

## GERMANS SLOWLY DRIVING ASSAULT ON VERDUN TO THE INNER FORTRESSES

### WAS SUSSEX TORPEDOED BY TEUTONS?

Persistent Attacks Are Reported in the Regions of Bethancourt.

### OFFICIAL STATEMENTS ARE VERY CONFLICTING

Uncle Samuel Placed in Position of Judge in Case in Court of Law.

London, April 8.—Persistent attempts by the Germans to reduce the salients in the French lines northwest of Verdun are resulting in steady progress for the operations. Attacks are being driven home on both sides of the salient, at the northern angle of which lies the village of Bethancourt, but more particularly on the western edge in the vicinity of Haucourt.

Berlin reports the capture of two strong points of support to the south of Haucourt, which passed recently into German hands, and an entire French position along a front of more than a mile and a quarter, coming into Teutonic possession. Paris has admitted German advances here, but declares that on the opposite side of the salient the advantage in the recent fighting has been with the French.

On the eastern front there have been no operations of major importance, so far as the official reports show.

Violent fighting is taking place on the Austro-Italian front, the Austrians being on the aggressive in several sectors, and reporting considerable successes, with the capture of numerous prisoners.

Three Austrian aeroplanes, which were part of a squadron which raided railroad stations back of the hostile line, failed to return to their base and apparently have fallen victims to the Italians' fire.

Paris reports the sinking of an Austrian transport in the Adriatic by a French submarine. A Berlin dispatch states that the German government is able to announce that no German submarine was responsible for the explosion which damaged the cross channel steamer, Sussex.

Disclaims Submarining Sussex. Germany's disclaimer of the responsibility for the destruction of the channel steamer, Sussex, surrounds the submarine situation with further difficulties and may turn action, if any be taken from the Sussex case itself, into the accumulation of ships destroyed without warning since Germany gave assurances governing the submarine campaign.

Gather More Evidence. Before the next step is taken, the collection of evidence intended to prove legally 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.

Discussion Expected Soon. The situation will be discussed at Tuesday's cabinet meeting and then decision is expected.

The apparent difficulties of proving the Sussex case alone leaves many officials close to the President to believe the situation will hinge on accumulative evidences that Germany's promises are being disregarded by her commanders. Upon the strength of that evidence, as it is finally judged by the president and cabinet, will depend what steps, if any, the United States will take at this time.

Uncle Sam, Judge. 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 the decision. The final decision will be rendered by President Wilson. It is likely, if drastic action is called for, congress will be consulted.

While it will be difficult for the United States to question the good faith of Germany, the administration is prepared to act upon circumstantial evidence of sufficient strength, should it be secured. All the evidence thus far indicates that the Sussex was torpedoed. There are two weaknesses in the case of the United States, however. One is that no American citizen saw the wake of the torpedo. The other is that there is, as far as known, no conclusive evidence at this time that the metal fragments, said to be a part of a German torpedo, actually were removed from the Sussex.

(Continued on Page Two)

## Thirty-Two Foot Stage at La Crosse

Crest of Flood Expected to Arrive in Mississippi River Today.

LaCrosse, April 8.—With the stage of water above 32 feet, the crest of the Mississippi river flood is expected to be reached here Sunday. The stream came up only two inches today. Team travel between LaCrosse and French Island and Onalaska is shut off by washed out roads. Farmers on Goose Island are marooned in houses by water. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy work trains are still pouring tons of rock and gravel out on the railroad's right of way south of here to stop washing away of the banks, where the flood is cutting in. Stocks of merchandise in basements of wholesale houses along the river have been damaged by water entering cellars.

## CONSTITUENT WANTS ROUND POSTOFFICE

So That When Men Are Fighting the Invaders, Women Can See the Fray.

### SEN. KENYON SCORES PORK BARREL PLANS

Washington, April 8.—Legislators who seek to cloak all sorts of proposals under a plea of preparedness were denounced in the senate today by Senator Kenyon. In a speech opposing a proposal to provide in the army bill for a government owned fertilizer plant, the Iowa senator read a letter from a former constituent, urging support for a postoffice building "round like a fort," and with ornamental turrets and peaks for look-outs so that "when the men are at the front fighting an invader, the women and children can take refuge in the postoffice."

Traitor If Honest "Of course if you side against your country and are untrue to the flag," said the letter, "you will oppose this building."

