

PURSUIT OF VILLA TAILS FOR LACK OF MEN AND SUPPLIES OVER RAILROAD

AMERICANS ON TRACK OF VILLA; NO WITHDRAWAL CONTEMPLATED

Secretary of War Baker Denies Report That Pershing's Forces Are to Be Recalled Across Boundary Line.

PURSUIT OF BANDITS MAKING PROGRESS

Lansing Declares Again That No Intimation Has Come From Carranza That Expedition Should Back Track.

BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE. Washington, April 8.—Secretary Baker, informally denying today that immediate withdrawal from Mexico of the American expeditionary force was contemplated, indicated that the war department had information that the United States troops were close upon Villa's trail and that the expedition might soon accomplish the purpose for which it was sent across the border.

"The object of the expedition was stated when it was undertaken," said Secretary Baker. "It has never been changed. No other orders have been given, and the expedition is busily pursuing it now with what I hope is a fair chance of early success."

No Basis for Report. Reports that preparations for withdrawal were under way were declared by Mr. Baker to be "absolutely no basis of any kind."

All the war department's plans for pursuing the chase were going forward actively, he declared, an order being placed only today for fifteen gasoline-carrying motor trucks for General Pershing's campaign. The American forces were "pushing ahead," he said, but gave no details of the operations.

To Break Up Bands. Publication today of the text of the original army order to cross the border a month ago revealed that the specific direction to capture or kill Villa was included. The order made public by Major General Scott, chief of staff, stated that the work of the United States troops would be regarded finished as soon as "Villa's band or bands are known to be broken up" and that the Americans would withdraw "as soon as the de facto government of Mexico is able to relieve them of this work."

No Request From Carranza. Secretary Lansing also issued a statement today saying he knew of no intention to withdraw the troops. He also said no intimation had come from the Carranza government that de facto government officials thought General Pershing had accomplished his mission and should return to United States territory.

It was stated officially today that General Pershing's orders were broad enough to include dealing personally with Villa in case he should be encountered. Satisfaction with the transportation system was indicated at the war and state departments today. Villa's private shippers getting supplies, ultimately available to the American troops, through on the Mexican railways, Secretary Lansing believes the railway situation has ceased to be a factor.

Secretary Baker, who was at the war department until late tonight, seemed even more optimistic after reading the evening's dispatches from the border. He gave out none of the information transmitted by General Funston, but indicated strongly that his hope for an early capture of Villa had been increased by the dispatches.

FUNSTON DOESN'T THINK VILLA'S BANDS BROKEN. San Antonio, Tex., April 8.—Gratification was expressed at General Funston's headquarters today when it was learned that Secretary Lansing and Secretary Baker flatly denied that the government was contemplating the withdrawal of American troops from Mexico. General Funston does not regard the task set him-

The Day in Congress

SENATE. Met at 11 a. m. Resumed debate on army reorganization bill. Reported reached to vote Tuesday on free sugar reform and April 18 on army bill. Passed \$18,000,000 annual legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. Rescinded at 4:35 p. m. to 11 a. m. Monday.

HOUSE. Met at 11 a. m. Rivers and harbors appropriation bill (discussion continued). Secretary Baker of the war department appeared before the military sub-committee. Adjourned at 3:36 p. m. to 11 a. m. Monday.

THE WEATHER

WEATHER FORECAST. Denver, April 8.—New Mexico, Sunday and Monday fair and warmer.

CITY BANK CLEARINGS. Yesterday \$73,886.74. Clearings for the Week, \$405,956.42.

fore him of "breaking up Villa's band or bands" as accomplished. The net result of the three weeks' campaign against Villa is a killing of a few more than 150 of Villa's men and the destruction of a line of American troops approximately 400 miles into Mexico. Villa's organization remains intact so far as army officers here know. He has divided it into smaller units and one of these was attacked and defeated at Guerrero but there is evidence that the fugitive chieftain, though perhaps wounded and possibly traveling on a stretcher, is yet directing in a general way their movements.

