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IMPORTANT NEWS THE WORLD OVER

happenings of This and Other Nations
For Seven Days Are
Given.

THE NEWS OF THE SOUTH

What is Taking Place in the South
and Will Be Found in
Brief Paragraphs.

Foreign

Lloyds agent at Bombay, India reports that the Portuguese flag has been hoisted on all the German steamers lying at Mormague and that the Germans who were aboard have been interned at Panjim.

Germany has sent an ultimatum to Portugal demanding the restoration within forty-eight hours of the German ships seized. There is a well defined feeling in Portugal that the treaty with Germany should be permitted to lapse, and there is no indication that the answer to Germany's ultimatum will be.

Felix Diaz has been proclaimed general-in-chief of the reorganized national army of Mexico, and has established headquarters at Tierra Colorado, in the state of Vera Cruz, according to copies of a manifesto bearing Diaz' signature received in San Antonio, Texas.

The Anglo-French answer to the protest of the United States regarding the seizure of mails in transit between America and Europe will be delivered in the near future.

The German government has officially expressed its regret to Denmark that a German aeroplane flew over Danish territory near Copenhagen on February 12. It is ordered that such flights be discontinued.

According to Rome dispatches, the Italian government has not yet decided whether it will yield to the popular demand for a war with Germany.

Barefoot and ragged women in large numbers, many with babies in their arms, proceeded from the quarters of the working classes to the Greek parliament at Athens, stopped in-going deputies and pleaded that the chamber relieve the distress caused by the mobilization of the men and non-payment of allowances to their families. The women were orderly. Several deputies addressed the crowd and promised speedy relief.

Washington

By a vote of 68 to 14 the senate carried out President Wilson's wish and killed Senator Gore's resolution to warn Americans off armed belligerent ships.

The president's position on the international situation as revealed further is that he has told congressional leaders it was months after the resignation of former Secretary Bryan before the government could convince Germany that the United States is in earnest in its position on submarine warfare.

Lewis H. Haney, economist of Austin, Texas, has been named by the federal trade commission to direct the commission's investigation of oil and gasoline prices and production.

Joseph H. Shea of Seymour, Ind., has been nominated by the president for ambassador to Chile.

After a series of hot exchanges between several representatives over principles involved in reimbursement of citizens of the Southern states for property seized by the Union troops during the Civil war, the house passed a bill to restore the right of the court of claims to consider claims to such reimbursement aggregating five hundred thousand dollars.

President Wilson has decided that he cannot proceed with the German submarine negotiations while dissension in congress weakens his position before the world, so he called for a showdown on the pending proposals to warn Americans off merchant ships of the European belligerents armed for defense.

Administration leaders who have been working steadily for many days strengthening their lines and counting on the support of the Republicans, are sure they will now end all agitation regarding foreign matters by a vote of confidence in the ability of the president to handle same.

The senate has unanimously ratified the treaty with Haiti under which the United States assumes a protectorate over the turbulent island republic.

Germany, in a formal note, presented by Count von Bernstorff to Secretary Lansing, reiterates assurances regarding the future conduct of submarine warfare given in the Lusitania case.

The state department insists that while the United States stands unalterably for the right of a merchant ship to carry guns for defense it will not now contend and never has contended that Americans could travel with immunity on ships having orders to act offensively.

A broad distinction is made by the government between resistance and offense. The state department holds that a merchant ship has a right to resist capture, but not to act offensively. It is admitted that a vessel loses all immunity while in the act of resisting.

Domestic

A wind and electrical storm attaining the velocity and fury of a cyclone swept through Turner county, Georgia, doing great damage to property. A patch from two to three hundred yards wide was swept almost clean through the entire central portion of the county.

Attorneys for Mr. and Mrs. Victor E. Innes, acquitted in San Antonio, Texas, on a charge of murdering the Nelms sisters of Atlanta, Ga., from whom the Inneses were charged with borrowing considerable sums of money, are co-operating with a life insurance company in an effort to find the missing women.

Two fire insurance companies announce their withdrawal from business in South Carolina. The law forbidding insurance company from entering into compacts to regulate rates is given as the reason.

