



1—New Curtiss airplane, fastest in the world, built for the American navy. 2—The Emir Faisal, son of the king of the Hedjaz, who has been in England to present his father's respects to King George. 3—Government troops in Cologne celebrating the order to re-mobilize to combat the Spartacists.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Formal Sessions of the Peace Congress Begun; League of Nations Up First.

MANY PLANS ARE PRESENTED

Americans Carefully Safeguarding the Monroe Doctrine—Poland to Get Help—Armistice Terms Made More Drastic—United States For National Prohibition.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Unless the peace congress, which held its first formal session on Saturday, changes its mind, the world must be satisfied hereafter with such information concerning its deliberations as is contained in the official communiqué issued daily. Possibly because of a breach of confidence on the part of some correspondent, the supreme allied council adopted a resolution that the delegates shall not talk outside the peace chamber of the doings of the conference. The hundreds of high-priced journalists gathered in Paris from all parts of the world can devote their time to describing the majesty of the Arc de Triomphe and the allurement of the Paris boulevards. The American and British correspondents formally and energetically protested against this rigid censorship. Later the rule may be relaxed, otherwise the demand for "open covenants of peace openly arrived at" goes by the board.

In the preliminary work of the conference the make-up and procedure of the congress were settled. It was decided that the United States, the British empire, France, Italy and Japan should be represented by five delegates apiece. The British dominions and India besides are represented as follows: Two delegates respectively for Australia, Canada, South Africa and India, including the native states, and one delegate for New Zealand. Brazil has three delegates. Belgium, China, Greece, Poland, Portugal, the Czechoslovak republic, Roumania and Serbia have two delegates apiece; Siam, Montenegro, Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Nicaragua and Panama one delegate apiece. The delegates will vote as units.

A great deal of time last week was devoted to consideration of the various plans for the league of nations, the organization of which was the first matter taken up by the peace delegates after they began their formal sessions, in accordance with the desire of President Wilson. Many schemes for the league were submitted, these dividing themselves generally into two groups which differ as to the means of making effective the decisions of the league. One holds that the rulings of the society of nations should be backed up by its combined physical forces; the other, that such force will not be necessary. In the examination of the plans it seemed certain that a compromise would not be difficult to reach.

Prodded by the expressed anxiety of the senate, the American delegates carefully examined every scheme submitted to make sure that nothing in them endangered the cherished Monroe doctrine. They appear to be satisfied that this American ideal is not imperiled and that, on the contrary, the league would in effect extend the principle of the Monroe doctrine to the whole world. The senate is not so sure of this, and Senator Borah, who strongly opposed the formation of the league, introduced a resolution which, if passed, would serve notice that the senate will not ratify a treaty the provisions of which conflict with the Monroe doctrine and with the traditional duty of the United States to enforce that principle.

The matter of extending aid to Poland was one of the serious things discussed last week, especially serious because it probably involves the prob-

lem of what the allies shall do in the case of Russia. The American and British delegates were said to have agreed that, while none of their own troops should be sent to help the Poles, the two Polish divisions recruited in the United States should be sent from France through Germany to assist the government set up by the Polish national committee. These troops would co-operate in stemming the tide of bolshevism that is flowing west from Russia, making the new Poland a strong bulwark against that flood of anarchy. The plan is a concession to the ideas of the French, who are convinced that bolshevism cannot or should not be dealt with militarily in Russia by the allies. It also is likely to an agreement with the Polish national committee as represented in Poland by Paderewski.

The Spartacist revolution in Germany—or at least in Berlin—has fizzled out. Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg were captured and, according to report, killed. The other leaders are under arrest or dispersed and some hundreds of their followers are dead. After a week of terror the police were reinstated and armed, order was restored and business was resumed. In some other cities the "Reds" are still in control, but their chance for ultimate success seems to have gone glimmering. For one thing, Hindenburg still has under his command an efficient army of more than a million men, and most of these troops he is holding true to the Ebert government.

