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THE WASHINGTON HERALD

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NO. 3444. WEATHER—CLOUDY; COLDER. WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1916. ONE CENT.

GERMANS GAIN IN WEST; FALL BACK IN EAST

Crown Prince Drives Mile Closer to Paris-Verdun Railroad.

LOSS ADMITTED BY PARIS

Russian Offensive Extends Along East Front from Baltic South.

CZERNOWITZ CAPTURED

Czar's Forces Attack Both Flanks of Teuton Army Before Dvinsk, Rolling It Westward.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

Paris, March 22.—After a bombardment carried on with great violence for an entire day, the German army of the crown prince this afternoon stormed and captured French positions on Haucourt Hill in its flanking movement against Le Mort Homme (Dead Man).

The German advance on the slopes of Haucourt is admitted by the French war office, which, however, reports that their attempts to debouch from Avocourt wood, ordered on the previous day, were repulsed.

The latest German move marks an attempt to cut the Verdun-Paris Railway and win positions for a flanking fire against the French in the Dead Man region.

The importance of the hill is explained by Lieut. Col. Rouss, the noted military critic, as follows:

"In order that our success (the capture of Avocourt woods), which we by no means cease to believe, shall not prove sterile, there must be a second in the shape of a further advance, ending with the capture of one of the dominating hills encircling the Avocourt woods.

"If the crown prince's objective in attacking in this sector is to endanger our position at Le Mort Homme by a flanking fire, he must push his attacks to the eastward, storm Hill No. 304, between Malancourt and Esmes, from which point he could dominate Le Mort Homme."

Fifth Drive Against Verdun.

The German assaults in the Malancourt sector mark the fifth drive north of Verdun. The previous attacks were, respectively, those at Brabant, Douaumont, Peppier Hill and Dead Man.

The same disregard for human life is characterizing the present attacks as those in other sectors. According to prominent military critics, the last German attempt has resulted in an advance of about a mile over a front of a mile and one-third.

Russians Gain on Both Flanks.

London, March 22.—On both flanks of the German line before Dvinsk, the Russians tonight claim successes in their strong offensive movement. In the Jacobstadt sector they have captured a village and two woods, while on the southern flank, on the southwestern shore of Lake Narocz, attacked on a ten-mile front, they have stormed three series of lines in fierce assaults.

The fighting now going on from Riga to a point well south of Dvinsk is the most furious since in the eastern theater since Von Hindenburg's drive on Dvinsk last autumn. The Berlin war office describes the Russian movement as a "great offensive," and the Russians say the German line is "murderous."

The Russians are attacking on both flanks of the Germans' semi-circular front before Dvinsk. Seven hundred miles to the south, other Russian armies are launching heavy blows against the Austrians. The Austrian official statement tonight states that all the attacks during the day were repulsed.

An unofficial wireless report, however, states that the Austrians have evacuated Czernowitz, capital of Bukovina, or are on the point of doing so, following the Russian capture of the Mikhatzche bridgehead on the Dniester.

WAR CLOUD PARES THIS IMMIGRANT GIRL

Eighteen-year-old Roumanian Given Respite-Hour Before Ship Sailed.

Special to The Washington Herald. New York, March 22.—Because of the imminence of war between Austria and Roumania, 18-year-old Fannie Berkowitz will not be deported to Roumania as a mentally deficient immigrant.

Instead she will stay in this country on parole until the end of the war, her sister in Cleveland being responsible for her. One hour before the ship on which she had been ordered deported sailed, word came to parole the girl.

Her case was a pathetic one. The chief bread winner of her family in Roumania since she was 7, Fannie was held up at Ellis Island as mentally deficient. She never had the opportunity to go to school, so it is little wonder she failed to pass the tests.

Just before the vessel sailed, it was discovered that the United States had hidden aliens sailing on belligerent ships. That saved Fannie for the time at least.

Troops Find American's Body Hanging to Tree

El Paso, March 22.—American forces report Arthur McKinney's body riddled with bullets and hanging to a tree near Bocas Grandes.

McKinney was the young ranchman taken near Hachita recently. He was foreman for Fred Stevenson, now acting as scout for Col. Dodd's cavalry column.

NASHVILLE IS SWEEPED BY FIRE

Two Thousand Made Homeless by Conflagration in the Best Residence Section.

PATH OF DESTRUCTION THIRTY BLOCKS LONG

Damage Estimated at Several Millions. Militia Guard Valuables Piled in Streets.

