Important News Events of the World Summarized

U. S.—Teutonic Break

Authority to place the United States on a basis of armed neutrality to meet the German submarine campaign would be conferred on President Wilson by a resolution introduced in the house at Washington by Chairman Flood of the foreign relations committee.

Official Washington was astounded at the report that two American women had been lost in the sinking of the Cunarder Laconia.

Mrs. Mary Hoy and Miss Elizabeth Hoy, wife and daughter of Dr. Albert H. Hoy, formerly of Chicago but now of London, were drowned when the Cunard liner Laconia was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine off the coast of Ireland. Of the 291 passengers and members of the crew on board the vessel, seven besides Mrs. and Miss Hoy are reported missing.

A conviction that a diplomatic break between the United States and Austria cannot long be avoided became apparent in administration circles at Washington. It is practically certain that before President Wilson takes the international situation once more before congress Ambassador Penfield will have been recalled from Vienna.

All the passenger ships of the American line now are believed to be safely away from the European war zone. Five of them are tied up at their piers in New York.

A dispatch received at Amsterdam from Berlin says that the American sailors who were taken to Germany on the steamer Yarrowdale have been released.

European War News

German destroyers bombarded Broadstairs and Margate, England. One woman and one child were killed and two persons were injured. Two houses were damaged. This announcement was made in the house of commons.

The British advance along the Ancre river has attained a depth of two miles and extends along a front of about eleven miles, according to the official report to London from British headquarters in France.

Twenty-six Americans, six of whom were cabin passengers, and twenty paid members of the crew, were on board the Cunard liner Laconia, from New York February 18 for Liverpool, with 75 passengers and a crew of 216, when the vessel was sunk by a German submarine off Ireland.

The British have captured Kut-el-Amara, the war office announced at London, and now are pursuing the retreating Turks.

The Tokyo Nichi Nichi announces that an armed merchantman is raiding commerce in the Indian ocean and has sunk two British steamers southwest of Colombo, Ceylon.

A dispatch from The Hague says Holland's strained relations with Germany are near the breaking point as a result of attacks by submarines on seven Dutch steamships. General indignation is expressed over the attacks, which are termed "deliberate." Germany tacitly agreed to except Dutch ships from attack up to February 22, "but could not guarantee absolute safety." The seven ships were attacked on February 22.

Under cover of a heavy fog and mist, the Germans carried out the greatest retirement they have made on the western front in the last two years. The British have swept into possession of Pys, Serre, Miraumont and Petit Miraumont, including the famous Butte de Warlencourt. The German retirement is estimated by the war office in London at a depth of three miles at some points.

The French steamer Athos, in the torpedoing of which Robert Allen Haden, an American missionary, lost his life, was a transport. Aboard her were a large number of Senegalese troops and colonial laborers. It was announced officially in Paris that 1,450 of the passengers and crew were saved.

Domestic

Four men were killed and one injured at Cincinnati when an automobile in which they were riding collided with a Madison road street car.

A snowslide which struck the North Star mine of the Federal Mining and Smelting company at Hailey, Idaho, carried away a bunkhouse, killing 12 men and injuring nine others. Three other miners are missing.

Passengers on the American liner Philadelphia, which arrived at New York, brought a report that the 20,000-ton White Star liner Celtic, which was to have carried passengers on her present trip, has been damaged by a torpedo or mine a short distance out of Liverpool.

Harry C. Fisher, better known as "Bud" Fisher, was made defendant in an action in the New York supreme court for a divorce brought by Pauline Margaret Fisher. Counsel said he would apply for $25,000 per annum alimony for his client.

A gun fight between a marine sentry on duty at the Point Loma radio station and an unknown man was reported at San Diego, Cal. The intruder fired three shots at the sentry when challenged. The sentry returned the fire, but the prowler escaped.

New York's first American ship to dare the submarine zone, the freighter Orleans, safely entered the mouth of the Gironde, in France.

Two lives were claimed as a result of a storm which inundated thousands of acres and forced 200 families from flooded homes at San Jose, Cal.

