

GERMANS FALL BACK IN EAST

Slowly Withdrawing Forces Toward East Prussian Frontier.

NEW OFFENSIVE NOT DEVELOPED

Great Battle Expected Southeast of Warsaw Not Yet Begun—Berlin Still Optimistic Over Situation in East—Bulgaria Wrestling With Cabinet Crisis Similar to That of Greece—Dardanelles Forts Fall.

London, March 9.—Obtinate fighting marks the battles along the eastern front of the continent with the Germans slowly withdrawing from the river Niemen in the direction of their own East Prussian frontier.

At the same time the new offensive against Warsaw evidently has not as yet developed into the great engagement as was expected.

In the western area of the war the only new feature has been the allied attack on Ostend. In the Champagne region, where the French have been assuming the offensive, a snow storm has given the troops an enforced rest.

Judging from the statement made yesterday by the British admiralty, it is apparent only one merchantman has fallen a victim to the submarine blockade of the Germans since Feb. 25.

The first hint of British retaliation against the German submarine raids is conveyed in a statement that officers and crew of the U-8, which fell a prey to a flotilla of torpedo boat destroyers, will be denied the usual privileges of prisoners of war.

Press comment from Berlin indicates optimism over the eastern situation. The Turkish reports that the Dardanelles are impregnable are endorsed and the papers state King Constantine will hold to a course of neutrality.

CRISIS IN BULGARIA.

Premier Resigns Because of Disagreement Over War Policy.

Paris, March 9.—A ministerial crisis similar to that in Greece has occurred in Bulgaria. Premier Radoloff is reported to have been overthrown by the influence of King Ferdinand, the followers of Dr. Ghenadiev, former minister, because he desired to take immediate action against Turkey by taking Adrianople.

Radoloff's opponents are said to have declared this policy, which would have placed Bulgaria in opposition to Germany and Austria, as an agreement to march on Adrianople if Greece announced for the triple entente and that the premier made such an announcement when the question of intervention came up.

TO FORM NEW CABINET.

Gounaris to Undertake to Organize Ministry For King Constantine.

Athens, via Paris, March 9.—M. Gounaris, deputy for Pataras, has consented, at the request of King Constantine, to undertake the task of forming a new cabinet. It is reported that M. Baltadja, who was foreign minister in the Theotokis cabinet, has consented to take that portfolio again.

M. Gounaris will submit his list of ministers to the king tomorrow, it is understood, and obtain an agreement that the chamber be dissolved if the supporters of the ministry is in the minority.

Greece has been facing a cabinet crisis since the end of last week, when M. Zeiselios, the premier who favors Greek participation in the war on the side of the allies, resigned because his policy did not meet the approval of King Constantine, who desired that the country remain neutral.

AFRAID OF WAR.

Paris, March 9.—M. Rhalys, a former prime minister of Greece, in an interview at Athens printed in the Matin, says King Constantine acted on the advice of his general staff in opposing the policy of intervention. The staff was of the opinion that an expedition against Constantinople would weaken the military situation on the Bulgarian frontier.

ROMANIA READY FOR WAR.

Bucharest, Roumania, via Paris, March 9.—The Roumanian senate today adopted a bill empowering the government to proclaim martial law throughout the country whenever deemed necessary.

TWO SHIPS DAMAGED.

Allied Fleet Gains Another Step But Suffers Slightly.

London, March 9.—The British and French fleets have battered their way a step nearer to Constantinople, not however, without damage to the ships engaged and the battle royal for the Dardanelles continues. More Turkish forts on the Asiatic side have been silenced, according to a statement by the British admiralty, but the Turks are making a terrific resistance and the shells from their German-made guns have found more than one mark on the beleaguering craft.

From the number of ships engaged and the size and range of the guns, the battle of the Dardanelles is unlike anything in history, according to naval experts. At 21,000 yards the huge battleship Queen Elizabeth of the

WARSHIPS GO TO VERA CRUZ

United States Cruiser and Battleship Ordered to Mexican Waters.

