Read Today's News
Today for Tomorrow
It Will Be History

Evening Times-Republican

Weather for Iowa:
Cloudy Saturday;
Colder Tonight

VOLUME FORTY-TWO — MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA, FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1916. — NUMBER 84

U. S. TROOPERS CLOSE TO VILLA

Colonel Dodd's Cavalrymen On Heels of Fleeing Bandit.

CARRANZA TROOPS BLOCK ESCAPE

Large Forces Moved to Southward of Satevo, Where Villa Was on April 4—Colonel Brown's Command Runs Short of Supplies and Is Forced to Return to Base, After Defeating Band of Villistas and Killing Thirty.

San Antonio, Tex., April 7.—Francisco Villa was at Cieneguillas, ten miles south of Satevo, on April 4, according to Gen. Luis Gutierrez, commanding the Carranza troops in Chihuahua. General Bell received this information from Chihuahua and transmitted it to General Funston today.

American cavalry are pushing forward along the trails to Satevo. Gutierrez reported that Carranza troops engaged fifty Villa men at Cieneguillas, killed ten and captured two. The prisoners said Villa had left there early in the morning with 200 men, leaving the fifty as a rear guard.

Carranza Troops Active.

General Bell reported that information from Mexican sources indicated that some thousands of de facto government troops were moving southward to check the retreat of Villa.

Another column of American cavalry arrived at Cusi, to support that of Colonel Brown, who reported there April 4, according to General Funston today. Colonel Brown explained his delay in rendering a report after the engagement a few days ago at Aguas Calientes, near Bachineva, by saying he and his forces had exhausted their money and he had none to pay the expense of getting a message to a commercial wire.

Brown Without Supplies.

The arrival of the secand column of troops at the Cusihuirachic, April 5, was calculated to give fresh impetus to the forces following Villa along the trail thru Satevo. Colonel Brown, it was learned, had fallen back on Cusihuirachic on account of the complete exhaustion of his supplies.

The column that followed him into Cusihuirachic convoyed a heavy pack train and here it is believed probable that, newly provisioned, he has resumed the chase of the bandit chief, now heading toward the waiting forces of Carranza.

Colonel Brown made arrangements to secure money from American mining companies in that district.

CLOSE ON VILLA'S HEELS.

Colonel Dodd's Cavalry Believed to Be in Contact With Outlaws.

El Paso, Tex., April 7. — Advance guards of the American expedition hunting the bandit Villa are operating today near Satevo and news that Colonel Dodd's cavalry has again come into contact with the Villistas is expected.

The region between Satevo and Parral, where Villa is reported to be heading, is infested by numerous Villa bands.

Americans from the Benito-Juarez districts say that if Villa should succeed in uniting these bands he would have an effective force of at least 1,000 men and would be in position to give the American advanced troops a hard battle.

The last information from the front showed that American cavalry had penetrated south of San Antonio. It is believed that more frequent reports will now be obtained from Colonel Dodd, as it is now possible for him to relay his messages by courier to Chihuahua and then by telegraph to El Paso.

Americans Returning South.

Another train left for Juarez today for the Casas Grandes and Pearson districts, carrying both passengers and freight. The number of passengers was unusually large and included many Americans. Officials of the Mexico Northwestern say that with the presence in the district of American troops practically all the persons who came to the border after the Columbus massacre are returning.

The quartermaster's deposit here continues to send large quantities of supplies to the front by way of Columbus. Pablo Sianez, the "boy general," whose bloody exploits made him one of the most feared of the Villa officers and who was arrested by the local police last night, today was turned over to the Texas Rangers. The latter took him out of town to an unknown destination, but it was supposed that he had been sent across the border into Mexico.

MANY VILLISTAS KILLED.

Colonel Brown's Troopers Battle Outlaws and Defeat Them.

Washington, April 7.—American Consul Letcher at Chihuahua in a dispatch to the war department today told of some of the results of the clashes between American troops and Villa forces at Aguas Calientes, near Cieneguilla, three days ago.

Letcher reported a persistent rumor in Chihuahua that Villa has been wounded. He said that the fight at Aguas Calientes resulted in the killing of thirty or forty bandits by the troopers of the Tenth cavalry under Colonel Brown.

