

Weekly Optic and Live Stock Grower

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EAST LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO,

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STORRIE DAM TO BE BUILT LARGER

SAN FRANCISCO CONTRACTOR VOLUNTARILY INCREASES CAPACITY OF PROJECT

It will be a matter of considerable interest to the readers of The Optic to learn just what is being done at the Storrie dam at the present time, and what is contemplated in its construction. The dam, as originally designed, was to be 60 feet high, and when the contract was entered into with R. C. Storrie it was contemplated building a structure of that height. A member of The Optic staff today had an interview with C. C. Cragin, the engineer in charge, and learned from him that there has been a change in the size of the dam, it being increased in height to 80 feet, and the tower over the outlet has been built with that end in view.

This necessarily increases the width of the dam out of proportion to the increased height, the width now being 416 feet at the bottom; and whereas the 60-foot dam would require the placing of 175,000 cubic yards of dirt, the present dam requires 450,000 cubic yards. The increased size of the dam will increase the capacity of the reservoir approximately 17,000 acre feet.

This increase has been done at the instigation of R. C. Storrie and Company and our community should know that the credit for this largely belongs to that firm. It is not often that a community such as ours has the good fortune to secure the services of a firm of contractors who will build better than they have agreed to do, and this paper feels that this community should understand this, and in justice to this firm, they should know. This makes much more land available for irrigation in this section, the increase being about 80 per cent.

WILL ENDEAVOR TO SUPPLY VESSELS TO BREAK DOWN GERMAN SEA CAMPAIGN

Washington, April 12.—A colossal campaign to break down the German submarine blockade and keep the entente plentifully supplied with food, clothing and munitions has been determined upon by President Wilson as America's first physical stroke against her enemy.

Unable to send an army into the trenches, the president believes the United States can do even greater service by providing a great armada of merchantmen to invalidate the un-

dersea campaign, about which have been rallying the fading hopes of Prussian conquest.

Not until today was it revealed on how great a scale the plan had been projected nor how great importance was attached to it in the administration's general war program. Virtually every detail has been worked out so that by fall the campaign itself would be in full swing. Many officials believe it may attain a superiority over the submarines which will prove a decisive victory of the great war.

Quickly-built light ships of 2,000 tons and upwards are to make up a fleet of merchantmen, and to insure maximum construction the shipping board has enlisted the country's entire ship building facilities, now the greatest in the world. For the first year production is expected to reach an average of three ships a day.

Major General Goethals, builder of the Panama canal, has been selected to supervise the construction program. The ships will cost about \$300,000 each, will be equipped with oil burning engines and carry crews of about 35 men.

Meanwhile the government has begun to prepare for war councils to be held here soon with commissions from England and France. The conference will act upon such questions as the steady supply of munitions and food to the entente allies, the proposed \$3,000,000,000 loan, naval cooperation, military participation of the United States, readjustment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the entente nations, relations with the remaining neutrals, and future peace terms. The discussion, it is felt, will not change the United States' traditional policy of not entering into European alliances.

Lloyd-George Praises America

London, April 12.—Addressing the American Luncheon club today Premier Lloyd-George said the advent of the United States into the war had given the final stamp and seal to the character of the conflict, which was a struggle against military autocracy. The premier was introduced by Ambassador Page. He lauded the plan of President Wilson to build a huge fleet of merchantmen to combat the German submarine menace. The premier said he rejoiced more in the fact that America was going to sit at the peace conference than that the United States was bringing her resources to the allies.

Mr. Lloyd-George said it would have been a tragedy for mankind if America had not placed herself in a position to take part in the peace conference, with all the influence and power for right which she was now winning for herself.

Mr. Lloyd-George said the United States had helped to win the battle of Arras because the machines which made some of the shells which had destroyed the German trenches came from America.

THIS IS THE THEORY OF EXPERTS INVESTIGATING EDDYSTONE HORROR

Chester, Pa., April 12.—Experts today are analyzing powder in the shrapnel shells at the works of the Eddystone Ammunition corporation Eddystone, Pa., with the hope of establishing beyond doubt the cause of the series of explosions that if a plot existed, as officials of the plant maintain, an acid capsule might have been dropped into a shell in the charging room. The investigation by the experts includes a probe into the possibility of a defect in the explosives with which the shells were loaded. So far there is no definite evidence that the disaster was the work of alien plotters. The authorities have been told, however, of an anonymous warning said to have been sent workers in the plant and of other notes and letters reported to have forecast the tragedy.

THEY ARE SAID TO HAVE VIOLATED THE SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST LAW

New York, April 12.—The News Print Manufacturers' association and seven members of its executive committee were indicted today by the federal grand jury, charged with violations of the Sherman anti-trust law.

The seven individual defendants are George H. Mead, Philip T. Dodge, Gordon H. P. Gould, George Cahoon, Jr., Edward W. Backus, Alexander Smith and Frank J. Sensenbrenner, all heads of large news print paper manufacturing concerns who are said to control 55 per cent of the news print paper production of the country.

MAJOR ILFELD AGREES TO PUT THE BOYS THROUGH REGULAR DRILLS

Arrangements were completed this afternoon with Major Ludwig William Ilfeld, of the New Mexico National Guard, whereby he will furnish military training to the boys of the New Mexico Normal University. The military classes will be held each Thursday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, and the work will be compulsory for the boys who are enrolled in the institution.

When the National Guard armory was taken over by the Normal it was understood that such training be given. The girls, under the direction of the physical instructors, have been given that training, and now, with Major Ilfeld to take care of the boys a great work will be accomplished.

BRAZIL CUTS RELATIONS

Rio Janeiro, April 12.—It is believed here the government will confine itself for the present to the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany. The German minister was given his passports at Detropolis last night.

HOME GUARDS IN MANY STATE CITIES

NEW MEXICO IS PREPARING TO DEFEND ITSELF IF NECESSITY ARISES

Santa Fe, N. M., April 12.—Organization of home defense volunteer units in Deming, Silver City, Lordsburg, Hurley, Santa Rita, Tyrone and other principal towns and mining camps in the New Mexico border counties of Grant and Luna, has begun, and the governor today made final arrangements for the supply of National Guard rifles and ammunition to these points.

The action is the result of the conference between the governor and mine managers and prominent citizens from the southern counties. Similar defense units are being organized in Raton, Las Vegas, Albuquerque, Gallup, Roswell and elsewhere, and mounted police commissions are being issued by the governor to their members.

The expected proclamation calling an extra legislative session was not issued today pending a definite decision by the governor as to exactly what matter shall be specified in the call. Governor Lindsey will recommend a commission on food production.

"Preparedness demands a man behind the plow for every man behind the gun," said the governor today.

TWO MEN ARE HURT, ONE FATALLY; BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN AN ACCIDENT

Philadelphia, Pa., April 12.—An accidental explosion of powder in the detonating department of the government arsenal at Frankford, a suburb, where ammunition is being manufactured in great quantities, killed Philip McNally and fatally injured Joseph Miller.

HORRIBLE TREATMENT IS ACCORDED CREW OF VESSEL SUNK WHILE AT SEA

Washington, April 12.—The American schooner Marguerite of New York was captured and presumably sunk by a submarine 35 miles southwest of Sardinia on April 4 and her crew, including one American, exposed 46 hours in open boats. A dispatch to the state department today from Ambassador Sharp at Paris, forwarded from the American consul at Tunis, says the ship made no attempt to escape or resist and was refused all aid by the submarine.

OTHERWISE THE POTATO CROP IS LIKELY TO BE AN EXPENSIVE FAILURE

LOU D. SWEET,
President National Potato Growers' Association

War conditions make it essential that our growers do their utmost to provide the nation with wholesome food at a reasonable cost. Therefore a normal acreage of potatoes should be grown in 1917 and care should be taken in the handling of the crop in order that a full normal yield may be produced, thus reducing the high cost of living, as potatoes are one of the best articles of food, and usually one of the cheapest.

Potato growing should be attempted only by those who have ground suited to the production of potatoes, and who are willing to give the crop the care and attention in handling that is absolutely essential to insure a good yield.

Sandy or clay loams containing plenty of humus to absorb and hold the moisture are the best potato soils. Potatoes require a rather loose soil that will permit the free circulation of air, hold a goodly amount of moisture without saturation, and allow the tubers to expand freely. It should also have good drainage in order to quickly carry off any surplus water and avoid waterlogging of the soil.

On soils where potatoes have not heretofore been grown it would hardly be advisable to experiment with potatoes this year, unless the soil seems to be particularly favorable, or successful crops have been raised on adjoining land of the same type, because of the high price of seed stock, which will make it much more costly than normally to grow a potato crop this year. With good seed stock at from \$5 to \$6 per cwt., and using at least 800 pounds to the acre, it will cost the average grower in the West, without the use of commercial fertilizers, at least \$75 per acre to grow potatoes this year. Therefore unusually good yields of abnormal prices will have to be obtained in order to make the crop profitable to the grower.

Stick to the Rotation

The farmer who has good potato soil and is growing a potato crop regularly in his rotation should keep to the acreage provided for by the rotation he has adopted. If he has a good potato soil but has not been including potatoes in his rotation, he might this year devote the acreage usually planted to a hoed crop, to potatoes instead, if he so desires, but he should see that the soil is put in proper condition for the production of potatoes by plowing under a green crop, or plenty of well-rotted manure. In any event the crop acreage should not be more than he can handle with the utmost care.

As to varieties in New Mexico, the late potatoes that give the best general satisfaction are the Rural New York, Pearl, Russet Burbank and Peachblow or Red McClure; the early varieties, Early Ohio, Rose Seedling and Irish Cobbler.

Reports from all over the country show that seed potatoes are scarce and high everywhere, ranging in price from \$4.20 to \$6.66 per cwt. In Denver good seed stock is bringing from \$5.25 to \$6 per cwt. The seed houses of Denver are carrying more or less limited stocks and some of the growers still have a little, but the supply generally is quite limited.

Disease-Free Seed

Because of the high cost those who are purchasing seed stock should be careful to see that the seed they buy is free from fusarium and very little affected with the scab or rhizoctonia.

The fusarium can be detected by cutting off a small piece of the stem end—the end opposite where the numerous small eyes are—and noting if there is a dark spot or ring inside the potato. If there is, do not use that potato for seed, and if any considerable proportion of the potatoes show such spots reject the entire lot as unfit for seed. A reasonable amount of scab or rhizoctonia can be overcome by proper treatment with corrosive sublimate before planting.

Don't use anything but good seed and take the utmost care in handling the crop. You cannot afford to do otherwise this year.

Whole seed, selected from good stock and coming from good hills, is unquestionably the best for seed purposes, but as this requires about 50 per cent more seed than when it is cut, this year, because of the high price of seed stock, the use of cut seed is likely to be general.

All seed potatoes should be treated with corrosive sublimate before cutting and using for seed purposes. The treatment is as follows: Dissolve four ounces of the corrosive in a small quantity of warm water, and then add to 30 gallons of water in a large wooden barrel or wooden tank. Soak the first sack of potatoes in the solution for one and one-half hours, the second sack for one and three-quarters hours, and the third sack for two hours; then pour out the solution where it can do no harm, as it is a deadly poison, and make up a fresh solution and treat as before, repeating this until all of the seed potatoes have been in the solution the proper time. Set the sacks in a clean place and allow the potatoes to dry off before cutting and using for seed.

Plant Four Inches Deep

Under ordinary conditions potatoes should be planted about four inches deep. The rate of planting will depend largely upon the condition of the soil. If the land to be used has been in alfalfa for a number of years, and is well filled with humus, the rows may be made three feet apart and the hills one foot apart in the row, which will give about 14,000 hills per acre. If the land is not in the very best of condition, it would be safer to plant one and one-half feet apart in the rows, which will give about 9,800 hills per acre. Using cut seed pieces averaging two ounces in size, with two good eyes in each piece, if possible, it will require about 1,800 pounds of seed to plant an acre with the hills one foot apart, and about 1,200 pounds with the hills one and one-half feet apart.

Where the soil is not very good or the water supply is limited or doubtful, the planting should not be closer than two feet apart in the rows, which would require about 900 pounds of seed. Smaller seed pieces may be used, but the loss in stand is likely to much more than offset the saving in seed and the plants are usually weaker.

Under dry farming conditions where hilling is not practiced, to conserve the moisture supply, potatoes should be planted somewhat deeper to allow for the mulching of the top soil, and plenty of room should be allowed in the planting, so as to provide sufficient moisture and plant food for each hill.

Growers Short of Seed

The conditions this year in the potato industry have been and are still very abnormal all over the country. Because of the very short crop, prices have been extremely high for market stock, and now the supply of seed stock is found to be limited, because many of the farmers have sold themselves short. This shortage, together with the fact that many of the grow-

ers in the large eastern and northern districts had practically no crop failures last year, and the present high cost of commercial fertilizers, which must be used in many potato growing sections, is likely to result in a considerable decrease in acreage planted this year, as well as in smaller yields. A reliable report from Maine estimates that it will cost the growers from \$150 to \$175 to produce an acre of potatoes this year, and that the normal production cost of 85 cents per barrel of 165 pounds will be increased to about \$2 per barrel.

Under such conditions the grower cannot afford to be careless with his crop, and it behooves him to use only the best of seed, treating it carefully with corrosive sublimate before planting, and handling the crop with the utmost care in order to obtain maximum yields of good potatoes, for which he is practically certain to get very satisfactory prices next fall. In view of the threatening war conditions, and the consequent necessity for abnormal supplies of food, our growers should feel it their patriotic duty to get the highest possible yields out of their farms this year.

The article printed above was published by the courtesy of Western Farm Life, of Denver, in which it will appear on April 15. County Agent Gonzalez was given permission to have it published in advance.

THE NEW YORK, HOWEVER, IS ONLY SLIGHTLY DAMAGED BY THE EXPLOSION

Washington, April 10.—The American liner New York struck a mine at 7:40 o'clock p. m. last night, five miles off Liverpool bar. The vessel later proceeded to Liverpool. Consul Washington at Liverpool, reporting the incident to the state department today, said:

"The American liner New York struck a mine at 7:40 o'clock last night five miles off Liverpool bar. Company reports passengers landed at Liverpool except four who are still on the ship. No casualties. The vessel proceeded under her own steam and is now (1 o'clock this morning) entering her dock."

Damage Reported Slight

New York, April 10.—The American liner steamship New York left this port on March 29 for Liverpool with 58 passengers and mail. The passengers included seven American citizens. She carried a naval crew of gunners, and was armed. The ship's crew of 234 men included 144 Americans.

The New York docked safely at Liverpool at 1 a. m., English time, and all passengers are safe, according to a cablegram received here today by the American line. The damage to the vessel was small, the message stated.

Chester, Pa., April 10.—At least 100 persons, mostly girls, were killed, and 200 or more injured by an explosion today in the great munitions plant at Eddystone, Pa., near here, owned by the Russian government. There is a suspicion that the blast was not due to accident. The plant was known as the Eddystone munitions corporation. A railroad official asserts that nearly 300 were killed, but this estimate cannot be confirmed.

At one undertaker's there were 80 bodies, 29 being those of girls. Thousands of girls were employed at the plant, most of them coming from Philadelphia, 10 miles away. They were attracted by the high wages paid.

The Eddystone Ammunition corporation is understood to be an independent corporation, and is engaged

in manufacturing and loading shells for the Russian government. The company has no connection with either the Midvale Steel company or the Remington Arms company.

The first explosion occurred soon after 10 o'clock in the pellet room of the shrapnel building, where about 100 girls were putting the finishing touches on shells. In a building adjoining approximately 30,000 shells were stored. A second explosion demolished this structure.

Ruins Catch Fire

The ruins caught fire, but the firemen, called from surrounding towns, extinguished the fire after two hours' work. Meanwhile charred bodies were being pulled from the wreckage, and injured persons taken to Chester, a mile away. The two main hospitals of the city were soon filled and others injured were taken to an armory and to a frame tabernacle recently erected here for religious services.

The plant was originally constructed soon after the European war started by Baldwin Locomotive interests. Recently it was taken over by the Russian government, which has been employing 10,000 workers. The place has been thoroughly guarded night and day, and after dark immense searchlights made every portion of the ground as light as day. In addition secret service men and detectives worked in the plant disguised as munition makers. There have been whispers of a plot to destroy the plant.

STATE WILL OBJECT TO TRIAL OF BLANCETT IN RIO ARRIBA COUNTY

It is rumored that Attorney A. B. Renahan, attorney for Elbert W. Blancett, will file a demurrer when Blancett is arraigned in Santa Fe today charged with the murder of Clyde D. Armour, and ask for a change of venue. District Attorney J. H. Crist, however, will oppose a change of venue to Rio Arriba county on the ground of unnecessary expense, and also he will oppose a change of venue to San Juan county because Blancett formerly resided there.

If the case is tried in Santa Fe county, it likely will begin on Thursday of this week. Blancett was to have been arraigned today, before District Judge E. C. Abbott. The case is drawing the attention of the entire west, and the complicated form of the evidence which will be introduced and the peculiar circumstances connected with the case likely will cause it to draw on through 10 days or more, in the opinion of Santa Feans.

A gawsome feature of the trial if it is tried at the present term of court, will be the exhibition in court of the skeleton of Armour, which has been kept in a Santa Fe undertaking establishment since it was found on January 14 by Antonio Sandoval y Griego, near Glorieta.

CUT THIS OUT—IT IS WORTH MONEY

DON'T MISS THIS. Cut out this slip, enclose with 5c to Foley & Co., 2835 Sheffield avenue, Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound for coughs, colds and croup; Foley Kidney Pills and Foley Cathartic Tablets.—O. G. Schaefer. Adv.

BID FOR SUB BASE

Washington, April 9.—An estimate of \$1,573,950 for a submarine base on the Atlantic side of the Panama canal was submitted today to the senate.

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE WORK ALL ALONG THE ROUTE

Oklahoma City, April 10.—Preliminary work on the South Canadian bridge project at the Newcastle site near Oklahoma City is progressing splendidly. Soundings have been made by Oklahoma county and the results placed in the hands of the state highway department. It is expected that an estimate of the cost will soon be known to the Ozark Trails committee. This committee is composed of several of the biggest business men in Oklahoma City, co-operating with similar committees in Grady and McClain counties. Immediate and effective results are looked for. It is the purpose of the committee to reach the point as quickly as possible where a contract may be let.

The bridge will likely be of concrete construction of sufficient size and strength to meet the demands of an interurban or steam railroad, and to cost in the neighborhood of \$200,000.

The Chicago Tribune of April 1 advises an inquirer that as a usual thing the Lincoln Highway, the greatest present transcontinental roadway, is hardly safe for travel before June 1. This is owing to the mud. Colonel Harvey's contention that the Ozark Trails will be a great road for early tourists is justified by this evidence. The Ozark Trails will not only be a safe road for early tourists but late summer and winter tourists as well. From the Ozark Mountains to the Pacific coast it will be a 12 month's road.

A Hobart man drove a Ford runabout up to the Rock Island station in Oklahoma City a few days ago and put his wife on the train bound for his home town. As he said goodbye to her he promised to be at the station in Hobart to meet her when she got there, a distance of 121 miles. When the train pulled into the station at Hobart he was there with the same "Henry" waiting for her. He hailed her and called out: "Come on, dear, I've got a fire built." It is easy to understand why she preferred to ride the train, although he did have an Ozark Trail all the way.

Harmon county, Oklahoma, is a scene of real Ozark Trails activity. The scenic route, running through Hollis, the county seat, is being rushed by the advocates of that route, while in the northern part of the county, the central route fellows are also very busy. Greer county is helping the latter and is supporting a convict camp and a superintendent. An Ozark Trails club has been organized with the superintendent, S. J. Buckner, as chairman, and the work being systematized all along the line. Work was started with a Sunday sermon, a huge picnic dinner in the big tent near Vinson to which all were invited, and nearly all went.

