

MAY HALT THE TROOPS

WORD OF TWO MORE SHIP DISASTERS COMES

WILSON TO INFORM CARRANZA OF HIS DESIRE TO NEGOTIATE IN A REPLY TO LATTER'S NOTE

ONE SHIP ATTACKED WITHOUT WARNING AND ANOTHER IS SUNK WILSON AND LANSING ARE TOLD

And the United States Proposes to Withdraw Its Troops in a "Reasonable" Time.

REPLY IS ABOUT READY Meantime Pursuit of Villa Will Continue with No Change in Orders to Troops.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—President Wilson has decided to inform General Carranza, in response to his request for withdrawal of the American troops from Mexico that the United States will negotiate for an agreement along these lines: The United States government is willing to agree to fix a limit on the distance the American troops now in pursuit of Villa shall proceed into Mexico and to make that limit not much further south than the troops already have proceeded.

To Give Assurance. The United States government is willing to give assurance that the American troops will be withdrawn within "a reasonable time," or as soon as it is definitely established that Villa has reached a point where he can be dealt with better by the Carranza forces.

These points, it became known tonight, were discussed fully at yesterday's cabinet meeting. The president's advisers are said to have agreed on such a course in the belief that it would make stronger the chances of catching Villa. A reply to General Carranza is said to be virtually completed and is expected to go forward in a very short time.

Pursuit to Continue. Meantime the pursuit of Villa by the American troops will continue. Secretary Baker sharply outlined this today in a formal statement.

"The status of the expedition into Mexico is as it was at the beginning, in cordial co-operation with the de facto government of Mexico," he said. "That operation continues and the expedition continues. There has been no change in the orders and none is in contemplation."

Secretary Baker and other officials laid stress on the fact that co-operation of the Carranza troops was regarded as an important element, and the negotiations for an agreement with the de facto government will be continued with the idea that such an agreement would strengthen Carranza at home and at the same time make the task of catching Villa easier.

The lines of communication of the American troops following Villa already have been lengthened to the point where sending supplies has become difficult and it is realized here that it would be extremely hazardous for them to go much further.

No War Despatches. No military despatches were given out today except one from General Funston saying he had not heard from General Pershing for three days. General Funston added that he was trying to obtain from the front an authentic report of what had occurred at Parral, where American troops were fired on Wednesday by Mexican civilians.

Much importance is attached to this report in view of the negotiations with Carranza. Although the long delay and an unconfirmed report today of a second attack on the Americans near Parral caused uneasiness in some quarters, Secretary Baker shares the hope that failure to receive an official report thus far indicates that the American commander considered the incident to be without any broad significance. If he had viewed it as an evidence of widespread distrust of the purposes of the American expedition, or had believed even more serious clashes were to be expected, it is thought he would have exhausted every means to report promptly.

Baker Still Hopes. "I still hope," Secretary Baker said, "that reports of the Parral incident are exaggerated; that it will prove to have been local and accidental and that there will be no further consequences of any kind." The only word reaching the state department regarding the Parral case came from consuls at Mexico City and elsewhere. They reported that Mexican papers had minimized the incident and that popular feeling had been little impressed by it.

No Serious Friction. Officials were much interested in the report of the Parral incident furnished Carranza military commander by General Obregon, war minister. It was noted with satisfaction that this also described the disorder as unimportant and did not suggest a condition of serious friction between the American troops and the civil population.

As a matter of fact, the only reports giving a serious turn to the outbreak and to which officials can at-

BURNED AT THE STAKE AND BEHEADED IN PERSIA.

WAUKESHA, Wis., April 15.—Dr. Joseph Shimon, a former student of Carroll College, Waukesha, and who was a member of the 1903 class of the Jefferson College, Philadelphia, was burned at the stake and beheaded in Persia, according to advices reaching here from Philadelphia. No date was given in the reports but they show that Dr. Shimon was seized at Urumiah, Persia, by Turks who tried to compel him to embrace Islamism. Upon his refusal and statement that "Jesus is my savior," he was seized, set on fire, burned to death and beheaded.

TO SEIZE VEHICLES

Which Are Being Used to Convey Intoxicants into This State Hereafter.

