

NEWS OF THE WEEK

CONDENSATIONS OF GREATER OR LESSER IMPORTANCE.

A BOILING DOWN OF EVENTS

National, Political, Personal and Other Matters in Brief Form for All Classes of Readers.

U. S. Wants Aviators.

The United States government needs thousands of aviators for the enormous flying corps that is to be sent to the great battlefields of Europe. The shortage of available material for first-class flyers is starting. The War department is desirous that every man whose physical and mental development is likely to fit him for this service make application at once. Among the aviation centers to which applications may be sent are the following: Fort Omaha, Omaha, Neb. The Signal Corps, War Department, Washington, D. C. The Mineola Field, Mineola, L. I. The Essington Flying Field, Essington, Pa. Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Tex. North Brothers Island, San Diego, Cal. Signal Officer, Central department, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Teutonic War News.

Sinking by a German submarine of the American sailing ship Gallina, from Boston to New York, has been announced. There were no casualties. The vessel was sunk off Ushant with bombs.

Brazil is no longer a neutral in the world war and Germany has another enemy arrayed against it. Brazil has now come definitely into the open and announced that it can no longer be considered neutral. It has revoked its decree of neutrality so far as it effects the war between the United States and Germany.

More than 500,000 men have volunteered in the American army and navy during the period of less than three months that has elapsed since war was declared. The army, navy and national guard totalled little more than 300,000 men when the war resolution was adopted. Now between 700,000 and 800,000 are enrolled in the various branches of the fighting service.

American troop ships have successfully braved the terrors of Germany's submarine warfare and landed two contingents of American fighting forces in France—men of the regular United States army. The troops, the first to reach the war area, were given a tremendous welcome by the French populace, who wept with joy at the sight of the Americans, come from half way across the world to help them free their land from the German yoke.

General News.

The Wisconsin general assembly adopted the following resolution, pledging the state to the nation in the war with Germany: "We stand ready to give the best that is in our best thought, our last dollar and our life's blood if need be."

On July 1, the state of Kansas went under a new form of government, different from that of any other state in the union. Its business affairs hereafter will be controlled by a state manager, who will attend to all the business of the state and alone be responsible.

Sixty-eight children have died from a severe form of summer complaint in southeastern Missouri during the last few weeks. More than two hundred persons, mostly children, now are ill with the disease and about a fourth of these are in a serious condition.

Improvements in the federal parcel post system were put into effect July 1. Hereafter, insurance on a package valued up to \$50 will be 10 cents and on a package valued from \$50 to \$100 it will be 25 cents. A recipient of insured parcels will not be required to sign for them except when the sender requests a return receipt.

Samuel V. Perrott, chief of the Indianapolis, Ind., police, and five others were found guilty of a conspiracy to commit election frauds in connection with the 1914 registration.

B. Smith, of Excelsior Springs, Mo., who has been on trial at Liberty, Mo., for the killing of Uriah H. Balmore of Omaha in the lobby of the Auditorium amusement building at Excelsior Springs, March 7, was acquitted. The jury held the shooting was in self-defense.

It is reported that miners in the southern Colorado coal field of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Co. will be called out on strike August 1, unless there is a satisfactory settlement of their differences with company.

Wisconsin is to have a prison farm. By terms of a bill passed by the state legislature the state board of control will convert about 3,000 acres of the outcrop land in northern Wisconsin into a vegetable garden to support other state institutions.

Omaha has failed to land the army contingent which reports said might be taken from Des Moines. General Barry recommended keeping the camp at Des Moines and the war department, at Washington, approved the recommendation.

Registration by States.

Following is the complete official registration by states, as given out by the war department. The figures show that almost one-half the total of 9,649,938 men registered claim exemption for various causes:

Table with columns: State, Number Registered, Estimate Claim, Exemption. Lists states from Alabama to Wyoming.

Omaha is soon to have a branch of the Kansas City Federal Reserve bank to take care of the Nebraska and Wyoming territory.

The United States cruiser Olympia, Admiral Dewey's flagship at the battle of Manila, ran aground in a fog off Block Island, R. I., and was seriously damaged. One seaman lost his life, when he was struck on the head by a falling hatch.