This fact about the German army leads to the warning issued by the Central News of London, that a situation exists in Europe under which war may break out again at any time and that the British scheme of demobilization will have to be radically changed—which may also apply to American demobilization. An "unimpeachable authority" is quoted as saying that Great Britain will have to keep an army of occupation on the Rhine for many months, which accords with the opinion of others concerning all the armies of occupation. It may be this note of alarm was caused by the discovery that the Germans were trying to evade some of the terms of the armistice and by the more drastic conditions imposed by Marshal Foch in granting an extension of the armistice. It was reported the marshal even threatened to march directly on Berlin if the Huns didn't fulfill their pledges. It was stated unofficially that the new terms included the following:

First—Retribution upon the Germans for the murder and ill-treatment of allied prisoners.

Second—The machinery and goods stolen by Germany from France and Belgium to be at once given up.

Third—German gold, amounting to more than \$500,000,000, to be moved from Berlin to a safe place, probably Frankfurt, and protected from bolshevism in Germany en route. Certain other property to be surrendered.

Fourth—Germany to give over her shipping, of which she is believed to have 4,000,000 tons, to carry food supplies to countries in Europe in need of them.

Fifth—Any U-boats on the stocks to be handed to the allies for their disposal, or to be destroyed, and no more submarines should be built.

Germany is fully justifying all those who refused to believe in her good faith under any circumstances. She is determined not to permit the establishment of an independent Poland because she still proposes to grab enough in the east to make up for her losses on the west, and a Polish state would prevent this. The Germans are said to be supplying arms to the bolsheviks who are ravaging parts of Poland, and there was heavy fighting last week between the German troops and the Poles near Kalmar. It was reported that Hindenburg himself would lead the German army against Poland.

man radicals were co-operating with Wynncoop, the Dutch socialist leader.

Because of dissension over Italy's territorial claims the cabinet resigned and Premier Orlando was commissioned to form a new one. Several members were bitterly opposed to Foreign Minister Sonnino in his demands that Italy be given the whole of the Dalmatian coast, holding with President Wilson that part of that territory should justly be given to the Jugo-Slav state.

Little Luxemburg also had her crisis last week. After a republic had been proclaimed, and suppressed within a few hours by the French military authorities, Grand Duchess Marie abdicated and was succeeded by the eldest of her sisters, Princess Charlotte. Marie had lost the favor of her people because, though she protested against the passage of the German armies through the principality, she afterward entertained high German personages.

Speaking of high personages, there are some queer reports coming from the refuge of the former kaiser in Holland. It is declared he is bordering on insanity, talking almost incessantly and incoherently and wandering about at night. It is also said that his health is falling rapidly. The Germans, who supported Wilhelm heartily until he turned out to be a loser, are now heaping abuse on him and the German commission appointed to determine his responsibility for the war has recommended that he be brought to trial, declaring that marginal notes in the kaiser's handwriting on papers in the foreign office prove him to have been one of the chief war makers. This venomous course of the Germans certainly is superfluous, for the allied governments will see to it that Wilhelm and others get the punishment they so richly deserve.

The desperate need of the liberated peoples of central Europe for food will be relieved as soon as possible. Urged by President Wilson, the American house of representatives appropriated \$100,000,000 for this purpose, and it is understood the other allied nations will do their part. The money is not to be spent for food for the Germans, but much of the relief will go to the peoples formerly under the rule of the Emperor of Austria. The British army in Italy did a graceful thing the other day when they sent several trainloads of food to starving Vienna in recognition of the decent way in which the Austrians had treated British prisoners of war. Hungary, which has been made a republic under the presidency of Count Karolyi, is appealing to the allies for its share of help, as well as against being deprived of any of its territory by the surrounding new nations.

Turkey came to the front with the report that the Turks had finally surrendered Medina, the holy city of the Mohammedans, to the king of the Hedjaz. This capitulation was included in the terms of the armistice, but was delayed by the long isolation of the garrison. The disposition of Constantinople also was brought under renewed discussion by the submission of the claims of Greece to the peace delegates in Paris. The general belief was that the city would be placed under international control rather than turned over to the Greeks.

The United States went dry last week, national prohibition "going over the top" when Nebraska ratified the constitutional amendment, being the thirty-sixth state to take that action. The amendment goes into effect one year hence, but as the war measure passed by congress establishes country-wide prohibition on July 1 the dry era will really date from that day. The leaders of the prohibition party naturally are joyous over the triumph of the cause for which they struggled through so many years, and they now have a vision of a boozeless world. They have established headquarters in many foreign cities and say they are making great headway. The United States is the first great nation to adopt prohibition, for the Russian ban was only on vodka, and that has been lifted by the bolshevik government.

