

AUSTRIAN-U. S. BREAK IMPENDS

OBJECTORS TO ERECTION OF \$40,000 STANDARD OIL PLANT

BOARD OF FIRE EXAMINERS HOLD MEETING THIS AFTERNOON

FEAR DANGER OF FIRE

H. C. GRIFFIN, OF JOLIET, IS PRESENT AT MEETING THIS AFTERNOON—COUNCIL TAKES ACTION AT FOUR O'CLOCK.

Strenuous objection faced the contemplated construction of a \$40,000 plant here by the Standard Oil Co. at a meeting of the board of local fire examiners this afternoon.

Edward Claus, in the interest of the King & Hamilton factory, who have a storehouse located near the proposed site of the Standard Oil Co. plant was the principal objector. He voiced his sentiments against the coming of the company because of the great hazard it would be to his company and, too, he said, it would have a tendency to increase the fire rates. Mr. Claus believed that the company should be forced to erect their service station outside of the city limits. Supporting the arguments of Mr. Claus were: Joseph Peltier, George Stage and Commissioner August Helfrich.

Joseph Peltier sighted an instance in Alton, Illinois, where an explosion had occurred from a refinery, which is not at all similar to the proposed plant to be built here.

Commissioner Helfrich played a prominent part in the argument objecting to the stench that would be caused by the location of the plant here. He recalled an instance, eighteen years ago, when a supply shed was located near him and which he was instrumental in having removed.

H. C. Griffin, of Joliet, district manager of this district was present at the hearing. He represented that the building would in every way comply with the requirements of the State Board of Fire Examiners and of all the insurance companies. No naphtha would be stored in the plant. "The building will be positively fire-proof in every respect," said Mr. Griffin, and I cannot see any cause for alarm.

"Gentlemen, as far as the law is concerned on this proposition, you cannot prohibit us from building. Once we build you may not providing you prove that we are a menace to the community and the burden of proof rests with you."

"We came here and submitted our plans because we want to be absolutely fair and because we want to build in your city."

Commissioner Palmer stated that he could not see any great danger in connection with the plant if built after the construction of the one in Elgin, which he visited Friday.

ROTARY'S SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Ottawa Rotarians tomorrow will celebrate their semi-annual "round-up" with a spread at the Chilton. The banquet will be served at 6:30 o'clock followed by an address by Dr. Roswell Pettit upon "Service in Medicine."

Caution has been issued to all members to be "among those present" or be properly excused from attendance, or suffer the consequences of being suspended from the club.

INFANT PLAGUE COST CITY \$546

Bills aggregating \$546 for services rendered by doctors to school children during the infantile paralysis scare of last August and September, were ordered paid at this morning's meeting of the city council. The fees were divided among all the physicians in various amounts, ranging from 50c to \$125.

The city paid only half the cost of examinations for high school pupils and the school board paid the remainder. The city school children were examined at the expense of the city.

C. W. CAMPBELL AS MAYOR PRO TEM

FINANCE CHIEF PRESIDES OVER COUNCIL IN THE ABSENCE OF MAYOR BRADFORD—REPORTS ARE READ.

His Honor, Commissioner of Finance Charles W. Campbell, in the absence from the city of Mayor E. F. Bradford, officiated as the city's chief executive at this morning's meeting of the council. The meeting was devoid of any stirring events. Reports from various departments for the enlightenment of the commissioners in particular and public in general were read. As a president of affairs municipal Commissioner Campbell played up well with the permanent mayor, and took the leading role in very acceptable manner.

Chief Enrich's Report.
January's police record shows an average of better than one arrest a day. In all thirty-six offenders were taken into custody; nine of whom paid fines and five were dismissed by payment of costs. A total of \$59 was collected and turned over to the treasurer.

Hoodoo in Fires.
Thirteen fires occurred in Ottawa during January, according to Fire Chief Boissenin's report. A total damage of \$1,805.54 resulted from these conflagrations. The heaviest loss was suffered by Edward Bailey, when his home near the Federal Plate was entirely destroyed. The cause was assigned by the fire chief as "boys with matches." Three fires were responded to that occasioned no losses.

