

GENERAL SCOTT CHEERFUL OVER RELATIONS WITH CARRANCISTAS

Chief of Staff Confident That Conference With Obregon Will Lead to Better Understanding.

RUMORS OF UNWRITTEN AGREEMENT CURRENT

Funston's New Plan for Redistributing Border Guards Leads to Belief in Existence of Pact.

Washington, May 15.—Both the state department and General Carranza are awaiting detailed reports of the recent El Paso military conference before seeking an agreement as to the Mexican border situation through diplomatic conversations.

General Scott, chief of staff of the army, returned today, optimistic over the military situation and confident that the meetings between himself and General Funston on the one side and General Obregon, Carranza's war minister, on the other, had created a better understanding between the governments which might furnish the basis for a formal protocol.

Arredondo Wants Instructions. Eliseo Arredondo, the Mexican ambassador designate, asked for instructions as to his course last week, but General Obregon probably will not reach Mexico City for several days and the reply from General Carranza is not expected at the embassy until the war minister's report has been received.

War and state department advisers showed no change today in the situation in Mexico or along the border. While press reports have told of several raids of a minor character at various points in the last few days, General Funston either has been unable to confirm these stories or has thought them too unimportant to bring to the attention of the war department.

Administration officials continue to express confidence that the forces now under General Funston's command will be able to protect the border in such fashion that repetitions of the Glenn Springs raid will be impossible unless there is a general anti-American outbreak beyond the border in which Carranza troops participate.

Unwritten Agreement Hinted. General Funston's new plan for coordinating the work of the border guards was regarded in some quarters here as tending to confirm intimations that an unwritten agreement as to steps to be taken were reached by the El Paso conference. If the plan includes an exchange of information as to bandit activities between responsible officers of the Carranza troops and the American commanders it was thought here considerable progress could be made without the threat of either government crossing the lines. No official would admit, however, that a plan of action had been agreed upon by the conference.

General Scott probably will confer at length with Secretary Baker tomorrow and later with Secretary Lansing. No time had been set tonight, however, for these interviews. There is no need for haste in the formulation of a protocol, it is felt by officials here, if General Pershing's force is not to engage in active operations beyond the line.

No Mention of Villa. The war department has had no advice mentioning Villa's name for many days. Some officers are inclined to believe that he is either dead or has slipped away into hiding to recuperate from serious wounds. At the moment he has ceased to be a factor in the border situation whatever part he may play in the future.

As to the political situation in Mexico, officials do not seem to be very clear. It is pointed out by officials who have a thorough knowledge of the portion of Mexico through which the chuss after Villa lay, that the Mexican civil population outside of the larger towns is absolutely ignorant of what is going on in the world or even in Mexico. There is no means of communication. Telegraph wires are down in many sections and such as are up are occupied with government business. Branch railways are operating only special trains.

There are few newspapers either Mexican or American which penetrate into the back country. This condition is undoubtedly a factor in the political problems of the Carranza government.

No Alliance Sought. Mr. Arredondo issued a statement tonight declaring that the recent return of Perez Romero to his post as Mexican ambassador at Tokio and the appointment of Rafael Zubaran as diplomatic agent to Germany and her allies, as well as to Denmark, had no significance and did not foreshadow any effort to negotiate alliances with any of these powers. The missions, the statement added, were to establish ordinary diplomatic relations and similar agents have been sent to England and her allies and to South and Central American countries.

All of these missions, the statement said, mark only the restoration of Mexico's diplomatic relations with the outside world and are preliminary to the re-institution of the complete diplomatic service of the republic.

THE WEATHER

THE WEATHER FORECAST. Denver, May 15.—New Mexico: Tuesday fair; Wednesday fair and warmer.

LOCAL WEATHER REPORT. For twenty-four hours, ending at 6 p. m. yesterday. Maximum temperature, 69 degrees; minimum, 35 degrees; range, 34 degrees; temperature at 6 p. m., 58 degrees; southwest wind; clear.

CITY BANK CLEARINGS. Yesterday \$65,437.04.

