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THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER
Cloudy; Warmer

VOL. XLVI.—NO. 205.

OMAHA, TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 13, 1917—TEN PAGES.

On Train, at Mobile,
New York, Etc., Etc.

SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

OMAHA PAYS ITS TRIBUTE TO THE NATION'S HEROES

Super-Glowing Tributes in Speeches and Song Placed at Memory Shrine of Lincoln and Washington.

VETERANS MARCH IN LINE

Success of Washington Inspires His Successors, A. W. Jeffers Tells Listeners.

LINCOLN TYPICAL AMERICAN

Omaha paid homage to the memories of the nation's martyred emancipator and to the father of his country at a patriotic mass meeting at the Auditorium yesterday afternoon. Super-glowing tributes in speeches and song were placed at the memory-shrine of the two outstanding figures in American history—Lincoln and Washington.

Prominent Omahans occupied seats on the stage at the carrying out of the Lincoln-Washington program, while in the Auditorium proper of the huge building were civil war veterans, hundreds of school children, troops of Boy Scouts, members of various patriotic societies and Omaha citizens in general. Starting from the court house at 2 o'clock, the following organizations marched to the Auditorium: Grand Army of the Republic and Spanish war veterans, high school cadets and band and Boy Scouts. The Fifth regiment and the Omaha battalion of the National Guard were unable to march in the parade. The Women's Relief Corps distributed flags and flowers to the those in the thinning ranks of veterans when the old soldiers assembled in the court house rotunda.

The Auditorium was specially decorated with a profusion of flags and red, white and blue bunting, and above the stage was a large framed picture of Lincoln, with likenesses of Washington and President Wilson on either side. Boy Scouts acted as ushers. The huge building was a riot of patriotic cheering and flag waving when the civil war veterans—some of them bent with age and walking with difficulty, but all doing their best to maintain a sprightly step—marched down the center aisle and took their seats in the first six rows reserved for them.

Sing National Anthem.

When Mayor Dahlman, who presided, stepped to the front of the stage and announced the first number on the program—the singing of the Star Spangled Banner by the entire audience—every man, woman and child rose to their feet and to the accompaniment of the high school cadet band sang the anthem.

The mayor made a brief introductory talk, declaring that it was particularly fitting, in view of the present crisis, for citizens of Omaha to gather in patriotic assemblage and pay tributes to the memories of the United States' two most illustrious presidents.

Rev. G. A. Hurlbert delivered the invocation. The present hours are momentous ones for the United States, and Americans may well look to the life and deeds of Washington in wondering how to act now, when war clouds loom up and the United States is facing a crisis, A. W. Jeffers, who made an address on "Washington," told his listeners.

Inspiration for Others.

Mr. Jeffers asserted that nations must either resort to force or intimidation, or on the other hand have abiding love in its citizenship. Washington, he said, stood for more to his country and to mankind than any other man in history. Since the father of his country died, his success is that which has always inspired his successors. Mr. Jeffers averred.

Mr. Jeffers expressed a doubt as to where we would be today, or whether we would be here at all, if it had not been for a divine providence, which he declared watched over Washington and made possible the United States. "But while we are praising Wash-

(Continued on Page Two, Column Four.)

The Weather

For Nebraska—Partly Cloudy.
Temperatures at Omaha Yesterday.

Hour	Temp.	Deg.
5 a. m.	22	12
6 a. m.	22	12
7 a. m.	22	12
8 a. m.	22	12
9 a. m.	22	12
10 a. m.	22	12
11 a. m.	22	12
12 m.	22	12
1 p. m.	22	12
2 p. m.	22	12
3 p. m.	22	12
4 p. m.	22	12
5 p. m.	22	12
6 p. m.	22	12
7 p. m.	22	12
8 p. m.	22	12
9 p. m.	22	12
10 p. m.	22	12
11 p. m.	22	12

Comparative Local Record.

1917	1916	1915	1914	
Highest yesterday	22	22	42	12
Lowest yesterday	10	1	27	5
Mean temperature	22	13	44	7
Precipitation	0.02	44	14	

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.

