

WEATHER.

Threatening tonight. Tomorrow fair; little change in temperature; moderate to fresh north to west winds.

CLOSING NEW YORK STOCKS PAGE 16.

The Evening Star

"From Press to Home Within the Hour"

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ONE CENT.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 1916.—TWENTY PAGES.

STRONG POSITIONS OF FRENCH SEIZED NEAR DOUAMONT

Berlin Claims Further Successes Also in the Caillaux Wood.

PARIS REPORTS GAIN OF FOOTHOLD IN VAUX

Gen. Joffre's Forces Continue Terrific Bombardment of Enemy.

ANOTHER BIG BATTLE NEAR

British May Be Forced to Bear Brunt of Attacks, According to English Correspondent.

LONDON, April 4.—Strong French positions southwest of Douaumont and in the Caillaux wood, northeast of Verdun, have been taken by German troops, the German war office announced today.

There is a slight lull in the battle raging around Verdun, following the violent fighting of yesterday, by which the French pushed their way back to the northern outskirts of Caillaux wood between Douaumont and Vaux and regained a footing in the village of Vaux itself, according to Paris.

The French artillery has been notably active in hammering German positions in the Vaux-Douaumont sector. The Germans are declared to have made only a feeble response to this bombardment.

Northwest of the fortress the artillery on both sides has been actively employed along the Avocourt-Malancourt front, where the salient in the line is gradually being straightened out by the southward push of the Germans.

Berlin Reports Gain. Berlin reports that as a result of yesterday's fighting all the French positions north of Forges brook, between Hancourt and Bethincourt, west of the Verdun salient, have been captured.

In the Argonne our batteries violently bombarded the west corner of the Avocourt front. An enemy blockhouse was destroyed and a munitions depot blown up.

West of the Meuse the Germans launched yesterday at the end of the day a vigorous attack between Hancourt and Bethincourt against our positions on the north bank of the Forges brook, which we had evacuated, withdrawing to the south bank in the night of March 31-April 1 without the enemy perceiving it.

Gain in Counter Attacks. East of the Meuse our counter attacks developed success. In the course of the day we drove back the enemy as far as the northern outskirts of the Caillaux wood and to the north of the Vaux pond.

Allied Fliers Retaliate. In retaliation for the bombardment of Dunkirk by Zeppelin last night thirty allied aeroplanes dropped on the enemy's cantonment at Keyem, Essen, Terrest and Houthulst shells of large caliber.

British Communication. The latest British official communication says: "Sunday one of our aviators shot down a German machine in the neighborhood of Lens.

CIVIL PENSION BILL IS TO BE REPORTED

Senate Committee Members Predict Measure After Their Meeting Today.

WILL FOLLOW THE LINES URGED BY MR. POMERENE

Ohio Senator Says Contributory Plan Will Be Adopted Rather Than Full Government Contribution.

That a civil service retirement and pension bill will be reported to the Senate from the committee on civil service and retrenchment in the near future was the prediction made by members of that committee today.

The bill undoubtedly will be framed along the lines laid down in the bill introduced by Senator Pomerene of Ohio, chairman of the committee, last January, which provides for a contributory plan by which the employees of the government will have a fraction of their salaries retained by the government to finance the pension system.

To Follow Contributory Plan. Senator Pomerene said today he felt sure a bill which was reported would be along the contributory-plan line; that he did not believe a straight pension plan would receive any material support in the committee.

Will Run for President Upon Unanimous Nomination, Leaders Believe.

WOULD MAKE THE RACE TO DEFEAT DEMOCRATS

Jurist Thought Willing if Convinced Republican Success Is Possible With No Other Candidate.

BY N. O. MESSENGER.

"Mr. Justice Hughes will accept the republican presidential nomination if it comes to him without protest and is tendered on the ground that his party considers him the man most likely to wrest control of the government from the democrats."

This statement embodies the opinion of important men in the republican leadership. Thus far no man has been authorized to quote Mr. Hughes or to attribute directly to him pronouncement to such effect.

No Direct Proof at Hand. By the same token, no man can say, nor has Mr. Hughes said, that in no circumstances will he accept the nomination should it come to him.

But it is said by politicians who have sounded the situation that in accepting the nomination Mr. Hughes would not be following a personal inclination. His choice would be to remain on the bench.

But it is said by the leaders who have reached the conviction expressed in the opening paragraph of this chapter that Mr. Justice Hughes is profoundly impressed with the view that the national and international interest of this country demand that the republican party shall take over the government.

It is said to feel that the democratic party is inept in legislation and weak and vacillating in administration. He does not, it is claimed, arrogate unto himself superior wisdom as an administrator, but is certain that the policies of the republican party are better for the country and that there is no hearty or tried and efficient administrative material in the party.

Would Unite the Factions. It is said that holding such opinion he could not refuse to lead his party if the party concluded that, for good and sufficient reasons, he was the man best calculated to reunite the factions and lead the party to victory.

Political leaders say that Mr. Hughes' attitude thus far is entirely consistent with the opinion that he has in all faith renounced his candidacy for good nomination and in a practical way at least.

DAY IN CONGRESS. Senate: Met at noon. Continued consideration army reorganization bill. House: Met at 11 a.m. Debate on rivers and harbors bill resumed.

DUTCH CLOSE GERMAN FRONTIER AND MASS ALL FORCES THERE

Holland Assured British Will Respect Neutrality—"What Do Teutons Think? Is Issue," Says Minister.

ROME, April 4, via London, 2:25 p.m.—Wireless reports from Zurich state that Holland has closed her German frontier and massed all her available forces there.

What Does Germany Think? AMSTERDAM, via London, April 4.—"I do not for a moment suggest there is a possibility that Great Britain intends to land her new armies on the Dutch coast."