CARRANZA DENIES WILSON'S CHARGES

Admiral Fletcher Dispatches Battleship Georgia and Cruiser Washington to Vera Cruz to Await Developments—Action Taken to Appease Complaints of Foreign Representatives With Interests in Mexico City.

Washington, March 9.—While awaiting a reply to the presentations to Carranza asking immediate improvement of conditions in Mexico City, the administration today took steps to carry out what most of the foreign diplomatic corps here interpret as an entire change of attitude toward the Mexican situation.

Rear Admiral Fletcher was ordered to send two battleships to Vera Cruz. The admiral himself, who commanded the force which took the town from Huerta last April, will not go, but he was instructed to send a flag officer to take command.

Must Protect Foreigners. President Wilson said Carranza had been called on to protect foreigners in Mexico City. The president reiterated that the government had presented its views of what it considered to be the situation in Mexico City. He said it was necessary to discount reports a great deal, as many persons desired intervention. When the president was asked if the latest note to Carranza was an ultimatum, he replied that the administration did not issue an ultimatum but expressed its views and acted accordingly.

Outrages Feared. President Wilson referred to fear of outrages in Mexico City as being more pressing than anything that had as yet occurred.

No request had come from any foreign government, the president said, for action by the United States in Mexico, although diplomatic representatives of foreign countries had expressed their anxiety.

The ships going to Vera Cruz may be under command of Rear Admiral Maro, whose flagship is the Arkansas; Rear Admiral Bush, whose flag is on the Utah; Rear Admiral Coffman, of the third division, whose flagship is the Virginia, or Rear Admiral McLean, commanding the fourth division, whose flag is on the Connecticut.

FLETCHER PICKS SHIPS.

No complaint has come as to conditions in the territory under control of Villa. Duval West, personal representative of the president, who has been conferring with General Villa, is now on his way to Mexico City, where he will make an investigation of conditions there.

Admiral Fletcher selected the armored cruiser Washington, now in Haitian waters, with Rear Admiral Caperton, and the battleship Georgia, commanded by Capt. Robert R. Coontz, now at Guantanamo, to proceed to Vera Cruz.

The selection of ships was left to Admiral Fletcher and shortly after noon he reported what orders he had given.

The Washington carries forty-one officers and 902 men, and is commanded by Commander Beach. The Georgia is one of the first-line battleships of the third division. She carried forty-nine officers and 864 men. The Washington is a little faster than the Georgia. Both ships should be at Vera Cruz by Thursday evening.

ONLY MOVE CONTEMPLATED.

After the cabinet meeting it was said the sending of the battleships to Vera Cruz was the only move at present contemplated. Secretary Daniels said the Washington and Georgia had no orders other than to proceed to Vera Cruz at once. It was declared generally that the course of the United States depended upon the attitude of Carranza.

SECRETARY DANIELS SAID SHIPS AT GUANTANAMO HAVE PLenty OF MARINES ON BOARD.

General Carranza in an oral reply to American Consul Silliman when the latter presented the note from the United States government, entered a United States denial that General Obregon had prevented food from entering the city or sent any supplies out of the city.

CARRANZA PROMISED AN EARLY REPLY.

Mr. Silliman reported. Eliso Arrendo, hitherto Washington representative of Carranza and other advisers, were present during the conference. The officials did not disclose the contents of Mr. Silliman's note.

Consul Silliman's dispatches saying the American note was formally presented to General Carranza arrived early today and was laid before President Wilson. Some of the cabinet members felt encouraged in the belief that Carranza would give assurance of protection for foreigners and prevent a crisis.

No further word has been received showing whether Obregon would evacuate whether Obregon would leave a small garrison there.

OTHER WARSHIPS ON WAY.

