

Ottumwa Tri-Weekly Courier

IOWA—Showers and thunderstorms warmer. Sun rises, 4:39; sets, 7:31 p. m. LOCA LTEMP.—6 p. m., 86; 8 a. m., 86; 12 m., 79; max., 87; rain, .17. in.

VOLUME SIXTY-SEVEN

OTTUMWA, WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA. TUESDAY, JULY 13, 1915

NUMBER 141

CRISIS BETWEEN U. S. AND KAISER VERY GRAVE ONE

German Attitude Makes It Necessary to Give the Reply Much Study

LANSING WILL DRAW UP TENTATIVE NOTE

No Official Intimation of Contents Given Out By Secretary of State

Washington, D. C., July 12.—The situation between Germany and the United States has taken on such a serious and critical character that the policy of the American government will require lengthy and deliberate consideration, that it may have the firmness which the situation requires.

This was the statement made today in high official quarters. Secretary Lansing, after taking several days to examine the German reply, may not go to Cornish, N. H., after all, to confer with President Wilson. The original plan, it was explained, was for the president and Mr. Lansing to confer and then have the secretary of state dictate a note to be submitted to the cabinet on the president's return to Washington. Now the belief is that the president and Mr. Lansing, working independently, will prepare memoranda and confer after their ideas have matured. A definite announcement is expected later, whether Mr. Lansing will go to Cornish.

German Wants News.

Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, has asked Secretary Lansing if he wished to see him, and the secretary is understood to reply that he does after carefully examining the situation. The ambassador is seeking information on the attitude of the American government toward the German reply. After Mr. Lansing has consulted President Wilson, it is not unlikely that some intimation will be given to the German ambassador of the seriousness with which the United States government regards the crisis.

Secretary Lansing has begun work on a draft of a reply to Germany but has not given any one the slightest intimation of his views. Such intimations, however, as have been received from the white house as well as the state department, point to the framing of a policy which will express even more emphatically than it before the views of the United States and the belief is growing that the next note may include some idea of the intentions of the American government if its demands are not met. The general comment in executive quarters today was that the next American note would define the position of the United States even more clearly, so that Germany's subsequent attitude would definitely determine whether diplomatic relations were to be continued.

English Comment.

London, July 12.—The Manchester Guardian concludes an editorial on the German reply to the American note as follows:

"Since Germany cannot obey the laws of humanity in that she uses submarines to do cruiser's work, she contends with characteristic logic that it is right for her to break them. It is the kind of logic which America has given ample proof that she will not tolerate; it now is an attempt to make the United States a party in German methods."

SPANIARDS GROW EXCITED OVER WAR

Paris, July 12.—A Havas dispatch from Madrid filed yesterday says: "Action of the government in prohibiting the discussion of Spanish neutrality was severely criticized at a public meeting today by several speakers who declared the prohibition was a violation of the constitution. Pablo Iglesias, a socialist leader, asserted violations of the constitution were common on Spain and demand for each one's rights to discuss the question of neutrality. He attacked the 'passive' attitude of the government regarding the local labor agitation which, he said, might expand into a revolutionary movement."

GERMAN STATESMAN DIES.

Cologne, Germany, July 12.—The Cologne Gazette announces the death of Herr von Wedele-Plesdorf, president of the upper house of the Prussian diet.

FAILURE IS DENIED.

Berlin, July 12.—The report recently published that the Hamburg American steamship company had failed in consequence of heavy losses sustained during the war was denied here today by the semi-official Wolff News agency.

Special Efforts to Stop Placing Bombs in Ships

New York, July 12.—An investigation of the alleged conspiracy to place bombs on board steamships leaving here loaded with war munitions for the allies was in progress today. A conference of police officials, agents of the federal government and private detectives employed by the steamship companies was called to consider means of cooperation to prevent the placing of any more bombs on board steamships in New York harbor. A special bomb squad of detectives was assigned to work around the river front and all places where munitions were being loaded on board steamers were closely guarded. Most of the bombs were placed in cargo while it was being placed in steamships by lighters.

WIRELESS SENDS OUT DIRE MESSAGE

TWO SHIPS CARRYING ARMY MULES FOR ALLIES, WARNED OF BOMBS IN HOLD.

