

FIRES AT FORT BLISS

ATTEMPT TO DESTROY AMMUNITION HOUSE FAILS—TWO WITHIN HOUR.

FIREBUGS ARE SUSPECTED

General Funston With 50,000 Men at His Disposal, Places Them in Position for Quick Action to Make Border Raid Proof.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

El Paso, Tex.—Army posts and stations along the border are on their guard against incendiaries following two fires at Fort Bliss, where flames of unknown origin destroyed a store, three stables, three horses and some tents.

Army officers express the opinion that an investigation will disclose the fires could not be spontaneous or accidental origin. It was said that there was no attempt on the ammunition house. The store house, where the first fire occurred, contained some machine guns.

Two other fires of recent occurrence have been of spontaneous nature. At the field base at Columbus, N. M., about \$700 worth of hay was destroyed. Two weeks ago the El Paso Country club, not far from Fort Bliss, burned to the ground with a loss of \$35,000.

Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston has begun the consideration of a plan for the reorganization of the border patrol. Relieved of diplomatic responsibilities and having under his direct control almost 60,000 men, he has outlined to his staff a redistribution of forces that will guarantee the protection of American residents from raids.

Already forces at border stations have been reassigned and the regular troops and militia that have been sent into the border states are in position for quick service along the international line.

The officers will be in charge of the patrol districts. The district commanders will include Brig. Gen. James Parker, commanding the first cavalry brigade; Gen. Wm. A. McCann, commanding the brigade at Laredo, and Brig. Gen. H. W. Greene, who has been ordered to report at headquarters at San Antonio from Fort Leavenworth.

BIG ARMY ADVOCATES WIN.

Peace Strength of 206,000 Men Provided For.

Washington, D. C.—A standing army of 206,000 men, capable of being expanded in emergency to 254,000 and backed up by a federalized National Guard of 425,000 as a reserve, finally was agreed on by house and senate conferees on the army bill.

Advocates of adequate national defense regard this conference agreement as a triumph. The compromise between the house and senate measures was affected after weeks of struggle and insistent demand from house conferees for a standing army of only 140,000 men, and until May 13 it had appeared that the senate might be forced to yield. The senate bill provided for 250,000.

Frown on Labor Proposal.

Saratoga Springs, N. Y.—The general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church went on record last week in opposition to showing a preference for organized labor in matters affecting employment. By a vote of more than three to two the conference voted to strike out of the report of the committee on social service a clause committing the church to a preference for union workmen.

Prediction of Caminetti.

Indianapolis, Ind.—The tide of immigration will flow so strongly after the conclusion of the European war that a million foreigners will pour into America with the first year of peace, according to a statement made at the general session of the national conference of charities and corrections by Anthony Caminetti, commissioner general of immigration.

New Record for Walking.

New York.—A new American record for the fifteen-mile walk of two hours six minutes and six and three-fifths seconds was made May 14 by Edward Rens, of the Mohawk Athletic club, at Celtic park. The former record of two hours fourteen minutes and forty-five seconds, made by W. O'Keefe, had stood since December 31.

\$100,000 For U. S. Flyers.

New York.—A transcontinental aeroplane competition, for which prizes amounting to \$100,000 probably will be offered, has been decided upon by the Aero Club of America. The route for the transcontinental flight and the date will be announced later.

Ninety-Six Ships Sunk in April.

Berlin.—An official announcement that during the month of April ninety-six hostile merchantmen of 255,900 tons have been sunk by German and Austro-Hungarian submarines or mines.

Refugees from War Zone.

New York.—More than 600 refugees from Greece and Serbia were among the 1,409 steerage passengers on the Italian steamer Duca D'Aosta, which arrived here May 13 from Mediterranean ports.

MOST IMPORTANT NEWS OF WORLD

BIG HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK CUT TO LAST ANALYSIS.

DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN ITEMS

Kernels Culled From Events of Moment in All Parts of the World—Of Interest to All the People Everywhere.

European War News

In a battle in the Mount Kope sector on the Caucasus front the Turks drove the Russians out of positions nearly ten miles long, capturing 300 men, according to the Turkish war office at Constantinople.

Colonel Pastini, chief of the Italian airship brigade and a Gordon Bennett cup race prize winner, was killed recently near Goritz when his machine was shot down, according to the Bologna Resi del Carlino.

It was officially announced at Queenstown that Thomas Kent, another of the Irish rebel leaders, had been shot.

