

ANT-WILSON WEEING PLAN IS REPUDIATED

Congressman Stephens Denounces National Democratic Association's Effort.

SPEAKER ALSO DISPLEASED

Nebraska Lawmakers Declines to Speak—Calls It Folly to Attack President.

In a letter to Lorenzo G. Warfield's secretary, Congressman Dan Stephens of Nebraska today condemned the efforts of the "National Democratic Association" to stage an anti-Wilson mass meeting at the old Masonic Temple tomorrow night.

Secretary Warfield had invited Mr. Stephens to speak at this mass meeting, and he received a caustic reply from the Nebraska Democrat.

An advertisement in a local publication today says that William Sulzer, Speaker Champ Clark, Senator Oscar Underwood, and other Democrats "have been requested" to speak at the same meeting.

SPEAKER NOT INFORMED.

Speaker Clark said today he knew nothing about the mass meeting, and he did not seem particularly pleased that his name had been used in connection with an anti-Wilson demonstration.

"I am entirely out of sympathy with such a movement," said Congressman Stephens, in writing Mr. Warfield. "I consider such a plan unjustified, and inimical to the best interests of the country and the Democratic party in particular. I cannot understand the position of a Democrat who can join in an attack of this sort upon a Democratic President under whose Administration we enact of more effective legislation than has been enacted in a half century."

"Why get excited and desert him now, and contribute toward the possible election of some man who represents policies which, as a whole, we are not in accord with at all.

It is the height of folly and I can't never be in sympathy with such a movement. No President can ever please us all, on all subjects at one time.

Christ himself could not do it so why abandon the man who has had such signal success in guiding the destinies of the nation through such a trying period to experiment with such folly. If you really propose a Democratic movement for the purpose of defeating Woodrow Wilson for re-nomination, I advise most strongly against such folly, for we cannot win without Wilson. I am for Wilson before and after the convention."

The letter before the National Democratic Association shows that its headquarters are 1011 M street northwest, and that its president is J. W. Stagers, with Lorenzo G. Warfield, secretary. Across the top of the letter head are printed the three words, "Aristation, Education, Organization."

District Business Put on Side Track

House Decides Rivers and Harbors Measure Is More Important.

The rivers and harbors appropriation bill took precedence over District business in the House today.

When Congressman Ben Johnston sought to take up District business according to the calendar, it was voted to take up the rivers and harbors budget.

The Democratic caucus recently determined that appropriation bills and the Administration legislative program shall have the right of way in the House.

Austria Plans to Set Clocks Ahead an Hour

BERLIN, April 10.—The Austrian government is considering a plan for setting the clocks in the dual monarchy ahead one hour, beginning on May 1, following the example recently set by Germany in adopting this innovation for the summer months.

President Has Cold; Cancels Engagements

President Wilson, suffering with a troublesome cold, canceled all his engagements today, and remained in the White House.

The President contracted a slight cold on Friday. He decided to take a river trip in the hope he would be able to throw it off. Bad weather, however, forced him to return. Yesterday found him uncomfortable. It is reported at the White House early today that he is much improved.

D. C. LOSES SUIT TO GAS COMPANIES

Must Return \$34,000 Under Distinction Between Earnings and Receipts.

The District must return \$34,000 in taxes received from the Georgetown Gas Light Company and the Washington Gaslight Company, according to an opinion rendered by the District Court of Appeals.

The District collected this sum from the companies on the ground that it was entitled to levy 5 per cent under the act of Congress of July, 1912, "on the gross earnings of gas companies in the District."

The companies paid the amounts and then appealed to the District Supreme Court.

The opinion today, written by Chief Justice J. Harry Covington, of the District Supreme Court, who served on the Appellate court in the absence of Associate Justice Van Orsdal, sustains the decision of Justice Gould who heard the case in the court below.

