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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.

A score or more scientists and business men interested in food conservation and new sources of food supply sat down to a "whale steak luncheon" at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. When it was over they declared the big mammal furnished as delicious and appetizing a dish as any meat market affords.

The commission on navy yard and naval bases says that Charleston, S. C., offers the only suitable site between Hatteras and Key West for a great navy yard.

Heatless Mondays have been abolished in North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

A German spy was reported to have been found among forty first and second cabin passengers of the Dutch liner Niouw Amsterdam, who were detained by federal agents for examination at "An Atlantic Port." The man is said to have broken down and confessed that he was in the pay of the German government and had come to this country in order to furnish spies operating in this country with a new code.

Emergency deliveries of coal enabled many New York factories to continue operations and others to reopen after being closed for short periods, and brought cheer to thousands of homes and apartments. Warmer weather in the East gives promise of increased coal receipts.

Federal legislation compelling "the most severe treatment of spies" and "enemy agents" is recommended to congress in an executive committee report adopted by the chamber of commerce of the state of New York at a meeting held in New York City.

Contracts have been awarded by the French government to the Foundation company for the construction of 36 mine-sweeping vessels at the company yard at Savannah, Ga.

News that Capt. Peter McLean, commander of the torpedoed liner Tuscania, has been saved reached the Anchor line offices in New York City. It is also stated that both the purser and chief steward were saved.

Washington.

A Mexican paper, reaching New York, gravely informs its readers that the United States government is planning an invasion of Mexico with Canada and Cuba operating jointly with the United States.

Representative Glass, in a speech delivered in the house, went to the defense of the administration, answered the charges contained in Senator Chamberlain's indictment of the war department and denied that the American war machine has "fallen down."

Apparently retribution at once befell the underwater boat that sent the Tuscania to the bottom. According to the testimony of an American officer, who was one of the last men to leave the Tuscania, a British destroyer dashed toward the evident location of the attacker and dropped depth bombs that resulted, in the expressive phrase of the submarine hunters, in the enemy being "done in."

Consideration of the administration railroad bill has been completed by the house interstate commerce committee. The committee recommends that the states retain the power to tax railroad property during federal control and hold on to states' police power.

Major General March, now chief of artillery with General Pershing, has been named acting chief of staff, and will return to Washington immediately.

A story of disaster at sea affecting the hearts and hopes of Americans, although they have been schooled to expect it ever since the first contingent of their fighting men left an Atlantic port to become brothers-in-arms to the entente warriors who are entrenched against the German hordes, fortunately has dwifled in the telling. One hundred and one lives were lost in the torpedoing of the British troop ship Tuscania, off the Irish coast, at dusk Tuesday evening, according to the latest report.

Troops of the regular, National Guard and national army divisions will be made available for parade or reviews in towns or cities near their training centers to the fullest extent possible provided they do not add unnecessary burden to the railway facilities.

A two-ounce bread ration was ordered by the food administration for patrons of hotels, restaurants and dining cars. This allowance is about that now observed in England. Telegrams have been sent to food administration's hotel representatives in every state, designating the new ration.

Franz von Rintelen, German naval officer and a reputed member of the German war staff, was found guilty with ten other defendants, in federal court in New York, of conspiracy to destroy food and munitions ships of the entente allies by placing "fire bombs" in their cargoes.

Continued improvement in weather and transportation conditions will bring an end to the heatless Monday program after its enforcement next Monday, it is announced by the fuel administration.

A favorable report on the war department's bill amending the selective draft law to require registration of men as they reach 21 years and basing quotas on the number of men in class one, instead of on state populations, was unanimously ordered by the senate military committee, is the information emanating from the national capital.

Every soldier lost on the Tuscania carried government insurance. This insurance aggregates about \$4,300, and will be paid at the rate of about \$25 a month for twenty years.

Vice Admiral Sims has arrived in Rome, Italy, and has been properly fettered. He will remain there only a few days.

The greatest—and perhaps the most dramatic—rescue work of the war was accomplished in saving American soldiers aboard the torpedoed Tuscania, officials believe. The picture of destroyers, patrol boats and hospital ships maneuvering about the sinking vessel with a net saving of 90 per cent of the threatened lives, is one that will reflect glory in naval history, officers of the navy say.

The first survivors of the Tuscania were landed at Larne and Buncrana, two widely separated Irish ports.

Controversy over the government's war efficiency and the bills for a war cabinet and munitions director has been renewed in the senate with a debate which virtually occupied an entire day. Many sharp things, pro and con, were said.