With the official announcement at London that the torpedoed White Star steamer Cymric had gone down at three o'clock in the morning came the news that five of the crew of 107 men were killed by the explosion of the torpedo that sank the ship. The others were saved.

Lloyd's Shipping Agency announced at London that the steamship Cymric of the White Star line is sinking. The steamer was torpedoed by a German submarine in the Atlantic. There were no passengers on board.

French troops have recaptured a large part of the ground lost on both banks of the Meuse in a most violent German attack, according to a dispatch from Paris.

Four more of the leaders in the Irish revolt have been sentenced to death by the Dublin court-martial and executed, according to an official statement issued at London. They were Cornelius Colbert, Edmund Kent, Michael Mallon and J. J. Heuston.

Domestic

Mgr. Michael Welders of Peoria, Ill., has been appointed domestic prelate by the pope, says a report from Rome.

Delegates representing 620,799 members of Young Men's Christian associations in the United States and Canada met at Cleveland, O., for the triennial convention, which will continue four days.

The American Railway association's title car report, issued at Chicago May 1, shows a surplus of 59,057 cars and a shortage of 29,050. These figures compare with surplus of 292,269 and a shortage of 968 a year ago.

For president, Theodore Roosevelt of New York, for vice-president, Charles Warren Fairbanks of Indiana. This is the ticket the Bull Moose party will ask the Republican and Progressive national conventions to unite upon at Chicago on June 7. All of this was decided upon by the Progressive national committee at New York.

Twenty lives were lost when the steamer S. R. Kirby of Detroit foundered off Eagle Harbor, Mich. Only the second mate, Joseph Mudra, and Otto S. Lindquist, fireman, were saved.

Robert Fay, former lieutenant in the German army; Walter Scholz and Paul Beeche, German reservists, convicted in the federal court for conspiracy to destroy ships carrying munitions to the allies, were sentenced to the Atlanta penitentiary by Judge Howe at New York.

Theodore Roosevelt was endorsed for the Progressive presidential nomination at the state convention of that party at Jackson, Mich. Fifty-six delegates to the Chicago convention were instructed to support his candidacy. Resolutions adopted called Roosevelt "the greatest American."

The will of Charles W. Harkness, former Standard Oil attorney, filed at New York, divides his \$100,000,000 estate between his widow and his brother, Edward S. Harkness.

Four persons were burned to death and five others seriously injured when the home of D. A. Luman, near Warroad, Minn., was destroyed by fire.

The fight against tuberculosis is gradually being won, Dr. Charles J. Hatfield, executive secretary of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, told the delegates to the annual meeting of the association at Washington.

As a result of a clash between guards at the plant of the Webster Manufacturing company at Tiffin, O., where a strike has been in progress, Albert Latzka, a union leader, was shot and instantly killed. Two men were wounded.

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Lieutenant Sinclair of the army aviation reserve corps of Chicago, who was engaged for exhibition purposes during the interscholastic meet at Champaign, Ill., fell and was slightly hurt. His machine was wrecked.

How American states can help meet the commercial and economic conditions after the world war is the big question to be discussed at the ninth annual meeting of the governors' conference, which opens at Salt Lake City, June 27. Executives from most of the 48 states are expected to be present.

George Pecoraro, a wealthy Italian, and his aged wife were found murdered in their home in Murphysboro, Ill. The authorities say they were victims of the Black Hand society.

Fire in the hold of the Italian steamship San Giovanni destroyed 7,000 bags of refined sugar which had been loaded at New York for transportation to Palermo and Naples.

The General Assembly of the Southern Presbyterian church began its fifty-fifth annual meeting at Orlando, Fla. Three thousand five hundred churches were represented.

Washington

Secretary of State Lansing at Washington instructed Ambassador Gerard to learn from the German foreign office what manner of punishment was meted out to the commander of the submarine that attacked the channel liner Sussex.

Germany notified the United States she would accept full responsibility for the torpedoing of the Sussex and that the submarine commander already had been punished for failing to exercise proper judgment. Germany offers to pay indemnity for all American injuries.

The house in committee of the whole at Washington, by a vote of 65 to 64, adopted Representative Lenroot's amendment to the flood control bill, which provides that the appropriation for the Mississippi river shall not be expended for the construction or repair of any levee until the Mississippi river commission has assurances that local interests will contribute one-half the sum allotted for the work.

The senate at Washington passed the good roads bill, carrying \$85,000,000 of which \$75,000,000 will be available for federal aid to the states during the next five years and \$10,000,000 for the construction of roads in the national forests.

Personal

Harris Johnston, one hundred and one, the oldest general in the United States, is dead at Columbus, Miss.