Washington, D. C., July 12.—Navy department officials today awaited responses from the British steamships Howth Head and Baron Napier, laden with mules for the British army and now off the South Atlantic coast to a warning sent them by wireless to watch for bombs in their holds. Both vessels sailed from New Orleans July 9, the Howth Head for Dublin and Belfast via Norfolk and the Baron Napier direct for Avonmouth.

The warning was flashed out broadcast over the sea from the Arlington wireless station last night, following the receipt by Secretary Daniels of a telegram from a New Orleans newspaper stating that a letter to that paper from a person who signed himself as "Pearce" indicated that explosives had been placed aboard the two vessels.

The writer of the letter also declared his intention of killing J. P. Morgan and Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, completing the work of Erich Muenster, who committed suicide recently after wounding Mr. Morgan, and with whom, he says, he had formed a partnership in an effort to keep the United States out of war. The letter also warned persons who had friends or relatives aboard the Howth Head and the Baron Napier to watch for reports from those vessels. The Howth Head is not equipped with wireless but ought to reach Norfolk by tomorrow at the latest, when she likely will make response. Even if the radio message was not picked up directly by the Baron Napier, some other nearby vessel might have received it. It was believed here that responses may be caught up today by some of south Atlantic wireless stations.

ENDEAVORERS END BIG CONVENTION

Chicago, July 12.—Concluding sessions of the Fifth World's convention of the Christian Endeavor societies were held today, the convention closing tonight with a "purpose meeting." The 15,000 persons attending the meetings, sitting at delegations, will express the purpose they desire to carry out during the next two years, before the next convention is held in New York city.

RUSSIANS REPORT DEFEAT OF TURKS

WEEK OLD DISPATCHES FROM CAUCASIA TELL OF REPULSES OF THE MOSLEMS.

Tiflis, Trans Caucasia, Monday, July 5, (Via Petrograd, July 12.—Reports from the various fronts in the Russo-Turkish campaign indicate that lively fighting has occurred recently north and south of Van Lake, Turkish Armenia, and south of Olti, in Trans Caucasia, 55 miles west of Karsu. All of these encounters are said to have resulted favorably to the Russians. According to these reports, a Turkish force of 30,000 men which was concentrated to the east of Bitlis, near Van Lake, is being hard pressed by the Russians.

Organized massacre of Armenians in Bitlis is taken as an indication that the Turks intend to retreat from that point. The Turks distributed 40,000 rifles among Kurds in Mush valley for use against Armenians. Notwithstanding massacres and epidemics the Armenians are resisting bravely. They have been joined recently by 150 Armenian volunteers from America.

AUSTRIANS SAY GOAL IS REACHED

Cessation of Offensive Not Due to Russ Activity Is the Claim Made

PERIOD OF QUIET BELIEVED IN SIGHT

Taking of Lemberg Object of Teutons' Powerful Movement North

Austrian Headquarters in Galicia, July 12.—The relative suspension of activities on the part of the Teutonic allies during the last week may be explained by the fact that the goal set for the Lemberg campaign already has been attained. This was the recapture of the city and securing of strong defensive positions eastward and northward. These positions have now been secured all along the line of the Zlota Lipa and Bug rivers and the ridge north of Krasnik.

The Russians attempted, a counter offensive from Lublin against the Austro-German positions north of Krasnik, bringing up heavy reinforcements for this purpose. Owing to this movement the Austrian troops, which had rushed beyond the positions originally selected, withdrew to the ridge, where they have been successfully resisting all Russian attacks. They feel secure in their present positions and it is believed here that they can be easily held against whatever forces Russia can throw against them.

Indications now point to a period of quiet along the Russo-Galician front, while the Teutonic allies are preparing for operations in other quarters.

Italians Active.

London, July 12.—Comparative calm exists in the various fighting areas with the exception of the Austro-Italian front where the Italians claim a substantial advance in their efforts to invest Trieste. Petrograd is elated at the Russian success over the Austrians who are said to have lost one of the three corps which began the advance against Lublin. The entente allies are reminded, however, that this is only a local triumph on forty miles of a thousand mile front.

Italians Fighting Hard.

Udine, Italy, July 12.—According to reports from the front the Austrians are making desperate efforts to penetrate Italy through the Carnic Alps. They are relying chiefly on night attacks, which so far have invariably failed. The Italians have retorted by redoubling their efforts against the Austrians protecting the Pusteria valley along the river Drave, and with the occupation of Innsichen and Toblach, on that river and on the railway line.

