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The Washington Herald

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NO. 3315

WEATHER—CLOUDY; COLDER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1915.

ONE CENT. In Washington and Peter's Suburban Towns, ELSEWHERE TWO CENTS

WILSON STARTS VIGOROUS PROBE OF PLOT CHARGE

Austrian Consuls Accused by Former Colleague of Spying in U. S.

NAMES VON BERNSTORFF

Dr. Gorciar Says Ambassador Approved War Against American Factories.

CALLED "LIES" AT EMBASSY

Former Consul at San Francisco Accused in Turn of Being Agent of Russia and Serbia.

President Wilson yesterday took personal charge of the investigation into the charges made by Dr. Joseph Gorciar, former Austrian consul, regarding the activities in this country of agents of Austria and Germany.

It was indicated in official circles that the President has come to the conclusion that a supreme effort must be made to stamp out any propaganda inspired by foreign agents, which is intended to interfere with American industries.

The actual developments of the day were as follows: "The State Department called the attention of the Department of Justice to the publication of Dr. Gorciar's statement.

Conference with President. "Attorney General Gregory at the White House for the Cabinet meeting, conferred with President Wilson.

On his return to the Department of Justice it was admitted that a telegram had been sent to John R. Rathon, editor of the Providence (R. I.) Journal, which printed Dr. Gorciar's statement, asking him to submit all the facts in his possession.

An agent of the department was sent to confer with Dr. Gorciar.

The Austrian Embassy issued a statement denying Dr. Gorciar's charges and accusing him, in turn, of conspiracy with Russian and Serbian agents.

The administration is deeply concerned by the frequency of fires recently in manufacturing plants and on steamships, the efforts to cause labor

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE.

THE MOST HORRIBLE BOOK IN THE WORLD

—the quintessence of pessimism and fatalism reflected in the morbid novel of the great Russian author, Artshabaf, called "Breaking Point." A whole page is devoted to this novel which created a sensation in all Europe.

"RUS IN URBE"

—in the title of O. Henry's masterpiece which appears tomorrow, O. Henry is America's Du Maurier—her premier short story writer. His best stories appear exclusively in Washington in the Sunday Herald.

MASTERLY STORIES OF AMERICAN LIFE

—is the title of the series by the creator of "Red Saunders" now running in the Sunday Herald. Tomorrow's story is "The Blue Hawk"—and it's a story worthy of its author.

"THE YELLOW CLAW"

—made Sax Rohmer famous. Sax Rohmer writes for the Sunday Herald. His latest exploit is the series, "The Methods of Morris Klaw." Tomorrow's story is "The Blue Hawk," a diamond-mystery story.

HORSES HELP FASHION.

—according to our fashion expert, Frances Eggehall. A full page about the New York Horse Show is another feature of tomorrow's Sunday Herald.

BERLIN'S BATTLE TO BURNISH THE BAZAARS OF BAGDAD.

How Germany would drive a wedge between Russian and British influence in Asia's seat of empire and restore the glories of Mesopotamia and Persia.

AND

—but why not make up your mind right now to ask your news dealer to save a copy of tomorrow's Herald for you.

TOMORROW'S SUNDAY HERALD.

Five Cents Anywhere.

SAYS GERMANS SPENT \$30,000,000 IN PLOYS

Special to The Washington Herald. Providence, R. I., Nov. 12.—The Providence Journal will renew tomorrow morning its charges that the Austro-Hungarian Embassy in Washington is directing the work of spies in the United States. It will also present further evidence in support of the statements of Dr. Josef Gorciar, a former official in the Austrian consulate in New York, that German and Austrian agents working in this country had spent between \$20,000,000 and \$30,000,000 in an effort to destroy munition plants and otherwise prevent the exportation of war materials to the allies.

RESIGNS FROM THE CABINET

Winston Churchill to Join His Regiment at Front in France.

FORMATION OF WAR COUNCIL GIVES DESIRED OPPORTUNITY

Long Known that Former First Lord of Admiralty Chafed Under Civilian Life.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. London, Nov. 12.—Winston Churchill's resignation from the cabinet was officially announced tonight. He will join the army in France. He has a commission as major in the Oxford Yeomanry.

Since his retirement as first lord of the admiralty Mr. Churchill has occupied a seat in the coalition cabinet as chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. His former portfolio is held by Arthur J. Balfour.

It has been a matter of common knowledge for some time that Mr. Churchill chafed under the restrictions of civilian life. Activity at the front appealed strongly to his spirit. The formation of a small council offered the opportunity.

