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THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER
Unsettled

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OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 27, 1915—TWELVE PAGES.

On Trains and at Hotel News Stands, 5c SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

SECRET PACT WITH BELGIUM ADMITTED BY FOREIGN OFFICE

Asserted English Troops to Be Landed Only After Neutrality Violated by the Germans.

REPLY TO HOLLWEG INTERVIEW

Construction of Teuton Railways Leading to Better State Held as a Reason.

GIVES RISE TO FEAR OF RAID

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The official information bureau this evening issued a statement as follows:

"The foreign office, replying officially to the interview with Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German imperial chancellor (published in America January 24 and 25) admits the existence of the documents the Germans have said they found in Brussels, but insists these were purely informal in case the British needed to defend Belgian neutrality. The Belgian marginal note upon the record explains that 'the entry of the English into Belgium would only take place after the violation of our neutrality by Germany.'"

"If the German chancellor wishes to know why there were conversations on this military subject between British and Belgian officers, he may find the reason in the fact well known to him, namely, that Germany was establishing an elaborate network of strategic railways, deliberately constructed to permit a sudden attack on Belgium. This alone was enough to justify communications between Belgium and other powers on the footing that there would be no violation of Belgian neutrality unless it previously had been violated by another power. On no other footing did Belgium ever have such communications."

The particular reference of the German chancellor to which the British foreign office replies in the foregoing dispatch was published in this country, the morning of January 25 and was as follows:

"England ought really to cease harping on the theme of Belgian neutrality. Documents on the Anglo-Belgium military agreement which we have found in the meantime show plainly enough how England regarded this neutrality."

"We found in the archives of the Belgian foreign office documents which showed that England in 1911 was determined to throw troops into Belgium without the assent of the Belgian government if war had then broken out. In other words, to do exactly the same thing for which, with all the paths of virtuous indignation it now reproaches Germany."

New Railroad Tax Bill Drafted by Attorney Haffke

A bill defining rights-of-way of railroads, which, if passed by the legislature, would add \$100,000 to the revenue in Omaha of the county, schools and state, according to County Assessor Cushman, is being drafted by Deputy County Attorney Haffke. It will be finished and sent to the legislature this week.

Assessor Cushman spent the morning in conference with Mr. Haffke, discussing with him the probable form the measure is to take.

The county attorney's office was requested to draft the proposed bill following announcement of the results of Assessor Cushman's investigation of railroad taxes.

Mr. Cushman's position is that the railroads are paying city taxes by reason of the terminal tax law, but that the county, schools and state should receive \$100,000 more per year from them.

Want New State of Lincoln in West

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 26.—A memorial introduced in the state senate today, asking congress to create out of the eastern Washington counties and the Panhandle district of Idaho the new state of Lincoln, was reported favorably by unanimous vote by the committee on memorials.

The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Wednesday:
For Omaha, Clear, light breeze, vicinity unsettled; probably snow, colder.

Temperatures in Omaha Yesterday:

Hour	Temp.
5 a. m.	10
6 a. m.	10
7 a. m.	10
8 a. m.	10
9 a. m.	10
10 a. m.	10
11 a. m.	10
12 m.	10
1 p. m.	10
2 p. m.	10
3 p. m.	10
4 p. m.	10
5 p. m.	10
6 p. m.	10
7 p. m.	10
8 p. m.	10
9 p. m.	10
10 p. m.	10
11 p. m.	10
12 m.	10

Comparative Local Record:

