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THE WASHINGTON HERALD

ONLY 12 SHOPPING DAYS BEFORE EASTER.

NO. 3462.

WEATHER—FAIR AND WARMER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1916.

ONE CENT.

FURIOUS DRIVE LAUNCHED UPON FRENCH LINES

Village of Bethincourt Evacuated Just Prior to Heavy Attack on Verdun.

GERMANS HURLED BACK

Troops Under Tri-color Make Valiant and Successful Resistance, Paris States.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Paris, April 9.—The village of Bethincourt, forming the apex of the salient on the western bank of the Meuse against which the Germans have been pounding for days with heavy artillery and with frequent infantry attacks, was evacuated by the French last night and today the new line withstood the most furious assaults which have been made by the crown prince's army in many days. As now established, the French line in this sector runs from the Avocourt redoubt along the wooded slopes to the west of Hill 304, follows the Forges Creek to the northeast of Haucourt and joins the positions already held to the south of the crossing of the Bethincourt-Esnes and Bethincourt-Chattancourt roads. The evacuation of Bethincourt, in itself only a small ruined village, has had the effect of flattening the point of the salient, although the successful holding by the French of the line on the Forges Creek to the west of Bethincourt and the line just south of the village leaves a still very pronounced salient projecting into the German lines, with the two very important hills, 304, east of Haucourt, and Le Mort Homme, southeast of Bethincourt, within it.

Location of Bethincourt. Bethincourt lies in the Forges Valley at its junction with a valley running into the Forges Valley from the south and was at the mercy of the German guns on the hills at three sides. The new French line skirts the higher ground to the south.

From the incomplete information now available it seems probable that the violent German attack on the western side of the river today made simultaneously with two extremely heavy assaults on the eastern bank, thus practically covering the whole Verdun front, was undertaken by the Germans as soon as they learned of the withdrawal from Bethincourt, in the hope of finding the new French line in this sector not yet strong enough to resist them.

The evacuation of Bethincourt has been regarded by military experts some days ago as a military necessity, since it was evident that the group of ruins representing the village was so situated as to make it practically untenable under the protracted fire of the German heavy artillery.

The German commanders, anticipating the withdrawal, appeared to have timed their attack, which might almost be called a general assault on the Verdun front, to coincide with the evacuation. But the evacuation had been safely completed in the night, troops were waiting in the new trenches at the rear when the attack finally was made this morning.

Two Sectors Hard Hit.

Today's attack was centered against two sectors on the western bank of the river, one extending from the Bois Avocourt to the Forges stream, and the other from Le Mort Homme to Sumieres.

Details of the fighting have not yet been received, but the official announcement indicates that it was of a most violent character. At one point, on the southern edge of the Bois Avocourt, a German assaulting column gained a temporary footing in a French position, but was immediately driven out again by a counter-attack.

Engineer Saves Many Passengers

Throws Brakes in Time to Prevent Fatalities When Flyer Is Derailed.

Special to The Washington Herald. Thomaston, Conn., April 9.—Fast thinking by Engineer Carl H. Holmes, of Waterbury, saved many lives today and only sixteen people were injured when his New Haven road train, running thirty-six miles an hour from Winsted to Bridgeport, by way of Waterbury, was derailed by a half-open switch between this town and Waterbury.

When about 400 feet away from the switch frog at Jericho siding, which had become clogged with snow, Engineer Holmes became suspicious and the next instant he threw on every ounce of air pressure his brakes would take.

The momentum of the Sunday special was suddenly slackened, and only the engine, baggage car and two coaches left the rails.

New York Delegates for Hughes.

New York, April 9.—A Republican State committee secret poll of the eighty-seven delegates to the National Convention shows: For Hughes, 46; for Root, 22; for Hughes or Roosevelt, 5.