NEBRASKA INCIDENTS BOILED TO A FEW LINES

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

Congressman Bloom of Nebraska was successful in defeating the bill in congress to transfer the Battle Mountain Sanatorium, Hot Springs, So. D., to the War department and to remove the present occupants of the sanatorium elsewhere, in order that the institution might be occupied by soldiers returning from overseas.

Representative Loback of Nebraska has introduced a bill in congress to incorporate in the District of Columbia the Order of the Golden Star. Membership in the society is limited to blood relatives of men or women who have given their lives in the service of this country or the allies during the war.

The pupils in the Johnson county schools are urged by the superintendent of education to join the Boys' and Girls' club, the purpose of which is to train each child in the latest and most approved methods of agriculture and stock-raising.

The bill establishing a 5,000-mile system of concrete state highways, now before the state legislature, is the most constructive piece of legislation ever to come before a Nebraska general assembly, according to good roads advocates.

February 9 has been proclaimed "Roosevelt Memorial Day" by our new governor, when all people in the state are asked to pay tribute to the memory of one of America's most distinguished citizens.

Nebraska made the national prohibition amendment possible by ratifying the thirty-sixth state. Senator Sheppard, Texas author of the amendment, named Nebraska "the perfect thirty-six."

March 4, 5 and 6 are the dates set for Merchants' Market Week at Omaha. Arrangements are being made to entertain a larger number of upstate merchants this year than ever before.

The 109th ammunition train and the 126th field artillery, in which were many Nebraska men, were demobilized at Camp Dodge, Ia. The units returned from France about ten days ago.

After having gone for months without any serious outbreak of influenza, portions of the western part of Hall county are suffering now from what appears to be an epidemic of the disease.

Leigh's new band, which was organized after the Home Guard band was broken up, started off with fourteen charter members and is to be known as the Leigh Concert Band.

The One Hundred and Twenty-seventh field artillery, the old Fourth Nebraska regiment, arrived at Camp Dodge, Ia., the first of the week and is rapidly being mustered out.

Beatrice, Norfolk and Columbus are to make an effort to land the state Y. M. C. A. summer camp meeting when a committee of the Nebraska association meets at Lincoln.

The Gering sugar factory is expected to wind up the season's campaign in a few days. Factories at Bayard and Scottsbluff have already shut down.

The Nebraska G. A. R. will hold its annual encampment at York, May 15 to 21. A real cannon for revellie and other attractions of the season are promised.

Kansas farmers voted to give \$50,000 toward an agricultural temple at Washington. Nebraska farm organizations are expected to give a like amount.

All equipment of the Peru home guards, which was disbanded a few days ago, was turned in and the company fund donated to the Red Cross.

Don L. Love of Lincoln was elected president of the Nebraska Historical society at a business meeting of the organization at Lincoln.

The sum of \$400,123.59 is the amount of the semi-annual apportionment of state school funds to the various counties of Nebraska.

Laymen from each Methodist church in Nebraska are expected to be present at a convention at Omaha, Feb. 11 and 12.

Throwing a lighted match into a barrel containing gasoline caused the death of 11-year-old Vernon Combs at York.

Nebraska autoists will spend \$120,000,000 during 1919 in gasoline, repairs and general upkeep of their 200,000 motor cars and trucks, according to an estimate made by State Engineer Johnson, on upkeep figures furnished by 2,000 garage men in the state.

John Diamante, a Utah farmer, was sentenced to thirty days in jail by Federal Judge Munger at Lincoln for transporting booze from a wet to a dry state. Diamante had twelve pints of whiskey in his possession when caught.

The University stock farm at Lincoln shipped 327 lambs to the South Omaha market, which sold for \$16.50 a hundred, topping the market for the day.

At a conference of representatives of patriotic societies of Nebraska, at Lincoln, a committee consisting of S. C. Bassett, Gibson; J. H. Cordell, McCook; D. S. Hardin, Alma; Mrs. A. E. Sheldon and Miss Sarka B. Hrbkova of Lincoln, was appointed to formulate plans for gathering and preparing a history of Nebraska in the world war.

