GERMANY DEFYING WORLD OPINION SAYS PRESIDENT

Appears Before Congress And Emphasizes Friendly Attitude In Czernin Peace Offer Of January 24

WHOLE STRENGTH IN WAR

Hertling Proposals Confusing Says President In Charge That Demands Of Reichstag Forgotten By Berlin Premier

Washington—Before a hastily summoned joint session of congress, President Wilson, on February 11, drove in place what many of his hearers regarded as the most powerful wedge yet employed to split the Austro-German alliance and to separate the people of Germany itself from the military masters who rule them.

Once more the president set in place the cornerstones upon which America demands peace of the world shall be rebuilded. The 14 particular-ised terms which he laid down in his address of January 8, he assembled this time under the four following principles:

"First, that each part of the final settlement must be based upon the essential justice of that particular case and upon such adjustments as are most likely to bring a settlement that will be permanent.

"Second, that peoples and provinces are not to be bartered about from sovereignty to sovereignty as if they were mere chattels and pawns in a game, even the great game, now forever discredited, of the balance of power; but that,

"Third, every territorial settlement involved in this war must be made in the interest and for the benefit of the populations concerned, and not as a part of any mere adjustment or compromise of claims amongst rival states; and,

"Fourth, that all well defined national aspirations shall be accorded the utmost satisfaction that can be afforded them without introducing new or perpetuating old elemnts of discord and antagonism that would be likely in time to break the peace of Europe and consequently of the world."

Fight On for Just Peace.

"Until such a peace can be secured," the president declared to an audience which on floor and in galleries, stood up and cheered, "we have no choice but to go on."

In face of the toll of the transport Tuscania and the announcement that Russia has definitely quit and Ukraine has signed a separate peace with the Central powers, the president told a cheering audience that more American troops and always more would go on to France until a just peace was attained.

"We can never turn back," he declared, "from a course chosen upon principle. Our resources are in part mobilized now and we shall not pause until they are mobilized in their entirety. Our armies are rapidly going to the fighting front and will go more and more rapidly.

Whole Strength in War.

"Our whole strength will be put into this war of emancipation—emancipation from the threat and attempted mastery of selfish groups of autocratic rulers—whatever the difficulties and present partial delays. We are indomitable in our power of independent action and can in no circumstance consent to live in a world governed by intrigue and force.

"The tragical circumstance is," he declared, "that this one party in Germany is apparently willing and able to send millions of men to their death to prevent what all the world now sees to be just."

The reply of Count Czernin, the Austrian premier, to his speech of January 8, the president declared, had been "uttered in a very friendly tone." Czernin, he said, "seems to see the fundamental elements of peace with clear eyes and does not seek to obscure them.

Austria Sees American Aim.

"Speaking and conceding as he does the essential principles involved and the necessity of candidly applying them, he naturally feels that Austria can respond to the purpose of peace as expressed by the United States with less embarrassment than could Germany. He probably would have gone much farther had it not been for the embarrassments of Austria's alliances and of her dependence upon Germany."

In the speech of Count von Hertling, the German chancellor, delivered January 24, the same day that Czernin spoke, the president declared he could find no such basis of possible understanding with the United States. Von Hertling he described as "very vague and very confusing."

"His discussion and acceptance of our general principles lead him to no practical conclusions. He refuses to apply them to the substantive items which must constitute the body of any final settlement. He is jealous of international action and of international counsel. It (Hertling's reply) confirms. I am sorry to say, rather than removes, the unfortunate impression made by what we had learned of the conferences at Brest-Litovsk."

World Sits in Judgment.

From this contrast between the speeches of the Austrian and German premiers, the president proceeded to hold up the striking contrast between the demand of the German chancellor that the world at large shall not concern itself with individual territorial adjustments at the close of the war and the clear-struck note of the reichstag resolutions of last July.