An average of 180 miles a day from San Diego, Calif. to Oklahoma City, with a heavily loaded tourist car over the Santa Fe trail to Las Vegas, New Mexico and the Ozark Trail from that point to Oklahoma City, is not a bad record. This trip has just been concluded. The driver states that no effort was made to make time; that the roads are in good condition, except where they are newly graded or in the hands of the graders. He reports the trip a delightful one, and predicts immediate popularity for this route.

OTHERWISE ITS PEOPLE WILL FACE SCARCITY OF FOOD AND HIGHER PRICES

Carlsbad, N. M., April 10.—Word comes out of Washington to mobilize the food supply. Stop waste is one way. Grow more to the acre is another way. It is a call to provide more bread and meat. Statistics are not interesting nor are statistics illuminating to the average mind. But statistics, showing the available food supply of the world today, prove conclusively that the call to mobilize the food supply, is highly justified.

The constantly rising prices of everything to eat and wear have been clear notes of warning that the supply was not keeping pace with the demands. But the warning has been little heeded. High prices of meat animals have sent breeding stock and light weights to the block, thereby still further curtailing the supply of meat. Calves are going to market in 1917 in great numbers for immediate slaughter.

New Mexico needs sit up and take notice as it enters on the 1917 crop season. New Mexico is a heavy importer of everything to eat and wear. It contains vast areas of fertile virgin soil that will produce bountifully. Thousands of acres of rich land lie idle in the irrigated valleys, while the state buys its flour, vegetables, sugar, meats, and even grain for its livestock in other states.

New Mexico has a remarkable advantage over older states. In these an increase in food supply may be had by stopping waste and increasing production per acre. In New Mexico there is the third way of placing under cultivation new land; in other words increase the cultivated area.

The handwriting on the wall reads the warning of higher prices for grain, cotton, wool, and meats in 1917. New Mexico never faced such a golden opportunity to make money and get in line to feed itself.

BRITISH TAKE POSITION WHICH MAKES "STRATEGIC RETREAT" DIFFICULT

London, April 10.—The British offense between Lens and St. Quentin with which the spring operations have been opened and which still is in progress, has proved even more successful than the earlier accounts indicated.

General Sir Douglas Haig today reported that yesterday's captures exceeded 9,000 men, while more than 40 guns fell into the hands of his troops. The Canadians, who had one of the hardest bits of the front to contend with are now in complete occupation of the famous Vimy ridge, even its eastern slope having been cleared of Germans. The Canadians also have repulsed German counter attacks.

These reactions by the Germans indicate the importance they attach to this position, whence the conquerors look down over the plain of Douai. With Vimy ridge gone, the whole German line covering the French towns and industrial districts to the north becomes a wavering one and any leisurely retreat the Germans may have planned is made uncertain and precarious.

With the capture of the famous ridge the British made a considerable stride along the road to Douix, while the capture of the high ground northwest of St. Quentin tightens the chain which the Anglo-French forces are drawing around the town.

A German diversion southeast of Ypres, according to General Haig's report, met with no success.

Correspondents at the front report

the fighting continuing keenly throughout last night with the British offensive gradually extending northward, three being fighting this morning in the direction of La Bassee.

Some 150 officers are among the prisoners already taken, these including five battalion commanders. Although 40 guns captured is the official count thus far, the number is expected to reach three figures, while quantities of trench mortars, bomb throwers, machine guns and ammunitions also have been captured.

The Germans destroyed great quantities of supplies at the last minute to prevent their capture. The weather continues bitterly cold, with snow flurries but the British forces are clad in sheepskins and are kept well fed.

British Hopes Heightened

The news of the successful opening of the new British offensive has stirred high hope among the people throughout the country. Whatever the enemy may have claimed as to the retreat in the Somme sector having been pre-arranged and strategical, it is contended that his recoil before the blow delivered in the Arras-Lens region cannot be explained away in any such manner. It is urged that there is no possible voluntary element in this retirement, and that there can be no dispute as to who took the initiative.

A new chapter in the conflict on the western front has begun and whether or not it is to prove the beginning of a decisive battle, it is bound according to the prevalent opinion here to lead to results of the highest importance. The main feature of the battle thus far on which attention has been focused, is the capture of Vimy ridge. The immense value of this series of heights which dominate the plain from an elevation of 400 to 500 feet has been recognized throughout the war and great sacrifices have been regarded as justifiable if they resulted in its possession.

The French and Germans fought fiercely for control of the ridge in the summer of 1916, both sides suffering heavy losses, but in the end the Germans held the main portion of the position. Later the British took over the French line and were ousted by the Germans from the part of the ridge which had been won by their predecessors.

The issues depending upon British ability to hold the ridge are immense. At the moment there is nothing to suggest a doubt that the ridge will be held, but the battle is still fiercely continuing.

The opinion is expressed that if the Germans are definitely driven from the ridge, without hope of re-attacking, they are likely enough to be compelled to acknowledge defeat and retire to what is called the Meuse line running from Verdun through Metz and Lille. In the meantime, the fighting goes on over a front of about 50 miles, roughly, from Lens to St. Quentin, the core of attack being around the north of Arras. As far as information goes, everything is going well for the British and justifies their sanguine hopes, but the comments today generally include a warning not to allow these hopes to run too high.

AMMUNITION IS STORED

Santa Fe, April 10.—Two carloads of ammunition and supplies from the border were unloaded today at the Santa Fe depot under the direction of Captain James L. Seligman, and stored in the National Guard armory. The cars were under military patrol day and night.

Estray Advertisement

Notice is hereby given to whom it may concern that the following described estray animal was taken up by W. R. Watkins, Gage, N. M.

One chestnut sorrel gelding, 5 or 6 years old, about 800 lbs., about 14 hands high.

Said animal being unknown to this Board, unless claimed by the owner on or before May 8, 1917, said date being 15 days after last appearance

Branded
Left Hip



of this advertisement, said estray will be sold by this Board for the benefit of the owner when found.

CATTLE SANITARY BOARD,
Albuquerque, N. M.
1st. pub. Apr. 7, last pub. Apr. 23, '17.

Estray Advertisement

Notice is hereby given to whom it may concern that the following described estray animal was taken up by Wm. Rose, Chief Deputy U. S. Marshal, Santa Fe, N. M.

One light roan cow, 5 or 6 years old, 600 lbs., 4½ ft. high.

Branded
Left Hip



Ear marks

Said animal being unknown to this Board, unless claimed by the owner on or before May 8, 1917, said date being 15 days after last appearance of this advertisement, said estray will be sold by this Board for the benefit of the owner when found.

CATTLE SANITARY BOARD,
Albuquerque, N. M.
1st. pub. Apr. 7, last pub. Apr. 23, '17.

Estray Advertisement

Notice is hereby given to whom it may concern that the following described estray animal was taken up by M. A. Bauman, Des Moines.

One red and white cow, about 10 years old, about 700 to 800 lbs, about 4½ ft. high, blotched brand on left hip.

Branded
Left Neck



Branded
Left Ribs



Ear marks



Said animal being unknown to this Board, unless claimed by the owner on or before May 10, 1917, said date being 15 days after last appearance of this advertisement, said estray will be sold by this Board for the benefit of the owner when found.

CATTLE SANITARY BOARD,
Albuquerque, N. M.
1st. pub. Apr. 10, last pub. Apr. 25, '17.

HIGH HOG PRICES

Denver, Colo., April 10.—One carload of hogs from Covert, Neb., brought \$16.15 a hundred weight on the local market today. There were 83 head in the carload and they averaged 237 pounds. The price today is the highest in the history of the local market.

TO BUY LAND GRANT

Santa Fe, April 10.—Mrs. Ralph E. Twitchell left today on a visit with friends in Phoenix, Ariz. Bruce Eaton of Los Angeles, who is in New Mexico to negotiate for the purchase of several land grants, arrived this noon from Albuquerque.

MILITARY HEALTH BOARD

Washington, April 10.—The highly trained staff of the public health service was today transferred into the military establishment. Approximately 425 men will be affected.

TWO IMPORTANT POSITIONS NORTH OF VIMY RIDGE ARE TAKEN TODAY

London, April 12.—The British captured early this morning two important positions in the enemy's lines north of the Vimy ridge and are now astride of the River Souchez, according to today's official statement. A number of prisoners were taken. Weather conditions continue wet and stormy.

Two German counter attacks on Vimy ridge were broken up last night with heavy losses to the attackers.

British Capture More Ground

About 1,000 yards of trenches south of Farbus wood in the regions outside of Vimy were captured by the British this morning Reuter's correspondent telegraphs from the front. A hill southeast of Wancourt also was captured. The British also took 11 additional guns in the fighting between Crosilles and the Scarpe.

The dispatch features: "The latest news this morning is that we occupied about 1,000 yards of trenches running south from the commandant's house to the southward of Farbus wood and have cleared the Germans to the bank of the Cojul river. We also occupied a German trench running southeast from Neuville-Vitasse and have taken hill No 90 southeast of Wancourt.

"Between Croisilles and the River Scarpe our troops captured 11 more guns in the course of yesterday's fighting. The enemy is shelling our new positions beyond Vimy ridge. The past 24 hours has been marked by a general increase in the intensity of the fighting. The Germans appear to have been reinforced in the positions which the British assaults have driven back, and are offering desperate resistance to the heavy British pressure.

"Various counter attacks were launched, but with the exception of Bullecourt, these met with no success. Fighting for the key position at Monchy-le-Preux was very bitter but with the British retaining all their gains and consolidating the positions.

"Time now is required to get forward the big guns and to make good the communication before attempting another great stroke."

Arras Fight is Great Battle

That the Arras conflict will develop shortly into the greatest battle of the war was the prediction made by Major General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the war office, in his weekly interview with the Associated Press today. General Maurice declared the present British offensive was being conducted according to plans completed in February, thereby controverting the claims of the Germans that their retreat had upset the British schedules and that the Teutonic military authorities control the situation. The British losses during the first two days of the offensive were only half what they had been in the corresponding time in the Somme offensive, General Maurice declared.

"We have heard a great deal about the von Hindenburg retreat," said General Maurice. "It had been claimed the retirement was according to plan and that as a result the allies' calculations had been upset and the Germans were in a situation to give battle when they desired. Let me tell you how much the British plans were upset. On February 20 I was in France and at that time saw on paper the plans for the offensive which the British are now carrying out, including the assault on Vimy ridge. Arrangements had been made at that time to begin the attack on April 8, but this was postponed until the ninth on account of bad weather.

This shows that we are conducting our affairs according to schedule."

"Things are going well and the prospects look bright.

"That the Germans had not only not weakened their line in this section but had strengthened it is apparent. I call your attention to the fact that we took 10,000 prisoners in the first 24 hours, which is the greatest number we have taken in a corresponding time and indicative of the strength of the Germans here."

General Maurice's attention was called to the fact that the German military experts were claiming the battle of Arras to be the decisive conflict of the war.

"I suppose the experts have got to have something to write about," said the general with a laugh, "but it is impossible to say at this time that the battle will be the decisive one. It may be stated with certainty, however, that the battle of Arras will have a far-reaching effect."

Germans Minimize Importance

Copenhagen, April 12 (Via London).—The battle of Arras in the opinion of the German press, is an event of only local importance, lamentable, it is true, but already brought to a standstill and not affecting in any degree the strategic situation. It is interpreted by general consent as part of the plan of the Anglo-French command, foiled in its intentions of delivering a shattering blow on the Somme front, to roll up the new Hindenburg line by assaults on both flanks at Soissons and Aarras.

The German Report

Berlin, April 12 (Via London).—British attacks participated in by cavalry and armored cars to the north of Monchy yesterday, says the official statement issued today by the German army headquarters staff, broke down with heavy losses.

From Soissons to Rheims, the German statement adds, the artillery firing increased to great violence. In the western campaign the artillery firing is increasing. Yesterday the French and British, according to the statement, lost 24 airplanes on the western front.

"On the northern bank of the River Scarpe," the German statement says, "British attacks in Vimy and Fampoux, during a violent artillery fire were repulsed.

"To the south the enemy brought forward strong forces for a thrust. After frequent assaults Monchy was lost. To the north there were British attacks."

French Drive Back Germans

Paris, April 12.—In an attack last night on the new front below St. Quentin, between Coucy and Quincy. Bassee, the French drove back the Germans to the southwestern edge of the upper Coucy forest, capturing several important positions, the war office announces. In the Champagne the Germans were ejected from trenches east of Sapigneul.

Scout Operations in Rumania

Petrograd, April 12 (Via London).—"On the northern bank of the River and Caucasian fronts," the war office announced today, "there were scouting reconnaissances and reciprocal firing."

British Gain in Palestine

Cairo, Egypt, April 12 (Via London).—The British are continuing their success in the vicinity of Gaza, Palestine. Their mounted forces have occupied further Turkish territory to a depth of 15 miles, consolidating strong positions menacing Gaza and making many prisoners. The losses

of the Turks around Gaza are estimated at 8,000, while the British dead, according to the reports received, were less than 400. One hundred and ninety British are missing, mostly members of small parties which became isolated in the fog after penetrating the town of Gaza.

UNITED STATES WILL AGREE TO STAY IN WAR TILL HER AIMS ARE ACHIEVED

Washington, April 12.—Official dispatches on the coming of the French and British commissions to discuss the conduct of the war only mention the possibility that General Joffre may accompany former Premier Viviani of France, but do not give any definite announcement.

An impression conveyed in some quarters that the entente would seek to bind the United States to the general arrangement not to negotiate a separate peace is generally discounted here. It has been stated that the United States will not enter into an alliance in the old world sense of the term, but will commit itself to unlimited participation in the war until the aims which President Wilson announced are achieved.

An impression has been created that the United States will feel itself free to judge when that moment has arrived, and will not commit itself over and above its own aims in the war to an unlimited liability for territorial aims of the allies.

NEW REGULATIONS WILL LEAVE MANY PEOPLE UNABLE TO EXIST

Washington, April 12.—National transportation facilities of the principal railroads of the United States during the war will be merged voluntarily and operated under the general direction of a central committee of seven, co-operating closely with the government in handling troops, military supplies and general commodities.

This committee consists of Fairfax Harrison of the Southern, chairman; Howard Elliott of the New Haven, Samuel Rea of the Pennsylvania, Hale Holdon of the Burlington, and Julius Kruttschnitt of the Southern Pacific—all named yesterday at a meeting of railroad heads here, when the plan was devised; Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore and Ohio and chairman of the council of national defense's advisory committee, ex-officio member and one other to be appointed by the interstate commerce commission.

IT ALSO WILL HAVE THE CARIBBEAN PATH ALLIES PREVIOUSLY WATCHED

Washington, April 12.—Vice Admiral Browning of the British navy and Rear Admiral De Grasse of the French navy conferred today with Secretary Daniels and Admiral Benson, chief of operations, on co-operation between the allied navies and the United States for the conduct of the war. Both foreign commanders came to the United States on their flagships.

The first step by the United States navy in taking up its part of the war operations will be to take over the Atlantic and Caribbean path patrols hitherto maintained by British and French ships. No announcement of results of the conference was made.

TRANSPORTATION TO BE HANDLED FROM CENTRAL POINT IF WAR REQUIRES

London, April 12.—The food situation is dominating all other considerations in Germany, according to the Berlin Vorwaerts, as quoted in an Am-

sterdam dispatch to the Central News. The Vorwaerts says:

"Notwithstanding all the big events, the new food regulations which are to be introduced on April 15 form the exclusive subject of discussion in the most considerate circles of the people. The nearer the fateful day approaches the greater becomes the tension. A diminution in the bread ration forms serious difficulty for the entire people and causes great preoccupation.

Some weeks ago German newspapers announced the bread ration would be reduced by one-fourth beginning April 15. It was stated that the potato rations would be continued at five pounds weekly and that 250 grams weekly would be added to the meat rations. Surprise and consternation were expressed by the press over the prospect. The Berlin Volks Zeitung declared that it would mean that for many the limits of the bearable would be exceeded.

WILL BE DISCHARGED AFTER THE WAR WITH GERMANY ENDS

Washington, April 12.—The war department prepared today to issue instructions to recruiting officers which would be in effect a call for 500,000 volunteers to fill up the regular army and the existing units of the National Guard.

All recruits enlisted since the declaration of war and those to be enlisted hereafter will be notified that they will be discharged at the close of the war, putting them in the status of war-time volunteers.

A total of 4,355 men already have been enrolled in the regular army who will come under such status. This number of recruits was accepted during the first 10 days after the passage of the war resolution.

Analysis of the pending administration as it affects the regular army and the National Guard shows that provision is made for the absorption of 517,868 volunteers. Of these 161,519 will be needed to fill up the regular army and 208,349 for the National Guard. As 150,000 men must be withdrawn from the services within six months to train the first 500,000 increment of the selective conscript army, their places must be taken by that number of additional volunteers.

By this plan, while absorbing the volunteer spirit of the country, the feasibility of depending entirely upon volunteers will be demonstrated. Army officers are certain that it will show congress, where there are some doubts of the selective conscription plan, that conscription is necessary to maintain an army adequate to meet the present situation.

The pop-corn popper caught fire late this afternoon in the Novelty Candy company's store on Sixth street, and the East Las Vegas fire department was called to the scene to extinguish the blaze. Little damage was done, owing to the quick work of employes in the store and of the company.

* Pittsburgh, April 12.—Applicants at the marriage license bureau today were confronted by the following sign, printed in black on a yellow background: "A man who marries a girl to shirk his duty to his country is not going to think very much of shirking his duty to his wife. Girls, beware."

* All records have been broken at the bureau the past few weeks. the majority of men applying for licenses being between 21 and 25 years old.

* * * * *

MINING COMPANIES FEAR THEIR PLANTS AND CAMPS WILL BE INVADED

Santa Fe, N. M., April 11.—Governor W. E. Lindsey will issue a proclamation tomorrow calling a special session of the New Mexico legislature to meet next Monday or Tuesday for the purpose of assenting to the provisions of the national defense act and taking other defense measures believed necessary. The passage is expected of a law authorizing the sale of certificates of indebtedness to provide emergency funds.

The legislature will be specifically asked to provide for selective draft in case it is found the state forces cannot be sufficiently recruited with volunteers. Captain Charles De Bremond of Roswell, commander of New Mexico's battery, will arrive tonight to confer with the governor, who hopes to arrange with the government to send Captain De Bremond and the battery to the border as the nucleus of an artillery force there.

It is positively claimed by representatives of the big copper and zinc interests of Grant county here to see the governor, that the Mexicans under German direction have numbers of heavy field guns just south of the border which are to be used in raiding towns and mining camps in New Mexico.

On request of mine managers, the governor today arranged to issue some of the rifles of the recently mustered out National Guard to mine managers for the use of home defense units in the camps. Fifty mounted police commissions were issued to a Roswell home defense force and commissions are being given similar forces in all the principal towns of the state.

HAVE YOU STARTED YOUR GARDEN?

(By County Agent Gonzalez.)

The time for planting garden is here. Many people are inquiring the time for planting tomatoes, chile, onions and other vegetables. About the most tender plants we have are the tomato and chile, but even these crops can be grown successfully at our altitude. It was demonstrated last year that tomatoes do ripen in Las Vegas and that chile does well when properly cared for. The tomato and chile plants should always be started in hot beds. By doing so, the little plants will be transplanted about the twenty-fifth of May or possibly the first of June, when the danger of frost is past. You will never lose very much by trying tomatoes this year. The worst you can do is to have green tomatoes and they will do very well for preserves and pickles. The same may be said of red peppers.