European.

Major Gen. Fréderick B. Maurice, the chief director of military operations at the British war office, says the allies are still superior in number on the western front, notwithstanding the Germans have moved troops from the east to the west.

Artillery activity continues on the British, French, Italian and American front, but, aside from this, the operations have been confined to patrol and aerial attacks.

London hears that twenty enemy airplanes which endeavored to cross the American lines were violently shelled by anti-aircraft batteries and driven off.

A member of the military police on the western front found three little French children wandering along the road immediately behind the front, which is shelled very frequently by the enemy, and is considered very dangerous. He turned the children over to an ambulance driver, who returned them to their homes in a nearby village.

One American artilleryman was killed and five artillerymen were wounded by shell fire.

The Americans sprinkled the enemy trenches with shrapnel all during the day. There was considerable patrol activity, but no further clashes were reported.

RED CROSS GAINS
MANY NEW MEMBERS
Red Cross Adds Approximately 17,500,000 in the Recent Big Drive.

Washington, D. C.—Figures now available on the Red Cross Christmas membership drive show a total enrollment of 23,475,000, or 22 per cent of the population of the United States.

Of this total the Red Cross had about 6,000,000 members before the Christmas drive started, so that the gain from the drive was approximately 17,500,000 new members. The central division of which Chicago is the headquarters, leads the other twelve divisions of the country in the number of new members enrolled "Christmas week."

By divisions, the gains were as follows: Atlantic, 28,000,000; Central, 3,000,000; Gulf, 384,000; Lake, 2,300,000; Mountain, 276,000; New England, 670,000; Northern, 685,000; Northwestern, 1,600,000; Pacific, 327,000; Pennsylvania, 1,600,000; Potomac, 250,000; Southern, 37,000; Southwestern, 3,250,000.

From the fourteenth division comprising all of the territorial insular and foreign possessions of the United States the new members added numbered 48,000.

Unprecedented unfavorable weather prevailed during the drive so that the showing is considered exceptionally good. Final figures are not expected to change the foregoing estimates to any considerable extent.

One of the chief benefits anticipated from the enlarged membership is the addition of thousands of active workers to Red Cross chapters where supplies are being prepared for our army and navy and the military forces and civilian population of the allies.

GERMANY'S OFFENSIVE
MAY BE APPROACHING

Washington.—Development of Germany's long deferred offensive in the west from the reconnoitering thrusts launched during the past week around "Ambrail" and at other points is suggested as a possibility in the weekly military review issued by the war department. So far, however, in spite of heavy fighting the department says no indications of more than local character have been recorded.

SERVICES IN MEMORY
OF JOHN L. SULLIVAN HELD

New York.—Services in memory of the late John L. Sullivan, former heavyweight champion of America, were held here. The church was crowded with personal friends of the dead gladiator and men and women whose names are prominent in the world of sport and the stage. The life of Sullivan was praised by the speakers, among them was "Jack" McLaughlin, the former pugilist.

GERMANS AMBUSH TEN AMERICANS

FIVE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN
KILLED WHILE FOUR OTHERS
ARE MISSING.

BARRAGE FIRE RETURNED

Patrolling Soldiers Were Fired Upon
From Concealed Positions by Large
Numbers of Enemy—Put Up Good
Fight.

Five American soldiers are believed to have been killed, four are missing and one was wounded, when an American patrol was ambushed in No-Mans Land by a superior force of Germans.

The spot where the encounter occurred is an isolated one and reports concerning the casualties inflicted by both sides are meager.

Only one American is known to have escaped the trap of the Germans, which was laid in front of our wires. The one survivor, who crawled back to the American lines with a bullet in his chest, is unable to talk.

Our artillery immediately laid a barrage around the ambushing Germans and some are believed to have been accounted for. The infantry accounted for others, as it is certain the attacked patrol fought to a finish, according to information trickling in from the front line.

Our patrolling soldiers were walking in front of our wire entanglements when a big enemy patrol that had been divided into parties which took up concealed positions opened fire at close range. The night was clear and the forms of the Americans made the best possible targets for the hidden Germans. There is no doubt that the Americans battled gallantly until completely overpowered.

The artillery duel in our sector continued. Scores of airplanes were out observing and making photographs. The men in the line were thrilled by a number of air duds high in the sky over their heads.

Artilleryman Killed.

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AMERICAN SHARPSHOOTERS
ARE GERMANS' MATCH

Dr. Von Seydler, Austrian Premier, Has Resigned.