Declaring that "all the awakened nations of the world now sit in judgment" on the issues of the conflict, the president referred to the fact the reichstag had itself "accepted the decisions of that court" in stipulating in its resolutions that "there shall be no annexations, no contributions, no punitive damages;" that "peoples are not to be handed about from one sovereignty to another by an international conference or an understanding between rivals and antagonists;" that "national aspirations must be respected," and "peoples may now be dominated and governed only by their consent."

The speech was put forward frankly as another step in that persistent propaganda of public discussion which President Wilson started at the very outset of America's entry into the conflict. Again it was his purpose to emphasize before the world in general and the enemy peoples in particular, that the enemies of the German military rulers are battling for the highest principles of liberty and freedom.

"Self-Determination Fact."

"'Self-determination' is not a mere phrase," declared the president. "It is an imperative principle of action, which statesmen will henceforth ignore at their peril. We cannot have a general peace for the asking, or by mere arrangements of a peace conference. It cannot be pieced together out of individual understandings between powerful states. All parties to this war must join in the settlement of every issue anywhere involved in it."

At the very outset of his speech the president denied the intimation accredited to Count Czernin that the Austrian premier had been in communication with him privately before delivery of his speech or that he, President Wilson, had foreknowledge of what the Austrian would say.

The president did not bid for direct exchanges between Washington and Vienna. Rather did he leave the way open for Austria to take the path which Czernin's speech perceived.

Applause Is Frequent.

The president was frequently interrupted by applause. Despite the shortness of the advance notice that the executive would speak, members of both branches were nearly all present for the joint session which met in the house chamber to hear him. By the time the president appeared, the galleries were packed, and crowds were clomoring at the doors in futile efforts to obtain admission.

It is understood the president's decision to deliver the address was made at his recent conferences with Colonel S. M. House, who is back in Washington again, and with Secretary of State Lansing.

The entire cabinet was present on the floor and seated just below the rostrum from which the president spoke, while Earl Reading, the new British ambassador, who reached this country Saturday.

The French, Italian and Brazilian ambassadors, the Swiss, Dutch and Bulgarian ministers and the Argentine charge occupied seats in the diplomatic gallery.

BEET GROWERS WILL GET $10

Agreement Reached With Sugar Manufacturers at State Gathering.

Bay City—"The beet growers of Michigan will get $10 a ton flat for their beets this year," announced State Food Administrator Prescott, at the close of a meeting of sugar manufacturers held here on February 11.

Mr. Prescott said that every factory in the state was represented at the conference and that the manufacturers gave in to the demands of the farmers as a matter of patriotism. Thus ends a long-drawn out fight that has spread to all parts of the state where sugar beets are grown.

The farmers, maintained that when sugar sold for four and four and a half cents a pound they got but $4 to $4.50 for their beets. As the price is now double what it was then they demanded double for their beets. The attractiveness of wheat at $2 a bushel and the high price of other products made the farmer independent and hardly any contracts could be secured at a lower price.

War Closes Gold Cure Institute.

Northville—The famous Yarnall Gold cure, after a flourishing career for 25 years, has been closed by order of the trustee of the estate, Edward Lapham, cashier of the Lapham bank. Lack of patients, due to war conditions, and the gradual extension of the prohibition movement, are given as the reason.

To Increase Milk Production.

Saginaw—Increased milk production is being planned by the Michigan Dairymen's association as a result of pleas by representatives of the food administration that united action is needed during the war.

Smallpox Hits Hillsdale.

Hillsdale—All schools, the theatre and several clubs have been closed because of the smallpox epidemic.

1—Happy British Tommies on their way to the snow-covered trenches. 2—Riveting the keel plates in one of the ships America is building in large numbers. 3—Scene during the enforced registering of enemy aliens in Chicago.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Sinking of Transport Tuscania Inspires Nation to Carry War On to Victory.

LADS FACED DEATH BRAVELY

America Ready With New Methods to Combat the Submarines—Russian Bolsheviki Fighting All Their Neighbors—President Wilson Asks Further Powers.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The United States sustained its first severe blow in the war on Wednesday, when the transport Tuscania, carrying American troops to Europe, was torpedoed off the north Irish coast and sank in two hours. At the time of writing the number of missing, presumably dead, is 101. Of these 57 were American officers and enlisted men, the others being members of the British crew. That the losses were so small was due to the excellent work of the convoying vessels and the time the Tuscania remained afloat.