Made Many Inspections.
Plumbing Inspector William Wilson reported a busy month. Sixty-seven inspections were made. One master plumber's license was renewed and a brand new "pirate chief" was granted permission to boss the under pirates by passing an examination and depositing with the city the grand sum of \$50. \$85 in fees were collected.

Two More Report.
Street Superintendent Owen Fox, reported spending \$68.20 in his department. The bulk of the expenditure occurred when his men were forced to chop the icicles off the aqueduct.

City Sealer, Johnson, reported that the gas as furnished by the Public Service Company was above the standard fixed by the state.

Receipts Heavy.
The month was a profitable one in the finance department. The treasurer's and clerk's report showed that the receipts from all sources were \$10,576.75 and the expenditures \$4,425.92 leaving a balance of \$6,150.85 on hand. The pay roll amounting to \$4,124.18 was ordered paid.

HOBOES RIDE TO JAIL IN TAXICAB

Traveling to jail in a taxi used to be a luxury for millionaires, but three Gandy Dancers, Friday evening, cast aside all forms of hobo tradition when they sought admission to the city lockup after alighting from a taxicab. Frank Morton, "Jack" Kilpatrick and Davis McClurg were the trio who were pleased with the modern conveniences furnished by John Cisco.

Friday evening, they were hanging out in the depot. The men were told they must leave. They phoned for a taxicab and the driver brought the men to the local police station. After registering on John Cisco's slate, they joined the rest of the party of slumber-seekers.

The men informed the officers that their camp east of town was cold. They had slept in the city lockup before and decided that they would again seek the warmth of the big stove. The trio, however, did not leave the station in a taxicab, but "hooed" it to their work Saturday morning.

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MRS. A. G. REESE GOES TO REWARD

PROMINENT SOUTH OTTAWA WOMAN DIED LAST EVENING—MRS. MATTHEW DONOHUE SUCCUMBS AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS.

Mrs. Emma Rees, wife of A. G. Rees, of 620 East Van Buren street, died at her home last evening at 10:15 o'clock following a lingering illness of several months. Her death came rather suddenly.

The deceased was born February 2, 1853, in Grand Rapids township and was the daughter of John and Margaret Powe.

On November 1, 1876, she was united in marriage to A. G. Rees. For twenty-six years Mrs. Rees was a resident of Ottawa and during that time she took a most active interest in the civic and social welfare of the city. She was a life long member of the Methodist church and has always been devoted with the kindest care and affection to her home, husband and family.

She leaves surviving her husband and mother, Mrs. Margaret Powe, of Phelps street, and two children—Mrs. W. I. Hibbs, of Ottawa, and Arthur, of Grand Rapids township and three brothers—Charles Powe, of Quincy, Kansas, Frank of Conway Springs, and Edwin, of Phelps street and one stepdaughter, Josephine Rees of Ottawa. The funeral will be held Wednesday at the late home. Interment will be in Ottawa Avenue cemetery.

Mrs. Matthew Donohue.
Mrs. Matthew Donohue, prominent resident of Wallace township, died Sunday morning at 3:10 o'clock, following a brief illness of peritonitis.

Mrs. Donohue was born in Rutland township in 1855. She was united in marriage Jan. 30, 1881, to Matthew Donohue and has resided in Wallace township for the past thirty-four years. During her residence in that community she made a large circle of friends and her passing will be mourned by a host of friends.

Surviving she leaves her husband and three daughters—Margaret and Marie, at home, and Mrs. B. F. Carroll, of Seneca, and four sons—Matthew, Jr., James, Joseph and Arthur, at home and two sisters—Miss Ellen Ryan, of Grand Rapids township and Mrs. Martin Hardiman, of Fowler, Ind., and one brother, James Killelea, of Ottawa.

The funeral services will be held Tuesday morning at 9:30 o'clock at St. Columba church. Interment will be made in St. Columba cemetery.

YOUNG MAN IS PARALYSIS VICTIM

Adolph J. Nil, prominent young North Ottawa resident, died suddenly Sunday morning at 6 o'clock at his home, 706 Norris street, after a brief illness, Saturday evening at 10:00 o'clock he was stricken with heart trouble, which was followed by a stroke of paralysis, death resulting on Sunday morning.

