

# AUSTRIA STRIKES FIRST AT ITALY AEROS DROP BOMBS ON FIVE CITIES

## WILSON OPENS PAN-AMERICAN MEETING WITH PEACE SPEECH

President Loudly Acclaimed by Delegates as He Voices Hope for Better Commercial Relations Between Continents.

Hints That Government Will Undertake to Furnish Improved Means of Communication With Nations to South.

While statesmen and financiers from all the Central and South American republics applauded his utterances, President Wilson, delivering the chief address before the epochal Pan-American conference which opened here today, voiced the hope that better commercial relations may exist among all the nations represented and that the way to a world-wide peace may be shown by "a rivalry that does not involve aggression."

Again was the President loudly acclaimed by the distinguished gathering when he asserted that if private capital does not soon furnish improved means of communication between the United States and its neighbors to the South, "the Government must undertake to do so." This reference followed one concerning the inadequate shipping facilities now existing.

### MOMENTOUS AFFAIR.

Aside from the address of the Chief Executive, the opening session of the Pan-American Financial Conference today was a momentous and a somewhat spectacular affair. Members of the Cabinet, the Federal Reserve Board, and the Federal Trade Commission occupied seats of honor along with the leading financiers and chairmen of the various visiting delegations. In the front rows sat members of the Diplomatic Corps and their families, and behind them were men of affairs of eighteen nations, not including the official delegates representative of the commerce of the United States.

## MOTHER ANNOUNCES GIRL'S ELOPEMENT

Mrs. C. M. Towers Refuses to Allow Daughter's Marriage to Remain Secret.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Towers announce the marriage of their daughter, Virginia, to Lawrence E. Nottingham. The couple eloped without the consent of their parents and were secretly married May 8, 1915, by the Rev. P. P. Phillips, rector of St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Va. (Signed) MRS. C. M. TOWERS, 243 Twelfth Street Northeast. The foregoing is the avenue through which the wedding of Lawrence E. Nottingham and the eighteen-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Towers, was made public today, and thus was prevented the "secret" the young couple sought to guard sacredly. Mrs. Nottingham advised her parents of her marriage Saturday night, and begged that the news be held secret. Mrs. Towers, however, refused to join her daughter in the plan, and the foregoing announcement resulted. Mr. Towers is deputy collector of taxes of the District.

## U. S. Packers Meeting Here to Decide Upon Action Against Britain

Considering Means for Forcing Concessions From England—May Declare Embargo on All Meats and Meat Products in Retaliation for Holding Up Shipments.

A new and spectacular phase of the great struggle in which Great Britain finds herself engaged may be a meat war waged against her by the big American packing houses.

The millions of the packers pitted against the resources of the British government, is the situation which is threatened as the result of the complications over the holding up by Great Britain of cargoes of meat and meat products consigned to the neutral countries of Europe, which are in close proximity to Germany.

To declare and put into effect an embargo on all meats and meat products to the British Isles is one plan which the great packing houses of this country are said to have in mind, unless they can force concessions such as they demand from the British government.

### NO DIRECT THREAT MADE YET.

The packing houses concerned are Armour & Co., Swift & Co., Morris & Co., and Sulzburger & Co., whose principal plants are in Chicago, but who also have establishments in numerous other great cities. Consideration of action looking to retaliation for Great Britain's course in holding up meat shipments likely will not take place until the packers have learned exactly how much help they can expect from the State Department in causing delivery of their cargoes.

This was indicated this afternoon by Thomas E. Wilson, president of Morris Co., who, with Gustavus F. Swift, Jr., and their attorneys are here awaiting the coming of other big packers for a conference tonight at the Willard over the conditions brought about by the British order of council.

Both Mr. Swift and Mr. Wilson declared today that no threats have as yet been made that they contemplated striking out Great Britain by cutting

## RUSSIANS DRIVE FOE 22 MILES IN GALICIA

Czar's Troops Recover Ground South of Peremyel, Says Petrograd War Office.

PETROGRAD, May 24.—Beaten back in their attempt to descend upon Peremyel from the north, the Austro-Germans are smashing vigorously against the Russian lines to the south. The war office today admits that General Mackensen's right wing drove back the Russian line twenty-two miles south of Peremyel, near Chyrov, in a bloody engagement. The Russians hurled reinforcements into a counter attack, regaining the lost ground and taking several hundred prisoners.

The position of the Austro-Germans on the right bank of the San, north of Jaroslau, is rapidly becoming more dangerous. For seventy-two hours the Austrian batteries that opened a long range bombardment of the western forts of Peremyel have been silent.