His letter of resignation to Prime Minister Asquith expresses appreciation of the other's purpose to include him among the members of the war council. When the plan was altered, he says, his work in the government naturally closed.

He points out that he could not accept a position of general responsibility for a war policy without any effective share in its guidance and control. Nor did he feel able to assume the same to remain in well-paid inactivity.

Post Millions Go To Daughter

Said to Be Sole Heir, Despite Cereal King's Carefully Prepared Will.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Battle Creek, Mich., Nov. 12.—Starting complications involving the Post estate of \$23,000,000 developed today when it became known the entire fortune of the late C. W. Post would go to his daughter, Mrs. Marjorie Close, regardless of the carefully prepared will of the food king.

In a suit against the Post estate started by the State of Michigan to collect inheritance tax it was brought out that several years ago Post went through the bankrupt court and in the testimony given at the time Post stated that the Postum Cereal Company was founded and built up from a fund of \$50 which had been saved up by the first Mrs. Post and placed to the credit of their daughter, Marjorie.

Mr. Post also stated that the company was the property of Marjorie and that he, C. W. Post, was her agent. This had never been contradicted, according to the records, and Mrs. Close will become the sole owner of the Postum Cereal Company.

It is understood Mrs. Close will ask for all money due her, and aside from a small share which was given outright to the present Mrs. Post during the life of the deceased, the latter will be denied the immense fortune which she was supposed to have inherited. The present Mrs. Post has a second wife and a very beautiful young woman.

STRONGEST FORT IN WORLD.

U. S. Now Has It in the New Defense Base at Manila Harbor.

In the fortifications guarding the entrance to Manila Harbor, which it was announced at the War Department yesterday have been practically completed, navy experts declare the United States possesses the most powerfully defended port in the world.

The entire top of one island—El Fraile, commanding the southern entrance to the harbor—was removed in order to build a special base for two 14-inch cannon. After the island had been leveled, a solid base of cement was laid over it. This cement was manufactured by a secret process first tested at Sandy Hook, N. J.

The principal defenses are on Corregidor Island. Two 14-inch cannon, several 12-inch cannon, and 12-inch motors make up the batteries. The 14-inch cannon are declared to have a range greater than that of the largest guns in any battleship in the world. In addition to the batteries all of the waters around Manila bay are mined.

CONVENIENT AND COMFORTABLE TRAIN, AUGUSTA SPECIAL, leaves Washington daily 7 p. m. Columbia, Augusta and Aiken. Have your dinner on the diner. Southern Railway.—Adv.

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE.

LINE OF FIGHT AGAINST "HALF" PLAN DEFINED

Arguments of Citizens' Council Will Decide the Issue.

COMMITTEE IS ADVERSE

Summing Up Expected to Emphasize Big Flaws in Opposition.

GEORGE REPORT RESPONSIBLE

False Accusations and Not Half-and-half Plan Real Cause of Controversy Over District.

By JOSEPH P. ANNIN.

The extreme jeopardy in which the half-and-half plan has been placed by the proposals of Senator Works and the two civilian Commissioners was indicated with startling clearness in questions asked yesterday by members of the joint Congressional committee investigating the fiscal relations between the District and the Federal government.

It was apparent to any one who has followed the hearings closely that had a vote been taken upon the abolition or retention of the half-and-half plan at adjournment yesterday, action favoring its abolition would have been almost if not quite unanimous.

Upon the summing up of counsel for the citizens' committee—Col. A. S. Worthington, Henry E. F. Macfarland, and Theodore W. Noyes—the issue depends almost entirely. And in order to change the views evidently held by members of the joint committee, counsel must convert the joint committee to the following contentions:

1. That the maintenance of a fixed proportion, as insured through the half-and-half plan, constitutes a real protection for the District both against Congressional parsimony and against encroachment upon District taxpayers the entire burden of the upkeep of the District.

2. That such a protection is necessary now, and will be necessary in the future.

3. That a fixed tax rate, based on the tax rate in comparable cities, does not constitute a real obstacle to the event that Congress, moved by a sudden impulse, should determine to lighten the Federal contribution by increasing the District's tax burden.

Seas Plan Outlines Usefulness.