Two sleeping cars of the Mercantile Express were telescoped by a freight train on the Pennsylvania railroad at Mount Union, Pa. Seventeen passengers were killed.

Food prices went tumbling when 281 carloads of foodstuffs arrived in New York and broke the "corners" which had been existing for weeks.

While crossing the Mississippi river on the ice in an auto, Jesse Welch of Montpelier, Ia., and Clifton Brigel and the son of the station agent at the same place, were drowned.

Edwin Gould, Jr., oldest son of the New York capitalist, was accidentally killed when hunting. Gould was hunting coons on a small island near Jekyl, Ga. He struck a coon on the head with the butt of his gun and the weapon was discharged. Mr. Gould was twenty-three years old.

Mme. Ernestine Schumann-Heink, contralto, was hurt in an automobile accident at St. Louis. It was announced that the singer would not be able to fill any engagements for a year.

Two men were killed and others buried when an air blast in the Red Jacket shaft at Calumet, Mich., caused serious damage to underground workings.

Foreign

Telegraphing from Madrid Reuter's correspondent says that James W. Gerard, former American ambassador to Germany, left the Spanish capital on a special train for Corunna, where the party will embark for the voyage to the United States. The Duke of Zaragoza drove the engine, having volunteered for the task.

Government troops in Cuba have captured Cannguley, it is announced officially. The rebels fled after offering slight resistance. It is reported from Santa Clara that heavy fighting at Loma del Grito resulted in the defeat of rebel forces under Gerardo Machado and Sanchez del Portal.

A number of Sinn Feiners who had recently returned from internment in England were arrested in Limerick, Galway and Skibbereen, as well as in Dublin. The arrests were made under the defense of the realm act.

England is feeling sharply the blows of Germany's submarine fleet. This was made plain by Premier Lloyd-George in the house of commons in London when he delivered his heralded speech on the necessity of restricting imports. The submarine must be hunted from the deep, the premier declared. There is no surer way to victory. He pointed out the need of tonnage to supply the needs of the civil and military nation, and declared that the situation calls for the gravest measures. The government proposes to dispense with all nonessential importations to save tonnage.

The German reichstag was opened at Berlin with a speech by the president of the chamber, Dr. Johannes Kaempf, who declared Germany and her allies now were taking refuge in a weapon "which will be employed without restriction until our aim in the war, namely, the defense of the independence and the freedom of our countries, is attained."

Washington

The extent to which the foreign commerce of this country will be affected by the articles prohibited imported into the United Kingdom officially announced in London, is suggested by the figures of exports for 11 months to December 1, 1916, as compiled at Washington by the department of commerce. The total sum was $60,067,329.

Appropriating more than $250,000,000, the house at Washington passed the army bill. There was no roll call. Representative Calwell of New York proposed an amendment for compulsory military training, but it was defeated.

It was learned at Washington that President Wilson is determined that there shall be ample food for the people at reasonable prices. This likewise is the determination of congress. The administration and congress propose to take measures to prevent this situation from becoming dangerous. The president is pressing the interstate commerce commission to see that ample car facilities shall be provided for the transportation of necessaries of life.

Senator Borah of Idaho introduced a resolution in the senate at Washington appropriating $6,000,000 for the relief of sufferers from the high cost of food.

It was learned at Washington that President Wilson's plan for an investigation of the food situation awaits only the decision of congress to set aside sufficient money to carry it out. All the machinery of the federal trade commission is in readiness to investigate the shortage and the advances in the price of staples.

President Wilson signed the Smith-Hughes vocational educational bill at Washington thus providing for federal aid to the states in promoting training in agriculture, trades, home commodities and industrial subjects.

Representative Worth Bailey of Pennsylvania presented a resolution in the house at Washington asking an embargo on the exportation of food so that the starving people in New York and other cities may know their president and congress are sympathetic.

WILSON AGAIN IS MADE PRESIDENT

Chief Executive Inducted Into Office With Due Ceremony.