American sharpshooters on the sector held by the United States forces northwest of Toul on the western front have matched their marksmanship and wits against the skill and experience of the German rifleman opposed to them, and thus far have had the advantage. Enemy snipers have been routed from their hiding places among bushes in the hilly wooded terrain or in shell holes by the expert fire of the Americans, and where the rifle proved unavailing there was brought into action machine guns and light artillery which destroyed the German shelters and made casualties of their occupants.

Dr. Von Seydler, the Austrian premier, has tendered the resignation of his cabinet to Emperor Charles, according to Vienna advices reaching Amsterdam. Parliamentary circles in the Austrian capital understand that the cabinet's resignation is due to the opposition of Polish deputies against special debates and the provisional budget. Dr. von Seydler informed labor delegations that it was the wish of the emperor to end the war at the earliest possible moment by an honorable peace, and this declaration of the premier was instrumental in ending the strikes in Vienna.

The Turkish foreign minister, Nesim Bey, speaking in the Ottoman chamber of deputies Thursday, asserted that Turkey was in full accord with the attitude of Germany and Austria as outlined in the recent speeches of the German chancellor, Count von Hertling, and the Austrian foreign minister, Count Czernin. In regard to the Dardanelles, Nesim Bey declared that the strait would remain open in the future to international traffic "as in the past and in the same conditions." This declaration is regarded as Turkey's reply to the provision in President Wilson's announcement of America's war aims which required that the Dardanelles should be opened permanently as a free passage to the ships of all nations.

PROPOSES TO STANDARDIZE
RAILWAY EQUIPMENT

Washington.—Extensive standardizing of railway equipment is contemplated by Director General McAdoo under government operation. He explained that he expects the division of finance and purchase of the railroad administration, headed by John S. Williams, to work out a number of reforms along this line in co-operation with railroad executives and manufacturers of locomotives, cars and other equipment.

I. W. W.'S PLANNED
TO PLAY HAVOC

Washington.—Industrial Workers of the World on the Pacific coast have planned wholesale destruction of industries and shipping and other interference with prosecution of the war. It was said at the department of justice that the indictments of 53 at Sacramento by a federal grand jury is the result of a recent investigation of government agents who discovered that leaders were plotting systematic sabotage.

GARFIELD ENDS HEATLESS DAYS

HEATLESS DAYS HAVE BEEN
ABANDONED IN EIGHT SOUTH-
ERN STATES.

CONDITIONS ALMOST NORMAL

Improvement in Weather Condition
Causes Fuel Administrator Garfield
to Lift Order—Roads Moving
Freight.

Washington.—Continued improvement in weather and transportation conditions will bring an end to the heatless Monday program after its enforcement Feb. 11. Fuel Administrator Garfield announced.

Suspension of the program immediately in eight Southern States was authorized by Director Garfield after the receipt of reports showing that higher temperatures have relieved the coal shortage in South to such an extent that further closing is unnecessary. The states are North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Director Garfield was more hopeful over the general outlook than at any time for weeks. Although there is danger of floods from melting snows and consequent interference with traffic

All places housing workers who are members of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union were exempted from the Monday closing. Many of them are working on clothing for the army.

The first section of the closing order establishing a preferential list in coal distribution and section ten providing a penalty for non-compliance will continue to stand.

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GOVERNMENT MAY FACE LARGE DEFICIT

IF RAILWAY INCOME CONTINUES
THE DECLINE OF RECENT
MONTHS.

1917 FIGURES ARE COMPILED

Earnings About \$958,000,000; Near
Amount the Government Will Pay
Roads in 1918—Will Cut Expenses
Considerable.

Washington.—Railroads in 1917 earned about \$958,000,000, which is near the amount the government will have to pay the roads this year as compensation under national operation. This was indicated by figures on revenue, expenses and income of all roads earning more than \$1,000,000 last year, available today in unofficial computations based on interstate commerce commission reports for 11 months and estimate for December.

The sum the government will have to pay the roads under the bill pending in Congress is estimated at \$945,000,000, by Chairman Smith, of the senate committee having the railroad bill in charge.

Figures for 1917 show that if railway income continues to decline as it has in recent months, the government will face a deficit in making its compensation payments, augmented by increases in wages and the constantly rising cost of materials and supplies.

To Cut Operating Expenses.

On the other hand, the railroad administration hopes to be able to cut operating expenses sufficiently and economize on charges necessary only under competitive conditions, to offset the declining income. The size of these items, which will play such a big part in railroad financing this year, were disclosed by the latest computations.