Property damage to the extent of \$3,000,000 resulted from the breaking of the dam of the Price River Irrigation company near Fairview, Utah. The population of Schofield, Helper, Castle Gate and Colton were forced to flee when the towns were inundated by the rushing water. When the dam broke, 11,000 acre feet of water was released.

Washington Notes.

Retail food prices in the United States advanced on an average 5 per cent from April 16 to May 15, as shown in figures compiled by the bureau of labor statistics. During the year ended with May 15 they increased 39 per cent.

Democratic leader Kitchin predicted adjournment of congress by August 1 or August 15, when he asked for three days' adjournment by the house until the senate has passed some of the house legislation now before it.

The daylight saving bill amended to take effect next year, passed the senate. Under the bill all timepieces would be turned forward one hour beginning the last Sunday in April and continuing until the last Sunday in September.

The sweeping reductions in the price of bituminous coal at all mines east of the Mississippi river, ranging from \$1 to \$5 a ton to the public, with a further cut of 50 cents for the government, were agreed upon at conferences between the operators and government officials.

The nation's contributions to the Red Cross in response to the call for a \$100,000,000 war fund are placed at \$114,000,000 by Henry P. Davison, chairman of the Red Cross war council. The policy of the Red Cross in expending this big sum, Mr. Davison said, will be to "conduct all our work with the utmost publicity, and to take the public as completely as possible into our confidence."

European War News.

The Elder-Dempster British steamer, Adah, was torpedoed without warning and sunk by a German submarine on June 15. The submarine fired on the captain's boat, killing eight men.

Twenty-one British vessels of more than 1,000 tons each and seven under 1,000 tons were sunk by mines or submarines during the week ending June 23. This is a net falling off of four, as compared with the losses reported the previous week.

Sinking by a German submarine outside the prohibited zone and without examination of the 456-ton Danish steamer Ivgit was being reported. The submarine commander left the Danish vessel's crew in their boats 150 miles from land.

The whole country of Norway is wrought up over the discovery of a German plot to destroy Norwegian steamers by explosives. In all a ton of explosives has been discovered concealed in artificial lumps of coal, which presumably were to be placed in ship's bunkers.

It has been officially reported that twelve Greek ships, representing a total tonnage of 31,542, valued at \$4,502,000, have been torpedoed and sunk by German and Austrian submarines since April 2, 1917.

The Mesopotamia expedition, according to the British commission which has been investigating it, reports that the expedition was a justifiable military enterprise, but was undertaken "with insufficient forces and inadequate preparation."

Official figures of the casualties in the London air raids of June 13 totaled ninety-one men, twenty-four women and forty-two children killed and 220 men, 110 women and 100 children injured.



Ambassador Sharp (in civilian clothes) inspecting an American aviation camp "somewhere in France." 2—Trench digger, used for laying water mains, in the national army cantonment camp that is being built at Quantico, Va. 3—Rear Admiral J. H. Glennon, U. S. N., who helped quiet the mutiny of Russian sailors at Sebastopol. 4—Warren Pershing, only child of General Pershing, and Miss May Pershing, sister of the general.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Two Contingents of Pershing's Army Are Landed Safely on French Soil.

UNDER COMMAND OF SIBERT

Developments in Plans to Control Foodstuffs and Coal—Good Work of Root and Kerensky in Russia—British Troops Closing in on Lens.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Two contingents of Major General Pershing's expeditionary force of American regulars were safely landed in France last week, the first on Tuesday and the second on Wednesday. The armada that carried them across the Atlantic and that conveyed them took also great quantities of supplies for their maintenance. The troops now on French soil are under the immediate command of Brig. Gen. W. L. Sibert.

This safe and speedy arrival of seasoned fighting men in France is a triumph of American skill and efficiency. Without any publicity, the troops were assembled, embarked on many vessels and taken through the German submarine zone without an accident to mar the success of the great operation. That these troops and the thousands that are to follow them carry all their own supplies makes them a net gain for the allies. The United States feeds, clothes, arms and equips them without making a single demand on the French or the British.

