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The Arizona Daily Star

Weather Forecast for Today
"TUCSON SHINES"

VOL. LXXVI. NO. 11 TUCSON, ARIZONA, SATURDA MORNING, JANUARY 13, 1917. City Edition

THOUGH PEACE REMOTE, U.S. MAY TRY AGAIN

DUPONT PLANT BLOWN UP

TWO KILLED, TOWNS FOR MILES AROUND SHAKEN, BY TERRIFIC EXPLOSION

Entire Plant at Haskell, N. J., Destroyed When 400,000 Pounds of Powder Blow Up; Fire at Shell Warehouse Called Incendiary.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Four hundred thousand pounds of powder was destroyed by fire and explosions at the Haskell, N. J., plant of the Dupont Powder company at 9:30 o'clock tonight. Officials of the company declared after checking up the numbers of the night shift at the works that two men were missing. Twelve others were injured by flying debris. No estimate of the loss was obtainable.

There were two distinct explosions, the force of which was terrific. Buildings were shaken and windows shattered far out on Long Island and up the Hudson river to Poughkeepsie.

The first explosion was in what is known as the "blasting barrel." The fire which resulted spread quickly to the blending house and from there to three magazines. One of the magazines blew up but the powder in the others was consumed by the flames.

The blazing magazines set fire to the screening house from which the flames leaped across the Wanaque river and consumed three drying houses on the other side. At this point the fire was checked by efforts of the company's employes.

VILLAGE HOUSES SHATTERED

Other buildings in the plant and many in the village which was built in a semi-circle around the works were shattered by the force of the concussion.

It is feared that two men who were employed in the glazing barrel lost their lives. All the doctors available were summoned.

The concussion blew a tremendous hole in the side of a mountain near where the plant was built.

Every house in the village of Pompton Lake, more than two miles from Haskell, was damaged by the explosion. At the Pompton Lake hotel the floors buckled and the guests ran to the streets in alarm. Guards were stationed around the bank and the postoffice as a precaution against thieves.

Fear was felt that many persons might be found severely injured in the ruins of their homes.

Haskell is situated in a remote section of Passaic county and communication with it either by telphone or telegraph ceased after the first explosion. As a consequence reports of heavy loss of life soon were circulated in nearby places.

NEW JERSEY IN PAN'CIC

Following so closely upon the heels of the destruction of the Kingsland plant of the Canadian Car & Foundry Company, Ltd., the explosion threw all northern New Jersey into a panic. The sky was crimsoned by the conflagration and the flames were plainly visible as far away as Yonkers.

The stock of the explosion was so great that many persons in New York, Brooklyn and New Jersey cities 20 miles from Haskell, believed there had been an earthquake. Strangely enough the concussion seemed to be less severe a short distance from Haskell.

Guards employed by the company and police who were summoned from nearby towns established a dead line several hundred yards from the blazing buildings and would permit no one to pass. Hundreds of persons, however, climbed nearby hills from which they viewed the conflagration.

Bands leading into Haskell in all directions soon were filled with convoyances of every kind carrying physicians, nurses, policemen and firemen. Terror stricken women living in nearby communities whose husbands were employed at Haskell made frantic efforts to force their way past the guards and it was long after the explosions before they were convinced that few, if any, perished.

CONNECTICUT SHAKEN

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 12.—Cities in southern Connecticut were shaken by two explosions at 9:300 o'clock tonight. The shocks were severe in Stamford, Danbury, Bridgeport, and in this city. Many persons say they saw flashes of fire just before the second explosion. The shocks were felt as far eastward as New London.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Jan. 12—The distinct report from the New Jersey explosion was heard in western Massachusetts as far west as Pittsfield and throughout localities neighboring Springfield.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Jan. 12.—Two explosions shook the city at 9:30 tonight. The reports could be heard distinctly, flashes of light in the south preceding the rumblings. The explosions were felt in every signal tower on the New York Central railroad between New York and this city.

Fire in Shell Warehouse Is Called Incendiary

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—A statement that the fire and explosions which wrecked the plant of the Canadian Car & Foundry company at Kingsland, N. J., was "possibly," if not probably, of incendiary origin, was issued here today by the officials of the company. The total loss, it was stated was $18,000,000.

Of that total, $10,000,000 consisted of shells and explosives owned by the Russian government. The rest was destroyed property of the Canadian Car & Foundry company, which was covered by insurance.

Until investigation is completed no further statement will be made as to what evidence of incendiarism have been found, it was said by an officer of the company.