It would not be safe to plant corn, squash, cucumbers or water melons until about the fifteenth of May, when the danger of frost is past. There are other vegetables which are more frost resisting and they may be planted soon. Such are peas, horse beans, radishes, carrots, turnips, lettuce and onions especially may be planted any time now. As a general rule, most people understand the planting of most vegetables, but there seems to be a difference of opinion as to onions.

In the southern part of the state and among the native people in the northern counties, they plant the seed in hot beds or cold frames, as this method facilitates the caring for the little plants before they are large enough to plant in the field. When the little onions are large enough, about the first of May they are trans-

planted in the field. It may seem too tedious a method, however it has been proven that it is just as easy and one can plant an acre of onions as soon as he could thin them out at the proper distance if the seed was planted in the field. If the land is very level, and free from weeds, it will be just as well to plant them in the open field.

Director Garcia, of the experiment stations, recommends the planting of onions as follows: Plant the seed out in the field, the rows being 12 to 14 inches apart, using about three to four pounds of seed to plant an acre. As soon as the little plants are large enough, they should be thinned to four inches in the row. Perhaps at our altitude, one of the American varieties would be the best to plant. The Brown Australian is one of the popular varieties.

Many of the people of Las Vegas and other larger settlements, who wish to plant small gardens, might secure the onion sets from someone who has hot beds. There are several gardeners this season in Las Vegas who have planted onions for sets. There is no question but that we will have to pay handsome prices for all of these vegetables, and "a dollar saved is a dollar earned."

REPORTS FROM DRY FARMING SECTIONS NOT ENCOURAGING; ROSWELL FRUIT HURT

Santa Fe, N. M., April 11.—The past week was dry, cold, windy, but with abundant sunshine throughout the state. Considerable damage was done to peaches, pears, apricots and alfalfa by the severe frosts of the week throughout southern valleys; in the northern district fruit remains dormant, and has probably not been damaged. Little farming has been done in north and eastern counties because of dryness, wind and cold. Winter wheat is reported fair to good but with some damage by high winds, and over much of the eastern part of the state rain is needed. Little seeding of spring wheat has yet been done because of unfavorable conditions. Ranges are dry and poor in the southeast counties but better over the higher districts of the state and stock losses have been small.

Des Moines: Not much farming started yet—too dry and cold for new breaking. Winter wheat doing better since the recent snow, but some of it damaged by high winds. Grass starting but needs warmer weather.

Mills: Week has been unfavorable for spring work; winter wheat needing moisture; early sown wheat is dying in some localities. Livestock doing very well.

Solano: Windy weather is drying the ground, but farmers preparing for row crops. Wheat looking well, but needing rain; some blown out by high winds.

Artesia: Spring plowing well under way. High winds and cold nights have injured fruit and alfalfa to some extent; range cattle are doing very well.

Roswell: Hard freeze on the fifth killed much of the fruit, although smudged orchards saved two-thirds crop. Season 15 to 18 days late and little farming started yet. Ranges bare because of unusually light rainfall.

Taos: Farming just beginning, very little spring wheat planted; winter wheat starting very good and apparently none has been winter killed; fruit backward but buds plentiful and healthy.

Jemez: Unusually dry, with little moisture in soil and drying winds. Fruits not yet blooming. Winter wheat doing nicely and alfalfa show-

ing green; spring wheat not yet planted.

Espanola: Weather dry and nights cold; all vegetation backward.

Willard: About 70 per cent of plowing finished, but high winds are drying it out considerably. Prospects for early planting and much larger acreage than last year.

OFFICER ADMITS HE WAS ORDERED TO DO SO LATE IN JANUARY

Norfolk, Va., April 11.—Captain Kehrer of the Austrian steamer Budapest, seized by United States authorities at Newport News Monday, admitted today to government officials that he wrecked the engines and machinery of his vessel on instructions from a source he refused to disclose. He received his orders January 31, and carried them out immediately. Captain Kehrer, his crew and men from the German steamer Arcadia, are held by immigration officers who are examining the men.

LAS VEGAS PHYSICIAN ON RESERVE LIST IS CALLED TO THE COLORS

Dr. William Porter Mills, reserve United States army surgeon, has been called into active service, and has been ordered to report at Fort Logan, Colorado, at once. Dr. Mills and his family left on train No. 10 this afternoon. Mrs. Mills and children will go to Boulder, Colorado, where they will remain for the present. Dr. Mills is but one of the many surgeons on the reserve list who have been called into the service since the declaration of war last week. Dr. Mills has been superintendent of the New Mexico Hospital for the Insane, at Las Vegas, for the past five years, being succeeded only last week by Dr. M. F. DesMarais.

INDIANS WANT COWS

Albuquerque, N. M., April 11.—The Indian service is in the market for several hundred head of good grade bulls, heifers and milk cows, according to J. W. Miller, secretary of the New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' association, who is in receipt of full specifications and schedule of the live stock required, through Senator A. A. Jones of this state. Preference is to be given to stock raised in a climate and altitude similar to where they are to be used, and for this reason New Mexico stockmen will have an excellent opportunity to bid on stock for reservations in this state and Arizona.

Included in the list are Fort Apache agency, Whiteriver, Arizona, for 125 bulls and 5 heifers; Jicarilla agency, Dulce, New Mexico, for 40 bulls; Mescalero agency, Tularosa, New Mexico, for 6 bulls, 125 heifers and 180 milk cows; San Juan agency, Shiprock, New Mexico, for 5 bulls and 100 heifers. All bids should be addressed to the superintendents of the various agencies and must be received before April 20, 1917. Forms for submitting bids can be obtained from the superintendents of the agen-

cies or from the secretary of the cattlemen's association, Albuquerque, N. M.

TORPEDOED VESSEL, THE SALMO, IS SUNK WITHIN TEN MINUTES

the Wilson liner Salmo, having aboard one American, who was saved, was reported to the state department today by Consul Frost at Queenstown. His dispatch follows:

"Wilson liner Salmo, 1,095 tons. Oporto to Liverpool, sunk by explosion amidships in 10 minutes at 12:30 p. m. April 7, 150 miles west of Blaskets. Norwegian fireman lost; chief engineer perhaps fatally scalded. No submarine or torpedo seen. Weather squally, heavy swells, low temperatures. Captain's boat rescued by tanker Konakry, Port Arthur to Queenstown, 5 p. m. the eighth. Other boats believed landed at Valencia. Sole American on board, Michael Plorun, 113 Kean street, Philadelphia, fireman, saved, now at Queenstown. Have the affidavit of Plorun, also of the master.

FIRST APPEARANCE OF CENSORSHIP IN THE NAVY IS NOTED TODAY

New York, April 11.—An apparent censorship of the mail on United States naval vessels is indicated by a postal card received from a sailor on an American battleship, which was made public today by the marine corps publicity bureau. On the reverse side of the card are sentences such as "I am quite well" and "I am wounded and am getting well and hope to return to duty soon," and so on. Above this is a printed warning that anything written on the card except address, name of sender and date will result in the destruction of the card. The sailors are instructed to cross out the sentences they do not wish to use.

CROSBY GETS PLUM

Washington, April 11.—Oscar T. Crosby of Warrentown, Va., was today appointed assistant secretary of the treasury. Mrs. Crosby recently was connected with the American commission for relief of Belgium, and had charge of the work in Belgium and northern France.

ALLIES TO RECRUIT HERE

Washington, April 12.—With the approval of Attorney General Gregory, Chairman Webb of the house judiciary committee will introduce tomorrow a bill to allow the allies' governments to recruit their citizens in the United States. Chairman Culberson of the senate judiciary committee will introduce the same bill.

MUCH WHEAT SAVED

Kansas City, April 12.—Rains that soaked the wheat and grain, belts of Oklahoma and Kansas yesterday saved thousands of acres that would have been ruined had the drought continued a few days more, according to the opinions expressed today by agricultural experts.

Try This On Your Eczema

IF YOU ARE AFFLICTED WITH SALT RHEUM, TETTER, DRY ECZEMA, ACNE OR PIMPLES, BUY A JAR OF DRY ZENSAL. FOR THAT WATERY ERUPTION, OR WEEPING SKIN, USE MOIST ZENSAL. 75c THE JAR.

E. G. MURPHEY

MEN ARE CALLED INTO SERVICE REGARDLESS OF THEIR MONEY OR POSITION

Washington, April 7.—Secretary Baker told the house military committee in confidence today the policies of his department for training men during the next year. He urged immediate enactment of the general staff bill, including the selective provision, recommending just one change in the bill as made public yesterday. That was to provide for the organization of technical units, including automobile and electrical engineers, signal men, and so forth. This suggested additional to the bill reads.

"The president is authorized to raise and maintain, by volunteer enlistment or draft, as herein provided, special and technical troops as he may deem necessary and embody them in organizations and officer them as provided in the third paragraph of Section 1 and Section 8 of this act."

Chairman Dent of the committee, with Representative Kahn of California, ranking republican member of the committee present, made this statement:

"I cannot say yet what the attitude of the committee will be regarding the question of selective conscription as the committee is not yet familiar with the bill and I could only judge by the questions asked the secretary."

"Secretary Baker is convinced that the draft system is absolutely essential, and that the voluntary system would not work adequately. The argument that has been all along made is that under a draft system of course, everybody would be treated alike, and that such would not be the case under the voluntary system."

"Under the present laws the ages for eligibility to enlistment are from 18 to 35 in the regular army and 18 to 45 in the National Guard, and the new bill changes this to make it 18 to 40 in both cases."

Secretary Baker told the committee there are enough small arms to equip the first 1,000,000 men; that within 14 or 18 months most of the heavy ordnance necessary would be available and that within two years there would be sufficient equipment to put 2,000,000 men on a complete fighting basis.

He said there were 7,000,000 men in the country between the ages of 19 and 25, of which he estimates 4,000,000 were available for service after eliminating those in factories or in arts and sciences where they perform work necessary for preparation of the country for the war, and the men who have dependents or military defects."

Secretary Baker opposed a suggestion that there be written into the bill a provision that the president might fill up the ranks of the National Guard by draft only after the voluntary system failed.

Rheumatic Pains Relieved

"I have used Chamberlain's Liniment for pains in the chest and lameness of the shoulders due to rheumatism, and am pleased to say that it has never failed to give me prompt relief," writes Mrs. N. S. Finch, Batavia, N. Y.—Adv.

MINERS ARE PATRIOTIC

Crede, Colo., April 7.—When Crede received yesterday the news of the war declaration against Germany, the whole town turned out for a demonstration on the mountain side, where the presidential salute of 21 guns was fired amid cheering. In the absence of cannon, 400 pounds of dynamite

A valuable dressing for flesh wounds, burns, scalds, old sores, rash, chafed skin, is BALLARD'S SNOW LINIMENT. It is both healing and antiseptic. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by Central Drug Co.—Adv.

INDICATIONS ARE WINTER VARIETY WILL BE 50,000,000 BUSHELS SHORT

Washington, April 7.—A prospective slump of more than 50,000,000 bushels in the winter crop of wheat, as compared with last year's crop, is the first war feeding problem to confront the country. Official estimates of the department of agriculture today—the first for the 1917 harvest—forecast that much of a decrease, although the acreage is much greater. A winter wheat crop of 430,000,000 bushels was forecast. May wheat today sold at 2.12; July at 1.88.

A Big Rye Crop

Notwithstanding the heavy decrease in the prospective winter wheat crop, the production of rye is forecast by the department of agriculture at 60,000,000 bushels, the largest output of that crop ever recorded in the United States.

Last year 481,744,000 bushels of wheat were harvested and 673,947,000 bushels were produced in 1915. Condition on April 1 was 63.4 per cent of normal, compared with 78.3 last year; 88.8 in 1915 and 86.2 the 10-year average.

Condition of winter wheat in the important growing states on April 1 was: Ohio, 80; Indiana, 65; Illinois, 60; Missouri, 62; Nebraska, 35; Kansas, 45; Oklahoma, 74.

RATHER THAN LET AMERICANS SEIZE INTERNED CRAFT THEY SINK IT AT GUAM

Washington, April 7.—The interned German gunboat Cormoran at Guam has been blown up. The Cormoran refused to surrender to the American forces which went to take possession of her and was destroyed by her crew. Two German warrant officers and five enlisted men were killed by the explosion. Twenty officers, 12 warrant officers and 321 enlisted men were taken prisoners.

The navy department's announcement said:

"The interned German cruiser Cormoran at Guam refused to surrender and blew herself up, killing two warrant officers and five enlisted men. Twenty officers, 12 warrant officers and 321 enlisted men were taken prisoners."

The message was received at the navy department at 9 a. m. today from Captain Roy Smith, governor of Guam and commandant of the naval station there. The destruction of the Cormoran took place at 8 o'clock last night, Washington time.

LONDON HAS REPORT SHE HAS OFFERED PENFIELD HIS PASSPORTS

London, April 7.—Passports have been placed at the disposal of American embassy in Vienna, according to a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from The Hague, quoting telegrams received there from the Austrian capital. Bulgaria and Turkey have also decided to break with the United States, and Holland will probably look after Austrian interests in Washington and American interests in Vienna.

Nature Cures, the Doctor Takes the Fee

There is an old saying that "Nature cures, the doctor takes the fee," but as everyone knows you can help Nature very much and thereby enable it to effect a cure in much less time than is usually required. This is particularly true of colds. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy relieves the lungs, liquifies the tough mucus and aids in its expectoration, allays the cough and aids Nature in restoring the system to a healthy condition.—Adv.

ARREST MADE IN EL PASO TODAY BELIEVED TO BE ONE OF IMPORTANCE

El Paso, Texas, April 7.—A prominent German reservist here, who has been under suspicion as the head of the German secret service on the border, was taken into custody by United States officers and detained pending further investigation of his case. A German from Juarez, who represents a large German commercial company in northern Mexico, was also detained at the federal building today when he crossed to the American side.

A German boarding house in the Mexican quarter, believed to be the headquarters of the German-Mexican secret service agents, was raided today by provost guards, and a number of trunks containing letters and papers seized.

Suspicious Men are Arrested

New York, April 7.—Two Germans were today arrested by the police in an East Eleventh street rooming house where were found eight rifles and shotguns, eight revolvers, a quantity of munitions, maps of the United States, compasses and other paraphernalia.

It was learned that federal agents have arrested Lieutenant Arthur E. Bielkowski, retired, of the German army, as a result of which it was said developments of importance were expected. Bielkowski is 79 years old and has been living in this country on his pension for 31 years.

Much Extra Work in March

To have a fine healthy complexion the liver must be active, the bowels regular and the blood pure. All this is brought about by using HERBINE. It thoroughly scours the liver, stomach and bowels, puts the body in fine condition and restores that clear, pink and white complexion so much desired by ladies. Price 50c. Sold by Central Drug Co.—Adv.

FINANCIAL BURDEN WILL BE ON THEM; YOUNG MEN TO RISK THEIR LIVES

Washington, April 7.—Plans for financing the war were discussed today by Secretary McAdoo with members of the house ways and means committee and with Chairman Simmons of the senate finance committee.

The \$3,400,000,000 already asked for the army and navy is expected to suffice, in addition to the regular appropriations bills, until June 30, 1918.

The step considered most important now is the extension of an immense credit to the entente allies—probably at least \$2,000,000,000 as an indication that the nation is going into the war to the limit with the resources most readily available.

Bonds under such a plan would be issued to take over bonds of the allies, making them in effect security for those obligations. Most of the money derived from such bonds, it is expected, would be spent in the United States. On the question of taxation, congress leaders feel that the burden of the war should be about equally divided between taxation and bond issues.

"The young men of the country," said Chairman Simmons, "are going to risk their lives in this war, and the wealthy who may not be able to risk theirs, should contribute from their wealth."

An Honest Letter from an Honest Man

Enos Halbert, Paoli, Ind., writes: "I contracted a severe cold this fall and coughed continually. Could hardly sleep at nights. I tried several remedies without relief. Got Foley's Honey and Tar and the first bottle relieved me, curing my cough entirely. I can recommend it for all coughs." Get the genuine. O. G. Schaefer.—Adv.

Neighbor Told Her Cure for Lumbago

Rheumatism and lumbago are awful things and cause great pain and misery, but Foley Kidney Pills can rout them.

Mrs. G. H. Eveland, Duncan Mills, Ill., writes the following letter: "I was stricken down with lumbago and was unable to turn myself in bed. A neighbor brought me a half bottle of Foley Kidney Pills, and said she had been similarly afflicted and that they had helped her. So I tried them and was completely relieved by the use of two or three bottles. I have had splendid success with them and have never known them to fail. I most heartily recommend Foley Kidney Pills."

Foley Kidney Pills tone up weak, inactive, sluggish kidneys, rid the body of poisons, give appetite, energy and refreshing sleep after pain. Don't neglect kidney trouble. Remove the cause with Foley Kidney Pills.

UNITED STATES ALSO WILL ACCEPT NO LETTERS FOR AUSTRIA

Washington, April 7.—Postmaster General Burleson today suspended mail service to Germany during the war, and also instructed all postoffices to refuse as well any mail destined for Austria-Hungary, Luxembourg, Bulgaria and Turkey, as it cannot be dispatched at present without passing through Germany. Mail from the country last named which may be received in the United States will be sent forward to destination.

Postmaster General Burleson also has suspended postal money orders between the United States and the German empire. International money order offices will decline to pay orders drawn upon them by German offices on and after April 6.

ON ACCOUNT OF THE WAR, IT IS DECIDED TO ABANDON THE PLANS

Chicago, April 7.—There will be no citizens' military training camps this summer, it was announced at army headquarters here today. General Barry stated that all arrangements for the camps had been suspended, and those who expected to attend can best further the interests of the government by enlisting.

Las Vegas was to have had a training camp during the month of July 21-August 20. As it is quite likely, however, that troops will be raised soon in this section of the country, Las Vegas may have a mobilization camp and training center for southwestern units of the new army. This would continue all summer or longer, and would bring more men here than the training camp. Las Vegas had made arrangements to entertain the officers and soldier-pupils nicely, and is disappointed to learn the camps have been abandoned.

NEW BUILDING

Cincinnati, O., April 7.—The new Chemistry building of the University of Cincinnati was formally dedicated today with an interesting program of exercises and in the presence of a distinguished gathering of educators and scientists. The building was erected at a cost of \$250,000 and is equipped with the most modern apparatus for the teaching of chemistry.

Bad breath, bitter taste, dizziness and a general "no account" feeling is a sure sign of a torpid liver. HERBINE is the medicine needed. It makes the liver active, vitalizes the blood, regulates the bowels and restores a fine feeling of energy and cheerfulness. Price 50c. Sold by Central Drug Co.—Adv.

Read the classified ads today,

GOVERNMENT ALSO IS THINKING OF RAISING THE INCOME TAXES

Washington, April 9.—About \$1,750,000,000, or about half the \$3,500,000,000, asked for army and navy purposes within a year, will be raised by taxation and the remainder by sale of bonds, house and senate leaders had virtually decided today. It is proposed that most of the revenue should come from increased taxes on incomes, inheritances and excess profits and that an issue of three and one-half per cent bonds be authorized for \$5,000,000,000, of which \$3,000,000,000 would be invested in war bonds of the entente nations and \$24,000,000,000 would cover the balance of the war expenses not met by taxation. All of the two billion might not be needed within the year, according to advance estimates.

Washington, April 9.—A decision to introduce the \$5,000,000,000 bond issue measure on Thursday in the house was reached today by Secretary McAdoo and Representative Rainey of Illinois, ranking democratic member of the ways and means committee.

The measure will carry a \$3,000,000,000 issue for a loan to the allies and a \$2,000,000,000 issue for conducting the war for this country. The \$2,000,000,000 issue is expected to meet approximately one-half of this country's war expenses to June 30, 1918.

Consideration of plans for raising additional funds by taxation for conducting the war for this country will come later. The most essential thing to be accomplished now, it is agreed, is to prepare the allies' loan in order that they may obtain much needed food and munitions. Every effort to rush the bond measure through the house will be considered by the ways and means committee Wednesday.