CHARLESTON, April 15.—Vehicles used for conveying intoxicants into West Virginia from states in which saloon licenses are granted will be confiscated from this time by the department of prohibition. This policy was adopted today after officers at the line of Putnam and Kanawha counties arrested three alleged bootleggers with a large supply of whiskey being hauled in a wagon drawn by two mules. The team and wagon as well as the liquor were confiscated.

Fred O. Blum, the prohibition commissioner, announced today that automobiles, wagons, biggies and teams will be confiscated when in use by offenders against the prohibitory laws.

ORDER CONFERRED.

LONDON, April 15.—A Berlin Lokal Anzeiger despatch to Reuter's says that the German emperor has conferred the Hohenzollern order on two submarine commanders, Lieutenant Wenninger and Lieutenant Von Werner.

FRENCH ARE MOWN DOWN BY GERMANS

In Former's Vigorous Counter Attack in the Region of Dead Man's Hill.

That the French troops defending Verdun have launched a vigorous counter attack in the region of Dead Man's Hill, on the west bank of the river Meuse, was disclosed by the official report issued Saturday afternoon from the German army headquarters.

The attack followed violent artillery preparation and was directed against the German positions south of Corbeaux wood, in the Cumleres wood and on Dead Man's Hill.

Though line after line of French troops were mowed down, the German statement said, by the concentrated artillery and machine gun fire of the Germans, some French battalions succeeded in penetrating the Teuton position on Dead Man's Hill. On gaining a footing in the trenches there however, Berlin declares, they were slain in bayonet fighting.

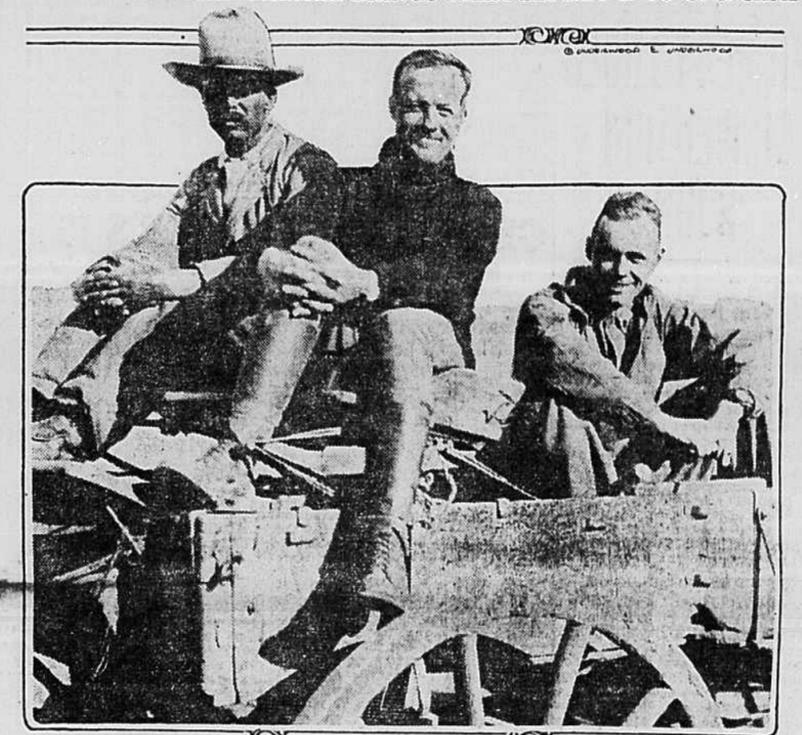
Paris is Silent. Paris officially is silent regarding this battle, the afternoon statement announcing that French batteries had evidenced great activity on the west bank of the Meuse, particularly to the west of Corbeaux wood and along forges brook that no infantry engagement had taken place.

On the eastern front, sharp fighting is going on between Austrian and Russian forces for positions on the line in Galicia, and for others northeast of Czernowitz, in Bukovina.

Austrians Storm Position. In the Italian theaters, the Italian and Austrian armies have respectively taken the offensive at various points along the front. Austrian troops stormed an Italian position at Mhlivrh and claim to have beaten back several counter attacks in which the Italians are said to have suffered heavy losses.

