

### GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE IS OPENED

Governor Moses Alexander of Idaho Addresses Big Gathering.

#### RESPONSIBILITY MUST BE FIXED IN STATES.

Advocates "Short Ballot" and More Power for Chief Executive.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 24.—Governors and former governors representing more than 30 states were here today to attend the opening of the Governors' conference, which is to be in session for four days. Besides the regular meetings, at which papers upon vital topics will be read and discussed, elaborate plans have been made to entertain the visitors and to give them a comprehensive view of the resources of New England.

Preparedness against war is one of the matters to be considered. On the closing day of the conference Secretary of War Garrison will deliver an address and Governor Fielder of New Jersey will read a paper on "The State's Duty in the Matter of National Defense." Secretary of the Navy Daniels has sent a part of the Atlantic fleet to Boston for inspection by the governors and will himself be present. Governor Walsh has arranged a mobilization of the state militia for the third day of the conference.

Among the papers to be read are the following: "Possibilities of the Governors' Conference," former Governor Emmet O'Neal of Alabama; "State or National Control of Water Power Sites," Governor George A. Carlson of Colorado; "The Executive Budget," Governor R. L. Williams of Oklahoma; "The Duty and Responsibility of the Governor in Dealing With Prisoners," former Governor Cole L. Blease of South Carolina; "Economy and Efficiency in the State," Governor W. S. Hammond of Minnesota; "Taxation," Governor H. C. Stuart of Virginia; and "Conservation of Man and of Natural Resources," former Governor John A. Dix of New York.

Entertainment Features. A public reception will be tendered the governors at the state house tonight. A steamer trip along the coast of Massachusetts by automobile drives through the Metropolitan park system, to the North Shore and Concord and Lexington are included in the program of entertainment.

The governors have been invited to attend the conference of the Society for the Promotion of Training for Public Service, which was purposely arranged for the same dates as the gathering of executives.

This is the eighth annual meeting of governors. The first was held in Washington in 1908, upon invitation of President Roosevelt, to consider the feasibility of uniform state action for the conservation of natural resources. As a result of that gathering the Governors' conference was made a permanent organization, and has met annually in different states this year Governor Walsh is chairman.

Those who have accepted the invitation to this year's conference are: Governors George A. Carlson of Colorado, Marcus H. Holcomb of Connecticut, Charles R. Miller of Delaware, Moses Alexander of Idaho, Edward F. Dunne of Illinois, Oakley C. Curtis of Maine, W. S. Hammond of Minnesota, Elliott W. Major of Missouri, S. V. Eblwart of Montana, Roland H. Spaulding of New Hampshire, James F. Fielder of New Jersey, Charles S. Whitman of New York, L. B. Hanna of North Dakota, Frank B. Willis of Ohio, R. L. Williams of Oklahoma, R. L. Bieckman of Rhode Island, Richard I. Manning of South Carolina, Frank M. Byrne of South Dakota, William Spry of Utah, Charles W. Gates of Vermont, Henry C. Stuart of Virginia, Ernest Lister of Washington, and former Governors Emmet O'Neal of Alabama, Elias M. Ammons of Colorado, Alva Adams of Florida, Adolph O. Eberhard of Minnesota, John Franklin Fort of New Jersey, John A. Dix of New York, Cole L. Blease of South Carolina, and William Hodges Mann of Virginia.

Governor Alexander. Simplification of state governmental machinery was advocated by Gov. Moses Alexander of Idaho, in his address before the Governors' conference here today. He favored the "short ballot," elimination of useless state boards and commissions, and vesting more power in the executive departments of the states.

"There must be absolute responsibility fixed somewhere," Gov. Alexander said. "While it may seem good to the elector to have a long ballot and to vote for a candidate for every office, the result is that the responsibility is shifted from the practical heads of institutions and government to the minor and subordinate officials, which are merely cogs in the

### BERNSTORFF ASKS DELAY OF ACTION

Report From Submarine Commander Relative to Arabia Not Received.

