

# IMPORTANT NEWS THE WORLD OVER

IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS OF THIS  
AND OTHER NATIONS FOR  
SEVEN DAYS GIVEN

## THE NEWS OF THE SOUTH

What is Taking Place in The South-  
land Will Be Found in  
Brief Paragraphs

### Domestic

President Wilson enjoyed Wash-  
ington's first real snowstorm of the year,  
sitting out on the south porch of the  
white house. Earlier in the morning  
of December 19 the president had  
walked about his room and the ad-  
jacent corridors for a short time.

Victor L. Berger, who was elected  
from the Milwaukee congressional dis-  
trict of Michigan to the last congress,  
and declared by congress ineligible to  
his seat because he had said what  
congress declared to be treasonable  
words, has been re-elected by an over-  
whelming majority over a fusion candi-  
date.

Federal Judge C. Pollock at Kansas  
City, Mo., passed sentence on twenty-  
seven members of the Industrial Work-  
ers of the World, found guilty by a  
jury in the federal district court of  
Kansas City, Kans., of conspiracy  
against the government.

Twenty thousand persons in the  
United States now are rated as mil-  
lionaires. The American millionaire  
class is increasing at a rate of more  
than two thousand individuals a year.

One hundred and thirty-four men,  
indicted in Michigan with Truman H.  
Newberry by the federal grand jury  
on charges of fraud, corruption and  
conspiracy in connection with the  
Newberry-Ford senatorial election last  
fall.

Two thousand two hundred and  
eighty-nine war brides of United  
States soldiers have reached the United  
States, according to the Young  
Women's Christian Association of  
New York City, and they represent  
16 nations.

An alleged plot to steal American  
army airplanes and sell them to the  
Mexican government is believed to  
have been uncovered through the ar-  
rest of a lieutenant and a former lieuten-  
ant in the air service. The ar-  
rests took place at San Antonio, Tex.

Lieut. William S. Bailey of Worcester,  
Mass., was instantly killed and  
Lieut. E. W. Brandenstein suffered a  
broken arm when the airplanes in  
which they were doing offensive com-  
bat flying at an altitude of four thou-  
sand feet collided, became interlock-  
ed and fell to the ground. It was the  
last day of flying for naval officers at  
Carlstrom field, Arcadia, Fla., which  
is an army field.

In a talk made in Chicago, Attorney  
General Palmer pledged the full power  
of the department of justice in the  
prosecution of profiteers and food  
hoarders.

A plea for the assistance of every  
man and woman in the country was  
made by Attorney General Palmer in  
Chicago recently in his fight against  
high prices.

Fire broke out on the former North  
German Lloyd liner, the Graf Walder-  
see, recently a United States army  
transport, and now anchored in the  
Hudson river, at New York, pending a  
transfer to Great Britain. Fire  
boats were rushed to the assistance of  
the ship.

Washington  
The government's anti-trust action  
against the great meat packers, be-  
gun at President Wilson's direction  
last summer as part of the fight on  
the high cost of living, has been com-  
promised under an agreement by  
which the packers will confine them-  
selves hereafter to the meat and pro-  
vision business.

Without any disrespect, and with-  
out wishing to deprive America of  
the honor of sharing in the guardian-  
ship of Christian communities, the al-  
lies have decided to make peace with  
Turkey at the earliest possible mo-  
ment. Thus declared Premier Lloyd  
George in the British house of com-  
mons.

The first appropriation bill for the  
regular session of congress, an ur-  
gent deficiency measure, carrying \$3-  
110,000 to meet the requirements of  
the employees, compensation commis-  
sion and for the care of war risk  
insurance patients, was passed by the  
house without a record vote.

The constitutionality of the war-time  
prohibition act has been sustained by  
the Supreme court. The liquor inter-  
ests were represented by the ablest  
array of legal talent probably ever as-  
sembled before the Supreme court, of  
which Elihu Root, the best known con-  
stitutional lawyer in the world, was  
leading counsel.

Formal ratification of the contract  
between the United States and the  
French government covering the pur-  
chase of \$25,000,000 worth of machine  
tools to be used in rehabilitating the  
French industries has been announced  
by the war department.

