

WARSHIPS ON WAY TO VERA CRUZ TO FORCE RESPECT OF U. S. DEMAND

TURK FORTS CHECK ALLIES AT NARROWS

Anglo-French Fleet Kept at Distance of Several Miles by Krupp Guns.

FALL OF SMYRNA IMMINENT

British Warships Enter Harbor. Only Three Land Batteries Reply to Fire.

LONDON, March 9.—Admiralty officials admit today that the reduction of the Dardanelles inner fortifications will not be swift, and emphasize that the Turks are capable of offering the most stubborn resistance. They assert that the forts guarding the Narrows have arrested the progress of the allied fleet through the strait, which confirms in part today's statement from Constantinople that the attacking warships had been halted and two damaged.

Krupp guns are mounted at the entrance to the Narrows, and they are keeping the allies at a distance of several miles. Even the most optimistic officials at the admiralty set the middle of April or possibly the first of May as the time when the Anglo-French fleet will emerge from the Narrows and descend upon Constantinople.

Smyrna About To Fall. Smyrna is about to fall before Rear Admiral Peire's fleet, according to dispatches from Athens today.

Only three Turkish land batteries are now replying to the fire of the British squadron, which has moved into the harbor and is now shelling the enemy's guns high on the hills in the Turkish quarter of the city.

Meanwhile a steady rain of fire—a shell nearly every minute—is pouring upon the Dardanelles forts. Aeroplanes, first used only for reconnoitering purposes, are dropping bombs upon the smaller Turkish batteries. The 16,500-ton battleships Lord Nelson and Agamemnon are battering away at the Turkish forts inside the strait, while the Queen Elizabeth is hurling great shells across Gallipoli peninsula in an indirect attack.

British occupation of Smyrna is expected to be the first decisive victory in the naval war against the Sultan. With the Smyrna forts leveled, marines will be landed under protection of the fleet's guns to seize the city. Little opposition is expected from the Turkish garrison.

At least 5,000 tons of shells have been hurled against the Dardanelles forts. It was estimated here today. The way has been cleared for several miles inside the strait, but Klid Hahr still disputes the passage of the allied fleet.

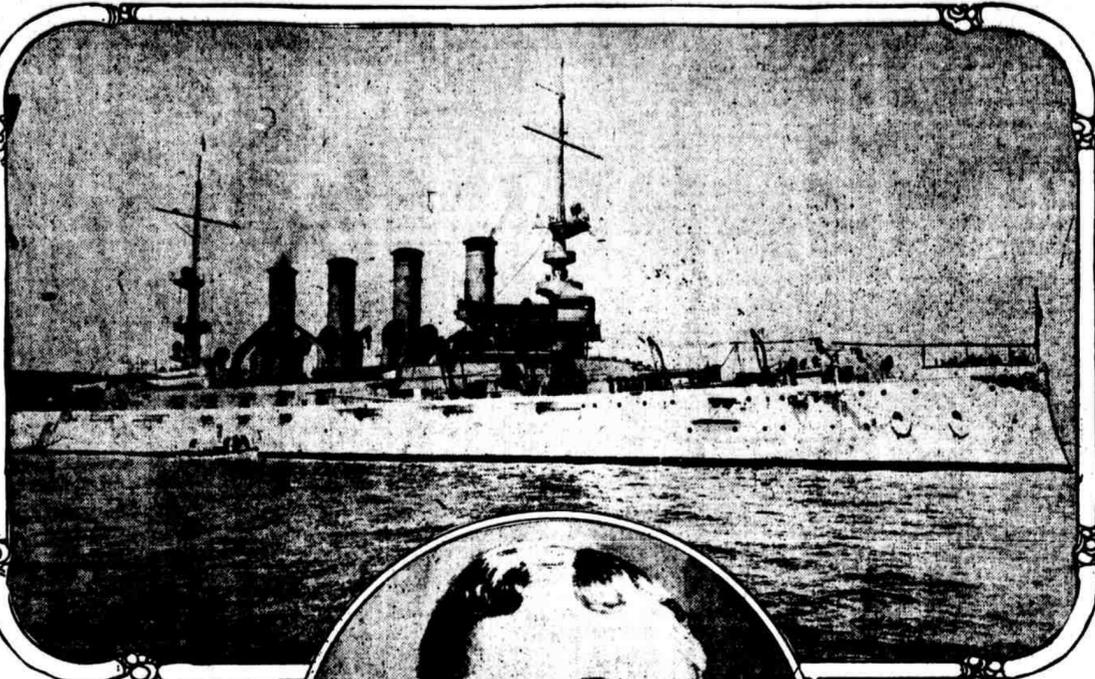
The French squadron in the Gulf of Saros has not yet succeeded in destroying the defenses of Dulair.

Russians Harass Turk Fort. Official word that the Russian fleet has raided several Black Sea towns, east of the Bosphorus, confirmed the belief in admiralty circles that the Rear Admiral's fleet is not contemplating an attempt to force the Bosphorus and attack Constantinople from the east. The Russian squadron, it was unofficially stated, will continue to harass the Turkish coast, meanwhile lying in wait to engage the Turkish fleet if it flees into the Black Sea.

