big railway strike in Great Britain was settled by a compromise agreement, the main points of which are:
Work to be resumed forthwith.
On full resumption of work, negotiations shall be confined with the understanding they will be completed before December 31, 1919.
Wages will be stabilized in the United Kingdom at their present level up to September 30, 1920. Any time after August 1, 1920, they may be reviewed in the light of circumstances then existing.
No adult railway man shall receive less than 60 shillings a week so long as the cost of living is not less than 110 per cent above prewar prices.
Also, the principle of the "open shop" was maintained.

Senator Cummins says his committee on interstate commerce is going to force a vote in congress on two great labor questions—compulsory arbitration and the right of organized labor to strike regardless of the public welfare. This is to be done by a favorable report on the Cummins railroad bill. The measure has provisions prohibiting strikes and lockouts on the transportation systems and creating a board before which disputes between the workers and the corporations must be taken for settlement. This board would have four members from each side, and in case of a deadlock the question at issue would be referred to a board of five named by the president. Mr. Cummins predicted the senate would approve of the anti-strike features of the bill, despite the opposition of the American Federation of Labor and the railway brotherhoods.

The predicted deadlock in the senate seemed last week in a fair way to become a reality. Little progress toward a vote was made and Senator Hitchcock told Secretary Tamm to let the president know there would be nothing concerning the treaty requiring his attention for some time. The probable date of final action on the pact has been advanced to November 10 and there is a chance that the deadlock will not be broken until much later. The Democratic senators who favor the treaty as it stands, being numerous enough to defeat ratification, seem determined to compel at least the adoption of the very mildest of reservations instead of the Lodge program. Mr. Hitchcock has admitted the necessity of some sort of a compromise, but

the president will be willing to accept, in view of his uncompromising statements, is unknown.

The Italian governmental crisis having compelled the adjournment of the parliament, the peace treaties with Germany and Austria were ratified by royal decree of King Victor Emmanuel and will become effective within 15 days. All the British dominions having now ratified the German treaty, its ratification by the empire is complete.

According to dispatches from Berlin, the threats of the supreme council to renew the blockade brought Germany to terms and her troops in the Baltic countries are being withdrawn. The government saves its face by stating that Gen. von der Goltz has yielded to its appeal.

Another complication in the affairs of southern Russia is announced. Gen. Simon Petlura, the Ukrainian leader, has declared war on General Denikin, the commander of the anti-bolshevik army that is steadily fighting its way up to Moscow. And at the same time comes word that the Russian volunteer army has surprised and attacked the Ukrainians, a violent battle resulting. Further north the troops of the north Russian government had some successes against the reds and Admiral Kolchak reported that his Siberian troops had recovered Tobolsk from them. An interesting story from Helsinki, Finland, is the effect that Trotsky tried to bring about the arrest of Lenin, but failed and instead was himself placed under arrest in Moscow on orders of the bolshevik premier.

The American troops that have been serving in Siberia are beginning to come home, and the public should be prepared to hear all kinds of stories of the shocking hardships these men think they have undergone. Furthermore, it is said to be certain that investigation into the actions of certain of their officers will be demanded. The morale officer who was sent to Siberia by the war department says there is little foundation for the complaints that are sure to be made as soon as the men are discharged, but that will not stop the impending clamor.

The Italian council of ministers has proposed a solution of the Fiume question, namely, that the city be occupied by regular troops pending a decision by the peace conference as to its disposition; but this is to be conditional on Italy's being given the mandate to administer the affairs of the city under the League of Nations. The Italians were greatly exercised by the report that their government had received warnings as to Fiume from both Great Britain and the United States. It is true that Baron Hardinge, under secretary for foreign affairs, told Italy that Britain was surprised that the D'Annunzio matter was not being settled more speedily, but there is nothing to show that any such message went from Washington. Meanwhile D'Annunzio maintains his hold on the disputed city and prepares for war with the Jugo-Slavs. His observers have told him the Serbs are concentrating in large numbers, so he has mined the harbor and placed his troops on the lines of defense. The Serbian officials, on the other hand, deny they seek hostilities with the Italians or are preparing for a fight. If any force is gathering to try to take Fiume it is composed of volunteers.