Belgian King Spends Natal Day with Troops

By PAUL ERIC, I. N. S. Correspondent With the Staff of the King of the Belgians. Paris, April 9.—King Albert spent his birthday anniversary with his troops at the front. King Albert has not left the remaining unoccupied Belgian soil during the past eighteen months except when he accompanied President Poincare on brief trips to the French front. The Queen has been absent from the King's side only four days. The King's entourage consists solely of four officers. The Queen has dispensed with her ladies in waiting and has only a woman companion. The Queen's whole day is devoted to tending the wounded and taking care of refugee children.

T. R. INVADES NEW ENGLAND

Denies Political Significance, but Prophets Draw Different Conclusions.

WILL ATTEND MEETING OF HARVARD OVERSEERS BOARD

Later Colonel Will Be Present at Gathering of Crimson Alumni—Also Will Visit Sons.

Special to The Washington Herald. New York, April 9.—Col. Roosevelt left New York at noon today for his brief invasion of New England, and his last words were that it was not an occupation of a political nature, but a trip devoted to Harvard meetings and hobnobbing with social and literary friends. He said that he would do his best to keep all political matters from getting within striking distance. The prophets see in this journey, however, a significance that grows mightily in view of the situation in Massachusetts, where there is a factional fight going on over the primary election of delegates to the Republican convention. After Monday and Tuesday in Boston, the Colonel will go to Farmington, Conn., to spend Tuesday night with his sister, the wife of Admiral Cowles, and Connecticut leaders have already remarked this stay in the light of the growing Roosevelt sentiment in that State. In other words, however the Colonel goes, political rumor precedes him, and political phenomena may spring up in his wake.

In Boston, the Colonel will stay at the home of Sturgis Bigelow. Tomorrow he will attend the meeting of the board of overseers of Harvard, of which former Secretary of the Navy George von L. Meyer is the head, and later he will attend a meeting of Harvard alumni. One of the social events of his stay will be a meal he will take with his sons, Harvard undergraduates, and some of their chums who are interested in preparedness and military training.

Capital People See Ocean Rescue

Lieut. Baum and Capt. S. G. Hopkins Watch Guajara Towed to Norfolk.

Special to The Washington Herald. New York, April 9.—With water pouring into her hold, the steamship Guajara, of the Lloyd-Brazilian Line, which left New York last Wednesday, is being towed into Norfolk, Va., by the passenger steamer Sixaola, of the United Fruit Line. A wireless message received today from the captain of the Sixaola reported the plight of the Guajara. The Guajara is a freight steamer and has no passengers. According to the message she is in no danger and will be able to make port.

The Sixaola left New York on Friday with passengers for Santiago, Cuba. The message received today indicates that the Sixaola overtook the Guajara a few hundred miles south of Norfolk. Watching the light to save the sinking Guajara from the decks of the Sixaola are Lieut. G. M. Baum, U. S. N., and Mrs. Baum, bound for Guantanamo, and Capt. Sherburne G. Hopkins.

She Has Rare Collection.

Oliver, Ga., April 9.—Mrs. John H. Ash, living near here, has an unusual collection of stuffed birds and animals. They are mounted in her parlor and hall rooms and attract visitors. The collection includes owls, wildcats, squirrels, moles, herrons, hawks, quails, jays, mocking birds, bluebirds and thrushes.

Expert's Will Puzzling.

New York, April 9.—Dr. Austin Flint, who so often has testified as to the incompetency of testators, executed his own will in such puzzling terms that the Supreme Court has been asked to construe it.

Suffrage Crusaders Given Stirring Send-off to West

Five Thousand Feminists Cheer Twenty-four Delegates Who Leave on Special Train Carrying Appeal Asking Enfranchised Sisters to Work for Vote Amendment.

With the cheers of 5,000 persons ringing in their ears, twenty-four suffragists left Union Station last evening in a private car, bearing the title "Suffrage Special," which will tour the Western suffrage States during the next thirty-eight days. They go to appeal to their sisters with the ballot to stand by the guns and defeat every candidate for any office who opposes the Susan B. Anthony amendment to the Constitution giving women the right to vote. They will complete the formation of the Woman Voters' League by consolidating the Congressional Union branches in the voting States into a group pledged to support nation-wide suffrage as the greatest political question of the day.