The small Russian cruiser Askold, with the Dardanelles fleet, is bearing her brunt of the fighting, according to Athens dispatches. She has been engaged inside the strait and is one of the warships reported to have suffered slight damage from the Turkish batteries.

Turks Say Allied Fleet Was Forced to Retire With 2 Ships Damaged. CONSTANTINOPLE (via Berlin wireless), March 9.—The Turkish war office announced today that the allied fleet was again forced to retire after unsuccessfully bombarding the Dardanelles forts yesterday afternoon. A French armored ship and a British battleship were damaged.

ADMIRAL AND FLAGSHIP SENT TO MEXICO



GREEK CHAMBER IS PROROGUED BY KING

Action May Prevent Overthrow of Peace Ministry Being Formed by Gourinias.

ATHENS, March 9.—The Greek chamber of deputies was today prorogued for one month by command of King Constantine.

This action presumably was taken to prevent the chamber from overturning the new cabinet now being formed as a peace ministry.

M. Gourinias, the new premier designated by the King, was engaged in a series of conferences at the palace today. He asserted that he hoped to complete the new cabinet before night to replace the Venizelos ministry, which resigned when the King refused to yield to the demand for war.

Capital Hears Greece Has Decided to Enter the War. A report is in circulation in Washington this afternoon, based on a dispatch in the Christian Science Monitor of Boston, under Washington date, that Greece has decided to enter the war.

The report caused a stir here. It could not be verified at the Greek legation, where it was pointed out that the last report to the legation was that the ministry had resigned.

THAW LOSES FIRST LEGAL SKIRMISH

Ruling on "Due Process of Law" Considered Unfavorable to Matteawan Fugitive.

NEW YORK, March 9.—The State today began presentation of testimony against Harry K. Thaw and five co-defendants in connection with effect Thaw's escape from Matteawan asylum.

The prosecution's plans were presented to the jury by Deputy Attorney General Franklin Kennedy. He said Thaw was "legally insane" but criminally responsible for his part in the conspiracy.

Justice Page made an important ruling upholding the order of Justice Dowling confining Thaw in Matteawan.



U. S. CRUISER WASHINGTON and REAR ADMIRAL WILLIAM R. CAPERTON.

LAST MINUTE NEWS

SEVEN ESCAPE DEATH IN BOMB CRASH.

CAMDEN, N. J., March 9.—Seven persons narrowly escaped death today when a bomb placed under the front steps of the three-story brick dwelling at 217 Pine Street exploded, badly damaging the building. Joseph Cancellio was arrested. It is charged that he threatened the owners' life three months ago.

CARRANZISTAS EVACUATE PIEDRAS NEGRAS.

EAGLE PASS, Tex., March 9.—Piedras Negras, Mexico, just across the border from here, was evacuated today by the Carranza garrison.

A handful of troops will police the city until the Villistas, under Col. Roberto Hernandez, arrive. Nearly a thousand Mexican civilians sought refuge here today.

EIGHTH VICTIM OF SHOOTING AFFRAY DEAD.

BRUNSWICK, Ga., March 9.—Gunner Tolnas, bank collector, died here today, the eighth victim of Saturday's shooting affray in which Monroe Phillips, himself among the killed, was the central figure.

WOMAN, AGED 60, FALLS UNCONSCIOUS.

Taken ill at Twentieth and Calvert streets northwest today, Mrs. Cora Hassel, sixty years old, of 2820 Twenty-seventh street northwest fell unconscious on the sidewalk. An ambulance was summoned and Mrs. Hassel was removed to Emergency Hospital. Her condition was much improved late this afternoon.

BRITISH FLIERS KILL 3 CIVILIANS IN OSTEND.

BERLIN (via wireless to Sayville, L. I.), March 9.—Three Belgian civilians were killed by English aviators who threw bombs upon Ostend, the war office announced today.

MAY TRY GERMAN SAILORS FOR MURDER.

LONDON, March 9.—The British press was practically unanimous today in applauding the announcement of the admiralty that hereafter captured crews of German submarines will be accorded special treatment. The London newspapers generally took this to mean that the German submarine sailors will be tried for murder.

WIFE SHADOWED HER RIVAL'S HOME

Mrs. Robert D. Shrier Tells Court She Twice Kept Watch Until 3 A. M.

In the trial of her suit for an absolute divorce from Robert D. Shrier before Justice Siddons in Equity Court No. 2 this afternoon, Mrs. Catherine L. testified she shadowed the home of the co-respondent, a married woman, four nights last fall, twice until 3 o'clock in the morning, and saw her husband in company with the woman in question.

Mrs. Shrier told the court she stood in the shadow of the adjoining house and was able to look beneath a half-drawn shade and see her husband and his alleged affinity. Policeman Beach, who said he stopped on the scene of the vigil several times while walking his beat, testified that he subsequently arrested the co-respondent on a warrant based upon information furnished by Mrs. Shrier.