"First we passed the Shields dam bill," said Senator Kenyon, "because it was a preparedness bill. Then came along another dam bill, which we were urged to pass as a part of the national defense. The child labor bill and the rural credits bill certainly are included as means of securing us against foes, and I suppose when the rivers and harbors appropriation bill comes along every supporter of sand bottom and mud creek will insist that the safety of the nation requires an appropriation for his particular county seat."

## ALASKAN JUSTICE COMES QUITE HIGH

United States Marshal Goes on a 1200 Mile Trip to Secure Witnesses.

Seward, Alaska, April 8.—A drunken brawl in which an Indian killed a white man, started U. S. District Attorney, William Spence, from here today on a 1200 mile trip by boat to Unga, near the western tip of the Aleutian Islands. He went to see whether Simon Verskin, the Indian, should be brought here for trial, with the necessary witnesses at large expense to the government. Verskin claims he shot in self defense. Administration of justice in western Alaska comes high, because of the great distance involved in transporting witnesses.

The Coast guard cutter Tahoma was wrecked while enroute for additional witnesses in a recent case, and several of her crew were drowned. The boat carrying the prisoners to the revenue cutter was upset.

## CONSIDERATION OF SUGAR REPEAL BILL, MONDAY

All the Rest of the Time Will Be Given to Army Organization Legislation.

### FINAL VOTE ON MEASURE APRIL 18

Senator J. Ham Objects to Waste of Legislative Time on Preparedness.

Washington, April 8.—With the final vote on the army organization bill assured in the senate on April 18, there still is much speculation as to the probable final form in which the first of the great national preparedness measures will go to the joint conference committee of both houses.

The senate agreed today to devote to the army bill all its sessions between now and April 18, with the exception of next Monday and Tuesday, which were reserved for discussion of the free sugar repeal bill. The agreement contemplates final disposition of the army bill before April 18.

Some senators anticipated that a considerable increase will be made by the senate over the senate's proposal to fix the peace strength of the standing army at 4,000 enlisted men. Both republican and democratic members have declared on the floor they would support amendments for a greater figure, some advocating as large a force as 300,000. Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the military committee, originally proposed a peace strength of 220,000 men.

There are indications that the recent battle in the senate over the volunteer army plan will have an important bearing on the committee.

The debate in the senate today was confined to the government nitrate project.

### J. HAM LEWIS ON TIME.

Senator Lewis took the senate to task for the time it was devoting to consideration of the bill. "The senate," he said, "manifests a disposition to avoid responsibility. We should either round the country with force or we should announce to the country that force is not needed and direct our attention to the discussion of legislation for the advancement of the nation's civil life."

Declaring the diplomatic situation was precarious and that the Mexican problem "multiplied embarrassments," Senator Lewis added: "We cannot utter a doctrine and ignore its execution."

## MESSAGES, ANNOUNCING DEATHS, ARE CROSSED

Mother and Son Die Within Three Hours of Each Other; Pioneers of State.

Devils Lake, N. D., April 8.—Some-where between Devils Lake and Los Angeles, Cal., telegrams passed yesterday, announcing deaths of Mrs. Anna Walter Pennington, of this city, and her son, Thomas Pennington, of Los Angeles. Three hours after the son expired on the coast, his mother expired here at the age of 91 years. Five children, 28 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren survive. Mrs. Pennington, whose body was interred at Lakota today.

## HUGHES' MAN ELECTED TO THE CHAIRMANSHIP

New York Republican Chairman Goes on Record as Opposing Roosevelt.

### WANTS MAN OF TRIED REPUBLICANISM

Mr. Tanner Would Not Make His Choice Between Root and Justice.

New York, April 8.—Responding to a plea that a crisis confronts both the republican party and the country and that the national situation ought to take precedence over factional disputes, the newly elected state committee here today elected Frederick T. Tanner of this city, chairman.

The result was regarded by the chairman's friends as adding strength to the movement favoring Supreme Justice Charles E. Hughes for the presidency, and toward a renomination for Governor Charles S. Whitman.

Mr. Tanner's supporters placed this interpretation on his re-election because of the fact that State Senator Charles W. Wicks, of Utica, his defeated rival, was put forward by William Barnes of Albany, United States Senator James W. Wadsworth, State Senator Elton R. Brown and others, who favored the nomination of Elihu Root at the Chicago convention. The Tanner faction supported the Hughes movement.

The vote polled today was 82 for Mr. Tanner to 63 for Mr. Wicks.