After having bombarded Platzwief and the newly terraced Fort Landro, the most important of the system of fortifications closing the great Alemagna road leading to Austria, the Italians are now giving their attention to the forts forming the flank protection of that highway. These are all armored and each is divided into two sections, one provided with armored casemates for long range cannon and the other with machine guns for near defense. All have steel cupolas.

French Official Report.

Paris, July 12.—"There was great activity during the night on various portions of the front. In the sector of Arras the enemy, after having launched a large number of asphyxiating projectiles, attempted toward night south of Souchez, an attack which failed. A second attack about

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MEXICANS BOND FORFEIT

General Orozco Fails to Put in Appearance to Answer to Charge of Conspiracy.

El Paso, Texas, July 12.—General Pascual Orozco, who on July 2 eluded federal and civil officers who held him under surveillance, failed today to appear in federal court to answer to charges of conspiracy to violate the United States neutrality laws. His bond of \$7,500 was declared forfeited.

General Marcelo Caraveo, Frank and like Alderete, also Mexican military adherents, who are held on similar charges, waived preliminary hearing and were held under reduced bond to the federal grand jury.

GERMAN WITHDRAWS PLEA

Reservists Held For Perjury in Connection With Lusitania Case, Raises New Point.

New York, July 12.—Gustav Stahl, the German reservist who swore that he saw four guns mounted aboard the Lusitania the day before she sailed on her last voyage, withdrew his plea of not guilty to the indictment charging him with perjury and substituted three pleas in abatement based on treason points. Argument will be heard later.

CARRANZA AFTER U.S. RECOGNITION

Hints Made That Victory at Mexico City Will Be Pressed as Reason

PEOPLE AT CAPITAL SUPPLIED WITH FOOD

Sustenance Being Rushed in From Vera Cruz Say the Factional Leaders

Washington, D. C., July 12.—Brief dispatches reached the state department from Mexico City dated before the occupation of the capital by Carranza forces describing food conditions as almost intolerable but officials declared the situation either had been remedied already by the change of authority, or would be remedied as soon as transportation with Vera Cruz was resumed.

State department officials, when asked today whether the occupation of Mexico City by Carranza would affect the question of recognition declared no definite consideration had been given to the subject. They said, however, that it always seemed more favorable for recognition when one party in the conflict becomes dominant. The American government has been waiting for many months for one of the factions to get military supremacy and set up a provisional government, giving promise of stability. The United States now will watch carefully the attitude and policy of the Carranza authorities in Mexico City, but there will be no decision, it is believed, for some time as to any change of policy on account of the pressing nature of the German situation.

Heretofore possession of Mexico City has not been regarded of much importance by officials because of the frequent changes in authority, but there are now indications that if General Carranza can better his position by further acquisition of territory north of the capital and reopening communication with the American border, his chances of obtaining the moral support of the United States will materially improve.

Defeat For Carranza.

Repulse of 2,000 Carranza troops who attacked the Villa garrison at Cabullona, Sonora, was announced today by the Villa agency. General Hernandez, Villa commander at Piedras Negras, telegraphed that Carranza forces, attacking Monclova, had been driven off toward Lampasas.

AMERICANS AID MEXICAN WOUNDED

Washington, D. C., July 12.—How an American Red Cross agent, headed for Monclova, Mexico, with food supplies, was turned back by the fighting and returned wounded Mexicans with his food consignment, was told in a dispatch today to the American Red Cross headquarters.

J. C. Waller, who started from Piedras Negras, telegraphed that in the battle of Barroteran, half way between Eagle Pass and Monclova, a Mexican commander had placed him in charge of the field to twenty men and brought them back in a body to the hospital at Piedras Negras.

Consul General Hanna, at Monterey, reported that last Friday he furnished corn and American salt pork to 20,000 persons.

RUSS TROOPS OFF TO DARDANELLES?

REPORT FROM FAR EAST SAYS THAT SOLDIERS ARE MAKING LONG JOURNEY.

Manila, July 12.—Persons who have arrived here from Saigon, capital of French Cochinchina, report that all vessels belonging to the Messageries maritimes, which have been engaged in far eastern traffic, are being transferred into transports to carry Russian troops to the Dardanelles. Whenever a vessel of the Messageries fleet reaches Saigon, it is said, the passengers are transferred and the freight unloaded, after which a large force of carpenters work at Topshide to make the necessary alterations. The ships are then sent to Vladivostok to take on troops.