Great Britain's plans for establish-  
ing a constitutional form of govern-  
ment in Egypt are set forth in an  
official statement made by Earl Cur-  
zon, British minister of foreign af-  
fairs. The object of the mission is  
not to impose a constitution on Egypt,  
but to study the situation and make  
report to the British government.

A billion dollar cut must be made  
in government expenditures this year,  
Republican Leader Mendenhall warned in  
a speech in congress recently. Esti-  
mates of the fiscal year ending June  
30, 1920, totaled nearly five billion  
dollars. These, he says, must be  
reduced to less than four billion dol-  
lars.

expressions seemed to point toward  
a reopening of the peace treaty fight  
within a few weeks. Such sentiments  
were voiced on the senate floor when  
the subject bobbed up in the midst of  
consideration of the railroad bill.

Secretary Lansing has transmitted  
to President Wilson the reply of the  
Mexican government to the American  
demand for the release of Consular  
Agent William O. Jenkins at Puebla.  
The official text was received and  
made public by the state department.  
The crux of it is believed to be the  
declaration by the Mexican foreign  
office that Jenkins, having been re-  
leased, under bail deposited by an  
American, "it believes that all reason  
for misunderstanding between the  
two countries has disappeared."

The house bill increasing war risk  
insurance allowances of American sol-  
diers disabled in the war has been re-  
ported unanimously to the senate by  
the finance committee with amend-  
ments asked by the American Legion.  
The increase would be included in the  
December checks of the war risk bu-  
reau.

Permission to institute original  
proceedings to have the national prohibi-  
tion amendment declared unconstitutional  
and New Jersey and federal au-  
thorities enjoined from enforcing it  
has been asked of the supreme court  
by the Retail Liquor Dealers' Associa-  
tion of New Jersey.

By a vote of 256 to 34, the house  
passed the senate bill continuing the  
sugar equalization board through 1920.  
Amendments retaining in force the  
war-time powers of the government  
for controlling prices and movements  
of sugar were approved, necessitating  
the sending of the measure to con-  
ference committee of the two houses.

President Wilson intervened in the  
peace treaty dilemma with an an-  
nouncement that he had "no compro-  
mise or concession of any kind in  
mind," would make no move toward  
the treaty's disposition and would con-  
tinue to hold the Republican mem-  
bers of the senate responsible for re-  
sults and conditions attending delay.

### Foreign

Capt. Sir John Alcock, the first aviator  
to make a non-stop airplane flight  
across the Atlantic, died in Rouen,  
France as a result of injuries received  
when his plane crashed near Cottar-  
vard, department of Seine-Inférieure,  
Normandy.

A determined but unsuccessful at-  
tempt was made to assassinate Vis-  
count French lord lieutenant of Ire-  
land. The attack evidently had been  
most carefully planned at a spot in  
a narrow winding road with high walls  
and hedges affording the assassins  
good hiding places. One of the at-  
tacking party was killed and a detec-  
tive seated with the chauffeur of the  
viceregal car was slightly wounded in  
the hand. Viscount French was not  
injured. Some distance away, a po-  
liceman, patrolling his beat, was shot  
in the ankle.

Four hundred and ninety-three Chi-  
namen were drowned when the British  
steamer Lien Shing, bound from  
Hong Kong to Saigon, Indo China,  
sank at sea.

Reports of a fresh wave of pogroms  
in the districts of the Ukraine occu-  
pied by General Denekine's forces are  
printed by a Lehigh newspaper. The  
newspaper declares that about five  
thousand Jews were killed in Yekateri-  
noslav alone.

Montfaucon Hill, in the Argonne,  
France, on which are hundreds of  
graves of American soldiers who fell  
in battle in September and October,  
1918, may be made a historical monu-  
ment by the French government.

Five persons were killed and num-  
bers of others wounded at Pondich-  
erry, capital of the French posses-  
sions in India, in connection with a  
riot in the course of an election held  
to choose a French deputy. Police  
officers fired upon the crowd.