Chief Justice Covington's opinion declared the District's confused terms "gross earnings" and "gross receipts," upholding the contention of the companies that they were entitled to deduct the cost of certain raw materials from their gross receipts before making return of the amount taxable.

The companies paid the amount and then appealed to the District Supreme Court.

The Georgetown company is entitled to recover \$2,241.49 as its overpayment.

Chief Justice Covington holds that "gross receipts" and "gross earnings" may constitute the same sum of money with certain sorts of business concerns but he rules that "it would be an economic fallacy to assert that the 'gross receipts' of an ordinary manufacturing concern are its 'gross earnings.'"

The court cited numerous manufacturing businesses to bear out his contention that there exists a difference between "gross receipts" and "gross earnings."

Henderson Denies All Girl's Charges

Washingtonian Reputates Entire Story Told by Elizabeth Garmon in Suit.

HANGOVER, Me., April 10.—John R. Henderson, of Washington, flatly denied the allegations in the \$250,000 breach of promise suit brought against him by Elizabeth Garmon when she took the stand this morning.

For three hours he counseled in direct examination, presented to the jury Henderson's own story. He claimed that in all his acquaintance with the woman he never made any advances to her.

He told of meeting her at the home of Colonel Arms, and declared that Henderson had made his life weary with telephone calls for rides in the automobile and yacht.

Henderson's cross-examination concludes, Mrs. Jennie Johnson, of missionary, returns to the Republic to name a day to help secure each jobless boy a position. Every large institution in the city is expected to place two or three of these embryo J. P. Morgans.

DEAD MAN'S HILL SLOPES CAPTURED IN GERMAN DRIVE

Crown Prince Advances 500 Yards in Violent Attack Near Verdun.

ATTACKS ON 12-MILE FRONT

Violent Struggle Occurs South of Douaumont—French Claim Gains.

PARIS, April 10.—German troops penetrated French positions to a depth of more than 500 yards in advanced assaults against Dead Man's Hill last night, the war office admitted this afternoon.

All other attacks on this sector were repulsed, the enemy suffering heavy losses.

The Germans launched a general offensive around Verdun yesterday on a front of more than twelve miles, the fighting extending on both banks of the Meuse. Only in the engagement on the slopes of Dead Man's Hill were they successful.

On the east bank of the Meuse a violent struggle occurred east of Vacherauville, south of Douaumont. The French made some progress in German combats.

In the Woëvre region and around the villages of the Meuse hills heavy bombardments occurred last night.

Heavy Drives Are Made Against French Wings

LONDON, April 10.—With not a moment's lull in the fierce fighting north-west of Verdun, the crown prince has followed up his success at Bethincourt with heavy drives against the French wings, five miles apart.

The struggle is now becoming more furious than any waged on the banks of the Meuse since the German offensive against Verdun began. The losses on both sides in the past thirty-six hours have been appalling.

Nutcracker Tactics.

The Germans are attempting to duplicate their victory at Bethincourt on a larger scale.

Using the famous "nutcracker" tactics that succeeded the French out of Bethincourt, the crown prince plans to crush the five-mile French front and force the evacuation of all the strong outer field fortifications of the Verdun on the northwest.

The right jaw of the German "nutcracker" burst in upon the French line northeast of Avocourt wood with a powerful assault that carried the Germans into advanced French positions.

The French rallied and drove the enemy out in a dashing counter charge.

Lull Is Impending.

The left jaw thrust against the French line between Dead Man's Hill and Cumers village with the greatest violence, but was driven back with heavy losses.

Emerging from the protection of Cumers wood, the Germans were caught under a withering fire and halted before they reached the French trenches.

The battle spread to the whole five-mile line yesterday afternoon, but a lull is believed to be impending.

The Germans must pause, it is believed, to distribute their infantry and artillery for a violent campaign to squeeze the French out of Dead Man's Hill, Hill 304, and adjoining ridges.

RISE IN GASOLINE NOSSIFIED, U. S. TRADE BOARD FINDS

Report Shows Inexplicable Jump in Price Between Producer and Consumer.