Only one vessel, the battleship Delaware, is at Vera Cruz, but five warships will be in that vicinity in a few days. The cruiser Tacoma left Fort- at-Prince, Haiti, during the day, under orders to proceed at once to Vera Cruz; the gunboat Petrel already is en route from Mobile, Ala., and the cruiser Des Moines is bound from Progreso to Vera Cruz, while the gunboat

WARSHIPS GO TO VERA CRUZ

United States Cruiser and Battleship Ordered to Mexican Waters.

CARRANZA DENIES WILSON'S CHARGES

Admiral Fletcher Dispatches Battleship Georgia and Cruiser Washington to Vera Cruz to Await Developments—Action Taken to Appease Complaints of Foreign Representatives With Interests in Mexico City.

Washington, March 9.—While awaiting a reply to the presentations to Carranza asking immediate improvement of conditions in Mexico City, the administration today took steps to carry out what most of the foreign diplomatic corps here interpret as an entire change of attitude toward the Mexican situation.

Rear Admiral Fletcher was ordered to send two battleships to Vera Cruz. The admiral himself, who commanded the force which took the town from Huerta last April, will not go, but he was instructed to send a flag officer to take command.

Must Protect Foreigners. President Wilson said Carranza had been called on to protect foreigners in Mexico City. The president reiterated that the government had presented its views of what it considered to be the situation in Mexico City. He said it was necessary to discount reports a great deal, as many persons desired intervention. When the president was asked if the latest note to Carranza was an ultimatum, he replied that the administration did not issue an ultimatum but expressed its views and acted accordingly.

Outrages Feared. President Wilson referred to fear of outrages in Mexico City as being more pressing than anything that had as yet occurred.

No request had come from any foreign government, the president said, for action by the United States in Mexico, although diplomatic representatives of foreign countries had expressed their anxiety.

The ships going to Vera Cruz may be under command of Rear Admiral Maro, whose flagship is the Arkansas; Rear Admiral Bush, whose flag is on the Utah; Rear Admiral Coffman, of the third division, whose flagship is the Virginia, or Rear Admiral McLean, commanding the fourth division, whose flag is on the Connecticut.

FLETCHER PICKS SHIPS.

No complaint has come as to conditions in the territory under control of Villa. Duval West, personal representative of the president, who has been conferring with General Villa, is now on his way to Mexico City, where he will make an investigation of conditions there.

Admiral Fletcher selected the armored cruiser Washington, now in Haitian waters, with Rear Admiral Caperton, and the battleship Georgia, commanded by Capt. Robert R. Coontz, now at Guantanamo, to proceed to Vera Cruz.

The selection of ships was left to Admiral Fletcher and shortly after noon he reported what orders he had given.

The Washington carries forty-one officers and 902 men, and is commanded by Commander Beach. The Georgia is one of the first-line battleships of the third division. She carried forty-nine officers and 864 men. The Washington is a little faster than the Georgia. Both ships should be at Vera Cruz by Thursday evening.

ONLY MOVE CONTEMPLATED.

After the cabinet meeting it was said the sending of the battleships to Vera Cruz was the only move at present contemplated. Secretary Daniels said the Washington and Georgia had no orders other than to proceed to Vera Cruz at once. It was declared generally that the course of the United States depended upon the attitude of Carranza.

SECRETARY DANIELS SAID SHIPS AT GUANTANAMO HAVE PLenty OF MARINES ON BOARD.

General Carranza in an oral reply to American Consul Silliman when the latter presented the note from the United States government, entered a United States denial that General Obregon had prevented food from entering the city or sent any supplies out of the city.

CARRANZA PROMISED AN EARLY REPLY.

Mr. Silliman reported. Eliso Arrendo, hitherto Washington representative of Carranza and other advisers, were present during the conference. The officials did not disclose the contents of Mr. Silliman's note.

Consul Silliman's dispatches saying the American note was formally presented to General Carranza arrived early today and was laid before President Wilson. Some of the cabinet members felt encouraged in the belief that Carranza would give assurance of protection for foreigners and prevent a crisis.