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Mr. Arredondo said the southern Mexican states, little affected by the conditions of the last few years, were making great strides in financial progress. A hundred million dollars (Mexican gold) company is being formed with government support, he said, to undertake the upbuilding of public utilities, particularly railroads, in these states. The government's outstanding valid obligations have been reduced 18 per cent.

ULSTERITES ARE SUSPICIOUS OF DISARMAMENT

Premier Asquith's Unofficial Proposals Are Taken to Pave Way for Home Rule in Ireland.

Belfast, Ireland, May 15.—Stubborn disinclination to accept anything in the way of a government which might imply the future subjection of Ulster to home rule, was evident today on the occasion of Premier Asquith's visit to Belfast, which lasted only a few hours. So far as can be learned, the premier's conference with a large body of representative Ulster men was disappointing.

It is understood that the question of the general disarmament of forces in Ireland, not authorized by the government, was discussed, and, although those present were pledged to secrecy, it is rumored that cold water was thrown on the proposal. The discussion was very full and frank, but it is asserted that the result was unsatisfactory.

Sir Edward Carson's telegram to the Ulster Unionist council to the effect that he had no knowledge of rumors respecting the government of Ireland, did not bring about an alleviation of the situation. Belfast itself does not show any signs of accepting the compromise, which, it is understood, Mr. Edmondson is ready to offer. Ulster's capital was almost entirely unaffected by the recent rebellion, and the provisions of martial law have not been enforced.

Everything is outwardly calm, but the keenest interest underlies the surface appearance, and many Catholics declare their determination to have no dealings with the nationalists. All the newspapers in Belfast advise caution in regard to any promises that the premier may have made, but which are not yet public property.

Mr. Asquith returned to Dublin tonight, where, it is reported, further court-martials will be conducted openly.

RESTAURANT IS WRECKED WHILE PATRONS DINE; NINE ARE DEAD

Blast of Dynamite Set Off in Nearby Excavation Is Given as Cause of Building's Collapse.

TWENTY ARE INJURED AND TWO ARE MISSING

Tremendous Roar, Mingled With Screams of Victims, Rouses Whole City to Work of Rescue.

Akron, O., May 15.—At least nine persons were killed and nearly a score injured early this evening when the old Beacon-Journal building, occupied by the Crystal restaurant, collapsed as a result of a blast of dynamite in an adjoining excavation.

Seven identified and three unidentified bodies have been recovered, and two persons now missing are thought to be in the ruins.

Militia Called Out. Battery B, Ohio national guard field artillery, was called out to aid the police in restraining a crowd of more than 10,000 persons, who packed the streets at Main and Quarry, where the accident occurred.

A tremendous roar, echoing the screams of dying people, brought thousands to the scene of the disaster in the heart of Akron's business district. Instantly the entire city, rallying under the shock, plunged to the work of rescue.

Pile of Ruins. A great pile of ruins, broken timbers, twisted steel and tons of brick and mortar buried the victims, who a moment before were dining in the restaurant.

Eight bodies soon were taken out of the wreckage after firemen, police and volunteer rescuers had worked frantically digging and chopping through the debris.

Nineteen more, many of them being fatally injured, were extricated and sent to the City and People's hospitals. Only two or three of the others known to have been in the restaurant succeeded in escaping before the crash.

Owners Escape. George Zerris, who with his brother, Augustus Zerris, owned the restaurant, escaped from the kitchen from the collapsing restaurant together with a cook and two dish washers. But all were injured by falling bricks.

Blast of dynamite, set off in an excavation for a new building directly north of the restaurant, unsettled the foundations. The restaurant was a one-story structure, with a two-story false front, and the latter toppling backward added a weight of many tons to the falling roof.

Dynamite Responsible. A dynamite charge set off fifty feet away from the restaurant a few minutes before the disaster is believed to have been the direct cause.

The crash came at 8:18 p. m., in the midst of dinner when the restaurant was crowded and when thousands were on the streets during the evening rush.

So suddenly did the ceiling cave in and the walls crumble that those who were not instantly killed were knocked unconscious.

ITALIANS AND FRENCH SCORE VICTORIES OVER TEUTONIC FOES

Joffre's Troops Capture 200 Yards of Trenches at Verdun; Austrians Lose Strategic Positions.