At Toledo, Ohio, with entry list totaling 756 five-men teams, 2,573 two-men teams and 1,540 individuals, the sixteenth international tournament of the American Bowling Congress, has opened. Bowlers from all over the country and Canada are in the number.

A Norfolk, Va., dispatch announces that the German government contends that under existing treaties between this country and Germany, the Appam is entitled to exemption from any legal process. This is answer to libel proceedings instituted by the African Steamship company of London.

Col. Everett O. Foss, formerly a newspaper publisher of Dover, N. H., who claimed the distinction of being the only man to witness the assassination of two presidents—Lincoln and Garfield—is dead.

Col. Walter H. Taylor, who served as adjutant to Gen. Robert E. Lee and who took command of the Confederates at Richmond, when General Joseph E. Johnston was severely wounded, is dead at Norfolk, Va. He was the author of a book entitled "Four Years With General Lee," and was an authority on Confederate history.

The scheduled opening of the new submarine campaign of the Teutonic powers finds, according to New York newspapers, twelve big liners in or near the war zone in which the Austrian and German undersea boats are opening.

Former Congressman Morehead was chosen national committeeman by the North Carolina Republicans. This throws the state of North Carolina into the Roosevelt column, as Morehead was backed by the Progressive wing of the party.

Unofficial returns from St. Louis, Mo., show that both of the two ordinances proposing segregation of negroes carried in the election by a majority of 34,344.

Wireless warnings that a German commerce raider, possibly accompanied by consorts, was attacking shipping in the Atlantic were received by the Standard Oil tanker Communiqaw which arrived in New York City from Algiers.

European War

In the sinking of the mid-Mediterranean on February 26 of the French auxiliary cruiser Provence II, the indications are that there occurred the greatest marine disaster in the history of the world, so far as loss of life is concerned. The loss of life is estimated to have been more than three thousand.

The French admiralty reports that there were nearly four thousand persons on board the Provence, and up to date it has only accounted for 870 of the men. The story of how the Provence was sunk remains to be told.

Around the village of Douaumont, which is now in the hands of the Germans, is raging a battle of great intensity.

From the region of Malancourt, west of the Meuse, to the Woerue region, east of Verdun, the bombardments are of violent character.

The Germans admit that in the region of Ypres the British recaptured the positions the Germans took from them February 14, but claim the British were driven out of most of them.

There has been considerable artillery activity in the Argonne forest and in upper Alsace.

Comparative quiet prevails on the Russian front.

The Russians have captured the important town of Bitlis, in the Lake Van district of Turkish Armenia.

The Ottoman forces in Persia are reported fleeing from the onrushing Russian army.

The official French report says that the disaster to the Provence II aent that no submarine was noticed either before or after the sinking.

The Germans in the battle-scarred region of Verdun continue their bombardment west of the Meuse in the region between Malancourt and Forges, across the river eastward about Vaux and Damoupy.

MILITARY BILL NOW IN CONGRESS

MORE SWEEPING CHANGES IN
POLICY THAN PROPOSED BY
PRESIDENT.

FOUR STRIKING FEATURES

Federal Volunteer Force; Enlisted Reserve; Federalization of National Guard and an Officers' Reserve.

Washington.—The first of the national preparedness measures to reach either house of Congress for consideration was introduced in the senate by Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the military committee, which perfected it after weeks of hearings and conferences. It proposes an even more sweeping change in military policy than that outlined by President Wilson in his annual message, and was described by Mr. Chamberlain as the most comprehensive piece of military legislation ever offered in Congress.

There is no vital difference between the Senate and House measures and both committee believe that when the final bill, which will be agreed upon in joint conference committee, has passed both houses, the president will be able to affix his signature to a measure that will do more than he has asked toward building up an adequate national defense.

Aside from its plan virtually to double the regular army and national guard, the senate bill has four striking features. They are:

Authorization of a purely Federal volunteer force in peace times, the object sought by Secretary Garrison in urging the continental army plan.

Authorization for a definitely enlisted reserve in peace times among men of every profession or calling whose training fits them for special duty either with troops, on lines of communication or supply, or in machine shops and munitions plants.

MOEWE REACHES HOME PORT.