No further word has been received showing whether Obregon would evacuate whether Obregon would leave a small garrison there.

OTHER WARSHIPS ON WAY.

Only one vessel, the battleship Delaware, is at Vera Cruz, but five warships will be in that vicinity in a few days. The cruiser Tacoma left Fort- at-Prince, Haiti, during the day, under orders to proceed at once to Vera Cruz; the gunboat Petrel already is en route from Mobile, Ala., and the cruiser Des Moines is bound from Progreso to Vera Cruz, while the gunboat

SACRAMENTO IS AT TAMPCICO.

Other available light-draft vessels—more valuable than battleships in tropical waters—are the gunboats Wheeling and Nashville, being held in readiness with the remainder of the Washington, in Haitian and Dominican waters.

The entire Atlantic fleet of twenty-one first-class battleships is at Guantanamo, within two and a half days' sail of Vera Cruz.

Mr. Daniels gave this summary of the position of the warships, but declined to discuss future movements. That conditions have again reached an acute crisis was admitted at all the government departments. Asked whether the United States intended to use physical force to obtain compliance with its requests, Secretary Bryan replied that "nothing had been decided upon yet beyond representations" and that it was best to meet situations "as they arose."

The latest reports from Mexico City indicate a menacing condition of affairs for 25,000 foreigners there, of whom 2,500 are Americans. The Carranza authorities have commandeered all the medicines and medical supplies in the chief hospital and sent them to Vera Cruz.

A appeal has been made to the United States to dispatch a hospital ship to Vera Cruz to send medical supplies to Mexico City, and the Mexican Red Cross has sent an urgent petition thru the American Red Cross for protection against the Carranza authorities and permission to direct to the Carranza relief committee in handling the starving population.

Typhus fever and smallpox have broken out in the capital, as well as at Tampico.

OBREGON TO QUIT CAPITAL.

In the face of threatened risks and fame in the Carranza case, the State Department received a note from the Carranza government, which had been transmitted to all diplomatic representatives in Mexico City, announcing that the capital would be evacuated by the forces of General Obregon.

Secretary Bryan, with the statement that while Carranza had "invited" the diplomatic corps to move to Vera Cruz or to any other town under his jurisdiction, stating that this would not be considered by him as an act of recognition, he felt that their departure from the City of Mexico would not be best for the foreign interests under their care.

It became known that the dean of the diplomatic corps, in declining the invitation, had indicated to Carranza that if he felt in Mexico might resent their departure to any town under control of Carranza.

RELIEF FOR PROGRESO.

Mobile, Ala., March 9.—Relief for the suffering people of Progreso, Mexico, was sent on here in the schooner John Paul, which sailed today with 3,000 barrels of flour, 2,000 sacks of grain and some general merchandise.

GOULDS SURRENDER RAILROAD CONTROL

Members of Famous Family of Financiers Expected to Be Retired From Connection With Missouri Pacific and Iron Mountain Roads.

St. Louis, March 9.—The passing of the Goulds from official connection with the Missouri Pacific-Iron Mountain system was expected to take place at the annual meeting of the two roads today. Enough proxies to control the elections were in the hands of representatives of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., of New York, and of the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, and just before the balloting began it was known that one of the three Goulds—George J. Kinton and Frank J.—would be elected to the directorate of either the Missouri Pacific or the Iron Mountain.

George J. Gould is now chairman of the boards of both roads and it was thought that E. C. Bush, now president of both roads, would be elected as chairman of the two boards today.

It was thought that the vote would be in by noon and that shortly after noon the new boards of directors would choose chairmen.

The balloting was completed before noon and the Goulds were eliminated from the directorates of the two roads. The new directors of the Missouri Pacific are Edward A. Faust, Edward Lee and E. J. Pearson, of St. Louis, and Nicholas F. Brady, Newcomb-Carlson, A. J. Hemphill, Cornelius Vanderbilt and W. H. Williams, of New York.