PATRIOTISM MARKS THE DAY

Vice President Marshall First Takes the Oath—Imposing Inaugural Parade Is Largely Military in Its Nature—Flags and Illumination.

By EDWARD B. CLARK.

Washington, March 5.—Woodrow Wilson has been inaugurated president of the United States for the second time, and Thomas R. Marshall has come into his own as vice president of the United States for the second time in company with the chief executive.

For several nights prior to the inauguration, Washington was a flood of light. Thousands of American citizens came to the capital of their nation from all over the United States to witness the ceremonies attending the inauguration. The situation of the country in reference to its foreign relations added more than a touch of seriousness and a distinct flavor of patriotism to the entire proceedings. Washington is a city of flags at all times, but it became ten times a city of flags one day before the ceremonies of inauguration.

President Wilson drove from the White House to the capitol with his wife at his side. In the carriage with him were two members of the congressional committee which had general charge of the ceremonies, and of which Senator Overman of North Carolina is chairman.

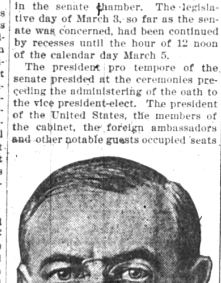
Vice President Marshall, with Mrs. Marshall, in the carriage with him, was escorted in like manner to the capitol.

Big Crowds, Many Flags.

From an early hour the sidewalks were crowded with persons waiting to see the president and "the first lady of the land" pass along the avenue to the place of the oath-taking. All the windows commanding a view of Pennsylvania avenue also were crowded with onlookers. The red, white and blue was everywhere in evidence. The only foreign flags to be seen in Washington were those flying from the flagpoles of the foreign embassies and legations which, even though they are located in the city of Washington, are recognized as being foreign territory.

Vice President Marshall was resworn into office before the inauguration of the president. The exercises took place in the senate chamber. The legislative day of March 3, so far as the senate was concerned, had been continued by recesses until the hour of 12 noon of the calendar day March 5.

The president pro tempore of the senate presided at the ceremonies preceding the administering of the oath to the vice president-elect. The president of the United States, the members of the cabinet, the foreign ambassadors and other notable guests occupied seats



Woodrow Wilson.

in the senate chamber. At twelve o'clock the president pro tempore administered the oath of office prescribed by law to the vice president-elect.

Immediately following the taking of the oath of office by Mr. Marshall, the newly elected senators of the United States were sworn into office. Then the vice president made this announcement: "The sergeant-at-arms of the senate will carry out the order of the senate for the inauguration of the president of the United States."

The president-elect, accompanied by the chief justice of the United States, the joint committee on arrangements, the associate justices of the Supreme Court, the foreign ambassadors and ministers plenipotentiary, the members of the senate, preceded by the vice president and secretary of the senate, the holdover members of the house of representatives, preceded by the officers of the house who have just relinquished office by virtue of the expiration of their terms, and other distinguished guests made their way to the inaugural stand.

Inauguration of the President.

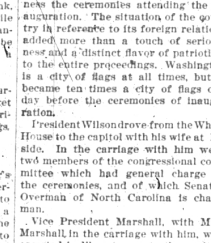
The procession, headed by the president-elect, wound through the east senate door, the main corridors of the senate and through the rotunda of the capitol to the place set for the oath-taking. On reaching the inaugural stand, Woodrow Wilson took a place directly in front of Edward D. White, the chief justice of the United States, and the chief clerk of the Supreme court, James D. Maher. The sergeant-at-arms of the senate and the congressional committee on arrangements were immediately on the left of the president. The vice president, the associate justices of the Supreme Court and the members of the senate sat upon his right.

When all were assembled Chief Justice White, having in his right hand the open Bible upon which the hands of many former presidents have rested, advanced to Woodrow Wilson and administered to him this oath, which is imposed by the Constitution of the United States:

"You do solemnly swear that you will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States and will to the best of your ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Woodrow Wilson said in a firm voice, "I do," and he became for the second time president of the United States of America.