Russia probably would benefit more than any other nation from the forcing of the Dardanelles and the fall of Constantinople, but there have been no previous reports of an authoritative nature that Russian troops would be sent to the Gallipoli peninsula to assist the allies in the operations there.

All Iowa's Crops, Excepting Corn are Above the Average

Des Moines, July 12.—The rainy, cool weather prevailing thus far this summer has caused much speculation as to the effect upon the great agricultural interests of the state. Many people have gained the idea that the value of the crops as a whole was going to be seriously curtailed. Statistics compiled by the government weather bureau experts at Des Moines show that with the single exception of corn, all of the principal crops of the state are far ahead of the average. Corn is rather backward; it is true, but the statistics indicate that there is a probability that the bumper yield of other crops may more than offset this.

The estimated corn crop based on July 1 report indicates a yield of 306,000,000 bushels compared with 389,424,000 last year. The total for the nation indicates a larger yield of corn this year than last, so Iowa farmers will not suffer unduly because of their less than usual crop.

Winter wheat conditions indicate a yield of 12,100,000 bushels compared with 11,016,000; spring wheat forecast is for 5,030,000 bushels compared with 4,050,000 last year; oats figures are 181,000,000 this year and 165,000,000 last; barley 10,100,000 this year and 8,360,000 last; potatoes 13,800,000 this year and 12,642,000 last year, and apples 7,620,000 compared with 1,500,000.

The rainy weather has proved beneficial to rye, timothy, clover and all kinds of hay and pasture. All of these are from three to twelve per cent above the ten year average condition.

LABOR BUREAU TO AID IDLE WORKERS

EXTENSIVE PLANS BEING LAID TO HELP SOLVE PROBLEM OF EMPLOYING MEN.

Washington, D. C., July 12.—Secretary Wilson today had under consideration plans for further cooperation of the federal labor authorities and the industrial departments of the various states, outlined in a conference with Commissioner Cammett and J. T. Fitzpatrick, secretary of the association of governmental labor officials. These plans, which had for their purpose the promotion of the efficiency of state labor laws and which dealt chiefly with the unemployment question, will be discussed at the congress of the state commissioners in San Francisco, August 2. Secretary Wilson and other members of his department are planning to attend.

One of the most important questions concerning the means of securing work for the unemployed was the matter of transportation of seasonal laborers. Steps will be taken to co-ordinate the work periods in the factories with the harvest season in the west. Efforts will be made, it is stated, to persuade factories to use the summer seasons to overhaul their plants, thus permitting mill employes to take a profitable vacation on farms instead of losing time in the winter season when other work is difficult to find.

Another scheme for relieving the unemployment situation provides for "box car excursions" when the railroads are sending empty trains westward for grain. These excursions would make cheap transportation possible when the working man can find a ready market for his labor on the farms.

The opening of federal lands or the buying in of idle districts under bond issue has also been considered by the department in Washington. This would permit the large number of skilled farm workers who have left the country to find city jobs, an opportunity to get back to the soil and eventually own their own lots on easy payments.

The recreation of an inter-state labor exchange between the states which will secure the necessary cooperation for efficient transportation of labor is also under consideration. This, it is pointed out, would assure the placing of immigrant labor where it would be most effective.

OIL TANK SET AFIRE.

Wood River, Ill., July 12.—Approximately 200,000 gallons of crude oil were burned when lightning struck a tank of the Standard Oil company's refinery here early today. The blaze was extinguished by steam.

BUILDING BOOM STARTS

Return of Carpenters to Work in Chicago Means Employment For Thousands.

Chicago, July 12.—With the return to work today of thousands of union carpenters, who have been on a strike since May 1, Chicago, launched a boom in the building industry, which, it was estimated, will give work to 150,000 men.

The strike was settled on last Saturday, and by Thursday it is believed that nearly all the carpenters and millmen will have returned to work. Building contractors and bankers said that construction work amounting to at least \$10,000,000 would be started soon.

THAW IS HOPEFUL OF WINNING CASE

EXPECTS THAT HEARING WILL BE FINISHED BY WEDNESDAY IN HIS FAVOR.

New York, July 12.—Harry K. Thaw was hopeful when the hearing in his sanity trial was resumed today that it would be finished by Wednesday night. He seemed confident that the jury would return a verdict that he is now sane and looked forward to his release before the end of the week.