William A. Gardner, president of the Chicago and Northwestern railroad, is dead at his summer home at Cape Cod, Mass. He was fifty-seven years old, and for some time had been in failing health.

Dr. W. W. Reed, ninety-one years old, one of the pioneer physicians of Wisconsin, died at Jefferson, Wis. He was in active practice for 65 years. Doctor Reed was active in politics.

Chauncey J. Blair, millionaire vice president of the Corn Exchange national bank, died at Chicago of heart disease. He was seventy-one years old.

Mexican Revolt

Mexican bandits raided Polaris, a mining camp seven miles below Luchiel, on the border, driving out the Americans, who escaped to Nogales, Ariz., in automobiles.

Curtis Bayles, an American farmer was shot and killed near Mercedes, Tex., by a small band of Mexicans who succeeded in escaping, presumably to the Mexican side of the Rio Grande.

The Oregon-Scott conferences over the Mexican situation ended at Juarez, Mex., in a disagreement. All future diplomatic negotiations—if there are any—will be between the secretary of state and Mexican Ambassador Arredondo in Washington.

President Wilson issued an order at Washington calling into active service "for duty as a border guard" the National Guards of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona. Secretary of War Baker stated that the outbreak in the Big Bend district of the Rio Grande and the danger of other outbreaks made it imperative that more troops be called into service.

In an official statement issued at Mexico City, Minister of Foreign Relations Aguilar charges that the bandits who raided Glen Springs and Boquillas, Tex., last Friday night were organized in the United States, and that the raid was "staged" by enemies of both countries.

All Americans north of Chihuahua have been ordered by American Consul Thomas D. Edwards of Juarez to leave Mexico at once. He acted, he said, upon instructions of the state department.

S. D. TAX STATISTICS

PEOPLE PAY OUT OVER TWELVE MILLION DOLLARS IN TAXES DURING THE YEAR.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

From the Capital City, the Various State Institutions and from Many Different Parts of the Sunshine State.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Pierre.—The total tax extensions for South Dakota, for all purposes for the year 1916, is 12,987,307.98. Out of this the state taxes amount to \$1,268,269.91; those for county finances to \$4,025,500.76; for schools, \$4,651,256.63; for townships, \$1,241,762; for cities and towns, \$1,800,445.45. The road levies are not separated as distinct expenditures, being included in the taxes for counties, townships and cities.

The total state taxes collected from property other than corporate amount to \$1,123,793.66. The taxes paid into the state fund by corporations approximate \$142,228.25, while the total state, county and local taxes paid by corporate property within the state amounts to \$1,610,674.13.

Saloon Issue Data.

Political mathematicians who have been compiling data since the recent city elections in South Dakota to discover from the drit of public sentiment and the chances for and against South Dakota remaining in the anti-prohibition column at the general election in November, have completed the compilation of the figures. The figures as compiled from official returns, when carefully analyzed, they declare, indicate that it by no means is certain that South Dakota will enter the dry column in November, as has been assumed by some after a survey of the returns from the annual municipal elections. This assumption was based on the fact that the drys gained a dozen or more towns at the April elections. The compilers of the figures have secured the total vote cast in 104 of the cities and towns which voted on license at the April elections. According to the census returns the 104 cities and towns have an aggregate population of 142,902. From this total vote the wets secured a majority of 1,450 votes. Basing the forecast on this majority and the aggregate population of the 104 cities and towns as compared with the total population of South Dakota, the compilers of the figures say this indicates that notwithstanding claims to the contrary, South Dakota will, unless there is a phenomenal change between this time and the time of the November election, be captured by the anti-prohibition forces at the November election by a majority ranging anywhere from 6,000 to 10,000.

They also claim that the gains of the wets at the March elections, which were held in the smaller towns and in the townships of the state, indicate that the country precincts and the farming communities, where prohibition sentiment was supposed to be almost unanimous, are by no means in favor of statewide prohibition. The figures are interesting at this stage of the campaign, when the prohibition and anti-prohibition forces of South Dakota are about to open the last lap of the fight for and against a dry South Dakota.

To Be Mission Style.

The introduction of the mission style of architecture as a distinctive state institutional style is a possibility, if the experiment decided upon by the state board of regents at the Madison state normal school proves as satisfactory as is anticipated. On the Pacific coast and in some other localities the mission style is now used almost exclusively for school and church architecture. To new training department building at Madison, ground for which was broken last week, will be 120 by 40 feet in dimensions, one story high and will cost \$50,000. The state regents are enthusiastic over the plans and architectural effect of the proposed structure, which is the first of the kind in the state, and it is quite likely that the style will be adopted in other state buildings in the future.