Instead of anticipating an early withdrawal of the troops, General Funston has planned to stimulate the chase in every way possible and in order to do this has daily watched for advice from Washington. That Carranza had at last made it possible to go without restraint at least one of the railroads extending south. Failure to get this right, however, and realization of the impracticability of maintaining the 400-mile line from Columbus to the extreme front below Satevo, caused General Funston and his staff to consider seriously the establishment of a new base at some point on the border nearer the field of operations, perhaps Ojinaga, and from there the running south of a line of communication. Unofficially it was intimated that such a change of base would be suggested to the war department unless permission to take the railroads was granted.

Little of what was transpiring south of Chihuahua was known at General Funston's headquarters today, but no uneasiness was displayed and increased confidence was manifested. This confidence was not due altogether to the belief that the American troops were unable to take Villa, but to the co-operation of Carranza's forces, who were reported officially by agents of the Mexican government to have occupied strategic positions in the path Villa was reported to be following. If the thousands of men Carranza claimed to have scattered through the territory in front of Villa can check him in his flight to the south, General Pershing's troops, it was believed here, might do their part in bringing him to a stand. Pershing was officially reported to have left his temporary headquarters at the German ranch and gone southwards towards Satevo, south of which the greater part of the Tenth cavalry is operating. Col. W. C. Brown, at the head of these troops, was known to be searching every trail and investigating every report as to the whereabouts of Villa or his followers. Supporting forces have been moved forward along the line of communications and in the event of an engagement, reinforcements could be sent forward without great loss of time.

From Columbus to Satevo, General Pershing is known to have maintained compact military organization and the only regret at headquarters has been the inability to supply his column adequately for the maintenance of so many men along the roundabout route from Columbus. Trailers were in service behind the automobile trucks today in an effort to increase the volume of supplies demanded by 6,000 horses and mules and by more than that many men.

Officers at General Funston's headquarters were greatly interested in the report from Torreon that a conference was to be held tomorrow that might result in the surrender of the band of Villa men in the vicinity of Torreon. Some apprehension has been felt that Villa might succeed in joining forces with Reyes, thus making much more difficult his capture.

NEW YORK REPUBLICANS FAVORABLE TO HUGHES

BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE. New York, April 8.—Responding to a plea that a crisis confronts both the republican party and the country, and that the national service requires a change in the management of foreign and domestic affairs. Mr. Tanner later indicated that personally he was opposed to Theodore Roosevelt, but he would not make known a preference between Justice Hughes and Elihu Root. "He must be a real republican," the chairman said. "He must be a republican, enrolled as a republican, who has been in the party for a number of years. I hope this only a republican will be nominated."

Francis Sails for Russia. New York, April 8.—David R. Francis, of St. Louis, newly appointed ambassador to Russia, sailed today for his new post on the steamer Oceanic.

For Copeland. Mr. Francis said that Fred M. Dearing of Columbia, Mo., will be the first secretary of the legation, and the staff already there will be retained.

GERMANS SLOWLY BLASTING WAY THROUGH FRENCH DEFENSE LINES

Salient Is Being Furiously Attacked From Two Sides and Important Points Are Reported Gained.

PARIS REPORTS CLAIM COUNTER SUCCESSES

Russian Attacks on Eastern Front Are Repulsed; Austrian Offensive Drives Back Italians.

BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE. Berlin, April 8 (via London, 6:10 p. m.).—The German government is replying to the inquiries of the United States government regarding the Sussex and four other steamers, the matter of responsibility was still in doubt and the investigation was still proceeding. The German foreign office, appreciating the agitation in the United States over these cases, transmitted an interim response declaring the readiness of the government, should the Sussex prove to have been destroyed by a torpedo contrary to the understanding with the United States, to make all reparations including the payment of compensation.