Special to The Washington Herald. Nashville, March 22.—More than 2,000 of Nashville's best citizens are homeless and have to sleep in the houses of their friends, in churches, public buildings and hotels for a while. Fire today swept a path from three to five blocks wide and thirty blocks long, about the territory being the best residence section east of the Cumberland River. The loss is estimated at several millions. Governor Rye called out all the militia in the city and asked for citizen volunteers to help fight the flames.

A seemingly inconsequential fire starting in North Edgefield street about 1 o'clock this morning caused the conflagration. As the fire approached Warner School, which housed over 400 pupils, a fire drill was held, and all the children marched out safely. Shortly afterwards, this school was a mass of flames. The aged inmates of the institution conducted by the Little Sisters of the Poor were conveyed to a parish church in Nashville. This home for the aged was destroyed, with a large loss.

Thousands of people who thought their homes doomed, methodically removed their valuables.

Vast quantities of furniture were in the open streets tonight being guarded by the militia to avoid looting.

Fifteen thousand residents of South Edgefield looked for the worst today, as at one time is seemed as if the whole section would go.

By 5 o'clock the fire had burned itself out in some sections and was under control in others. Nashville's business and charitable organizations are looking after the homeless and there will be little physical suffering and destitution.

Paris Fire Loss Totals \$8,000,000

Relief Pours in by Trainloads to Ruined Texas Town.

FLAMES IN AUGUSTA DO \$2,000,000 DAMAGE

Two Newspaper Plants Destroyed Along with Ten Business Blocks. Residence Section Menaced.

Augusta, Ga., March 22.—Ten blocks in the business section of this city were destroyed and the residential part of Augusta was seriously threatened by flames which late tonight were not yet under control. The damage so far is estimated at \$2,000,000. The fire late tonight was eating its way through the business district of Board street.

The flames wiped out the Empire Life Building, both telegraph offices, the Augusta Chronicle, the Herald, the National Exchange Bank, the Union Savings Bank, the Cotton Exchange, Masonic Temple, Commercial Club and several other buildings. The blaze originated in the Dyer Building from defective wiring.

To Call Married Men Tomorrow. London, March 22.—According to a news agency the next eight groups of married men will be called to the colors by the war office on Saturday and Monday.

\$150,000 Fire in Atlanta

Atlanta, Ga., March 22.—Fire tonight destroyed twenty residences and the Marbut-Thornton Lumber Company in northern section of the city. The loss is estimated at \$150,000.

Switchmen Want Shorter Hours.

New York, March 22.—The switchmen's Union of North America, with headquarters in Buffalo, today served thirty days notice on the railroads asking for an eight-hour day at the same pay they are receiving now for ten hours work. Thirteen railroads are affected by the demands.

FLAMES MENACE BUSINESS BLOCK; \$20,000 DAMAGE

Factory of Elmer H. Catlin Company, 309 Thirteenth Street, Gutted by Fire.

A TWO-HOUR BATTLE

Blaze Discovered by Maj. Pullman, Who Directs Work of Police Reserves.

WOMAN SWOONS FROM TERROR

Glare Lights Sky for Blocks—Thousands Watch Firemen—Residents Driven from Homes.

An entire block in the business section was threatened last night when fire broke out in the factory of the Elmer H. Catlin Company, makers of gas and electric fixtures, at 309 Thirteenth street northwest.

After a desperate fight of two hours, however, the twelve engine and truck companies that responded succeeded in gaining control of the fire before it had spread beyond the Catlin establishment.

The fire was discovered shortly after 5 o'clock by Maj. Pullman, superintendent of police, who was near the First precinct in Twelfth street. He directed his chauffeur to sound an alarm.

Chief Wagner, upon arrival, immediately sounded a second and third alarm, bringing out Acting Deputy Chief Keller and Battalion Chief Proctor.

The building, which is three stories high, was a solid mass of flames, and for the first hour no attempt was made by the firemen to gain entrance. Fire Marshall Nicholson estimated the damage at between \$15,000 and \$20,000. He said the flames started in the rear of the ground floor. The cause could not be learned.

The glare lighted the sky for blocks, attracting thousands of theater-goers. Residents of D street between Twelfth and Thirteenth streets were driven from their homes in fright by the dense columns of smoke that swept into their rear windows. The fire did not reach these houses, however. Mrs. Louise Curtis, of 1255 C street northwest, swooned in the excitement and had to be taken into a nearby luncheon room until the fire was extinguished.