NO SHORTAGE IN SUPPLY

Crude Oil Stocks in February 31,000,000 Gallons Over Figures for 1915.

A preliminary report of the Federal Trade Commission on the gasoline situation today failed to reveal any justification for the present high price of gasoline to the consumer.

The commission finds there is no shortage in the supply of crude petroleum; in fact, the supply on hand in February, 1916, was 31,000,000 gallons in excess of that available in February, 1915.

It also is shown that the price to the ultimate consumer—the man with an automobile, a farm engine, or a launch—is far out of proportion to the increase in price of oil at the refineries.

In other words, the preliminary investigation of the commission shows an inexplicable jump in price from the time that gasoline leaves the producer until it is poured into the tank of an automobile.

The report shows that in Washington gasoline prices advanced from 11 cents in October last to 20 cents at the end of the year, and 24 to 25 cents at the present time.

Disagrees With Experts.

Experts in and out of the Government service have advanced a number of reasons for the increase, such as a shortage of stocks of crude oil, or a less production of crude, or a less gasoline content in the crude produced.

The Federal Trade Commission in its preliminary report, however, shows that gasoline rose 4.8 cents a gallon in the middle West refineries, and 5.5 cents a gallon in Eastern refineries. This is but a fraction of the increase in price.

The Trade Commission report shows that while gasoline was increasing an average of a little over 5 cents a gallon in the middle West, it was rising but 1.1 cents at Eastern refineries, 1.7 cents, and crude oil 4.8 cents.

Stocks Available.

The commission found that instead of there being a lesser supply of crude petroleum on hand now, there were 10,021,290 gallons held in February, 1916, as against 9,321,342 in February, 1915; that production of gasoline increased from 76,657,747 gallons in January, 1915, to 97,962,217 gallons in December, 1915.

The commission also found that the price of oil company stocks, and prices of oil company stocks, to "aid in judging whether high prices have been necessary to maintain a normal rate of production or distribution."

The commission's decision as to whether there has been stifling of competition or discrimination, and prices of oil company stocks, to "aid in judging whether high prices have been necessary to maintain a normal rate of production or distribution."

The "exact relation between the several companies into which the Standard Oil Company is divided" is being investigated by the commission, which will make a finding for the Department of Justice.

Shows Scope of Work.

The report made public today was issued largely to indicate the scope of the commission's investigation and of the information which may be of value to Congress in its consideration of the oil situation.

Production is being studied and accurate statistics gathered, and figures on quantities and prices from production to tank wagons are being gathered and studied, together with facts as to the exact cost of refining; statistics are being compiled by particular towns to bring out the facts as to the exact cost of refining; various localities.

With the statistical facts largely in hand the commission is proceeding to trace the causes which explain these facts.

The commission is considering both domestic and foreign conditions, and is weighing every factor to detect any artificial or manipulative element.

Navy League Attacks Ford Statements Made Against Preparedness

Colonel Thompson, in Opening Address Before Convention, Defends Program.

CHARGES ARE PERSONAL

Explains Why Steel Companies Paid More for Nickel Than the Government.

Denunciation of the statements of Henry Ford published throughout the country as advertisements in the daily newspapers today as utterly false and without foundation occupied the attention of the thousand-odd delegates from 31 sections of the country to the eleventh annual convention of the Navy League of America at their opening session at the New Willard Hotel this morning.

Colonel Robert M. Thompson, president of the league, introduced the Ford advertisement into his address of welcome to the delegates, by calling attention to its personal reference to him.

"I do not want to inject into this convention a personal affair, but it is due to the members of the league, in view of the mendacious attack of Mr. Ford, published in all sections of the country today, the first day of our meeting, that I make some statement."

"Mr. Ford charges that I, as chairman of the board of directors of the International Nickel Company, will profit by the program of building warships for the navy. When years ago, the use of nickel in the armor plate of the navy was proposed nickel was a rare metal."