ACCIDENTAL FIRE IMPOSSIBLE

It was explained that the danger of fire or explosions from purely accidental

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STATE ASKS WILSON TO GIVE BACK PAPAGO RESERVATION

Legislature Memorializes President for Abandonment of 3,100,000 Acres; Both Houses Adjourn Pending Court Action on Governor.

(By Associated Press.)

PHOENIX, Jan. 12.—The first completed bit of legislation was achieved by the legislature today in the passage by the senate of the house concurrent memorial to the president urging him to order an abandonment of the Papago reservation of 3,100,000 acres in the counties of Pima, Pinal and Maricopa. It was put through under a suspension of the rules.

Two bills were introduced in the senate by Mr. Rutherford of Yavapai county. One of them proposes the appropriation of $200,000 for the completion of the capitol building, according to the plans adopted at the time of construction 16 years ago. The plans contemplated a building twice the size of the one built, the construction of a wing on the west front. It is proposed to turn back into the state treasury from the sale of state lands granted under the enabling act, the amount drawn for the completion of the building.

The other bill appropriates $180,000 for a home for disabled and aged miners on a site to be located by a commission provided for in the bill. The treasury is to be recouped from the sale of state lands for the amount appropriated.

The house held no session today, an adjournment having been taken until Monday morning. The senate, after a brief session, adjourned to the same time when the members believe the supreme court will hand down an opinion on the Campbell-Hunt mandamus case.

Lawson Must Reveal Names Or Be Jailed For Contempt

Leak Inquiry Will Be Reopened Monday; Committee Given Greater Power.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Clothed with new powers for forcing a witness to testify, the house rules committee will call Thomas W. Lawson before it again, probably Monday, and demand that he name the congressman, whom he says told him that a cabinet officer, a member of congress and a broker were in a conspiracy to make money in the stock market on official secrets.

If Lawson again refuses to name the congressman and the trio involved in his story, as it is generally believed he will, the committee then will report him either to the house or the district court on contempt charges.

The plan was agreed upon by the committee today after an acrimonious debate between Democrats and Republicans on the floor of the house and upset the generally accepted idea that agitation over rumors of a "leak" in advance of President Wilson's peace note was about to subside. During the discussion Republicans charged that the Democrats were shifting off the inquiry because they were afraid of it, while the Democrats insisted that their opponents were playing partisan politics.

CANTRILL SETS BALL ROLLING

When the house had talked for two hours and was almost to vote on the committee's report, Representative Cantrill of Kentucky made a proposition that changed the whole situation.

"Let the committee be instructed," he said, "to bring Thomas W. Lawson before it and submit to him in writing the question he refused to answer. If he does not answer, let Lawson be cited before the bar of this house and determine whether Thomas W. Lawson has more power than the American congress."

Everybody was surprised by the suggestion but in a moment indorsement began to come from members of both sides of the house, including Chairman Henry of the committee.

In the en dit was agreed that the committee should have five additional days in which to report on the Wood resolution, a report on which originally was ordered for tomorrow, and Mr. Henry immediately called a meeting of his committee for tomorrow morning to work out plans for recalling Lawson. The Wood resolution with amendments or some substitute to broaden the committee's power probably will be brought before the house tomorrow and acted on immediately upon the committee coming with its hearing Monday.

BOTH PARTIES FLAY LAWSON

During today's debate the Democrats insisted that no evidence worthy of serious consideration had been produced, and that it was useless to continue consideration of rumors. The Republicans, however, insisted that only a thorough investigation would clear congress of damaging reports which have become current since the "leak" charges were first brought.

Lawson was assailed on both sides of the house. No one went so far as to say that his charges should be taken seriously, but Republicans continued to urge that now that he had made them, he should be forced to "put up or shut up."

Representative Harrison, Democrat, Mississippi, in opposing the resolution of inquiry for partisan purposes, assailed Representative Wood particularly for introducing the resolution when he was in possession of no facts and could produce nothing but a "measly, anonymous letter." He said Mr. Wood owed a public apology to Secretary Lansing, Secretary Tumulty, Mr. Sisson and others for bringing their names into the affair.

Mr. Wood replied that he had no apology to offer for introducing the resolution and that he thought a thorough inquiry should satisfy the country.

T. R.'S NAME BROUGHT IN

Representative Henry charged that the Republicans in urging the original investigation were in an infamous "political

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Poles Ask Wilson to Put in Word for Them

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—An appeal to President Wilson "in the hope that the United States will speak for Polish independence, has been sent to Washington by the Polish National Defense committee, it was announced here tonight.

The appeal, after referring approvingly to president's recent note to the belligerent governments, outlines Poland's struggle for independence and continues:

"We confidently hope to hear soon the voice of this powerful republic, a voice which will hearten and encourage Poland like the voice of France, who, without waiting for peace to be concluded and still in the midst of war, once nobly recognized the independence of the United States."