Station and State	Temp.	High.	Low.
Omaha, Neb.	10	41	4
Chicago, Ill.	10	41	4
St. Louis, Mo.	10	41	4
Indianapolis, Ind.	10	41	4
Philadelphia, Pa.	10	41	4
New York, N. Y.	10	41	4
Boston, Mass.	10	41	4
San Francisco, Cal.	10	41	4
Portland, Ore.	10	41	4
Seattle, Wash.	10	41	4
Denver, Colo.	10	41	4
Albuquerque, N. M.	10	41	4
Phoenix, Ariz.	10	41	4
San Diego, Cal.	10	41	4
Los Angeles, Cal.	10	41	4
Houston, Tex.	10	41	4
Memphis, Tenn.	10	41	4
Nashville, Tenn.	10	41	4
Richmond, Va.	10	41	4
Washington, D. C.	10	41	4
Baltimore, Md.	10	41	4
Philadelphia, Pa.	10	41	4
New York, N. Y.	10	41	4
Boston, Mass.	10	41	4
San Francisco, Cal.	10	41	4
Portland, Ore.	10	41	4
Seattle, Wash.	10	41	4
Denver, Colo.	10	41	4
Albuquerque, N. M.	10	41	4
Phoenix, Ariz.	10	41	4
San Diego, Cal.	10	41	4
Los Angeles, Cal.	10	41	4
Houston, Tex.	10	41	4
Memphis, Tenn.	10	41	4
Nashville, Tenn.	10	41	4
Richmond, Va.	10	41	4
Washington, D. C.	10	41	4
Baltimore, Md.	10	41	4

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal:

Normal temperature for this date: 31

Deficiency for the day: 21

Total excess since March 1: 523

Normal precipitation for this date: .02

Deficiency for the day: .02

Total rainfall since March 1: .27

Deficiency since March 1: 2.73 inches

Deficiency for year to date: 2.73 inches

Deficiency for year to date: 2.73 inches

Deficiency for year to date: 2.73 inches

Deficiency for year to date: 2.73 inches

Deficiency for year to date: 2.73 inches

Deficiency for year to date: 2.73 inches

Deficiency for year to date: 2.73 inches

FRENCH OUTPOSTS in the fierce fighting that has taken place around Soissons.



WESTERN ROADS MAY RAISE RATES

Interstate Commerce Commission Grants Requested Increase in Freight Charges.

ADVANCE IS FIVE PER CENT

Omaha railroad officials are in high spirits over the report from Washington to the effect that the Interstate Commerce Commission has granted the application of the western lines and permitted them to advance freight rates 5 per cent on class and commodity rates between Chicago and Missouri river points and through intermediate territory as far west as Utah and at all common points. The finding of the Interstate Commerce Commission is in accordance with a finding made in favor of the lines east of Chicago, made some weeks ago.

As soon as the commission granted the request of the eastern lines, freight traffic on the roads between Chicago and the Rocky mountains asked for authority to make a similar advance of 5 per cent and thirty days ago filed the new tariffs. The thirty days required by law having expired and no protests having been made that were regarded as worthy of serious consideration, permission to make the advance has been granted.

Advance on No Commodities.

The finding of the commission permits an advance on 216 different commodities, and while this lacks a good deal of including the entire classification it takes in the big items of tonnage.

Later, on if the railroad freight experts discover that articles that move freely have not been provided for in the advance, they will make the request that the advance be permitted on these.

Just when the new rates will be applied railroad men here are unable to state. However, they assert that in the regular order of things they that should be effective February 1. Thirty days ago when the application for the advance was made the tariffs were all placed on file with the commission. This filing is equivalent to and is regarded as a publication, and if it holds true in this case the new rates will go into effect with the passing of the present month. Nothing, though, will be done until the official decision is received from the commission. This is expected to arrive by the last of the present week.

Judge Wade Will Succeed the Late Judge McPherson

IOWA CITY, Ia., Jan. 26.—(Special Telegram)—A special to the Citizen from Washington today says that Judge Wade, national commissioner from Iowa, has been assured by President Wilson that he will be appointed federal judge for the southern Iowa district, following a conference with the president and Congressman Vollmer there today.

Woman is Robbed in Chicago Street

CHICAGO, Jan. 26.—Daylight robbers held up Mrs. Joseph Barry on the street today and robbed her of \$120. The money which they took at the point of a revolver was to have been used by Mrs. Barry's husband, a saloonkeeper, to cash checks of municipal employes, who were paid today. One robber pointed a revolver at Mrs. Barry and the other grabbed her handbag containing the money. Both robbers escaped.