The new directors of the Iron Mountain are Nicholas F. Brady, Newcomb-Carlson, A. J. Hemphill, Cornelius Vanderbilt, W. H. Williams and Festus J. Wade, the latter a banker in St. Louis.

WILL EXTEND \$25,000,000 LOAN.

New York, March 9.—Among the business matters to come up at the St. Louis meetings of the Missouri Pacific railroad, Kuhn, Loeb & Co., has announced it is making a provision for the extension of the \$25,000,000 loan, maturing June 1.

EXPLOSION IN GERMAN ARMORY.

Fourteen Men Killed and Seventy Injured at Antwerp.

London, March 9.—The Central News correspondent at Amsterdam telegraphs that fourteen men were killed today and seventy injured by an explosion in a German arsenal at Antwerp.

AMES WOMAN DEAD.

Special to Times-Republican. Ames, March 9.—Mrs. A. P. Griffith, a resident of Ames for the past twenty-three years, died at her home Sunday morning. Mrs. Griffith was 78 years of age and came to Iowa county, Iowa, in 1853. Funeral services were held this afternoon.

EVELYN NESBIT TO ASSIST THAW

Famous Matteawan Refugee Being Persecuted Says Former Wife.

HERETOFORE HAS OPPOSED HARRY

Deputy Attorney General Kennedy Outlines History of Case Since Slaying of Stanford White—Methods by Which Thaw Might Have Obtained Release Explained by the Opposing Counsel.

New York, March 9.—It was announced today by an official of the court that Evelyn Nesbit Thaw would appear as a witness in Harry Thaw's behalf in his present trial. In his previous trials Evelyn Nesbit has appeared against Thaw.

A week ago a process server from the district attorney's office called on Mrs. Thaw with a subpoena bidding her appear for the trial for the prosecution. She was quoted as having said: "I am tired of this case. I think Harry is being persecuted and if I take any interest in it, it will be to do what I can for him. If his lawyers want me I will do anything I can for him."

For this reason it was said no subpoena was left for Thaw's wife. It was said the prosecution would not be surprised if she were called to the stand in the defense.

Deputy Attorney General Kennedy sketched the case of Thaw from the night he shot White and explained how he happened to be confined in Matteawan.

Two Methods For Release. There were only two methods by which Thaw could have been released from the asylum, he said. The first was by swearing out a writ of habeas corpus and the other way was upon the recommendation of the hospital superintendent.

"Thaw did avail himself of these methods," said Mr. Kennedy. "He sued out various writs of habeas corpus. Had any of the numerous hospital superintendents held the belief that he had recovered his sanity they could have made a writ of habeas corpus a writ of the supreme court which would have caused his release."

PLAN TO DEMAND LIBERTY.

John B. Stanchfield, Thaw's chief counsel, said that should the jury find his client not guilty he would immediately sue out a writ of habeas corpus, leaving that his detention was illegal because the jury would have established his sanity.

On the other hand, the contention of the state will be that Thaw, although insane at the time of his escape, was nevertheless competent to enter into a conspiracy and that he should be punished accordingly.

Deputy Attorney General Kennedy, in charge of the prosecution, said that in the event of Thaw being found guilty he would be immediately returned to Matteawan.

Thaw, smiling broadly now and then, assisted his attorneys in selecting the jurors. His co-defendants rarely, if ever, offered any suggestions. These co-defendants are Richard J. Butler, formerly state assemblyman; Roger Thompson, attorney; and Thomas Flood.

INCOME TAX TO SHOW LOSS.

Decrease of 20 to 30 Per Cent Is Due to Depression.

Washington, March 9.—A survey of the income tax returns on file in the treasury department indicates a falling off from 20 to 50 per cent because of the business depression.