The question of the tenure of the bonds has not been definitely decided. Some members of the committee prefer 50-year bonds, but think that it would be best to pay them off at different times.

The question of raising money by taxation still is being considered from many angles, and no concrete plan has been worked out. It is generally agreed that excess profits, incomes and certain luxuries will be heavily taxed. What will be done about increasing the inheritance tax, however, still is problematical. Opposition to increasing it because of interference with state inheritance tax laws has appeared, but it is not believed it will be strong enough to prevent raising the government inheritance tax.

WILL HAVE FOR ITS TASK THE SUPERVISION OF EXPENDITURES

Washington, April 9.—A joint resolution for a congressional "joint committee on the conduct of the war" was introduced simultaneously today by Senator Weeks of Massachusetts and Representative Madden of Illinois, both republicans.

In the senate the resolution for a joint congress war committee was referred to the rules committee at the request of Senator Weeks, who explained that it was designed to have this congress follow the course of the civil war. It would furnish a direct connecting link between the executive and legislative branches of the government, he said:

"We should correlate all the forces of government in the conduct of this war. It is reported that we are to be asked to appropriate vast sums of

money, and we have no direct knowledge of when or how or where the money is spent. It is the duty of congress to know the methods of expenditure and the purposes of appropriations by congress. It is no reflection on anyone to have expenditures so considered. We are going to war and it seems to me we should keep before the people at all times the methods of making expenditures."

VESSELS THAT HAD BEEN INTERNED SINCE WAR BEGAN ARE TAKEN OVER

Boston, April 9.—The Austrian steamer Erny, war-bound here, was seized today by port officials after announcement from Washington that Austria-Hungary had broken off diplomatic relations with the United States. The Erny is the only Austrian refugee ship at this port.

Seizures in New York

New York, April 9.—The Austrian steamships Martha Washington and Himalaya, self-detained in port here, were today seized by the customs authorities.

Steamer Held in Virginia

Newport News, Va., April 9.—The Austrian steamer Budapest, tied up here since shortly after the outbreak of the European war, was seized today by federal officials.

Philadelphia Follows Lead

Philadelphia, April 9.—The collector of the port of Philadelphia today took physical possession of the Austrian steamer Franconia.

St. Louis Safely Home

New York, April 9.—The American line steamship St. Louis arrived here today from Europe, the first armed American passenger vessel to make a round trip voyage.

Washington, April 9.—Austria-Hungary, under the pressure of Germany, has severed diplomatic relations with the United States. Baron Erich Zweidinek, chargé d'affaires of the Austro-Hungarian embassy here, called at the state department today and asked for passports for himself and the embassy staff.

Almost at the same time a dispatch was received from American Minister Stovall at Berne, saying the dual monarchy had broken off diplomatic relations with the United States. In Vienna yesterday. It is presumed this was done by handing passports to American Charge Grew. American Ambassador Penfield, who had left Vienna on Saturday probably did not know of the government's action.

By pre-arrangements Spain will take over the diplomatic and consular interests of the United States in Austria-Hungary. All Austrian consular agents will depart from the United States with the diplomatic mission, as was the case with Germany.

Up to the time Charge Zweidinek asked for his passports no similar action had been taken by Bulgaria and Turkey—Germany's two other allies and their representatives here disclaimed having any knowledge of the intention of their government. It is expected they will follow the breaking of diplomatic relations. Austria's break with the United States undoubtedly is the prelude to a declaration of a state of war. Sixty-two days elapsed between the break in relations between the United States and Germany and the formal declaration of a state of war.

It is quite possible, however, that there may not be warlike operations between the forces of the two govern-

ments unless Germany, carrying further her domination of the Vienna government, should force it. Charge Grew at Vienna also will turn over to Spain British and Japanese interests which this country has looked after since the beginning of the war. Italian, French and Rumanian interests in Austria-Hungary previously looked after by the United States were ordered turned over to the Swiss minister. American ambassadors and ministers and consular officials in France, Great Britain, Russia, Serbia, Japan, Greece, Morocco and Egypt will stand ready to turn over Austrian interests which the United States has represented in those countries since the beginning of the war, to whatever nations the Austrian foreign office shall indicate.

The United States, by a break in relations, is released of the care of probably 2,000,000 war prisoners. In Russia alone it is estimated that 1,250,000 Austrian prisoners were under American protection with a considerable number in France also. In Austria the United States had cared for all the Italian and Rumanian prisoners. Other small groups are thought to bring the total well up toward 2,000,000.

About 200 native Americans are thought to be in Austria and Hungary, with perhaps another 1,800 naturalized Austro-Americans, most of whom may prefer to stay in their country of birth. Officials here expect no difficulties to be placed before Americans in Austria and that all the American embassy officials will be permitted to leave without restraint or inconvenience.

Austria has in this country about 50 consular officers in her regular embassy staff, not including clerks, attaches and families. Safe conduct for all will be arranged at once.

Penfield at Zurich

Paris, April 9.—The arrival at Zurich last evening of Frederick C. Penfield, American ambassador to Austria; Mrs. Penfield and three members of the embassy staff, is reported in a Havas dispatch from St. Gall, Switzerland.

ATTACK GERMAN POSITIONS FROM ARRAS TO THE SOUTH OF LENS

London, April 9.—The British early this morning attacked the German lines on a wide front from a point south of Arras to the south of Lens, thus opening what is believed are to be a general spring offensive. The move has been looked forward to eagerly for some days. The offensive of the British flying corps in the latter part of the last week, the attack on Zeebrugge Saturday night and the activity of the French in Belgium, as shown in yesterday's official communication from Paris, were considered a prelude to important military operations.

The British commander, General Haig, whose reports are always modest, says the German line has been penetrated everywhere and that satisfactory progress was made in the direction of Cambrai and St. Quentin, two important positions, including the new German line. The extension of the attack northward to Lens doubtless was intended to give the British more elbow room for their operations from Arras to the point of junction with the French around St. Quentin.

The statement says that in the direction of Cambrai the British have stormed the villages of Hermies and Boursies and have penetrated Havincourt wood in the direction of St. Quentin, Fresloy le Petit, and ad-

vanced their line southeast of Le Verguir.

The fighting line from Lens to Arras is approximately 10 miles in length, and lies directly north of the field of the retreat which the Germans have been conducting for these past several weeks.

Bournier is directly on the road from Bapaume to Cambrai, about eight miles from the latter place. Hermies lies just to the south of Boursies. In their drive toward St. Quentin the capture of Fresnoy de Petit puts the British within two and one-half miles of St. Quentin's outskirts.

Some 3,500 prisoners have been captured in the new drive against the German lines by one of the British armies alone, Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters telegraphs. The prisoners have been coming in endless procession the correspondent reports. The fighting is increasing in intensity as the battle progresses. The British casualties thus far are reported comparatively slight.

British Make Good Gains

With the British Allies in France, April 9 (via London. From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press.)—The British today delivered a strong blow against the Germans from the region southwest of Cambrai to a point south of Lens. They swept over the German positions from the south of Arras northward on the famous Vimy ridge, fighting for the possession of which cost the French 100,000 casualties earlier in the war. Once before the British gained the crest of the ridge, but under a tremendous concentration of German guns, they were compelled to give it up.

All winter Canadians have had a footing on the ridge with the German lines looking down on them. At the fighting today the allies took dominating positions on high ground, some of which had been held by the Germans for two years, and which was lavishly hemmed with wide belts of some of the sturdiest battle of the pronged barb wire which has ever been seen in the war.

The preliminary bombardment of the ridges attacked, delivered before dawn, proved to be one of the greatest spectacles of the war. The firing at times exceeded that which marked some of the sturdiest battle of the Somme. The night sky was illuminated for hours by the continuous flash of guns.

The attack was carried out in several phases. The first times had scarcely been entered when numbers of German prisoners began to come back. Today's attack also hit the northern hinge of the recent German retreat from Arras to the Aisne. The Germans evidently had expected a renewal of the offensive in the valley of the Somme, for in making the retreat in that sector they announced that they had completely disarranged the British offensive plans. Today's blow was Britain's answer.

Constipation and Indigestion

These are twin evils. Persons suffering from indigestion are often troubled with constipation. Mrs. Robert Allison, Mattoon, Ill., writes that when she first moved to Mattoon she was a great sufferer from indigestion and constipation. Food distressed her and there was a feeling like a heavy weight pressing on her stomach and chest. She did not rest well at night, and felt worn out a good part of the time. One bottle of Chamberlain's Tablets corrected this trouble so that she has since felt like a different person.—Adv.

Weekly Optic and Live Stock Grower

ESTABLISHED 1882

Stock Raising
Farming - Mining

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Kansas, held an expensive conversation. Once, fifty-three years ago, a man who owned a quarter section of land in Jackson township, Lyon county, was named James Wigginton. His name was James Wigginton, and he didn't like the way this government was run. So he talked too much with his mouth and lost his land. It will pay some of our talkative friends of a too pacifist persuasion to read what follows carefully about six times. Here it is:

The records of Lyon county disclose a strange story in regard to 160 acres of land, the northwest quarter of section 28, township 19, 13, which tract adjoins the townsite of Neosho Rapids on the east. It appears that this land belonged to one James Wigginton. During the Civil war Wigginton was charged with treason for "aiding, abetting and comforting," the enemies of the government during war time. Proceedings were brought in the United States court to confiscate his Lyon county land. The treason seems to have been proved and Thomas A. Osborn, United States marshal, afterwards sold the 160 acres, under the name of Mr. D. Bressler (2).

The federal court, made in 1864. The heirs of Wigginton, after the war, made an attempt to recover the land by suit in the Lyon county district court on the grounds that the confiscation related only to the life estate of the alleged traitor, but judgment was rendered against the heirs in March 1875, and the deed of confiscation confirmed.

The tract has since been cut up in small tracts, and is owned by a number of Lyon county people, who are probably unaware of the unusual history of their titles. The value of the entire quarter section is now many thousands, but the Wigginton heirs got nothing.

This is a free country; but for all its freedom sometimes a man can talk too much with his mouth.—Emporia Gazette.

The decision of the United States government to give aid to Russia is timely, for it is in that quarter that the greatest danger in the war situation now lies, apparently. Russia, having only recently thrown off the yoke of the czar, now is in the hands of a provisional government, the instability of which may lead to the fomentation of internal troubles by Teutonic agents. With Russia torn by dissension it might fall an easy prey to a German attack or might be induced to agree to a separate peace which would be disadvantageous and

ALIEN SECURITIES LISTED

New York April 12.—The govern-

ors of the New York stock exchange adopted a resolution today instructing members of the exchange to turn in by 2 p. m. Friday to the governors a memorandum of securities and money belonging to alien enemies in their possession.

LIST OF PEOPLES AND NATIONS IN THE WAR INCLUDES NEARLY EVERYBODY

The following countries are in the war to date:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Austria-Hungary | Italy |
| Belgium | Japan |
| Bulgaria | Montenegro |
| China | Portugal |
| China | Rumania |
| Cuba | Russia |
| France | Serbia |
| Germany | Turkey |
| Great Britain | United States |

Peoples and Races Engaged in the Great World War

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Afridis | Jews |
| Albanians | Kurds |
| Algerians | Lithuanians |
| Americans | Magyars |
| Annamites | Mahrattas |
| Armenians | Malagasy |
| Arabs | Maoris |
| Australians | Montenegrins |
| Austrians | Mongols |
| Bantus | Newfoundlanders |
| Bavarians | New Zealanders |
| Belgians | Pathans |
| Boers | Persians |
| Bulgars | Polés |
| Canadians | Portuguese |
| Circassians | Prussians |
| Chinese | Rumanians |
| Croatians | Russians |
| Czcehs | Ruthenians |
| Cubans | Saxons |
| Egyptians | Scotch |
| English | Senegalese |
| Filipinos | Serbs |
| Finns | Sikhs |
| French | Slovaks |
| Garnwalis | Slovenes |
| Georgians | Syrians |
| Germans | Tartars |
| Gurkhas | Tonkinese |
| Hessians | Turks |
| Irish | Welsh |
| Italians | West Indians |
| Japanese | |

Rear Admiral Charles Fremont Pond, commanding the cruiser squadron of the Atlantic fleet, entered the Naval academy from Connecticut in 1872, and rose through the various grades of the service until he attained the rank of rear admiral in March, 1914. He has had a total sea service of nearly a quarter of a century and an additional 18 years of shore duty. Much of his service at sea has shown him in charge of surveys of Pacific waters. In 1903 he superintended the

laying of the trans-Pacific cable. His share in the war with Spain was on board the Panther. Later he served as commandant at different navy yards and more recently he came into the public eye as commander of the naval forces operating in Haiti and Santo Domingo.

HOLLAND'S TRADE RESTRICTED

Belligerent Nations Have Close Guard on Contraband Imports and Exports

The Hague, Netherlands.—Dislocation of the foreign trade of Holland, resulting from the restrictions upon her imports and exports imposed by the belligerents in their economic struggle, is emphasized by Dr. John Loudon, the Dutch minister for foreign affairs, and F. E. Posthum, minister of agriculture, industry and commerce. Their report, now made public, holds particular interest for America, as it deals in part with the restrictions imposed upon the importation of American goods.

Virtually everything now imported by Holland from overseas, including goods from Holland's own colonies, the ministers assert, has to be guaranteed by The Netherlands Overseas Trust as being for neutral destination and consumption. Even then the entente allies permit no goods to be imported by Holland until they ascertain whether the various articles are needed for normal consumption in that country. While this investigation is in progress the importations are detained by the entente, even when they come from Dutch colonies, America or other neutral countries. Owing to objections on the part of the British government, imports guaranteed by the Overseas Trust sometimes are held up for months after their arrival in Holland.

Exportations for Holland virtually are limited to articles originating in neutral countries. This means that Holland cannot export goods in which more than 25 per cent of the raw materials came from belligerent countries.

Earnest objections have been raised against the action of Great Britain in imposing regulations and restrictions upon Holland's exports, while permitting their own subjects to export the same goods to neutral countries under conditions which Dutch manufacturers are willing to conserve. By this action, the ministers said, Dutch products are replaced by products of other countries.

Dutch exports and imports by overland routes are checked by prohibitions upon transportation issued by the central powers. The contraband lists of the Teutonic allies has been extended with damaging effect upon Holland's trade.

Holland has also felt severely the prohibition of export from Germany of raw materials for the manufacture of iron and steel. Various industries have been obliged to restrict production and others to stop all work.

embarrassing to her allies. Encouragement, advice, and, above all, money with which to carry on her operations in the field, coming from the United States, the greatest republic in the world's history, undoubtedly will do much toward aiding Russia to overcome the perils and pitfalls of the present and live to become a great democratic nation such as our own.

COMMERCIAL CLUB LUNCHEON TODAY ASSUMES A PATRIOTIC ASPECT

The Commercial club luncheon today was attended by a large number of Las Vegans, and a great business meeting was held after the meal. The soldiers, recently returned from the Mexican border, were the guests of honor, and Judge Leahy a Spanish-American war veteran, welcomed the boys, saying that though they have had all the tasks of soldiers, they have not had the honor of being conquerors in battle. However, they have, he said, the honor of having preserved the honor of the nation from invasion by a foreign foe, and have the thanks of the citizens, not only of Las Vegas, but of the entire state. When the boys are called again, he said, they will go as readily as they did before, and when they return, they will come as honorably as they have come this time.

H. L. Moore, of the Bible Film company, by request, told of the company's proposition to Las Vegans, which is, in brief: For every dollar invested in the company by local persons the concern agrees to expend \$2; and before the notes of Las Vegans become due, the company must have paid off the mortgage against the Las Vegas Hot Springs. Mr. Moore said that he has visited 11 business men, and has secured notes amounting to \$5,000. The Bible Film company wishes to raise \$10,000 here, which means that \$20,000 outside money must be expended. He announced that the natatorium will be open by July 4, and that the bathhouse will be under way of construction before that time. The activities of the company will begin May 15.

Mr. Moore said, in paying a tribute to the militia men, that he hopes when they return from the present war, if they are called, that everyone may come and eat with the Commercial club again.

The committee on vacant lot gardens made a favorable report, which was accepted and the committee was continued, and will report from time to time. The report was extensive.

The diners listened to a plea for the cowboys, given by "Tex" Austin, in his peculiar manner. M. R. Gonzalez, county agent, made a plea for the cultivation of lands between here and the Hot Springs. Forty-six men attended the luncheon, which was served by Jimmy Enomato.

TO OPPOSE RATE INCREASE

Chicago, April 12.—A general conference of commercial and manufacturing interests is to be held in this city tomorrow to consider what action may be deemed advisable in regard to the petition recently filed by the railroads with the interstate commerce commission, asking for a general increase in freight rates. The shippers, it is said, will ask that their side of the question be heard by the commission before final action is taken.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEETING

Springfield, Ill., April 12.—The Illinois Public Health and Welfare association met here today with an attendance the largest in the history of the association's meetings.

COLLEGE SPORTS ABANDONED

Colorado Springs, Colo., April 12.—Colorado College students today voted to abolish all sports for the remainder of the year. This action was taken in order to allow the men more time to devote to military training. A military organization has been formed and daily drills are being held under the direction of former army officers.

DIRECTOR JAMES SAYS STATE SUPERINTENDENT MISUNDERSTOOD FIGURES

Santa Fe, N. M., April 11.—In a statement issued here, A. E. James, director of the Taxpayers' association, takes exception to assertions recently made by State School Superintendent J. H. Wagner relative to the attitude of the association toward education and educational costs. He makes it plain that the association believes the taxpayers of New Mexico desire and can afford to provide the very best educational facilities, and that it does not oppose and never has opposed such a policy, but he declares that it will expose and combat waste and inefficiency in the expenditure of school funds. Mr. James' statement follows:

"State Superintendent J. H. Wagner has issued to the newspapers a statement relative to high schools in the state which draws inference relative to the attitude of the Taxpayers' association wholly unjustified by the facts or by any statements issued by the association, Mr. Wagner says:

"This article is aimed, apparently, to encourage reduced operating expenditures, regardless of any other consideration than to reduce taxes. Everything, including efficiency, as efficiency is reckoned by the nation's best school experts, is to be sacrificed to securing reduced costs—taxes—for maintenance of our schools."

"The facts do not justify this statement. No doubt Mr. Wagner did not mean to make a misstatement. But it is always unsafe to depart from the facts and indulge in loose statements as to motives. The association has nothing to fear from any fair criticism of what it actually does. It can hardly be expected to sit quiet when persons of Mr. Wagner's responsible position attempt to impute to it motives it never has had and under the writer's direction, never will have."

"The full context of the comparison as published by the association will show how wrong Mr. Wagner's statement is. In the issue of January, 1917, it was shown that the state educational institutions cost per pupil annually from \$177 to \$1,305 per student instructed over and above all earnings of the institutions. It was shown that some of these institutions are little more than local high and elementary schools. The article then said:

"It is interesting in considering the costs above to recall that in the association's analysis of high school expenses the average costs for seven high schools, Albuquerque, Roswell, Raton, Cimarron, Tucumcari, East Las Vegas and Santa Fe was 41 cents per student day or \$73.80 per year. Roswell, having the largest and one of the best high schools in the state, had a cost, as shown in that analysis, of 23 cents per pupil day, or \$41.40 per year."

"This comparison was made solely to show that high school instruction costs more in the state institutions than in the local high schools with no compensating advantages or greater efficiency."