#### NO COMMENT MADE BY SECRETARY LANSING.

Washington, Aug. 24.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, communicated to the state department today instructions from his government expressing regret and sympathy if Americans lost their lives in the sinking of the liner Arabia, and asking that the United States delay taking a definite stand in regard to the affair until Germany could be heard from.

This was the first word from an official German source concerning the Arabia, on which two Americans perished. Its receipt was followed by an evident relaxation of the tension which has been growing here as days pass with no indication of a desire on Germany's part to disclaim any intention of committing an act "deliberately unfriendly" toward the United States.

Await Explanation. No attempt was made either at the state department or the White House to interpret the ambassador's communication. Officials merely said that of course the American government would await the German explanation of the action of the submarine commander in striking the liner.

Count von Bernstorff telegraphed the state department from New York the text of his instructions from Berlin. It follows:

Official Instruction. "So far no official confirmation available concerning the sinking of the Arabia. The German government trusts that the American government will not take a definite stand at hearing only the report of one side which, in the opinion of the imperial government cannot correspond with the facts, but that a chance will be given to Germany to be heard equally. Although the imperial government does not doubt the good faith of the witnesses, whose statements are reported by the newspapers in Europe, it shall be borne in mind that these statements are naturally made under excitement which might easily produce wrong impressions. If Americans should have actually lost their lives this would naturally be contrary to our intention. The German government would deeply regret the fact and

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### MEDORA BRIDGE CONTRACT LET

Illinois Steel Bridge Company Puts in Successful Bid for Work.

At a meeting of the National Parks Transcontinental Highway, together with the county commissioners of Billings county, at Medora, August 23, the contract was let for the construction of the steel bridge on concrete piers to cross the Little Missouri river.

Nine bids were presented at this meeting, and the Illinois Steel Bridge company, with their northwestern agency at St. Paul, Minn., were the successful bidders.

The contract itself, apart from rip-rapping and approaches, was let for \$15,580. The rip-rapping and approaches will cost another \$1,500, making a total of about \$17,000 for its completion. The highest bid for the bridge was \$18,500.

The bridge company will begin work as soon as their machinery and materials can be gotten on the ground, and 90 days will be allowed them to complete the structure. This means that traffic over this bridge will begin about the 1st to the 15th of December.

Moneys have been pledged to cover almost the entire amount and by the time that the contractors are ready for work, the officers of the highway will have the full amount subscribed.

The supervising committee, with State Engineer Bliss as chairman, will have full control of the bridge matters.

### PLAN AUTO TOUR AS TRADE GETTER

Grand Forks, N. D., Aug. 24.—Next Wednesday morning the Grand Forks Commercial club will start a tour over northern Minnesota for the purpose of more closely uniting the trade relations with that section. The trip will cover some 160 miles and will include nine stops.

### ALLIES HAVE PLAN TO HEAL COMMERCIAL DIFFERENCES WITH U. S.; WILL BUY AT FAIR PRICE ALL OF THIS YEAR'S COTTON



Ambassador Jusserand of France, J. P. Morgan; Secretary Lansing and Ambassador Spring-Rice of England.

Details of a plan whereby Great Britain and France contemplates leading all commercial differences with the United States over the blockade of neutral European ports have been made public. Through the operation of this plan, which was presented to Secretary of State Lansing and J. P. Morgan by Ambassador Spring-Rice and approved by them, the allies expect to make a market for the entire cotton crop this year, and in addition they will attempt to purchase all quantities of wheat, corn, and packing house products which are available.

### Starvation In Wake of Flood

Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 24.—More than 4000 persons were without food today at Newport, Ark., all of the food not ruined by the overflowing waters of White River has been consumed.

The Little Rock Chamber of Commerce dispatched enough canned goods to furnish the entire town with two meals each and a special train will carry more food to the stricken town tomorrow.