No Candidate Mentioned. No candidate for president was mentioned either by speakers or resolutions adopted after Mr. Tanner's re-election. 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 management of foreign and domestic affairs."

Mr. Tanner later said he was Continued on Page Six.

## Take the Tip

Listen to what Herman Rosefield, advertising manager of Sears, Roebuck & Co., recently told the members of the American Ad Club at a convention. "We have a bureau whose duty it is to read, each week, the country newspapers from all over the country. There is not a paper of any consequence in our trade territory that our bureau does not get. This bureau looks over these papers and when we find a town where the merchants are not advertising in the local paper we immediately flood that territory with our literature. It always brings results far in excess of the same effort put forth in territory where the local merchants all the time use their local paper." Could we find a stronger argument as to the need of advertising by the local merchant?

The power of advertising cannot be measured. It is tremendous and successful men everywhere are giving it more attention than ever.

## PUNITIVE EXPEDITION INTO MEXICO RECALLS WAR OF 1847



Entrance of U. S. army into City of Mexico, September 14, 1847. From a contemporaneous print. The presence of a small American army in Mexico today recalls the war which this country had with the republic to the south in 1846-1847. The trouble arose over the annexation of Texas. The Mexicans were defeated in every battle and the stars and stripes were unfurled over the capitol at Mexico City on September 14, 1847.

## Arrested for Alleged Murder

Detectives Coming to Minneapolis to Secure Mr. and Mrs. Dudie.

Minneapolis, April 8.—Benjamin Dudie and his wife, said to be wanted in Des Moines, Ia., in connection with a murder, were arrested at a bank here, today, and are being held for the Des Moines police. The pair had called to collect some money which the police say they had sent by express to the bank.

Detectives left Des Moines tonight for Minneapolis to identify Mr. and Mrs. Dudie and take them back to Des Moines. Mr. and Mrs. Dudie are charged with the murder of their infant daughter, Rosa, whose body was found here recently in a heap of refuse, near where they lived.

## BOB BURMAN AND MECHANIC KILLED IN RACE

Woman Alleged to Have Stolen Diamond Pin From the Dying Man.

GUARD ALSO DIED AT RACE TRACK

Wife of Noted Auto Driver With Her Husband Until the Last.

Corona, April 8.—Bob Burman, of Detroit, noted automobile racer, his mechanic, Edick Schepeler, of Chicago, and a track guard, are dead tonight as a result of the overturning of Burman's car in the Corona road race here today. Five spectators were injured.

300 Miles in 3 1/2 Hours. The race was won by Eddie O'Donnell, who covered the 301 miles in 3 hours, 29 minutes, 52 seconds. Joe Thomas was second, with a time of 3 hours, 36 minutes, 1 second, and Eddie Pullen, third, with 3 hours, 38 minutes, 36 2/3 seconds. Teddie Tezloff, and R. C. Durant, finished fourth and fifth respectively.

Burman died in the city hospital at Riverside, 12 miles away, where he was taken from a temporary race track hospital.

Stole Diamond from Dying. Mrs. Burman was with her husband soon after the accident and remained with him until he died. As she stood beside him in the council chamber of the Corona city hall, where Burman was taken after the accident, a woman came beside the cot. After she left, Mrs. Burman accused her of taking a diamond pin from him valued at \$800.00. A. C. Ramsey, chief of police, ordered the woman searched. He reported that two nurses found concealed under her corset the diamond pin, which Mrs. Burman alleged was taken from her husband. The woman was held pending the filing of a formal charge.

THE WEATHER. North Dakota: Generally fair Sunday and Monday; warmer in east portions; cooler Monday.

## UNITED STATES TROOPS NOT TO BE WITHDRAWN UNTIL VILLA IS CAUGHT

### Red River Endangering Grand Forks

Swollen Stream Will Reach Within Fifteen Feet of Main Business Street.

Fargo, April 8.—H. F. Chandler of the University of North Dakota, engaged in government river survey work, and who was here today, declared the outlook for northern Red river valley is brighter, so far as flood dangers are concerned.

Mr. Chandler investigated water conditions here and south of here, and estimated tonight that Red river would reach its crest at Grand Forks probably on Tuesday, when it would rise to a point within 15 feet of the level of the streets in the main district. The cold weather this week spared the Red river district from the worst flood of its history.