General Pershing has prepared everything for the participation of his army in the actual warfare, and a section of the line near St. Quentin is to be turned over to the Americans. It developed on Thursday that George Creel, civilian head of the committee on public information, authorized the publication of the news of the arrival of the troops contrary to the wishes of the war department, whereupon Secretary Baker withdrew the dissemination of war department news from the jurisdiction of Creel's organization and appointed General McIntyre sole censor and disseminator of war department news.

Coal and Wheat Embargo.

President Wilson appointed a board of export control, composed of the secretaries of commerce, state and labor and the food administrator, and the board at once began gathering data on which it recommended that the president place at least partial embargoes on wheat and bunker coal, and possibly on other commodities. The shutting-off of shipments of foodstuffs to certain neutral countries, it is believed, will nearly put an end to their sending of food to the central powers. An embargo on bunker coal not only will help in controlling neutral and other shipping, but also will give to the shipping board a weapon to force down present exorbitant ocean freight rates.

Speaking of coal, the coal committee of the council of national defense passed a big victory Tuesday when it "persuaded" 400 coal barons to agree to sell their product at a reasonable price to be fixed with the approval of the committee. The operators, who represented both the bituminous and the anthracite fields, were told flatly that unless they behaved themselves the government would take over their output.

The immediate result of all this was the agreement of the bituminous operators to make cuts of \$1 to \$3 a ton in the cost of coal to the jobbers. This, it was declared, would bring about an immediate reduction of prices to the consumer.

Consideration of the food-control bill with its "bone-dry" feature, which the house passed, occupied much of the time of the senators. Their committee

modified the prohibition clause in such a way that the making of distilled liquors and beer would be ended while the manufacture of wine would not. The attack on beer brought on a stubborn fight when the bill came up for consideration in the senate Thursday, and Mr. Lodge and others denounced the effort of the prohibitionists to mix prohibition with the food question at a time when the first requisite for successful conduct of the war is a united people. The bill as it stands confers on the president the most extraordinary powers ever granted by the American nation.

Restoring Order in Russia.

With calm, sympathetic talk and commonsense advice, Elihu Root and his colleagues on the American mission are aiding Kerensky to bring some semblance of order out of the chaos in Russia. In Petrograd, Moscow and many other places the Americans have addressed throngs of soldiers, workmen and peasants, and have made it plain to them that the United States means to help them to retain their new-found freedom, but that it cannot be retained unless, with their active aid, the despotic autocracy of Germany is crushed. Rear Admiral Glennon is credited with having quieted the mutiny of the men of the Russian Black sea fleet.

Minister of War Kerensky is becoming a heroic figure, fiercely withstanding the attacks of his enemies and fast gaining for the provisional government the support of the masses. He is determined that Russia shall resume the offensive against the central powers, and is backed in this by the councils of delegates and by the women of the land. The latter by thousands have enlisted in the army and demand a chance to fight. The congress of Cossacks also gave the provisional government a vote of complete confidence and full support.

Uncle Sam is determined to set the new republic of Russia on its feet if it is possible to do so, and is giving every aid that can be devised. The latest evidence of our government's benign intent is the appointment by President Wilson of a commission of sanitary, medical and food-distribution experts that will start at once for Petrograd and make a survey of the civil needs of the people of Russia, and then try to help them to help themselves. Dr. Frank Billings, an eminent Chicago physician, heads the commission, the other members including Raymond Robins, Harold H. Swift, Dr. Wilbur E. Post, Dr. W. S. Thayer of Johns Hopkins university, and Prof. Charles Winslow of Yale.

Venezelos Controls in Greece.

As was foreseen, young King Alexander of Greece has agreed to do what ever the allies wish him to do, and he began by dismissing the Zaimis ministry and inviting Venezelos to form a new cabinet. The new ministers took office Wednesday. Venezelos has said that he would like to have Greece join the allies as an active opponent of Germany, but will not force this course of action against the will of the people. Meanwhile, French troops are in control in Athens and other centers. Ex-King Constantine is now in Switzerland, where he has purchased a magnificent chateau.