After the firemen had been fighting desperately for an hour to keep the fire from spreading to adjoining business houses on the Thirteenth side, flames began to shoot from the roof of 307 Thirteenth street, used as a storehouse by the Catlin firm. A company hurried to the roof of 307 and smothered the flames before they had gained much headway.

Damaged by Water. The Ornamental Iron Works, occupying 312-314 Thirteenth, suffered from water which poured through the side wall of the burning building.

Although the flames originated on the ground floor, they went straight to the top of the building, and when the final flame had died the roof and rear wall of the building were burnt out.

The first floor was taken up by offices. The heaviest loss was suffered on the second and third floors, which comprise the work rooms. The third floor, on which was located much valuable machinery, was gutted. The second floor, where brass plating is done, also suffered heavily.

After sounding the alarm, Maj. Pullman directed the reserves in setting up ropes for the crowds. He was soon joined by Commissioner Brownlow, who hurried to the scene in his motor car. The proprietor of a nearby luncheon room supplied the firemen with hot coffee while they fought.

FLAMES IN AUGUSTA DO \$2,000,000 DAMAGE

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To Call Married Men Tomorrow. London, March 22.—According to a news agency the next eight groups of married men will be called to the colors by the war office on Saturday and Monday.

Allies Refuse Loan to Greece.

Geneva, March 22.—It is reported from Athens that Greece's request for a loan of \$20,000,000 from the allies has been refused.

BERLIN DENIES GERMANY SEEKS TO STOP WAR

Officials See No Basis for Rumors of Imminent Peace.

PLAN FOR LONG WAR

Chancellor's Speech at Reichstag Opening Taken as Sign of Weakness.

AWAIT MOVE OF THE ALLIES

Central Powers Declare Entente Must Modify Attitude Before Conflict Can End.

By AUGUSTUS BEACH. Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Berlin, March 22.—(via The Hague, March 22)—Rumors that peace is imminent, coming principally from the United States, have no foundation as far as Germany is concerned. Responsible officials here deny that there is reason for any such expectation.

Rumors are constantly current in Germany that peace negotiations of a tentative or of a definite sort are proceeding in Switzerland or some other neutral country, but not in a single instance so far has investigation proved that there was any ground for these reports.

It cannot be denied, however, that certain factors in world affairs are continually putting out "feelers" and occasionally peace talk becomes a reality in one or another belligerent parliament.

Await Move from Allies. Germany's last official peace expression, made by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg when the Reichstag convened, stated that at that time Germany was ready to negotiate for peace, but could not do so on terms of a ruined Germany, which seemed to be the aim of the allies.

There was much criticism of the chancellor at the time and especially afterward, when the British press represented Germany as weakening and seeking a settlement of the war. It was resolved officially then that no more official peace talk should emanate from the central powers till the entente had adopted a reasonable attitude and realized the futility of the dream of destroying the German empire.

Military Preparations Continue. In the meantime military preparations have been going forward on the basis of a war to last indefinitely.

Some comment has been occasioned in Germany recently by the speeches in the house of commons in which it was suggested that England ought to initiate a peace movement and the reply of Mr. Asquith, in which he reiterated the statement that the allies would never sheath the sword till Prussian militarism had been destroyed.

Germans say it is futile to hope for peace so long as England is guided by rhetoric instead of realities.

Leaps 12,000 Feet From War Balloon

French Officer Descends Safely in Parachute Near German Trenches.

ANOTHER PEACE RUMOR.

Turkish and Bulgarian Agents Arrive in Switzerland, London Hears.

London, March 22.—A Central News dispatch from Bern says that two Turkish and two Bulgarian agents have arrived there to start peace negotiations.

The Bulgarians requested safe conduct and will proceed to Rome.

QUAKE SHAKES HUNGARY.

Hundreds of Houses Destroyed and Many Lives Believed Lost.

Geneva, March 22.—An earthquake occurred in southwestern Hungary today, according to a dispatch from Flume. At Grizane 110 houses were destroyed and 120 damaged.

The damage was estimated at \$200,000. At Bribir twelve houses collapsed and many more were damaged. It is believed a number of persons were killed.

Adopts New Safety First Rule. Harrisburg, Pa., March 22.—The industrial board of the department of labor and industry today issued an amendment to the regulation prohibiting the carrying of matches in powder mills, making it punishable by fine or imprisonment to carry matches into any place where powder or explosives are manufactured or stored.

Only Five Bodies of Troops to Draw Upon

Exclusive of the re-enforcements ordered for Gen. Funston yesterday and the coast Artillery and Staff Corps, there are left in the United States only five mobile organizations available for service. They are: Second Cavalry—Fort Ethan Allen, Vt.