German Raider Reports Sank Fifteen Vessels.

Berlin, via London.—An official statement issued by the General Naval Staff states that the German cruiser Moewe arrived in a German port. She had on board of large number of British prisoners and 1,000,000 marks in gold bars. The announcement says 15 vessels were sunk by the commerce raider.

The statement follows: "The Naval General Staff states that H. M. S. Moewe, commander Captain Burggrave Count von Dohna-Schodien, after a successful cruise lasting several months, arrived at some home port with four British officers, 29 British marines and sailors, 166 men of crews of enemy steamers, among them 103 Indians, as prisoners, and 1,000,000 marks in gold bars.

"The vessel captured the following enemy steamers, the greater part of which were sunk and a small part of which were sent as prizes to neutral ports:

"The British steamers Corbridge, 3,687 tons; Author, 3,496 tons; Trader, 3,608 tons; Ariadne, 3,035 tons; Dromony, 3,627 tons; Farrington, 3,146 tons; Clan MacTavish, 5,816 tons; Appam, 7,781 tons Westburn, 3,300 tons; Horace, 3,335 tons; Flamenco, 4,829 tons; Saxon Prince, 3,471 tons. The British sailing vessel, Edinburgh, 1,473 tons; the French steamer Maroni, 3,109 tons; the Belgian steamer Luxembourg, 4,322 tons. At several points on enemy coast the Moewe also laid out mines to which, among others the battleship King Edward VII fell victim."

Colonel House Returns.

New York.—Col. E. M. House, who sailed for Europe on December 23 on a confidential mission for President Wilson, arrived here on the steamship Rotterdam from Falmouth. As soon as he landed from a special coast guard cutter, which met the Rotterdam at Quarantine, Col. House announced he would leave at once for Washington to meet the president. He declined to comment on his mission or what he had seen or done while abroad. He stated that he was treated with courtesy everywhere.

Ask Austria to Apologize.

Washington.—The United States is preparing to make formal demands upon Austria-Hungary as a result of the attack by an Austrian submarine upon the American tank steamer Petrolite. A note on the subject will be dispatched within the next few days. It was authoritatively stated that the United States would stand by its original contentions and ask an apology for the attack, punishment of the submarine commander, and reparation for the damage done to the vessel.

FLETCHER FINDS NAVY EFFICIENT

TELLS COMMITTEE OF SOME
EXCELLENT TARGET PRACTICE BY FLEET.

SHIPS ARE EQUAL TO ANY

The Dreadnaughts of the United States Lead the World and Men Are Just as Good.

Washington.—An encouraging report on the condition and efficiency of the nation's sea forces was given the house naval committee by Admiral Frank Fletcher, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet.

In individual fighting efficiency, Admiral Fletcher declared, the dreadnaughts of the United States led the world, while in the skill of its officers and men, the navy had no reason to fear comparison to that of any other power.

Describing some of the things the navy is doing in the light of lessons of the European war, the admiral said one ship of the fleet recently had hurled seven out of 42 huge projectiles through a target 20 by 60 feet at a range of eight to nine miles, or 10,000 to 18,000 yards. The longest ranges used in naval engagements of the European war thus far, he explained, were 16,000 to 17,000 yards.

Judging from reports of target practice at Guantanamo during the last month, Admiral Fletcher said, it was probable that from 10 to 20 per cent of the shots fired could be landed on a battleship at 15,000 yards. He said that inherent errors in gun fire and range determination, which do not seriously affect results at short distances, are greatly magnified as the range goes up.

To bring out the effectiveness of navy shells, Admiral Fletcher told of target work by the Wyoming last year at 12,000 yards in which three shells penetrated a 10 inch armor plate. Five out of 30 shots fired, he said, struck the small target and from 80 to 90 per cent would have landed on a battleship.

The committee took up at once the bill to authorize officers of the marine corps to accept employment in the Haitian constabulary. Col. Waller, commanding the marines in Haiti, told the committee that absolute quiet prevailed there and that a new revolution could not be organized, as the natives were enjoying peace and security for the first time in 112 years.

GERMAN RAIDER TAKEN.

Dispatches from Montevideo Report Capture of Moewe.