Regal Robes of Blooded Terrier Dragged in Dust by Plebeian Dog

Special to The Washington Herald. New York, April 9.—Junior, a blooded Boston terrier owned by Mr. and Mrs. K. D. Slavens, of Missouri, guests at the Hotel Majestic, was attacked near the Seventy-second street entrance of Central Park this afternoon by a mean, low-down specimen of plain dog that was unattached. When Mr. Slavens' English valet, who took Junior out for an airing, succeeded in separating the plebeian from the aristocrat, the latter's tail had a tooth mark near the tip and its collar of gold was minus one of its three diamonds. It was not a big diamond, but it was a real sparkler and the valet was unable to find it. When Junior arrived at the Majestic with his master and mistress on Saturday, he wore a costly plush robe with his name woven in silver letters on the sides. Junior did not put on any airs with the hotel attendants, although he is the Western winner of many dog show prizes, but he did act a little supercilious this afternoon when he passed the mangy mongrel near the park entrance. The New York canine looked contemptuously at the regal trappings and at the valet at the other end of the leash, growled and rushed in. The fight didn't last long. Junior lost his robe, his dignity and his diamond in fifteen seconds, and when the astonished valet pried off the New Yorker, the Westerner was howling piteously.

SEE DELAY IN SUSSEX CASE

Officials Here Expect to Take No Action for Several Days.

BERLIN'S DENIAL OF GUILT CAUSE OF TEMPORARY HALT

State Department Hampered by Non-arrival of British and French Evidence.

It was announced in authoritative quarters last night that Germany's denial of responsibility for the Sussex disaster will delay settlement of the submarine issue. After a day's study of the situation in the light of the German government's positive disclaimer, officials reached the conclusion that the United States, as a matter of plain justice, will have to proceed with the utmost deliberation before taking any action.

The official text of the German government's reply to Ambassador Gerard's inquiry in the Sussex case was not received yesterday. Officials have been advised of its nature, however, in preliminary dispatches from Mr. Gerard. They are withholding official announcement of the government's plans until the reply is received.

The significant statement was made in highest official quarters today that no definite action will be taken in the submarine matter for several days. This means that the administration will not reach final conclusions at the Cabinet meeting tomorrow, as had previously been indicated.

FIFTY ELK LIBERATED.

Animals Are Turned Loose in Adirondack Preserve. Albany, N. Y., April 9.—Fifty elk from the Yellowstone National Park have been liberated in the Adirondack forest preserve in accordance with a campaign instituted by the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the State and the State conservation commission for the protection and increase of elk in the Adirondacks.

Pushes Junk Cart Miles.

Holton, Kan., April 9.—Sherman Crawford, an industrious junk gatherer of this city, loses none of his profits to the railroads. He loads his cart with 800 pounds of material and, when weather and roads are good, pushes the cart to Topeka. By leaving Holton at 5 o'clock in the morning Crawford can make the thirty-two miles to the capital city by sundown.

TO ARRAIGN WAITE TODAY.

Prosecutor Declares Poisoner Now Able to Move to Tomb. New York, April 9.—Dr. Arthur Warren Waite, will, in all likelihood, be arraigned before Judge Crain, of General Sessions, tomorrow for pleading to the indictment charging him with the murder of his father-in-law, John E. Peck.

PENN DESCENDANT TO FIGHT.

Quaker, Whose Ancestor Founded State, Refused Exemption. London, April 9.—Exemption from service with the colors has been refused to Vernon George Green by the tribunal at Sheerness. Green pleaded ill-health and conscientious objection, and also made the claim that he was a descendant of William Penn.

Greek Finance Minister Quits.

London, April 9.—Stephen Dragoumis, Greek minister of finance, has resigned because of the depletion of the treasury, according to the Athens correspondent of Reuters. Former Premier Rallis is his successor.

Great War Events Imminent.