General Harries, a resident of this state, and the first U. S. army officer to enter Berlin, has issued a report from the American Army Headquarters in Germany stating that a number of Americans who were taken prisoners, will make affidavits to the effect that the Germans, without provocation, fired upon Yankee prisoners playing football, killing and wounding a number of them.

Of the twenty-one community drying plants throughout Nebraska during the past year, the Shelton plant, taking the population of the town in consideration, heads the list in the amount of product dried. Plans are already being made to put community driers in many more towns in the state the coming season.

Prof. Sarka Hrbkova, chairman of the woman's committee of the state council of defense, is to be one of 100 American women sponsoring a national conference in Washington, D. C., February 12 and 13, to plan a woman's program for peace reconstruction.

February 4 to 7, members of the Nebraska Retail Hardware association will meet in annual convention. February 6 to 7 are the dates set for the Nebraska Lumber Dealers' association annual meeting. Both conventions are to be held at Omaha.

A feature of the annual convention of the Nebraska Threshermen's association at Lincoln, February 11 to 13, will be several concerts given by the organization's own band. A big delegation is expected to attend the meeting.

The state supreme court has ruled that the Iowa A. O. U. W. is not privileged to undertake business in Nebraska, although the state insurance commission erred in the reason assigned for refusing it a permit.

The Great Western Sugar company, with factories at several western Nebraska cities, fixed the price for the 1919 sugar beet crop at \$10 a ton, this being the same scale paid to the beet growers for the 1918 crop.

The Schuyler home guards company voted to use its surplus money, amounting to about \$1,000, for a fund to erect a monument for Colfax county soldiers who gave their lives for their country in the war.

A truck company has been organized at Elmwood with a capital stock of \$10,000. The company will soon begin operations and will establish a line between Elmwood and surrounding towns.

Scottsbluff is prepared to entertain a big delegation of potato raisers when the second annual convention of the Nebraska Potato Improvement association is held there, Feb. 5 to 7.

Total expenditures for road work in Dodge county during the year 1918 amounted to \$18,900, according to the report of County Highway Commissioner William Sanders.

People of Boone and surrounding counties have called upon the branch Federal Farm Loan bank at Albia for loans totalling more than \$100,000. Representatives from at least eighteen states are expected to attend the Trans-Mississippi Readjustment congress at Omaha, February 18 to 20.

One hundred and twenty-five farmers are taking a four weeks' automobile, truck and tractor course at the University Farm, near Lincoln.

Favorable action looking toward the removal of Midland college from Atchison, Kan., to Fremont, was taken by the board of trustees last week.

Farmers and townspeople of Douglas county are organizing for the purpose of making a combined effort to rid the county of the gopher pest.

Fifteen tons of sugar beets in the Gering valley district this year, a record unequalled in the district.

About 800 soldiers stationed at the Fort Omaha government balloon school were given honorable discharges from the army.

A large number of Nebraska towns are making preparations to hold a series of entertainments in honor of the returning soldiers.

February 21 to 23 have been designated by the National War Camp Community service for the demobilization of service flags.

A farm of 160 acres, a mile east of Surprise was sold at auction for \$165.50 an acre. There were no buildings on the land.

The pure-bred live stock men of Johnson county plan to organize a live stock breeders' association.

Plans are being laid for the organization of the Live Stock Breeders in Cheyenne county.

W. J. Miller, farmer of Carroll county, Iowa, while at the South Omaha market last week with a load of stock, asserted that influenza has made its appearance among hogs of his county.

Dean E. A. Burnett of the University College of Agriculture, told a delegation of sheep feeders at Lincoln that high prices for farm products are likely to continue throughout the year, and there is reason to believe that the government will fulfill every promise it has made.

Among troops assigned to early convey from Europe is the 107th trench mortar battery. Thirty-second division, which includes a large number of Nebraskans.

"Vic" Halligan of North Platte, former University of Nebraska football star, returned from overseas with the 126th field artillery. He was an officer in the unit.

A record price for farm land in the North Bend vicinity was paid when Burley Walker sold his 80-acre tract on the Lincoln highway for \$250 an acre.

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