

Ottumwa Tri-Weekly Courier

IOWA—Partly cloudy in west and central; cooler. Sunrises, 5:17; sets, 8:50.

LOCAL TEMP—6 p. m., 71; 8 a. m., 69; 12 m., 80; max., 82.

VOLUME SIXTY-EIGHT

OTTUMWA, WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA. TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1915

NUMBER 7

RUSSIA WINS IN BIG SEA BATTLE

German Fleet Attacks Riga and Is Repulsed After Bloody Fighting

SUBMARINE SINKS BIG DREADNAUGHT

Credit for Destroying One of Kaiser's Best Ships Given to Britons

Berlin, Aug. 23.—German troops have occupied the fortress of Osowetz, which was evacuated by the Russians, German army headquarters announced today.

Petrograd, Aug. 23.—The recent naval battle in the gulf of Riga is described in a statement from navy headquarters:

"The German fleet on August 16 renewed with large forces its attacks on our positions at the entrance to the gulf of Riga. Our ships during the sixteenth and seventeenth repulsed the attacks of the enemy, whose secret preparations for entering the gulf had been favored singularly by misty weather.

"Taking advantage of a thick fog, hostile forces of considerable size entered the gulf on the eighteenth and our vessels retired at the same time, continuing to resist the enemy without losing touch with him.

"On the nineteenth and twentieth the enemy reconnoitered in different directions, at the same time keeping up a fight with our ships, in which their torpedo boat flotilla suffered material losses. On our side, we lost the gunboat Sivutch, which perished gloriously in an unequal fight with an enemy cruiser which was escorting torpedo craft and came up to a distance of 400 yards from her. The Sivutch, enveloped in flames, continued to reply shot for shot until she sank, having previously sunk enemy torpedo boats.

"In view of the losses suffered and the fulfillment of his efforts, the enemy appears to have evacuated the gulf of Riga on the twenty-first.

"Between the sixteenth and twenty-first two enemy cruisers and no fewer than eight torpedo boats were either sunk or placed hors de combat. Simultaneously our gallant allies succeeded in torpedoing in the Baltic one of the most powerful dreadnaughts of the German fleet."

The foregoing contains no reference to the loss of the Russian gunboat Koreets, which was said in an official German statement of Saturday to have been sunk, as well as the Sivutch.

As London Hears It.
London, Aug. 23.—An official Russian communication descriptive of the naval battle in the gulf of Riga was forwarded from Petrograd today by the correspondent of the Central News. It gives the German losses as one dreadnaught, two cruisers and eight torpedo boats. The statement follows:

"In the gulf of Riga, between August 16 and 19, the Russian fleet sank or damaged no fewer than two German cruisers and eight torpedo boats. At the same time a British submarine sank one of the best German dreadnaughts.

"The Russian gunboat Sivutch was sunk in a brilliant fight in the course of which she sank a German torpedo boat while she herself was in flames and sinking."

The foregoing statement tallies with previous advice, except that the German losses were given as three cruisers and seven torpedo boats.

Allies Are Jubilant.

London, Aug. 23.—The capitals of the entente allies are jubilant today over the unexpected victory which the Russians, according to their accounts, have won in the gulf of Riga. England had more than a sympathetic interest in the battle, as a British submarine accounted for the German battle cruiser Moltke, the loss of which, added to the destruction of two cruisers, eight torpedo boats and four transports, constitutes the greatest naval disaster suffered by Germany during the war.

For the last week both Petrograd and Berlin have been sending meager reports of naval operations in the gulf of Riga, which were interpreted to mean that Germany was attempting to land forces for the purpose of supporting the left flank of Field Marshal von Hindenburg in his efforts to overrun the whole of Courland and thereby establish his armies along the coast route to the Russian capital.

The official Russian report, claiming a decisive victory for the allies together with the expulsion of the surviving units of the German naval forces in addition to an enumeration of German losses. It is assumed that, inasmuch as Petrograd announced sev-

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CONVICTS ESCAPE.

Chicago, Aug. 23.—Guards of the prison at Joliet, searching for Frank Miller, alias Otto Riedle, and James Morrison, convicts who escaped yesterday, had not recaptured the fugitives today.

Japan Decides to Give Russia More Help in Fighting

Tokio, Aug. 23.—The Koku-min Shambun says: "Premier Okuma states that Japan has decided to give greater assistance to Russia to prosecute the war. He could not discuss details, but allowed it to be understood that this assistance would take the form of the forwarding of greater supplies of munitions."

The Associated Press learns that Japan has decided to employ all available governmental and private resources for increasing the output of munitions for the allies, particularly Russia.

The Japanese government believes the time has arrived for a more concerted action against the enemies of Japan, her allies.

Lack of Munitions Fatal to Russians

One of Russia's greatest embarrassments in her conduct of the war has been a shortage of guns and ammunition. Military writers, while not discounting the effectiveness of the enormous Austro-German offensive movement, have stated that the extent of Russian reverses in the last few months has been due in part to inadequate supply of munitions.