Compared with the estimated income of \$958,000,000 last year, the figures for 1916 were \$1,087,533,000, for 1915, \$716,476,000; for 1914, \$692,330,000, and for 1913, \$516,510,000.

Total Revenues.

Last year the total revenues from railway operations were \$4,038,000,000, and operating expenses were \$2,861,000,000, leaving a net revenue of \$1,177,000,000. From this were deducted \$217,000,000 taxes, and minor items of uncollectable revenue to compute the net income figure, which is compared in a general way, to the basis of government compensation. These figures will be increased about four per cent by addition of reports from numerous small roads having operating revenues of less than \$1,000,000 a year, whose records are not included with the reports of standard Class 1 roads.

BLAMES DISASTER ON
BAKER 'INQUISITION'

North Carolina Governor Wires This
Opinion to the New York World.

Raleigh.—Governor Bickett sent a telegram to The New York World charging that the present senatorial inquisition into the affairs of the war department is directly responsible for the torpedoing of the United States troop transport reported in the morning papers. The telegram read:

"You are in the habit of drafting my opinion on public questions. For once I am going to volunteer one. In my opinion the senatorial inquisition of the war department is directly responsible for the sinking of the Tuscania. They put Baker on the rack and tortured out of him a confession of the gigantic movement of our troops across the seas. Then, the enemy knew what was happening and the submarines lurked for their prey. This whole inquisition is based on the inordinate vanity of a few senators, who seek to pose as the saviors of the nation. Their bill has no more chance to keep out of the congressional trash pile than a food grater has to keep out of hell. And they know it. Let the inquisition continue. Why? Why?"

TUSCANIA RAIDER IS
PROBABLY DESTROYED

Washington.—Much satisfaction is found by officials here in the unofficial accounts of the destruction of the British liner Tuscania by a German submarine which showed that a destroyer, presumably British, gave chase to the raider and possibly sunk her with a depth bomb.

No details of the attack had come from official sources. They are awaited eagerly.

CHECKS BEING SENT TO
DEPENDENTS OF SOLDIERS

Washington.—Secretary McAdoo reported to the senate that checks due dependents of soldiers and sailors under the war risk act in November and December have been sent and that those due in January will have been mailed out by February 18. The response to a resolution offered by Senator Hitchcock, of the senate military committee, who said "complaints had been received that the checks had not been mailed.

U. S. TRANSPORT CARRYING 2,179 TROOPS IS SUNK

FIRST GREAT DISASTER OF THE
WAR TO AMERICA'S ARMED
FORCES REPORTED.

250 MEN PROBABLY LOST

Cunard Liner Tuscania, Carrying
Small Detachments From All Over
the Country Is Torpedoed Off Irish
Coast—Was 14,000 Ton Liner.

Washington.—The Cunard liner Tuscania, carrying 2,179 American soldiers, has been torpedoed and sunk off the Irish coast. 1,912 of the officers and men aboard the transport were reported accounted for, in a dispatch to the state department from the American embassy in London, leaving 267 missing, and officials fear that most of these have perished.

News of the first great disaster in the war to America's armed forces came in a brief dispatch to the war department from London. It did not mention the possibility of further survivors, but hope was built here upon the fact that the survivors landed at two widely separated Irish ports and indications that relief vessels were at hand quickly.

The soldiers on board the Tuscania were small detachments from almost every section of the country. There was no distinctive military unit from any state, and for this reason war department officials announced that it would be impossible to announce a list of those on board until complete reports had been received. Instructions were sent by wireless and cable by the war, navy and state departments to their representatives in England and Ireland directing that every detail be forwarded at the earliest possible moment.

The disaster was announced in this statement:

"The war department has been officially advised that the steamship Tuscania has been torpedoed and sunk and that survivors numbering 1,100 as far as could be ascertained, were landed at Buncrana and Larne, Ireland. There was a total of 2,179 United States troops on the vessel. No name of persons lost has been reported to the war department and no name of survivors was reported. Additional particulars are promised as soon as received."

At first officials of the department thought it would be unwise to publish the list of soldiers on the ship until the names of survivors could be given, fearing it would cause unnecessary anxiety on the part of the families of the men saved. Later, when it was pointed out that delay in giving out the list would give heart-breaking hours to nearly every family in the country with a boy in the service, Major General McIntyre, chief censor, announced that it had developed that because there was no distinctive military unit on board.

The troops, composed chiefly of detachments of Michigan and Wisconsin national guardsmen, were traveling on the Tuscania, a British vessel, under convoy of British warships.