### FIRE AT BEACH DESTROYS STORE

Beach, N. D., Aug. 24.—Fire believed to have been caused by a defective chimney destroyed the Geo. Christianson store and home at Williams with a loss of about \$10,000, partially covered by insurance.

### EASTMAN COMPANY IS DECLARED A MONOPOLY.

Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 24.—The Eastman Kodak Company of Rochester is a monopoly in restraint of trade, in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust laws, according to a decision handed down here late today by Judge Hazel, of the U. S. District Court. The decision grants the defendant company an opportunity to present a plan "for the abrogation of the illegal monopoly" on the third day of the November term.

No Remedy As Yet. Judge Hazel in his opinion stated that while it appeared that no irreparable hardship would result from a separation of the present business into two or more separate companies, it was not at this time intended to indicate either a dissolution, division, or reorganization.

It is no doubt possible, he said, that an adequate measure of relief might result from enjoining the unfair prejudices of the code of sale agreement and from a separation of the business, but that the defendants should have an opportunity to present to the court on the first day of November, 1915, a plan for the abrogation of the illegal monopoly and the price paid by the consumer. It is undisputed the court held, that the Eastman company controlled approximately 75 percent or 80 percent of the entire trade and had accordingly obtained a monopoly.

### IMMENSE PROFITS.

The court quoted the great gains and profits of the company for the year 1912, which amounted to \$15,633,551.33 or about 171 percent on total sales of \$24,763,407.65, as showing the large disproportion between the cost of manufacture and the price paid by the consumer. It is undisputed the court held, that the Eastman company controlled approximately 75 percent or 80 percent of the entire trade and had accordingly obtained a monopoly.

### GOVERNMENT RESTORED IN HAITI

Port au Prince, Haiti, Aug. 24.—The American government has addressed the government of Haiti expressing its desire that there be accepted without delay the draft of a convention for ten years under which there shall be established an effective control of Haitian customs as well as administration of the finances of the country under a receiver-general and American employees.

Under the terms of the convention, both municipal and rural police are to be natives, under the command however, of American officers.

The plan includes the arrangements to cede no Haitian territory to any foreign power except the United States.

Expect Reply Today. The Haitian government is expected to reply to this communication not later than noon of Wednesday.

The Haitian government has been slow in replying to the communications of the American government and accordingly the American charge handed to the Haitian authorities a note granting a delay until tomorrow noon, so that the Senate and Chamber of Deputies might vote on a resolution authorizing the executive power to sign the convention with the United States.

The deputies and senators have been in secret committee meeting to discuss the matter. They declared today that they will decline to accept in its entirety such convention as is contemplated by the American government without first discussing it.

MARINES IN CHARGE. Washington, Aug. 24.—The navy department is proceeding with preparations for an extended stay of its marines on the Haitian island. Rear Admiral Caperton has the situation well in hand, with something over 2,000 marines and bluejackets. He is to be reinforced immediately by the armored cruiser Tennessee, with a battalion of 350 additional marines.

Now that action has become necessary, the Washington administration does not intend to leave Haiti to her own resources again until necessary steps have been taken to prevent a recurrence of the events of the last eight years, during which time the little republic has had eight presidents—most of them successful revolutionists—and has been in constant trouble with her foreign debts and has been unable to guarantee the safety either of her own people or of foreigners.

Arrange Treaty. A high official of the administration explained today that the present periodic reconstruction had been deemed the opportune time to press sole object was to place the Haitian people in charge of their own destiny.

### Peer Stromme Goes to Russia

Grand Forks, N. D., Aug. 21.—Peer Stromme, the eminent Norwegian journalist and lecturer, expects to leave next week for Russia to prepare a series of the Muscovite nation in the present war. The stories will be sent back for publication.

Mr. Stromme spent some time in Germany at the opening of the Blue Ridge circuit, and prepared a number of excellent articles on his experiences there.