BOY BANK ROBBER KILLED BY PURSUERS

HOUSTON, Tex., Jan. 26.—A boy robber entered the Guaranty State bank here this afternoon, drove the bank officials into the vault at the point of a revolver, looted them up and fled with between \$1,000 and \$1,500. He was pursued and killed before he had run a dozen blocks.

BRITISH CRUISER LION IS DISABLED, DESTROYER ALSO

Admiralty Admits Warship So Badly Damaged in Sunday Battle It Has to Be Towed Into Port.

ALL CRAFT SAFELY RETURNED

Torpedo Boat Meteor Is Hauled Home After Suffering from Attacks of Enemy.

THIRTEEN LOSE THEIR LIVES

LONDON, Jan. 26.—Two hundred additional survivors of the German cruiser Bluecher, sunk in the North Sea Sunday by British warships, have been landed. They include a few petty officers.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—It was officially announced this evening that the British battle cruiser Lion and the British torpedo boat destroyer Meteor were disabled in Sunday's naval battle in the North Sea and were towed into port. All the British ships engaged in the combat, the official statement says, returned safely to port.

The announcement was made by the secretary of the admiralty, whose statement said:

"All the British ships and torpedo boat destroyers engaged in Sunday's action have returned in safety to port. Lion in Tow.

"The Lion, which had some of its forward compartments flooded by shells below the water line, was taken in tow by the cruiser Indomitable. The destroyer Meteor, which also was disabled, was taken in tow by the destroyer Liberty. Both vessels were guarded by strong escorts of destroyers. Repairs to both vessels can be speedily made.

"The total number of casualties among the officers and men reported to the admiralty is: On the Lion, seventeen men wounded; on the Tiger, one officer and nine men killed and three officers and eight men wounded; on the Meteor, four men killed and one man wounded. "It is not believed that any other casualties occurred, but if so they will be immediately published.

"As soon as Vice Admiral Beatty's report is received a fuller account will be given."

Statement from Berlin.

BERLIN, Jan. 26.—(By Wireless to London).—Additional details of the sinking of a British battle cruiser in a naval battle in the North sea, west of Heligoland, which is claimed by the Germans, is given in a statement issued here today. The statement follows:

"According to well informed German sources this cruiser suffered heavily from the fire of our cannon, and was then sunk by a German torpedo boat by two well directed shots. The sinking was observed by a German airship, which followed the battle closely.

"Two English torpedo boats were also sunk. The airship also observed the serious damage of other English ships."

"In the absence of further details of the naval battle in the North sea the newspapers confine themselves to comments about the great superiority and strength of the British units engaged.

Prince Joachim, the youngest son of Emperor William, has been unable to start his convalescent leave as recently planned, as he has been affected with a high fever for several days.

Shipment of Stock from Chicago Yards is Again Suspended

CHICAGO, Jan. 26.—Probability of another quarantine of the Union Stock yards here developed today. Officials of the state and federal live stock bureaus held a conference following a report that animals shipped east from supposedly clean districts in the Union yards had developed the foot and mouth disease. Officials of some of the packing firms said they expected the issuance before the close of the day of an order preventing the shipment of live stock from the yards.

No stock was shipped from the yards today pending word from the department heads in Washington. Live stock shipments ceased on a suggestion from federal inspectors, according to A. G. Leonard, president of the Union company.

Dexter Barrett Is Named Assistant Attorney General

Dexter T. Barrett of Nelson has been appointed deputy attorney general of Nebraska by Attorney General Willis E. Wood. Barrett, the latter announced, has been chosen as an assistant attorney at the Paxton hotel. Barrett will assume his duties February 1 in the place of Andrew Morrissey, who has just been made chief justice of the supreme court. The salary is \$1,500 a year.

Senate Confirms Hall Nomination

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Confirmation of the nomination of Henry Clay Hall of Colorado, to succeed himself as a member of the Interstate Commerce commission, was voted late today by the senate over vigorous opposition from senators who criticized the commission's recent action in granting increased rates to the railroads.