The Associated Press was authoritatively informed today that the investigation has now been completed; that all the craft which might possibly have been involved in an attack on the Sussex have reported and that from the reports of their commanders it is absolutely certain that a German torpedo and that Germany is in no wise responsible for the disaster.

From the material hand it will also be possible to reply to the American inquiries regarding the steamers Esigle Point and Berwindale, and establish, according to the German contention, that no blame attaches to Germany.

GERMAN STATEMENT CONTRADICTS EVIDENCE

Washington, April 8.—Germany's disclaimer of responsibility for the destruction of the chained steamer Sussex surrounds the position of the United States in the present submarine situation with further difficulties and may turn action, if any be taken, from the Sussex case itself to the accumulation of ships destroyed without warning since Germany gave assurances governing the submarine campaign.

Before the next step is taken the collection of evidence intended to prove that the Sussex was destroyed by a German submarine, will have to proceed further. Additional evidence in the form of affidavits and statements gathered by the American embassy in Paris is arriving on the steamer St. Paul due in New York tomorrow, and will be in President Wilson's hands Monday.

The situation will be thoroughly discussed at Tuesday's cabinet meeting. The United States was described officially tonight as being placed in the position of a judge of a court of law. Upon the evidence a decision will be reached and the United States will be absolutely sure that it stands upon firm ground before rendering one.

The first decision will be rendered by President Wilson. It is likely that if drastic action is called for, congress will be consulted.

All the evidence thus far obtained indicates that the Sussex was torpedoed. There are two weaknesses in the case of the United States at this time, however. One is that no American citizen saw the wake of a torpedo. The other is that, while American naval officers declare that the pieces of metal removed from the bulk are parts of a German torpedo, there is, as far as known, no conclusive evidence at this time that the metal fragments actually were removed from the Sussex.

Official reports regarding the announcement of the German government, as cables to the United States in press dispatches from Berlin, were lacking tonight. The press report that the Sussex was torpedoed. The news dispatches were laid before President Wilson, upon his return from his trip down the Potomac.

A number of statements regarding the finding of the metal fragments aboard the Sussex are understood to have been secured by the American embassies in Paris and London. Officials are eager to examine their contents.

ENORMOUS DAMAGE TO CROPS IN GALICIA

(Associated Press Correspondence.) Vienna, March 24.—The total damage caused by the war to property in the province of Galicia is estimated at \$400,000,000 in a report prepared by the Society of Austrian Architects, dealing with plans for the rebuilding of the destroyed towns and villages in Galicia.

The report states that nearly 100,000 of the inhabitants of the province have fled to Russia, while 50,000 families still remaining behind are homeless. Of 683 villages in the war area, 271 are reported more than half destroyed. In the others there is generally some war damage, but the proportion varies considerably.

Altogether it is estimated that 177,000 business premises, private houses and farm buildings have been completely destroyed to which number must be added about 25,000 public buildings. Assuming that the cost of reconstructing the buildings will average \$1,700, the total cost of this single item in the work of reconstruction after the war will be about \$350,000,000.

SUSSEX DISASTER NOT CAUSED BY GERMAN TORPEDO, BERLIN ASSERTS

Reports From Commanders Declare None of Kaiser's Submarines Was in Vicinity When Explosion Occurred.

LIKELIKE BLAMELESS AS TO OTHER VESSELS

Completed Investigations Show That Teutons Are Not Disregarding Promises to the United States.

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ITALIAN REPORTS TELL OF MINOR ENGAGEMENTS

Rome, April 8 (via London, April 9, 2:06 a. m.).—The official communication given out today reads as follows: "Along the entire front there has been artillery activity and minor actions. In the Cristallo zone the enemy concentrated the fire of numerous batteries of all calibers on positions recently occupied by us on Pauchkofel. In order not to expose our troops to useless losses, our most advanced line there was evacuated in good order."