"The full analysis of high school costs was published in March, 1916. The following figures, taken from that report, show the cost of the seven high schools compared with the population of each town according to the 1910 census. In their order the figures are, first, the 1910 census, second, the total cost of the school system, third, the cost of the high school, fourth, the cost per pupil day of the entire school system, and fifth, the cost per pupil day of the high school:

"Albuquerque, 11,020, \$71,108, \$16,681, 21 cents, 37 cents; Roswell, 6,172,

\$43,937, \$14,074, 20 cents, 23 cents; Raton, 4,539, \$33,141, \$11,408, 24 cents, 60 cents; Cimarron, 791, \$3,880, \$1,145, 19 cents, 75 cents; Tucumcari, 2,526, \$17,172, \$7,452, 16 cents, 70 cents; East Las Vegas, 3,755, \$17,006, \$6,125, 22 cents, 61 cents; Santa Fe, 5,072, \$16,930, \$6,810, 22 cents, 92 cents."

"If the purpose of the association were as Mr. Wagner states, merely to reduce the burden of the taxpayer the fact that Roswell cost \$43,937 and Santa Fe \$16,930 in total would have been prominently stated and the Roswell cost in view of the relative size of the towns would have been called excessive. The total cost is the burden on the taxpayer. Obviously, Roswell by this test is not a 'cheap' school. But the association computed the cost per pupil day to show the cost with reference to the work done. Then, and only then, did the true relationship of cost and performance appear. The article stated on these facts:

"The cost of high school instruction varies from 23 cents in Roswell (estimated) to 92 cents in Santa Fe. Roswell has 61,466 pupil days in the high school, Santa Fe 7,384. Roswell young people attend high school, Santa Fe young people, broadly speaking, apparently do not. Yet with scarcely one-tenth the pupils Santa Fe spends half as much on the high school."

"In view of this statement it is true that Roswell was held up as the best school 'on the grounds merely that the per capita cost there is the lowest, \$41.40'"

What do the people of Roswell think of this recommendation from the North Central association: 'They must have more teachers or cut down the number of pupils.' The Taxpayers' association has yet to recommend that any school exclude any pupils from the benefits of the instruction the taxpayers' money provides. Roswell does need greater school facilities. They are going to be provided and in view of the excellent use made of the funds heretofore provided the association hopes and expects that the additional facilities will be immediately forthcoming. The taxpayers of this state can afford proper school facilities. They will furnish them. They will not deny to any child in New Mexico the right to the best possible educational facilities and the association will not oppose, does not oppose, has never opposed such a policy. It will expose waste, inefficiency, failure of facilities provided to reach those for whom they are intended—it is hoped with the fullest co-operation of the state department of education."

MAN CONFESSES MURDER

Socorro, N. M., April 11.—Jacob Sedillo, wealthy sheep raiser, announced to District Judge Merritt C. Mechem in open court yesterday that he had shortly before shot and killed Antonio Gianera, another sheep raiser, eight miles west of here.

Gianera, according to evidence taken at the inquest, came in sight as one of his herders was driving a flock off range claimed by Sedillo at the order of the latter.

Sedillo opened fire on Gianera with a rifle at 20 yards, sending one bullet into his abdomen and another through his left hip, it was said. The second shot dropped Gianera from his saddle and Sedillo walking close to him fired a bullet into his head, it was asserted, which spattered his brains on a rock.

PENFIELD COMING HOME

Geneva, April 12 (Via Paris).—Frederic C. Penfield, former United States ambassador to Austria, and Allen W. Dulles of the embassy have left for Paris.

STRUGGLE NOW GOING ON IN WEST FRONT MAY END THE CONFLICT

Amsterdam, April 11 (Via London).—The military expert of the Berlin Vossische Zeitung considers that the battle of Arras will prove the decisive battle of the war. It was foreseen, he says, that the enemy would not try to break through on the Somme, as the basis for any such attempt had been removed by von Hindenburg's strategic retreat. The Germans, however, had been guided by the theory that with the strength in war material possessed by the allies they could not afford to remain quiet. Consequently everything possible was done by the Germans to strengthen the Arras line, and a surprise there was impossible. The expert adds that it must be borne in mind that the course the operations have taken was not desired by the hostile command.

Germany Expects Better Days

The Rheinische Westfälische Zeitung predicts a brilliant future for Germany, with the realization after the war of the emperor's promise of wider suffrage for Prussia. It says: "The future of Germany is perhaps being decided on the west front. Newer and better times for Germany will be the result of the battle near Arras and Soissons."

British Troops Advance

London, April 11.—British troops yesterday advanced north of the village of Louveral, in the direction of Cambrai, to the extent of a quarter of a mile along a front of 2,000 yards, and consolidated this gain during the night, telegraphs Reuter's correspondent from the British army headquarters in France.

The British captured the village and heights of Monchy le Preuz early today, according to British official statements. The village of Le Berge also was captured and satisfactory progress is reported on other parts of the front.

The message of the correspondent reads:

"North of the village of Louveral we pushed forward toward Cambrai to the extent of a quarter of a mile along a front of 2,000 yards, and consolidated this gain during the night. "Northwards our patrols are advancing to the forest which runs along the whole of the steep eastern slope of Viny ridge."

"The splendid success of our offensive has created a most interesting situation and one which is fraught with tremendous possibilities. The enemy has been forced back upon the Piuloff, his previous retreat, in a manner which creates a dangerously sharp salient at this point."

"Indeed, a glance at the map suggests that there is a distinct outflanking of the German northern pivot as it existed before the present fighting."

The German Statement

Berlin, April 11 (Via London).—Since early morning today, says the German official statement, fighting between the British and German forces developed on both sides of Arras Cambrai road and between Bullscourt and Queant.

The German statement adds that fighting activity occurred in a limited area north of the River Scarpe yesterday at Givenchy-en-Gohelle, Frabus and Fampoux, but effected no change in the situation.

French Make Gains

Paris, April 11.—Active artillery fighting continues between the Somme and the Oise," says today's official communication.

"South of the Oise a German at-

tack east of Coucy was broken up. Near Maisons de Champagne there was severe grenade fighting. In le Pretrie forest the artillery firing was rather violent. North of Arras court our patrols brought back prisoners. In the region of Ban-de-Sapt we inflicted losses on the enemy in the course of an incursion into his lines north of Fonenlle."

HOUSE HAS FAVORABLE REPORT ON THE WAR FINANCING MEASURE

Washington, April 11.—The war financing bill providing for \$5,000,000,000 in bonds and \$2,000,000,000 in treasury certificates, was unanimously reported for passage today in the house by the ways and means committee.

Chairman Kitchin, introducing and reporting the bill to the house, announced that it would be called up Friday for action.

The bill authorizes a bond issue of \$5,000,000,000 and provides that not to exceed \$2,000,000,000 from the proceeds of the bonds may be used in extending credits to foreign governments. The remaining \$2,000,000,000 is to be used at home. It also authorizes an additional bond issue of not to exceed \$63,945,460 to redeem the three per cent loan of 1908, maturing August 1, 1918. It takes in provisions for other bonds already authorized by law and authorizes \$2,000,000,000 worth of certificates of indebtedness to run one year. The report on the bill states that the committee "deems it advisable to authorize the \$5,000,000,000 bond issue at this time in order to enable our government to extend liberal credits and in order to provide immediately ample funds to meet such expenditures as are authorized for the national security and defense."

Interest is not to exceed three and a half per cent, and the bill leaves the denominations of the bonds to the discretion of the secretary of the treasury. If at any time prior to December 31, 1918, a subsequent series of bonds are issued, at a high rate of interest, bonds issued under authority of the act may be convertible into bonds bearing the higher rates.

INVESTIGATION SHOWS EXPLOSION WAS ENGINEERED BY A SPY

Chester, Pa., April 11.—That the explosion in the Eddystone ammunition plant yesterday, which cost 116 lives, was the result "of a diabolical plot conceived in the degenerate mind of a demon in human guise," was the assertion of a high official of the corporation today. This official said an investigation concluded this afternoon had shown that a bomb manufactured from a shell in the plant by one of the employes had caused the disaster.

With 116 dead and between 125 and 150 injured, the majority girls and young women, the authorities today turned their efforts toward placing the blame for the explosion.

Both Alba B. Johnson, president of the Baldwin Locomotive works, which owns the plant, and President S. M. Vauclain of the destroyed plant, incline to the belief that a bomb or time clock with an explosive attached caused the explosion. The Chester police today released two suspects arrested yesterday, father and son named Cohen.

San Francisco, April 12.—A ferryboat strike, long threatened, tied up half the trans-bay facilities here today. Some 25,000 commuters found their usual connections out of business.

INDICTMENT RETURNED AGAINST ALLEGED SLAYER OF CLYDE D. ARMOUR

As had been expected, when the Santa Fe county grand jury returned its indictments and no true bills, and made its final report to District Judge Abbott at Santa Fe Saturday afternoon, a true bill was among the various findings of the jury, against Elbert W. Blancett, charged with murdering Clyde D. Armour on October 23, 1916.

Because of the wide publicity given the murder mystery at the time, the entire country has been interested in the outcome of the case, and the indictment by the grand jury on Saturday is the first legal step toward bringing Blancett to justice.

While the evidence against Blancett, so far as has been made public, is entirely circumstantial, there is practically no doubt but that he is the guilty man. The history of the case, briefly stated: Armour, 32 years old, a well known clerk in the railway offices, at Sioux City, Iowa, disappears between Las Vegas and Santa Fe, on the afternoon of October 23, 1916, and after the passing of more than a month, a search for his body is instituted by his relatives and friends. Blancett, impersonating Armour, as it is alleged, made himself notorious in Santa Fe and Albuquerque, drinking and cutting a wide swath in society. He had the nerve, if guilty, of sending a box of candy to an Albuquerque girl, "With the compliments of Clyde D. Armour," whose body lay at the time exposed to the elements on a hill top near Glorietta. He also sent telegrams to relatives of the missing man, and signed them "C. D. Armour."

The finding of the skeleton of Armour, 83 days after the man's disappearance caused a sensation, and Antonio Sandoval y Griego, who followed his dog to the skeleton after the animal had dragged in a human foot and leg, was paid the \$1,000 reward offered by brothers of the murdered man.

Chronological History of the Crime

Following is the chronological history of the murder mystery, the last chapter of which will be enacted on Thursday or Friday of this week when Blancett is tried for the murder of Armour:

September 29, 1916—Clyde D. Armour, his mother and sister, Miss Agnes Armour, left Sioux City traveling in an Oldsmobile "eight" motor car, with Fresno, California, as their destination.

October 7—Miss Agnes Armour was taken ill at Clarks, Nebraska, and was taken to a hospital there for treatment, her mother remaining with her and Clyde continuing westward in the car. Later Mrs. Armour went to Fresno, traveling on the Santa Fe.

October 19—Armour reached Denver, Colorado, and appealed to the secretary of the Y. M. C. A. there for a traveling companion, and inserted an advertisement in the Denver Post. The advertisement was answered by Elbert W. Blancett, and the men left Denver on October 20, traveling over the Transcontinental highway, toward Las Vegas, New Mexico.

October 22—Armour and Blancett arrived in Las Vegas, stored their car at the Las Vegas garage, and registered at the Troy hotel.

October 23, 11 a. m.—Armour and Blancett went to the garage, took the car, saying to Mr. Biehl, the proprietor, that they would eat their luncheon before leaving for Santa Fe. 4:53 p. m.—A telegram was sent from Santa Fe to relatives at Sioux City, asking for \$200 for "repairs" on car. Telegram signed "C. D. Armour." The

same evening "C. D. Armour" registered at the Montezuma hotel in Santa Fe. "C. D. Armour" stayed in Santa Fe several days, spending money freely cashing several travelers' checks, signed "C. D. Armour."

October 31—Telegram sent from Albuquerque, N. M., to Mrs. Mary E. Armour at Fresno, California, saying: "Have sold car. Coming on train. C. D. Armour."

November 17—Myron L. Sawyer, a brother-in-law of Armour, visits Los Angeles, San Diego and other towns, in search of Armour. Coming as far east as Albuquerque, he learns that "C. D. Armour" had been in the city and had left. He learned of the fast life "Armour" had lived in Santa Fe and Albuquerque, and returns to Fresno believing his brother-in-law had been on a protracted drunk, and that he would show up shortly. Mrs. Armour, rather than tell her other sons of the "waywardness" of Clyde, asks that they be not informed of his disappearance.

December 14—Two brothers of Armour, Roy Armour and Glenn Armour who have learned of their brother's disappearance, arrive in Santa Fe, in search of information concerning him. They declare the signature at the Montezuma hotel there a forgery and advance the theory that their brother has been murdered. The Armour brothers offer a reward of \$1,000 for the information leading to discovery of C. D. Armour or his body.

Newspapers throughout the west take notice of the mystery and volunteer opinions as to the murder and disposition of the body.

December 18—Mexican rancher living 18 miles from Santa Fe tells of lone motorist who speeds down the road taking no notice of turns or rough places. Working on this theory, Melvin T. Dunlavy, a prominent attorney employed by the Armour brothers secures a warrant for the arrest of "E. W. Blancett."

Dunlavy secured his first clue to Blancett's identity by the man's name being found on the Troy hotel register by a representative of The Optic.

December 19, to 28.—Armour brothers, Myron Sawyer and host of residents of Santa Fe and San Miguel counties, continue to search for body of Armour, without success.

December 28—Armour brothers go to Denver to secure further evidence and to discover if possible, information concerning Blancett. They continue to their homes in Nebraska, and Sawyer returns to his home at Fresno, California.

December 29—Elbert W. Blancett is arrested in Friday Harbor, Washington. He attempts to commit suicide by shooting himself with a shotgun.

December 31—Chief of Police J. R. Galusha of Albuquerque is named by Governor McDonald to bring Blancett to the state, and as a last official act the governor signs a requisition for the extradition of Blancett from the state of Washington.

January 3, 1917—Galusha leaves Albuquerque for Olympia, Washington, armed with evidence and the requisition upon Governor Lister of Washington for Blancett's extradition.

January 8—Relatives of Blancett announce they will fight extradition and engage three attorneys in the capital of that state.

January 12—Governor Lister of Washington honors requisition.

January 14—The body of Clyde D. Armour is discovered on a hill top, 45 miles from Las Vegas, 300 yards from the Santa Fe-Las Vegas highway. Antonio Sandoval y Griego, who finds the body, notifies Santa Fe county officials and the officials accompanied by many citizens go to the scene of the murder. Las Vegas also go to

the scene. A coroner's jury is called and finds the body to be that of Clyde D. Armour, but does not state how he met his death. The body, badly decayed and half-eaten by wild animals, is taken to Santa Fe. Several bones are missing.

January 15—Elbert W. Blancett, in custody of Chief Galusha and a trained nurse, leave Seattle, Washington, for San Francisco.

January 18—Blancett is placed in the state penitentiary at Santa Fe, still in charge of the trained nurse, Miss Mackey.

April 7—An indictment is found against Blancett by Santa Fe county grand jury on murder charge and trial is unofficially set for Thursday, April 12.

THE ST. LOUIS, ARMED, HAS ALL THE "BREAKS" AND GETS AWAY SAFELY

New York, April 9.—Running safely through the dangers of the German submarine blockade of Great Britain and without sighting a periscope either on the outward or homeward journey, the American Mainland passenger liner St. Louis arrived at her home dock today. The St. Louis was the first American passenger boat to be armed and travel through the danger zone around the British Isles since Germany's declaration of January 31, and she was well armed for the trip.

The homeward voyage was a stormy one. A hundred miles off the coast of Ireland, a gale threatened the destruction of the lifeboats which had been partly lowered, and it became necessary to lie to for two hours while they were made secure. This was an anxious time, as the stop was made directly in the normal path of German submarines returning to their home bases.

Now that the American ship has completed her memorable voyage, it is possible to tell how good luck probably saved her from destruction. There appears no room for doubt that the German admiralty knew of her departure and took steps to destroy her.

Running at full speed during the night with the coast of Ireland and its submarine-infested waters in the distance, "S. O. S." calls of ships in distress came to the watchful wireless operator of the St. Louis. A ship had been torpedoed about 75 miles ahead of the St. Louis, and directly in her path. Soon another call for help showed that another steamer had met the same fate a hundred miles south, while a third told of the destruction of a British boat for the west from the war zone and in the path the St. Louis had traveled.

The St. Louis arrived off the Bay of Marseilles before dawn. There was no pilot boat at hand, and the American liner was compelled to steam outside the bar, where it was known a German submarine had been working the night before until driven away by patrol boats. During this time a neutral steamer which had been in the harbor had attempted to go to sea. She was caught dropping mines inside the bar, 80 of them being strewn about, it was reported. Patrol boats picked up or destroyed about two.

The St. Louis crossed the bar and went up the narrow channel about 10 o'clock in the morning. About an hour later the British steamer Kelvinhead crossed the bar, struck one of the lost mines and sank. The St. Louis could not have missed this mine by more than 20 feet. How she escaped destruction was a mystery to the British officers.

It was the report around the Liverpool dock that the vessel caught

strewing mines was a Swedish boat. This was not confirmed by the British, nor is the fate of the officers of the German ship known. Those things are not given out or even talked about by England's sailors. But the decision in their case was probably not long delayed. It was the expressed belief of British that the big guns on the St. Louis held no terrors for the German submarines, the fortune of war was on the side of the American.

Submarine Fires Into Ship

San Francisco, April 9.—The British steamer Sequoya, Captain Phillips, of the Standard Oil company's fleet, which reached a Pacific port yesterday from England, bore the scars of an encounter with a German submarine, which, somewhere in the Atlantic, made an unsuccessful effort to torpedo the tanker.

According to the Sequoya's officers, the torpedo missed by a narrow margin. The Sequoya put on full speed. The submarine came to the surface and followed, sending showers of shells into the tanker with the evident design of disabling the steering gear.

Part of the bridge was shot away, and several of the Sequoya's boats were shot full of holes before the tanker's superior speed took her beyond the u-boat's range.

THE SEWARD IS SUNK WITHOUT WARNING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Washington, April 9.—The American steamer Seward was reported torpedoed and sunk without warning in the Mediterranean by a German submarine in a dispatch to the state department today from Consul Gaulin at Marseilles. All of the crew of 31 was said to have been saved.

TELEGRAM GOING INTO MEXICO SCRUTINIZED IN EL PASO

El Paso, Tex., April 9.—A naval officer was placed in the local telegraph office yesterday to censor all messages going into Mexico and received from Mexico. It was announced today the censorship had been lifted on Mexican messages.

A German who has been serving as quartermaster for the Mexican army in Juarez is being detained here by the United States secret service. He has been with the Carranza army for two years, and claims he is a Mexican citizen. A number of German residents of El Paso have also been detained by the secret service here for investigation, but no charges have yet been filed against them. The suspects are being held in the stockade at Fort Bliss.

DAUGHTER IN TERRIBLE SHAPE

A. Mitchell, Bagdad, Ky., writes: "My daughter was in terrible shape with kidney trouble. I got her to take Foley Kidney Pills and she is completely cured." Foley Kidney Pills strengthen weak, deranged kidneys; correct bladder troubles; stop rheumatic pains and backache; relieve sore muscles and stiff joints.—O. G. Schaefer.—Adv.

INCREASES CAPITAL STOCK

Santa Fe, April 10.—The Diamond Coal company of Albuquerque today increased its capital stock through filing a charter amendment with the state corporation commission, from \$100,000 to \$1,500,000. The Sacramento River Cattle company, of Alamo-gordo, at the same time increased its capitalization from \$200,000 to \$300,000.

TEXAS BOY GIVES BAD CHECK TO COVER DEBT INCURRED AT THE CARDS

(Special to The Optic.)

Santa Rosa, N. M., April 6.—In the case of the State vs. Cresenciano Alvarado, which was tried Monday afternoon before the court and jury, after hearing the evidence produced by the state, upon a motion by Mr. Faircloth that the jury be instructed to bring in a verdict of not guilty on the ground that the state had failed to make a case against the defendant, Judge Leahy sustained the motion, and directed the jury to acquit the defendant.