The Austrians admit they were forced to evacuate a defensive position south of Sperone, but claim

AMERICAN AVIATORS STRANDED IN THE DESERT; FRIENDLY MEXICAN FARMER BRINGS THEM SAFELY INTO U. S. CAMP



Mexican farmer bringing U. S. flying men into camp. Pedro Escobeda, a Mexican farmer, with his companions, Captain Fennell and Lieutenant Carberry, two American aviators who were stranded in the Mexican desert twenty miles from camp. Escobeda, driving past with his wagon, saw the unfortunate birdmen and offered to take them to the American headquarters. They accepted his invitation and five hours later were in camp.

NATIONAL GUARD OFFICERS ARE ATTACKED BY MR. BORAH FOR MISUSE OF GUARD FUNDS

Idaho Senator Charges That Some of Funds for Guards is Actually Embezzled. ANNUAL REPORT IS CITED

Senator Introduces Amendment to Provide Schools to Train Young Men.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—Two more provisions designed to strengthen the federal status of the national guard were written into the Senate army bill today. In the course of a debate enlivened by charges that federal funds provided the national guard in past years, had been foolishly thrown away and in some cases embezzled, the Senate adopted amendments providing that all officers of the guard above the rank of captain be paid \$500 a year by the federal government and that all guardsmen on enlistment be required to take an oath to obey orders from the president as well as the government in their respective states.

The attack on guard officers for their use of federal funds was made by Senator Borah, in a speech opposing the Reed amendment for federal pay. The Idaho senator declared the \$8,000,000 available annually for use of the guard under the Dick Mittlelitz law had been "shamefully utilized by officers to the exclusion of enlisted men, and that some of it had been embezzled."

Guardsmen Defended. Senators Reed, Pomerene and others defended the guardsmen and the federal pay amendment was adopted 41 to 14.

To support his charge Senator Borah cited the annual report of the war department on the expenditure of the militia fund. Among the cases he cited was this one: "Camp of instruction, Mississippi, 1912. Enlisted men participating never were at any time in excess of 200. Total payments to officer's staff department, \$1,999.45. Duration of encampment, twenty days. Total funds disbursed in maintenance during the latter including pay of ride team in 1911 was \$12,669.28, of which \$9,881.28 was paid to officers and \$489.39 to enlisted men. At

CHARLESTON, April 15.—Monk Thomas, of Richmond, Va., was instantly killed, Thomas Gilmore was seriously injured and two other men were severely burned this afternoon when a barrel of gasoline exploded at the plant of the Empire Dry Cleaning Company. Many windows in the annex to the state capitol were shattered.

HANCOCK AT VERA CRUZ.

VERA CRUZ, April 15.—The United States transport Hancock arrived here today and fired a salute. A large crowd on the piers watched the vessel coming in. Complete quiet prevails here.

CIVIL SERVICE RULE REVOKED BY WILSON.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—The civil service rule providing that enlisted soldiers, sailors and marines may not take a civil service examination without the consent of the head of the department in which they are serving has been revoked by President Wilson. The civil service commissioner recommended the change.

DENIES REPORT

That He Has Assisted General Felix Diaz with Money and Arms in Mexico.

GUATEMALA, April 15.—President Estrada Cabrera, of Guatemala, denies reports that he has assisted General Felix Diaz with money and arms. He said that the reports of mobilizations on Guatemalan territory were false. The president declared he had always been careful to maintain neutrality, particularly during the present condition in Mexico. His greatest ambition, he said, was for peace and its consequent prosperity.

A despatch from Querataro, Mexico, on April 12, stated the El Pueblo, the official organ of the Carranza government, had declared President Cabrera was hostile to Carranza.

FLEECE

Or \$10,000 in Alleged Fake Horse Races at Hot Springs in 1913.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 15.—G. H. Rafteta, of New York, in federal court today testified he was fleeced of \$10,000 by Ed Spear and Jack Porter, of Hot Springs, in alleged fake horse races at Hot Springs in 1913. The men, he said, by bogus pool room returns, took his money from him.

Porter and Spear are being retried on charges of using the mails to defraud.