Copenhagen, April 9.—The Dagensnyheder today says that great events are imminent in the war. It adds that in view of the coming offensive by the entente allies it will be difficult for Sweden to remain neutral.

Prisoners Big Help To Pershing Forces

By FLOYD P. GIBBONS. With Gen. Pershing at Front at San Antonio, Chihuahua, on Railroad, April 9.—(Via Radio to Columbus)—Fifteen prisoners taken by the advance column as suspected Villistas are doing much to turn the sentiment of the natives in favor of the Americans on account of the treatment received by the prisoners. The American dollar is bringing many Mexican merchants with their goods into our camps as the column penetrates the territory reached by the Southern railroads. Gen. Pershing is in receipt of information from his advance columns which declares the pursuit of Villa is now to the south of here and reports all men and horses well acclimated by this time and in excellent condition.

INHALES GAS TO END GRIEF

Aged German Cannot Bear Loss of His Wife of Thirty Years.

WINS DEATH AFTER ELUDING VIGILANCE OF HIS CHILDREN

August Niebel, 65, Found Dead in Bedroom by Son—Certificate of Suicide Issued.

August Niebel, 65 years old, who pined ten months for his dead wife, killed himself with gas in his home, 507 G street northwest, Saturday night. Niebel, a German, attempted suicide New Year's day, his son said last night. A certificate of suicide was given yesterday by Coroner Nevitt.

Niebel's second wife, to whom he had been married thirty years, died June 18. Shocked by her death, he never recovered from his grief. His three children and several grandchildren, during the long months of his widowhood, tried vainly to detract the old man from despondency. A close watch was kept upon him for fear he would attempt his life. It was due to this vigilance that Niebel was found inhaling gas New Year's day and snatched from death. His daughter and a neighbor discovered him.

Niebel retired to his room early Saturday night. About 9:30 o'clock, the son, Ernest Niebel, went to his room, but before retiring, looked into the bedroom of his father. Satisfied all was well, the son returned to his bed. At 9 o'clock yesterday morning, the son smelled gas. He investigated and found his father dead. Gas was flowing from two open jets.

Mr. Niebel was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, sixty-five years ago and came to this country when he was 16. Twenty-five years ago, he opened a cork making and glassware shop at 315 Fourth and a-half street southwest. His business was prosperous. He retired four years ago. He is survived by three children, Ernest Niebel, Mrs. Annie Murphy and Mrs. Marie Murphy. Funeral services will be held tomorrow at 3 o'clock at Lee's chapel. The body will be cremated and the ashes interred in Prospect Cemetery.

Woman Accused Of Being Witch

New Jersey Invokes Old Law Against Pastor of Spiritualistic Union.

Special to The Washington Herald. Newark, N. J., April 9.—The days of witchcraft may have passed, but, in the words of Kipling, "the roots of sin are there." "There" in this case means this city, where the witchcraft act has been invoked against Mrs. Sadie S. Darling, pastor of First Progressive Spiritual Church.

Mrs. Darling says she never invokes broomsticks, black cats nor demons of earth or air, and accuses herself a regularly ordained minister of religion. But the police persist in their accusation of witchcraft, and Judge Howard A. Grice has reserved judgment until he can look up the penalties the dead and gone legislators of New Jersey devised for the punishment of alleged witches.

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SUPPLIES EXHAUSTED, U. S. TROOPS PUSH ON 2 DAYS BEHIND VILLA

No Official Reports Received from Advance Guard, but Messages Over Mexican Telegraph Give Brief Details.

PARRAL IS LEFT FAR TO REAR

Mining Company Comes to Relief of Expedition with Money and Supplies—Villa Headed for Mesa Sandias.

By H. H. STANSBURY. (International News Service.) El Paso, Tex., April 9.—"Lost in the wilderness" would accurately describe all that is known of the whereabouts of the American advance forces in Mexico tonight, if the official reports were the only dependence for news. Unofficial messages received over the Mexican telegraph lines tell that Col. George A. Dodd and his tired command rested near Parral last night and resumed the chase south of that point this morning.

