Many English Ships Are Sent to the Bottom THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

WHEN AWAY FROM HOME The Bee is the Paper you ask for: if you plan to be absent more than a few days, have The Rec mailed to you.

OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 28, 1916.

On Trains, at Motel News Stands, etc. 5c

THE WEATHER. Unsettled

SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

ENGLISH LINERS SUNK BY MINES **OUTSIDE DOVER**

VOL. XLV-NO.

Oriental Steamship Maloja Goes Down and Empress of Fort William, Coming to Rescue, Meets Same Fate.

MANY LIVES REPORTED LOST

Several Other Vessels Under Union Jack Lost During Disastrous Day.

TWENTY-FIVE BODIES FOUND

LONDON, Feb. 27,-The Peninsular and Oriental line steamship Maproximately 150 passengers, a crew of about 200, mostly Lascars, was sunk in the straits of Dover at 11:20 o'clock this morning, presumably by striking a mine.

A majority of the passengers, according to an official announcement made this evening, was saved. An unofficial report says that about twenty-five bodies were landed at

Another Liner Sank. tempting to rescue the survivors of nineteen feet deep, the Maloja struck another mine and sunk in less than half an hour. The crew of the Empress was saved by other boats in the vicinity.

The scene of the disaster was two miles off the port of Dover and the explosion was so violent that houses along the water front were shaken.

Relief boats quickly put out from the ing up a number of the Maloja's crew twenty-six men, twenty-three women and was decided to demand the original scale seven children. Among the passengers was Justice Oldfield of the India high

Steamer Birgit Sunk.

The steamship Birgit has been sunk. Beventeen survivors have been landed. The British steamship Seulver, from New York February 11 for Havre, has been abandoned aftre at sea, according to a dispatch to Lloyds from Inishtrahuli, ireland. All the members of the crew are reported to have been taken off by

FLUSHING, Holland (Via London), Feb. 27.-The mail steamer Mecklenburg of the Zecland line ran on a mine while on a voyage from Tilbury to Flushing. The vessel was lost. Officials of the line state that the passengers and crew and the mails were saved.

name of Birgit, according to shipping records, two Swedish and one Norwegian. Kansas City-The largest of the three is 230 feet long and of 1,117 gross tonnage. The yearel flies the Swedish flag.

The Peninsular and Oriental line steamship Maloja was an Australian mail boat and a sister boat of the Persia, which was rpedoed and sunk off the Island of Crete December 30 last, with the loss of

The Maloja was last reported as having arrived at Marseilles January 31 bound

Built at Belfast.

The steamship was 250 feet long, 52 feet In February of 1915 it was reported that

the Maloja on entering the English channel with 400 passengers on board was merchantman. The mail boat is said to have ignored the order and made for Plymouth, whereupon the merchantman fired five shells at it, but all fell short. The Empress of Fort William was formerly the Mount Stephen and was built at New Castle in 19:8. It was 250 feet long. tl feet beam and 22 feet deep. The vessel was owned by the Empress Transportation Company of Midland, Ltd.

SALMON ENOUGH TO FEED TEN MILLION OFF EAST

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 27 .- A solid train of fifty carloads of Puget sound and Alaska salmon, with banners on the a dea departed for New York today over The Union Pacific railroad system. There are 2,400,000 cans of salmon in the shipment, or enough to furnish one meal for 10,000,000 persons. Much of the fish will be shipped to Europe.

The Weather

Comparative L

U-BOAT TORPEDOES MERCHANT CRAFT IN MEDITERRANEAN

British Steamship Fastnet Sent to Bottom by German Submarine, but Its Crew is Rescued.

PARIS SEA OFFICE REPORTS Captain of Lost Craft Says He Saw Swedish Vessel Also Suffer

Like Fate. TOWS BOATS OF LATTER AWAY

PARIS, Feb. 26 (Via London), Feb. 27,-An official announcement made by the French ministry of marine today regarding the sinking loja, 12,431 tons gross, carrying apof the British steamship Fastnet, says the vessel was sent to the bottom by a submarine in the western Mediterranean. The crew of the steamship was rescued by a French

The captain of the Fastnet reports that he saw the same submarine sink the Swedish steamer Tornborg, the boats of which the undersea vessel

The Fastnet was of 2,227 tons The steamship Empress of Fort gross and built in 1887. It was 290 William, 2,181 tons gross, while at- feet long, thirty-eight feet beam and

Breach Between the Packers and Striking Workers is Widening

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Feb. 27.-The breach in settlement negotiations betwee ofharbor of Dover and succeeded in pick- ficials of the Cudahy and Armour Packing companies and the 2,300 strikers at and passengers when the liner went down.