In the Russian province of Kovno, the Germans are making new efforts to cross the Dubissa, but each attempt has been beaten back. In southeastern Galicia the artillery battles begun several days ago are continuing.

## Allies Repulsed With Heavy Losses in Two Attacks, Berlin Claims

BERLIN (via wireless to London), May 24.—Defeat for the allies with extremely heavy losses in two distinct drives against the German lines in the last twenty-four hours was reported in official dispatches today.

Between Neuve Chapelle and Givenchy, the British launched several attacks during the night. German machine guns took the highways and the fields. The enemy retired, leaving the ground between the trenches strewn with dead and wounded. The French are making reckless attempts to capture the northern slopes of the Lorette hills. In the fighting here, near Abain and south of Neuville, the French losses have been exceptionally heavy.

## Player's Skull Broken By Ball During Game

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 24.—Guy W. Gumbert, member of two amateur baseball teams, had his skull fractured by a pitched ball in a game at Pottsville, and died in a hospital here today. He was seventeen years old.

## POLITICAL BIAS IN COAL STRIKE PROBE, CHARGE

L. M. Bowers, Leader for Rockefeller, Declares Congress Committee Was Unfair.

## CHAIRMAN WALSH LENIENT Refuses to Make Any Comment on Gardner's Statement of Carnegie Peace Activities.

Charges of political bias and unfairness against the Congressional committee which investigated Colorado strike conditions were made by L. M. Bowers, who led last year's fight for the Rockefeller interests, in testimony before the Commission on Industrial Relations today.

Chairman Walsh was mild in his examination of Bowers, calling a five-minute recess during the morning to give the witness time to rest. He did this at the request of members of the Rockefeller staff, who said Bowers had been in poor health and would be unable to stand a severe strain on the stand.

To Close Tomorrow Night. Efforts will be made, Walsh said, to close the hearings tomorrow night. Walsh refused to make any comment on the statement of Congressman Gardner, who asked an investigation of Carnegie's peace activities, charging that an attempt was being made to "bribe and pollute the source of public information."

On Rockefeller Staff. Bowers said he now lives at Binghamton, N. Y., and is on the advisory staff of John D. Rockefeller, sr., president of the Cleveland Steel Company, and on the executive board of the American Shipbuilding Company. He said he was a "third man" for Mr. Rockefeller. Bowers was executive officer for the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, but said he had nothing to do with the coal strike. "But you paid out money for the Rockefeller," Walsh said. "You paid the mine guards and handled money paid out for arms and ammunition." Bowers said the assistant treasurer or auditor probably handled these disbursements.

## WILSON TO CONFER WITH DUVAL WEST

President May Change Course From "Watchful Waiting" After Hearing Mexican Facts

Important developments in the Mexican situation are expected in some quarters to develop from a conference which President Wilson will have this evening with Duval West, regarding his secret mission for the President in Mexico. The conference will take place at the White House at 6 o'clock. Mr. West will present to the President a written and verbal report on conditions as he found them in the southern republic. On the basis of this report it is thought probable the President will determine whether to change his "watchful waiting" policy for a course more vigorous, in view of the alarming state into which Mexico has fallen.

It is regarded as particularly significant that the President should arrange the conference on the eve of tomorrow's Cabinet meeting. Should this consideration of Mr. West's views result in anything conclusive, it is likely the President will lay before the Cabinet his plans for the future. Within the past three days the reports received at the State Department have indicated a condition of chaos in Mexico bordering on savagery. Mexico City with her beautiful buildings and other evidences of civilization, is described as the scene of desolation and want. Mobs have been rioting for food, and men have been reduced to a state of intolerable despair.

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

## Lusitania Pictures

First photographs from England showing survivors of the Lusitania horror and scenes following the destruction of the giant Cunarder on page 11 of

### The Times Today

## Italy Is Now Object Of Germany's Hatred

BERLIN (via The Hague), May 24.—Italy today supplanted England, at least temporarily, as the object of German hatred. A wave of anger against what is in Berlin universally called "Italian treachery," was expressed in the German press. "Germany will see to it that Italy gets the punishment she deserves," was the editorial comment of a Berlin paper.

## RUSS WARSHIP SUNK, 1,400 DIE

Winteleimon Went Down in Black Sea, Says Dispatch From Bucharest.

BERLIN (Via Wireless to Sayville), May 24.—The Russian man-of-war Winteleimon sunk in the Black Sea, with a loss of 1,400 lives, according to dispatches received here today from Bucharest.

The latest naval records show no Russian vessel named the Winteleimon. It is possible that the Bucharest dispatch meant the Russian battleship Pantelimon, one of the largest of the Russian warships in the Black Sea fleet.