ONLY TWO KILLED IN PARRAL CLASH

On the American Side and 100 Mexicans Are Either Dead or Wounded.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—The first official report on the clash Wednesday at Parral, reaching the war department late tonight from General Funston said two American troopers and forty Mexicans were killed.

Secretary Baker made this announcement: "Telegram from General Funston quotes a telegram from General Pershing to the effect that he has just received information of an unprovoked attack upon American soldiers who had entered Parral to buy supplies. His information is that two Americans soldiers and forty Mexicans were killed, but no further details had been reported at the time."

"General Pershing also reports that he has given full information to General Herrera as to the position, direction and general destination of our troops pursuing Villa. He has sent by aeroplane for full particulars."

DILLON ACCUSED

Of Being Implicated in the Bank Robbery with Talbot Who is under Arrest.

WASHINGTON, Pa., April 15.—District Attorney I. W. Baum, of Washington county, announced late today that an information had been made against James Dillon, aged 32, a mill worker, implicating him in the \$15,000 bank robbery at Houston, near here last Thursday. Dillon is said to be a close friend of Thomas Talbot, who was the first to be arrested for the robbery.

GENERAL KILLED.

AMSTERDAM, April 15, via London.—The Frankfurter Zeitung states that Lieutenant General Franz von Schoenberg Auf Kroppitsch has been killed at the front. He was a brother of the commander of the German cruiser Leipzig, who sank with his vessel in an engagement with a British fleet off the Falkland Islands in 1914.

One Crew is Forced to the Small Boats More Than 100 Miles from Shore.

CASES ARE BEING PROBED Americans Reported as Being Aboard Both Ships and Are Endangered.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—While President Wilson and Secretary Lansing today were engaged in marshaling the accumulation of evidence that Germany, in its submarine warfare, had violated solemn pledges given to the United States, official word of two more shipping disasters, apparently due to illegal acts by German submarine commanders, was received at the state department. Consular despatches indicated that the steamship Margam Abbey was attacked without warning on April 8 and that the Aberdeen bark Inverlyon was sunk by shell fire after the crew had been forced to the small boats more than 100 miles from shore. Americans were aboard both ships and were endangered.

These two cases are being investigated and may be included in the American indictment of German methods of conducting submarine warfare, which it was understood tonight probably would be ready for transmission to Berlin early next week.

Consider Situation.

The president and Secretary Lansing devoted a large part of the day to the consideration of the submarine situation. They had before them a number of affidavits secured from American survivors of the Sussex and other vessels recently attacked and a number of documents containing information forwarded by the British government. These documents arrived on the liner St. Paul yesterday. They reached here this afternoon.

It was said the actual value of affidavits had been materially lessened by the contents of the German note replying to the American inquiries. The affidavits probably would have played an important part in the indictment if the administration did not regard the German statements about the Sussex as constituting a virtual admission of guilt.

Clear Out Issue.

It became known here that the contemplated action of the United States, which is expected to bring this submarine controversy to a clear-cut issue, is being watched closely by the diplomatic representatives of other neutral nations. The United States is taking into consideration the case of many neutral vessels which, while not carrying American citizens, have been sunk by German submarines. An investigation of this case has been proceeding on the ground that it was only by chance

MACHINE GUN CORPS

Of Thirty Men is Ordered by Major General Bell to the Mexican Border.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., April 15. Major General J. Franklin Bell, commander of the western department, today ordered the despatch of the machine gun corps, numbering thirty men of the Twenty-first Infantry, stationed at Vancouver, Wash., to Calexico, Calif., on the Mexican border.

No change in the Mexican situation has caused the despatch of the machine gun corps of the Twenty-first it was said at army headquarters.

AIR RAID

In Which Bombs Explode over White House Startles Hundreds of People

WASHINGTON, April 15.—A theoretical air raid on the national capital, in which bombs were exploded above the White House, the capitol building, the war college and other government establishments was carried out tonight by an aviator who said he made the flight to demonstrate to high officials the city's unpreparedness. The attack was unheralded and the succession of sharp explosions and flashes of fire startled hundreds of people in the street and brought a flood of inquiries to newspaper offices and police headquarters. The bombs were harmless and were timed to explode about 1,000 feet in the air.

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