Then the president delivered his inaugural address and on its conclusion he made his way with Mrs. Wilson to



Thomas R. Marshall.

his carriage and was driven slowly to the White House at the head of the procession formed in honor of the inaugural ceremonies.

Luncheon Deferred for Parade.

In years past the presidential party always has entered the White House for luncheon prior to the review of the parade from the stand in front of the executive mansion. This invariably in the past caused such a delay that it was decided this year to do away with the luncheon feature.

President Wilson with Mrs. Wilson, the Vice President and Mrs. Marshall, and two members of his cabinet went immediately to the little inclosed structure, much like a sentry box, which had been built in the middle of the great grandstand in front of the White House and from which the chief executive viewed the parades.

It was the unanimous opinion of the situation in connection with our foreign affairs which gave to the inaugural ceremonies their serious tone and patriotic features. The parade of the day was largely military in its nature, although there were in the procession many bodies which in a sense might be said to represent the spirit of industrial preparedness of the United States for any eventuality which might come.

Make-up of the Procession.

At the forefront of the parade as it left the capitol were, of course, the president and the vice president of the United States with their guards of honor, Major General Hugh L. Scott, U. S. army, was the grand marshal of the occasion. George R. Linkins was the marshal of the civic organizations which took part in the marching ceremonies.

Immediately preceding the carriages of the presidential and vice presidential parties and of Col. Robert N. Harper, inaugural chairman, was the famous United States Marine band. The president had as his guard of honor the squadron of the Second United States cavalry.

The Vice President and Mrs. Marshall were escorted by the Black Horse troop of the Culver Military academy, Indiana, the state of which the vice president and his wife are natives.

The West Point cadets and the Annapolis midshipmen had the post of honor. In addition to these young soldier and sailor organizations there was as large a representation of the forces of the United States as properly could be spared from post and garrison duty. In addition there were troops from Pennsylvania, Virginia, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, and some other states of the Union representing the National Guard.

A patriotic and picturesque feature of the ceremonies attending the inauguration was supplied by the rapidly thinning ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic. In years past the soldiers of the war between the states have made the entire length of the line of march, but this year the distance which they tramped was shortened. They added to the picture of the parade as they moved by the presidential reviewing stand with their old flags above them.

At night Washington was aglow with fireworks and with the combined effects of gas and electric light illuminations. In addition searchlights showed their white rays here and there, and one great shaft of light illuminated the apex of the Washington monument while another lighted up and brought into bold relief the dome of the capitol.

INTERESTING ITEMS

A Spanish merchant has made inquiries about American petroleum and machine oils.

Ten thousand pounds of oiled worsted yarn is needed by a dealer in the Netherlands.

The autumn crop of cocoons in Japan was a large one, 9,472,600 bushels being gathered.

The oldest fan in existence is in the museum at Cairo. It dates from the seventeenth century B. C.

There is a demand in Hawaii for American shoes. Footwear is coming into use among the Japanese, Chinese and Korean inhabitants.

A school of artificial fly will be established in Lima, Peru. The government has passed a law providing for an annual appropriation of $24,332, for its maintenance.

When the stack of a 14-ton shovel pulled by 12 horses struck a trolley wire in Cleveland, two horses which had their feet on a manhole were killed. Their chains became red hot.

PUBLIC UTILITIES 1916 TAX LOWER

VALUATION RAISED EIGHTEEN MILLIONS BUT TAX RATE IS REDUCED.

MONEY GOES TO SCHOOL FUND

As Result of Reduction in Rate Few Corporations Have Asked for Lower Valuations.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

Lansing.

Michigan's specific tax on railroads, car companies, express companies, car loaning companies and telephone and telegraph lines, all of which goes to the primary school fund, will amount this year to $4,628,594.46.

This is a reduction over the previous year of a little more than $500,000.