Station and State	Temp.	High.	Low.
Omaha, Neb.	22	44	12
Cheyenne, Wyo.	20	38	10
Denver, Colo.	20	38	10
Des Moines, Ia.	20	38	10
Dodge City, Kan.	20	38	10
Lincoln, Neb.	20	38	10
North Platte, Neb.	20	38	10
Omaha, Neb.	22	44	12
Omaha, Neb.	22	44	12
Rapid City, S. Dak.	20	38	10
Salt Lake City, Utah	20	38	10
San Francisco, Calif.	20	38	10
St. Louis, Mo.	20	38	10
Valentine, Neb.	20	38	10
Wichita, Kan.	20	38	10

L. A. WELSH, Meteorologist.

Belgians Made to String Barbed Wire and Dig Trenches at Front

Laborers Said to Be Insufficiently Fed While Working in War Zone.

BOYS OF FIFTEEN TAKEN

Havre, France, Feb. 12.—The Belgian government says it has learned that laborers at Bruges are being arrested in the streets by Germany and immediately sent to the German front along the Yser, where they are forced to do military work such as putting up barbed wire fences and digging trenches.

It is asserted that 75 per cent of the men who were compelled to present themselves to the military authorities have been taken for work. These men are between 15 and 45 years. They leave their homes Monday and return Saturday. On their arrival home they are declared to be greatly depressed, because of insufficient nourishment, which consists of a quarter of loaf of war bread in the morning and fruit soup made of apples and prunes at noon. This is said to be all the men receive.

The Belgian government affirms that contrary to what the Germans say the Germans are systematically taking

men who are not idle. At a large steel mill laborers earning from 7 to 8 francs a day have been compelled to quit their jobs and work for the Germans. The same is declared to be true of horticultural workers. At a well known horticultural establishment known by the name of the "Belgian" eleven workers out of a total of 100 have been taken away. A farmer who paid his tax in francs a day saw them all taken away from him. A foreman who had been working for one man in Bruges for twenty-seven years was taken from his home, together with his two sons, neither of whom was idle.

It is stated that no account is taken of certificates or affidavits given by employers. When employers make demands in behalf of employees, the military authorities write them that they are disposed to return workers on condition that the employers designate two unemployed men for each employed workman liberated.

The situation in the Belgian government says is no better in rural districts where all the sons of farmers are taken away in masses every Monday morning. Farms of seventy-five acres remain without hands for cultivation and all complaints remain unheeded. Children of less than 15 years are also taken.

LANSING MAKES APPEAL TO CUBANS

Islanders Are Urged Not to Plunge Their Country Into Another Revolution.

DISORDER OVER ELECTION

Washington, Feb. 12.—An appeal to the Cubans not to plunge their country into another revolution has been sent to Havana by Secretary Lansing. Aroused to the realization that the contested presidential election in Cuba already had reached the incipient stage of rebellion, the State department decided to issue to the people an urgent injunction to await the outcome of the voting and to abide by the decisions of their courts.

The communication was sent to the American minister with the instructions to have it published throughout the island. The Cubans were reminded in the message that close elections are not uncommon in all countries and that in the United States the selection of the winning candidate often is determined only after a contest, the case of Tilden and Hayes being cited as notable.

It had been reported that the opposition party has appealed to the United States to supervise the special election that has been called for February 14, but at the State department it was denied that such requests had been received. Through the American minister at Havana, it was made clear that the American government would regret any necessity for forcible interference again in Cuban affairs, but it was intimated that the United States could not countenance the recurrence of civil war.

Opposition Leaders Blamed.

Responsibility for the revolt is thrown by the Mexican administration upon political leaders of the opposition, whose candidate for the presidency is Dr. Alfredo de Zayas. The special election in the Santa Clara province, necessary to determine the results of the presidential election, will be held February 14, but certain men of the De Zayas faction allege that even if De Zayas is elected, President Menocal will oppose his seating.