The reading of testimony previously given by Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw was yet to be completed. Afterward the state's counsel had planned to call their witnesses, Dr. Austin Flint, Dr. Raymond Kieb, superintendent of Matteawan, and two or three others. Their testimony was expected to end evidence for the state. Rebuttal evidence for Thaw will follow.

MINERS ADMIT DEFEAT

Return to Work Under Former Wage Scale and Without Demanding Recognition.

Joplin, Mo., July 12.—A strike of nearly 5,000 lead and zinc miners which began here two weeks ago, ended today when every mine in the district resumed operations. There was no settlement. The men went back to the mines and asked for their places at the old wage scale. The miners have not asked recognition for their new-formed union.

FOUR INCHES OF RAIN THIS MONTH

July Has Made a Record So Far for Amount of Water Which Has Fallen

MUCH DAMAGE IN HENRY COUNTY

Skunk River Is Out of Its Banks and Bridge Is Washed Away

During the first eleven days of July Ottumwa has been visited by a total rainfall of 4.24 inches. With a moderate downpour early this morning and a gentle fall during the balance of the half day the city and vicinity has been experiencing more of the "damp weather" today.

The heaviest rain this month was on the first day when 1.62 inches fell and the next heaviest was on July 5 when a record of 1.16 inches is shown. Saturday evening .82 inches fell. The heaviest portion of this came between 5 and 7 o'clock. The skies were partially brightened at sunset and the peculiar ar yellowish gray afterglow was the cause of considerable comment. No damage of any consequence has been reported near here although the wind snapped off branches from several parts of the city. Reports from Kirbville and vicinity are to the effect that there was but very little rainfall there Saturday evening. The dampness in the ground and the intense heat of the sun Sunday caused a humidity that was quite noticeable.

Big Rain at Mt. Pleasant.

Mt. Pleasant, July 12.—Henry county experienced one of the worst rain and thunder storms in its history Saturday evening between the hours of 8 and 10. In this city a number of trees were blown down and the streets were flooded during the steady downpour. The sewers proved inadequate to carry off the overflow and in many places water was running level with the sidewalk. At North Main and West Pearl streets a backflow covered a portion of Iowa Wesleyan college campus. A large grain barn near Oakland, four miles south of here was struck by lightning and totally destroyed. The Skunk river was out of its banks for a quarter of mile for a few hours and much of the low farm lands near the river suffered. A wagon bridge over the same stream at Trenton, and inland town near here, was swept out.

Cyclone Kills Woman.

New Lyons, July 12.—One of the worst cyclones in history passed over this section Saturday night, killing Mrs. Milton McCabe and probably fatally injuring Ed Knockman.

The storm was the result of two clouds meeting, one from the south and one from the northwest.

Houses, barns and trees are laid low. The storm was accompanied by the most terrific and destructive lightning and heavy rain.

Telephone and telegraphic communication was almost entirely cut off. Only one Western Union wire out of here was in service and electric light service was badly crippled.

Labor was at the highest premium here yesterday. Some of the carpenters' gangs refused to work on account of Sunday.

Some of the queerest freaks of storm were manifest. Five cars standing on a siding were taken by the force of the storm, passed over two switches to the main line and taken almost to Danville seven miles east. One house roof was taken off. In the room there was a bedboard, a clock and some crickets. These were not touched and the clock was running this morning. At this place a steel range and kitchen cabinet were carried 300 yards and set in a cornfield. Corn in many places is cut off right at the ground. One field of fifty acres and many others are rolled flat.

STRIKE IS STARTED AT BIG ARMS PLANT

Bridgport, Conn., July 12.—About 300 structural iron workers at the Remington arms company's plant struck today because of differences between union men employed there over installing certain machinery. The millwrights and carpenters, both of whose unions are members of the Allied Metal trades, may join.

The international officers of the carpenters, structural iron workers and machinists organizations are expected here late today or tomorrow and it was thought probable that within a few days, unless the differences are settled, some 3,000 machinists at the plant may be involved in the strike.

DR. CLARK VERY ILL

Chicago, July 12.—The condition of F. E. Clark, head of the Christian Endeavor union, whom an attack of typhoid fever kept from attending the convention, is grave, according to a telegram received here today from Mrs. Clark. The telegram was dated Sagamore Beach, Mass.