

BEMIDJI DAILY PIONEER

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BEMIDJI, MINN., MONDAY EVENING, OCT. 14, 1918

FORTY-FIVE CENTS PER MONTH

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OVER 600 BODIES, ESTIMATED, RECOVERED

PRESIDENT HANDED BERLIN'S REPLY; TO COMPLY; WHO IS THE GOVERNMENT?

The German government's answer to President Wilson's note of inquiry as to the scope and authority for the latest peace move, and specifying the only conditions under which the Allies would agree to an armistice, as announced in London and received in the United States last night follows:

"In reply to the questions of the President of the United States of America the German government hereby declares:

"The German government has accepted the terms laid down by President Wilson in his address of January 8th and in his subsequent addresses on the foundation of a permanent peace of justice.

"Consequently, its object in entering into discussions would be only to agree upon practical details of the application of these terms.

"The German government believes that the governments of the powers associated with the government of the United States also take the position taken by President Wilson in his address.

"The German government, in accordance with the Austro-Hungarian government, for the purpose of bringing about an armistice, declares itself ready to comply with the propositions of the President in regard to evacuation.

"The German government suggests that the President may occasion the meeting of a mixed commission for making the necessary arrangements concerning the evacuation.

"The present German government, which has undertaken the responsibility for this step towards peace, has been formed by conferences and in a great deal with the great majority of the reichstag.

"The chancellor, supported in all of his actions by the will of this majority, speaks in the name of the German government and of the German people.

"Berlin, October 12, 1918.

"SOLFF,
"State Secretary of Foreign Office."

WILSON RECEIVES GERMAN NOTE.

(By United Press.)

Washington, Oct. 14.—The German note was delivered by the Swiss minister today. President Wilson is expected to reply at any time.

LUXEMBURG APPEALS TO PRESIDENT FOR PROTECTION

Amsterdam, Oct. 14.—The government of Luxemburg has appealed to President Wilson to protect the rights and demands of Germans driven from its territory.

GRANT VALLEY MAN FIRST PLAGUE VICTIM

George Knapp of Grant Valley died in the Bemidji hospital Saturday from Spanish influenza and pneumonia. He is the first victim to have died from this disease in Bemidji.

DR. LARSON FIGHTS TO SAVE 3,000 CORDS WOOD

Dr. Larson is at a point between Wilton and Solway where he has about 3,000 cords of wood in danger of destruction. He has help and is fighting to save his property from destruction by the forest fire.

TAKES BANK POSITION.

Mrs. Thayer C. Bailey has accepted a position with the First National bank in this city and commenced her duties this morning. Her husband, Lieut. Bailey, is in military service and is on his way to France.

SEVEN DRIVEN INTO LAKE BY FOREST FIRE; ALL PERISH

Duluth, Oct. 14.—Charles A. Marshall, owner of the Lyceum theatre, his wife and child, Mrs. Jas. Walsh and two children, East Superior street, and Frances Fregeau, 9-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fregeau, were drowned at Pike Lake, when they were driven to the water by the forest fire. The tragic death of the party occurred shortly before 8 o'clock. Attempting to get through the Pike Lake road by auto, the party were surrounded by flames and were forced to race to the lake for their lives.

SPANISH INFLUENZA

(Abstracted by Minnesota Public Health Association, from Bulletin No. 37, Division of Sanitation, Department of the Navy; quoted by Public Health Reports, U. S. P. H. S., Sept. 13, 1918.) Spanish Influenza is the influenza of 1889-92; it is due to Pfeiffer's bacillus. It is not the same as what has been termed "grip" during the last few years.

Symptoms: Sudden onset, dizziness, weakness, pains in various parts of body; temperature rises suddenly to 103 degrees; headache, pain in back, light hurts eyes; sore throat, sometimes laryngitis, bronchitis, etc. Fever falls in three or four days, and patient recovers rapidly; or irregular fever persists, with bronchitis; death sometimes from acute bronchitis, with cyanosis and failure of right heart; pneumonia sometimes occurs. Prostration marked.

Incubation: From the moment of infection to the beginning of the symptoms an interval of one to four days (incubation period) intervenes, during which the prospective patient is not sick.

Infectiousness: The disease is "caught" from previous sufferers, just as is measles, or any severe cold, by the discharges from the patient's nose and mouth reaching the mouth of the prospective patient; by kissing, using the same handkerchief or towel, etc.; by inhaling air containing droplets from the patient's nose or mouth; expelled in coughing, sneezing or even talking; by smears on fingers from touching patient's hands, bed cloths (especially pillows, etc.), handkerchiefs, etc.—and then putting these infected fingers in the mouth.