Beunos Aires.—Press despatches from Montevideo say that a steamer arriving from Europe intercepted near the coast of Brazil a wireless message stating that British cruisers had captured the German auxiliary cruiser Moewe.

There is some doubt, however, as to the identity of the German vessel captured. Another version of the account is that the vessel is the German cruiser Roon.

The American steamer Santa Barbara has arrived at Montevideo, her captain making the announcement that a French cruiser which put out from Dakar, on the west coast of Africa, encountered a German raider, name not given, and opened fire on her. Under cover of darkness the German ship got away. She was, however, damaged on her upper works by the French.

Trial Trip Completed.

Newport News, Va.—The battleship Pennsylvania returned to the shipyard after successfully completing her trials. The superdreadnaught was away 11 days and during that time was put through all the tests required by the government.

James William Lee Dead.

Dallas, Texas.—James William Lee, a cousin of the Confederate chieftain, Robert E. Lee, died at his home here. Mr. Lee enlisted in the Confederate Army when he was 16 years old; serving throughout the conflict.

German Resimé Operations.

London.—The Germans have resumed their heavy offensive in the region of Verdun, with the French everywhere strongly opposing it. While over most of the front from the east of the Meuse down into the Woerue region, the German big guns have been active, around Douaumont the Teutons launched several infantry attacks of extreme violence. These, he French war office declares, were put down by the French troops, whose fire decimated the enemy ranks.

Fletcher Reports on Navy.

Washington.—An encouraging report on the condition and efficiency of the nation's sea forces was given the house naval committee by Admiral Frank Fletcher, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet.

SENATE IS FIRM IN WILSON'S SUPPORT

BY VOTE OF 68 TO 14 GORE RESOLUTION IS EFFECTUALLY
KILLED.

A WARM DEBATE FOLLOWS

Free Expression of Opinion of Senators Which at Times Was Shouted and Out of Order.

Washington.—By a vote of 68 to 14 the senate carried out President Wilson's wish and killed Senator Gore's resolution to warn Americans off armed belligerent ships.

In a turbulent scene, such as is seldom witnessed in the senate, the voting proceeded with senators shouting objections, futilely demanding recognition to explain their positions and making hot retorts to each other, all of which were out of order. At one time so many senators were shouting for the Vice President's recognition that the Sergeant-at-Arms was called to restore quiet.

After having maneuvered for two days to get the resolution in such parliamentary position that it was disposed of without debate the Senate then proceeded to a general discussion of the subject which continued all afternoon to the dismay of administration supporters. There were free expressions of opinion that the senate's action because the vote actually was taken on a motion to table the Gore resolution with a correction by the author and a substitute by Senator McCumber, was in effect a "Scotch verdict" and had not actually accomplished the purpose of the President. Such statements aroused the President's friends, who feared they would produce an effect directly opposite to that intended—a notice to the world that the senate stands behind the President in his demand on Germany for the rights of Americans traveling the seas.

In the house, however, the foreign affairs committee by a vote of 17 to 2 took a longer step toward meeting fully the President's wishes. It voted to report the McClure warning resolution with the recommendation that it be tabled.

At the White House satisfaction was expressed with the senate's action. Senator Gore voted for the motion to table and declared he considered the administration victory a mixed one.

BATTLE CONTINUES TO RAGE.

More Than 3,000 Men Perished When French Cruiser Was Sunk.

London.—In the sinking in the mid-Mediterranean recently of the French auxiliary cruiser Providence II, the indications are that there occurred the greatest marine disaster in the world's history, so far as loss of life in con centered.

The French Admiralty reports that there were nearly 4,000 persons on board, and up to date it has only accounted for 870 of them. Seemingly, therefore, more than 3,000 men perished when the former trans-Atlantic liner went to the bottom. The staff of the Third Colonial Infantry Regiment was among the many soldiers aboard the cruiser. The story of how the vessel was sunk remains to be told.

Around the village of Douaumont which is in the hands of the Germans is raging a battle of great intensity. Having captured the village and extended their lines west and south, the Germans were forced to give ground before vicious attacks of the French who regained part of the terrain they had lost. The fighting here is proceeding unabated.