Market Price One Dollar.

"The market price of nickel was one dollar per pound. The navy bought the nickel itself and distributed it to the armor plate concerns. Congress appropriated \$1,000,000 to purchase one million pounds of nickel. I sold the nickel to the Navy Department for 24 cents per pound."

"When, some years later, the Navy Department discontinued the purchase of nickel and the steel companies bought it themselves, the price of nickel was advanced 2 per cent."

"Refrainance were received from the steel companies. They charged me practically with an attempt to hold them back from the nickel. I had been educated by the Government of the United States at the Naval Academy. I told them that all I had, that I had become a member of the committee representing the steel companies, was a profit on anything that I sold to the Government. And I never did. When the steel companies were in the market to buy nickel, that was another matter and I made them pay me a profit."

Applaud Statement.

The statement of Colonel Thompson was received with applause by the members of the league, and his course was given the unanimous approval of the delegates.

Secretary Arthur H. Dadman, in the presentation of his annual report of (Continued on Third Page.)

Undecided as to Mrs. Sipe's Charge

Officials of Rockingham County at Loss to Specify the Exact Offense.

HARRISONBURG, Va., April 10.—Rockingham county officials today admitted they are at a loss as to the specific charge they will make against Mrs. Margaret Sipe, held in jail here on a tentative accusation of sending poisoned candy through the mails.

The prisoner is nearing sixty, and has frankly confessed to Sheriff C. D. Crosshorn that she sent candy with strychnine in it to three girls, on whom, she said, her son, Leomer, was spending too much money. All the girls were made seriously ill, but recovered.

Sympathy at Grottoes, where all the principal live, and here is strongly for Sheriff Crosshorn, however, has said they don't want to prosecute her.

Mrs. Lansing Heads Camp's Committee

National Service School to Open at Chevy Chase With 200 Students.

With Washington society women, as well as others from out of town enrolled in the National Service School at Chevy Chase, extensive preparations are being made for the opening on May 1.

Mrs. Robert Lansing heads a reception committee, which will be in attendance on the first day. The President and Mrs. Wilson, the Vice President and Mrs. Marshall and the Speaker of the House and Mrs. Clark will be present.



DR. DAVID JAYNE HILL.

CAR MEN APPEAL TO UTILITIES BOARD

Violent Struggles Occur South of E. Company Will Not Reinststate Employees.

Declaring that after making every effort possible it has failed to obtain the reinstatement of five employees discharged by the Washington Railway and Electric Company—H. C. Breddon, E. J. Dent, Howard Schaffer, M. W. Oxley, and W. E. Johnson—the committee representing the street railway employees today appealed to the Public Utilities Commission.

The committee consists of George A. Wilbur, Harvey E. Jones, and Frank W. Thompson.

The commission is asked to adjust the difference arising from the discharge of the men named under the terms of the agreement entered into March 11, between the railway officials and the committee representing the employees by which the commission is to act as a board of arbitration in all matters of disagreement.

This is the first question to be submitted to the commission.

Engineer Commissioner Kutz, chairman said that a conference will be called today to discuss the matter, and the employees at which statements will be heard by the commission from both sides.

The conference probably will be held behind closed doors. The date has not yet been fixed.

Not Guilty, Waite's Plea; Put in Tombs

Confessed Poisoner Shows No Emotion as He Crosses the Bridge of Sighs.

NEW YORK, April 10.—Dr. Arthur Warren Waite today pleaded not guilty to the charge of murdering his millionaire father-in-law, John E. Peck, of Grand Rapids.

Then, with face chalky white and eyes that looked only at the floor in front of him, the young dentist walked across the Bridge of Sighs into the Tombs. He trod in the footsteps of Police Lieutenant Becker, of the four gunmen, and of Hans Schmidt. He expects to follow them to the end.