The passengers and crew of the  
coastal steamer Ethie, numbering 92  
persons, were brought ashore on a  
life-line, which was run to land from  
the ship by a Newfoundland dog after  
their vessel piled up on Martin's  
point.

Thirteen hundred British troops in  
Persia have been wiped out by the  
hostile population, it is claimed in a  
Moscow wireless message reaching  
London.

An unsuccessful attempt has been  
made to assassinate the Egyptian pre-  
mier. While he was driving to the  
ministry, he was assaulted by a school  
boy. The premier escaped unhurt,  
and the boy was arrested and incarce-  
rated.

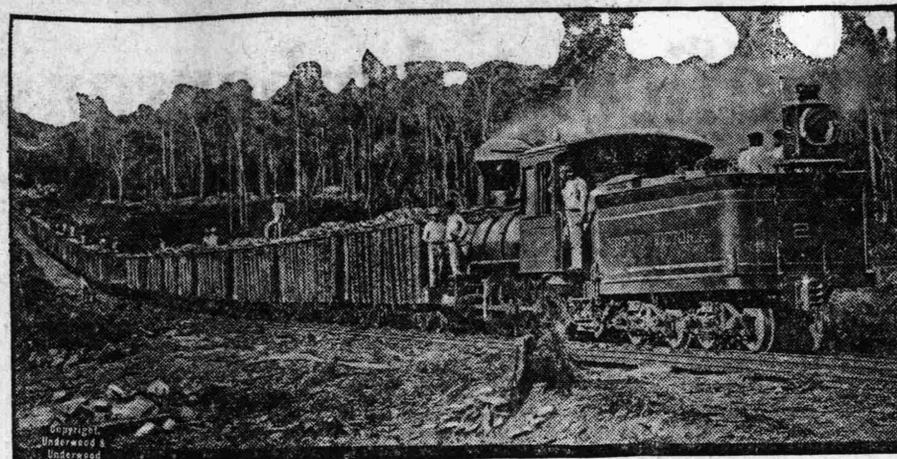
Approximately sixty-eight thousand  
young girls have disappeared from  
their homes during the past year.  
This statement emanates from the  
Travelers' Aid Society. Many of  
these girls are from the country.

It is stated by the clearing house  
of New York City that despite the  
great gain of the United States in  
foreign trade Great Britain still leads  
the world.

James W. Gerard of New York has  
"thrown his hat into the ring" for  
the nomination of the Democratic party  
for president.

Eagle Pass, Texas, newspapers have  
received information of the release of  
Fred G. Hugo, American ranch man-  
ager, who was liberated by Villa fol-  
lowers without payment of the ten  
thousand dollars ransom demanded,  
but details are still lacking.

## ON ITS WAY TO THE EAGER AMERICAN HOUSEWIFE



A trainload of sugar cane on a narrow gauge Cuban railroad on its way to the mills in the heart of the sugar-growing district.

# LITMUS PAPERS TO TEST DEATH

French Scientist Discovers Meth-  
od to Prove if Life is  
Extinct.

## PRECLUDES BURIAL ALIVE

Test is Physico-Chemical and Has to  
Do With Alkalinity of the Body in  
Life—Litmus Paper Applied to  
Serum Taken From Body.

Paris.—The fear of being buried  
alive is perhaps an elemental fear—  
one of the horrors that have haunted  
mankind through the ages. Not only  
the simple and ignorant have suffered  
because of it but wise men as well,  
and some of our most gifted writers  
have employed the theme of suspended  
animation for the basis of weird and  
terrible tales and of poems of Dan-  
tesque horror.

There has been some speculation  
among medical men during the war  
just over as to the possibility of a  
considerable number of ante-mortem  
burials of soldiers who received their  
last attentions in villages where the  
facilities for caring for desperately  
wounded men were of the most primi-  
tive kind.

### Precedents at Hand.

Occasionally a newspaper carries a  
story of a victim of catalepsy or hys-  
teria undergoing a narrow escape from  
premature burial, and recently an  
English daily told of a nurse who was  
found in a forest between Berlin and  
Potsdam, apparently dead from an  
overdose of veronal, and who was  
placed in a coffin ready for burial.  
Just before closing the coffin the un-  
dertaker discovered to his horror that  
her heart was beating and removed  
her at once to a hospital, where she  
was given electrical treatment, under  
which she finally opened her eyes and  
uttered a few incoherent words. Such  
authenticated incidents cause the  
reader to ask if there is not some in-  
fallible test of death known to the  
medical profession.