Last year approximately \$7,000,000 were collected from the individual income and corporation taxes. Of this sum about \$45,000,000 came from the corporations and \$31,000,000 from individuals.

The treasury department is making its income tax assessments on returns received during the month of January, and will soon finish these and take up those filed in February, up to and including March 1. Under the law, individuals and corporations are compelled to make their returns prior to March 1.

Inasmuch as corporations are permitted to file their schedules for their own fiscal years or for the calendar year, as they choose, a great many corporation returns were made in January.

Business thru the country last year was far below normal in practically every line except agriculture, according to the returns. In a great many agricultural districts the returns are suffered equal to those in the industrial centers.

A review of last year's returns shows that little increase in taxes will be had as a result of the agricultural prosperity in certain sections, inasmuch as the earnings of the average farmer are below the exemption mark of \$4,000, in the case of married men and of \$3,000 in the case of most unmarried agriculturists.

The great bulk of the individual income tax came from the cities. Chicago alone paid more income tax than the entire cotton farming south, according to statistics presented in the house some weeks ago by Representative Madden.

NELSON'S CONDITION IMPROVED.

Kansas City, March 9.—A change for the better in the condition of W. R. Nelson, editor of the Kansas City Star, who is critically ill, was announced by his physicians today. An attending physician summarized the change by declaring residence secure a divorce on statutory grounds at once.

T-R BULLETIN NEWS OF THE DAY

The Weather. Sun rises March 10 at 6:22, sets at 6. Iowa—Fair in east, partly cloudy tonight and Wednesday; slightly warmer tonight.

Telegraphic News: Germans Fall Back in East. Warships Sent to Vera Cruz. Carranza Denies Wilson's Allegations. Inquiry Into La Touraine Fire. Evelyn to Testify For Harry Thaw. PAGES TWO, THREE AND FOUR.

Legislature Deadlocked Over Highways. Sanitary Survey of One County. Women Defeated in School Elections. Brother and Sister Killed in Runaway. Oats Campaign in Wright County. M. B. A. Slander Suit. PAGES FIVE.

General News and Story: Cloture Rule to Start Fight. The Human Slaughter House. PAGES SIX.

Editorial: As Boys and Girls. Is It Fish or Cut Bait? Putting on the Finish. Iowa Opinion and Notes. Looker-On in Iowa. PAGES SEVEN.

General News: New Trade Board Gripped. Miscellaneous Matters. PAGES EIGHT, NINE, TEN, ELEVEN.

City News: Balch and Hull Win on School Board. New School For Albion Carries. Election Results in County. Third Street Line to Be Relaid. Several Farms Sell at Good Figures. Fred Wasserman to Lose Leg. (Page 12.) PAGES TWELVE.

Markets and General: Buying Rush Again Lifts Wheat. Corn Develops Some Firmness. Cattle Weak. Hogs Dull and Lower.

WET AND DRY ROW

Warm Debate in Iowa Senate Over Regulatory Measures.

EFFORT BY WETS TO SMOTHER BILLS

Report of Committee on Temperance Starts Annual Contest Over Liquor Issue—Proposal Made to Strengthen Alleged Defects in Iowa Divorce Laws.

Des Moines, March 9.—"Wet" and "dry" forces clashed today in the deliberations of the senate when nearly an hour was consumed in debating the method of procedure over temperance regulatory bills. Charges that the "drys" were trying to run things with a high hand now they appear to have a majority were made by Senator Kimball, of Pottawattamie. The senator added the warning that reaction might follow that would defeat the prohibitory amendment in the next general assembly.

The trouble arose in the committee on the suppression of intemperance, which reported postponement of eleven measures designed to regulate liquor traffic. They were killed in committee because other bills covering the same ground had been introduced.

Feared Wet Trap. It was desired by the wets to have this report placed on the calendar rather than accept the recommendation for indefinite postponement. They pointed out, was necessary in order to act on the substitute bill when it came up later. The stand was made that to postpone measure would not allow consideration of another of the same kind this session.