Suffrage Bills Not Offered at Des Moines

DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 26.—Suffrage bills were not introduced in the Iowa general assembly today, as was expected last night. The authors announced that the bills would be presented tomorrow.

Germany Confiscates All Stocks of Corn, Wheat and Flour in Empire

BERLIN, Jan. 26.—(By Wireless to London).—The federal council has put into effect sweeping regulations for the conservation of the food supply as follows:

"All stocks of corn, wheat and flour are ordered seized by February 1. "All business transactions in these commodities are forbidden from January 28. "All municipalities are charged with the duty of setting aside suitable supplies of preserved meat.

"The owners of corn are ordered to report their stocks immediately, whereupon confiscation, at a fixed price, will follow.

"The government distributing office for the regulation of consumption will be established, distribution being made according to the number of inhabitants. The Imperial Gazette today publishes the following notice regarding the confiscation of grain:

"There is no doubt that the measure ordered taken cuts much deeper into the economic life of our people than all the other economic regulations hitherto adopted by the federal council during the war. It is, however, necessary, in order to make certain and sufficient and regular supply of our people with breadstuffs until the next threshing of the new harvest, and is besides a necessity of life for the government and the nation.

"The steps hitherto taken have proved themselves not far-reaching enough to bring about the sparing use of our limited supplies of breadstuffs, which, however, are in reality sufficient for our needs. In particular, the measures hitherto introduced have not prevented the feeding of bread grain to cattle.

"The present order gives us the certainty that our enemies' plan to starve Germany will be upset and assures us of plentiful bread until the next harvest."

FREIGHT SHIP IS SUNK IN COLLISION

New Steamship Washingtonian Run Down by Schooner Elizabeth Palmer Off Delaware.

CREW ALL SAVED BUT ONE MAN

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—The steamship Washingtonian, a freighter carrying 100 passengers, and the big schooner Elizabeth Palmer, were in collision today off the coast of Delaware, near Cape Henlopen. Wireless messages said that the Washingtonian was sunk and the schooner sinking. The crews of both vessels, with the exception of one man, were saved.

The Washingtonian was bound for New York and Philadelphia from Honolulu by way of the Panama canal. It had a crew of thirty-nine. The Elizabeth Palmer sailed from Portland, Me., January 16 for Norfolk. It carried a crew of seven.

Captain Nelson of the Old Dominion liner Hamilton, stopped his ship off Fenwick's Island lightship to rescue the crews of the two vessels. Officials of the American-Hawaiian line, owners of the Washingtonian, were advised that the Hamilton was bringing all the rescued men to this city.

The Washingtonian is a new ship, built in 1914, for trade between New York, Pacific ports and Honolulu by way of the Panama canal. It registered at 4,066 tons and is 497 feet long. Maritime records show that it sailed from Honolulu December 10 for New York and was last reported from Balboa on January 17. The schooner Elizabeth Palmer is registered at 2,015 tons gross, 2,446 net. It was built in 1902 at Bath, Me., and is 200 feet long. It carries a crew of seven men and is in command of Captain Wallace. Maritime records show that it sailed from Portland, Me., January 16 for Norfolk.

Concessions from China Demanded By the Japanese

PEKING, China, Jan. 26.—Certain political and territorial demands which Japan has made upon China following the Japanese occupation of Kion Chow have become known in Peking and their extent is disquieting to Chinese officials.

These demands, twenty-one in number, were communicated to the Chinese government January 23 by the Japanese minister here. They include, first, that China turn over to Japan all existing German and Austrian concessions; second, that China pledge itself not to give concessions in the future to any country except Japan; third, permission to build a special territorial railroad, and fourth, mining privileges in Shantung and Fukien provinces in Manchuria, in eastern Mongolia and in the Yangtze valley.

"It is felt in Peking that if these demands were granted the result would be tantamount to turning to Japan all the region above named as spheres of influence, to the detriment of the treaty rights of other nations. The Peking government has not replied to the Japanese note.

