

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

The New Year received a widely and varied welcome in New York City on New Year's Eve night. In the big hotels of the White Light district the newcomer was welcomed by the private stock-holding class with all exuberance of days when prohibition was still a reformer's dream and a jest.

The exuberance of the private-stockless citizens was, however, decidedly restrained. The customary crowds thronged Broadway, but the cowbells and horns which on previous New Year's nights threatened the eardrums of everyone within hearing, were much modulated in tone and there was little of the riotous horse-play that previous years had known.

Prizes aggregating more than two million dollars will be divided among aviators in competitions being arranged throughout the world in 1920 under the direction of the International Aeronautic Federation, according to announcement at New York City. All American competitors will be selected by the Aero Club of America.

A survey of the medical centers of Virginia and other southern states has begun to arrange for an allotment of the one hundred million dollar Rockefeller fund.

Major Gen. Leonard Wood filed a formal announcement of his candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination with the South Dakota secretary of state at Pierre.

Four unmasked robbers, shortly before noon, entered the Farmers and Merchants National bank of Benson, a suburb of Omaha, Neb., lined six employees and five customers of the bank against the wall and robbed the vault of one hundred and fifteen thousand dollars, most of which was in negotiable paper and Liberty Bonds.

An experiment in psychology was tried at the county jail in Chicago in the grizzly dim hour of dawn recently, when two hundred prisoners were forced to witness the hanging of a convicted murderer. The most hardened criminals were selected to witness the execution.

Continuation of government nitrate plants at Muscle Shoals, Ala., to manufacture fertilizer products during peace time, is urged by Secretary Baker upon a special house committee investigating war expenditures. He says only twelve million dollars is necessary to be appropriated to make the venture a success.

Two blocks in the wholesale district were destroyed by fire on the water front, entailing a loss which early estimates placed at between \$250,000 and \$500,000, and plunging the business section of the city of Tampa, Fla., into darkness by cutting off the electric light and power before the flames were checked.

Washington

The government deficit from railroad operation during November will be approximately \$64,500,000, a low record for the year, according to statistics compiled by the bureau of railway economics.

Proposals for the purchase of the former German passenger ships seized when the United States entered the war—the Leviathan, the largest vessel afloat; the Agamemnon, the George Washington and others—will be received by the shipping board up to January 20. Only American buyers' bids will be considered.

The greatest round-up of radicals in the nation's history was conducted by the department of justice agents in thirty-three cities—the larger cities being New York, Baltimore, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Des Moines, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Hartford, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Louisville, Milwaukee, Newark, Omaha, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Portland (Maine), Portland (Oregon), Providence, San Francisco, Scranton, Spokane, St. Louis, St. Paul, Springfield (Massachusetts), Syracuse, Toledo and Trenton—stretching from coast to coast. Over fifteen hundred radicals are reported to have been taken in custody.

New Year's greetings from the heads of a number of foreign governments were received by President Wilson. Messages came from England, Belgium, Luxembourg, Sweden, Italy and several other European countries and from most of the South American republics.

Evidence gathered by the department of justice relative to the alleged leak in decisions of the United States Supreme court will be submitted to a federal grand jury in January, it is announced at the department of justice.

Legislation subjecting the manufacture and sale of wood alcohol to the same restrictions as grain alcohol will be recommended to congress as a result of the many fatalities from the use of wood alcohol as a beverage. Commissioner Roper of the bureau of internal revenue in Washington has announced.

Elihu Root, former secretary of state, at Washington, will be called upon to give his assistance and advice to the launching of the great international supreme court provided under the league of nations.

Of the instrumentalities which are to be set in motion almost immediately upon the proclamation of peace, the international court of justice is regarded by the supreme council as of ranking importance. Consequently, that body, through its secretariat in London, already had gone so far as possible in advance of the actual declaration of peace toward the creation of the court.

An army of 85,000 enumerators are at work counting the men, women and children of the United States and of collecting certain information about resources of the country. The taking of this census, the fourteenth in the history of the nation, is expected to require only about two weeks, but figures showing the total population probably will not be available until the end of April.

President Wilson has signed the McNary bill continuing the United States sugar equalization board through 1920. It was announced at the White House that his signature had been attached before midnight, Jan. 1, 1920.