TURKS FLEE BEFORE RUSSIAN COHORTS

Routed Moslems Abandon War Material While Grand Duke Nicholas Presses Drive Toward Bagdad.

The French in the Meuse hills, to the east of Verdun, in a surprise attack, have cleared the Germans from trenches over a front of about 200 yards and also have put down in Champagne several German attacks. Bombardments alone are taking place around Verdun.

Along the British line in France bombardments and sapping operations are being carried on at various points. East of Loos the Germans succeeded in gaining a footing in British trenches, but were able to hold them only a few minutes under a counter-attack.

Italians Occupy Positions. The Italians in the Monte Adamello zone have succeeded in occupying positions in the sector between Di Crozon Di Fargoria and Crozon Di Laros which are of great strategic value in their offensive movement. The Italians also have made further progress against the Austrians on Mount Sponero.

Attacks by the Austrians to the north of Lenzano were repulsed by the Italians. Elsewhere along this front there have been only artillery engagements.

Little fighting of moment is going on between the Teutons and the Russians on Russian territory except artillery duels.

In the Caucasus region the Russians are continuing their advance against the Turks, according to Petrograd.

In the operation toward Mosul, having backed as its objective, the Turks are declared to have retreated precipitately before the Russians, abandoning war material. The Russians are pressing on in pursuit.

SHARP CONTESTS ARE EXPECTED IN M. E. CONFERENCE

Further Increase in Number of Bishops and Amusement Question to Be Subject of Much Debate.

Saratoga Springs, N. Y., May 15.—Two vigorous contests in the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church were forecast tonight by the announcements that the committee on episcopacy had voted to make a supplementary report recommending a further increase in the number of new bishops to be elected, and that the committee on the state of the church had decided against striking from the church registers members of the prohibition gamblers, theaters, cards and dancing.

Both recommendations, it was predicted by conference leaders, would meet with much opposition.

The original report of the episcopacy committee today urged the election of seven new bishops or general superintendents which would increase by two the membership of the board of bishops authorized by the general conference at Minneapolis four years ago. It was recommended also that the the Oldham Episcopal area be abolished and that new areas be created at Pittsburgh, Pa., Detroit, Mich., and Seoul, Korea. The committee also urged that two missionary bishops, one of them a negro, should be chosen to supervise the work in Africa, formerly in charge of Missionary Bishops Joseph C. Hartwell and Isaiah H. Scott, who have been retired at their own request.

TOUCHES OF THE DRAMATIC MARK OPENING DAY OF CASEMENT TRIAL

Story of Alleged Traitor's Knighting, Told by Attorney General, Forms Feature of Proceedings.

IRISH PRIVATE IS ALSO BEING TRIED

Crown, However, Devotes Main Effort to Fixing Leadership of Irish Rebellion on Erratic Nobleman.

London, May 15.—The writing of a new chapter of the history of the Sinn Fein rebellion was begun today, when Sir Roger Casement, knighted in 1911 for services to the British government, and Daniel Julian Bailey, an Irish private soldier, one of his companions on the ill-fated submarine trip from Germany to Ireland, were placed in the dock of the first street police court for preliminary examination on the charge of high treason.

While considerable testimony introduced by the crown tended to incriminate Bailey, the main attack of the prosecution was directed against Casement in an endeavor to enmesh him in a net of evidence which would establish without question the leading part it is claimed he played in the conspiracy, whose ramifications extended even to America.

A Striking Figure. Casement himself was the center of all eyes during the day. It was evident that no ordinary prisoner was before the bar, for, despite the unkept condition of his clothing, he made a striking figure, with neatly trimmed beard and hair brushed well back from a high forehead, underneath which were the deep set eyes of the dreamer.

Casement busied himself taking notes, indicating that he intended to have a hand in the presentation of his defense. He was always self-possessed and, as the case wore on, began to assume considerable assurance.

Few Thrills Developed. The testimony developed few thrills, the presentation devoting its attention to showing how Casement carried off the alleged resulting for his Irish brigade in German prison camps. The most dramatic part of the whole proceeding was the address of the attorney general, Sir Frederick E. Smith, who outlined Sir Roger Casement's former services to his country, told of the honor bestowed upon the prisoner by his king, and then shifted sharply to the details of the conspiracy hatched in Germany.