ASKS FOR POWER TO
CHANGE EXECUTIVE BRANCHES

New Measure is Introduced by Senator
for Overman of North Carolina.

Washington.—Almost coincident with Secretary Baker's reappearance before the senate military committee for cross examination upon his recent statement of what America is doing in the war, the administration's answer to congressional agitation for a war cabinet and a munition director was given by introduction in the senate of a bill transmitted by President Wilson, which would give the president blanket authority to reorganize and coordinate all federal departments, bureaus, agencies, official and personnel.

BRITISH SHIPPING LOSSES
STAND ABOUT THE SAME

London.—The admiralty reports 15 British merchantmen sunk by mine or submarine in a week. Of these, 10 were of 1,600 tons or over and five were under 1,600 tons. Four fishing vessels were also sunk.

The British losses by mine or submarine during the past week are approximately the same as the previous week, when nine British merchantmen of more than 1,600 tons and six of less or tonnage were destroyed.

CARRANZA IS THE
KAISER'S FRIEND

Venustiano Carranza, president of Mexico, has sent the following telegram to the kaiser:

"To your majesty, who celebrates his anniversary today with just cause for rejoicing, I have the honor to send your majesty my most cordial congratulations and am pleased to express to you my best wishes for your personal happiness and that of your august family as well as for the prosperity of this friendly nation."

MILLERSCHOEN IS HELD FOR COURT

DURHAM MAN CHARGED WITH
MAKING SEDITIOUS REMARKS
GETS HEARING.

GOV. BICKETT TAKES A HAND

Says Germany Can Take Care of Her-
self—And Does Not Have to Go Off
to Have Clothes Made.

Durham.—W. F. Millerschoen, foreman for the Durham Iron Works, was placed under \$1,000 bond, and bound over to Federal Court by United States Commissioner Hugh Scarlett, following his preliminary hearing on a charge of making seditious utterances, intended to obstruct the military affairs of the United States. He did not give bond immediately, and is in custody of United States Deputy Marshal Stell, of Raleigh.

After a morning trial, that was attended by more than five hundred people, and which developed one sensation after another in rapid fire style, the case of Millerschoen came to a sudden close. It had been generally predicted that arguments would be made by counsel, but owing to lateness of the hour, Attorneys Bryant and Brogden, appearing for the defendant, waived arguments. The only speeches to the court were made by Attorneys Jones Fulton and W. T. Beebe, representing the government. They insisted upon a large bond.

Some Utterances.

"I wish they had burned the whole damn place, and every other seaport in America.

"I wish Germany would lick hell out of England, and make peace with America."

"Did you go to that damn pow wow last night?" (referring to a local patriotic demonstration.)

"Before I would let a son of mine go off with that damn bunch, I would kill him," (speaking of the soldier boys leaving Durham for camp.)

"Germany can attend to her own business. She doesn't have to go away from home to have her clothes made," (speaking of comparing governments.)

"If they take me to war, they will have to carry me in chains."

These and many other disloyal utterances were charged against the defendant Millerschoen, in the preliminary trial by numerous government witnesses.

The stage setting for the trial was perfect. The court room was filled with citizens from every walk of life. Working men, millionaires, lawyers, physicians and women were present. Ladies of the Red Cross occupied half of the gallery.

J. P. Dalton, an employe of the Golden Belt Manufacturing Company, was the first witness for the government. He said he had known Millerschoen for several years. He had on numbers of occasions discussed the war with Millerschoen, and prior to the entry of the United States had been pro-German in his views, as was the defendant. After the United States broke off diplomatic relations with Germany, they disagreed. He said Millerschoen would start heated arguments about the war, after the breaking of relations. I would tell him that he didn't mean what he said. "Yes I do, I mean every damn word I say," the witness quoted the defendant as saying.

Home for Fallen Women.

Charlotte.—The idea has been advanced that a house for delinquent girls might, in some way, be attached to or incorporated with the house of detention for fallen women, which is to be built in this county. The city commissioners and members of the board of county commissioners discussed the matter at a meeting at the city hall.

E. T. Cansler, attorney for the county, and J. A. Bell, attorney for the city, were present and gave their opinions as to what could be done.

German Professor Resigns.

Greensboro.—At a meeting of the executive committee of the Greensboro College for Women trustees, Robert L. Roy tendered his resignation as violin instructor. The committee accepted the resignation, and expressed their highest appreciation of his services and ability.

Mr. Roy is a native German, who once sought naturalization and failed only because his proceeding was in the State court instead of Federal court. He then renounced his allegiance to the kaiser.