Though the final figures of the state tax commission sitting as the state board of assessors show that they have given the utilities an increase valuation of $18,000,000, the tax is much lower, owing to the fact that the average rate of taxation throughout the state is much lower. The average rate must be used as a basis for computing the specific tax rate to be applied to the railroads and others.

The rate for last year was $20.41 as compared to $17.05 this year.

As a result in the reduction of the rate there were but few corporations appearing before the state board of assessors to ask for a reduction in their assessed valuations, and the figures are changed little from the tentative figures of the state board announced before reviews were held.

Some of the larger railroads are raised considerably in assessed valuation over last year. The Michigan Central is advanced from $60,075,000 to $62,625,000; the Pere Marquette from $26,000,000 to $28,500,000; the Grand Trunk system from $28,710,000 to $30,417,000.

The Michigan State Telephone Co. is boosted from $18,250,000 to $19,500,000, while the Southern Michigan is cut from $800,000 to $650,000.

Reforestration on Gigantic Scale.

By asking the legislature to increase its appropriation to $150,000, the Michigan public domain commission is preparing for the greatest forest conservation ever been tried in the U. S.

The plan has the backing of the members of the commission and is also approved by the foremost experts at the University of Michigan and at the Michigan Forestry association. The state now owns, in round numbers, 540,000 acres of land. It is proposed to plant trees at the rate of 4,500 acres a year and, in what is known as a period of rotation, consisting of 60 years, all of 270,000 acres can be planted.

One-half of the other 270,000 acres, in the next 30 years, under protection, will produce sufficient material, which by cutting, will clear a gross revenue of $15 per acre.

Beginning with 1917 it is thought advisable, according to the plan, to cut at the rate of 4,500 acres per annum and plant it at the same rate with the more valuable pines. By 1977 the remaining 135,000 acres will be treated in like manner, so that the initial restocking of all forest lands will have been completed in 2007.

Governor's First Reappearance.

The first appearance of Gov. Albert E. Sleeper in the house since he read his inaugural message to the joint session of both houses at the opening of the session, occured on Washington's Birthday. The governor was escorted to the speaker's desk and made a short speech in eulogy of the father of our country. Senator George E. Bolen, of Calhoun county, and Rep. Newkirk, of Ann Arbor, also spoke on Washington, and George Lusk, deputy secretary of state, sang "The Sword of Bunker Hill" and "Michigan, My Michigan," at the house exercises. In the senate the principal oration was delivered by Rep. Thomas Read, of Oceana county.

Avoid Long Term Contracts.

Present high prices for fuel and paper have caused the house to pass a bill offered by Rep. Glaspie, of Oakland, to keep the state from tying itself up to two year contracts. Under the present laws the state has to make contracts every two years for these supplies and the contracts now in force expire in March. The Glaspie bill permits short term contracts, in the hope that conditions will improve soon and that the state can avoid paying present high prices for the next two entire years.

Miscellaneous Bills Passed.

The Dapratо bill, to have all constitutional amendments submitted at any election placed on one ballot, instead of one to a ballot, has passed the house and gone to the senate.

The Wells bill to allow township officers to raise money to pay necessary expenses when such money has not been voted, has been passed by the house.

The house of representatives has adopted beautifully written resolutions offered by Rep. Dapratо on the death of Gen. Frederick Funston in Texas.

The grinding out of embryo laws through the process of committee of the whole consideration and passage in each house on third reading now is well in progress and each house is receiving from the other, every day, bills that have success fully gone through consideration in one of them.

Liquor Committee Attacked.

Enthused by the action of congress in passing the Reed amendment to the postal appropriation bill, which makes "bone dry" every prohibition state in the union by stopping the importation of liquors into them, the bone dry forces in the legislature precipitated the big battle of the 1917 session.

Rep. Sigurd Nelson, of Gogebic county, brought forward a resolution reprimanding the liquor committees of the house and senate, which have worked jointly on the dry bills. The resolution was prompted by an announcement of the sub-committee of the liquor committees, widely printed in the daily papers, that the committees had agreed to a plan to submit another constitutional amendment in April to have the people of the state declare just how dry they wanted to be following their vote for prohibition last November.