The Maloja carried in the first class cabin when at a mass meeting of strikers it the Sioux City plants was widened today. of 2212 cents an hour for all common laborers, instead of accepting the 21-cent an hour offer, which Saturday was practically decided upon.

Unless the packers grant a written be no deviation from wage scales for one year, or shifting of men from one department to another with less wage, it dor's report of November 8, regar was unanimously decided there will be no ing the Wittenberg prison camp.

fused to grant these demands. Packers believed today that the strike would be they saw portions of the ambassasettled by the granting of another con- dor's report printed in distorted form consion of 1 cent to the strikers. This in the English papers. It declares en agreement was advanced.

Both packing plants will continue closed. Meantime strike leaders are endeavoring to instigate sympathetic strikes There are three small steamers of the at the Armour and Cudahy plants in South Omaha, Chicago, St. Joseph and

Hangs from Limb of Tree in River Where Boats Cannot Come

OSKALOOSA, Ia., Feb. 27.-Charles for London from Sydney, New South able man in the United States tonight. He is perched on the limb of a tree in the Des Molnes river seven miles southwest of this city and boats cannot reach beam and 34 feet deep. It was built at him because of floating ice. Thomas not only is marooned in the dark, but his clothing is wet and he has not eaten since noon.

The adventure which landed Thomas ordered to stop by an unknown armed in the tree cost the life of A. E. Rommell, official engineer of Mahaska county The two men started out in a skiff to dynamite an ice gorge. The boat was capsized by a big cake of ice and Rommell was drowned. The river is out of its banks as a result of the gorge.

Russia Orders Oil **Engines for Front**

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 27.-An order for 350 gasoline locomotives to be used the trenches on the eastern battle front, has been placed with the Baldwin Locomotive company by the Russian These engines will travel n rails two feet apart. They will virtually be automobiles on rails and will weigh seven tons each. The narrow track requirements will permit their passage back and forth through almost any part of the earthworks on the firing

Bonding Clause

to know that the rules committee of the English surgeon in question has declared house has failed to include that section that the matter has been adjusted satisof the postoffice appropriation bill rela- factorily, tive to the bonding of employes up to 75 In reference to Mr. Gerard's statement per cent of their salaries, and conse- that prisoners had complained that pay

American Nurses Go

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal:

Normal temperature

Deficiency for the day

Deficiency for the day

Deficiency for the day

Deficiency for the day

Deficiency for cor period, Bit. 25 inch
Deficiency for cor period, Bit. 35 inches
Timiliates rece of precipitation.

Timiliates rece of period, Bit. 35 inches
for nearly two weeks gathering their
L. A. WELSH, Local Forecaster.

WILLIAM ORPET-Latest picture of the University of Wisconsin student charged with poisoning his sweetheart, Miss Marian Lambert, an Oak Park High school girl, made as he appeared



before the grand jury which

ANSWERS GERARD'S

Prussian War Minister Replies to Statements Made About Camps by Envoys.

DISTORTED BY ENGLISH PRESS

BERLIN (Via London), Feb. 27. The Prussian war minister today handed to James W. Gerard, the American ambassador to Germany, a agreement setting forth that there shall long communication, in which courteous reply is made to the ambassa-

German high military authorities Officials of both companies have re- were astonished, the reply says, when was unanimously rejected when no writ- that Mr. Gerard had communicated be unable to remain idle long in the terrihis criticisms to the Prussian war ministry through John B. Jackson. who investigated prison camp conditions for the embassy.

Mr. Gerard, it is said, received assurance that the conditions criticised and adds: would be remedied, whereupon Mr. Jackson said he was convinced the ambassador would be satisfied with this promise.

Not Received by Commander. The communication refers to Mr Gerard's statement, which was "obviously made in a reproachful sense," that when he visited the Wittenburg camp he was not received by the camp com-

"The German military authorities are fully aware of the consideration due the imbassador because of his position," the reply says, adding the explanation that the commander of the camp was compelled by military duties to be absent or the day of the visit of the ambassador. The communication points out that Mr Gerard reported the accommodations and fare of the prisoners were the same as those in other camps. English press reports, based on the ambassador's alleged statements, reported conditions at Wittenberg as extraordinarily unsatisfac-

It is admitted that police dogs are used at Wittenberg, but it is said they are employed for guard duty at night and also to prevent thefts among prisoners. As to the ambassador's report that in certain cases prisoners complained their clothes had been torn by the dogs, the ministry says that if this be true the victims themselves were responsible since they were surprised at night at forbidden gardes, ran when challenged by the sentry and climbed the barbed wire fence.