Reports from the minister lead the State department to believe that the revolt will not become widespread. Business interests both in Cuba and the United States are concerned, because it is feared that if general revolt is begun, an enormous loss may be caused by the destruction of the sugar cane fields. The cane is now dry and its burning would be easy.

Villa Troops 26 Miles from Border Gate at Columbus

Columbus, N. M., Feb. 12.—Villa troops have occupied Twin Windmills, twenty-six miles south of the border line gate and an intermediary base on the communication trail to Colonia Dublan, according to Carranza customs officials here.

A Villa drive toward the border was reported from Western Chihuahua by other sources here. All horses, mules and other stock were being commandeered, the Villa followers giving receipts for all property taken.

Discusses How to Get Rid of Inexpert Officials

New York, Feb. 12.—How to get rid of "inexpert elected officials" is one of the most important tasks confronting the American people, Dr. Howard Lee Bain, assistant professor of municipal science and administration at Columbia university, declared in an address today before members of the University alumni.

"The staggering margin of the unachieved in government of cities is appalling," he said. "It is a problem of educating public opinion and enlightening them so that they must not tolerate extravagant government under the supine leadership of low-minded reformers and demagogues too long."

Quincy Woman is Legal Heir to Hermit's Estate

Quincy, Ill., Feb. 12.—After four years of litigation, in which many persons claimed by relationship right to the \$15,000 estate of John Jackson, a hermit of Santa Anna, Cal., Miss Lorene Pryor of Quincy, his granddaughter, has finally been awarded the money, it was announced today.

MORE STEAMERS SUNK BY SUBSEAS

Further Destruction Wrought by U-Boat Raiders on Allied and Neutral Ships.

GREEK BOAT TORPEDOED

London, Feb. 12.—The sinking of the British steamship Netherlee, 4,227 tons gross, was last reported on its departure from Philadelphia January 21 for Dunkirk, France.

Lloyds shipping agency this afternoon announced that the British steamships Voltaire of 409 tons gross, and Olivia of 241 tons gross had been sunk.

Beechtree Sunk in Seven Minutes.

Washington, Feb. 12.—Sinking of eight British and neutral vessels, with aggregate tonnage of 15,760 by German submarines, was reported in a Lloyds dispatch at the State department today from Consul General Skinner at London. All the vessels previously had been mentioned in press dispatches, but additional details on the sinking of some of them came in the Lloyds report.

The British steamer Beechtree, which a press cable said was believed to have been sunk, was torpedoed and sunk in seven minutes. Its crew was landed safely.

The Norwegian steamer Solbakken, carrying a cargo of wheat from Buenos Aires to Cherbourg, was torpedoed off Finisterre. Two of its crew died, one from cold, and a boat containing the captain and fourteen men is missing.

The British steamer Sallagh, about which there is doubt of identification, is given as a 325-ton vessel.

London, Feb. 12.—Lloyd's announces that the Greek steamer Aghios Spyridon, 768 tons, has been sunk by a submarine. Five men have been landed, but the captain and the remainder of the crew were drowned.

Fifth Nebraska Will Be Mustered Out February 21

The Fifth Nebraska regiment will establish a new record in being mustered out of the federal service. February 21 has been set as the exact date when the soldiers will be sent to their homes, just thirteen days from the time the regiment arrived at Fort Crook from Llano Grande. Fifteen days were required before the Fourth regiment was mustered out of the service and it was considered then that a record had been established.

Although the Fifth regiment, including the signal corps, has more equipment than the Fourth, officers account for the early date that the regiment returned to their homes by the fact that a large part of the "paper work" was started while still on the border.

Lindbergh Asks Impeachment of Reserve Board

Washington, Feb. 12.—Representative Lindbergh of Minnesota, republican, today read articles of impeachment of all five members of the federal reserve board, whom he charged with conspiring with financial interests to manipulate credits.