The situation in the southeast naturally is worrying Bulgaria, which is in the war for what she can get, and now sees that her dear wish to get Macedonia and Dobruja may not be fulfilled. Bulgaria has been reluctant to break formally with the United States, but according to Copenhagen reports she may soon take such action as the price of concessions from Germany.

The Spanish censorship has shut down tight on all news from that country, and the government is struggling to weather the crisis that has come upon it. On Tuesday the constitution- al guarantees were suspended once more, and Premier Dato declares the nation is calm. This, however, is not in accord with the information given out in London, where it is expected that a revolution will soon break out in Spain.

Norwegian Patience Exhausted.

In Norway, as in Spain, hunger, present or anticipated, is at the bottom

of much of the unrest. Both nations may be forced into the ranks of the allies by shortage of food, for the countries that are warring against Germany intend to look after their own food needs first, regardless of the wails of the countries that have preferred to remain neutral. Norway also is now exasperated almost to the point of warfare by the deliberate destruction of her merchant marine by the Germans. About one-third of her tonnage already has been sunk by submarines, and a few days ago came the exposure of a German plot to destroy Norwegian steamships by explosives in the form of lumps of coal taken into the country by a courier of the German foreign office. Should Norway join the allies, her coast would be mighty convenient for naval bases for the British and American warships.

Brazil arrived at the definite parting of the ways with Germany and formally revoked its decree of neutrality in the war between the entente allies and the central powers, as it had previously so far as the United States is concerned. Whether it will enter into actual hostilities was not announced. If it does, its navy will be of considerable help.

Europe provided several instances to prove that it is well sometimes to strain the quality of mercy. In Cork and other Irish cities the Sinn Fein rebels, who had been unconditionally pardoned and released, again raised their flag of rebellion and staged riotous demonstrations that were quelled with difficulty by the police and military forces. In numerous districts of Russia the convicts who were set free at the time of the revolution, committed murders and other outrages and seized property, defying such authorities as now exist there. Anarchists who have returned to Russia from exile in other lands are especially vicious and lawless.

British Attack on Lens.

Despite desperate defensive fighting by the Germans, the British last week steadily closed in on the city of Lens, the very important coal-mining center north of Arras. Crown Prince Rupprecht's men before the end of the week had been driven back into the suburbs where they made fortresses of the railway embankment and slag heaps. Lens itself already is a mass of ruins, but its possession means much because of the coal mines.

Most of the French fighting of the week was done in the neighborhood of Hurbise on the Chemin des Dames. Their most brilliant exploit was the capture of the Dragon's cave, an enormous cavern that had been made into a formidable fortress by the Germans. The forward movement of the Italians was checked by the furious gunfire of the Austrians on the Asiago plateau.

Great Red Cross War Fund Raised.

The great campaign to raise \$100,000,000 for the American Red Cross in one week was eminently successful, more than that amount being pledged. The official announcement that all of the immense sum could easily be spent in six months relieving the needs of the allies brings the American people to a realizing sense of the money that will be needed when our own troops are taking an active part in the war. But evidently the people intend to give, and give freely, so long as the demand exists. To contribute from surplus wealth is among the least of patriotic actions; to contribute when one has no surplus, as hundreds of thousands are doing, is among the greatest.

Newspapers and individuals with the broader vision are striving just now to counteract the effects of the hysteria of those who, not realizing that conditions in America are not what they are in France or England, are counseling all kinds of unnecessary economies. Their advice, if followed, would lead to the ruination of many kinds of business and the wiping out of that prosperity upon which America and its allies count to finance the war. In belligerent countries of Europe, of course, nearly all industries and activities are devoted to war needs, but we have not yet reached that stage, though reasonable economy and frugality must be practiced.

DUMBA OUTLINES PEACE PLAN

Austro-Hungarian standpoint, considers that "if the Serbian danger can be held in check by the permanent winning of our turbulent neighbor, and our own territories remain untouched, we shall have every reason to welcome such a solution."

Dr. Constantine Dumba, the former Austrian ambassador at Washington, in an article in the Vienna Neue Freie Presse, advocates peace without annexations or indemnities, "however disappointing that formula may sound to the Chauvinists."