Brown's troops were reported as living almost two weeks on beef and corn.

Mexicans Co-operating.

At the fight at Cieneguillas, the Carranza forces under General Cavazos captured two bandits of the fifty engaged. Letcher reported the Carranza troops were co-operating with General Pershing and that General Gutierrez had informed the American authorities of the Carranza troop disposition about Chihuahua.

A resume of a report from the American consul at Monterey said:

"Reports from Torreon and Durango indicate a marked improvement since the arrival of General Travino at Torreon and the establishment of his headquarters there. Monterey is quiet and all interior consuls report good feeling toward Americans."

The Mexican embassy announced receipt of a telegram forwarded by Consul General Garcia at El Paso, from General Gutierrez saying the Villa bandits had been met and practically annihilated by the Carranza forces at Chihuahua. The dispatch added that Villa was wounded and his capture imminent.

Villa's Brothr Released.

Havana, April 7.—Col. Hipolito Villa, brother of Francisco Villa, who was arrested here on Feb. 7 at the request of the American minister and held pending extradition proceedings, has been released. He is under indictment in Texas on the charge of complicity in cutting a railway line near El Paso last December in an attempt to hamper Carranza forces in Texas, but the Cuban secretary of state declared no evidence was prsented to warrant his detention further.

VILLA'S BAND DEPLETED.

Fifty or More Killed, Some Captured and Others Desert.

Pershing's camp at San Geronio, Chihuahua, April 3, by aeroplane and motor courier, to Columbus, N. M., April 7.—A good sized portion of the bandits with whom Villa raided Columbus, N. M., March 9, already has been accounted for by the American expeditionary force. At least forty-six of them, and probably fifty or sixty were killed in the Guerrero fight. About two dozen others, wounded and left behind by Villa in his flight, have been collected and are held by American authorities at points along the line of communication. Reports have come in indicating that some others deserted Villa. Most of these claimed they were forced to join his band in the first place.

MARKSMANSHIP WINS RESPECT.

Villa's Followers Have Changed Views Regarding Gringo Soldiers.

Columbus, N. M., April 7.—Proof of the marksmanship of the American soldiers has done more than any other development in the campaign in Mexico to strike terror to the hearts of Villa's followers, according to reports reaching the border. The straight shooting done at Columbus, Guerrero and Aguas Claientes was totally unexpected by the Mexicans.

"Villa's followers had been taught that Americans were weaklings and cowards who were afraid to match their strength with the Mexican forces," a naturalized Mexican living here said today. "They had believed in their ability to conquer any force they should encounter. I am convinced that before the Columbus raid their feelings for American soldiers were contempt."

RUNAWAY AIRSHIP LOOSE IN FLORIDA

Government Dirigible Breaks Loose From Moorings While Fully Inflated and Runs Wild—No One on Board Craft.

Pensacola, Fla., April 7.—The new dirigible airship recently brought to the aviation station here for experimental use broke away from its moorings in a high wind today and rising rapidly, soon was lost to view. Telephone notices were sent to Mobile and other points westward warning residents to be on the lookout for the big craft. No one was aboard but the dirigible was fully inflated and naval officers said there was nothing to prevent it remaining aloft for many hours.

The wind was blowing from the southeast. A later shift in the air current made naval officers fear the dirigible may have been carried out to sea.

The airship is said to be worth between $50,000 and $60,000 and is practically new. How it happened to break away has not been determined.

Preparations were made to pursue the craft in aeroplanes as soon as the weather permits.

The balloon was eighty-one feet long and fully inflated with 25,000 cubic feet of gas when it broke away. The stablizer was not attached and officers believe if the balloon should turn over some valves might be opened and caused the craft to descend. If it remains upright, officers said, it might float for hundreds of miles.

GERMAN BIRTH RATE DECLINES.

Decline in Population Since 1900 Greater Than in France.

Berlin, April 7.—Beyond the present problems of the successful conduct of the war and maintaining the food supply, the decline in the German birth rate is receiving more and more public attention.

In course of a discussion in the Prussian diet recently Dr. Krohne, of the government medical department, said that during the first twelve or thirteen years of the present century a drop from thirty-five to twenty-seven had occurred in the rate of living births in Germany to every 1,000 of the population, and he said that the birth rate had fallen during this time more rapidly than during the previous twenty-five years.