Shrier, an employee of the Potomac Electric Power Company, offered no defense. Justice Siddons took the case under advisement.

China to Reject Some Jap Demands

PEKING, March 9.—China will reply within a few days to the recent note from Japan in negotiations growing out of Japanese occupancy of the province of Kiao-Chow. It was announced today.

The foreign office is inclined to resent the tone of Japan's latest communication, it was reported. Foreign Minister Lu Cheng-Hsiang is said to consider Japan's "request" that China make a formal reply before March 12 as amounting practically to an ultimatum.

The Chinese reply will occur in some of Japan's demand and reject others.

BATTLESHIP GEORGIA SENT WITH CRUISER TO JOIN SQUADRON

Rear Admiral William R. Caperton, Placed in Command of All Ships in Mexican Waters, Supposed to Have Full Discretionary Powers.

Two additional warships were ordered today to proceed to Vera Cruz, the Administration thereby admitting the gravity of the Mexican situation and its determination to convince Carranza that the recent demands of this Government are to be observed.

The battleship Georgia and the armored cruiser Washington are steaming now for the Mexican port. They will join the battleship Delaware, and smaller craft, off the Mexican city.

Rear Admiral William R. Caperton, in charge of the cruiser division of the Atlantic fleet, will have command of the warships in Vera Cruz harbor. It is understood that, without giving Admiral Caperton specific instructions, he is clothed with general authority to handle the situation, his functions being much similar to those of Rear Admiral Fletcher, who commanded the fleet when it went to Vera Cruz several months ago.

Secretary Daniels ordered the two warships to proceed to Mexican waters after a conference with the President today. Both fast ships, they are to make quick time to Mexican waters.

The Georgia, commanded by Capt. Robert R. Coontz, proceeds from Guantanamo, and the Washington, with Rear Admiral Caperton in command, was reached in Haitian waters and told to set out immediately for Vera Cruz. The two ships were selected by Admiral Fletcher following the issuance of Secretary Daniels' order this morning.

COMES AS SURPRISE.

BLOODY FOOTPRINTS UNNERVE MRS. ANGLE

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., March 8.—Photographs showing bloody barefoot prints leading to the door of Mrs. Helen M. Angle's apartment in Stamford were introduced by the State, and accepted by the court today. Detective Sergeant Thomas Foley identified them as the prints he traced to Mrs. Angle's apartment the day Waldo R. Ballou was found on the pavement with his head crushed.

Along with the bloody footprints the State introduced photographic prints of Mrs. Angle's feet, and declared them to be the prints of Mrs. Angle. Mrs. Angle, interposed vigorous objections to the photographs, but was overruled.

Mrs. Angle appeared slightly nervous while this was going on. Several times she barely suppressed sobs, and she shifted in her seat nervously.

The announcement was a surprise, as the first announcement of Secretary Daniels was that two battleships would be sent. Further, Secretary Daniels at first indicated that he did not think it likely Rear Admiral Caperton would be put in command, since he was in charge of the cruiser division. The armored cruiser Washington is one of the most powerful fast vessels of the navy and is admirably fitted for service in Mexican waters.

The ships will reach Vera Cruz Thursday night, and Admiral Caperton is expected to arrive there the following day. The battleship Delaware is already at Vera Cruz and will remain. By Thursday night the United States Government will have in Vera Cruz waters three battleships, two cruisers, two gunboats and smaller craft.

In view of the strong tone of the note recently sent by this Government to Carranza, the sending of additional naval forces to Vera Cruz is deemed highly significant.

Whether it points to an expedition to Mexico City in case foreigners at that place are made the victims of serious outrages, officials today would not say. But there is no question this possibility is recognized.

It is the hope of this Government that Carranza will take adequate steps to see that the thousands of Americans and other foreigners in Mexico City are not molested. But there is no assurance of it.

So far as was in evidence about the War Department today, there was no indication of unusual preparations. But everybody is asking what will occur if Carranza should refuse to accede to the demands of this country or profess his inability to accede to them.

At the White House and the State Department today, the disposition was to insist no new policy was contemplated, that intervention was not considered. In the meantime, Secretary of War Bryan refused to discuss the evacuation of Mexico City by Obregon's forces was imminent. He was not informed whether a garrison would be left there to protect the inhabitants.

Announcement was made today from Carranza headquarters here that Gen. Pablo Gonzalez, of the Carranzistas, yesterday captured Monterrey. Many prisoners and a large amount of war supplies were taken.

It was learned also that the Carranza forces have evacuated Piedras Negras on the border. The Villistas are occupying it. This removes danger of a conflict at that point which might be troublesome for the American Government.

The gunboat Petrel will arrive at Vera Cruz Thursday and the cruiser

HERE'S A MYSTERY. A cartoon illustration of a man in a suit holding a large black box. Text: 'BLACK BOX FOR WASHINGTON'S POLICE'.