The fact that such disasters as this were expected in the process of transporting hundreds of thousands of men to Europe does not lessen the shock to the nation or mitigate the anguish of the relatives of the victims. But those relatives have the great consolation of knowing that their boys met their fate bravely and calmly, as American soldiers should, and that they gave their lives for their country and for civilization as truly as if they had died on the field of battle. Most of these troopers were but partly trained members of forestry and other contingents going over to work behind the lines, but when the first excitement of the explosion had passed these lads, like veteran soldiers, lined up on the deck and sang national airs while they waited their turns in lifeboats.

The sinking of the Tuscania has served to weld the determination of the entire nation to see the war through to a victorious finish. It also has brought forth the information that the American navy, which so far has been fighting the U-boats with makeshift devices, is now about ready to put into operation new devices and methods that, it is confidently believed, will prove most effective in dealing with the murderous submarines. The movement of troops to the other side will not be checked in the slightest by the loss of this one transport. Says Secretary of the Navy Daniels: "Just as fast as our ships can carry men to Europe they will go, and just as fast as they are equipped they will be sent, and ships will carry them, and no man living will ever again see the day when our goods will be carried across the Atlantic except in ships flying the flag of the United States."

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For a bunch that is determined to have peace, the bolsheviki of Russia are getting plenty of fighting these days. And according to reports, they are not getting the best of it. Unless rumors of war in Finland into a revolution like their own in Russia, they and the Finnish Red guards have been defeated in long and bloody battles at Ulenborg and Tammerfors by the government forces commanded by General Mannerheim, known as the White guard. Ulenborg was the chief military depot of the Russians in northern Finland, and both there and at Tammerfors the White guard captured considerable stores of munitions and arms. So far Sweden has refused to permit supplies to be sent across the border to General Mannerheim, despite the demands of the Swedish press and people.

To the south the bolsheviki are fighting both the Ukrainians and the Roumanians in Bessarabia and apparently getting well whipped. In one fight the Roumanians captured and disarmed two entire divisions of Russians. In western Siberia General Kaledines was said to be working his way toward Omsk, while farther east another force of Cossacks was moving north from the Chinese border to take the railway. The Tartars occupied Yalta, in the government of Taurida, and were advancing to Sebastopol, the great naval base on the Black sea.

Adding to their own troubles, the bolsheviki decreed the separation of church and state and seized all church property for the people, which aroused the patriarch of Russia to excommunicate some of them and to call for a holy war.

An unconfirmed report said Polish troops had captured Mogilev, headquarters of the bolshevik army, and had captured Commander in Chief Krylenko and his staff.

A deadlock over the question of the Ukraine put an end, for the present at least, to the peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk. The Germans, it was said, then demanded their terms be accepted at once, threatening otherwise to march on Petrograd. The Russian soldiers' council at Moscow called on the government to form a volunteer socialist army and continue resistance. Meanwhile economic and food conditions in Petrograd and other parts of Russia are growing steadily worse.

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It is quite evident that Trotzky has been counting on a real revolution of the workers of Germany and it is equally evident that no such revolution is forthcoming in the near future. The widespread strikes which were hailed with joy by the foolishly optimistic were quickly crushed by the military power of the government, many of the leaders forced into the army and the rank and file of the workers driven back to their labor. In this internal struggle the German autocracy seemingly did not yield a single point to the democracy, though some effect of the strikes may appear in the future. The radical leaders in the empire are not backing water, any more than are their autocratic opponents, and the situation there is still critical.