GERMANY'S 'BIG MEN' SNAPPED LEAVING CONFERENCE ON WILSON'S PEACE NOTE

Left to right: Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, Herr Zimmerman and Herr von Jagow.

Almost simultaneously with the proffer of peace from Germany came the note from President Wilson urging both the entente allies and the central powers to make known their terms on which they would end the war. Leaders of the German government hastily conferred on the meaning of this action by the United States, and, following the explanation by Secretary Lansing that the note was sent as an urgent step to avoid complications for the United States in case a ruthless warfare should follow the failure of peace overtures, the German government quickly disavowed any intention of violating any of its pledges to America.

Herr von Zimmerman, seen in the background, is the new foreign minister. He succeeds Herr von Jagow, shown at the right.

Pershing to Be Withdrawn But Held Ready to Re-Enter Mexico if It Is Necessary

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—The next moves to be made by the United States in dealing with the de facto government of Mexico have been decided upon by President Wilson and will be announced after the meeting in New York Monday of the Mexican-American joint commission.

Withdrawal of the Pershing expedition across the American border and sending of Ambassador Fletcher to Mexico City during today's debate the Democrats insisted that no evidence worthy of serious consideration had been produced, and that it was useless to continue consideration of rumors. The Republicans, however, insisted that only a thorough investigation would clear congress of damaging reports which have become current since the "leak" charges were first brought.

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(Continued on Page Two)

Italian Warship Is Sunk by Mine; 675 Men Lost

ROME, via Paris, Jan. 12.—It is officially announced that the Italian battleship Regina Margherita struck a mine and sank December 11. Six hundred and seventy five men on board perished. Two hundred and seventy were saved.

The battleship Regina Margherita was laid down in 1901 and completed in May, 1904. She was a vessel of 11,427 tons, 426 feet long and had a draught of 27 feet. Her usual complement was 750 men. The battleship carried four 12-inch, four 8-inch, twelve 6-inch guns, twenty 12-pounders, two 1-pounds, two Maxims and four torpedo tubes.

The Regina Margherita was a sister ship of the Benedetto Brin, which was badly damaged by an explosion on board in 1915 in which a large number of the crew, including Rear Admiral De Cesris, were killed.

NEBRASKA HAS A NEW IDEA FOR ITS DRY LAW

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 12.—A bill to give effect to the Nebraska prohibition law which takes effect next May was introduced today in the state senate. In its general outlines it is a copy of the Colorado statute and is not a "bone dry" law. One of the distinctive features is that it provides for the use of revenue stamps on all packages of liquor shipped into the state for individual consumption and the money thus raised is to be used in prosecuting violators of the law.

BRITISH SHIP IS SUNK

LONDON, Jan. 12.—Lloyd's announces that the steamer Excellent, 1,944 tons, is believed to have been sunk.

PRESIDENT STUDYING HOW HE CAN RECONCILE NOTES OF ENTENTE AND TEUTONS

In West Alsace-Lorraine Is Only Bone of Contention; Belligerents Agreed on Poland and Lithuania; Italian Demands Can Be Settled, but Reconstruction of Balkans Offers Apparently Insuperable Obstacle; Fate of Turkey Hangs in Balance

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—The attitude of President Wilson toward the replies of the warring nations on his suggestion that an opportunity be been for comparison in peace terms remained undetermined tonight.

Preliminary discussion of the question was begun at today's cabinet meeting and all conferences between the president and Secretary Lansing and between the president and Colonel E. M. House, who spent the day at the White House.

Informally officials expressed the opinion that the problem facing the president is how to reconcile the conflicting attitude of the central powers and the entente allies on the question of comparing terms. The central powers have offered a delicate point at a conference of representatives of the belligerents, and the entente powers, though virtually agreeing to agree to a conference, having given their broad terms publicly, it was suggested that the president might seek a new method of having terms compared.

MAY ASK GERMANY TO STATE HER TERMS

In his original note he said he was indifferent as to the means employed to secure this desired end and it was thought he now would avoid putting himself in the position of advocating a particular method. In one administration quarter it was suggested that one or more European neutral might urge Germany and her allies to make public their peace terms, and others thought it possible that a voluntary statement might be forthcoming from Berlin after the text of the entente reply had been handed to the foreign office for its information by Ambassador Gerard. So far, it is understood the note has been transmitted to American diplomats in the enemy countries, although it is generally assumed that this would be the first step actually taken by the United States. Secretary Lansing broke his silence on the subject today only to say definitely that no action had yet been taken.