Subsea Sinks Greek Ship in Spanish Port

New York, Feb. 12.—A German submarine entered the neutral Spanish harbor of Las Palmas, Canary islands, on December 6 and sank the Greek steamship Spyros, according to two of the seamen who arrived today on the steamship Morro Castle. Maritime records told of the Spyros being towed to a Spanish port after being torpedoed.

GERMAN OFFER TO NEGOTIATE IS REJECTED BY U.S.

America Declines to Enter into Any Parleys While Unrestricted U-Boat Warfare Is Carried On.

MUST RESTORE PLEDGES

Proposal Made to State Department Through Minister From Switzerland.

THE REFUSAL IS ABSOLUTE

Washington, Feb. 12.—The United States has replied to Germany's proposal of a discussion of the submarine situation by declining to enter into any negotiations while the proclamation of unrestricted warfare remains in effect and until Germany restores the pledges given in the Sussex case.

The State department today made public Germany's proposal submitted in a memorandum by Dr. Paul Ritter, the Swiss minister, and also the government's reply, thereby confirming fully the announcement made by the Associated Press last Saturday.

The State department gave out a statement as follows: "In view of the appearance in the newspapers of February 11 of a report that Germany was initiating negotiations with the United States in regard to submarine warfare, the Department of State makes the following statement:

"A suggestion was made orally to the Department of State late Saturday afternoon by the minister of Switzerland that the German government is willing to negotiate with the United States, provided that the commercial blockade against England would not be interfered with. At the request of the secretary of state this suggestion was made in writing and presented to him by the Swiss minister Sunday night.

"The communication is as follows: 'Memorandum: The Swiss government has been requested by the German government to say that the latter is now, as before, willing to negotiate, formally or informally with the United States, provided that the commercial blockade against England will not be broken thereby. (Signed) 'P. RITTER.'

"This memorandum was given immediate consideration and the following reply was dispatched today: 'My Dear Mr. Minister: I am sorry to you, on acknowledging the memorandum which you were kind enough to send me on the 11th instant, that the government of the United States would gladly discuss with the German government any questions it might propose for discussion were it to withdraw its proclamation of the 4th of January, in which, suddenly and without previous intimation of any kind, it cancelled the assurances which it had given this government on the 4th of May last; but that it does not feel that it can enter into any discussion with the German government concerning the policy of submarine warfare against neutrals which it is now pursuing unless and until the German government renews its assurances of that 4th of May and acts upon that assurance.'

"No other interchange on this subject has taken place between this government and any other government or person."

Bonillas Named Ambassador for Mexico to U. S.

Washington, Feb. 12.—Ignacio Bonillas, one of General Carranza's representatives on the Mexican-American joint commission, has been named ambassador from Mexico to the United States.

Ramon Denecri, who has been in charge of the Mexican embassy since the departure of Eliseo Arredondo, ambassador-designate, was informed today of Mr. Bonilla's appointment.

Mr. Bonillas is now at Palm Beach, Fla. It is expected he will come to Washington this week to present his credentials, aimed at the same time Henry P. Fletcher, the American ambassador to Mexico, is received by the Mexican government.

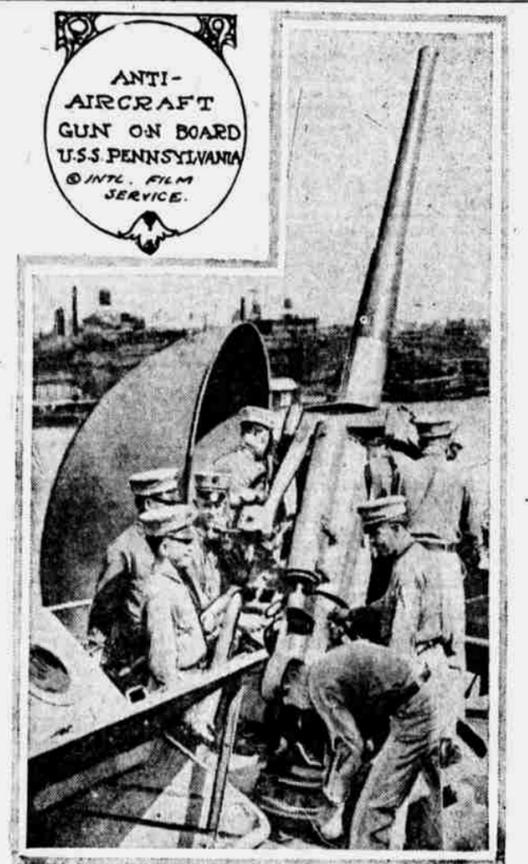
After the failure of the Mexican-American commission to effect an adjustment of the questions at issue between the two governments Mr. Arredondo was called to Mexico. It was understood at that time that Mr. Bonillas would be chosen as his successor, although Mr. Arredondo insisted that he would return to his post.