Because the successful solution of the economic and financial problems of the coming year demands the concentrated effort of every American citizen, the savings division of the treasury department urged that each adopt and live up to an individual financial creed and course of conduct.

Celebration of January 18, the first Sunday after constitutional prohibition, as Law and Order Sunday was endorsed by Daniel C. Roper, commissioner of internal revenue, at Washington, in a statement appealing for an "aroused public conscience" with regard to law enforcement and promising that prohibition would be enforced strictly by his bureau.

Cost plus contracts fostered fraud and inefficiency, Col. Clarence O. Sherrill, technical expert in the army engineer corps, testified before a house sub-committee investigating war expenditures.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a New Year statement, pledged America's workers to do their full share in working out the country's problems in 1920.

Continued industrial activity is predicted by the committee on statistics of the chamber of commerce of the United States in its annual end-of-the-year review of business and crop conditions. Manufacturers, the report said, have orders in excess of their capacity, and in the retail trade there is a feeling of confidence of the continuation until another harvest at least.

Foreign

Germany's armed forces are estimated by the British war office at London to total close to one million men. These are divided into the regular army of four hundred thousand, the land forces of the regular navy, twelve thousand; the armed constabulary, forty thousand to fifty thousand; the temporary volunteers, or regular army reserves, one hundred and fifty thousand to two hundred thousand, and the civic guards, three hundred thousand to four hundred thousand, which is a formidable force.

The first step toward peace between Estonia and Soviet Russia was taken by the signing of a preliminary armistice at Dorpat, Estonia, stipulating an immediate cessation of hostilities, and covering questions concerning Estonian and military guarantees with regard to the frontiers.

Bolshevik Russia is willing to make great concessions to the big powers in the interests of peace, but will not hold out the olive branch to General Denikine, according to M. Klishke, secretary of the Soviet delegation conferring with Estonian delegates at Dorpat. "A year ago we would have considered peace with General Denikine, but now it is a fight to the finish," Klishke said.

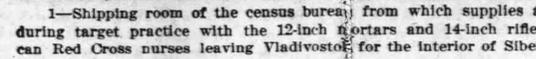
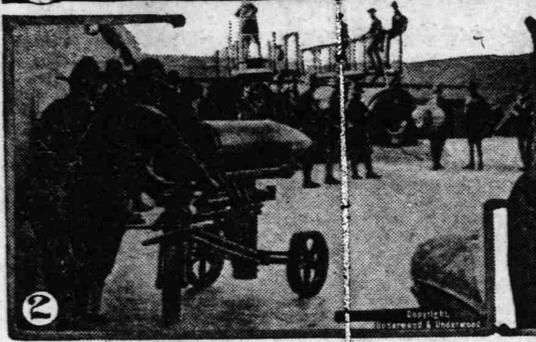
M. Tchitchenko, Bolshevik foreign minister, has proposed to Italy a resumption of relations between that country and Soviet Russia, holding out that the imminent capture of the Black sea coast by the Soviets will open the Black sea route to Italy, is the news received in London from Moscow.

Bolsheviks have occupied the important stations of Yusovo and Dolia, and are marching towards the seaport of Mariupol on the Sea of Azov. A quantity of guns and booty were captured, as was also the entire Markhoff division, one of Denikine's finest corps.

Until the Germans complete the sweeping of the mine fields they laid in the North sea there will be considerable danger to shipping in waters adjacent to the British Isles. Even after that work is ended, some time next summer, there will be some danger, it is predicted, but will gradually diminish.

Three exhausted and half-frozen men, sole survivors of the crew of twenty-nine of the Belgian steamer Anton Van Driel, were taken to St. Johns, Newfoundland on the steamer Ingraham. For two days and two nights the three men had clung to the wreck of their steamer as it lay on the jagged rocks that barred the entrance to St. Mary's bay.

The avalanches which recently occurred at the mountain resort of Davos, near Geneva, caused terror among residents and visitors and resulted in a number of deaths in the village itself.