It is generally agreed everywhere that the nature of the terms of the entente allies, the information from German sources that such terms cannot be accepted, make an early peace unlikely. The preliminary view of the administration, however, still is that the door to discussion should not be entirely closed.

TEUTONS NEVER WILL GRANT ALLIES' DEMANDS

In the German view there is rests entirely with the president whether there will be further negotiations at this time. It is regarded as certain that the Germanic allies will consider any proposition Mr. Wilson may make and that they probably would be willing even to discuss in a conference with their enemies the conditions stated in the entente reply.

At the same time it is reiterated that Germany and her allies would never, under any conditions, accept such terms and should they agree to enter a conference to discuss terms it would be with the idea that the entente might recede from its position.

In this connection the German express the belief that the entente set forth in its note the objects it desires to achieve rather than the only terms upon which it would make peace and that as the communication was written for public literary broadcast, it probably could not be expected that objects or terms too moderate than those given could have been stated.

Extreme reticence was observed today at the White House and state department. It was said so many delicate points are involved that very careful study will be given to the problem before any decision is reached.

The view was generally expressed that the first milestone in the negotiations inaugurated by Mr. Wilson had been reached and that there would have to be a general consideration of the entire situation before any further move could be made. No estimate was placed on the probable time which may elapse before such consideration could be known, although the long conference between the president and Secretary Lansing today, coupled with the fact that the origin of the entente note, was taken to mean that there will be no unnecessary delay.

Peace and the questions allied with it were discussed only generally at the cabinet meeting but afterward the president and Secretary Lansing went to Mr. Wilson's private study together and remained there for more than an hour. When he left the White House Mr. Lansing refused to answer questions.

Colonel House, who came here last night to attend a dinner given in Mr. Wilson's honor by the secretary of state, remained until late this afternoon and conferred with several officials. He refused to discuss his visit.

BALKANS SEEM TO BE ONLY STUMBLING BLOCK

Already officials are trying to work out the points of agreement between the opposing alliances based upon the entente note and the German chancellor's speeches. Both, it is pointed out, agree to the evacuation of France and Belgium. The only questions left open on the west front, therefore are the allied demands for indemnities and the intimations that Alsace-Lorraine must be returned to France, and some kind of security for maritime frontiers.

On the eastern front the previlence of

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FIVE PERISH IN WORST STORM IN YEARS IN NORTH

Blizzard Sweeping Montana and Dakotas Sends Thermometers Far Below Zero; Wind From 40 to 70 Miles

(By Associated Press.)

FARGO, N. D., Jan. 12.—The twenty-fifth anniversary of the worst blizzard in the history of North Dakota was marked today by a state wide blizzard which was the most severe this season. Portions of western Minnesota and eastern Montana also suffered in the storm's path.

Three children were victims of the blizzard, one turned to death and another probably fatally injured at Williston, when their home was destroyed by fire resulting from the high wind and a third at Beach, believed to be lost in blinding snow.

Railroad traffic was at a standstill in northwestern North Dakota, today, according to a report from Williston.

Dissmarck reported a 62 mile gale with the thermometer registering 16 below. At Jamestown the snow had drifted to depths of ten feet, halting railroad traffic on branches and midland lines.

LITTLE GIRL IS LOST

BEACH, N. D., Jan. 12.—Hildamone, seven years old, daughter of Joseph Kusil of this town, is lost on the prairie near here tonight in a driving blizzard. A party of seventy-five persons, nearly the total male population of the town, are searching for the child.

As the little girl left the bus which had brought her home from school the wind blew the lid from her dinner pail. She ran after it and was soon lost in the swirling snow, which was driven by a 40 mile wind.

TWO PERISH IN MONTANA

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 12.—Two deaths from a blizzard which is sweeping eastern Montana were reported tonight. A dispatch from Wilsona said a school child was frozen to death while on the way home and that a teacher of a rural school near the North Dakota state line was reported missing and believed to have been lost in the storm. The temperature at Williston tonight was 15 degrees below zero and the wind was blowing 70 miles an hour.

15 BELOW, WIND 70 MILES

WIBAUX, Mont., Jan. 12.—The fiercest storm ever witnessed in this section raged tonight. The temperature was 15 below zero, and wind 70 miles an hour and there has been heavy snow for more than 24 hours.

TRAINS ARE DELAYED

BILLINGS, Mont., Jan. 12.—Eastern Montana is suffering from a terrific wind storm with the thermometer registering 19 degrees below zero. All eastbound freight are being cut in two here.

40 MILE WIND; 12 BELOW

ABERDEEN, S. D., Jan. 12.—With a forty mile wind whipping across the prairies, this section suffered a drop of 12 degrees in temperature with a minimum of 12 below today.

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