Deceased was born in Palmyra, Mo., March 17, 1890, and came to Ottawa when he was eighteen years of age. He had been employed as a piano worker for the past seven years. He leaves surviving his wife and father, Conrad Nil, Sr., of Palmyra, Mo., one sister, Jennie, and three brothers—Emil, Conrad and George, all of Palmyra, Mo.

The remains were taken to Palmyra, Mo., today. The funeral services will be held there Tuesday.

MRS. CAROLINE ZIMMERMAN BURIED IN OTTAWA AVE.

Funeral services over the late Mrs. Caroline Zimmerman, aged Ottawa resident, whose death occurred Thursday, were held Saturday morning at St. Francis church. Interment was made in Ottawa Avenue Cemetery. The pall bearers were Henry Becker, Charles Matthias, Fred Worth, Lee Hamalle, Carl Mattes and George Matas.

KNEUSSL FUNERAL TUESDAY AFTERNOON

The funeral services for the late Mrs. Frank Kneussl will be held tomorrow afternoon at 1 o'clock from the late home. Interment will be in the Ottawa Avenue cemetery.

The Japanese make an imitation of silk from hemp.

WAR BULLETINS

NEUTRALS DEBATE WILSON OFFER.
London, Feb. 5.—President Wilson's suggestions that all neutral countries break off diplomatic relations with Germany is now under consideration by practically all of the neutral governments, according to dispatches received here today.

The Government most likely to take action upon the suggestion is Spain, it was reliably reported here.

Spain's reply to Germany's declaration of a ruthless submarine war is to be made public today, says a Madrid dispatch. It is believed to be a strong protest and almost an ultimatum in fact.

BOMBS FOUND ON PORCH OF COLLECTOR'S HOME.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Dudley Field Malone, collector of the port of New York, telephoned Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Peters this afternoon that he had just found a bomb on the steps of his home in New York. He said the fuse was burning and that he had put it out with his fingers. He gave no other details. This bomb was said by officials not to be the one that was found in the custom house.

PERSHING'S TROOPS BACK ON U. S. SOIL.

El Paso, Tex., Feb. 5.—General Pershing's expedition, which went into Mexico on March 15, 1916, "to capture Villa dead or alive," marched back into the United States today cheered by a crowd of several thousand, according to reports received here from points near Columbus.

COMPANY C MAY BE HELD AT FORT

KENTUCKY REGIMENT GETS ORDER TO REMAIN INTACT—EXCEPT DUPLICATE WORD AT Ft. SHERIDAN.

Orders issued out of Washington today ordering the Second Kentucky Guard to discontinue its preparations for mustering out and to remain intact at its present quarters, are expected to be duplicated and sent to the Third Illinois Guard in Chicago some time today. Company C, of Ottawa, is a member of the Third regiment, and like the Kentucky troops, were released from border duty nine days ago.

Letters received from Captain Chas. Gagen and other members of the regiment indicate that the muster out will be delayed as a result of the new switch in affairs and the crucial situation between Germany and the United States have left.

Company C members are momentarily expecting word from the national capital commanding them to remain at Ft. Sheridan for an indefinite period. It is a moral cinch that their arrival home will be delayed for a few weeks at the least.

Orders Guard Ready.
Springfield, February 5.—Governor Lowden last night notified Adjutant General Dickson in Chicago to take steps to have the National Guard protect the German consulate there. The Governor acted in response to orders from the State Department. The adjutant general will return to Springfield today and take steps to have the Illinois Guard ready for instant call.

SENECA WOMAN DIES AT HOSPITAL

Mrs. John Baker, of Seneca, who on Thursday afternoon jumped from the window in her room at Ryburn Hospital while delirious, died Saturday evening at 10 o'clock of appendicitis. Mrs. Baker was taken to the hospital January 29th, but her condition was such that doctors considered it unadvisable to operate upon her.

The deceased was born in Ottawa November 29, 1887, and resided in Ottawa until six years ago. On February 9, 1915, she was united in marriage to John Baker and to this union one son was born.

Surviving she leaves her husband, her son Wesley, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Price, of Seneca, three sisters, Mrs. E. E. Barr of Cornell, Mrs. R. R. Barr and Miss Ella Price, of Ottawa, and four brothers—Harry, John and William, of Ottawa, and Ralph, a member of Co. C.