Refers to Report.

Reply is made to Mr. Gerard's criticism of sanitary conditions by referring to the report of a commission of American physicians under Dr. Caldwell which investigated the camp on November 20 and preised its sanitary and hygienic equip-

Omitted from Bill Ambassador Gerard's statement that a British army surgeon had been beaten by a German noncommissioned officer was investigated by the ministry of war, WASHINGTON, Peb. 27.-(Special Tele- which discovered that a regrettable misgram)-It will be of interest to a number understanding had occurred, the German of employes of the postoffice at Omaha officer having exceeded his power. The

quently the point of order that will be due them for work was unpaid, it is unmade against the section will be sus- derstood the ambassador told the officer who is conducting him through the camp

South Africans Rout

PARIS MAINTAINS ITS WILSON SAYS HONOR SANG-FROID AS GUNS DEARER THAN PEACE OFTEUTONS MENACE President Asserts America Will

Inhabitants of City on the Seine Extraordinarily Calm in Presence of Great Battle Raging Around Verdun.

CONFIDENCE IN THE RESULT

People Believe Germans Will Wear Themselves Out Attacking Positions.

WHOLE FRONT ON THE ALERT humanity and justice."

PARIS, Feb. 27 .- Paris is extraordinarily calm in the presence of the great battle now in progress around Verdun. There are no indications of tension or nervousness, but only sober confidence in the result prevalls.

The desire among those who know the defensive strength of the lines seems to be that the attacks should continue, for, they argue, the losses on the German side would be in proportion to their efforts.

There were few persons around the newspaper bulletin boards today. and no crowds at the ministry of war and other public offices. The whole front from the North Sea to Switzerland is on the alert, and all leaves of absence have been recalled.

Maximum Effort Made. The French maximum effort has not yet been made. The total French losses in killed, wounded, and prisoners, since the Verdun battle, it was authoritatively the sword will flash as if it carried stated this evening, has been less than the light of heaven on its blade." the German official communication claims in prisoners.

The Temps military review, which is usually written by General de la Croix,

der their situation worse and it must al- not upon the solid rock. ready be painful."

The Temps refers to the possibility of the attacks continuing for two weeks war. It ought to keep out of this war at

unshakeable confidence in the final is-

Censor Apparently Has Been Busy with Following Dispatch

PARIS, Feb. 37 .- The defense of Verdun is believed to be under the direction not establish a line by two posts; you of General -, who is commanding have to have three at least to know the group of armies of the east, sec- whether they are straight with anything onded by General ——, one of the and the longer your line, the more cor-youngest and most active French generals, who took an important part in the one way in which to determine how the battles in Lorraine before and during future of the United States is going to the battle of the Marne.

of the artillery of the Sixth corps while the army of the German crown prince the roll of honor in America is. was making the first attack on the fortress. On this occasion a rumor was circulated in Berlin that Verdun had been taken. The general placed three groups were overwhelming the French Infantry, (Continued on Page Two, Column Tures.) seven-eighths of a mile. Then the three groups of field guns opened fire and checked the advance. The losses of the crown prince's army on that day were

The names of the three French generals referred to apparently have been stricken out by the French censor.

Republican Party in California Uniting

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 27,-Two sets of republicans met here today, the "old" and the "new," and waved olive branches at each other. An agreement under which united and uncontested republican delegation might be sent from California to the national convention at Chicago was said to be the end sought, and hour after ship hour seemed to bring it closer. Just be fore nightfall committees appointed from both factions met to see what could be done. The party has been split since 1916, and a further digression of a majority into the progressive party further com-

Austrians Occupy

Sacrifice All But Sense of Justice to Avoid War.

ONE THING IT MUST INSIST ON

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 .- President Wilson told members and guest at a Gridiron club dinner last night that America ought to keep out of the European war, "At the sacrifice of everything except this single thing upon which its character and its history are founded its sense of

The address was confidential, since the speeches at the dinners of the Gridiron club, composed of newspaper correspondents, are not reported. It was not made public tonight, however, because many of those who heard it urged that it should go to the country.

Spenks with Gravity. The president spoke of the nation's affairs with unusual gravity. His hearers, including several hundred members of congress, government officials and correspondents were brought to their feet cheering when he concluded with these words:

"I would be just as much ashamed to be rash as I would to be a coward. Valor is self-respecting. Valor is circumspect. Valor strikes only when it is right to strike. Vn'or withholds itself from all small implications and entanglements, and waits for the great opportunity when

Not a New Feeling.