Injunction Against Conductors.

Atlanta, Ga.—Suit to enjoin officers and members of the Order of Railway Conductors from "carrying out a conspiracy of threatened strikes" as protest against the installation by railroads of the White audit system was filed in United States District Court here by counsel for audit company.

Deny Right of Federal Court.

Norfolk, Va.—The German Empire through Lieut. Hans Berg, commanding the former British liner Appam, and L. M. von Scholling, vice consul for the district comprising Norfolk, Newport News and Portsmouth, denied the jurisdiction of the Federal Court in deciding the status of the ship, in answering libel proceedings instituted by the African Steam Navigation Company, Ltd., of Liverpool, for recovery of the vessel. The answer was filed but no date set for hearing.

Mayors Organize.

New Orleans.—A permanent organization of American mayors to promote the cause of National defense was effected here at a meeting of mayors and their representatives from 80 large cities.

BUSINESS GOOD IN ALL SECTIONS

REFLECTED IN REPORTS OF
AGENTS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD.

INCREASE CROP OF COTTON

Southern Agents Report That Larger
Crop of Cotton Will Be Planted
This Year.

Washington.—Generally good business conditions throughout the country are reflected in reports of Federal reserve agents made public by the Federal Reserve Board. Growing scarcity of raw materials used in many American industries is noted, however, and the southern agents predict an increase in cotton acreage this year unless steps are taken to prevent it.

The Boston district reports trade generally in continued activity, with the uncertainty as to the European situation restraining undue expansion. Unrest of labor and increasing cost of raw materials, however, are said to be disturbing factors.

From New York comes the report that there are more products and workers in that district, and that the industrial activity there is of record character. On account of scarcity of raw materials, however, some houses anticipate a shortage in merchandise stocks.

The Richmond report describes conditions throughout that district as good, and points to railroad construction, increased manufacturing and new credits extended to back up the statement. The cotton acreage in the district, the report says, probably will be slightly increased this year but the practice of crop diversification will not be abandoned.

Although February is said to be usually a quiet month in the Atlanta district, the report says there has been "very little lessening" of business activity.

St. Louis reports a degree of prosperity unknown for several years, but with manufacturers reporting an increase in the cost of raw materials.

LAST DOUBT IS REMOVED.

Congress Knows Just Where President Wilson Stands.

Washington.—President Wilson served notice on Congress that he will consent to nothing less than a record vote on the anti-Administration resolutions to warn Americans off the armed ships of European belligerents before he goes on with the German submarine negotiations.

No compromise proposition, such as a vote of confidence in the President's foreign policy will be acceptable. Such an action, it is held, might be construed in Berlin as justifying the support of Congress and his own party in his demands for a full observance of international law, while its only purpose would be to afford members of Congress a way to avoid recording their positions before the country on the straight, cut and out question.

President Wilson made his position clear to congressional leaders in unequivocal terms, as the climax to a day of confusion, uncertainty and political maneuvering that marked the opening of his first real fight with congress.

Ultimatum to Portugal.

London.—Germany has sent an ultimatum to Portugal demanding the restoration within 48 hours of the German ships recently seized by that country, according to a dispatch from Madrid to Reuters.

Wilson G'ves \$1,000.

Atlanta, Ga.—Donation of one thousand dollars by President Woodrow Wilson to the Ellen Wilson memorial for the education of the mountain youth of the South has just been announced.

British Steamer Thornaby Sunk.

London.—The British steamer Thornaby is reported to have been sunk all the members of the crew having been killed or drowned. The steamer Devereaux has arrived in the Tyne, bringing steward Cartberg, who was rescued from the wreckage of the Thornaby. The captain of the Devereaux reports that two other persons from the Thornaby were saved by the steamer Highgate and that a Norwegian vessel was also in the vicinity where the Thornaby went down.

Compliments Consular Service.

London.—The American consular system received a notable tribute during the discussion by the British chambers of commerce of the improvement of the British Consular Service. President Stirling, of the Belfast delegation and one of the largest linen producers in Great Britain, said whenever he required expert technical details concerning linen, he was obliged to seek in the American consular reports, which contained better information concerning linen than the British government possessed.