Drasic Executive Order Is Intended to Protect Canal

Washington, Feb. 12.—An executive order to exclude spies and other undesirable persons from the Panama canal zone and give the governor virtually unlimited authority to regulate immigration there, has been signed by President Wilson.

The text of the document has not been made public, but it is understood to contain drastic provisions, very broad in terms, to prevent entry of persons who "would be a menace to the general welfare."

NEW NAVY GUNS—The first anti-aircraft gun of the United States navy has been placed aboard the U. S. S. Pennsylvania. Similar gavs will be placed on other fighting craft, and mounted in the various forts.



GERARD AND PARTY ARRIVE AT BERNE

President of Switzerland Will Call On Ambassador Tuesday Afternoon.

MAKING A STOP AT BERNE

Washington, Feb. 12.—The Swiss legation received a dispatch today from its foreign office announcing Mr. Gerard's arrival at Berne.

Official reports on the arrival of Former Ambassador Gerard and his suite at Zurich, Switzerland, reached the State department today from American minister Stoval at Berne. They added nothing to the information already published.

McClure Says End of War Depends On U-Boats and Czar

Cumberland Gap, Tenn., Feb. 12.—S. S. McClure, New York publisher, speaking today at the closing of the Lincoln birthday anniversary celebration at Lincoln Memorial university, declared that the outcome of the European war depended on the success of Germany's new submarine campaign and on the course of Russia.

"If the U-boat is a success Germany would win the war," he declared, "but Germany is beginning to doubt the practicability of the under-sea craft. Another possibility is that Russia will make a separate peace. In case the U-boat is a failure and Russia adheres to the allies, Germany is lost."

Mexico Suggests Embargo On Food And War Munitions

Washington, Feb. 12.—General Carranza has sent a note to the United States, Argentina, Brazil and Chile, as well as to all other neutral nations, asking them to join in an agreement to prohibit the export from their countries to the warring European nations of foodstuffs and munitions of war.

Berlin Paper Says Gerard Was Unfriendly to Germany

Berlin, Feb. 11.—(Via London, Feb. 12.)—The Berlin press is confining itself to the most perfunctory references to the departure of former Ambassador Gerard and the American embassy staff. The Lokal Anzeiger, the only newspaper printing editorial comment, says: "It can hardly be said that in the person of the representative of the United States who left yesterday a popular figure disappears from Berlin. The assertion that he was a pronounced opponent to Germany is stretching the case a bit, yet he surely was no friend of Germany and it may be calmly set down that the relations of the United States and Germany would have reached a far less deplorable stage if the great transatlantic republic had been represented in Berlin in the person of a

AMERICANS QUIT BELGIUM RELIEF

Commission Notifies Authorities United States Citizens Will Withdraw.

SAME ACTION AS TO FRANCE

Washington, Feb. 12.—The American commission for relief in Belgium has officially notified the German authorities that the Americans will withdraw from participation in the relief work in Belgium and north France.