Doctor Dumba, speaking from the

AUTO LAMPS MUST CUT OUT THE GLARE

REGULATIONS FOR LIGHTS WHILE DRIVING AT NIGHT

LATE NEWS FROM CAPITOL

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

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

A new law enacted by the recent legislature of interest to all auto owners and drivers which necessarily includes the greater proportion of Nebraska's inhabitants, will go into effect July 24. This law, while it makes amendments and provisions for speed, brakes and other ideas connected with motordom, more particularly provides for the proper lighting of both pleasure and commercial cars. Under this new law, drivers at night are compelled to have a red tail light as well as proper front illumination, together with search lights. Many attempts have been made to provide proper regulations for light in night driving to eliminate all danger of accident coming through the glare. This new law specifically requires that no portion of the beam of reflected light from a car when measured seventy-five feet or more ahead of the lamps, shall rise above forty-two inches from the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. It can be readily seen that scientifically constructed light reflectors will be made necessary to meet with these stringent demands.

Taking Census of Grain Stock

Census of all grain stocks in Nebraska bins and elevators has been inaugurated by the Nebraska council of defense, at the request of the national council.

The actual work will be done by county councils and more directly by precinct committeemen, who will report the hold-over stocks in their communities.

The census will include wheat, corn, oats and rye, in bins, mills and elevators.

In the same connection the state council urges the planting this fall of as large an acreage of winter wheat as possible, and asks the county councils to send in names of farmers who may have seed for sale this fall.

Federal Authorities Will Aid the State.

Several instances where liquor has been brought into Nebraska in automobiles from neighboring towns in other states have recently been reported to Governor Neville. The governor considers this a violation of the state prohibitory law and if anyone should be caught doing this he will be prosecuted.

Under a recent ruling of Attorney General Reed, it may not be against the law for a person to bring in liquor from another state, although its delivery from one person to another in Nebraska is illegal, no matter where it comes from.

Governor Neville has the promise of federal authorities that after July 1, when the Reed amendment enacted by congress goes into effect, the United States government will have agents in Nebraska to detect and prosecute persons who transport liquor into this state from other states. He believes the practice will stop when Uncle Sam gets busy, if it does not before.

For Muster at Once

To take the new Sixth regiment along with the other two Nebraska regiments July 15, to a centralization camp in the south is the new program of Adjutant General Phil Hall. He is wiring over the state to have the new companies ready for muster at once. The plan is endorsed by Provost General Crowder at Washington.

No appropriation was made by the last legislature for the state board of mediation and its members will not be able to draw expense money for their time spent in Omaha trying to settle the building trades dispute, in which they have been enjoined by Attorney General Reed from acting further.

Have Leased Mineral Rights

The state board of educational lands and funds has applications from a number of persons who desire to lease potash, oil and other mineral rights on state lands. The board has executed one lease for potash and one or two for oil rights and it is said the members will continue to make such leases in spite of the fact that the last legislature refused to pass a law authorizing leases of this kind.

Examining Officers for Training Camp

To provide officers for the drafted forces of the national army, the war department has adopted the policy of commissioning all new officers of the line (infantry, cavalry, field and coast (artillery) purely on the basis of demonstrated ability after three months' observation and training in the officers' training camps. Thus, the appointment of officers of the new armies will be made entirely on merit and free from all personal or other influences.

Taking over by the United States government of all railroad earnings over and above operating expenses and fixed charges, without assuming direct charge of the operation and swearing in all officers and employees of the carriers as government employees during the war, are the principal features of the transportation program which is to be carried out shortly, according to advance information which has reached officials and railroad men in Nebraska. Rates are to be collected as fixed by the interstate commerce commission.

WILL SOON BE MERGED

National Guard and Regulars to be Combined in One Force.

The line of distinction between national guards and regular army, is being wiped away. Special recruiting week for the regulars, applies also to the guard. The two branches are soon to be welded in one army. Lines of difference will then be wiped away. The work of intensive recruiting for the army in compliance with President Wilson's proclamation, carries two parallel lines of endeavor that are virtually one. The necessity of raising 70,000 volunteers for the regular army, does not lessen the obligation of Nebraska to furnish a third regiment, the Sixth, now in course of organization.