It was during his address that the attorney general introduced a letter written by Casement thanking Sir Edward Grey, the British secretary for foreign affairs for the knighthood conferred upon him in recognition of his Panamanian service. In this letter Casement said:

Reids Thanks for Title. "I am indeed grateful to you for this singular assurance of your personal interest. I am very deeply sensible of the honor done me by his majesty and would beg that my humble duty may be presented to his majesty when you can do me the honor of conveying to him my deep appreciation of the honor he has so generously pleased to confer upon me."

The attorney general introduced another striking feature when he paused in his speech to produce in court the flag which it is asserted Casement and his companions brought from Germany to Ireland. This was the emblem of revolt—a green flag with a yellow castle upon it and under the castle the motto: "Erbs antiqua fuit stidiusque asperna bellum."

Questioned as to Motive. Casement's attorney made little attempt at cross-examination today, but several times questioned the witnesses as to why Casement wished them to join the Irish brigade. The point of the questions seemed to be to show that the freedom of Ireland was the only thing involved and that the brigade was not in attempt to assist Germany.

Further testimony will be introduced by the crown tomorrow.

EXCLUDE MUNITIONS LETTER FROM TRIAL

Boiler, Colo., May 15.—Russell W. Fleming, district attorney, and Clyde C. Dawson, for the defense, battled for half an hour upon the prosecution's attempting to introduce a letter from a munitions manufacturer today into the trial of Rionel C. Dickson, charged with the murder of his father. The letter was excluded. The claim was alleged to controvert the claim of the manufacturer of the shell that killed the alleged banker, William H. Dickson, last November.

\$46,000,000 in Paper Money Is Burned

Mexico City, May 15.—Paper currency amounting to \$46,000,000 was burned in the courtyard of the national palace at midday today, with government officials and bankers interested spectators. The money was part of the old Vera Cruz issue, which is slowly being supplanted by the new unconvertible bills. The total amount of paper bills publicly burned up today aggregates more than 100,000,000 pesos.

LAREDO EDITOR GETS HIMSELF IN TROUBLE

Laredo, Tex., May 15.—Lead D. Walker, editor of a local Spanish daily newspaper, today was held in the county jail here in default of \$5,000 bond on a complaint filed by the district attorney, in connection with the alleged publication of anti-American articles.

The action was based particularly upon an article which, it is charged, characterized Mexican citizens of San Antonio, Tex., who have offered their services to Governor Ferguson, if needed in controlling the Mexican border situation, as "traitors" and "black Americans."

MANY WANT TICKETS TO CONVENTION HALL

Chicago, May 15.—Officials of the republican national convention which meets here June 7, declared today that the demand for tickets to the gathering is unprecedented. Seats have been provided for 12,000 persons in the convention hall, and, although the convention is three weeks away, 40,000 applications have been received for tickets for admission. Requests for tickets have come from every state and from all classes.

Several applications were from persons in London, England, and a number have been received from Alaska, Hawaii, Porto Rico and Cuba.

Following a long established custom, visitors to the convention from out of town will have to look to the national committee from their home state for admission tickets.

LOST TROOPER FOUND WANDERING IN TEXAS WOODS

Cavalryman Who Formed Part of Glenn Springs Garrison Is Turned Over to Hospital Corps.

Marathon, Tex., May 15.—F. Bon-danis, the lost trooper of Company A, Fourteenth cavalry, was found today by Champion Wood, a mining man of Goquillas, wandering aimlessly and half dead from thirst and exhaustion in the woods thirty-five miles north of Goquillas. Wood, who was on route to this city, gathered him in his automobile and turned him over upon his arrival to Capt. William Smart of the hospital corps here.

Bondanis was one of twenty troopers garrisoning Glenn Springs. When found he was demented and his clothes tattered and worn. Captain Smart said his patient will be all right in a few days.