This step was taken in reply to an order from the German authorities that Americans must withdraw from the provinces of Belgium and northern France, leaving only a few of their representatives, headed by Brand Whitlock, American minister to Belgium, in Brussels. The action of the commission is explained in the following statement, which was given to The Associated Press today by directors of the commission in London:

"We were advised February 12, by Director Warran C. Gregory, from Brussels, that Baron von Der Lancken (civil governor of Brussels) had notified him that American citizens could no longer occupy positions in connection with the commission in the occupied territories of France and Belgium, but that a few Americans, among them Brand Whitlock, might reside in Brussels and exercise general supervision over the work. Mr. Whitlock, however, was to have no diplomatic standing. Further, automobiles and other means of communication would be denied Americans."

"After earnest consideration with Ambassador Page, the directors of the commission in London, acting in accord with Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the commission, instructed Mr. Gregory to inform the German authorities that in view of their order that the Americans could no longer exercise their functions in the occupied territories and that as under these conditions the American members of the commission could no longer carry out their responsibilities and undertakings of other interested governments and fulfill their duties toward the people of Belgium and Northern France, the Americans would officially withdraw from participation in the work of relief in the occupied districts."

Arranges For Going.

Mr. Gregory was advised to arrange for all his men to leave Belgium immediately, except a few who are to close the commission's affairs and take steps to see that there be no interruption in the service pending the reorganization of the work.

Couldn't Even Have Autos.

"The status of the war bound German is different and so is the status of their crews. The merchant ships are not interned in any sense of the word but are remaining in harbor of refuge. They are free to put to sea at any time and take their chances with the enemy warships. Their crews are in the same status as any other aliens coming to the United States. Any one of them may be admitted to the country upon fulfilling the immigration requirements. While they are in the status of aliens they are free to present bonds aboard their ships by the immigration authorities in accordance with the steps taken against the destruction of property or menace to navigation in American harbors.

It is believed that Germany's inquiry is to clear up misconceptions widely circulated there that Germans in the United States have been imprisoned and that German property has been confiscated. President Wilson has announced that all foreign rights are to be respected in every sense.

Navy Department Hopes To Save the Milwaukee

Eureka, Cal., Feb. 12.—The Navy department has not given up hope of saving the stranded and sand-filled cruiser Milwaukee and is willing, it was stated here today unofficially, to spend \$750,000 if at that cost the vessel can be made available for service within six months.

GERMANY WILL HOLD AMERICANS TAKEN BY RAIDER

They Will Be Detained Until Answer is Received to Question About Interned Germans.

TWO CLASSES OF MEN HERE

Crews of Warships in U. S. Ports Will Be Held Until End of the War.

OTHERS ARE FREE TO GO

Berlin, Feb. 11.—(By Wireless to the Associated Press, Via Sayville, Feb. 12.)—Foreign Secretary Zimmermann today informed the Associated Press that he had requested the Swiss government to make inquiry in Washington regarding the status of the crews of interned German ships in American ports.

Pending an answer, the seventy-two Americans taken by the German raider and brought in by the Yarrowdale, whose release had been agreed to, are being held in Germany, the foreign secretary stated.

Hears Crews Interned.

"In regard to the Yarrowdale prisoners," the foreign secretary said, "these men had been taken off armed merchantmen and their status had been established. They will be liberated just as soon as we learn the fate of the German crews in American ports."

During the last week recurring rumors have reached Berlin by way of London, in which it was announced that the United States government had sequestered the German ships and interned their crews. No definite official denial having been received, the government was prompted to ask the government of Switzerland to obtain specific information.

The release of the Yarrowdale prisoners was agreed to with Ambassador Gerard on the eve of the break in relations, but the possibility of the German crews being interned in the United States prompted the admiralty to rescind the orders liberating the Americans held with the rest of the Yarrowdale prisoners.

Status of Men Explained. Washington, Feb. 12.—There are two classes of German ships in American ports. Those interned are vessels such as the commerce raiders Prinz Eitel Friedrich, Kronprinz Wilhelm, and such naval vessels as the gunboats Cormorant, at Guam, and Geier, at Honolulu. The crews of these vessels, as well as the ships, being part of the German naval forces which have taken refuge in neutral harbors, are interned as prisoners for the duration of the war under provisions of international law and the Hague conventions.

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