Co-author with Commissioner Newman of the plan whereby District revenues would be supplemented but not duplicated from the Federal Treasury, Commissioner Brown in his opening argument admitted the past value of the half-and-half plan because of its psychological effect upon Congress. Now, he claimed, it has outlived its usefulness because it has become the cause of friction between the District and Congress. It would seem axiomatic that as long as friction exists as a result of the protection, the need of the protection, in that form or another, remains. In order to prevent the friction, and make it easy for the lion to lie down with the lamb, the protection, with the customary result—that the lamb will lie down inside the lion.

Members of the committee, however, do not admit that all protection will be withdrawn with the half-and-half plan. Neither do they admit the need of the protection. Being themselves members of the appropriating bodies, perhaps a more accurate perspective as to the appropriating habits of Congress—Commissioner Newman's phrase—should be expected from outside the halls of Congress. Nevertheless, they hold that to whatever extent protection is desirable, it is accorded in a tax rate fixed by law and which cannot be changed except by law. And their plan does not contemplate in the least that Congress, under stress of political pressure from voting constituencies, and extravagant claims on the public treasury for the same beneficiaries, may "take up the slack" at the expense of the District appropriation bill.

Would Be Further Check. Taking up the first point—the alleged protection derived from the fixed tax rate—proponents of the plan in some instances have urged that the triennial assessment plan here would serve as a further check. This unquestionably is true, but all tax experts—official and otherwise—as well as the leading proponents of the new plan, urge that an annual assessment is almost indispensable to an equalization of assessments, so that if the assessments are to be scientific they must be subject to revision not less frequently than once a year. Appropriation laws are enacted once a year. Appropriation enactments are laws with the same binding force and the same automatic compelling quality upon prior conflicting legislation, as have other laws. Therefore, the fixed tax rate, announced as a protection, may be changed as often as District appropriation bills are passed and with no more effort or resultant confusion in Congress or the District Board.

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE.

TEAM WORK (NEW STYLE)



STILL IN DARK AS TO ANCONA

State Department Can Get No Satisfactory Information from Rome.

AMBASSADOR'S ONE MESSAGE IS PUZZLING TO OFFICIALS

Believed Here that Italian Government Is Exercising Rigid Censorship Over All Cablegrams.

The State Department is still entirely unenlightened as to the case of the Ancona, the Italian liner sunk by a submarine in the Mediterranean Tuesday with the loss of a large portion of those on board.

Only one dispatch was received at the State Department on the subject of the Ancona throughout the entire day yesterday, and that dispatch was not entirely intelligible. Officials are greatly perplexed at the absolute silence which has prevailed with regard to the Ancona despite the department's instructions to the embassy at Rome and consulates in the vicinity to report promptly all obtainable information on the disaster. It is presumed that the Italian government is for reasons of its own exercising a rigid censorship on all dispatches.

The only message that was received yesterday was from Ambassador Page at Rome, and, curiously enough, bore date of November 13, which is today. This is the message:

"Officially reported still unaccounted for Mrs. Cecile Grell thought an American woman reported saved believed to be her Patative family and Pasquale Saurino names given my 428 and 427 also Mrs. Carmela Torrisi whose husband Giuseppe reported saved."

The best that officials could make out of this dispatch was that it meant that Mrs. Grell, previously reported saved, is still unaccounted for; that the Patative family is unaccounted for, together with Mrs. Torrisi, while Mrs. Torrisi's husband is reported saved. It is presumed the persons named are believed to be American citizens.

Fired Without Warning, Ancona Passengers Say

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. London, Nov. 12.—One hundred and sixty survivors of the Ancona, the Turin correspondent of the Chronicle reports, have drawn up and signed a deposition on the disaster at Bizerta, Tunisia, where they are now. According to this deposition, they assert the liner was fired upon without any warning whatever, shells being aimed at every part of the ship.

All but eleven of the ship's 300 lifeboats, the correspondent says, were destroyed, these eleven saving 350 persons, all who survived.

Berlin Denies Loss of Submarines

Berlin (via Sayville), Nov. 12.—Reports circulated that two English destroyers captured a German submarine in the Mediterranean and made prisoners of the crew are wholly untrue, says the Trans-Ocean News Service.

AN AFTERNOON WITH BELASCO.

Read the remarkable account which Julia Chandler Manz gives in tomorrow's Herald of an afternoon she spent last week with David Belasco in that detached world he has created for himself in the eleven rooms at the top of his New York theater, where he has gathered unto himself the romance, traditions, and mysticism of all lands in his marvelous collection of curios and antiques.