The address in part follows: "Your talk, Mr. Toastmaster, has been a great deal about candidacy for the "The battle being fought is extremely presidency. It is not a new feeling on my serious. Even should the heights of fart, but one which I entertain with a Polyre and the Vauche be taken, the greater intensity than formerly, this at enemy would find us perhaps stronger a man who seeks the presidency of the on the Froideterre-Douaumont line, from United States for anything that it will which begins the defenses, properly bring to him is an audacious fool. The speaking, of the fortress, covered with responsibilities of the office ought to trenches and batteries. This is a siege sober a man even before he approach a by the Germans; it is a battle against it. One of the difficulties of the office one of our armies in the garrison at Ver. seldom appreciated, I dare say, is that it dun, and its forts do not figure in these is very difficult to think while so many dor's report of November 8, regard- the enemy might destroy the fort of so many people are talking in a way that Doubtmont without destroying anything obsecure consul and is entirely off the more than an inert block of cement. point.

"The point in national affairs, gentle "The snow has not caused any diminu-tion of the attacks because they cannot principle. The United States was not be suspended. They must be continued founded upon any people of expediency; to the end. The troops engaged would it is founded on a profounded people of be unable to remain idle long in the terribumanity and liberty, and whonever it tory captured while awaiting better bases its policy upon any other foundaweather conditions. A thaw would ren- tions than those it builds on the sand and Those Who Make Money Out of War

Must Keep Out of War. "America ought to keep out of this the sacrifice of everything except the "Let us continue to have complete and single thing upon which its character and history are founded, its sense of humanity and justice. If it sacrifices that, it has ceased to be America; it has ceased to entertain to love the traditions which have made us proud to be Americans, and when we go about seeking safety at the expense of humanity, then I for one will believe that I have always been mistaken in what I have conceived to be the spirit of American history.

"You never can tell your direction except by long measurements. You canbe projected and that is by looking back Another of the commanding officers and seeing which was the lines ran which before the battle of Verdun, General led up to the present moment of power during the battle was in charge and of opportunity. There is no doubt about that. There is no question what

The Roll of Honor. "The roll of honor consists of the names of the men who have squared their conduct by ideals of duty. There of three-inch guns in the Boze woods, is no one else upon the roster, there is no and permitted the German troops, who one else whose name we care to re-

Scores Perish as Steamers Collide

BEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 27.-The Nippo Yusen Kaisha liner Awa Maru arrived from Yokohama today, and brought details of the loss of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha ilner Taijin Maru by collision recently with the Butterfield and Swire steamer Linan, already briefly cabled. The collision accurred 100 miles from Hong Kong, and the Taljin sank in hree minutes. Only seven Chinese passengers of III, and fourteen members of a crew of seventy, including the captain and eleven Chinese deck hands were saved, owing to the fact that all the passengers had been sleeping soundly in their berths. So far as known there were no European passengers on the

Whitman Advocates Universal Service

BUFFALO, N. Y., Feb. 27 .- Governor Whitman in a speech delivered here tonight advocated compulsory military training for the American youth, holding it to be the one true base of the citizen soldlery idea.

"The battlefields of Europe demonernor, "that right must still be backed up by might. Let us hold to our ancient faith as steadfastly as in the past, but ness a necessity."

SERGEANT SLAVIKA TO-MITCH - This 17 - year - old girl was promoted from the rank of private in the Serbian army for heroic conduct in action. She served two years in the comitajes, under Major Tankositch.



Must Come Across with it for Fatherland.

NO ESTIMATES ARE YET MADE

BERLIN, Feb 25 (Via London), Feb. 27.—Germany's next expected taxation measures were announced by the government today. They include taxes upon the war profits of individuals and corporations; also indirect measures of taxation.

No estimated yield on the taxation of war profits is given. The government, in fact, is unable to estimate the sum to be derived because a large number of corporations have not yet sent in their reports, and only the roughest guesses regarding the financial status of individuals are

The war profits measure is divided into two sections. The section for individuals takes the form of a graduated tax on property increment between January 1, 1914 and 1917. The tax commences with 5 per cent upon the first 20,600 marks, 6 per cent upon the next 30,000 marks, and then rising in successive stages to 25 per cent on increases over

500,000 marks. A direct tax upon increased incomes is avoided largely owing to objections, it is said, made by individual states of the empire, in which the income tax is reserved, but by an invenious subterfuge when an increase in the amount of property is accompanied by a correspondingly 'ncreased income, mainly, when property increment represents hoardings from an increased income, the rate of taxation is

It is admitted that this will rebound to the advantage of lavish spenders who live up to the'r war profits, but it is said that this is unavoidable. In order to checkmate various devices of tix dodgers, it is provided that gifts to children and others, and money invested abroad during the war must be reported to the authorities