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As a substitute for the war cabinet and munitions directorate bills which he so firmly opposes, President Wilson on Wednesday had introduced in the senate by Senator Overman a bill designed to do away with bureaucratic inefficiency and to give the chief executive war power. It was drafted by Mr. Wilson by the attorney general and authorizes the president during the war to distribute, co-ordinate, consolidate and otherwise reorganize any and all existing administrative functions and agencies and create such new agencies as he deems necessary for the conduct of the war. He is also authorized to transfer appropriations from one department, bureau or commission to any other agency he may designate.

Those who support the measure say it properly confers on the president, as commander in chief of the nation's armed forces, whatever power he deems necessary to perform his task with efficiency. Other congressmen declared the bill actually creates a military dictatorship. There doesn't seem to be much difference between these two views.

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Ships, ships and more ships, is still the cry of the United States and the entente allies, and all are agreed that ultimate victory hangs largely on the ability of America to turn out the required amount of tonnage to transport its troops and the immense quantities of food and munitions necessary. The present lack is not shipyards and material, but labor. Meanwhile the government is operating great yards on both coasts, and others are being rapidly completed, but even those now in operation are working but one shift of men where three should be worked. The appeal for laborers in the yards is urgent and should meet with ample response, not only for patriotic reasons, but for selfish reasons, too, for the pay assured is large. The United States now has in all services about 4,000,000 tons of shipping, approximately one-fourth of which is engaged in bringing in materials that have been considered industrial essentials. The government is considering a plan to make a 50 per cent reduction in imports by eliminating articles that are not essential to the winning of the war. This would help some, and of course the allies can supply a certain amount of tonnage, but there will still be left a wide discrepancy between the available amount of shipping and the amount we must have in order that Secretary Baker's promise of half a million men in Europe by spring and a million and a half more this year may be realized.

Mr. Baker was sharply challenged in regard to that forecast, and admitted that it might not be exact. On the other hand, Rear Admiral Harris of the naval bureau of yards and docks was rather optimistic concerning the shipbuilding progress, stating that under favorable conditions the government would complete this year its original program of 8,000,000 tons of construction. Chairman Flood of the house foreign affairs committee also added a cheerful note when he said the United States "will furnish more men and more money for the war in a far shorter time than has been the fondest hope of our own people or the nations with which we are associated."

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Directly connected with the question of ocean transportation is the proposition of the British government that 150 battalions of Americans be trained in English camps so they can be hurried to the front in Flanders and to the sector held by General Pershing. This would serve to relieve the existing congestion at the French ports where Americans now are debarked. This and similar plans are still under discussion.

Although General Maurice, director of military operations, says the allies are still numerically superior on the west front and have no fear of the results of the expected German drive there, Great Britain and France are urging America to get as many men as possible into the fighting lines. The German concentration movement has been going on steadily and the German press says all is ready to strike the blow whenever Hindenburg says the word, and that the greatest battle of the war is about to begin. Hindenburg himself gave the world a high by other day when he told a group of editors that he would be in Paris by next April 1.

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During the week the Germans attacked the French rather strongly in the Alsone and Verdun regions but were utterly repulsed. All along the west front the activity of the aerial forces reached a high pitch, and the artillery fighting was continuous. The American expeditionary force, whose sector has been reshaped as lying east of St. Mihiel and north of Nancy, was subjected to every form of attack the enemy could devise, and stood it all well, replying vigorously and effectively. There is no lingering doubt as to how well and bravely Pershing's boys will fight. The accurate fire of their batteries is especially noteworthy.

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There has been little change in the situation in Italy, the invaders having lost ground if anything. The Italian aviators did excellent work in bombing the enemy's rear lines and munition stations, while the Boche airmen devoted their efforts mainly, and characteristically, to attacks on Venice, Treviso, Padua and Mestre, where the greatest damage they could do was to women and children, hospitals and architectural treasures.

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Uncle Sam is putting the clamps on the enemies within his borders in a way that probably will check their nefarious operations. In New York Franz von Rintelen and six of his fellow conspirators were found guilty and given the maximum sentence. The enforced registration of all enemy aliens was begun throughout the country. The government's determination to keep our ships and equipment from the germs sent by the Germans was exemplified in the minute examination given the passengers and cargo of a Dutch steamship that arrived at New York. Of necessity most of the secret service work of the government remains secret but certainly its effectiveness becomes apparent.