"No civilized people," he continued, "has ever shown such a drop in so short time. For a similar reduction in its birth rate France required over seventy years, but we only twelve. Our population today should be 2,500,000 greater than it is."

After Cheaper Gasolene.

Pittsburgh, Pa., April 7.—The Automobile Dealers Association of Pittsburg at a meeting last night adopted resolutions condemning the high cost of gasolene in Pittsburg. The association plans to buy gasolene outside the city and distribute to local dealers at cost price.

SHIFT ATTACK, GERMANS GAIN

Penetrate French First Line Between Bethincourt and Chattancourt.

FRENCH CLAIM GAINS ARE NOT MAINTAINED

Report That Large Portion of Captured Section Is Regained by Successful Counter Attack — Germans Also Driven From Positions Recently Taken on Dead Man's Hill—Russians Continue to Make Progress.

Following up sharply their capture of the village of Haucourt in the Avocourt-Bethincourt salient, northwest of Verdun, the Germans have shifted the line of their attack slightly to the east driving against the lines between Bethincourt and Chattancourt, and penetrating a first line trench there.

In the vicinity of Dead Man's Hill, Paris declares that the Germans have been driven by a counter attack from a recently captured position.

East of the Meuse the French are continuing their nibbling tactics and report progress in German communicating trenches southwest of Douaumont.

The Germans give sign of initiating an offensive on the eastern front south of Dvinsk.

In the Caucasus campaign, the Russians are making continued progress along the upper Tchoruk in Turkish Armenia, driving the Turks westward.

London newspaper dispatches report the sinking of Peninsular and Oriental liner Simla, in the Mediterranean.

The Spanish ambassador at Berlin has been instructed by the cabinet to ask from Germany an explanation of the sinking of the Spanish steamer Vigo and a definition of the German submarine policy with regard to the rights of neutrals.

Germans Penetrate French Line.

Paris, April 7.—German forces have penetrated a French position of the first line between Bethincourt and Chattancourt, according to announcement made today by the French war office. This locality is in the Verdun region west of the Meuse. A French counter attack at once drove them back from a large portion of the section.

British Mine Craters Taken.

Berlin, wireless to Sayville, April 7.—Capture from the British of mine crater positions south of St. Elio, near Ypres, was announced today by army headquarters. The positions were defended by Canadian troops.

British Steamer Simla Sunk.

London, April 7—The British steamship Simla, of 5,848 tons gross, has been sunk. Eleven members of the Asiatic crew were drowned.

[The Simla, which belonged to the Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Line, was 450 feet long and was built at Greenock in 1894. The Daily Mail published a report this morning that the vessel had been sunk in the Mediterranean. It was suggested that this steamer may have been the transport reported sunk in an earlier dispatch.]

Swedish Steamer Captured.

London, April 7.—Capture by a German torpedo boat of the Swedish steamer Veda, for Stockholm and Copenhagen, is reported. The message says the Swedish government has protested against the capture.

French Vessel Is Torpedoed.

London, April 7.—Lloyds announces that the French sailing vessel St. Hubert has been torpedoed. Her crew was rescued.

EXECUTE BELGIAN WOMAN.

Gabrielle Petit Said to Have Been Put to Death by Germans.

Amsterdam, via London, April 7.—The assertion is made by the Echo Belge that Miss Gabrielle Petit, of Molenbeeke, Belgium, has been put to death by Germans after trial by court martial on a charge of treason. It is alleged she conducted an information bureau in the interest of Germany's enemies.

The paper also states that Louise de Bettignies, of Lille, has been sentenced to death but that the sentence has been commuted to imprisonment for life.

Another woman, Marie van Houtte, the newspaper says, has been sentenced to imprisonment for fifteen years.

Dutch Situation Less Tense.

London, April 7.—The situation in Holland apparently is becoming less tense. Reuter's correspondent says that officers of the military transportation will again be granted leave.

Retake Monte Crystabel Bridge.

Berlin, April 7.—Recapture by the Austrians of a bridge north of Monte Crystabel, with the taking of more than 100 prisoners and two machine guns, is reported in today's Austro-Hungarian headquarters statement received here from Vienna.