Third Infantry—Madison Barracks, N. Y., and Fort Ontario, N. Y.

Fourteenth Infantry—One battalion at Fort Lawton, Washington.

Twenty-first Infantry—Vancover Barracks, Washington.

Thirtieth Infantry—Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y.

Every other mobile organization in the army is now in Mexico, on the border or on foreign service.

FRANCE SEES VICTORY NEAR

Clemenceau Declares Verdun Campaign Is Exhausting German Army's Strength.

ALLIES' RESERVE FORCE WILL DECIDE CONFLICT

Says Rising Tide of British and Russian Can Repel Any Teuton Attack.

By GEORGES CLEMENCEAU. Chairman of the Army Committee of the French Senate.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Paris, March 22.—Without exaggeration, we are now justified in believing that success has come to our side at Verdun.

Of course we can not say the battle is completely finished but we do know that smashing blows, if they don't succeed right away, leave insufficient resources for a second major stroke.

As a matter of fact a smashing blow that lasts for months is rather damaging. When the German staff accumulated big guns to a number hitherto unheard of to belch unprecedented destruction, and threw huge masses of men into battle, they imagined no human force could resist such pressure. But all had been in vain. A high officer writes me he was indescribably astonished at seeing his men make a bayonet charge through a flaming cauldron, rushing over incinerated German corpses.

We don't know the German plans, but it is beyond doubt that the Kaiser still has important reserves. At the same time they don't possess the value of ours. And as to numbers, the rising tide of the English and Russians gives the allies an incontestable superiority.

Wherever the Teutons attack they will find sufficient men to meet them.

There are many indications that public anxiety in Germany is growing. The newspapers quickly seize on Finance Minister Ribot's statement "that it is impossible to foresee the end of the war."

Naturally, this was merely an oratorical figure, and the Germans need not expect peace for some time to come.

U. S. Antoinette Missing.

Officials of the War Department added last night that if necessary the 1400 Coast Artillery troops in the United States could be drawn on, making a total additional regular army force of 22,112.

It is also suggested as probable that the War Department would avail itself without delay of the offers to serve from the crack National Guard cavalry regiments of New York, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Arizona, and New Mexico, a total of approximately 5,000 men.

An unofficial report, unconfirmed at the War Department, received last night, states that more than twenty American motor trucks, minus their drivers, have been found south of the border on the general lines of communication with Gen. Pershing's force.

One report received last night from the Carranza foreign office was to the effect that "the necessary orders have been issued to push with vigor the campaign against the Indians in the Yaqui Valley."

This was said at the War Department to be the first intimation that the Indians are again on the warpath. The department has known for some time that 6,000 of the Indians were armed, and so reported to the State Department. The Navy Department was also informed and orders were sent to Rear Admiral Winslow to hold ships and marines in readiness at San Diego.

London Cheers Cadorna.

London, March 22.—Lieut. Gen. Count Luigi Cadorna, Italian chief-of-staff, arrived here today from Paris and was given an enthusiastic reception.

Justice McReynolds' Mother Dead.

Elkhon, Ind., March 22.—Mrs. Ellen McReynolds, mother of Supreme Court Justice James C. McReynolds, died suddenly this afternoon.

2,000 CARRANZISTAS DESERT TO VILLA; U. S. TROOPS IN FIRST CLASH WITH BANDITS

CHIHUAHUA MEN UNDER HERRERA TO AID BANDIT

General Defection by Other Villa Sympathizers Feared by U. S. Officials.

PERSHING ENDANGERED

Lines of Communication Are Threatened—More Troops May Be Sent to Border.

Brother of Leader In Revolt Arrested

Special to The Washington Herald. El Paso, March 22.—Monclova, Chihuahua was arrested in El Paso tonight by the police after a reported conference with Gen. Gaviira, the Carranza commander at Juarez. This man is a brother of Luis Herrera, reported to have taken a force of 2,000 soldiers from Chihuahua to join Villa.

Official confirmation was received at the War Department last night of the defection of Governor Herrera, of Chihuahua with 2,000 troops to the cause of Gen. Villa. It came in a dispatch from Maj. Gen. Bell at El Paso. In the absence of authority from Secretary Baker, who was not at the Department last night, the dispatch was not given out.

The news caused strong apprehension in army circles here. There is fear expressed that the action of Herrera, who was formerly on Villa's staff of generals, will be followed by similar defection on the part of other sympathizers.