VILLA TWO-DAY RIDE AHEAD.

Villa is said to be fully a two-days' ride ahead of his pursuers. He is heading for the Mesa Sandias, in the state of Durango, and is expected to follow the trails leading into the Candela Mountains and the headwaters of the Nazas River.

The trails which parallel the Nazas lead over a tortuous route into the Torreon district, for which Villa has been striving to make ever since giving up the idea of taking the city of Chihuahua a week ago.

AIRMEN VITAL TO PERSHING

Prove Salvation of Entire Expedition When Wireless "Falls Down."

INVALUABLE IN KEEPING COMMUNICATION OPEN

Even Out-of-Date Aeroplanes Used Across Border Have Been Eyes and Ears of Troops.

By GEORGE H. CLEMENTS. Field headquarters, punitive expedition United States Army, near Colonia Dublan, Mexico, April 8, by motor to Columbus, N. Mex., April 9.—The aeroplane has been the salvation in the Pershing expedition into Mexico. Other things have been needed, but without communication an army is as poorly situated as without food.

The wireless has been undependable since the expedition started, hence the flying machine, out of date as are those in the possession of the army, has been the eyes and ears in the army virtually in every important matter since Mexico was entered.

"Here comes a flier," we used to shout in the earlier days of the campaign. It seems an age since we settled down on this dusty plain, but we take the arrival of the airmen in a more matter-of-fact manner now. We did not cry out because of the novelty of the arrival of a messenger of the air, but because the airman was the bearer of news, no matter which direction he arrived from.

If he came from the south, there was a chance he would carry tidings which would form the basis of a dispatch to our newspapers; if he flew in from the direction of "God's country," it might mean he brought letters from home. The bringing of the heavier-than-air flying machine to even its present state of perfection has revolutionized many phases of warfare, more particularly in the matter of securing information regarding the movements of the forces of the enemy, and in the matter of keeping in touch with your own headquarters.

WOULD TEACH MILITIAMEN.

J. E. Sloan Offers Instruction in Art of Aviation.

New York, April 9.—John T. Sloan announced today that he will teach aviation to one militia officer from each of ten States in the art of preparedness.

Mr. Sloan is a son-in-law of Thomas A. Edison. He has been interested in aeronautics for several years and plans to open a school of aviation at Sheepshead Bay in addition to the one already opened at Garden City.

Thirteen Children in Nine Years.

Mitchell, Ind., April 9.—George Cooper, a laborer living north of this city, is the father of another set of twins. He has been married a little more than nine years and his wife has presented him with thirteen children, all living. Among them are three sets of twins. The twins just born are a boy and a girl, and all are doing well.

Coughs Up Dental Bridge.

Charleston, W. Va., April 9.—While suffering from an attack of grip, George Mathes, a Charleston business man, swallowed a bridge from his teeth. It lodged at the top of one lung and induced pneumonia. Mathes was believed to be dying, but in a fit of coughing he expelled the bridge.

Pet Mouse Saves Nine.

Minneapolis, Minn., April 9.—A pet white mouse saved the lives of nine persons the other day when the home of Thomas Dromacks caught fire. The mouse ran across the baby's face; it cried and awakened the mother, who alarmed the household.

Colonel First In Straw Vote

Chicago Republicans Put T. R. Far Ahead of Other Leaders.

(By International News Service.) Chicago, Ill., April 9.—First returns from a post-card ballot of Chicago Republicans on Presidential favorites, being conducted by City Treasurer Sergel, indicate that Roosevelt is the popular choice here by an overwhelming plurality.

Of the replies received already from the 21,000 post-cards sent out, Mr. Sergel announces more than half gave the Colonel as first choice. Many ignored the card request for second and third choices as well, writing "Roosevelt first, last and all the time."

The straw vote now stands: Roosevelt, 60; Hughes, 80; Sherman, 47; Root, 12, the rest scattering.