The tussle between the bone drys and the moist forces since the opening of the legislature was the reason for the sub-committee's determination on another vote. The Anti-Saloon league leaders endorsed the plan for an April vote. So did Lieut. Gov. Dickinson.

Bone drys opposed the idea so strongly that despite the announcement that it had been agreed upon, the first official announcement made in the house of representatives regarding it was a statement by Rep. Lynn Lewis, chairman of the house liquor committee, that it would not be brought before the house at all.

This declaration came in connection with notice served by Rep. Nelson that he would introduce his reprimand resolution. On the same day, but at a later hour, came the news of the passage by congress of the Reed amendment. As the latter compels all prohibition states to be bone dry it was rather discomfiting news to the moists in the legislature, and correspondingly agreeable to the bone drys.

Rep. Nelson followed with his resolution, one of scathing condemnation of the liquor committee's course. It declares that the house repudiated the action of the committee in voting 7 to 2 that it would not report out a bone dry bill and also repudiated the announcement of the sub-committee regarding an April vote.

An effort to have the resolution tabled was defeated by a vote of 48 to 39. Chairman Lewis, of the liquor committee, warned the drys who voted against tabling the Nelson resolution that they were being led into a trap by the wets.

Rep. Nelson had Rep. Lewis admit that he did not charge him with being aligned with the wets and then followed with a forceful talk supporting the resolution and declaring that the house sentiment was for dry laws and that the liquor committee was not reflecting that sentiment. Rep. Sheridan Ford, of Detroit, said he was glad the state would have, under the Reed amendment, "an honest-to-God prohibition and not a hypocritical substitute for it." Rep. George E. McArthur, author of the bone dry bills, declared that he resented the charge of being led on by the wets and added that the committee of which he is a member had told him that it would not report out a bone dry bill.

A number who had opposed the tabling of the resolution said they were opposed to its passage on the ground that it "slapped" the liquor committee too hard. After a three-hour debate that waxed acrimonious at times the house voted down the Nelson resolution, 30 ayes to 55 noes.

The battle, however, cleared the air in regard to liquor legislation. It was declared that bills would be forthcoming promptly from the liquor committee, providing for bone dry laws as well as for the "moist." Wiley bill, with the limited shipment of liquor clause cut out of it.

Lieut. Gov. Dickinson declared that the Reed amendment in congress solved Michigan's law problems and that a short law covering the points in the constitutional amendment is the only thing now needed to make Michigan the dryest of dry states. Anti-Saloon league leaders declared themselves heartily in favor of the passage of laws prohibiting the importation of liquor for beverage purposes.

Game Bill Sent Back to Committee.

The house sent back to the committee for further consideration the public domain commission bill giving the state game warden power to shorten open seasons after it had made a majority of the board of supervisors of each county the petitioning body instead of citizens. Questions as to the provisions caused the rereference. There is little question, however, that the bill is constitutional, as a similar measure has been upheld in more than a dozen states.

New Bills Introduced.

Among new bills introduced in the legislature are these:

By Rep. Daigneau: To allow the state to have its own printing done in such institutions as the Boys' Industrial School, Jackson prison and other state institutions.

By Rep. Copley: To have plats of streets and alleys in all cities and villages of the state filed with the auditor general.

By Rep. Ormsbee: That a new township may be formed by any fraction of a township on petition of three-fifths of its freeholders.

By Senator White: To require annual statements, early in December, from banks, savings institutions, insurance companies, trust companies and mutual building and loan associations, with penalties of $100 fines for not complying.

By Rep. Lewis: To have a joint board of control for the farm colony for epileptics in Midland county and the Michigan Home & Training School at Lapeer.

By Senator White: To establish a commission of three, appointed by the governor, to act as a minimum wage commission for women workers and see that women get living wages. Penalties are provided for infractions of the law against insufficient wages and for newspapers that refuse to publish notices of the wage commission at regular rates.