Aged Man Kills Self With Gun

R. H. Marshall, 70, Fires Bullet Into Brain While at Water's Edge.

R. H. Marshall, 70 years old, a boarder at 1807 H street northwest, stood at the brink of the Tidal Basin in Potomac Park near a boathouse at the Seventeenth street entrance to the park at 6:30 o'clock yesterday, stuck a .22-caliber revolver into his mouth and fired a bullet into his brain.

Marshall was taken to Emergency Hospital, where he died at 5:20 o'clock, without regaining consciousness.

Little was known of Marshall at the H street house. He had lived there for three years. It was said. Nothing was known of his business, although it was said he was retired.

That despondency may have been the cause of his suicide was conjectured when Coroner Nevitt, who issued a certificate of death by suicide, said that in Marshall's pocket was found an application for a minor position in a government department.

The police say Marshall's daughter, Mrs. R. B. Griffin, lives at 3423 Oakwood terrace northwest. Mrs. Griffin was ill last night, it was said. Her husband, who is a clerk in the office of the auditor for the Interior Department, refused to talk at Emergency Hospital.

Grell took charge of Marshall's body.

SEIZE U. S. LOCOMOTIVES.

German Capture Many American-made Engines in Serbia.

By GUSTAVE SCHWEPFNDICK. Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Berlin, via Rotterdam, Nov. 12.—I am informed by a prominent German military expert that the Austro-German forces have captured many American railway locomotives at Krusevac, Serbia. These are coming in very handy for the transportation of German and Austrian troops and supplies. The Germans also captured a whole train, including a dining car, which was being held in readiness for the flight of high officials. A quantity of stores of copper and brass, as well as 1,000 auto tires, also is included in the German booty.

The German troops in their advance from the north have succeeded in closing up the only road to the rear by which the Serbians could hope to reach Novi-bazar.

The Serbian army is surrounded and the union of the German and Bulgarian armies is complete, according to this informant.

No Belgian Parliament This Year.

Brussels, Nov. 12.—There will be no session of the Belgian Parliament this year, King Albert has issued a formal decree to this effect following the decision of the Belgian government.

Greek Parliament Is Dissolved.

Athens, Nov. 12.—A decree dissolving parliament was published today. General elections will be held on December 12. News of the dissolution of parliament was received calmly by the people.

Bulgaria May Invade Albania.

Rome, Nov. 12.—Prince William of Wied, former King of Albania, has been with the Bulgarian general staff for the last two weeks. This fact is taken here to indicate that it is Bulgaria's intention to invade Albania.

Second Protest Made to Greece.

Budapest, Nov. 12.—It is reported from Athens that Turkish and Bulgarian ministers to Greece have again protested formally against the presence of Anglo-French troops on Greek soil. Official recognition of the protests was taken up by Premier Skoufoudis who stated that the government would do what it could to clear up the situation.

Greek Ships Under Suspension.

Brindisi, Italy (via Rome), Nov. 12.—Greek ships are reported to be furnishing assistance to Austrian and German submarines in the Mediterranean. Official investigation of these reports is being made by the Italian authorities, and if they are confirmed the government will take immediate action.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Rome, Nov. 12.—Prince William of Wied, former King of Albania, has been with the Bulgarian general staff for the last two weeks. This fact is taken here to indicate that it is Bulgaria's intention to invade Albania.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. London, Nov. 12.—Two great battles are in progress in Serbia. One is on the left bank of the Southern Morava where the Austria-German advance has been temporarily checked. The other is in the south, in the vicinity of Velez where the Anglo-French forces have come in contact with the invading Bulgarians.

Saloniki dispatches report that the French have inflicted a serious defeat on the Bulgarians and that the recapture of Velez is imminent. It is now possible, military experts point out, that the Anglo-French-Serbian army may capture the railway as far north as Uskub.

If they should succeed, the Bulgarians will have to abandon all their gains in that region and all of southern Serbia would be cleared of the invaders.

The Austro-Germans and Bulgarians are making great effort to cut off or crush the Serbians west and south of Nish, but the plight of the Serbians is not so desperate as had been believed.

It is necessary only they should hold out a little longer, as the entente powers are now pouring troops into Saloniki in greatly increased numbers and a few days, it is said, may enable the allies to establish connection with the Serbian army, now almost surrounded.

Much will depend on the outcome of the two big battles now in progress.

German Fire in Belgian Riots. Amsterdam, Nov. 12.—Many persons were hurt in fighting between the German military police and Belgians following food riots at Louviers, says the Echo de Belge. During a demonstration against high prices the police fired into the crowd. The mob then attacked the police.