In the "Review of Comparative  
Pathology" Dr. Severin Icard of Mar-  
seilles gives the results of his investi-  
gations in progress during a long  
period into this subject. His test is  
physico-chemical and has to do with  
the alkalinity of the body in life. In  
other words, as long as life is present  
in the human organism the fluids (with  
the exception of the urine, the gastric  
juices and the sweat) are alkaline. On  
the other hand, the tissues after death  
are acid.

For a short period after death the  
tissues are both alkaline and acid, and  
the litmus paper test shows both blue  
and red. But seven or eight hours af-  
ter death is supposed to have taken  
place the test is positive; if life is ex-  
tinguished the acid test is unmistakable  
and the blue paper becomes a deep wine  
red.

This passage from alkalinity to acid-  
ity is found in all the animal series,  
and as far back as 1870 it was urged

as a test for death by a French phys-  
ician, Doctor Delagrée, who proposed  
in cases where death was doubtful to  
introduce litmus paper into small in-  
cisions in the muscular mass. But this  
method is likely to be repugnant to the  
family of the subject—an objection  
which Doctor Icard has overcome in  
his experiments.

### Litmus Paper Test.

The latter practitioner has made use  
of a very simple method for procuring  
a few drops of serous matter from the  
tissues without mutilating  
the body. He attaches a small pair of  
forceps to a fold of skin and clamps  
them in place, leaving them in position  
for five or six minutes. At the end of  
this time the forceps are removed and  
in the depressions on each side of the  
"pleat" of flesh made by the confining  
instrument are seen to ooze several  
drops of serum. The blue litmus is  
placed in contact with this fluid, and  
if it turns red there is no doubt that  
the patient no longer lives, for the acid  
test is established. Sometimes it is  
necessary to wait as long as ten min-  
utes for the change from blue to red  
to take place, but once apparent it is  
indisputable. It must be remembered  
that this test is useless before the

## School Gardens Produce \$48,000,000 in Food Value

Washington.—Children enlist-  
ed in home gardening under  
school supervision in the United  
States school garden army have  
produced, in the little more than a  
year the work has been in  
operation, foodstuffs valued at  
\$48,000,000, the bureau of educa-  
tion of the department of the  
interior announced.

lapse of six hours, as acidity does not  
thoroughly establish itself in a dead  
body under this time.

It is interesting to recall in connec-  
tion with Doctor Icard's test that one  
of the tests commonly employed under  
such circumstances has long been that  
of grasping a fold of flesh with the  
forceps and retaining it there for sev-  
eral moments. In the case of a living  
body the "pleat" gradually returns to  
normal, but when life is extinct the  
compression of the flesh persists. Doc-  
tor Icard's test (which has been  
adopted in the Marseilles hospitals)  
has a double value in that it includes  
the physical test of the compression of  
the skin and the chemical test which  
establishes a state of acidity, thus  
"making assurance doubly sure" and  
removing from the realm of chance  
the establishment of death in cases  
where doubt exists.

# TAKING MEN'S POSITIONS

Finnish Women Take Up All  
Kinds of Employment.

Even Serve as Porters on Sleeping  
Cars—Do Office and Manual  
Work.

Helsingfors.—An astonishing sight  
for the stranger in Finland is the num-  
ber of women engaged in almost every  
field of employment. In England dur-  
ing the war one became accustomed  
to the sight of women performing var-  
ious kinds of work in which previous-  
ly only men were engaged. But in  
Finland the visitor gets the impres-  
sion that the women are doing every-  
thing.

Not only are they at heavy manual  
work in fields and factories but they  
have become skilled as mechanics and  
have invaded business offices to an ex-  
tent that is probably undreamed of in  
any other country.

In banks the proportion of women  
employees to men appears to be about  
ten to one. In the biggest financial  
institutions in Helsingfors women hold  
positions involving great responsibility  
and calling for exceptional ability.