Von Hindenburg Anniversary.

Berlin, April 7.—The fiftieth anniversary of the entrance of Field Marshal von Hindenburg into military service has been made the occasion of many tributes to the famous soldier. Emperor William has sent a portrait of himself to the field marshal. Several members of the reichstag delivered addresses eulogizing him and newspapers thruout the country published stories of his career.

UPRISING IN COCHIN CHINA.

Revolutionaries of Saigon District Attack Prison.

Manila, April 7.—Passengers arriving here report a native uprising at Saigon, the capital of French Cochin China, and an attack upon the local prison. The majority of the insurgents were captured only after a French officer and several soldiers had been killed and injured.

PROMOTION FOR DODD.

Bill to Elevate Colonel to Rank of General Introduced in Congress.

Washington, April 7.—A bill authorizing the president to promote Col. George A. Dodd, who recently led American troops in Mexico in a dash against Villa forces, to the grade of brigadier general, was introduced today by Representative Kiese, of Pennsylvania. The colonel will retire next July.

VOLUNTEER CLAUSE RETAINED IN BILL

Senate Refuses to Eliminate Section in Army Bill by Close Vote of 36 to 34—National Guardsmen Charged With Lobbying.

Washington, April 7.—The senate retained the federal volunteer provision in the army bill late yesterday by a vote of 36 to 34, rejecting Senator Lee's amendment to strike the section from the bill.

The vote ended a four-day debate on the section.

Advocates of the national guard as the first line of defense behind the regular army, supported the amendment vigorously and the struggle was one of the hardest fought in the senate at this session of congress.

It began after the defeat of the military committee last week, when a proposal to create a national guard section of the army general staff was written into the bill.

The narrow margin by which the federal volunteer provision was retained makes it doubtful that it will be in the measure finally framed by the conference between the two houses.

An effort during debate on the house army bill to insert the section which is designed to provide such a force as the continental army proposed by former Secretary Garrison, was decisively defeated.

Without republican support the volunteer section would have been voted out by the democratic senators despite the fact that it was unanimously recommended by the military committee.

Twenty-four democrats and ten republicans, including nearly all the progressive republicans voted to strike it out. Nineteen democrats and seventeen republicans voted to retain it. The vote follows:

Voting to eliminate the section:

Democrats — Ashhurst, Bankhead, Clarke of Arkansas, Culberson, Gore, Hardwick, Hughes, Kern, Lee of Maryland, Lewis, Martin, Overman, Ransrall, Reed, Robinson, Shafroth, Simmons, Smith of Georgia, Smith of South Carolina, Stone, Swanson, Taggart, Thompson and Vardaman—24.

Republicans—Clapp, Cummins, Curtis, Jones, Kenyon, McComber, Norris, Page, Sherman and Works—10. Total 34.

Voting to retain the section:

Democrats — Beckham, Broussard, Chamberlain, Htichcock, Hollis, Husting, Johnson of Maine, Johnson of South Dakota, Lane, Newlands, O'Gorman, Pittman, Pomerene, Saulsbury, Sheppard, Smith of Maryland, Thomas, Walsh and Williams—19.

Republicans—Borah, Brandegee, Catron, Clark of Wyoming, Dillingham, du Pont, Gallinger, Lippit, Lodge, Nelson, Oliver, Poindexter, Smott, Sterling, Sutherland, Warren and Weeks—17. Total 36.

The vote followed charges that the national guard organizations thruout the country were conducting a lobby against the federal volunteer plan.

Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the military committee, warned the senate in the course of the debate that if the national guard proposed to become politically active and endeavor to influence legislation as it had done in this case, he would in future oppose any further federal aid for the state soldiers.

Champions of the guard reported that the military training camps association had been equally active in behalf of the federal volunteer section. They pointed to the mass of telegrams laid before the senate by Senator Chamberlain to sustain their contention.

SOUTHERN COLLEGES DECRY LYNCH LAW

Inaugurate Aggressive Educational Campaign to Stamp Out Mob Violence—Eighteen Institutions Unite in Work.

Birmingham, Ala., April 7.—An aggressive educational campaign against lynch law in the south is to be undertaken immediately by the new association of southern church colleges.