## \$200,000 IN RESERVE NOTES STOLEN IN N. Y.

James Moran Surrendered to Authorities in California; Admits Theft.

WAS AFTER MILLION DOLLARS OF LOOT

Los Angeles, April 8.—Approximately \$200,000, consisting of four packages of federal reserve notes, and one package of jewelry was the loot taken by James Moran, alias James G. Maggs, and three companions, from a mail truck in New York, February 26, according to a second confession which the Federal officers said the prisoner made here late today.

Moran was said to have told the officers today that he and his companion had orders to get \$1,000,000, but that they were unable to find more than the five packages of valuables.

Surrendered to Officers. Moran was brought here today from San Diego, where he surrendered last night to government authorities. He was questioned for several hours by Albert Schoonover, U. S. District Attorney; C. H. Walter, U. S. Marshal, and C. E. Webster, chief postal inspector.

Inspector Webster said he believed approximately \$200,000 was the amount taken by the robbers, as this sum tallies with the amounts reported missing by the postal authorities. Local government officials said that none of the money or jewelry taken had been recovered.

## REORGANIZE THE AERONAUTIC PLANS

Make All Aeroplanes Correspond to Military Types. Presented Much Information.

New York, April 8.—Elmer A. Sperry, chairman of the committee of aeronautics of the Naval Consulting board announced in reports issued after a meeting here today that the committee acting through the American Society of Aeronautical Engineers, has inaugurated the work of the Standardization of the whole American aeronautic industry, "especially from the military standpoint."

Mr. Sperry's report sets forth that about 160 flights and engine experts have been mobilized and are working in 17 different committees in co-operation with the different branches of the government aerial service and that automobile builders are building types of engines.

Mr. Sperry also made known the fact that the committee has obtained from the European war zone, important information about flying at night or over water bodies where no landings are possible.

## SECRETARY BAKER DENIES SUCH REPORTS

Fair Chance of Accomplishing Purpose for Which Punitive Expedition Started.

NO ORDER TO KILL OR CAPTURE BANDIT

Is Made Known to Public by Major General Scott and War Department.

Washington, April 8.—Secretary Baker informally denying today that immediate withdrawing from Mexico of the Expeditionary force was contemplated, said that the War department had information that the troops were close on the trail of Villa and the expedition might soon accomplish the purpose for which it was sent over the border.

Object to Disperse Bandits. "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 of Any Kind. Reports that preparations for withdrawal were under way were declared by Mr. Baker to have "absolutely no basis of any kind."

Publication today of the text of the original army order to cross the border a month ago reveals that no specified 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 U. S. troops "would be regarded finished as soon as Villa's hand or hands 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."

Order Still Unchanged. Secretary Baker and General Scott said the order was unchanged; that no new or supplemental order had been given and that General Funston had not yet reported that the American expedition's object had been attained. It was recalled that on the day the troops crossed, Secretary Baker said their object was "to capture or disperse" the bandits who raided Columbus.

Lansing Issues Statement. Secretary Lansing also issued a statement today stating he knew of no intention to withdraw the troops. It was stated officially today that General Funston's orders were broad enough to include dealing personally with Villa if he should be encountered. Satisfaction with the transportation situation was indicated today at the state department.

Pursuit Halted. The pursuit of Villa has been brought to a halt, according to a statement made here tonight by an American army officer.

"There is no use blinking at the facts," said "Even a lunatic should be able to understand that General Pershing with the relatively small number of men under his command cannot maintain lines of communication anywhere from 300 to 500 miles long, and at the same time press the pursuit of a bandit into a country where he is known to have thousands of sympathizers if not active supporters."

"Withdrawal Bitter Pill." "With the free use of the Mexican railroads, we still could hope to effect something, but there is no hope of such a concession, at least at present. I know nothing about reports of withdrawing troops is contemplated. That is a question for Washington to decide. It is hardly necessary for me to say that it is a solution that would be a bitter pill for us."

Sensational Developments Seen. Statements of officials here and in Juarez, coupled with Washington dispatches are accepted that a speedy and sensational development in the situation is coming. In connection with this feeling, reports continue to come from a dozen different sources from the concentration of Carranza troops near the border. These reports come in such a manner that they cannot be ignored and it is known that they have been forwarded to Washington as credible.

Burned Million Dollar Bill. A train which arrived here today from Chihuahua City, with several Americans, including two women, brought a story of the burning of the million dollar plant of the Durango

(Continued on Page Eight)