REPUBLICANS HOLD STATE CONVENTION

JOHN M. MOREHEAD IS ELECTED
NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN
OVER DUNCAN.

MARION BUTLER RETURNS

Convention Was Noisy and Unruly,
Only Hushed Into Silence By Unexpected Turn in Events.

Raleigh.—John Motley Morehead was elected National Committeeman over E. Carl Duncan. His election came after one of the most thrilling and dramatic incidents that has ever taken place in a political convention, wherein E. Carl Duncan, the Republican leader of this state for many years, faced his arch-enemy Marion Butler on the platform and denounced him in terms that burnt and blistered, while that foxy individual smiled craftily and stroked his whiskers.

The convention, noisy and unruly from the beginning, was hushed into silence by the unexpected turn of events and they listened at first with rapt attention. Soon the tension snapped and Carl Duncan, who had ruled with a rod of iron, for whose wisdom the party had always had the highest respect, for the first time heard himself hissed in a Republican convention. He stood his ground stubbornly, but it was no use.

And this is how it came about. Butler had gone out with the platform committee and the convention was sailing along merrily without him. A set of delegates to the National convention had been selected, eight of them, and everything was ready for a vote that, apparently, would be all one way. Butler's Cumberland County Representative, McCaskill, had moved to sidetrack the list of delegates and elect a National Committeeman. The convention sat down on him, voting practically unanimously to proceed.

Some one moved the election of Morehead, at Butler's suggestion, and there was a call for making it unanimous by acclamation. It looked like it was going through with a whoop when Cy Thompson blocked it with the nomination of E. C. Duncan.

Then followed one of the warmest debates ever heard in a state convention, and it was some time before the crowd settled down sufficiently for a vote to be taken. The final vote stood 335 for Duncan and 761 for Morehead. The big fight was over, but the smaller conflict remained—the election of four delegates to the Chicago convention. Some argument resulted over the eight delegate plan, which went into the discard. A tedious roll-call finally resulted in the election of the following:

J. S. Lewis, of Randolph, who led with 92 votes; Thomas Settle and J. J. Britt, of Buncombe, and W. S. O. Robinson, of Wake.

Alternates were chosen as follows: Clarence Call, Wilkes; L. L. Wrenn, Chatham; H. S. Williams, Cabarrus; John E. Cameron, Lenoir.

Electors at large, John E. Fowler of Sampson and John A. Hendrick of Madison.

The naming of the State Executive Committee followed:

First district, Hugh Paul, Washington; second district, George W. Stanton, Wilson; third district, J. S. Basnight, Newbern; fourth district, J. J. Jenkins, Siler City; fifth district, Gilliam Grissom, Greensboro; sixth district, A. F. Saries, Dunn; seventh district, R. H. Besiecker, Lexington; eighth district, J. D. Dorsett, Spencer; ninth district, John M. Morehead, Charlotte; tenth district, C. A. Dickey, Black Mountain.

Fix Dates For Fairs.

Greensboro.—At a meeting here the Carolina circuit of fairs agreed upon the following dates for fairs in the circuit this year: Rocky Mount, September 19-22; Salisbury, September 26-29; Winston-Salem, October 3-6; Greensboro, October 10-14; Raleigh, October 16-21; Charlotte, October 24-27; Spartanburg, October 31 to November 3.

Fayetteville Bank to Reopen.

Fayetteville.—Not in a long time has any single piece of news borne a greater measure of genuine importance to the people of the Cape Fear section than the announcement that a majority of the stockholders of the Fourth National Bank of Fayetteville had unanimously taken action to reopen the bank. The reopening will take place in 90 days if the present plan goes through. The action of the stockholders followed a meeting of depositors which adopted an agreement containing a 90-day limit.

Employ no Children Under Age.

Fayetteville.—Denial of the testimony of Miss Eunice Sinclair of Fayetteville before the senate committee investigating the Keating child labor bill, that the Noncreston Mills of Cumberland employed children under the legal age, is made by Clifton Corley, vice president and manager of the company. Miss Sinclair's testimony was given on February 18. In it she stated that in her investigation she had found children as young as nine and ten years employed in the Noncreston Mills.