1—Shipping room of the census bureau from which supplies are mailed to the 87,000 enumerators. 2—Scene during target practice with the 12-inch mortars and 14-inch rifles of Fort MacArthur, Los Angeles. 3—American Red Cross nurses leaving Vladivostok for the interior of Siberia.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Treaty Compromisers Still Are Hopeful but Wilson Shows No Signs of Yielding.

PROGRESS OF THE BOLSHEVIKI

Sign Armistice With Esthonia and Worry Japan by Siberian Advance —Congress Gets Lots of Advice on Railway Legislation.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Prospects of a satisfactory compromise in the treaty situation in the United States senate were not much brightened by the developments of last week. The compromisers were unrelenting in their efforts, however, and one of them, Senator Pomeroy, after a conference with Senator Lodge, said: "I believe we will get together. None of the reservations which the majority of the senate adopted is as bad as defeat of the treaty. The country wants the treaty ratified promptly."

The signs that a good many Democrats were ready to abandon the administration's policy of ratification without reservation caused Secretary Tumulty to visit the capitol and study the situation for the president. He had a long talk with Senator Hitchcock, and while neither would give the details of the conference, Mr. Hitchcock said: "We've got a long row to hoe yet before we reach a compromise." He added that nothing Mr. Tumulty said indicated the slightest sign that the president would yield in his refusal to compromise in the fight.

Meanwhile the supreme council in Paris, which had made up its mind to go ahead without waiting longer for the United States, ran up against a snag. It had fixed January 6 as the day on which the protocol should be signed and ratifications of the German treaty be exchanged, and then discovered that the German delegates did not have full power to act. Steps to rectify this were taken. The supreme council learned that there were still some 80,000 German troops in upper Silesia, where a plebiscite is to be held, and it was decided Germany should be told it had better remove them at once. It was also planned to send a mission of allied officers to supervise the withdrawal of Hungarian troops that are in that part of western Hungary that was given to Austria.

On the last day of the year the Estonians and soviet Russians in conference at Dorpat signed a seven days' armistice, the protocol including a temporary adjustment of boundaries, military guarantees and recognition of the independence of Estonia. It was assumed that this agreement would soon be followed by the conclusion of a definite peace between the two countries.

In a New Year's greeting to the world, sent from Moscow by wireless, the soviet government promises that in 1920 it will victoriously end the civil war in Russia, that soviets will be established in Berlin, Washington, Paris and London, and that soviet authority will be supreme throughout the world.

General Semenov is now the dominant figure among the anti-bolsheviks of Siberia. Following his disastrous defeats and the swift advance eastward of the soviet armies, Admiral Kolchak went into eclipse. His forces melted away rapidly, and in the Irkutsk region mutiny and anarchy prevailed. The entente allies and the United States seem quite disinclined to intervene further in the affairs of Russia by force of arms, in which they probably are wise, and it appears to be up to Japan to stop the onward sweep of bolshevism in the far East, if it can be done at all. The impression prevails that the Japanese will be given a free hand on their assurance that they have no intention of annexing any additional territory.

They declare their only aim is to protect their land from the poison of bolshevism. The Japanese premier has indicated that any general advance of the soviet forces beyond the southeast side of Lake Balkal will result in outright war between the Japanese and the bolshevik.

Premier Nitti and Foreign Minister Scelapio of Italy have gone to Paris and London to try to bring about an adjustment of the Adriatic dispute favorable to Italy. The latter, addressing the Italian senate, said Mr. Lansing's proposal for the neutralization of the Dalmatian islands and the surrounding sea as far as Ragusa was intolerable, since it would leave a part of the Italian coast exposed to the same attack as in the late war, but he believed Great Britain and France could persuade President Wilson to change his views.

Mr. Clemenceau and Mr. Lloyd George told me," said the foreign minister, "that if France, England and Italy agreed, even going beyond the terms of President Wilson, they believed they could present the agreement to President Wilson and induce him to accept it in the interest of European peace."