This organization composed of representatives of eighteen southern institutions of learning was formed here last night with the election of officers headed by Dr. C. M. Bishop, of the Texas Presbyterian College. It will have the moral support of forty southern educational institutions.

The avowed object of the association, according to its organizers, will be to conduct an active campaign against the "spirit which prompts lynching."

A publicity department is to be established and speakers will be sent out.

Statistics were presented at the meeting which, it is said, showed that during the past thirty years there had been 4,000 lynchings, about 90 per cent of which occurred in the south.

NO ACTION ON SEA QUESTION

President and Cabinet Delay Decision Regarding Next Move.

AWAIT ANSWER FROM GERMANY

Mass of Evidence at Hand Showing Sussex and Other Vessels Sunk in Violation of German Promises—Germany Informs Ambassador Gerard Empire Is Ready to Meet United States More Than Half Way.

Washington, April 7.—President Wilson and the cabinet considered the submarine situation again today without deciding on any action at this time. It is understood the situation awaits answers to Germany's inquiries on the recent sinking of the Sussex and other ships.

All evidences at hand regarding the destruction of the British steamer Sussex and scores of other ships was assembled at the state department today for presentation to the cabinet.

The evidence contains statements of American attaches aboard. The reports are regarded as positive proof that a German submarine attacked the Sussex in violation of assurances given the American government. Col. E. M. House conferred with the president and cabinet members.

Britain Makes Concession.

The British government today notified the state department it had ordered the Norwegian sailing vessel Edna, seized in the Pacific and condemned on the ground of German ownership, to England, where her San Francisco owners may be heard by a prize court.

Secretary Lansing protested against the seizing of the Edna and against her condemnation in the Falkland Islands, where no American representative is stationed. The owners said the vessel was on her way to Chile.

GERMANY CONCILIATORY.

Ready to Meet United States More Than Half Way.

Berlin, via London, April 7.—James W. Gerard, the United States ambassador, conversed yesterday with Dr. Alfred M. Zimmerman, under secretary of ferign affairs, regarding the submarine situation.

It is understood the foreign office had no information regarding the Sussex and other ships in which the American government had manifested an interest. It was apparent, however, that Germany was ready to meet the United States more than half way if it should develop that the Sussex was torpedoed erroneously.

HINT TO UNITED STATES.

German Statesman Says America Should Keep Out of War.

London, April 7. — Frederick von Payer, of the progressive people's party, touched on German-American relations in an address in the reichstag yesterday, from which Reuter's correspondent quotes as follows:

"The political influence of America has risen with the duration of the war. Its growth lays the heaviest responsibility on those European states which caused the war.

"We must have the right to live and to be of some account. We feel ourselves united with America by ties of blood, and we hope the American people will give us justice.

"At the present moment America, perhaps, can render the world the greatest service by keeping out of the reach of the flames of war. Common dangers and successes bind us to our allies."

Herr von Payer said the disposal of the submarine matter before the reichstag was satisfactory to his party.

BANKERS OPPOSE RULING.

Opposed to Extension of Income Tax to Securities Held by Foreigners.

New York, April 7.—Bankers here are taking steps in opposition to the new ruling of the treasury department extending the application of the personal income tax to dividends and interests paid on American securities by foreigners. Counsel for the Investment Bankers' Association of America have written to the commissioners of internal revenue asking that the ruling be suspended, declaring it has the effect of a law made without giving the public an opportunity to be heard. The association asks a public hearing on the advisability of rescinding the order.

STEAMER MATOPPO SAILS.

Resumes Voyage to Vladivostok After Search For Bombs.

Delaware Breakwater, Del., April 7.—The British steamer Matoppo, whose captain and crew of fifty-five men were held up single-handed on the high sea last week by Ernest Schiller, now under arrest in New York, resumed her voyage today to Vladivostok. The steamer sailed from New York, March 29, with a cargo of barbed wire and railroad ties for the Russian government.

The Matoppo has been in harbor here for more than a week while a search was made for supposed bombs which Schiller said he had placed in her hold.

Recommend Philippine Bill.

Washington, April 7.—Passage of the Philippine independence bill was recommended today to the house by the insular committee as passed by the senate.

T.-R. BULLETIN.

NEWS OF THE DAY

The Weather.