"In the Carnia region we repulsed a small attack in the direction of Valgrande. Our artillery dispersed enemy columns marching along the Valentinna and Kronhof valleys. A surprise attack on our positions in the Vedit district of the Monte Nero zone was repulsed and a prompt counter-attack threw back the enemy in disorder. Seventy-six prisoners and a machine gun were left in our hands. In the Gornica sector on the front the Italian troops are adding strength to the movement favoring Supreme Court Justice Charles E. Hughes for the presidency and toward a renomination for Governor Charles S. Whitman.

No candidate for president was mentioned, either by speakers or in resolution adopted after Mr. Tanner's return. This memorial urged the nomination of a "tried republican" in whose record and character the nation can rely as a guarantee for wise statesmanship in the management of foreign and domestic affairs."

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Americans Must Withdraw Unless Assistance Can Be Had At Once

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS EXPECTED ON BORDER AT ANY MOMENT, SAYS NEWS FROM EL PASO SOURCES

MEXICANS ARE PLEASED WITH PUBLICATION OF PURPOSE OF PUNITIVE EXPEDITION

General Gavira Says News That Order From War Department Was to Destroy Organized Bandit Forces and Not to Kill or Capture Outlaw Chief Comes at Opportune Time; Consul Garcia Relieved That Hunt Is Not to Continue Indefinitely; Citizens of United States Leaving Southern Republic Tell of Destruction of \$2,000,000 Lumber Plant in State of Durango; One of Pershing's Aviators Lands at Chihuahua City and Is Arrested, but Later Released; Carranza Men Are Moving Toward Border and Near Line of Communication; Declaration of Policy of President Watched for With Undisguised Interest.

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Senator Harding, Who Is to Be Temporary Chairman of National Convention, Gives Sample of Keynote.

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"Of the disruption of the party, he said: "It is useless to talk of 1912. I had rather forget it and let a nation wearied away by the democratic party join us in four years of happy forgetting. There is no greater assurance for the concord of leadership, and more significant still, there is the unmistakable readiness of the people to pledge themselves anew to the republican faith."

Although Senator Harding's address was not formally labeled "keynote," his hearers regarded it as at least a peek through the keynote. In the course of his address the senator said:

"The political situation is unique in all our history. There is a marked desire for republican restoration for our industrial state as when the American people turned hopefully to William McKinley in 1896, and there is an anxiety for our nationality not unlike that which sought out Abraham Lincoln in 1860.

"We believe today in the very fundamental principles on which the republican party made its matchless contribution to the people's advancement and the national development, and we mean to hold the charter of republicanism inviolate.

"We believe, as cordially today as ever in our history, in the great essentials of representative democracy and the helpful American policy of tariff protection, and we can see therein more than the promise of party success.

"Political whims will come and go, and their influence, but nothing changes political principles in their great essentials. Sometimes they are obscured, but not for long.

"Assuring that the tariff will be the great issue in the coming campaign, the speaker added: "There will be more spectacular issues, there will be the patriotic appeal for preparedness, with republicanism committed to an adequate program for national defense.

"One is reluctant to criticize the administration in its foreign policy at a time of anxiety like the present day. I had rather present a united front to the world even at the sacrifice of some portions of my own lamp convey the impression of a divided people.

"We are pursuing Villa and his robber band and the nation approves, but had the Wilson administration omitted its needless meddling in Mexico, which included the encouragement of both Carranza and Villa, this pursuit would have been unnecessary, and obprobrium and insult and the sacrifice of many American lives and much property in Mexico probably would have been avoided."

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CROPS INUNDED BY BREAK IN LEVEE

Little Rock, Ark., April 8.—Hundreds of acres of growing crops were inundated today by the breaking of the Red river levee three miles above Garland City, Ark.

Swollen by heavy rains, the river is still rising and it is predicted that it will reach a stage of 21 feet or more near Garland City within the next five days. All the lowlands in that vicinity probably will be flooded.