### SHOTS EXCHANGED OVER THE BORDER

Nogales, Ariz., Aug. 24.—Lewis Stevens, county ranger, reported today that Mexican soldiers across the border had fired upon him and two companions last night at San Antonio canyon, two miles south of Durango. The fire was returned, about 500 shots being exchanged at 500 yards range.

Douglas, Ariz., Aug. 24.—Dispatches from Nogales reported today that Yaqui Indians had attacked Hermosilla, the capital of Sonora, yesterday, but were repulsed by Carranza adherents. Twenty-six were killed during the fighting.

Nogales, Ariz., Aug. 24.—Stevens declared the Mexicans had erected breastworks at the border from behind which they fired at Americans passing along the road or trail.

It was also declared the Mexicans had two machine guns mounted, facing the border at Lochie, near where American soldiers have been fired on twice during the last seven days.

### VERDICT IN FRANK CASE IS RETURNED

Death at Hands of "Unknown Parties" Is Result of Coroner's Inquest.

#### GRAND JURY HOWEVER WILL PROBE LYNCHING.

Marietta, Ga., Aug. 24.—The Coroner's inquest here today into the lynching of Leo M. Frank, resulted in a verdict of death at the hands of "parties unknown."

Not one of the officials or other citizens examined threw the slightest light upon the identity of the man who took Frank from the State Prison Farm at Milledgeville and hanged him on the outskirts of Marietta.

Only once during the proceedings did it appear there might be a disclosure which might materially have altered the jury's conclusion. That developed during the examination of J. A. Benson, a Marietta merchant. Benson testified that he drove past the oak thicket while the cars of the "vigilants committee" were parked outside and presumably while the hanging was under way.

Mr. Benson went so far as to say that he saw one or two of the men in the party. The witness frankly stated that he had a pretty strong "sufficiency" of what was taking place, for he had been told by "Bill" Frey, further up the road that several automobiles had just "wizzed by" and it looked like something was doing "in the way of Frank."

In answer to a direct question as to the identity of the men he had seen, Benson said he did not recognize anyone. The next step in the Frank inquiry is expected to be taken when the grand jury meets at Marietta September 1st. Judge Patterson of the Blue Ridge circuit will deliver a special charge and Solicitor General Herbert Clay will direct the investigation.

### ACCIDENT FATAL TO MINNIE PRATT

Marmarth, N. D., Aug. 24.—When John Pratt, farmer south of Baker, was driving home after hiring a harvest hand, he turned the car over to the guidance of his new employe while he rode on the fender and adjusted the carburetor. The temporary chauffeur ran the car into the ditch and Miss Minnie Pratt was killed almost instantly.

### COMMERCIAL CREDIT IS ESTABLISHED

Arrangements for \$20,000,000 Credit for France Is Announced. New York, Aug. 24.—Announcement was made tonight by Brown Bros. & Co. that arrangements for a \$20,000,000 French commercial export credit have been completed and the credit issued.

"The purpose of the credit," the bankers say in their announcement, "is to enable American exporters to be paid in dollars in the United States, eliminating any risk of exchange and the facilitating our exports. It will also enable French buyers of American merchandise and other commodities who have found it difficult, owing to extraordinary conditions now prevailing, to pay exchange with which to settle their accounts with American merchants."

"The credit is for a period of one year and is to be available by drafts at 90 days' sight. Care has been taken to comply with the requirements of our banking laws relating to commercial acceptance."

### EXPLODE BOMBS IN POLICE STATION

Grand Forks, N. D., Aug. 24.—Three miniature German gas bombs were exploded in the Grand Forks police station Saturday evening and spread such fumes that Sergeant Gray and several of the patrolmen were forced to leave the room. The perpetrator of the joke was soon discovered and those affected promise to even matters in the near future.

### NEW HEAD FOR HARMON ELEVATOR

Mandan, Aug. 24.—W. R. Smith of Brown's Valley, Minn., arrived this morning and will have charge of the Marmon Farmers elevator, which was purchased recently by the Mandan Farmers from the Occident people. Mr. Smith comes well recommended and will go on the job at Harmon tomorrow. The elevator will be ready to receive grain this week.