The Pantelimon is a 12,800-ton vessel, completed in 1903, and with a complement of 731 men. She is 366 feet in length and 74 feet at the beam. She carries four twelve-inch guns and four eight-inch guns, in addition to smaller armament.

## Germans' Poisonous Gas Attack Fails; Trying to Advance Near Arras

PARIS, May 24.—German poisonous gas attacks between Stenestraat and Ypres have been repulsed by the British troops, who inflicted severe punishment upon the enemy.

Favored by a strong wind, the Germans sent a yellow cloud of chlorine gas rolling down upon the British trenches. Their new respirators enabled the English forces to remain in their intrenchments without great discomfort. A body of German troops that ran forward in a charge, expecting to find piles of dead bodies, was partly cut to pieces, and retired in great disorder.

The Germans are making desperate efforts to advance near Arras. Everywhere they have been repulsed. North of Neuville, St. Vaast, the French took 130 prisoners.

An unknown crest in the Lorette hills, north of Arras, was today designated as the "hill of death" in the "eyes witness" statement given out at the war office.

Thousands of German bodies lay scattered about the slopes, when the French, by a magnificent bayonet charge, captured the heights. Fragments of bodies, blood spattered rocks, and mangled corpses greeted the victorious French troops when they swept to the top of the hill after an almost ceaseless three-month attack.

Capture of this crest, though accomplished at great loss to the French arms, removed a German menace against Arras. The hill commanded the roads leading to Arras. "Every day we have been finding arms, mitralluses, and all sorts of guns buried in the trenches in the heights," said the official statement.

## ARSENAL AT VENICE BOMBARDED; BRIDGES ON BORDER BLOWN UP

Germany Declares War on Italy and Recalls von Buelow—Airmen Cross Adriatic From Pola and Attack Venice, Ravenna, Bairi and Other Coast Towns.

ROME, May 24.—A score of bridges on the Trentino border have been blown up by Austrian troops.

Germany has notified her ambassador here, Prince von Buelow, that a state of war exists with Italy and has ordered him to leave Rome immediately.

Austrian aviators have bombarded the arsenal at Venice and made attacks on four other Italian cities, according to reports from Venice.

Austrian aviators sped over the Adriatic from the Austrian naval base at Pola to bombard the Italian coast cities.

A hostile aviator flew over the ancient city of Ravenna, further south along the seacoast.

Ancona next reported an attack from the air. Later dispatches from Bari reported that several towns along the coast, forty miles to the north, have been bombarded from the air.

Except at Venice, none of their bombs fell near military works.

Dispatches from Milan say that Austrians are everywhere falling back from the Trentino border and assuming the defensive. All civilian traffic across the frontier has been halted.

German troops concentrated in the Adigo valley, near the Italian frontier have been joined by a Zeppelin air fleet accompanied by several Taube aeroplanes.

The war office is in consultation with the Salandra cabinet this morning planning the final steps before throwing an army across the frontier.

Cheering throngs are parading the streets and the recruiting offices are deluged with volunteers.

King Victor Emmanuel is preparing to establish headquarters near the frontier. All the royal princes holding commissions in the army have joined their respective regiments.

Heavy police guards were placed about German hotels and shops, but thus far there have been no disturbances.

The Italian press has been unanimous in demanding that the people of Italy set an example to other European countries by refraining from demonstrations against enemy civilians. The injunction has had good effect.

Genoa dispatches say that an American hospital unit which has just arrived en route to Budapest probably will change its plans and attach itself to the Italian Red Cross. The Red Cross began mobilizing its forces yesterday and will send its first corps northward tomorrow. The offices of the society today were overwhelmed with offers of women, many of them of noble birth, who volunteered service in the field as nurses.

The German Zeppelin fleet with a large number of taubes, which has joined the German troops in the Adigo valley, according to Geneva dispatches, are said to have been sent directly from the dirigible factory at Friedrichshaven.

The Germans are equipped with heavy artillery for the bombardment of Italian forts in the Tyrol.

Following the declaration by the Italian government that a state of war exists between Italy and Austria-Hungary beginning today, Austrian patrols crossed the frontier near Pejo.

The Alpine chasseurs attacked the invading force and a battle at Forcellini di Montazzo followed.

The Austrians were driven off. Eighty Austrian and German vessels in Italian ports valued at \$20,000,000 were ordered seized today. Among them are several of the finest vessels in the German merchant marine, which have been lying at Genoa since the beginning of the European war.

The Austrians have dynamited two bridges over the Adige, ten miles below Ala, in Austrian Tyrol. The town