Hanson's Turn Now.

The disbarment microbe yet appears to be working in this state, as a complaint has been filed with the supreme court asking for the disbarment of Dan Hanson, former state's attorney of Turner county. The complaint has been referred to the attorney general for investigation.

Disbarment Account Is \$1,650.

The supreme court has issued an order to show cause why \$1,650 costs in the Egan disbarment case should not be taxed against G. W. Egan. The order is returnable before the court on the 13th of June.

Has Most Canines.

According to the returns made to the state tax department which have been summarized, it is shown that the assessors found 56,061 dogs in the state when they made their rounds last spring and not one of these was owned in Hyde county in the state. Brown county admits the largest ownership of such "property" with 1,776, and Roberts is close. Hughes county could only show up 122, which is really about the number which infest the streets of Pierre, without counting a farm dog.

New Type of State Work.

A new type of extension work is being launched in South Dakota as a part of the general extension work conducted by the State college of agriculture in co-operation with the United States department of agriculture. This work will be under the leadership of W. A. Ostrander of Sioux Falls, who will assist county agricultural agents throughout the state in conducting such work in their counties.

"We have just finished one of the surveys in Douglas county," said Mr. Ostrander. "The farmers are taking right hold of the work; in fact, they are asking for it much faster than we can get to them."

Farm management demonstrations, as this work is called, aim to demonstrate to farmers in connection with their own farms, a practical and efficient method of summarizing and analyzing a farm business as a means of measuring the profit or loss incurred in conducting it, and of deciding upon readjustments which promise to increase its net income. The demonstrations are conducted with groups of fifty or sixty farmers who are willing to co-operate by giving a record of a year's business on their farms. Each record is summarized, analyzed, and returned to the farmer showing how his farm business compares with the average of all the farms in the community and with the average of the most successful farms. Of course, all the information given is considered strictly confidential and figures from individual farms are never made public. By such an analysis, each farmer can ascertain wherein his farm business is weak or where it is strong and can decide upon such modifications as would seem practicable to make in order to increase the farm profits.

In the eyes of his neighbor a farmer is often successful because he grows fine corn, has a high yield of wheat, raises excellent hogs or has good looking buildings, when oftentimes his next neighbor with less pretentious looking buildings and just average crops and stock is making considerably more money. It is not altogether a question of greater crop yields or better stock, but it is a question of organization of the whole farm, with the proper correlation of crops and stock so that the labor, horses, equipment and capital are used efficiently to return the greatest income. Farm management demonstrations aim to assist the farmer to think of his whole farm as a unit and to measure his success by his labor income, or the amount he receives for his own labor and time spent in managing the farm. This is the amount which he has left after subtracting from the total receipts the farm expenses and interest on his investment. In addition to his labor income, each farmer has his home and such produce as the farm furnishes for himself and family. This work is now being conducted in twenty-four different states throughout the north and west and last year more than 12,000 farmers availed themselves of this opportunity to study their farm business.

Webster Man First.

J. N. Lomgen of Webster won first place in the second score of the six-State college under the direction of the State Buttermakers' association. Sixty-four South Dakota creameries entered the second contest, an increase of seven over the first entry of the year. Secretary A. P. Ryger expects the remaining 20 per cent of creameries will enter the four events left in the contest, the first of which is called for June 1. The winners of first four places are: J. N. Lomgen, Webster, 94.5 per cent; Madison creamery, 93%; Arthur Vaughan, 93, Parker; and tie among North American creamery, Watertown, George Irey, Elkton, and S. H. Black, Deadwood, 92%.

Commencement at Brookings.

Dr. Richard Burton, of the University of Minnesota, will deliver the address at the thirtieth annual commencement of State college at Brookings on June 7. Forty-six students will graduate with the bachelor of science degree, six with the master of science degree, ten with the degree of pharmacy graduate, and the others will receive certificates from special or shorter courses, totaling 112 graduates for the year.

Autos Now Used on Range.

Pierre.—Automobiles for "cattle punchers" are an innovation out in Corson county. The old days of cowboy cattle punchers, who rode trained cow ponies, are disappearing and one sees now the cattle punchers giving up their trusty ponies and wielding the lariat from an automobile. Some of the punchers have become real experts in driving with one hand and lassoing with the other.

Teddy Cannot Come.