Sun rises April 8 at 5:34, sets at 6:32.

Iowa—Light snow this afternoon and tonight; colder in west and central portions tonight; Saturday partly cloudy.

PAGE ONE.

Telegraphic News:
American Troops Close to Villa.
Brown's Command Kills Many Bandits.
Germans Shift Attacks and Gain.
United States Delays Action on Submarines.
Ohio Man to Sound G. O. P. Keynote.

PAGES TWO, THREE AND FOUR.

Iowa News:
Seed Corn Selection Summarized.
Sugar Up to Stay.
Final Curtain For Old Actor.
Teachers in Demand.
Two Iowa Men Executed as Spies.

PAGE FIVE.

Farm News and Story:
Forage For Hogs.
Final Plea For Seed Corn Test.
The Turmoil.

PAGE SIX.

Editorial:
Direction of the Political Winds.
Where Ignorance Is a Blessing.
Roosevelt's Willingness.
Topics of the Times.
Iowa Opinion and Notes.

PAGE SEVEN.

Iowa News:
For Municipal Pool Halls.
Miscellany.

PAGES EIGHT, NINE, TEN, ELEVEN

City News:
J. G. Bristol Killed in Idaho.
Was Former Train Dispatcher Here.
To Hold County Spelling "Bee."
Mayor Millard's Wife Dead.
Belgian Tag Day Tomorrow.
General and Brief City News.

PAGE TWELVE.

Markets and General:
Government Report Lifts Wheat.
Corn Up in Sympathy.
Cattle Market Strong.
Hogs Slow and Lower.
Americans Lack Citizenship Unity.

DECREASED YIELD OF WINTER WHEAT

Department of Agriculture Estimates Total Production at 495,000,000 Bushels—Condition of Crop 78.3 Per Cent Normal.

Washington, April 7.—A total production of 495,000,000 bushels of winter wheat was forecast today by the department of agriculture, basing the estimate on the condition of the crop in April and assumption on the average influence on the crop until harvest. That total compares with 655,045,000 bushels, the estimated production in 1915, and 684,900,000 bushels in 1914.

Condition of winter wheat on April 1 was 78.3 per cent of a normal, against 88.8 last year, 93.6 in 1914, and 87.3, the average for the last ten years. There was a decrease in condition from Dec. 1 to April 1, of 9.4 points, compared with an average decline of 3.5 points between those dates in the last ten years.

The average condition of rye on April 1 was 87.8 per cent of a normal, against 89.5 last year, 91.3 in 1914, and 89.9, the average for the last ten years.

The department in a statement said: "The small production forecast is due largely to a reduction of about 11 per cent from the acreage of the preceding year and to a low condition of growth, namely 78.3 per cent of a normal, which is lower than the condition in April in any year since 1904. The cause of the low condition was a wet cold fall, causing poor seed beds and a poor start for wintering."

CURTAIL CHICAGO MILK DISTRIBUTION

Census of Families Having Babies and Invalids Taken With View of Suplying Them First—Dairy Farmers to Incorporate.

Chicago, April 7.—The seriousness of the milk situation in Chicago as a result of the dealers' refusal to grant dairy farmers an increase of 22½ cents a hundred pounds, was revealed today when a census of families having babies and invalids was begun today with a view of supplying them at once.

One of the larger and one of the smaller dealers yesterday acceded to the demands of the farmers and deliveries to them were resumed. No settlement of the controversy, however, is in sight, and it is expected the milk supply, normally 2,000,000 quarts daily, will be curtailed even more today.

A group of farmers near Elgin have applied at Springfield for incorporation papers for a $500,000 corporation to invade Chicago in competition with the distributors.

Health Commissioner Robertson today invited farmers and distributors to meet with him in a hope of bringing about a settlement. Tho both sides agreed to attend the conference indications were that neither side would yield much, if anything.

Milk will be advanced to 9 cents a quart, an increase of 1 cent, by one of the three leading distributors of milk in Chicago, as a result of a strike of 10,000 milk producers. The increase will become effective Monday. The Ira J. Mix Company, which announced the advance, granted the demands of the farmers. This action leaves the Borden and Bowman companies alone in the fight against the producers.

Plenty of Practice.