Decision Reached at Cabinet Meeting. Number of Troops to Be Sent Kept Secret. Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Rome, Nov. 12.—The Italian government has agreed to give the entente allies sufficient support in the Balkans to assure a complete triumph there.

This decision was reached at a cabinet council last night. It was agreed that the Balkan situation had become urgent and that action by Italy must be taken at once.

The number of troops that Italy will send was not divulged.

The critical situation in Greece doubtless had much to do with the Italian decision. The royal decree dissolving the Greek chamber of deputies, which was promulgated in Athens last night, shows King Constantine believes he is so completely master of the situation he can ignore Venizelos.

HER SABLE COAT COST \$30,000. Item in Suit May Harrington Wins Against Former Husband. New York, Nov. 12.—May Harrington, who divorced Edmund K. Stallo in 1912, today won a victory in the appellate division of the Supreme Court.

That tribunal decided she is entitled to a judgment for about \$120,000 from Stallo. She sued for \$7,000 on his promissory note and he put in two counter-claims for about \$11,000, stating these offset her note. The trial term so decided and gave Stallo judgment. This judgment was today reversed on her appeal and one counter-claim of \$5,800 allowed as an offset against the note.

The plaintiff formerly was the wife of Dan R. Hanna. She divorced Hanna and married Stallo.

One of Stallo's counter-claims was for the lengthening of a \$30,000 sable coat for his wife.

Baltimore & Ohio to Baltimore—\$1.50 round trip every Saturday and Sunday; good returning until 4 a. m. Monday.—Adv.

RUSSIANS VICTORS IN ELEVEN-DAY BATTLE IN SWAMPS OF RIGA

Kammern and Anting Retaken from Kaiser's Forces After Fierce Struggle—Teuton Lines in Mitau Forest Penetrated.

GERMAN DEAD FILL TRENCHES

Czar's Troops Also Claimed to Have Forced Invaders Back from Dvinsk and to Have Made an Advance Near Illuxt and Pristare.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Nov. 12.—The Russians have opened a general offensive in the Courland and have gained important successes, according to news reaching here tonight. The Germans have been driven from Kammern and Anting, west of Schlock, it is officially announced in Petrograd, and between Riga and Mitau the German forest lines have been penetrated.

The recapture of Kammern and Anting came after a terrific battle lasting eleven days in which great bodies of troops fought at close grips in the vast swamps along the coast.

Want More Ships Under U. S. Flag

Not only in the Riga region, but also before Dvinsk, have the Russians succeeded in pressing the Teutons back. An advance near Illuxt and Pristare is reported tonight by Petrograd, while German efforts to regain the lost positions around the Boersmuende farm have been repulsed with heavy losses. Piles of German dead are stacked before the Russian trenches.

The German losses along the coast also are said to be heavy. Russian warships co-operated with the land forces, effectively bombarding the coast positions.

Three Senators Urge Early Action for Bigger Merchant Marine.

Special to The Washington Herald. New York, Nov. 12.—United States Senators Weeks, Fletcher, and Owen declared tonight that something must be done, and done immediately, for our merchant marine. They were speakers at the banquet of the Academy of Political Science given at the Hotel Astor. Secretary McAdoo, absent because of illness, sent a telegram backing them up.

Senator Weeks made the following statement: "It is evidently the purpose of the present administration to enlarge rather than to limit governmental activities in connection with business affairs. I am opposed to this tendency, and would, as far as possible, take directly the opposite course. Governments are not organized for the purpose of conducting business. They cannot and never have produced economical results in any business activity. Therefore, I greatly regret the publicly announced intent to revive the government-owned-and-operated shipping legislation which was considered and defeated last winter."

Senator Robert L. Owen, of Oklahoma, said: "I believe that the best thing Congress could do would be to establish a naval auxiliary merchant marine. This should be owned by a corporation, the majority stock of which is owned by the government. This corporation should be in control of a shipping board."

Heavy rains have put a halt to operations on the greater part of the eastern front converting great stretches of the low country into swamps. In many places, it is stated, the heavy German guns are bogged down and useless.

Some minor actions have been fought in Volynia, south of the Kovel-Sarny railway, according to a Berlin announcement, a few hundred prisoners being taken by Gen. von Linsingen's forces.

In the same region the Russians report the capture of 3,500 men and 11 machine guns in recent fighting. A total of 125,000 Austrians and Germans have been captured in Volynia within the last ten weeks. It is semi-officially stated in Petrograd.

ITALY AGREES TO HELP ALLIES IN THE BALKANS

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