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Milder weather and the earnest efforts of the men who run the railways served to relieve the coal famine to a considerable extent, though the conditions are very bad, especially in the Atlantic coast states. The federal fuel administration took over the control of fuel oil.

Food Administrator Hoover placed more stringent restrictions on the use of wheat and meat throughout the country, and ordered all public eating houses to observe a two-since ration of wheat bread. The people are urged to make larger use of potatoes in order to save wheat, the crop of the tuber being the biggest the country ever had.

FEW U-BOATS NOW AT WORK

It Is Not Believed That More Than Eighteen Commerce Destroyers Are in Commission.

The number of German submarines working at any one time at commerce destroying in the prohibited zone had until recently been surprisingly small, according to reliable information received by a correspondent of the Associated Press recently returned to the United States from Europe.

During the early part of the winter the number of submarine raiders at work in the zone varied from twelve to maximum of eighteen. It was then expected, however, that the Germans would endeavor to increase this number, largely as a threat to the American transports, and that they might by this time be able to increase the maximum perhaps to thirty boats. These estimates do not include the smaller "egg planters" or mine-laying submarines.

Both the north and south entrances of the Irish sea have been favorable hunting grounds for German submarines of the big fighting type and for mine layers. Both kinds of boats have been operating off the entrance to the Mersey—the gateway to Liverpool—a German publication some time ago giving description of mine-laying operations conducted only a short distance from that port.

The African liner, Apapa, sunk in December, was torpedoed and destroyed only forty miles from her destination, Liverpool.

Another Cunarder Torpedoed.

New York.—The Cunard liner Aurania, 13,400 tons, was torpedoed by a German submarine last week while bound for the United States, it was learned from officials of the Cunard line.

Although badly damaged by the explosion, the ship was not sunk.

The Aurania is a sister ship of the Cunard liner Andania, sunk by a submarine last month.

She was built in 1915 at Newcastle-on-Tyne, in the same yard where the Mauretania was constructed.

The ship is 530 feet long, 65 beam, and had accommodations for 550 passengers in the cabin and 2,000 steerage.

The Aurania made her first voyage to this port in April, 1917. She had not figured in the records of this port since that time.

There were 13 or 14 passengers aboard the Aurania when she was struck, it was stated at the offices of the Cunard line.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF

Marquette—A. H. Lehto was fined $50 for insulting the Red Cross.

Holland—Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit Rutgers, of Graafschap, celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary February 14.

Petoskey—Plans have been completed for turning loose in the woods of northern Michigan, probably near Wolverine, several elk from the state herd on the reservation at Higgins lake.

Greenville—On account of the coal shortage the Methodist, Baptist and Congregational churches have been closed until March 1. Union services are held in the auditorium of the high school.

Ann Arbor—Marvin Fitch Miner, a junior medic, sustained a ruptured liver, in a coasting accident, when the bobs ran into a telephone guy wire, cutting him across the lower chest. Miner's home is in Three Oaks.

Lansing—The eighth grade examination in reading, in all Michigan's public schools this year to be held May 9 to 10 will be on President Wilson's regular message to congress at that body's opening last December.

St. Clair—Although St. Clair has been fortunate this spring in having sufficient fuel, plans are already being laid to provide for the purchasing and storing during the summer months of a huge amount of wood to be available next winter.

Camp Custer.—The chief of the intelligence section has been appointed camp censor. His duties will not include the handling of copy written by paid correspondents, but he will scrutinize all articles written by officers and enlisted men.

Port Huron—Climbing a fire escape and breaking through a window on the third floor of the Madison school of this city, two boys broke open a teacher's desk and stole $8.50 in war thrift stamps. They also stole money from another desk, it is said.

Pontiac—For injuries sustained when Fred Douglas of Redford was shot in the foot while playing a Hallowe'en prank on Ernest Tucker, Southfield township farmer, a jury in circuit court here gave Douglas a verdict of $200 against Tucker.