If the conferees of the senate and house do not arrive at a satisfactory solution of the railway bill puzzle, it will not be for lack of advice, expert and inexperienced. All sorts of organizations have been taking a whack at it, and all of them are directly interested. The American Federation of Labor, the four railway brotherhoods, and ten railway shopmen's unions, affiliated with the federation got together in Washington and told what they wished, what they hoped for and what they would not countenance. In the first place, they declared themselves in favor of two years more of government operation of the railways, in order to give the principle of government ownership a real test. They realized that the return of the roads to their owners on March 1 is now a certainty, but gave notice that they will make government ownership a political issue in the future. As for the pending legislation, they declared themselves against the anti-strike feature and the penalty provisions against ceasing work, and in favor of the features which tend to establish better relations between the employees and the carriers, and urged that these features be extended to the sleeping car and Pullman company employees. The railway shopmen already have voted to strike if congress adopts the Cummins anti-strike provision, and it is believed the brotherhoods might adopt the same course.

Next, the American Bankers' association told what it considered necessary to rehabilitate the impaired credit of the roads. It favors the speedy return to private ownership; the voluntary but not compulsory consolidation of railroad properties; permissive federal incorporation; exclusive regulation and control of the issue of stocks and bonds by railroads and water common carriers by a federal board; government guarantee to the roads for six months after the end of federal control, of net operating income equal to the standard return for the same period during federal control; an extension of the carriers' indebtedness to the government for capital expenses to run serially for from ten to twenty years. All these features are in either the Cummins or the Esch bill, and some of them are in both.

Another group vitally interested in the railway legislation is the shippers, and these gentlemen, at a national conference in Chicago, besides recommending higher rates for the roads, adopted resolutions in substance as follows:

"We are opposed to the creation of a transportation board as provided in the Cummins bill.

"We oppose the appropriation by the government of the excess earnings of a railroad company.

"We oppose the scheme of ratemaking groups and standardization of earnings therein as provided for in the Cummins bill.

"We are opposed to the consolidation of the railroads and the division of the country into rate groups as provided in the Cummins bill.

"We are in favor of legislation which will permit the return of the

railroads to their owners at the earliest possible moment and permit operation by them.

"We are in favor of legislation that will effectually prevent the catastrophe that would follow a general railroad strike and at the same time fully recognize the rights of the laborer and all parties in interest."

President Wilson's second industrial conference has put forward a tentative plan for the settlement of industrial disputes and adjourned until January 12, when it will be ready to listen to criticisms of its scheme from interested parties. So far the comments on the plan have ranged all the way from warm praise to ridicule. As machinery for conciliation the conference proposes this:

1. A national industrial tribunal, appointed by the president, to serve as a board of appeal for the final adjustment of wage and other controversies.

2. Twelve regional chairmen, appointed by the president, who will form boards on occasion from established panels of employers and employees for the adjustment of particular disputes.

3. Regional boards of inquiry to investigate and report upon any dispute which either or both parties refuse to settle through a board of adjustment.

4. Umpires to whom a board may refer a dispute for decision. The plan does not propose to do away with the ultimate right to strike, to discharge or to maintain the closed or the open shop; but a decision under it would be binding on both parties, having the force and effect of a trade agreement. The conference believes policemen, firemen and other government employees should be denied the right to strike, but not the right to associate for mutual protection or the presentation of grievances.

Numerous deaths in many parts of the country, due to the drinking of bogus whisky made of wood alcohol, have aroused the authorities and have spread dismay in the ranks of those who were relying on "roonshine" liquor for their evasions of the prohibition laws. Criminal gangs in several cities have engaged in the manufacture of this deadly drink, and have profited enormously, but some of their members are now under arrest and probably many others will be caught and punished. Their victims, naturally, are mainly of the poorer classes, which could not afford to lay in "private stocks" before the sale of liquor became illegal. If the wood alcohol is not fatal to the drinkers, it is almost certain to cause total blindness. As one result of the deaths the bureau of internal revenue will recommend to congress the passage of a law subjecting the manufacture and sale of wood alcohol to the same restrictions as grain alcohol.

Attorney General Palmer has no fear that the red movement will go far enough in this country "to disturb our peace and well-being, or create any widespread distrust of the people's government." And in order that it may not go so far, he announces, the department of justice will keep up a persistent and aggressive warfare against the radicals. He says some 2,000 of them will be deported in the near future, and in order to have enough on hand to fill up the "soviet arks" his agents on New Year's day took a large number of the reds into custody. Mr. Palmer urges that the radical propaganda be counteracted by teaching its purpose through the press, the church, the schools, the labor unions and patriotic organizations.