Of immediate concern to army officers is the danger which will at once threaten Pershing's lines of communication. It is expected that as a result of the news additional troops will be sent to the border within the next twenty-four hours, so that infantry can be sent to the support of Gen. Pershing.

5,105 Troops Available. At the present time there are available, exclusive of field artillery and engineers, just 5,105 troops of the mobile force of the United States army in this country that are not now on the border. They are the Second Cavalry at Fort Ethan Allen, Vt.; the Third Infantry at Madison Barracks, Watertown, N. Y.; and the Thirtieth Infantry at Plattsburg, N. Y.; the Twenty-first Infantry at Vancouver, Wash.; one battalion each of the Fourteenth Infantry at Seattle, Spokane and Alaska; one troop of the Thirtieth Cavalry at Fort Riley, Kan.; and two companies of the Nineteenth Infantry at Fort Sill, Okla.

Also available of the mobile army are the Porto Rican Regiment, a native organization, which, army officers say, would be invaluable in Mexico; the Fifth Field Artillery at Fort Sill, excepting Battery A, which is at Fort Bliss; one battalion of the Third Field Artillery at Fort Myer, Va.; the other battalion and headquarters being at Fort Sam Houston, Tex.; and one battalion of engineers at Washington, D. C., barracks, a total of 3,107.

U. S. Antoinette Missing. Officials of the War Department added last night that if necessary the 1,400 Coast Artillery troops in the United States could be drawn on, making a total additional regular army force of 22,112.

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2 AMERICAN SCOUTS AND 81 MEXICANS KILLED IN BATTLE

Pershing's Men Engage Detached Forces of Outlaw 80 Miles Below Casas Grandes, Says an Unofficial Report.

VILLA HIMSELF FURTHER SOUTH

News of Clash Throws El Paso in Turmoil—Gen. Bell Takes Steps to Prevent Trouble Across Border Where Carranzistas Are Massing.

Special to The Washington Herald. New York, March 23.—The New York Tribune prints the following today:

El Paso, March 22.—A report received tonight says that Col. Cano, who was reported by Carranzistas on Monday as fighting Villa near Namiquipa, joined the bandit leader after a parley with him in which Villa informed him that they should join hands to fight off "the foreign invaders."

By H. H. STANSBURY. Special to The Washington Herald. El Paso, March 22 (by courier and Mexican Federal telegraph).—The first clash between United States troops and Villa's forces took place Tuesday afternoon eighty miles southeast of Casas Grandes, according to well authenticated, but unofficial, information received here today.

The casualties reported were two scouts with the American forces killed and eighty-one Mexicans killed. Villa did not personally command his band. He is said to be still further south, holding a conference with Col. Cano, of the Carranza forces.

Coalition of the Carranzistas and the Villistas throughout the state of Chihuahua is expected at any time. Luis Herrera, with 2,000 Carranzista soldiers, is believed to have left Chihuahua City this morning to join a Villa column moving northward from the Laguna district.

ALKALI BLINDS MEN ON HIKE

Dispatch Rider Tells How Troops Marched Till They Dropped.

FOUND NO WATER FOR MORE THAN THIRTY MILES

Infantrymen, Carrying Fifty-Pound Gear, Tramp Under Broiling Sun Through Desert Waste.

Special to The Washington Herald. El Paso, March 22.—A vivid story of the drive into Mexico in search of Villa was told today by Sergt. W. H. Harrison, Troop M, Thirtieth Cavalry. He was a dispatch rider for Col. Gabel, chief of staff, and traveled several times up and down the long line of march into Chihuahua.

Propped up in his bed at the isolation hospital at Fort Bliss, at times barely able to speak from an affection of his vocal cords, caused by the alkali dust, the sergeant said:

"When we went in the sun was burning hot, there was not a breath of air stirring and the dust soon hung over the road like a curtain. It got into our eyes and mouths and we could hardly breathe. It bothered the horses, too. Many of the boys put wet handkerchiefs into their hats to keep the sun from boring into their skulls and rode along with closed eyes to keep out the dust and glare.

"As far back as you could see, there was nothing but a line of dust. Men could not be distinguished.

"As far back as you could see, there was nothing but a line of dust. Men could not be distinguished.

"When we reached Las Palomas we went right down through the streets. One regiment of infantry stopped and camped there for the night and all of the next day.

"There was not a soul in that whole town. It was weird. We heard a flock of birds flying overhead.

Pershing Set Trap at Pasa.

Gen. Bell and his staff at Fort Bliss are of the opinion that the engagement took place near the pass through the mountains.

Continued on page two.