Battle Creek—Fearing spring floods, the city commission has appointed a committe to use any means necessary to prevent damage to the city. Among other measures, a large quantity of dynamite will be purchased. The fire chief will head the flood committee.

Grand Rapids—Federal authorities have decided to intern Carl Wilhelm Muller, alien enemy held at the county jail on a charge of vagrancy. This is the first case where action of the kind has been taken in Grand Rapids or western Michigan. Muller's home is said to be at Crystal Falls.

Camp Custer, Battle Creek—Noncommissioned officers who were sent to the third officer's training camp and who lost their chevrons there, did not lose their pay or their status in the national army. They are being carried on detached service in the grade they held before entering school.

Detroit—Representatives of Y. M. C. A. branches from towns all over the state pledged $35,000 as the upstate share of the $1,000,000 foreign work budget of the association at a meeting in the Detroit Y. M. C. A. on current with the inaugurating of a campaign in the city for members.

Sault Ste. Marie—Henry Brassar of Brassars, on Sugar Island point, attacked a wolf with his bare hands and choked him to death. Brassar had set his traps several days previous and discovered a wolf with trap attached, making off for the woods. Without hesitation, he pursued and captured the animal.

Flint—When he called at police headquarters to register as a German alien, Will Korn ventured the opinion the Kaiser is crazy. Korn says five of his brothers in the same regiment of the German army, fell at Liege, in one engagement. Another fell in a later battle, while the seventh is also in the German army.

Marshall—After neighbors failed to see smoke from the chimney of Mrs. William Burkomas' home for three days they summoned Sheriff Mallory, as it was feared the woman was dead when there was no response to raps on the door. The officer forced an entrance and found Mrs. Burgomas in bed to keep warm as she had no fuel.

Ann Arbor—Colonel A. C. Pack, of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Infantry, in training at Waco, Texas, has returned home after an ineffectual effort on his part to persuade the war department officials to send him to France with his division, or at least, to retain him for service in this country. He was pronounced physically unfit for active duty by army physicians.

Lansing—The state board of corrections and charities has started a clean-up campaign against boarding homes for children in Detroit and throughout the state. There are approximately 400 licensed homes in the state, about 200 of which are located in Detroit. The board, by action of the legislature at the last session, has now a permanent inspector of boarding homes for children and child-caring agencies, which will make it possible to exercise close supervision over licenses and require strict compliance with the laws and rules.

Ann Arbor—Dr. Paul Dekruif, of the medical faculty of the University of Michigan has been given a captain's commission and is on his way to France to conduct researches in Pasteur institute in prevention gas gangrene. Capt. Dekruif first experimented in the university laboratory with toxins of gas forming bacilli. He was commissioned a lieutenant in the sanitary corps in December and sent to Camp Oglethorpe, Georgia. He has greatly improved the methods of the doctors of the Rockefeller institute, who first produced these toxins.

Petoskey—This city will have a municipal ice house next summer.

Hillsdale—All seed corn raised in this county will be kept here to prevent a shortage.

Olivet—School children who bring their lunches during the rest of the winter will be furnished hot chocolate or soup free.

East Lansing—Michigan Agricultural college pedagogy students will hereafter be given practical teaching experience in Lansing grade and high schools.

Lansing—The vital importance of all Michigan farmers raising bigger crops of foodstuffs than ever before is emphasized by Herbert Hoover, in a letter to G. A. Prescott, federal food administrator for Michigan.

Detroit—Harry Coleman, managing director of the Detroit Free Press, through the past several months and, for a number of years publisher of the Pontiac Press Gazette, died suddenly of heart disease. He was 45 years old.

Pontiac—Asphyxiated by gas leaking out of pipes in a half-dozen places in their bedroom, Hassein Ebrim, 27, and Allaine Mohammed, 35, Turkish foundry laborers, were found dead in bed in an Orchard Lake avenue rooming house.