The defendant was indicted for stealing a yearling heifer, the ownership of which was unknown. The defendant and his bondsmen were discharged by the court.

Thomas Carter Convicted

The case of State vs. Thomas Carter, charged with assault with a deadly weapon on John T. Coke, was tried Tuesday before the court and jury. The evidence was concluded about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and a night session was held and the case went to the jury at 9:30 p. m. The jury was out all night and on the incoming of court Wednesday morning reported it could not agree. Judge Leahy sent it to the jury room to deliberate further, and in about one hour the jury reported a verdict of guilty against the defendant as charged in the indictment. J. E. Pardue, attorney for defendant, gave notice that he would move for a new trial. This case was tried at the September, 1916, term of court and the jury disagreed. The altercation between Carter and Coke grew out of a remark Coke made to certain parties in the village of Yeso, as to the attentions of the defendant, who was a married man, to a certain young lady stopping temporarily in Yeso. Carter went to Coke and asked him to retract the stories. Coke refused. Carter claims that Coke drew a small dirk knife, and in the struggle that ensued between them, Coke was cut with his own knife. Coke denies having a knife, and swears that Carter pulled the dagger from his pocket and stabbed him four times; twice in the face, one in the arm and once in the left side. None of the wounds was serious.

Judge Leahy stated he would sentence Carter at the end of the term.

Unfortunate Gambling Scrape

Chester Aiken, a young man 19 years of age, from Plainview, Texas, decided to leave his home town and see something of the world. He purchased a ticket to Belen, New Mexico, about six weeks ago and stopped in Vaughn, New Mexico. Here he met an acquaintance from Texas, and sat down in a poker game. When he got up from the game he found he had lost \$65. He thereupon drew a check for \$75 on a bank in Lubbock, Texas. This check was cashed in Vaughn, and turned out to be a forgery. Aiken pleaded guilty to the charge, and was sentenced by Judge Leahy to not less than a year nor more than 15 months in the state penitentiary. Aiken's father was present in the courtroom and also his attorney, Mr. Kirk, from Plainview, Texas. Mr. Faircloth was the local attorney who represented Aiken.

Accused of Seduction

The grand jury at the present term of court returned an indictment against Teodoro Gonzales, a young man about 22 years old, charging him with having on the fifteenth day of July 1916, seduced Ramona Baca, a young woman under the age of 16 years. The defendant was arraigned

in court Wednesday morning, and entered a plea of not guilty. The trial of his case was set for Saturday of this week. O. A. Larrazolo and H. R. Parsons, entered an appearance for the defendant.

In the case of the State vs. Bert Radcliffe, charged with assault with a deadly weapon—a sling shot—Judge E. R. Wright entered his appearance for the defendant, and the defendant appeared and pleaded not guilty to the charge. This case probably will be tried during the present term of court. The defendant is out on bond.

COURT IN SANTA ROSA PROBABLY WILL NOT FINISH TERM TILL NEXT WEEK

(Special to The Optic)

Santa Rosa, April 7.—Late Wednesday the Guadalupe county grand jury submitted to the court its final report and asked to be discharged from further duty. The report was as follows:

State of New Mexico,
County of Guadalupe,
April 1917, Term.

"Report of Grand Jury

"To the Honorable David J. Leahy, Judge of said court.

"We the grand jury for the present April term of court beg to report as follows:

"We have been in session for the past three days, and during that time have considered a number of cases. We have returned seven indictments and three no true bills.

"We are glad to report that there has not been much crime and lawlessness in the county of Guadalupe during the past six months. We have inspected the different county offices and records in the same and we find that the offices are conducted in a business like manner, and that the records are well kept and in good condition.

"We inspected the county jail and we find that the building is in good condition and that the prisoners therein are given good food and of a wholesome nature.

"We have inspected the court house and other county buildings and we find that some of the county offices need more room.

"We recommend that the county commissioners enlarge the office of the county treasurer, as he has not sufficient room to properly conduct the business of his office.

"We find the county has not been provided with necessary furniture and office equipment for the proper discharge of the duties of his office. We recommend that the county commissioners purchase and provide the county clerk with furniture and equipment at once.

"We also recommend that the sheriff's office be calcimined. We find that the combination locks, for cells in the jail are in bad order and we recommend that the same be repaired.

"Having completed our labors, with thanks to the court and court officials for courtesies extended to us during our labors, we respectfully ask to be discharged.

"Santa Rosa, N. M., April 4, 1917.

"MANUEL MORENO, Clerk.

"MATILDE CHAVES Foreman."

Will Finish Next Week

The spring session of the district court will not adjourn until probably Tuesday or Wednesday of next week. Two cases have been set for trial for Monday.

The case of the State vs. Teodoro Gonzales, charged with rape, was set for trial today.

In the case of the State vs. Nicenor Aguilar, seduction, the defendant

was arraigned Thursday morning and pleaded not guilty. Mr. Faircloth entered his appearance for the defendant, and the cause was continued until the next term, upon his application.

Abel Romero appeared in court Thursday morning and changed his plea from not guilty to guilty to the indictment charging him with forging the name of his uncle, Manuel Pacheco, to an order for goods on Moises Brothers. The court imposed a fine of \$25 and costs upon the defendant and 30 days in the county jail, the jail sentence to be suspended upon payment of fine and costs.

Casimiro Abeyta charged with assault upon Andres Marquilla, by striking him with a beer bottle, plead guilty to the charge and was sentenced to three months in the county jail and to pay a fine of \$25 and costs; the jail sentence to be suspended during good behavior upon payment of fine and costs.

The grand jury in the case of the State vs. Alberto Perez, charged with assault with a deadly weapon, reported no true bill in the case, and the defendant was discharged by the court.

The civil suit of J. D. DeGraffenreid vs. Cipriano Tapia, was tried before the court on Thursday. Plaintiff claims that the defendant trespassed with his sheep on land belonging to plaintiff, through a leasehold from the state of New Mexico. He asks that the defendant be enjoined from watering his sheep at a lake on this leased land and for \$100 damages. Mr. Keith Edwards appears for plaintiff and L. C. Ilfeld, of Las Vegas, for the defendant. There were five cases of this kind brought by Mr. De Graffenreid against parties owning sheep and who he states have been watering their flocks at his lake. Two cases were dismissed and two continued until next term. In each case Mr. De Graffenreid asks for an injunction and \$100 damages.

The United Brethren Mission

Tomorrow's Easter services at the U. B. session will be held at the usual hours. At the morning preaching service Mrs. D. H. Kunkle will preach. At the evening service D. H. Kunkle will occupy the pulpit. The regularly weekly prayer meeting will be led by Miss Lena Schmidt.

BERNSTORFF BADLY TREATED

Amsterdam, April 7 (Via London).—A Berlin telegram quotes from the North German Gazette, the semi-official Berlin newspaper, a long note handed to the Swiss legation in Berlin by the German government protesting against the treatment of Count von Bernstorff, former German ambassador to the United States by the British authorities at Halifax, where the von Bernstorff party was detained for some time on their ship for examination. The Swiss legation is requested to transmit the com-

A prudent mother is always on the watch for symptoms of worms in her children. Paleness, lack of interest in play, and peevishness is the signal for WHITE'S CREAM VERMIFUGE. A few doses of this excellent remedy puts an end to the worms and the child soon acts naturally. Price 25c per bottle. Sold by Central Drug Co.—Adv.

Santa Fe, April 10.—The first page of the Sunday magazine of Los Angeles, carried a full-page portrait of a Santa Fe girl, Mignon Le Brun, now gaining fame as a motion picture actress.

Try Zensal for that itching Eczema. Sold by E. G. Murphey.—Adv.

LITTLE REPUBLIC FOLLOWS EXAMPLE OF ITS FRIEND, THE UNITED STATES

Havana, Cuba, April 9.—Cuba, not yet out of her teens as a republic, is at war with Germany—the first of the Latin-American countries to range herself alongside the United States, her liberator and protector.

At 7:16 Saturday night President Menocal affixed his signature to the joint resolution passed unanimously by both the senate and house, thus putting into effect the declaration that a state of war exists between Cuba and the imperial German government.

The joint committee appointed by the senate and house agreed early in the afternoon upon the phraseology of the resolution to be presented and the stage was set for quick action before either branch of congress convened.

The following nations are now engaged in the war:

Entente	Central Powers
Great Britain,	Germany,
France,	Austria,
Russia,	Turkey,
Italy,	Bulgaria.
United States,	
Belgium,	
Serbia,	
Rumania,	
Montenegro,	
Cuba,	
Japan	

Zensal will stop the itching. For all skin troubles. Sold by E. G. Murphey.—Adv.

MAN WHO WAS CLEVELAND'S SECRETARY OF STATE IS CALLED BY DEATH

Boston, April 9.—Richard Olney, secretary of state under President Grover Cleveland, died at his home here last night.

Mr. Olney was once secretary of state and always a noted student of international affairs. He died at 8:45 o'clock last night. Word of the passing of the great citizen was not given the public until today. The end came after a long period of suffering.

Three days ago he lapsed into semi-consciousness with a smile on his face. He had just been advised of the president's message to congress asking that a state of war be recognized, and his joy was unbounded. It was the consummation of his most earnest hopes.

Five years ago when Mr. Olney was rounding his seventy-seventh anniversary he was operated upon for an intestinal trouble that had begun to seriously affect his robust health. Last October there was a recurrence of the trouble, and in January another operation was performed. Though not permanently benefited, Mr. Olney got on his feet again, and returned to his law office, to which he made almost daily visits until late in February.

Since then he had failed steadily and it was apparent that the end was not far off. Yesterday afternoon he suffered a paralytic stroke that left his right side paralyzed.

Some Good Advice

"Don't think too much of your own methods. Watch other people's ways and learn from them." This is good advice, especially when bilious or constipated. You will find many people who use Chamberlain's Tablets for these ailments with the best results, and will do well to follow their example.—Adv.

URUGUAY AND ARGENTINA WILL REMAIN NEUTRAL, IT IS STATED

Rio Janeiro, April 11.—Pro-ally demonstrations are growing in volume throughout the city. The crowds gather in front of German establishments and hoot.

Although the government decided yesterday on severance of relations with Germany, the actual promulgation of the measure has been delayed for a few hours. It is believed the government is awaiting a reply to its request that Switzerland take over Brazilian interests in Germany. The council of ministers will meet at 9 o'clock tonight.

Argentina to Be Neutral

Buenos Aires, April 11.—The ministers of war and marine are making active preparations to increase the efficiency of the nation's defenses and are preparing to call a contingent of conscripts to colors. The press as a rule approves the decision of the government in supporting the action of the United States towards Germany, although remaining neutral.

Brazilian Minister to Leave

London, April 11.—The Brazilian minister to Germany will demand his passports tomorrow and leave Germany by way of Switzerland, France and Spain, according to a dispatch from Cologne forwarded by the Exchange Telegraph company at Amsterdam.

Uruguay to Be Neutral

Montevideo, Uruguay, April 11.—The Uruguayan government today issued a decree of neutrality in the war between the United States and Germany and between Cuba and Germany.

Cuba Shows Right Spirit

Washington, April 11.—Amid applause Speaker Clark laid before the house today a message from Miguel Coyula, speaker of the Cuban house, regarding the Cuban declaration of war against Germany. It read:

"The house of the republic of Cuba, in declaring that a state of war exists between this nation and the German empire, resolved, all members rising to their feet and amidst the greatest enthusiasm to address a message of confraternity to that body announcing the pride felt by the people of Cuba in uniting its modest efforts to those of the great nation contending for the triumph of right and respect for the liberty of small nations.

"The house also resolved to express the supreme gratification of the Cuban people in uniting their flag side by side to that of the glorious nation, which, in the days of undying memory, sacrificed the blood of her sons to help the people of Cuba to conquer their liberty and independence."

Mrs. C. V. Shearer, who has been visiting her mother, Mrs. James W. Clay, left this afternoon for her home in Santa Fe

Chicago, April 11.—Speculation in butter and eggs through the Chicago egg and butter board was abolished "as a patriotic duty" by unanimous vote of the directors today. This was accomplished by abolishing all rules covering deals in these products for future delivery. Dealers desiring to assure stocks for future delivery may deal direct with shippers as individuals, but the action of the board will, it is said, virtually eliminate speculation.

Washington, April 11.—Specific bids for 34 seagoing submarines of the 800-ton type were received at the navy department today in response to advertisements asking for proposals on 38 such craft.

In addition to the formal bids, the department proposes that the government itself construct submarines under license by the holder of the patents and rights used.

The Electric Boat company proposed to build 18 submarines in from 16 to 26 months and at a price of \$1,524,000 for each vessel constructed on the Atlantic coast and \$1,592,000 for each constructed on the Pacific coast. The limit of cost set by congress for submarines apparently excludes these proposals, as it is \$1,300,000.

The company proposed as an alternative to construct the submarines on a cost plus 15 per cent profit basis.

The California Ship Building company of Long Beach, Calif., and the Lake Torpedo Boat company of Bridgeport, Conn., proposed at once to build four to eight submarines each in from 24 to 32 months at prices ranging from \$1,288,000 to \$1,299,000, depending upon designs. The cost plus percentage of profit plan also was proposed by the companies as an alternative, and the Lake company offered to license the government to construct on its plans for \$100 per net ton submerged displacement.

Snyder and Company, a French concern, with offices in New York, proposed to license the government to build under its plans at a rate of \$65,000 for the first boat and \$45,000 for each succeeding boat, or to license the government to build oil engines under its plans for submarine use at \$35,000 for the first engine and \$25,000 for each succeeding engine built.

AN ELEMENT IN THE HOUSE WISHES CONSCRIPTION IDEA ABANDONED

Washington, April 11.—President Wilson went to the house to representatives today for conferences with Speaker Clark and other leaders on the war program.

Democratic Leader Kitchin, who will pilot the war revenue measures through the house, was summoned and the president, the speaker and Mr. Kitchin entered into a conference.

Representative Kitchin assured the president the bond bill would be passed Friday without difficulty. The war department's plan for raising an army by selective conscription was the conference. Both Mr. Kitchin and Speaker Clark told the president of opposition in the house to conscription, but said they did not know how strong it was.

The president earnestly urged that the entire war department plan be accepted by congress, but was told that sentiment undoubtedly existed for resorting to conscription only if the volunteer system failed.

Representative Kitchin said he had not thoroughly examined the war department plan and was not ready to commit himself on it. Some of his friends said that he was for conscription only as an emergency measure.

The president went over details of several other war measures with the two leaders, primarily to urge prompt action and learn the prevailing sentiments of the house membership. Indications were that he would continue to insist upon the war department law as drawn, although sentiment appeared to be developing for putting a provision into the measure

under which an effort would be made first to raise the army by volunteers.

UNITED STATES CITIZENS IN FRENCH FLYING SQUADRON CHANGE COLORS

Paris, April 11.—It was decided today that the Lafayette flying squadron composed of Americans, who have distinguished themselves at the front, will change from the French to the American military uniform and hereafter carry the American flag at the French front.

MAKES ITS FIRST APPEARANCE IN THE WORLD WAR WITH YOUNG TEXAN

Ottawa, Ontario, April 11.—The Stars and Stripes went into battle for the first time during the world war during the recent entente storming of Vimy ridge in France, according to an unofficial dispatch received here today from Canadian army headquarters in Europe. "To a young Texan, who came to Ontario to enlist and who is now lying wounded in the hospital," the dispatch reads, "belongs the honor of first carrying the American flag into battle in the European war into which the United States as a belligerent has just entered. He went up to the assault at Thelus carrying the Stars and Stripes on his bayonet and fell thus."

The dispatch says the victory of the Canadians in the struggle for Vimy ridge is more thorough than indicated by first reports. The only uncertainty as late as Tuesday morning surrounded the position of Hill 145.

"For the retention of this the enemy fought with the utmost determination on Monday afternoon. The hill is an earthen fortress of the first importance, with many underground galleries and concrete machine gun placements. The hill is isolated on three sides from the German lines. The surrender is not in doubt.

"Much war material was left behind by the fleeing foe, including an unestimated number of heavy guns. The yield of prisoners is much larger than the first reports indicated. Already 3,280 men, including 60 officers, have been recorded and many more are to come. The final total may reach 4,000 prisoners to the Canadian troops alone. Advices to the militia department indicate the Canadian casualties around Vimy were 89 officers. At the usual percentage this would mean about 1,200 men. The figures are considered light in view of the number engaged.

WILL BE INCREASED TO 287,000, LIMIT ALLOWED BY THE LAW

Washington, April 11.—Secretary Baker, concluding his testimony before the house military committee, announced that he had decided, after consultation with army officers, to take immediate advantage of the authority to increase the regular army by all the increments authorized. Under the present plan the war department will increase at once the regular army to its full complement of 287,000 men, instead of 203,000, as was contemplated. This increase is wholly apart from the new army to be authorized by selective conscription.

Appropriation Bill Passed
The army appropriation bill, carrying \$278,000,000 for the existing regular army, was passed today by the senate, amended so that it becomes available immediately.

The bill has passed the house, but slight changes made by the senate make a conference necessary. Efforts to attach to it amendments to in-

crease the pay of private soldiers, to direct the president to call for \$500,000 volunteers and to abolish the rank of brigadier general were eliminated before passage. One amendment enlarging the general staff of the army to 91 was accepted. Immediately after its passage the senate passed without debate the military academy appropriation bill carrying about \$1,300,000.

UNITED STATES KEEPS CLOSE INSPECTION ON MEXICAN MOVEMENTS

Juarez, Mexico, April 11.—Madera, the American-owned lumber camp, has been evacuated by the small Carranza garrison there to escape the Villa troops which have been operating in that vicinity recently, according to unofficial reports received here. The telegraph line to Madera has been cut for two days, and it was said here this was done by Villa's men to prevent the Carranza commander at Madera from reporting the whereabouts of the Villa forces.

General Francisco Murguia's special train is expected to arrive in Casas Grandes late today. It was delayed by a derailment between Juarez and Casas Grandes. All of the troop trains which left here for Casas Grandes have arrived there, the troops have detrained and have taken the field.

Aeroplanes as Scouts

El Paso, Tex., April 11.—Two United States army aeroplanes arrived here today from the aviation base at Columbus, N. M., and will be used for scout work across the border in Mexico. Because of the high wind, the reconnoitering flights were postponed until late today.

Snyman Ranch Raided

Presidio, Texas, April 11.—Villa forces in command of General Hernandez, raided the ranch of Guillermo Snyman, near Santa Rosalia recently and took a quantity of food and forage, refugees from the interior who reached here today said. Villa troops made an effort to capture young Snyman, a British subject, and who is the son of the late General W. D. Snyman of Boer war fame.

Money for Carranza Troops

El Paso, Tex., April 11.—A shipment of \$500,000 gold was taken to Juarez yesterday by Carranza officials and sent to Chihuahua City and Casas Grandes to pay the de facto troops. This money was brought here from Corpus Christi, Texas, by Filberto Madraza, said to be a brother of the sub-secretary of the Mexican trade, and another Mexican named Bolago. Both Mexicans remained in El Paso. This money was deposited in a Corpus Christi bank recently after it was crossed from Mexico. An investigation was made by the United States secret service, and it was determined that none of this money had come from German sources, it was said today.

ALLEGED SPY RELEASED

Boston, April 11.—D. H. G. Spiekermann of Waltham, arrested by federal officials last week on suspicion of being a German secret service agent, was released today. The authorities announced that there was no evidence on which he could be held.

FEDERAL JUDGE NAMED

Washington, April 11.—W. R. Smith of El Paso, Texas, was nominated today by the president to be United States district judge for the western district of Texas.