Individuals who have been putting away their profits in jewelry, paintings and other articles of art or luxury, which as personal property heretofore have escaped taxation, must return them at their purchase value. As a further meastire against tax dodgings, persons moving out in the country or attempting to send property abroad before the date of the col ection, may be forced to deposit with the authorities enough to cover the tax. A jail penalty is provided for offenders. The corporation tax on wartime profits starts with 40 per cent on the yearly strate to all the world," said the gov. profits made during the war as compared with the average ante-bellum profits. when this additional profit does not exceed 2 per cent of the corporation's capilet us not be blind to the bitter facts of tal stock. It rises to 30 per cent when Comines canal. the present that made adequate prepared. The additional profits exceed 20 per cent of the capital.

GERMANS INSIST STILL RETAINED

Official Report Says Five Attempts of the French to Retake Fort Douaumont Have Been Repulsed.

CLAIM MANY PRISONERS TAKEN

Teutons Also Tell of Storming Fortified Works of Hardamount, as Well as Cote de Talou.

PARIS DENIES LOSS OF LATTER

PARIS, Feb. 27 .- Except around Fort Donaumont the French office reports some abatement of the German attacks to the north of Verdun. To the east and west of the Dousumont position, the French troops are closely pressing the German detachments, which were able to gain a footing in those sections, and which, the war office further reports, are maintaining themselves with diffi-

The French deny that the eGrmans have occupied the chief Cote de Talou.

Germana Claim Advantage. BERLIN, Feb. 27 .- (Vin London.)-Five determined attempts made by French troops to recapture from the Germans Fort Duaumont, one of the outlying Verdun fortifications, were repulsed yesterday with sanguinary losses, according to the official statement issued to-

day by the German headquarters staff. German rtoops, it was asserted, had stormed the fortified works of Hardamount, as well as the town of Champneuville and the Cote de Talou. The number of unwounded Frenchmen taken prisoners, it was added, totalled 15,000.

German Official Statment. The text of the German official statement follows: Western theater: On various portions of the front there were income artiflery

and mine battles. "South of Vpres a British attack was

"On the heights to the right of the Mouse, the French attempted by attacks, repeated five times with fresh troops to reconquer the armored fortress of Dousumont. They were repulsed with sanguinary losses

To the west of the fort our troops have taken Campneuville, the chief ofte da Talou and have advanced as far as Nave on the southern border of the wood northwest of Bras.

"To the east of the fort we took by storin the extended fortified works of Hardaumont.

"In the Wovre plain vigorous fighting is taking place on the German frontier, the battles extending as far as the Cotes Lorraine.

Take Many Prisoners. "According to information at present at hand the number of unwounded prisners amounts to nearly 10,000,
"In Planders our aeroplan squadrons repeated their attacks on the camp of

the enemy troops. bomb attack on Mets by enemy aviators resulted in the injury or death of eight civilians and seven soldiers.

everal houses were damaged.
"In the neighborhood of the fortress a French aeroplane was brought down in the aerial battle and by the bombardment by anti-aircraft gun. The occu-

ains, who were captured.
"Eastern and Balkan theaters: There nothing of importance to report." Freuch Official Statement. PARIS, Feb. 27.-The official communi-

cation issued late today reads as fel-"Between Solssons and Rhiems, destructive fires have ben carried out on the

enemy works in front of Venisel and to the cast of Troyon. "In the region to the north of Verdun, following the violent actions of the preced ng days, there has been some abatement in the efforts of the enemy in the course of the day, except between the heights of Douaumont and the plateau

to the north of the village of Vaux, where a strong attack carried out against our positions was repulsed. Pressing Germans Closely. "To the east and west of the position of Dougumont the slopes of which are covered with German bodies, our troops are pressing closely the enemy detachments which were able to gain a foot

hold there and who are maintaining themselves with difficulty. "According to the latest reports the Cote de Talou, rendered untensable as well for us as for the enemy by the borntardment of the two artilleries is oc-

cupied by any of the advisary forces. "In the Woevre the enemy has come in contact with our advance posts in the direction of Blancee and Moranville, where their efforts to debouch toward

Hill 255 fulled. "In the Vosges there was an artiflery duel at Hartmanswellerkopf. We took under our fire and dispersed an enemy cetachment in the region of Senones." The Belgian official communication re-

ports quietude along the Belgian front. The British Statement. LONDON, Feb. 27.-The British official statement on the campaign in Flanders.

Last night we repulsed a small at ack on our trenches north of the Tpres-

"Today the artillery on both sides has been active about Hulliugh and Tores."