Isolation: Patient should be isolated at once, with disinfection of discharges of nose and mouth, boiling of handkerchiefs, towels, etc.; attendants should wear "masks" (or surgical respirators) to exclude droplets from nose and mouth, and glasses (spectacles preferably—plain glass will do), to protect eyes from same. Attendant's hands must be washed every time after touching patient or anything on which are patient's discharges.

Treatment: Patient in bed as long as fever exists. Keep patient warm, supply fresh air, plenty of food and water, Dover's powders for pain. Great care during convalescence. Quinine and aspirin (the latter especially only under physician's orders) seem useful.

Isolation: So far as possible, every patient should have a separate room. If wards must be used, large screens or temporary partitions should be placed between beds. This is because the other germs, associated with the Pfeiffer bacillus, vary in different cases. The patients all have influenza, but some have other things, too; and, therefore, one influenza patient may infect another influenza patient with complications and so make the attack worse than it need have been.

Disinfection: During the attack, all discharges, especially of nose and mouth, all infected towels, handkerchiefs, bed cloths, eating utensils, etc., should be boiled or dipped in 2 per cent carbolic acid, or 2 per cent lysol, in water. There should be a single attendant, who should wear a respirator (or mask), spectacles (plain glass will do) and wash hands always after touching patient; or dip hands (instead of washing) in a disinfectant solution. Fumigation after attack is unnecessary.

Parents Must Keep Children Close to Home

Bemidji passed the first day of its close up on account of the epidemic of Spanish influenza quietly and Sunday being utterly devoid of any attractions for its inhabitants. Churches, motion picture theatres and everything that would afford a diversion from routine were shut tight. The "lid" went on Saturday evening and there was nothing open to afford the usual Saturday night entertainment.

The closing of the schools carried with it the implied order for parents to keep their children at home and not allow them to roam the streets, but the Central school yard on Sunday resembled a large picnic as the playground was thronged with children, allowed to play in public on a Sabbath day.

Orders to Parents.

Mayor Vandersluis today made a request of Captain Stewart of the home guard to assist in notifying the parents of Bemidji to keep their children at home, and the captain detailed ten men to canvass the city this afternoon. The guard detail will be clothed with authority to enforce the orders to be issued.

Several additional cases were reported today and every possible method of combatting the epidemic is being made.

There will be no drill of the home guard tomorrow night, as a precautionary measure against the plague. There will be no more weekly luncheons and meetings of the Commercial club until the plague ban is lifted.

'FLU' MASKS MADE BY RED CROSS LADIES

The Red Cross ladies have turned over to Dr. Garlock 85 gas masks for prevention of contagion from Spanish influenza and are continuing to make more.

The masks are of gauze and may be fastened over half of the face. Several of the clerks and other employees of business interests are wearing them.

Any one wanting one of these masks may secure them from Dr. Garlock.

GUARDS HELP FROHN COMBAT FOREST FIRE

FROHN FIRE CHECKED.

Captain Scott Stewart and ten of his men of the home guard and men from the Fourth infantry were rushed to the town of Frohn Saturday evening to help combat forest fires, which was being fought by the farmers from that surrounding vicinity.

The fire was burning on a front of about five miles and was checked by ploughing and back firing.

MOTOR CORPS IS READY.

Orders received from state military quarters by Captain Denu of the Bemidji motor corps instructed him to hold himself and corps in readiness for any call that might be issued.

GENEROUS OFFER.

Mayor C. W. Vandersluis received a message early this morning from Minneapolis authorities, asking where to send groceries and clothing for the relief of Bemidji people. They had received the report that Bemidji had been burned.

HINCKLEY FIRE TAME.

George W. Cochran, Sr., who returned this morning from Duluth, states that the Hinckley fire was not in it with the fire Saturday evening, which swept Moose Lake, Bain and Cloquet off the map.

He came through Cloquet and says that only three cottages remain in the entire city, and that Duluth is filled with refugees and dead from the surrounding territory.

PEOPLE MAKING DUMP GROUNDS OF HIGHWAYS

Long and loud are complaints occasioned by some unknowns making a dump ground of the main road running north from Bemidji and also other roads in the same direction.

Just north of the city loads of cans, rubbish and decaying refuse have been dumped by unscrupulous persons, a menace to health and decidedly unsightly. Bemidji has a dump grounds maintained by the city and this practice of dumping rubbish, such as has been done on the highways, should be dealt with severely.

AID LUNCHEON DEFERRED.

Tomorrow was the all-day session of the Ladies' Aid of the Methodist church with luncheon to be served at noon. On account of the closing order throughout the city the meeting will be deferred.