Long lists of German army and navy officers accused of crimes against the recognized rules of warfare have been prepared by Great Britain, France and Belgium, and the surrender of these men for trial by court-martial will be demanded of Germany in accordance with the treaty. The lists include submarine commanders, Zeppelin and airplane pilots, the makers and crew of the "Big Bertha" that bombarded Paris, the German officers who acted as town majors in Belgium and who were responsible for deportations and cruelties, the German doctors who let prisoners die without attention, and the cruel German prison camp guards. The United States has no such list, but is bound to join with the entente nations in demanding the extradition of the former Kaiser and in trying him before a special court.

Complete Treaty Ratification.
London.—King George has completed Great Britain's ratification of the German peace treaty. The document ratified by him has been dispatched to Paris.

To Enforce Prohibition.
Washington.—The bill for enforcement of war-time and constitutional prohibition was as agreed to in a conference adopted by the senate without discussion. It now goes to the house for final action.

German Budget Scores France.
Paris.—Public opinion in France is greatly alarmed over the announcement that Germany's military budget for the coming year will be 1,500,000,000 marks (\$375,000,000).

Plan Air Line to Alaska.
Washington.—The senate military committee has voted to recommend an additional appropriation of \$15,000,000 for army aircraft construction in order that plans of the air service to establish routes to Panama, Alaska, and even to Asia, may be carried out.

MUST STAY IN BED

WILSON NOT TO RESUME DUTIES FOR SOME TIME.

AUTHORITY QUESTION RAISED

Chief Executive's Private Physician Refuses to Comment Upon Brain Fever Rumors.

Washington.—Hope that President Wilson soon might regain his normal health and resume fully the duties of his office has been swept away by his physicians, who announced it would be impossible for him to leave his bed "for an extended period."

The announcement was made jointly by Rear Admiral Grayson, the president's private physician, and three other physicians aiding in the case.

Although keeping with the program of rest originally planned for Mr. Wilson by Dr. Grayson, the announcement brought home to officials the possible effect of the president's illness on public affairs and renewed discussion as to what expedient might be adopted should the press of executive business reach a point demanding more attention than he could give it.

The disposition on all sides seems to be to refrain from raising the question of the president's disability to act under the constitution, but officials are known to have considered it one of the possibilities of the situation.

Dr. Grayson is quoted as saying that he would not comment on the published letter written by Senator Moses of New Hampshire, to a constituent saying that the president had a brain lesion. Dr. Grayson explained that he would not deny the statement because he would not depart from his policy of standing on his official bulletins and refusing to discuss the president's case further than the information contained in the bulletins.

Plan Wholesale Liquor Raids.

Washington.—Wholesale raids upon liquor dealers are being planned by the government. New legislation which will be in force in less than a fortnight makes illegal the sale of liquor containing more than one-half of 1 per cent alcohol. This puts into the hands of Attorney General Palmer the power for which he has been waiting, before prosecuting the illicit liquor dealers.

Reports on liquor sales are being made by government agents now, it was learned. It is known here that in many cities, all varieties of liquor have been freely sold, despite the wartime prohibition ban, simply because existing law was inadequate. Enforcement of the new prohibition law will make this punishable by \$5,000 fine and two years' imprisonment.

Three Powers Sanction Pact.

Washington, D. C.—Ratification of the treaty of peace by France, Great Britain and Italy will put it into effect, as soon as the evidences of ratification have been deposited in Paris, according to belief in official circles here. The league of nations will be brought into existence at the same time, but only those nations which have ratified will be members thereof. Meetings of the labor section of the league are scheduled to begin in Washington the latter part of this month.

When word of the ratification by France reached Washington—this being the third great power to approve the pact—debate over the treaty was in progress in the senate. Senate leaders are hopeful that they would be able to vote on the Shantung amendment before the end of this week.

Can Not See Children.

Detroit, Mich.—Mrs. Hazel Luikart, who poisoned her two little daughters "because she saw no future for them," was denied permission to see them at a Chicago hospital by Oakland county authorities. Mrs. Luikart was taken to the state hospital for the insane at Ionia, Mich., after she had been adjudged mentally ill by a commission at Pontiac, Mich. The father of the children, Roy Luikart, was born and reared in Norfolk, Neb.

Iowa Men Killed By Train.

Emmetsburg, Ia.—Wade Harris and Elmer Eye of Ruthven were killed east of Dickens when their automobile was hit by a westbound Milwaukee train.

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