MEXICANS FIRE AT AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN FABENS, TEX., VICINITY

Washington, April 12.—General Carranza has given positive assurances to the United States that oil supplies from the Tampico fields and other Mexican sources will not be denied to the United States or Great Britain. Mexican oil is the principal fuel for British and French war vessels.

Snipers Fire on Troops

El Paso, Texas, April 12.—Mexican snipers fired on United States army patrols late yesterday near Fabens, Texas, 32 miles below El Paso, the American patrols returning the fire and hitting one Mexican soldier, according to reports received here today from the army headquarters in Fabens. Sniping has been in progress on the island, near Fabens, for the past three days, it was said, and one Mexican laborer on the American side was killed by a bullet fired from the Mexican side.

Two Mexican soldiers were seen by the outposts in the act of firing across the border. The American patrols hid, and when the soldiers fired again, they returned the fire, the first shot hitting one of the two Mexicans. The remaining one rode away on horseback, later returning with four other soldiers who lifted the wounded soldier into an automobile and disappeared toward Juarez with him.

Orders have been given to all outposts on the American side to return the fire of snipers and to shoot to kill. A Mexican fired one shot at an American guard at the smelter viaduct, within the city limits today, but the shot was not returned.

It was reported that the American army aeroplane which flew across the border today on a reconnoitering trip was fired upon near Juarez, but this was officially denied. The army aeroplane observer failed to locate any troops near the border on the Mexican side.

Villa Defeats Denied

Laredo, Texas, April 12.—Passengers reaching the border say that in a recent engagement with Villa followers the constitutionalist forces under General Murguía lost a total of 1,500 dead and wounded. They add that in the campaign around Chihuahua City the alleged routs inflicted on the Villa forces by the government troops are myths. The Villa soldiers are said to have plenty of guns and ammunition. It is reported they are none too well supplied with food.

MAN ACCUSED OF KILLING CLYDE ARMOUR DENIES THAT HE DID SO

Elbert W. Blancett, indicted for the murder of Clyde D. Armour, entered a plea of not guilty yesterday afternoon, when he was arraigned before District Judge E. C. Abbott, and formally charged with the murder. His case was set for hearing at 9 o'clock this morning, at which time the strenuous work of drawing a jury began.

Judge Abbott denied the plea of abatement of Attorney A. B. Renehan, who represents Blancett, after the plea had been made yesterday morning. It had been understood that Attorneys Renehan and Sadler would ask for a change of venue. However, they did not do so, and Blancett answered to the charge of the court.

The fight made by Renehan and Sadler for the plea in abatement was a vigorous one. They undertook to prove that the indictment brought

last week by the Santa Fe county grand jury was illegal. District Attorney J. H. Crist made an eloquent plea for the legality of the indictment.

In making his decision, which overruled the plea in abatement filed by Blancett, Judge Abbott said:

"What my own intention was in the drawing of this jury does not govern this case. It is not necessary for me to state my intention. I consider, however, that the jury, grand and petit, was legally drawn and therefore the plea in abatement is hereby overruled."

Turning to the jury, Judge Abbott said:

"There has been no contested question of fact for your decision. I will instruct you to find a verdict in case No. 4241, the state of New Mexico versus Elbert W. Blancett, as follows: 'We, the jury, under instructions of the court, find the issues raised by the plea of abatement and replication thereto in favor of the state.'"

The jury, through its foreman, J. A. Wood, brought in such a verdict and then retired.

UNITED STATES WILL ENDEAVOR TO AID IT IN HOLDING OFF TEUTONS

Washington, April 12.—Efforts of the American government are being directed toward assisting the newly democratized government in Russia to strengthen its position, lessen internal troubles and quickly bring Russia's latent forces to bear against Germany.

Reports to the government say the difficulties of Russia are many and that Germany's principal object is either to bring about a separate peace with that nation, or, failing in that, to stir up internal troubles and exert unusual military pressure from without. One of the principal objects of the administration's desire for expedition in getting authority from congress for a large bond issue is to extend a loan to the new Russian government.

Other ways of helping Russia are being studied. Charles R. Cline of Chicago, personal friend of President Wilson, long interested in developments in Russia, is now on his way to that country.

The needs of France, Great Britain and the other members of the entente allies are not being forgotten and everything possible will be done for them, but they are understood to agree that Russia should get assistance first.

Russia Needs Food

London, April 12.—A Petrograd dispatch to Reuter's says the provisional government has ordered all reserves of the 1916 harvest of corn and cereals placed at the disposal of the state.

JUDGE STEWART IS KEPT BUSY HANDING OUT SENTENCES TO OFFENDERS

Today was a busy day for Police Magistrate Charles H. Stewart, who sentenced his men, and called "next" almost as if he were a barber.

J. J. Morris, arrested yesterday by Chief of Police Ben Coles, was fined \$5 for drunkenness; Nolan Newton and Harry Wilson, taken off train No. 10 yesterday afternoon, were given "the usual" which was suspended upon payment of the costs. The two men were enroute from Los Angeles to West Virginia, and after traveling through the dry state of Arizona, they filled up on fire water, which affected them so that they became hoisterous. Santa Fe Officer Melvin made the arrests. Walter Shepiak, said to

be a native of Poland, pleaded guilty this morning to the charge of assault and battery, and was fined \$5 and costs. He was a participant in a saloon brawl last night. Officer E. C. Ward arrested him. C. H. Lister, known to a few as "Peg-leg," was brought in by Chief Coles, charged with drunkenness. His fine was suspended and he was given 12 hours to leave town. Lister claimed to be a Spanish-American war veteran, and begged about the streets, claiming he was hungry, but it was noticed that he went to a saloon after such successful solicitation. W. E. Whetmore, arrested by Chief Coles, was given 10 days in jail, after he had pleaded guilty to a charge of drunkenness.

CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE

Chicago, April 12.—Steep advances in the corn market attracted far more notice today than anything else on the exchange. Reports were current that scores of distilleries would be utilized by the government exclusively for the manufacture of denatured alcohol needed for military explosives. It was inferred that a big increased demand for corn would result. There also were Liverpool dispatches at hand telling of a probable broad demand from Great Britain for American corn. Opening prices, which ranged from ¼ off to ½ up, with May at \$1.27 to \$1.27½ and July at \$1.25½ to \$1.26½ were quickly followed by jumps to \$1.31 and \$1.29 respectively, but then a material setback.

Later the bulge in the wheat market brought about further upturns in corn. The close was buoyant at 6¼ to 7¼ net advance.

Rains in Kansas and Oklahoma temporarily eased down new crop deliveries of wheat. The May option, however, continued to be in demand from export and milling interests and that the strength of corn soon lifted July and September wheat. After opening at 1½ decline to 2¼ advance, with May at \$2.06½ to \$2.11 and July at \$1.78½ to \$1.80½ the market rose all around to well above yesterday's finish.

May touched a new top record, \$2.19½. The close was excited 5 to 9½ net higher with May at \$2.17½ to \$2.18 and July at \$1.89 to \$1.90¼.

Oats hardened with other cereals. Trade was mostly in small lots.

Provisions took an upward swing influenced by the rise in the value of corn and by firmness in the hog market. Business, however, was light. The closing quotations were:

Wheat, May \$2.17½; July \$1.89.
Corn, May \$1.34¾; July \$1.32¾.
Oats, May 65¼; July 64¼.
Pork, May \$37.50; July \$37.12.
Lard, May \$21.10; July \$21.37.
Ribs, May \$19.82; July \$20.07.

KANSAS CITY LIVE STOCK

Kansas City, April 12.—Hogs, receipts 6,000. Market strong. Bulk \$15.80@16.15; heavy \$16.15@16.30; packers and butchers \$16@16.25; lights \$15.50@16; pigs \$13@15.

Cattle, receipts 3,000. Market steady. Prime fed steers \$12.25@13; dressed beef steers \$10@12; western steers \$10@12.85; cows \$6.50@10.75; heifers \$9@12; stockers and feeders \$7.75@11.

Sheep, receipts 5,000. Market steady. Lambs \$12.25@15.50; yearlings \$13@14; wethers \$12@13.25; ewes \$11@13.

OLD SCOUT DEAD

Washington, April 12.—Major John G. Burke, former scout in Indian wars and for nearly half a century associated with the late Colonel William F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill," as publicity representative, died of pneumonia here early today, aged 74 years. He

had been visiting friends here for several weeks. Major Burke toured the United States and Europe with the Wild West show, and, like Colonel Cody, was honored by the ruling heads of the old world.

ICELAND NEEDS SUPPLIES

Copenhagen, April 12.—Iceland which has been cut off from shipping connections with Europe and the United States for nearly six weeks, is facing starvation, owing to its small supply of foodstuffs and the failure of ships to arrive with expected supplies. As a result there is strong sentiment here that a Danish warship loaded with supplies be dispatched to the island country.

The submarine menace is, of course, responsible for the suspension of shipping to Iceland. There are more than one hundred Iceland merchants now in Copenhagen who are unable to return home.

CUBA PROHIBITS CODE

New York, April 12.—The Cuban government has prohibited the use of code in dispatches to any part of the republic, the Commercial Cable company announces today.

AGENTS VOLUNTEER

Pittsburgh, April 12.—The national association of purchasing agents, through its president, E. L. McGrew, of Pittsburgh, today telegraphed President Wilson offering its services to the government for the period of the war. The association is made up of purchasing agents for the most important industrial concerns and commercial organizations in the country.

COAST ARTILLERY CALLED

Washington, April 12.—Seven companies of National Guard coast artillery troops were called into the federal service today for police purposes. They are the First company, New Hampshire; Fifth, Eighth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Eighteenth, California.

An Optic classified ad may sell some needless article for you.

Estray Advertisement

Notice is hereby given to whom it may concern that the following described estray animal was taken up by J. H. Kelly, Watrous, N. M.

One red steer with line back, one year old, about 400 lbs.

Branded
Left Shoulder

Ear marks

Said animal being unknown to this board, unless claimed by the owner on or before May 12, 1917, said date being 15 days after last appearance of this advertisement, said estray will be sold by this Board for the benefit of the owner when found.

CATTLE SANITARY BOARD,

Albuquerque, N. M.

1st. pub. Apr. 12, last pub. Apr. 27, '17

Estray Advertisement

Notice is hereby given to whom it may concern that the following described estray animal was taken up by Ed Jorgenson, Faywood, N. M.

One brown mare mule, 6 years old, 800 lbs., 13½ hands high.

Branded
Right Shoulder

Said animal being unknown to this board, unless claimed by the owner on or before May 12, 1917, said date being 15 days after last appearance of this advertisement, said estray will be sold by this Board for the benefit of the owner when found.

CATTLE SANITARY BOARD,

Albuquerque, N. M.

1st. pub. Apr. 12, last pub. Apr. 27, '17

AREA IN SQUARE MILES FOUR TIMES THAT OF THIRTEEN COLONIES

Washington, April 9.—When a few days ago Rear Admiral James H. Oliver hoisted the American flag over the group of islands heretofore known as the Danish West Indies he added another stone to the great structural fabric that rightly may be called the American empire.

It is just an even 50 years since the United States first reached out for possessions beyond the territory comprised within the republic proper. Now our possessions encircle more than half the globe. It takes a daring eagle and a big flag to cover possessions like these. But our bird and banner are already high on the breeze. During the past few years the hand of destiny has been rapidly rounding the galaxy into a symbol of national power.

The first of America's foreign possessions is Alaska, which was acquired by purchase from Russia in 1867. When Secretary Seward closed his negotiations for paying \$7,200,000 for Alaska, great was the howl of Americans. In those days the anti-extension patriots little dreamed that the great white elephant of the north would some day develop into one of the richest mining countries of the world.

Discovery of Hawaii

When good old Captain Cook discovered the Hawaiian archipelago, which he named the Sandwich Islands he little thought he was preparing the way to enlarge the boundaries of the United States possessions. Situated on the route from San Francisco and Vancouver to China and Japan, about 2,100 miles from the American coast, they are important possessions for our government. The islands possess additional interest just now because of Germany's connection with them in days gone by. In 1888 martial law was declared by Germany seeking control of the islands. In 1898 Hawaii was annexed to the United States by joint resolution of congress.

The war with Spain added to the insular possessions of the United States the Philippines, with an area of 114,958 square miles; Porto Rico with an area of 3,435 square miles, and the Pacific Island of Guam, having an area of 210 square miles.

Tutuila, with several attendant islets of the Samoan group, became a possession of the United States by virtue of the tripartite treaty with Great Britain and Germany in 1899. Commercially Tutuila is of little importance, but it possesses the most valuable island harbor, Pago-Pago, in the South Pacific, and perhaps in the entire Pacific ocean.

Far out in the Pacific the American flag is flying over a number of small scattered islands, some hardly more than rocks or coral reefs. One of the most important is Wake Island, over which the United States flag was hoisted on July 4, 1898. It is a small island in the direct route from Hawaii to Hong Kong. Among the other Pacific islands in possession of the United States are Christmas, Starbuck Penrhyn, Gallego, Howland, Baker, Gardner, Johnston, Midway, Palmyra, Morell and Marcus islands.

The Panama Canal Zone

To Alaska and the insular possessions of the United States should be added the Panama canal zone, with an area of 436 square miles, which was delivered into the perpetual control of this country under treaty stipulations with the Republic of Panama.

Acquirement of the Danish West Indies has made no great addition to the territorial possessions of the Uni-

ted States so far as mere area is concerned, but the islands are possessed of rich natural resources and are even more important from the viewpoint of naval strategy, particularly since the opening of the Panama canal. The largest of the group is St. Croix, with an area of a little more than 100 square miles. Next in size and importance are St. Thomas and St. John.

The area of the 13 original states comprised 892,135 square miles. This area was almost doubled by the Louisiana purchase in 1803. Further enormous accessions of territory resulted from the acquisition of Florida, Texas, Oregon, the Mexican cession of 1848, and the Gadsden purchase in 1853. The additions of the last half century, including Alaska, Hawaii, the Philippines, Porto Rico, Samoa and the lesser islands, together with the Panama canal zone, have increased the total area of the United States to 3,743,500 square miles, or more than four times the area of the 13 original states.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT TAKES ISSUE WITH TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

State Superintendent J. H. Wagner believes that money expended for schools is money well spent, and that parents, instead of wishing expenses pruned in order that taxes may be reduced, prefer to pay higher taxes and secure better schooling for their children. Following is a letter which Mr. Wagner has written to the press of the state:

Department of Education, Santa Fe, N. M., April 2, 1917.
To the Newspapers of New Mexico:

During the past week I have read in the newspapers over the state an article under the heading "Some Figures of Interest on Costs of Educational Institutions"—as compiled by the State Tax Association of which Mr. A. E. James is director. These figures presented somewhat of a scale showing that some of the high schools of the state were operated at a lower cost than others.

It is hardly to be expected that each institution would operate on the same per capita cost. There are some variable quantities such as enrollment salaries paid, number of teachers employed, which make it unreasonable to expect that the per capita charge would be in every case a fixed one a invariable one.

According to the figures referred to above, one of the seven high schools mentioned was held up as the ideal high school of the state on the grounds merely that the per capita cost there is the lowest, \$41.40.

I have just returned from St. Louis where I represented the state board of education bearing with me the petitions of a number of the high schools of the state for admission to the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary schools. Eight of these institutions were admitted and a few rejected, among them the high school mentioned in Mr. James' report as one of the best. These high schools were refused admission to the association on the grounds of over-crowded classes, which means that in the opinion of a commission composed of the best high school experts of this country, the teaching force is insufficient.

I went before this commission and asked that they reconsider this decision since they were shutting out some of our best high schools. I was referred to the rules which govern the accrediting of high schools by this body and it was pointed out that the requirement of standard nine which reads as follows: "No school

whose records show an excessive number of pupils per teacher, based on average attendance, shall be accredited. The association recommends 25 as a maximum. No recitation class should enroll more than 30 pupils."

In their opinion these high schools are not spending enough money for teachers—they must have more teachers or cut down the number of pupils.

In making application for admission to the North Central association the high school must meet 11 requirements. Among these are the curriculum, personnel of the faculty, including their academic, professional training and experience, length of recitation period, number of recitations per day and number of pupils per class. The commission complimented very highly the high schools which made application on their courses of study, their faculties, superintendents, their equipment but refused two of them solely on the grounds that they were over-crowded. Their efficiency might be termed over saturated. The eight institutions which were accredited without question were not regarded by the commission as superior to the others in faculty, course of study, equipment or other essentials, but they employed sufficient teaching force to keep the average enrollment in the recitation class room down to 25 or less.

It is all right to figure the cost, but the cost price must be considered in relation to what is obtained in exchange for the expenditure. We believe that efficiency in education unlike bargain counter merchandise cannot be obtained at a low cost. Reduced to its lowest term the argument presented in that portion of the report of the Taxpayers' association which referred to the seven high schools of the state, would mean that faculty, curriculum, upkeep, improvements, should be sacrificed for the sake of a low cost.

I cannot agree with the inference. It is my belief that the taxpayers of New Mexico outside, perhaps, of a few, are opposed to reduce efficiency in our state educational system in order to achieve slight savings in individual taxes paid for school maintenance.

In this article by the Taxpayers' association figures are given for the higher educational institutions, as well as for the high schools, showing per capita costs. I have nothing to say as to the higher educational institutions at this time. Without doubt these institutions are prepared to take care of themselves. But the state department of education is directly concerned with the maintenance of the high schools of the state at a proper state of efficiency.

The purpose of the Taxpayers' association in issuing its statement of per capita high school costs at this particular time seems obvious. This is the period when the various high schools are working out their plans and estimates of operating costs for the coming year. This article is aimed, apparently, to encourage reduced operating expenditures, regardless of any other consideration than to reduce taxes. Everything, including efficiency, as efficiency is reckoned by the nation's best school experts, is to be sacrificed to securing reduced costs—taxes—for maintenance of our schools. I cannot believe that the people of the state approve of any such policy, or that they can be influenced to move to the disadvantage of their schools and of their children by such a propaganda. The people of New Mexico, in my opinion, will not capitalize such a sacrifice no matter how powerful the financial influences which may urge it upon them upon

the highly general ground of public economy. Money spent and money saved is not all there is in public education. It is my belief that the people of New Mexico still place results for their children above the cost involved in maintaining their records.

JONATHAN H. WAGNER,
State Superintendent.

CAUSE OF TRAGEDY IN WHICH RUBEN TORRES LOST HIS LIFE IS NOT KNOWN

Ruben Torres, age 18 years, is dead and Agapito Quintana, of the same age, is being brought to Las Vegas from Villanueva, charged with stabbing the young man to death. The tragedy occurred near Villanueva between 11 and 12 o'clock Saturday night. The two young men had gone from their homes at El Cerrito, a town four miles from Villanueva, to attend a dance. They found upon their arrival at Villanueva that there was no dance, so they stayed about the town, appearing to be friendly.

A coroner's jury was called Sunday, finding that Torres met his death by being stabbed in the heart. County Sheriff Lorenzo Delgado, District Attorney Chester A. Hunker, County Clerk A. A. Gallegos and Dr. F. H. Crail went to Villanueva yesterday, and Dr. Crail examined the body, finding that Quintana had been struck but once, the point of the knife having been buried about an inch and a half in his heart.

Ruben Torres, the dead man, was single, and had been employed by the father of the accused murderer, as a laborer. From all appearances the two young men had never had a quarrel, and they rode from their homes at El Cerrito to Villanueva together. Agapito Quintana is a son of Anastacio Quintana, a well known sheep man of the Cerrito country. He is a nephew of County Commissioner Jesus Maria Quintana. Villanueva is 25 miles southwest of here.