The funeral services were held at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon at the First M. E. church, Rev. C. A. Briggs, Jr., officiating. Interment was made in Ottawa Avenue Cemetery.

CITY MUST PAY SHARE OF PAVING

JUDGE LARDIN FIXES AMOUNT TO BE TAXED FOR "PUBLIC BENEFITS" AT \$7,700 LESS UTILITIES ASSESSMENT.

Paving objectors who went into the County Court to present their legal complaints to the assessment roll as prepared for the "loop" improvement, won an important step in their fight this morning when Judge Lardin ruled that the city should pay \$7,700 toward the cost of resurfacing the downtown district.

Coming as it did, the decision served as a blow to the city and probably means a delay on the work that may run late into the summer. Unprepared to spend any more money for the improvement it is believed in municipal circles that abandonment of the present plan for financing the task will necessarily have to be and that the city commissioners will have to approach the improvement from an entirely different angle.

Commissioner Charles W. Campbell this afternoon when apprised of the result of the hearing before Judge Lardin, announced that he would present a resolution to the council wiping out the old roll and calling for the preparation of a new one under special taxation, instead of by special assessment as the proposition now stands.

In case this resolution carries thru the council, it will mean a delay of nothing short of sixty days and there is a question in some expert minds whether or not it would be profitable for the city to begin the work at such a late time in the season.

The ruling of Judge Lardin conforms with all the laws governing special assessment propositions and is in accord with that handed down in the Clinton street and east side paving jobs, where the city was made to pay its proportionate share for "public benefits." Judge Lardin in his ruling credited the city with some \$1,400 to be paid by the C. O. & P. and N. L. & T. companies. The tax imposed upon the municipality is intended to cover the cost of paving the street intersections.

That the Campbell resolution, if it is presented as stated by the commissioner of finance this afternoon, will pass, is generally conceded.

MENDOTA WOMAN CHARGES CRUELTY

Mrs. Ruth Tice, of Mendota, has filed a bill for divorce against James Tice in the circuit court, alleging cruelty. In her list of allegations setting forth her reasons for securing a decree Mrs. Tice names two occasions when she was attacked and beaten by the defendant.

She says that on June 15, 1915, she was struck in the face and both her eyes blackened and that on July 10, 1916, Tice struck her in the abdomen, painfully injuring her. The couple separated October 17th, 1916, and the wife says that Tice remained in Mendota until December 1st of that year, when he disappeared, since which time she has been unable to secure any trace of him.

The couple were married December 11, 1912, at Olney, Ill.

TWELVE HOBOS ARE GIVEN SHELTER HERE

Twelve hoboes, claiming residences in all the large metropolises of the United States, were given shelter last evening in the city lockup. The number was the largest that has ever been given lodging in this city during the last month. All departed this morning for St. Petersburg and Palm Beach, Florida, where they will spend the remaining winter months.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY AT DINNEEN SALOON

Robbers endeavored to enter the saloon of Daniel Dinneen on Columbus street Sunday evening, but were unsuccessful. The discovery of the attempted robbery was made this morning from the markings on a rear door. No arrests have been made.

COUNTY WARD DIES AT NOON TODAY

Sherman Wright, age 26 years, died at noon today at the County Home following a lingering illness of tuberculosis. He leaves surviving his mother, Mrs. Martha Wright, and one sister, Miss Nellie Wright. Funeral arrangements have not been made.

DUAL MONARCHY WILL STAND BEHIND ALLY; CUT DIPLOMATIC TIES?

Washington, Feb. 5.—Austria supports the submarine position of Germany.

It was admitted today that in the note received here from Ambassador Penfield, it is set forth that the Austrian government has taken the same position toward the submarine warfare without restrictions as did Germany.

LONDON AWAITS U. S.' NEXT MOVE

BRITISH SPECULATE UPON FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN U. S. A. AND GERMANY—CITE HOUSATONIC SINKING.

London, Feb. 5.—The wave of jubilation over the break in diplomatic relations between Germany and the United States was followed today by keen speculation as to the next step that President Wilson would take. That Germany is going to great lengths to prevent actual war is shown by the action of the submarine commander, which sank the American ship Housatonic. Not only was the ship warned, but special precautions were taken to see that the crew was landed safely.