The wets did not start their opposition until the Whitmore bill report came up, requiring that carriers file a report with the county auditor of every shipment of liquor.

Senator Johnson made the motion to place the report on the calendar. Objections were made by Shrum and White, of Iowa. Senator Hagemann moved to lay the matter on the table, which the "drys" contended would have killed all legislation of that kind this session.

With the "wets" were Senators Caswell, Eversmeyer, Frailley, Greene, Hagemann, Kimball, Quigley, Shrum, Sheehan, Thompson and White, of Iowa.

Bill Re-Deferred. A motion was made by Senators Savage to re-refer the Whitmore bill to the committee on suppression of intemperance. The controversy at this period waxed with Senators Francis, Boe and others taking the part of the "drys" and Senator Kimball on the offense. The "drys" agreed to the Savage motion to re-refer and it carried 25 for 12 against.

Divorce Law Defects. Iowa's divorce laws will specifically require that the plaintiff in a divorce action must have resided in the state for a period not less than one year if by representative slaughter, of Ottumwa, becomes a law. The measure is designed to correct the statutes as they were interpreted by Judge Utterback, of the Polk county district court, recently, when he declared it possible for a couple to come into Iowa and by declaring residence secure a divorce on statutory grounds at once.

The same idea is contained in a bill by Moore, of Guthrie county, to amend the laws as to plea of insanity as ground for divorce.

The house bill was fairly choked with bills today as a result of the resolution passed in the session that all bills must be introduced by March 10.

INQUIRE INTO LA TOURAINNE FIRE

Official Investigation Begun Into Blaze on French Linder.

FIRE UNDER CONTROL WHEN SHIP DOCKS

Passengers in the Worst For Their Thrilling Experiences—All Preparations to Leave Ship in Case of Beyond Control—No Disorder or Panic—Thousand Miles From Home When Fire Broke Out.

Paris, France, March 9.—A rigid inquiry already has been begun into all phases of the fire at sea aboard the French line steamer La Touraine, which docked here at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Admiral Charlier, of the ministry of marine, and director Duport, of Compagnie Generale Trans-Atlantique, boarded the vessel upon her arrival and started the investigation at once. The report of Admiral Charlier will be submitted to the government.

The passengers apparently were none the worse for their thrilling experience. The fire, which was confined to one of the holds, was extinguished Sunday.

Life belts were distributed among the passengers and the boats were prepared for instant use, but at no time was there any real danger, according to Captain Causin, who declared the S. O. S. call for assistance was sent out merely as a measure of precaution. There was no disorder and no panic, he said, the passengers accepting the situation calmly in the belief that the fire would be conquered and that other steamers would reply promptly to the wireless summons.

La Touraine left New York Feb. 27 for Havre with thirty-four passengers on board, including a group of five American doctors and ten American nurses on their way to France for hospital service.

Saturday morning the vessel was reported on fire at a point about 1,000 miles off the French coast. Help was summoned by wireless and two American vessels responded. Later it was announced that the fire was under control.

FORCED VOTING IN INDIANA.

Alleged Corrupt Methods of "Inspectors" Described at Trial.

Indianapolis, March 9.—Frank C. Daily, United States district attorney, today opened his evidence at the trial of Don M. Roberts, mayor of Terre Haute, and twenty-seven others charged with conspiracy to tord the election of November, 1914, told how the government contends false registrations were made: of alleged slugging and rough work at the polls, and of the manner of collecting and the amount of the so-called "slush fund."

Mayor Roberts, the government's counsel asserted, called a meeting of his "hand picked election inspectors" and told them that no one had a right to touch the voting machines except the inspectors and when a man entered to do the voting the inspector should do the work.

Roberts demonstrated on the machine how a vote would not be registered and oftentimes, Mr. Daily said, democratic voters were forced to vote that ticket. If the voter protested vigorously the