BIG GRAZING HERDS

Albuquerque, N. M., April 10.—The secretary of agriculture has authorized the forest supervisors of Arizona and New Mexico to issue grazing permits for 1917 aggregating 466,000 cattle and horses, 881,000 sheep and goats, and 25,000 swine. The number of cattle and horses is 10 per cent greater than last year, and the number of sheep and goats five per cent less, according to Paul G. Redington, district forester. The net increase is figured to be equivalent to 36,000 cattle. In the opinion of the grazing specialists of the forest service, this represents roughly the year's improvement in the carrying capacity of the national forest ranges. The increased capacity is ascribed to the development of water by stockmen on hitherto dry range, better handling and distribution of stock, the gradual elimination of overgrazing, and the prevention of fires.

A WORD TO MOTHERS

There seems to be more than the usual number of children suffering from measles, whooping cough and other children's diseases this spring. Do not neglect any cold, for a cold weakens the system and makes a child more liable to attack or more serious ailments. Foley's Honey and Tar relieves coughs, colds and croup.—O. G. Schaefer.—Adv.

KITCHEN TO BE LEADER

Washington, April 10.—Democratic Leader Kitchin today announced his readiness to pilot the administration war program through the house. He voted against the war resolution and there was some doubt of his position.

SUPREME COURT RESTRICTS FEDERAL POWERS IN PUNISHING ELECTION FRAUDS

Washington, April 9.—Federal authorities to prosecute frauds in general and state elections and United States senatorial primaries was materially restricted by supreme court decisions today. Federal indictments for alleged corruptions "conspiracies" in 1914 Rhode Island congressional elections and the 1916 senatorial primary in West Virginia were dismissed. The court decided the states and the federal government are authorized to act.

Oregon's law fixing minimum wages for women the first compulsory minimum wage statute ever before the supreme court was today upheld as constitutional by an evenly divided court. Similar compulsory laws of Washington, Colorado, Wisconsin, California, Utah, Minnesota and Ohio were likewise sustained.

Hours of Service Law Upheld

The supreme court upheld as constitutional the Oregon law limiting labor of men in mills, factories and manufacturing establishments to 10-hour days, but permitting 13 hours of labor if paid time and a half for overtime. It was the first general hours of labor state law ever before the supreme court.

Picture Trust Loses Suit

Washington, April 9.—In the infringement suit of the Motion Picture Patents company against the Universal Film Manufacturing company and others, the supreme court today held invalid restrictions of the patents company upon use of competitor's films in its projecting machines.

Talking Machine Trust Loses

Washington, April 9.—Determining important questions regarding control by patentees of retail prices of their products, the supreme court today pronounced unlawful the "limited license" plan under which the Victor Talking Machine company and many other products are distributed. The court did not decide the legality of the Victor plan of limiting distribution solely through "licensed" dealers. Justices McKenna, Holmes and Vandevanter dissented from the decision in the Victor case. The Victor license plan was held to be mere price fixing "which would work injustice" to the purchasing public, and designed to avoid the court's previous decisions.

Justice Clarke announced for the majority that the Dick Mimeograph decision, which greatly extended the so-called patent "monopoly" of patentees, was overruled. The decision greatly restricts rights of patentees to fix prices of their products or restrict the use of unpatented articles with patented machines.

The new Clayton act was the ground given by the majority for overturning the Dick Mimeograph case, and thus circumscribing the monopoly of patentees.

GLAD TO LEARN OF IT

Coughs that follow lagrippe or any deep-seated hacking cough will wear down the strongest man or woman if allowed to continue; C. Smith, 1421 12th street, Augusta, Ga., writes: "I got one 25c bottle of Foley's Honey & Tar and my cough and cold is about well. I was glad to learn of a great medicine like that."—O. G. Schaefer.—Adv.

Omaha, Neb., April 9.—Joe Stecher, champion wrestler of Dodge, Neb., and Earl Cadcock of Anita, Iowa, meet here tonight in a finish match. Frank Gotch, former champion, has had active charge of Craddock's training quarters.

NEWSPAPERS INSIST THAT IT BE NOT PUT OFF TILL AFTER THE WAR

Amsterdam, April 9 (Via London).—The emperor's Easter message on electoral reform, addressed to Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, is treated by the Berlin press as of the highest importance. The only paper which expresses dissatisfaction is the Kreuz Zeitung, which finds little consolation in the fact that the execution of the reform is postponed until after the war, as it believes the chancellor should not now halt on the path of the complete democratization of Prussia and Germany.

WILSON SENDS REPLY

London, April 9.—The reply of President Wilson to the message sent to him by King George, as given out here officially today is as follows:

"To His Majesty George V, King and Emperor: Your eloquent message comes to me at this critical moment of our national life as proof of the sentiment among the free peoples of the world now striving to defend their ideals, to maintain the blessings of national independence and to uphold the rights of humanity. In the name of the American people and the government to which they look for guidance, I thank you for your inspiring words.

"WOODROW WILSON,
Washington, April 8."

SPECIAL NOTICE

Foley Cathartic Tablets thoroughly cleanse the bowels, remove undigested waste matter, sweeten the stomach and tone up the liver. Do not gripe nor nauseate. Stout persons praise Foley Cathartic Tablets for the light, free and comfortable feeling they bring. Will not addict you to the "pill habit."—O. G. Schaefer.—Adv.

baseball players are requested to be at the High school grounds tomorrow afternoon, and the first practice of the season will be held. It had been hoped that practice would begin last Sunday, but the snow put the brakes on, and it was necessary to postpone the first try-out until tomorrow. The Las Vegas clubs will make a strong try for the championship of the league, which is beginning to take on the appearance of a genuine "Automobile Baseball League," as it is named. Fully eight towns are expected to be represented when the season opens early in May.

The German Statement

Berlin, April 10 (Via London).—"The British," says the German official statement today, "succeeded in penetrating our positions on the roads radiating from Arras, but did not break through. Two of our divisions suffered considerable losses. The battle continues.

ALL RECORDS BROKEN

Santa Fe, April 10.—Jesse Nusbaum of Santa Fe yesterday made the trip to Albuquerque from the capital in one hour and 55 minutes and the return trip in one hour 58 minutes, on his motorcycle, marking the fastest time that any one has ever traveled between the two towns, beating railroad, automobile and motorcycle records.

Rub the joints with BALLARD'S SNOW LINIMENT to relieve rheumatism. It penetrates the flesh to the bone conveying its soothing and restorative influence to the spot where the pain exists. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by Central Drug Co.—Adv.

AUCTION SALES ARE BRINGING MORE THAN THE MINIMUM FIXED

Santa Fe, N. M., April 9.—State Land Commissioner R. P. Ervien has returned to Santa Fe from Guadalupe and Quay counties, where on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week he conducted the sale at public auction of 30 tracts of state land, the large majority of which were small tracts, ranging from 40 to 160 acres the total area sold being 10,638 acres. Practically all of the sales were to farmers and a majority of the tracts brought an advance over the minimum price, the total above the minimum valuation paid being \$10,854, or an average advance over the minimum of \$5 or somewhat better than \$1 an acre. John Morrow, a well known lawyer of Raton, representing a syndicate of Raton men who are actively interested in state land purchases, was a bidder on several of the tracts and was the successful bidder for a tract of 402 acres in Guadalupe county.

A total of 11 tracts was sold in Guadalupe county at Santa Rosa on Tuesday, April 3, the largest being 1,095 acres and the smallest 40 acres. All were lands of the minimum value of 5 an acre. Moise brothers, merchants and stockgrowers of Santa Rosa bought in the 1,095 acre tract, their winning bid being \$6.50 an acre, or \$1.50 over the minimum value. V. A. Lisle, stock-farmer, paid \$6 an acre for 480 acres, and Isaac Bray, farmer, paid \$7 for 160 acres, the highest price realized in the Guadalupe county lots.

Nineteen tracts were sold in Quay county, at Tucumcari on Wednesday, the largest being 1,639 and the smallest 40 acres. The largest tract was bought by J. B. Airheart of Nara Visa, a stock farmer, who paid \$6.30 an acre, or \$1.30 advance over the minimum valuation. Mr. Airheart also bought 320 acres for which his high bid was \$7.55, or \$2.55 over the minimum. The largest price paid in the Quay county sales was \$12.55, bid by Luther O. Hudson of Kirk, N. M., a well known Quay county farmer, for 640 acres near Kirk, Quay county. There was active bidding for this tract which brought one of the best prices ever paid for state land.

"It is a pretty stiff price to pay for New Mexico land, as land prices have been running," said Mr. Hudson, following the sale, "but I have bought a good piece of land and am well satisfied with my purchase."

The sales at Santa Rosa and Tucumcari this week are the first of a number of important April auctions of state lands. The more important ones to follow are at Clovis on the seventeenth, at Roswell on the nineteenth, at Carlsbad on the twenty-first and at Clayton on the twenty-fifth. The Clayton sales, 90 in number, are by far the most important of this year's auctions. They total more than 100,000 acres, the tracts ranging in area from 40 to 38,000 acres, with two of 11,000 acres each, and several ranging from 1,000 to 5,000 acres. The indications now are that a large number of buyers from within and without the state, will attend these sales. Today the "Great Divide," a Denver weekly farm paper, is running an excursion through Mills to Union county, where a large party of prospective bidders will examine the lands to be sold. It is part of the plan of the Denver newspaper to make a co-operative bid for the 38,000-acre tract, the newspaper proprietors doing the bidding in behalf of those expecting to participate in the purchase. At the invitation of the state land commissioner, Colonel R. E. Twitchell will deliver an illustrated lecture in the motion picture theater at Clayton the evening of April 24, in which he will deal with agricultural development and opportunities in New Mexico.

The demand for state land is increasing, as is shown by prices paid at each succeeding sale. There is no boom and no prohibitive advance in prices, but bidding usually develops the market price of land of similar character, in private ownership and points clearly to a steady advance in land values both for agricultural and grazing lands. The new 30-year payment law is also having its influence in increasing the number of bidders at state land sales, the new law making materially easier terms for the bidder who now is required to pay but five per cent of the purchase price in cash, the balance at any time in 30 years at four per cent interest annually in advance.

SWEAR ALLEGIANCE TO AMERICAN FLAG AT MEETING ON THE CAMPUS

The students of the Normal University and a number of townspeople at 11:30 o'clock this morning participated in a patriotic exercise on the school's campus. There was a flag drill and a flag raising, conducted by John A. Ross, a union veteran, and those present took the oath of allegiance to the Stars and Stripes. Members of the regents of the school were present at the exercises which were presided over by President Frank H. H. Roberts. The Normal is the first school in the state to have a patriotic service and swear its students to allegiance to the country.

EXCITEMENT IN IRELAND

London, April 9.—Some excitement was caused on O'Donnell street in Dublin today by the hoisting of the republican flag on the ruins of the postoffice, while a small party waved a similar flag from the Nelson pillar, says a dispatch to the Star from Dublin. The police removed the flag from the postoffice and dispersed the crowd without making arrests. Here and there in the city, the dispatch reports, a small reproduction of the proclamation of the provisional government of the Irish republic was seen with a foot note reading: "The Irish republic still lives."

HIGH ORATORICAL CONTEST

The High school oratorical contest will be held at 7:30 o'clock tomorrow night, at the first Baptist church. Six orations will be given by the contestants, the winner being the official representative of the school in the district contest which will be held in Albuquerque early in May. The High School Glee club will sing. A silver offering will be taken to help defray the expenses of the representative to the district contest.

HAD TROUBLE FOUR OR FIVE YEARS

Many people suffer from bladder trouble when they can be quickly relieved. W. J. Furry, R. F. D. 2, Salem Mo., writes: "I was bothered with bladder trouble four or five years. It gave me a great deal of pain. I took different medicines, but nothing did me any good until I got Foley Kidney Pills."—O. G. Schaefer.—Adv.

ARMY RANKS CHANGED

Washington, April 9.—The rank of brigadier general in the regular army of the United States is abolished by a provision of the army appropriation bill taken up today by the senate. All general officers, after its enactment, would have no less rank than that of major general.

**HOPES TO OBTAIN FREEDOM BY
ATTACKING LEGALITY OF
HIS INDICTMENT**

Santa Fe, N. M., April 11.—No decision had been announced today in the appeal of E. W. Blancett, charged with the murder of Clyde D. Armour, this his indictment be set aside on a plea of abatement.

The reasons given by Elbert W. Blancett as to why the indictment against him is illegal are summed up in the following:

"The court ought not to take cognizance of the homicide in the said indictment above specified because, protesting that he is not guilty of the same, nevertheless the said Elbert W. Blancett says it is not a properly selected grand jury."

Blancett then declares that the jury was drawn pursuant to chapter 93 of the laws of 1917, approved March 13, 1917, whereas, the charge was a pending case. Second, because said case so pending against Blancett was within the terms of the constitution of the state forbidding any right or remedy of either party, or change in the rules of evidence or procedure in any pending case. Third, any grand jury to which the Blancett case was submitted should have been drawn under the laws as they existed prior to the passage of chapter 93, laws of New Mexico. Fourth, notice of the county clerk was given March 28 and was contrary to the statutes in force before chapter 93 was passed. Fifth, the grand jury was drawn in open court March 8 only five days before the April term of court. Sixth, chapter 93 does not apply to any term of court actually in session with juries drawn. Seventh, chapter 93 was not passed by a two-thirds majority.

The plea concludes with the words: "Wherefore, he (Blancett) says that said chapter 93, according to which the said grand jury pretends to have been drawn, is not in force and will not be in force for 90 days after March 13, 1917. Wherefore, he prays judgment in this district court now here will or ought to take cognizance of the indictment aforesaid; and that by the court here he may be dismissed and discharged."

Following the reading of the plea in abatement, Blancett, left the court room with Deputy Sheriff George Armijo and Sheriff Celso Lopez.

**COMMERCIAL CLUB TAKES RE-
SPONSIBILITY OF RAISING
NEEDED FUNDS**

The board of directors of the Las Vegas Commercial club received a committee from the Cowboys' Reunion association last night, and after a thorough discussion of the situation, voted to duplicate its subscription of last year, which was \$5,000 and to raise the \$800 on last year's subscription which was never collected.

The resolution, as made by Robert J. Taupert and as voted on by the directors was:

"As the people of Las Vegas expect the Commercial club to back the Cowboys' Reunion, be it resolved that the Commercial club undertake to raise the fund (\$5,800) for the Reunion this year, and be it further resolved that the payments of the subscriptions be one-third down, and the rest in two installments, 30 days apart, provided that the last payments are made before July 1."

"Tex" Austin, arena director for the association, was spokesman for the committee last night. He told the directors just what the cowboys want, and what they must have if they live as an association. The Cowboys' Reunion association is indebted to the amount of \$5,500 or \$6,000, and only a few of the boys are carrying the load, said Austin.

There is no money in the treasury, therefore there is no fund available to advertise the show this year. With the co-operation of the Commercial club, the cowboys believe they can draw twice the crowd they did last year, and they know they can put on a good show. Last year the cowboys asked for \$5,000 from the club, and got it all but \$800.

"Every bit of advertising done for the Reunion," said Austin, "is advertisement for Vegas. We have been advertising all winter. Lots of people have heard of Las Vegas for the first time through the Cowboys' Reunion. We want to know right away, if possible, what the Commercial club is going to do. We need \$1,000 within 30 days. If we can get that amount, it will take a heavy load off some of the boys, who are carrying the indebtedness of the association by their own personal notes. When we get on our feet, and we will get on our feet if you will help us now, we won't ask you for anything. But we'll die unless you help us as you did last year. The success of last year's show makes this one an assured success. A train load is coming from Chicago, a bunch is coming from New York, and El Paso likely will send a car or a train. Indications are that the show this year will be bigger and better than last, but to get the crowds here, we have to advertise, and advertising costs money.

"The natural advantages here are such that a great many who come to the Reunion will locate here permanently. By working together we can make the Reunion a medium to draw thousands of permanent settlers to this country."

It was upon the suggestion of W. S. Townsend of the Las Vegas Light and Power company that the subscriptions this year are to be in monthly installments.

Cowboys to Help Boost

The cowboys will send a car on the Texas invasion tour early in May, and will send a representative, loaded down with literature, to the Ozark Trails convention in Amarillo.

The committee was invited to attend the luncheon at the club today, and to tell the members the same thing it told the board of directors

last night. The committeemen were the guests of the Las Vegas Light and Power company at the luncheon today.

That Las Vegas people are back of the Cowboys and their reunion all the time was attested by Robert J. Taupert and other directors, who said that in making recent solicitations of money, everyone said: "We can't give you too much now, for we must save a big subscription for the cowboys when they come around."

"Some birds think we've got a gold mine," said Tex, "but what we really have is a lot of labor and a bunch of grief. We're not hollering about anything; we knew what we were up against when we started, but we do want the assurance that you people will get out and put your shoulders to the wheel, too."

As last year, four committees were appointed to solicit subscriptions, and

Summer Gardens Discussed

the twin cities will be divided into four districts, each district to a committee. The committees will go farther than heretofore, and will ask employes for subscriptions, instead of merchants and professional men alone. As the Reunion is one of the biggest assets the city has, there is practically no doubt but that the \$5,800 will be raised, and the payments being made in three installments will relieve the subscribers of any great hardship.

As Secretary O. L. Williams was ill and unable to be present, the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was omitted, as were the reports of the various committees; the Ozark trails committee, the summer training camp committee, the committee on the municipal camp, and the paving committees, who were to report today. The discussion of the "invasion" tour was postponed also.

President Frank H. H. Roberts of the Normal University, spoke of summer gardens for Las Vegas, and told how the boys and girls of the city can get into the work under the direction of Professor H. V. Mathew, who will be here until June, and who will direct the work, not as a Normal instructor, but as a representative of the department of agriculture.

The matter of prizes for the boys

and girls was discussed, and a motion to the effect that a committee of three be appointed to formulate plans for the boys and girls' work was passed. President Hermann will appoint a committee after considering the matter. A canning club will be organized also, and Miss Bessie Chappel of the Normal will be supervisor.

Frank J. Wesner and H. L. Moore were elected to membership in the club.

No More Papers at Luncheon

It was decided last night that no more papers would be circulated at the noonday luncheons of the club, that every member might attend the luncheons with the assurance that he would not be "bled."

The committee appointed by President N. O. Hermann for the purpose of raising money to equip houses for summer school students is: H. C. Ilfeld, H. V. Mathew and George A. Fleming. The committee has, to start with, a fund of \$300, raised at the luncheon last Thursday.

Clippings from newspapers, regarding the trip of Mrs. Phil H. LeNoir, were read, and the directors became enthusiastic over the success of the advertising trip to Dallas.

"We'll have to spread ourselves when the Texans come," said one of the directors.

The cowboys' committee which called on the directors last night was composed of President Walter Naylor, Arena Director A. E. Austin and Directors Perry C. Brite and C. W. Jackson.

The officers of the Commercial club who were present were President N. O. Hermann, W. S. Townsend, E. J. McWenig, William Springer, L. H. Bennett, Frank H. H. Roberts, Robert J. Taupert and J. O. Neafus.

A special meeting of the directors will be called shortly, to discuss the "invasion" tour, and to make preparations for the Dallas trip.

London, April 12.—Reports from a Swiss source have been received in Rome that the Bulgarian minister at Berne has made overtures to the entente ministers with a view to conclusion of a separate peace, says the Exchange Telegraph. Rome correspondent.

Chautauqua

Begin Planning Now for Las Vegas' Big Vacation Week

Patriotism, Happiness, Progress

The watchwords for the 1917 Chautauqua

100 Folks in Seven Days' Big Programs

Including

Little Women

That beautiful and dramatic story by Louisa M. Alcott presented in Pleasing Detail by a capable company.

Pinafore

Marie Horgan as Buttercup and other famous players. Elaborate scenery. Large orchestra. Specially arranged for chautauqua presentation. Produced by 40 folks.

Chautauqua Holds Forth May 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23