However, in view of the recent declaration of ruthless sea warfare by Germany it is felt here that the German U boat fleet, despite care and precautions, cannot prevent some incident which would give the American government a casus belli.

Comment in the press and in official circles dwells upon the reinforcement of the economic and financial strength of the allies by the possible entry aid that America could give the entente powers.

It is felt here, and this belief is shared in all the allied capitals, that, if the American government should declare war on Germany the financial and economic problems of the allies would be solved forthwith.

Newspapers print tables of statistics to show the gigantic wealth and boundless resources of America. Dispatches from Amsterdam say that the news of President Wilson's action in breaking off relations with Germany and in recalling Ambassador Gerard from Berlin was a shock to Germany. Apparently it had been felt that relations with the United States, precluded any such action.

Order Release of Prisoners.

Amsterdam, Feb. 5.—Preparations have been made for the departure of the seventy-two Americans brought in to port on the German Prize ship Yarrowdale, says dispatch from Berlin today.

The release of the American prisoners was ordered by the German government on Sunday in response to a demand made by the American State Department.

The exact number of American captives on the Yarrowdale is uncertain. Cablegrams place the number at 72, but Washington dispatches indicate that are fewer than this number.

\$25 DAMAGE TO C. S. AYERS' HOUSE

The fire department was called to the home of Curtis Ayers, at 702 Congress street, last evening at 10:19 o'clock, when an overheated chimney resulted in damage to the adjoining woodwork in the house. The damage did not exceed \$25 and the blaze was extinguished by the aid of chemicals.

EARLVILLE TO VOTE ON NEW FORM OF GOVERNMENT

The city of Earlville may be forced to abolish its aldermanic form of government if a majority of the voters decide in favor of the commission form. A petition requesting Judge Mayo to fix a date for the election is on file in the county court. The judge named February 15th as the date for the election.

State Department officials believe that this means a diplomatic break with Austria shortly. A copy of the Austrian note now is in Pres. Wilson's hands.

Belief was expressed here today that the action of the United States could not cause the German government to change its original submarine regulations.

The text of the Penfield communication has not yet been given out. It was stated, however, that it probably would be made public within a short time. Until the President has decided on the subject, however, no official statement of intention by the United States will be forthcoming from the State Department.

Meanwhile the question of receiving Count Tarowski, the new Austrian Ambassador, is held in abeyance. He was informed on Saturday when he called at the State Department to seek an appointment with President Wilson to present his credentials, that he would be communicated with if an appointment was made. There the matter stands and will until the president determines upon a course of action to pursue.

Washington, Feb. 5.—The United States is waiting. The crisis precipitated by the diplomatic rupture with Germany was unchanged today.

There are two acute angles which may change the situation at a second's notice:

First, is action by Germany which would force the hand of the President.

Second, is action to restore the former status of submarine warfare, which would stay any additional move. Another possible angle is the action that the other neutral nations will take to follow America's lead. The President has asked all to place Germany beyond the pale of diplomacy. But until action is definitely announced in the several capitals or complete replies can be made public here, the United States must mark time.

Meanwhile, preparedness preparations were in progress on a gigantic scale. Congressional leaders have assured the President that he can have all of the money he needs for any purpose. Leading bankers in the financial centers of the nation have let it be known that a bond issue of not less than half a billion dollars would be absorbed in almost no time. In addition congress was in readiness to pass a score of measures which will aid in the defense such as more stringent neutrality laws, empowering the taking over of private plants for ship-building construction and the like, and all such legislation which in the opinion of the President and his advisers is necessary to place the nation in readiness for any emergency which may arise.

Reports that the American liner Philadelphia had been sunk had no basis in fact so far as any information available here was concerned. It had been accepted that for the five days ending at midnight tonight all merchant vessels in transit would be protected and if attacked at all, subjected to cruiser warfare. Officials made it plain that they expected many rumors would be current of vessel sinking and abridgement of American rights. But they also declared there would be no jumping at conclusions and no additional action by the President until official word has been received of any new facts in the crisis.

The situation so far as it affected Austria still was a puzzle to officials. If Austria is to act in concert with her ally, Germany, and undertake unrestricted submarine warfare, then the new Austrian ambassador

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