Chinese officials are particularly incensed just now at rumors circulated here that China is negotiating with Germany to the end that German officials reorganize the Chinese army. This report is denounced as without foundation.

Terre Haute Men Assail Jurisdiction Of Federal Courts

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Jan. 26.—That the federal court has no jurisdiction in the case was the principal contention made by counsel for the defendants at the hearings of arguments here today on demurrers filed by twenty-seven persons to indictments charging them with conspiracy to corrupt the elections in Terre Haute last November. Counsel asserted the right of suffrage is a state right and that congress so far has not legislated to control it.

There were added today to the eighty persons who pleaded guilty on January 12 to the election indictments, Of the 128 named in the indictments returned last month 115 now have been taken into custody, thirty-three of whom pleaded guilty, five not guilty and twenty-seven filed demurrers.

Arguments on the demurrers began today before Judge Anderson in the United States district court. The court limited each side to two and a half hours.

Three Earth Shocks Felt at Panama

PANAMA, Jan. 26.—Three short sharp earthquakes have shaken the Isthmus of Panama in the last three days. The third one occurred today. None of the shocks did any damage, though the inhabitants were considerably frightened. Reports from points along the canal show that the shocks caused no ill effects.

Zeppelin Raiding Libau Destroyed

LONDON, Jan. 26.—It was officially announced in London this evening that the Zeppelin dirigible balloon, which Monday dropped bombs on the Russian port of Libau in the Baltic sea, was destroyed and that the members of its crew were taken prisoners.

GERMANY TAKES CONTROL OF ALL FOOD SUPPLIES

Sweeping Regulations Made by the Kaiser to Prevent Waste is Regarded in London as Most Significant.

HUNGARY IS STORM CENTER

Muscovites Temporarily Checked, but Are Sending Large Reinforcements to Front.

RUSSIANS ADVANCE IN TURKEY

The Day's War News

GERMAN ARMIES at the west have suddenly taken the offensive, driving inland in several points. The German war office announcement claims an important victory over British troops along the La Bassée canal in France, just south of the Belgian border. The French official statement, however, does not concede this victory to the Germans. It admits that they made progress temporarily, but asserts that subsequently they were repulsed.

BERLIN reports that Russian attacks in East Prussia were repulsed and that no important fighting occurred in Central Poland.

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sazonoff announced that Russia would continue the war so long as a single soldier of the empires remained on Russian soil.

THREE BRITISH warships were sunk in the naval engagement in the North Sea Sunday, Berlin news asserts. The British admiralty added nothing to its original announcement that no British vessels were lost or seriously injured.

GERMAN GOVERNMENT'S order for the confiscation of all supplies of wheat, corn and flour is regarded in England as a significant indication of the economic effects of the war upon Germany.

RUSSIA is pouring reinforcements into Bukovina, where it apparently has met with a reverse at the hands of the Austrian forces.

IN POLAND heavy fighting is under way once more and a degree of success for the Germans is admitted in Petrograd. Berlin hears that the Teutonic allies have occupied Kielce.

RUSSIA is encountering sterner opposition in the war with Turkey. Although Petrograd announced that the resistance of the Turks in the Transcaucasus had been virtually broken, an official statement today says that the Turks are offering stubborn resistance.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The sweeping regulations for the conservation of the food supply for Germany, including the confiscation of the entire grain crop, is regarded in London as the most significant item of news received today from the countries at war.

Berlin announces officially that this step cuts deeper into the economic life of the German people than any other measure adopted since the outbreak of hostilities and the government defends the regulation on the ground that in order to upset the plans of Germany's enemies to starve the empire, it is necessary to make certain of a regular supply of foodstuffs until the next harvest.

Hungary is Storm Center.

In the war area, the reported Russian invasion of Hungary by way of Bukovina, is attracting interested attention in London. A special news dispatch from Budapest sets forth that after a temporary check the Muscovites actually had penetrated Hungary, where they hold the

(Continued on Page Five, Column Two.)

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