At the Finnish foreign office the As-  
sociated Press correspondent noticed  
that women were holding offices that  
would be entirely beyond the aspira-  
tions of their sisters in the state de-  
partment at Washington or the British  
foreign office.

This change has come about almost  
overnight. Finland's man power has  
been greatly depleted, and a large part

of what is left is required for military  
service.

The Finnish business woman is re-  
markably keen and intelligent. She  
has a kind of masculine interest and  
absorption in her work that seems to  
admit of no margin for sentiment or  
frivolity. She dresses simply and  
smartly, as do the majority of the city-  
bred women of this country. An  
American walking through the prin-  
cipal streets of Helsingfors might well  
believe, judging from the costumes  
and brisk walk of the Finnish women,  
that he was in the heart of Chicago.

## GAVE A BOOK; GOT A HUSBAND

New York Girl Evidently Was As  
Sweet as Poetry Volume  
She Donated.

New York.—When the "Books for  
Soldiers" campaign was at its height  
early last year, Miss Hazel Bell Gil-  
bert of Sheephead Bay, a daughter  
of Detective Sergeant George P. Gil-  
bert of the bomb squad, turned in a  
volume of poems.

The book, with her name on the fly-  
leaf, found its way to a rest station  
behind the firing lines, and there fell  
into the hands of Lieut. William J.  
Edwards of the marine corps, who  
wrote her a letter asking her if she  
were as sweet as the verses.

When he came home he called, and  
apparently found her so, for they  
were married the other day at the  
Gravesend Reformed church. After a  
honeymoon in Bermuda, Lieutenant  
Edwards and his bride will live in  
Washington.

## NUMBERS FOR FONG SING

San Francisco, Cal.—So many Fong  
Sings appeared to charges of violation  
of the federal narcotic laws that Fed-  
eral Judge William Van Fleet of the  
federal court here was forced to place  
them in numbered chairs, such as  
"Fong Sing No. 1, Fong Sing No. 2,"  
etc., down the line. Each was speak-  
ing on the other's toes, so to speak,  
and all the attorneys and all the king's  
men had a terrible time parting them  
again. Forty-two Chinese faced the  
charge of selling narcotics without a  
license.

Hit by Train, Carried to Safety on Pilot.  
Tuscaloosa, Ala.—Hit by a fast pas-  
senger train, carried eight miles on  
the pilot unconscious, and then falling  
off by side of the track, was the ex-  
perience of Louis Hammett, who lives  
to tell the tale.

# TO MAKE MAPS FROM AIR

Airplanes to Be Used to Chart  
Amazon Area.

French Experts Plan to Survey Route  
of River From Flying  
Machines.

Para, Brazil.—Airplanes may be em-  
ployed to map the valley of the great  
Amazon river. If the French are suc-  
cessful in their effort to use aircraft  
for surveying the routes of the rivers  
of French Guiana. It is understood  
the Brazilian government will apply  
the same method to the survey of the  
Amazon and its affluents.

A French company is said to have  
been formed in Cayenne, with hangars  
on the Maroni river, and French avi-  
ators with flying experience gained in  
the war are being employed to run the  
25 hydro-airplanes said to have been  
furnished by the government.  
In addition to making maps, the ma-

chines will be employed for carrying  
valuable freight, mails and passengers.  
There are immense rivers in French  
Guiana, which, because of the presence  
of many rapids, are now only naviga-  
ble in canoes, which take weeks to  
transport freight over distances which  
the hydro-airplanes can cover in as  
many hours, with always large  
stretches of smooth water offering a  
suitable surface for landing and "take-  
offs."

The freight charges are said to be  
high, and the traffic is expected to  
consist mainly of gold, balata and essence  
of rosewood, which are the principal  
exports of the colony. The passenger  
business is not expected to be heavy.

These hydro-airplanes will also be  
used for prospecting the forests for  
balata trees, which grow in groups,  
so that the foliage can, it is said, be  
readily distinguished by aviators flying  
low over the tops of the forest trees.