The national council of defense, the state council and the several county councils, are engaged in the work of encouraging enlistment. "I might as well wait for the draft" is the common excuse. This excuse is not in harmony with plans of preparedness sanctioned by the war department. The sooner men enlist, the more efficient will they become. The experience of Nebraska guardsmen on the border is expected to be a valuable asset in the war with Germany. Men now joining the guard will enter an army which has a nucleus of experience.

To Protect Food Against Fire

Ho wheat large food storage plants throughout the United States are to be given increased protection against fire as one of the most important war measures now being undertaken in this country, was explained to a dozen state officers, of Nebraska by W. H. Sage, chairman of the Chicago advisory committee for the national board of fire underwriters, at a conference held in the governor's office Wednesday morning.

The entire Chicago committee, which has been asked to organize sixteen western states for the conservation of foodstuffs with especial reference to their possible destruction by fire, was in Lincoln for the purpose of putting a field force to work in Nebraska.

State authorities say that they will cooperate in every way possible with the inspectors. The state council of defense has stated that it will do everything in its power to enforce the recommendations of the insurance men. They will be clothed by the fire commissioner with every power of state officers. With such co-operation the work that they will be able to do will be of inestimable value to the country.

Farm Hand Shortage a Menace

Farm hands to help put up the memoir hay crop of western Nebraska are the big need as a war measure this month, according to William F. Shaw, manager of several thousand acres in southern Cherry county. He conferred with the Nebraska council of defense on the question.

Lack of help lost a large tonnage of hay in that vicinity last year, Mr. Shaw says. With the war on, ranchers owe it to their country to produce as much live stock as possible, he says, and this cannot be done if the hay crop for feed is not conserved to its fullest extent.

Hired men get from \$35 to \$50 a month and board. They can reach Shaw's vicinity by mail through Brownlee, Neb., and by rail through Theford, Thomas county. Haying begins the middle of July.

Cattle Attacked by Anthrax

Anthrax, one of the most deadly live stock diseases known, which sometimes attacks human beings also, has made its appearance at two different places in Nebraska, and ten cattle have already died from it. State Veterinarian Anderson has just returned from Holbrook, where a farmer named Seiz lost four animals from his herd last week. Dr. Anderson received word from Madison, as soon as he got back to Lincoln, that six cattle belonging to Charles Sprout, a farmer northwest of that place, had succumbed to the same malady.

N. N. G. Is 3,000 Short

The Nebraska National guard is 3,000 men short, according to a statement by Adjutant General Hall, in an appeal for recruits. Under the new provisions of the war department's requirements for national guard organizations, Nebraska is authorized to maintain three regiments, and the adjutant general is confident that the new unit, the sixth, can be mustered into service in a very short time.

Expense of State Government

It is costing the state of Nebraska about \$6,000,000 a year to run its government and maintain its institutions, according to official figures contained in the semi-annual report of State Auditor Smith to Governor Neville, for the period from December 1, 1916, to May 31, 1917, inclusive. The total amount of warrants paid by the state treasurer in that time was \$2,082,965. Of this gross sum, warrants totalling \$1,288,772 were drawn against the general fund.

All of the alleged "near beer" drinks and substitutes which are being sold in this state and samples of which were recently secured by inspectors of the food commission under Governor Neville's directions for purpose of analysis, come within the provisions of the prohibition law, according to State Chemist Frisbie. In sixteen different drinks now on the market in this state Mr. Frisbie failed to find one which contained more than 49 of 1 per cent of alcohol. The law allows beverages to be sold which contain not more than one-half of 1 per cent.

On motion of Attorney General Willis E. Reed, Federal Judge Munger has dismissed the equity suits of the state of Nebraska against the Union Pacific and St. Joseph and Grand Island railroads. The state official brought the suits to join the railroad companies to enforce the 2-cent fare law. Similar actions against other railroad companies operating in Nebraska were brought in the state supreme court. The cases in the supreme court were dismissed when the railroads filed an answer that there was no intention to violate the law.