AMERICA STANDS ON BRINK OF WAR

ARMED MERCHANTMEN MAKES THEM SUBJECT TO ATTACK WITHOUT WARNING.

SUCH ACT WOULD MEAN WAR

Killing of Americans on Laconia Termed Plain Violation of International Law.

Washington—The death of Mary E. Hoy and Elizabeth Hoy, of Chicago, in the sinking of the Laconia was declared by the administration to be a plain violation of international law. The cold formal report of Consul Frost at Queenstown described the two American women as "dead from exposure and bodies lost at sea."

The Laconia was described as another "Lusitania case," and administration officials made it plain that the "next step" to protect Aemrican rights at sea was now inevitable.

It was stated that before many days American vessels, armed fore and aft, with American gunners aboard, will be defying the German war zones.

There is not a single official of government who does not believe the moment that the president orders the American mail carrying liners which flout the Stars and Stripes to resume their sailings—which will be to Liverpool—and orders them armed, that they will be subject to attack without warning by German submarines.

An assault upon such vessels will be accepted not as an "overt act" but as an act of war.

NIGHT FARMING FOR BRITAIN

Import American Tractors to Facilitate Food Production.

London—"We want 2,000 American tractor ploughs for the use of a civilian army of night ploughers which we are about to enlist throughout the British Isles," said Sir Arthur Lee, director-general of food production. This new department, which is the outgrowth of Germany's submarine campaign, aims at the enlistment of several hundred thousands civilians to cultivate every available bit of soil.

"We hope to make the tractor ploughs fill the gaps caused by the shortage in labor," confinued Sir Arthur. "For this reason we are going to import 2,000, or as many as we can, from America. We are going to equip them with headlights for night ploughing. Laborers can only work eight hours, but tractors can work 24 hours. They will be driven by taxicab drivers and chauffeurs.

"Behind every plough will be a skilled farmer. They will be assisted by prisoners, conscientious objectors, members of the home defense forces and women. In this way, we hope to produce enough food to make us independent of outside help as long as the war lasts."

BRITISH FORCES RETAKE KUT

Strategic Position Had Been Surrendered to Turks Last Spring.

London—Kut-el-Amara has been recaptured from the Turks by the British forces, according to a statement made in the house of commons by Andrew Bonar Law, member of the British war council.

Mr. Bonar Law announced that as a result of the operations on the Tigris river front, all of the Turkish positions from Sannaiyat to Kut-el-Amara have been secured and that the town of Kut-el-Amara automatically passed into the hands of the British.

Kut-El-Amara, a strategic military position on the Tigris river leading to Bagdad, was surrendered to the Turks April 28, 1916, after General Townshend, with a British force of some 9,000 troops, had withstood a siege since the previous December.

SNOW SLIDE BURIES MINERS

Fifteen Men Reported Killed and An Equal Number Injured.

Boise, Idaho—An avalanche swept down on the buildings of the North Star mine, 12 miles northeast of Hailey, Idaho, demolishing the compressor house, warehouse and bunk house, smothering and crushing the sleeping men in the snow and debris.

Fifteen men are reported killed and an equal number injured.

OFFERS TARS $75 PER WEEK

Captain of Greek Steamer Has Trouble Getting Crew.

Boston—Pay at the rate of $150 for a two week's voyage was offered by the captain of the Greek steamer Calimeria before he could obtain a crew to brave the submarine zone. The steamer sailed for Piraeus, wheat laden, after being delayed for several days by desertions. The usual wage for sailors is $30 a month.

Marquette—Ground is frozen here to a depth of between six and seven feet. A frost depth of four feet is customary for this city.

Traverse City—The highest price ever paid for potatoes in northern Michigan was received Saturday. It was $3.01 to farmers. After this flurry, the price jumped back to $2.75. This may mean six dollar retail potatoes before spring. Last fall the price here was 95 cents. It jumped to $1.25 in October, $1.67 in November, $2 in January, $2.50 in February.