Escanaba—Lawrence Gallagher, of this city, a junior lieutenant in the United States navy, now on patrol duty in the submarine zone, has been awarded the French war cross for bravery in pursuit of his duty, according to a letter just received by relatives.

Port Huron—Edward Avers, of Pearl Beach, has moved a 20-room hotel building six miles across the ice of north channel to Pearl Beach. Twelve teams of horses were used, the job being accomplished in two and a half hours. The ice was between two and three feet thick.

Lansing—Among the men of the 87th division, whose discharge for physical defects is announced at Camp Pike, Arkansas, are the following Michigan men: Mike Kachor, of Detroit; Walter Schittenhelm, of Grass Lake; Charley DeLang, of Harbor Beach; Steve Shepich, of Crystal Falls.

Sault Ste. Marie—Frances Shaw, 6, and her sister, Goldie Shaw, 4, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. William Shaw, of Strongs, near here, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the family home at that place. The mother had gone to a well to get some water and when she returned hot the house it was in flames.

Manistee—Asserting that it has lost $139,000 the past four and one-half years, the Manistee Street Railway has petitioned the city commission to amend its franchise. The company wants the right to charge 10-cent fares, seven for 50 cents, and permission to discontinue service on the north side between December 1 and April 30.

Grand Haven—Grand Haven theatre owners and hundreds of citizens here have lost a fight of months to have the city allow the theatres to open Sundays. Attorney General Groesbeck has ruled the council cannot pass any ordinance allowing theatres to operate Sundays as it is already forbidden by state law. The fight has caused much bitterness.

Rochester—The local schools have opened again as the result of a shrewd trade by Dr. B. C. H. Spencer, village president, with the Grand Trunk railroad. Under the agreement the railroad is allowed to take on water from the local tank in exchange for 40 tons of bituminous coal. The right to take on water here was recently denied the railroad when the supply threatened to become exhausted.

Lansing—Another telephone company wants an increase in rates. In its petition filed with the Michigan railroad commission, it carefully uses the words "alter rates." The company is the Valley Home Telephone Co., and Bay City is the place. The increase sought is set forth as follows: Individual business phones from $30 to $42 A year; party business phone, $26 to $34; individual residence, $20 to $24, and selective residence rent at $18 to $20 a year.

Camp Custer, Battle Creek—Military authorities are waging an aggressive campaign to exterminate a band of Battle Creek bootleggers, who are selling to Custer soldiers at exorbitant prices, a vile concoction labeled "whiskey," and which has the effect of making imbibers temporarily insane. In many cases the concoctions have been removed from bottles containing bonded goods and after the pure liquor is removed the substitute is placed in the container and the bottom replaced.

Charlotte—A committee of Charlotte ladies has been named to ascertain the number of maples in the city and the number of buckets that householders can supply. This is the first step in the municipal sugar bush campaign, being waged by the city. A local concern will boil the sap and the sugar will be sold to Charlotte people at cost. Alderman Wilson, acting as head of the movement, says it will result in 5,000 pounds of sugar. Street Commissioner Warren Lohr, an old-time sugar maker, will tap the maples.

Detroit—To satisfy two writs of execution for $28.30 and $15.35 which they said the U. U. R. refused to pay, Constables Andrew Phillips and Oscar Naumann seized a Wood-ward Depot car at the Michigan Central depot and for 90 minutes shunted it about the tracks in that vicinity in such fashion as would most effectively block traffic in hopes of persuading the company to pay. After they had held the car at Fourteenth and Michigan for 25 minutes, a D. U. R. attorney finally appeared, paid the judgment, after which the car was released.

Detroit—The Michigan State Fair will again conduct a physical culture body building contest this year. This competition is to last over a period of six months, starting March 7 and ending on September 7. The contestants must send photograph to Secretary-Manager Dickinson and will be permitted to use their own methods of reducing or building up as may suit their particular cases. The winners will be determined by the point system. The awards will be made at the final judging which will take place at the Fair Grounds in September 7.