Watertown.—In response to an invitation from the local Sons of Veterans' committee to be present at the state encampment of the G. A. R. to be held here June 13, 14 and 15, Colonel Theodore Roosevelt has written Secretary Wright Tarbell that at this time it is a simple physical impossibility for him to make another engagement of any kind.

Plays with Gun; Minus Hand.

Woonsocket.—While playing with a shotgun the weapon was accidentally discharged, tearing off one of the hands of the 4-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Malloy, of Woonsocket.

Damage Done by Wind.

Madison.—A wind of almost cyclonic intensity struck this locality Sunday afternoon. Considerable damage to chimneys, barns and small buildings is reported throughout the county.

NEWS OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hutchinson of Wessington have just had twin girls born to them, this being the second pair of twins in this family.

Next October has been fixed as the time for the third annual Rosebud musical festival, to be held at Winner. It is expected this year's festival will surpass those of the last two years.

Over three hundred entries have been filed for the Minnesota-Dakota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Meet to be held on the South Dakota state fair grounds at Huron, May 26 and 27.

The Canova board of education has decided to put in a full 12-year high school course in the local schools during the coming school year. This will mean the addition of one more teacher to the faculty.

So far as can be learned among the numerous towns which voted this spring on the levying of a tax for support of bands, the only towns where the question was up, and the proposition voted down, were Eureka and Menno.

The Sioux Indians in the White river district of the Rosebud reservation have been paid \$30 per capita by a government agent, this being money due them from the federal government. The payment aggregates several thousand dollars.

M. E. Graves, a Bijou Hills business man, received a telegram stating that his brother, Fred Graves, had died in California from injuries received in a dynamite explosion. The victim was well known in Bijou Hills and vicinity, having visited his brother on several occasions.

To place the Meridian road in perfect condition from the southern to the northern limits of Lake county is to be made the special object of a good roads day, set for Thursday, June 8. Prominent citizens of the city and county have been appointed to take charge of the work.

The boosters of northern Dewey county are taking the steps to raise a fund for a grist mill to be erected at Timber Lake. Residents of several towns in that part of the county took a part in the meeting, and the preliminary steps were taken for the organization of a company to put in the mill.

The authorities at Cheyenne River Agency are looking for the young son of Mrs. Spotted Crow, who made his escape from the government Indian school at Pierre and attempted to return to the home of his mother some miles from here. He stole a boat so he could make his way across the Missouri river.

A great amount of building is being done at Aurora at present. Among the new structures is a \$10,000 building which will be occupied by the Aurora bank and other business institutions. The second floor of the structure will be used for office purposes and as a public hall, in which entertainments and gatherings will be held.

The Indians of Washabaugh county are arranging to hold an agricultural fair this fall, and several prominent Indians are pushing the move and have secured a permit from the Indian department to hold this fair of their own, separate from the annual fair which is held at the agency, for the whole of Pine Ridge reservation.

It is estimated that the wheat acreage of the DeSmet territory has been reduced 25 per cent this year over last year's acreage, this being due to the excessively wet weather last fall preventing farmers doing the customary amount of fall plowing, much of their land as a result not having been properly prepared for a wheat crop this year.

While driving over his rural mail route, W. H. Bacon, of Mitchell, was the victim of a stroke of paralysis. A farmer happened to see him as he fell from his buggy. The automobile which he usually drives had been disabled the day before, otherwise the disaster might have resulted fatally. Mr. Bacon's left side was paralyzed and his condition is very serious.

Sioux Falls will entertain the largest convention of the year during the second week in June when the Masonic grand bodies meet there for their annual meetings. These include Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M., Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons, Order of High Priesthood, Grand Council R. & S. M., and judging from previous grand lodge gatherings it is estimated that there will be at least 2,500 visitors in the city.

Edna Torkelson, daughter of a well known farmer living near Hudson, had a narrow escape from death when she fell from the seat of a gasoline tractor, on which she was riding with her father. The wheel of the heavy gang plow passed over her back, but her father succeeded in stopping the engine before the sharp conifer reached her, which would have cut her to pieces. Fortunately her back was little more than bruised by the wheel which passed over her.

Eleven towns were represented at a meeting held at Tyndall to take steps for Sunday service on the Milwaukee's Platte line. It is believed that the company may be induced to hearken to the show of interest on this subject and furnish the desired relief.

The University of South Dakota and Morningside college divided honors in two baseball games played at Vermilion May 8 and 9. The first game went to the university after ten innings of tight playing by the score of 1 to 0. Morningside won the second game 8 to 6.