In the past the securing of fresh  
sources of balata has been a work of

# PROFITABLE SALE OF WAR MATER

ACTUAL AMOUNT REPORTED  
SAID TO BE AROUND \$100,000,000  
OF \$700,000,000.

## MANY CLAIMS ALSO ADJUSTED

Ten Months Only Have Been Consid-  
ered by Commission in Disposing of  
Our War Stocks in Europe.

New York.—A total of \$700,000,000  
was realized by the sale of American  
war material in England, France, Bel-  
gium, Italy and Germany, Edwin  
Parker, of Houston, Texas, chair-  
man of the United States Liquidation  
commission stated.

He said the commission also ad-  
justed up claims due and against the  
United States for as much more. The  
report will be ready in a few days.

Mr. Parker asserted that, while  
had taken the commission only  
months to dispose of all of this coun-  
try's war stocks abroad, the other  
allied countries had not yet been able  
to make an inventory.

Trucks in Germany were sold by  
syndicate for \$15,000,000 he said, a  
British syndicate bought auto-  
mobiles for \$1,000,000. One lot of  
automobiles was sold in France for \$1,  
000,000. He asserted the articles were  
sold for more than 50 per cent what  
they cost.

## EXPENDITURES COMMITTEE TO TOUR COUNTRY IN JANUARY

Washington.—Congressman Graham  
of Illinois and a subcommittee of the  
committee on expenditures in the  
war department of the house bill of  
make a tour of the country beginning  
January 10 with Charleston or Brim-  
wick as their first stop. The purpose  
of their visit to various places will  
be to make an investigation into ex-  
penditures of the war department.

## THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE RETURNS FROM FRANCE

New York.—Frank L. Polk, assist-  
ant secretary of state; Gen. Tasker  
Bliss and Henry White, members of  
the American delegation to the inter-  
national peace conference, arrived  
here from France on the transport  
America.

## WAR-TIME RESTRICTIONS ON LIQUOR IN CANADA REMOVED

Ottawa.—An order granting am-  
nesty to military offenders has been  
issued by the federal cabinet. It stops  
prosecutions and releases prisoners  
under the military service act.  
With regard to liquors it is un-  
derstood that a bill in council is being  
passed rescinding all the war time  
restrictions with a few exceptions  
from January 1.

## PRESIDENT AGAIN NOMINATES WILLIAMS TO BE COMPTROLLER

Washington.—John Skelton Wil-  
liams was again nominated by Pres-  
ident Wilson to be comptroller of the  
currency.

## PRICES ARE STILL RISING DESPITE GOVERNMENT EFFORTS

Washington.—Despite efforts of the  
government to reduce the cost of liv-  
ing, retail cost of 23 staple food arti-  
cles showed an average increase of 1  
per cent in November as compared  
with October, the bureau of labor sta-  
tistics announced.

## MISSING NC-4 IS REPORTED SAFE IN HARBOR OF MOBILE

Mobile, Ala.—The trans-Atlantic  
naval seaplane NC-4, missing for several  
hours recently after leaving Galves-  
ton, Texas, on a non-stop flight to Mo-  
bile, arrived here. Because of the fog  
the plane was forced to descend and  
spend 12 hours at Grand Isle, La., 30  
miles south of New Orleans.

## SENATE MAKES NO PROGRESS ON TREATY OR RESERVATION

Washington.—The peace treaty con-  
troversy was revived in its full vigor  
just before the senate recessed for  
Christmas.

Two new moves for the formal es-  
tablishment of peace, one by ratifica-  
tion of the treaty, one with and the  
other without reservations, were the  
agencies which opened the fight  
among the divergent elements of sen-  
ate membership. Neither proposal  
got anywhere.

## DANIELS URGES LANSING TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION

Washington.—Secretary Daniels  
wrote Secretary Lansing urging that  
the state department "take appropri-  
ate action" to secure the release of  
prompt trial of the two American  
bluejackets, who have been held in  
jail at Mazatlan, Mexico, since their  
arrest there November 12.

A report from the commander of the  
scout patrol boat Pocumoke to which  
the two men were attached also was  
transmitted to Secretary Lansing.