In his cell in the gray walled Tombs, Waite was unmindful of the difference from his rich Riverside Drive apartment overlooking the Hudson. He has grown indifferent to life.

In court Waite stood before Judge Craig with eyes to the floor. His attorney entered a plea of "not guilty, with leave to withdraw or make such motions as we think proper within ten days."

FIVE MORE SHIPS ARE TORPEDOED

British Steamer Sunk Without Warning, Says Report.

LONDON, April 10.—Five more British steamers have been sunk within the last twenty-four hours, the Silksworth Hall, Glen Almond, Zafra, Yonne, and Eastern City.

DODD ONLY 24 HOURS BEHIND BANDIT CHIEF

Villa Located at Magistral, South of Parral—Has 200 Men and Fresh Horses.

SECRET PROTOCOL DENIED

Caranza Consul Declares No Agreement Was Made to Abandon Man-Hunt.

EL PASO, Tex., April 10.—Hanging doggedly to Villa's trail, United States cavalry is today in the desolate Sierras around Parral.

At least twenty-four hours' march ahead, Villa, with 200 men and fresh mounts, is reported at Magistral, a mining camp, in Durango state.

That Villa is fleeing at top speed to join the Arrieta brothers, who have 3,000 followers around Durango City, is the information sent to the border by officers of the American Mining Company at Parral. Villa passed Parral on Saturday. Magistral is nearly seventy-five miles by trails south.

The Sierra de la Candia range, about three miles above sea level, will offer more hardships to the American forces than they have yet far encountered.

NO SECRET PROTOCOL.

Caranza Consul Garcia today denied a report that in a secret protocol between the United States and the Be factio government, the Washington Administration promised not to pursue Villa after he had fled a fixed distance into Mexico. According to the story, Villa had already passed that "dead line" before Garcia stated the report was groundless.

Although spurred on by the desire of bringing the chase to a quick end to relieve Carranza of the danger of revolt by his generals opposed to the expedition, the Americans are believed to be calling the hunt in the man-hunt. Villa obtained fresh mounts in Parral, and with his superior knowledge of the mountain trails, his chance of eluding the Mexicans is indefinitely considered good here.

While official Mexican advices declare Villa is in the man-hunt, a British refugee from Parral, said today that he had information from Mexican mining men that Villa is in Carranza's hands, acquainted with the Candia district, declared Villa was safe from capture in those wild mountains.

Officials in El Paso did not take seriously the reported departure of Gen. Jose Villa in war, who sent a proclamation calling on Mexicans to join new revolution of his own. Salazar is anti-Villa. He is reported to have crossed into Mexico near here.

Pershing Confirms Rumor Of Villa Being Injured

Official confirmation of the wounding of Villa before the fight at Guerrero was received by the War Department today in a dispatch from Major General Funston. The report was based on a telegram received by Funston from Brigadier General Pershing under date of April 8. In making the report public, Secretary of War Baker said:

"The early report of Villa being severely wounded in the right knee."

"General Pershing reports that he has had a very satisfactory conference with General Villa, who reported objective in the flight from San Gerónimo through Satévo. He was last reported at the head of a small band somewhere between Satévo and Parral, heading his raiders for a dash through the Carranzista cordon stretched to the south."

Major General Funston today regarded as highly significant reports of Carranzista co-operation. The courteous treatment received from Carranzistas

Pershing Reports Carranza General in Friendly Mood

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 10.—Continuing their drive toward Parral, American troops today were believed to be almost on the heels of Villa.

The bandit chieftain's whereabouts were not definitely known, but officers at expeditionary headquarters said they would not be surprised to learn of the Americans reaching Parral today.

Parral is Villa's reported objective in the flight from San Gerónimo through Satévo. He was last reported at the head of a small band somewhere between Satévo and Parral, heading his raiders for a dash through the Carranzista cordon stretched to the south.

Major General Funston today regarded as highly significant reports of Carranzista co-operation. The courteous treatment received from Carranzistas