BEMIDJI TEACHER SAVES HER LIFE STANDING HOURS IN MOOSE LAKE

One of the most spectacular escapes from the terrible holocaust which swept a large area west of Duluth, destroying thousands of acres of timber, towns and villages with an estimated loss of 1,000 lives, Saturday afternoon and evening was that of Miss Margaret McGee of Bemidji, who has been teaching in the Moose Lake schools, and which town was wiped completely off the map, every shred of structure being effaced with the exception of the brick school building which miraculously escaped.

MOOSE LAKE SWEEP CLEAN.

The terrible fire was raging to the west of Moose Lake, which was a town of between 800 and 900 inhabitants. Not a man was in the town as they were fighting the onswelling flames from the west toward the doomed town. It was between 7:30 and 8 o'clock that the inhabitants of the town were seeking every avenue of escape and were fleeing to the lake and around it in hopes of escaping. The panic was assuming a frightful aspect with huge clouds of smoke being driven by a high wind enveloping the terrified inhabitants. Suddenly the wind veered around from the northeast without the slightest warning and enveloped the struggling and crazed humans in their efforts to find refuge.

Safe in Lake.

With four other companions, Miss McGee fled to the lake and out onto a short pier. There they fought for safety by keeping the wood wet. They were forced to stand in the lake and crouch in their desperate battle for over four hours. Scores of automobiles rushed hither and thither, rescuing the helpless and homeless people.

One car picked up Miss McGee and her friends. A young man jumped on the running board of the car and away they dashed through dense smoke and flames. Another car rammed the speeding car and broke the young man's legs. On they sped for Barnum, through masses of flames, flying embers and burning brands, the scenes boggaring description.

Barnum was reached between 1:30 and 2 o'clock in the morning where a relief train on the Northern Pacific was boarded for Minneapolis, the train carrying scores of burned and injured victims. About fifty were taken in ambulances from the train in St. Paul. Miss McGee boarded a train at St. Paul for Bemidji, arriving without a bit of baggage and with only what she had on in the way of belongings.

Scenes Beyond Description. The scenes at Moose Lake are beyond description. Trucks were pressed into service to haul away the dead, piled high. Bodies were everywhere. Families were cut off by the deadly flames. Men fighting the fire were overcome and dug holes in the ground, covering themselves with earth while the hot flames passed over them. One woman and her family of twelve were burned where they lived. Autos were abandoned and left to explode in the hot area. Hundreds were run into the lake and saved.

Miss McGee came through her terrible ordeal unperturbed, yet hardly realizing now what she faced in that dash through flying debris, fire, and past dead and dying, her experience in the lake with flaming brands sweeping overhead to start other conflagrations around the lake.

Other Tragedies. Report comes from Brockton of a man and family madly dashing in an effort to escape from the flames through dense smoke. The car went into a ditch and the wife was thrown through the windshield and her neck broken.

Another man in a car with his family dashed into a big tree and all were killed.

TIME TO PAY TAXES. PENALTY FOR DELAY.

This is the time to pay your last half of your real estate taxes. Ten per cent will be added if not paid before November 1.

CARD SAYS "SAFE"

A card was received by Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Ellerton to the effect that their son, Delbert, has landed safely in France. The soldier was employed in the Bemidji post office before going into the service.

Estimated 600 Dead Toll; May Go To Thousand

(By United Press.)

Duluth, Oct. 14.—It is estimated that over 600 dead have been recovered from the devastated district swept by forest fires since Saturday. The death toll is growing and may reach a thousand.

Fires are still burning in spots over the district of 15,000 square miles.

TOWNS ARE SWEEPED.

Fully 15,000 square miles of forests and country dotted with villages and towns, farmers and settlers, have been swept by the most deadly and destructive forest fire in the history of the state of Minnesota, the flames starting with the high wind storm that swept this part of the state, commencing Saturday evening. Cloquet is swept bare, while Moose Lake is left in ruins with scarcely a thing to show a town was there. Brookston was practically destroyed. Settlers were driven from the vicinity of Cass Lake and for miles in surrounding country.

Over 9,000 refugees are estimated in Duluth.

WOMAN FAINTS: FALLS UPON STOVE; FACE BURNED

While working over her cook stove Saturday morning about 11 o'clock, Mrs. Walter Helmer fainted and fell on the hot stove, burning the side of her face badly.

GEN. SCHEUCH APPOINTED.

Amsterdam, Oct. 14.—Lieutenant General Scheuch, who recently was spoken of as the successor of General Von Stein, head of the German war ministry, today was appointed to that post, according to a dispatch received here from Berlin.

THIS DAY IN THE WAR

Oct. 14, 1917—Kerensky asks Russian sailors on Baltic fleet to fight.

Oct. 14, 1918—Rumanians make a stand on their own frontier.

Oct. 14, 1918—British launch attack on 25-mile front.

Oct. 14, 1914—Allies occupy Ypres.