### OPTIMISTIC REPORTS FROM DARDANELLES

Turkish Resistance on Gallipoli Peninsula Seems To Be Weakening.

#### BULGARIA LIKELY TO JOIN ALLIES.

Russians Continue To Fall Back Before Onslaught of Germans. London, Aug. 24.—Optimistic reports concerning operations on the Gallipoli peninsula have been in circulation for the past few days and prophecies are freely made that a few weeks will see the close of the Allies' most difficult task in the near east. The Turks also expect the Anglo-French forces to be successful in reaching Solia from Constantinople in a few days.

In fact, it is felt here now that so far as the Dardanelles is concerned it is a matter of indifference to the Allies whether the Balkan States lend a hand. Their assistance is wanted, however, against Austria and also to shorten Turkish resistance, if the Straits are opened.

For reasons, negotiations with the near Eastern capitals are being watched with interest and the decision of Serbia on the proposals of the Quartermaster Entente for satisfying the aspirations of Bulgaria, which will be reached at a council of ministers tomorrow is anxiously awaited.

Serbia's Reply. It is believed in London that Serbia's reply will be satisfactory and that Bulgaria's co-operation will be assured.

In the meantime the Austro-German armies are aiming more heavy blows at Russia in the hope of putting her on the defensive indefinitely and permitting the removal of some of their own troops to other fronts, particularly Serbia and Italy in the hope of repeating their eastern successes.

The Russians are encouraged, however, by their naval victory in the Gulf of Riga, which has delayed Field Marshal von Hindenburg's great outflanking movement through Courland and are offering very stiff resistance at almost every point in the Balkan provinces.

While the Russians are falling back east and south of Kovno, it is explained by Petrograd that this was necessary to prevent them from being outflanked.

Germans Progressing. On all sides of Brest-Litovsk the Austro-Germans claim to be making progress while well to the southeast of the fortress the Austrians report their cavalry has entered Kovov, an important railway junction on the line to Kiev and Kovov.

There has been heavy fighting in the positions of the opposing armies. Rumanian Activity. Cologne, via London, Aug. 24.—According to the Cologne Gazette the railroads of Rumania have received orders to place all rolling stock at the disposition of the minister of war on September 14th.

Situation Is Grave. London, Aug. 24.—The British steamer Sylvia, has been sunk. Her crew was saved. The population of Constantinople considers the situation grave, according to information received at Solia, Bulgaria, says a Reuter dispatch. Violent fighting has been in progress on the Gallipoli peninsula for the past week, and it is declared thousands of wounded are arriving every day at Constantinople. At the same time, thousands of fresh troops are being sent to the Dardanelles front. The scarcity of bread and coal is said to have added to the general feeling of depression.

GEN. HUGHES KNIGHTED. London, Aug. 24.—Gen. Samuel Hughes, Canadian minister of military, was knighted this afternoon during an audience with King George in Buckingham palace.

GERMANS DENY LOSS. Amsterdam, via London, Aug. 24.—Official denial of the Russian claim to a great naval victory in the Gulf of Riga were made by the German admiralty, in an official statement issued tonight.

All claims made by the Russians were repudiated. The admiralty claim that no dreadnought was lost, and repeat their assertions made August 21, that only a small cruiser was sunk and two torpedo boat destroyers put out of commission. The Germans also claim to have sunk two Russian cruisers.

TRIBUTE TO TURKS. Turkish Headquarters on the Gallipoli Peninsula, via London, Aug. 24.—Field Marshal Limma von Sanders, the Pasha, commander of the Fifth army, in an interview with the Associated Press, today, said: "Bravery and gallantry and physical and mental stamina make the Turks antagonists to be feared, as our enemies have already discovered. As a result we are able to shape the future without misgiving, even should the enemy increase."