In this city they are telling of a widower who was married recently for the third time, and whose bride had been married once before herself.

The bridegroom-elect wrote across the bottom of one of the wedding invitations sent to a particular friend: "Be sure to come; this is no amateur performance."

HARDING WILL SOUND KEYNOTE

Ohio Senator Picked as Temporary Chairman of G. O. P. Convention.

KNOX, ROOT AND OTHERS PASSED BY

Committeemen in Session in Chicago Refuse to Discuss Candidates — Say Roosevelt Announcement Created No Surprise — Predict Success at Polls Because Party Is Reunited — Uninstructed Delegates to Hold Power.

Chicago, April 7.—Senator Warren G. Harding, of Ohio, was selected temporary chairman of the republican natoinal convention by unanimous vote of the sub-committee on arrangements of the republican national committee today. Other officers chosen were:

Lafayett Gleason, of New York, secretary.

William F. Stone, of Baltimore, sergeant-at-arms.

George L. Hart, of Roanoke, Va., official reporter.

The sub-committee of the republican national committee met here today to select a temporary chairman. The race for chairmanship had been narrowed down to a half dozen prospective candidates, as follows:

Senator Warren G. Harding, Ohio, who nominated William H. Taft at the national convention in 1912; Philander C. Knox, Pennsylvania; Elihu Root, New York; James R. Mann, Illinois; Senator William E. Borah, Idaho; Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Massachusetts.

The only open announcement of support for any of the candidates was made by Committee Ralph E. Williams, of Oregon, who said he would support Senator Borah. Senator Harding is in the city for an address.

Confident of Success.

Without exception committeemen declined to discuss presidential possibilities. Chairman Hilles declared that the entire committee was confident of success for the party next fall.

Colonel Roosevelt's recent announcement concerning the national convention was "no surprise" to Chairman Hilles. The announcement, he said, would have no effect on the selection of a temporary chairman.

"It is a significant fact that in many states uninstructed delegates are being selected and the national committeemen are being reelected. The convention will meet with an open mind."

Party to Be United.

Ralph E. Williams, committeeman from Oregon, said:

"I was not surprised at the Roosevelt announcement but the mildness of the language was unexpected."

Others declared that many of the old leaders of the party had been chosen delegates to the convention and that others had been returned to their places on the national committee, indicating that a united party was preparing for the campaign.

After announcing the selection of the convention officers the committee moved to minor matters.

ADD $50,000 TO FUND.

Anonymous Donors Give Liberally to Aid Retired Ministers.

Chicago, April 7.—Dr. J. B. Hingley, secretary of the board of conference claimants of the Methodist Episcopal church, wired today from New York, announcing the gift of $40,000 from an unknown donor from the New York East conference, and $10,000 from a second anonymous giver, going to the fund for retired ministers. Six million dollars of the fund has been raised.

PACIFIC COAST DEFENSES.

Detailed Reports of Naval Strength Made to War and Navy Departments.

Washington, April 7.—Detailed reports of the land and sea defenses of California and the naval strength on the Pacific coast were made to congress today by the war and navy departments in response to recent resolutions. The navy report shows thirty-seven vessels in the Pacific fleet beside thirty-one ships in reserve.

COUNCIL ORDERS INQUIRY.

Examiner to Investigate Financial Condition of Des Moines.

Des Moines, April 7.—The city council today employed a state examiner to investigate this city's financial condition in an effort to learn the cause of a deficit estimated at nearly $300,000. According to councilmen the city auditor's ledger has not been kept up since April, 1915.

DECLARATION OF FREEDOM.

No Disturbances Follow Revolt of Chinese Province of Kwan Tung.

Peking, China, April 7.—Paul R. Kosselyn, American vice consul at Canton, telegraphed the American minister, Dr. Paul Reinsch, today, that no disturbances have occurred in Canton following declaration of independence of Kwan Tung province yesterday. Both the civil and the military governors of the province proclaimed the independence.

Committee Reviewing Testimony.

Washington, April 7. — With the house judiciary sub-committee's hearings on Representative Boreland's resolution for investigation of the meat packing industry closed temporarily without action on the resolution or an agreement as to the form an inquiry should take, committeemen today were reviewing informally the mass of testimony taken.