Capable of Stopping British. "I know that against this it may be said that the British will not make a landing in Holland and that if they tried we are quite capable of stopping a British march eastward or southward. But that is not relevant.

CHICAGO'S ALDERMANIC ELECTION IS ON TODAY

Bitter Struggle Being Waged on Both Republican and Democratic Sides.

CHICAGO, April 4.—Chicago's annual aldermanic election opened today with bitter factional fights on both the democratic and republican sides in practically all the thirty-five wards of the city.

TOLEDO CAR SITUATION MAY BE SOLVED TODAY

Settlement Likely to Come Through Application for Naming of Receiver.

TOLEDO, Ohio, April 4.—Toledo's street car situation may be settled today and cars put in operation through the receipt of application filed by the city yesterday.

Given Time to Answer. Judge Killis gave the Toledo Railway and Light Company until 10 o'clock Thursday morning to file an answer to the city's application for appointment of a receiver for the company.

Washington Miners Quit Work. THOUSAND MINERS QUIT WORK. WASHINGTON, Pa., April 4.—One thousand miners employed by the Ellsworth Collieries Company, at Ellsworth and Cokeburg, and by the Pittsburgh and Westmoreland Coal Company, at Acme, have quit work.



EXPLOSION KILLS AND INJURES 200

Serious Fire Breaks Out in Powder Factory in Kent, England.

LONDON, April 4.—The explosion of a powder factory in Kent has caused the death or injury of 200 persons, it was announced officially today.

The following statement was given out: "The ministry of munitions reports with great regret that during the week end a serious fire broke out in a powder factory, which led to a series of explosions in the works.

REVENUE COLLECTORS INVOLVED IN CHARGES

Deputies at New York Accused of Tobacco Frauds Costing U. S. \$200,000.

Treasury officials today said Carl E. Whitney, a New York lawyer, had filed charges that a number of deputy internal revenue collectors in that city are involved in the recently discovered tobacco frauds.

DETROIT, Mich., April 4.—The overwhelming plurality which Wayne county gave to Henry Ford, the Detroit manufacturer, enabled him to hold a substantial lead over United States Senator William Alden Smith of Grand Rapids today for the republican presidential preference nomination.

Third Man Far Behind. Scattering returns from various counties and 213 of 215 precincts in Detroit gave Ford 18,264 and Smith 13,322.

Wood Wins Renomination. E. O. Wood of Flint, democratic national committeeman, easily won his fight for renomination.

Steamer Carly Towed Into Port. HALIFAX, N. S., April 4.—The British steamer Carly, which sailed from Genoa February 11 for Philadelphia, was towed into this port late last night by the steamer Fogota.

NO TAVENNER BILL LOBBY, HE ASSERTS

W. B. Richards, Efficiency Engineer, Denies Underground Opposition to Measure.

SAYS THE STOP WATCH IS BENEFIT TO WORKERS

Never Knew Any One to Break Down Under the "Speeding Up" System.

That there is no lobby or underground wire pulling connected with the attempt to defeat the Tavenner bill, forbidding employment of the Taylor efficiency system in government plants, was made plain today by W. B. Richards of New York, an efficiency engineer, and secretary of the engineers' committee of ten.

Penalty on Efficiency. "I think it may be safely said that in the opinion of the engineering profession and the manufacturing world the Tavenner bill could be properly entitled 'A bill to penalize efficiency in the public service.'"

Purpose of Committee. "It is to call the attention of Congress and the public to this vicious proposal to condemn efficiency and penalize progress that a committee of ten was spontaneously organized in the engineering profession to spread information of the matter and consequences of this measure among the public and our legislators.

Partnerships for Workers. In his opening statement before the committee on labor, Mr. Richards said that he had been an adviser to the Taft economy commission.

Necessity for Stop-Watch. In a colloquy with Representative Smith of Michigan Mr. Richards said that the stop watch is a necessary element in obtaining accurate data on the cost of production, and that no shop can do business without knowing its costs.

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WILLA'S PRINCIPAL GENERAL OFFERS TO SURRENDER MEN

Canuto Reyes Will Give Up if He Is Granted Amnesty.

CHASE OF PEON BRIGAND NOW ON BROADER PHASE

Whereabouts of Bandit Apparently Unknown to American Forces Scouring Northern Chihuahua.

OUTLAW MOVING SOUTHWARD

Trail Well Covered for Time Being, and Army Finds It Necessary to Extend at Once Its Course of Operations.

TORREON, Mexico, April 4.—Gen. Canuto Reyes, commanding the Villa forces in this locality, has sent a letter to Gen. Trevino, Carranza commander, offering to surrender with all his forces if given amnesty.

Carranza authorities here say that the surrender of Reyes would break organized resistance to the de facto government and end the hopes of Villa.

With Francisco Villa still in flight and his whereabouts apparently unknown to his pursuers, the campaign of the American forces, now scouring northern Chihuahua for the bandit, enters today a new phase.

Believed Heading for Torreon. There is little question any longer on the border that Villa is heading for Torreon, in the neighborhood of which city he will find Canuto Reyes, one of his most trusted lieutenants.

500 Miles South of Border. Torreon is 500 miles from Columbus as the crow flies, but a far greater distance as the winding trails that are the only roads across northern Chihuahua.

Sick Troopers Brought Back. In the neighborhood of 150 sick American troopers have been brought back from the front, suffering from various ills due to the climatic conditions of the Sierra Madre.

Villa Far Ahead of Pursuers. SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 4.—Official admission of the belief that Francisco Villa has fled far beyond the American forces and now is operating south of Chihuahua City was made at Gen. Funston's headquarters today.

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