Death claimed two distinguished members of America's fighting forces last week—Maj. Gen. Thomas H. Barry and Rear Admiral John E. Pillsbury. General Barry was in active service from the time of his graduation from West Point in 1877 until his retirement, last August. He did excellent work in the Philippines, commanded the army of Cuban pacification, and in the war with Germany tried earnestly to obtain a divisional command in France, but was kept at home because of his physical condition. Admiral Pillsbury, who was graduated from the naval academy in 1862, was retired in 1908 for age, with 25 years' sea service to his credit. During the Spanish war he commanded the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius.

ENFORCEMENT ACT IS CONSTITUTIONAL

BY A 5 TO 4 VOTE PETITION FOR
INJUNCTION IN BEER MAT-
TER WAS DISMISSED.

2.75 BEER HAS BEEN LEGAL

Volstead Act Knocked Prop From Under All Beer Having Alcoholic Content More Than Half Per Cent.

Washington.—The prohibition enforcement act, defining as intoxicating any beverage containing one-half of one per cent or more of alcohol was declared constitutional by the supreme court, in an opinion on which the court divided, 5 to 4.

Proceedings brought by Jacob Sappert to New York to enjoin the enforcement from prohibiting the sale of 2.75 per cent beer were ordered dismissed.

Ruppert's case was brought under the war-time act. He alleged that 2.75 per cent beer was non-intoxicating, but that the Volstead act by limiting the alcoholic content prohibited the sale of beer manufactured under regulations prescribed under the Leveson food control act by President Wilson.

In deciding the New Orleans and Baltimore cases Justice Day, in an unanimous opinion, held that the manufacture of beer containing 2.75 per cent alcohol was legal until the enactment of the Volstead act.

NEW NORTH CAROLINA MEMBER OF CONGRESS TAKES HIS SEAT

Washington.—Clyde R. Hoey, member-elect from the ninth district, North Carolina, was sworn as a member in the house of representatives.

AMERICAN WINNERS IN BOTH SWIMMING AND BICYCLE RACE

Melbourne, Australia.—Norman Ross, the American swimmer, won the 220-yard championship swim in an athletic meet here. Spencer and Oelrieter, Americans, won the six-day bicycle race with a purse of 300 pounds sterling.

THE HUN PRINCE VON BULOW CONSIDERED AN UNDESIRABLE

Rome.—Prince von Buelow, former German chancellor and recently sent to Italy on a diplomatic mission, has been informed that his presence in this city was undesirable for the reason it could cause trouble for the Italian government.

UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE DENIES RESIGNATION RUMOR.

Washington.—Under-Secretary of State Polk has issued the following statement: "There is no truth in the report that I intend to retire from my office. There is no foundation whatever for the statement that I am in any way in disagreement with the policy of the administration."

SOUTHERN FARMERS EXCEL IN ALL BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

Washington.—Southern farmers led those of other sections of the country in making building improvements in the last year, the federal farm loan bank reported to congress, saying that the highest proportion of borrowing from the federal farm loan system for buildings was from North and South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

FIRST SEA LORD OF BRITISH NAVY PAYS OFFICIAL VISITS.

Washington.—Viscount Jellicoe of Scapa, first sea lord of the British admiralty, who arrived here from New York, began a round of official visits as the guest of the nation. Immediately after breakfast he called on Secretary Daniels.

JANUARY 10 DATE SET FOR RATIFYING OF PEACE TREATY.

Paris.—The supreme council has tentatively set January 10 for the ratification of the treaty of Versailles. The council's basis for a settlement on the Scapa Flow sinkings was handed over to Baron von Lersner.

BELIEVE THAT WOOD ALCOHOL MYSTERY HAS BEEN SOLVED.

New York.—Two arrests which federal officers believe will solve the mystery as to the source of the wood alcohol which caused one hundred deaths in this city, New Jersey and New England, were announced by Harold B. Dotbs, revenue agent. They were Cosimo D'Ambrosia, a Brooklyn chauffeur, who was taken into custody in a farm house, and William Woolter, a Brooklyn garage keeper and printer.