Mr. Wood said that cowboys are constantly grazing in Goquillas from both Colonel Sibbey, commander of the second punitive in Mexico, and Major Langhorne, whose flying squadron is leading the advance. Mr. Wood does not know whether Colonel Sibbey, leading the Fourteenth cavalry, has caught up with the advance, which is reported having eighty miles south of the border. According to Mr. Wood, Major Langhorne possesses information as to the whereabouts of the raiders of Glenn Springs and Goquillas and is only waiting the arrival of reinforcements from Colonel Sibbey to attack. The buzzer wire to connect Marathon with the sub-base at Goquillas has been laid and is in operation to within nine miles of that point.

A company of twenty-seven motor trucks for use in the field is expected to reach here Wednesday or Thursday.

FOURTEEN MEN DIE WHEN BIG POWDER PLANT IS DESTROYED

Terrific Explosion in Building Where Filling for Shells Is Made Wrecks Three Other Structures.

CAUSE OF DISASTER CANNOT BE LEARNED

Theory That Spies Are Responsible for Blast Has Not Been Borne Out by Absolute Proof.

Gibbstown, N. J., May 15.—At least fourteen men were killed and about thirty injured today in a terrific explosion at the Republic plant of the Du Pont Powder company, near here. The blast occurred in the building in which trinitrotoluol is manufactured and wrecked three structures and injured others. Among the identified dead are:

W. F. LAWLEY, Woodbury, N. J., assistant superintendent of the trinitrotoluol plant. GEORGE MARSH, Paulboro, N. J., foreman.

Some of the injured were taken to a hospital in Camden and other places, while about a score, who received minor wounds, were treated by physicians at the powder plant.

Cause Unknown. The cause of the explosion is not known and, according to officials of the company, may never be ascertained, as all those believed to have been in the building where the first explosion occurred, are dead.

Trinitrotoluol is not considered an explosive risk, and company officials believe it caught fire before exploding. This blast caused a nearby building, in which nitro-benzol is manufactured, to blow up. So great was the force that two buildings some distance away in which flintite was manufactured were wrecked, but the explosive did not go off.

Many Killed Outside. Many of those killed and injured were outside the buildings involved and were either killed or hurt by flying debris. Other workmen promptly went to the rescue and ambulance calls were sent to the various surrounding towns. The wildest rumors prevailed as to the number of dead, but the company was unable to give the number killed until all the employees had been checked up. Some of the dead were so badly mangled that identification was difficult. Two of the dead remain unidentified and two other workmen are missing and believed dead by the company officials.

Trinitrotoluol and nitro-benzol are used in filling shells and mines. The buildings in which they were produced were of frame construction.

One of Series. The Republic plant of the Du Ponts consists of 2,000 or 4,000 acres on which there are 300 small buildings. About 2,000 men are employed. Of many other recent explosions at the Du Pont plants, the most serious were those of November 29, 1915, and January 10 of this year.

In the first of these at Lower Hatterly, near Wilmington, Del., thirty men and boys were killed and six seriously injured. On January 10, the explosion was at the Carney's Point plant. It cost the lives of three men. Investigations seeking to prove that the explosions were caused by spies have been unsuccessful.

RUBLEE TURNED DOWN AS MEMBER OF TRADE BOARD

Washington, May 15.—The nomination of George Rublee of New Hampshire, as a member of the federal trade commission, was rejected today by the senate. Senator Gathagan, the republican leader, had opposed the nominee for fifteen months on the ground that Rublee was "personally obnoxious" to him, and the power of the senatorial courtesy tradition was so great that he won his point by a vote of 42 to 36 in spite of a vigorous and insistent fight by the administration for confirmation.

Mr. Rublee, who has been serving on the commission since soon after it was created, will lose his post and draw no salary for his work unless the senate's action is reconsidered. Five republicans voted for his confirmation and fourteen democrats voted against it.

After the roll call, which followed a bitter debate, Senator Hollis of New Hampshire, who led the fight for Rublee, changed his vote in order to move for a reconsideration.

The Day in Congress

SENATE. Considered nomination of George Rublee to the federal trade commission in executive session. Rejected, 42 to 36. President Wilson's nomination of George Rublee as a member of the federal trade commission. Adjourned at 5:20 p. m. to noon Tuesday.

HOUSE. Resumed discussion of rural credits bill. Passed, 295 to 19. Glass rural credits bill to establish chain of credit mortgage banks. Adjourned at 7:09 p. m. to 11 a. m. Tuesday.