Notwithstanding every effort to increase the domestic output, Russian facilities are still comparatively small and entirely insufficient to meet the large demands of such a campaign as is now under way. With the Baltic sea closed to her vessels from without, she has been able to import supplies only through the port of Archangel, closed by ice during a large part of the year, or over the trans-Siberian railroad.

Dardanelles has one of its great objects of the opening of the straits route for the assistance of Russia.

Large orders have been placed in the United States by Russia and extensive shipments have been made from Seattle and other Pacific ports. Japan also has forwarded war supplies to Russia.

Advices received by the Associated Press from Vladivostok several weeks ago said that great efforts were being made to increase the amount of supplies received there for transportation to the Russian front.

Word was received from Tokyo early this month that Japan had stripped large coast guns from her fortifications on the northeastern coast and had shipped them to Vladivostok.

Notwithstanding this assistance, the Russian supply of munitions has fallen far below the requisite amount, and a fortnight ago the Russian duma instituted a secret inquiry into this condition of affairs. It was reported that in this connection charges had been brought against General W. A. Soukhomlinoff, who resigned as minister of war in June.

ITALIANS DECLARE WAR ON TURKS

AMBASSADOR AT CONSTANTINOPLE REQUESTS PASS-PORTS; ALLIES VICTORY.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—With Italy's declaration of war on Turkey, the American embassy at Constantinople probably will be asked to take over the Italian interests in Turkey and those of Russia for whom Italy has been acting.

London, Aug. 23.—Marquis Di Garoni, Italian ambassador to Turkey, has handed to the porte a note declaring Italy considers herself in a state of war with Turkey. At the same time, the marquis demanded his passports out of the country.

The above announcement was made from Constantinople Saturday night and it probably means that before many days an Italian army and an Italian fleet will be aiding the allies to pound a way through the Dardanelles.

The declaration of war was no surprise as Italy has been considering such a course for some time following persistent affronts which she considered the Turks had offered.

Gallipoli Cut Off?

Persistent reports from the Dardanelles claim that the allies have succeeded in cutting the railroad on the crest of the mountainous peninsula. This railroad is the artery by which the Turkish army opposing the allies is provisioned, reinforced and supplied with ammunition. The report has not been officially confirmed.

STEAMER IS SUNK BY A SUBMARINE

English Liner Tries Hard to Escape Its Enemy, But Is Run Down

PURSUIT KEPT UP FOR FOUR HOURS

German Vessels, Disguised By False Funnels, Lie in Wait for Prey

Queenstown, Aug. 23.—The Lamport and Holt liner Diomed has been sunk by a German submarine. Her captain, quartermaster and steward were killed by shells fired by the submarine during a pursuit of four hours.

An officer of the Diomed who landed here today with other survivors says that two submarines were sighted. According to his report they were rigged with dummy funnels. One of them, this officer asserts, subjected the Diomed to a heavy shell fire.

The liner attempted to escape but surrendered after being pursued for four hours. Two boats were lowered and forty-nine members of the crew got away, taking with them the body of the captain.

Shortly afterwards one boat was swamped. Two Englishmen and five Chinese were drowned. The others were picked up by the second boat.

This boat, being overcrowded, was in danger of being swamped but its occupants were saved by the arrival of a steamship.

Turk Collier Torpedoed.
Sofia, Bulgaria, Aug. 23.—The Turkish collier Espahan has been torpedoed by a British submarine at Haidar Pasha, and the steamer Budos, of the German-Levant line, loaded with munitions and provisions, has been sunk in the sea of Marmora.

WORKMEN PLAN TO GET SHORTER DAY

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—Executive officers of the metal trades division of the American Federation of Labor met here today to plan the movement for an eight hour day and improved conditions to which they contend manufacturers' profits from war orders entitle their workers.

The International Association of Machinists already has begun an eight hour campaign with promises of a strike if necessary, and the metal trades are expected to give their moral and active support.

Affiliated with the federation are the metal workers, electrical workers, pattern makers, machinists, blacksmiths, boiler makers, metal polishers, molders, plumbers and other trades.

NO VIOLENCE AT EASTERN STRIKE

Pittsburgh, Pa., Aug. 23.—The telephone system used in dispatching cars on the Natrona-Aspinwall division of the West Penn railways was put out of commission for a time today when a booth at Breckenridge was burned, but striking trolley men and their sympathizers made no effort to interfere with five cars sent over the line soon afterward. Reports that the state constabulary would be called to protect the section where a car was burned and a timber derailed last night were denied by police in towns through which the line passes.

VILLA PLANNING GUERRILLA WAR

NORTHERN REBEL BREAKING HIS ARMY INTO BANDS TO MEET SUPERIOR FORCE.

El Paso, Texas, Aug. 23.—Arrivals from northern Mexico today declared General Villa is mobilizing his forces at Torreon, preparatory to a guerrilla warfare against General Obregon, in the belief that Obregon's forces are superior in organization and equipment.

Sixty pieces of artillery have been parked at Santa Clara and Santa Rosario, many miles north of Torreon, as a reserve for the guerrilla bands which are reported to be planned at units of 1,000 men. General Villa is said to have 20,000 men, including the expeditionary force arrived recently from the south.

A report of the hospital service at Chihuahua shows more than 12,000 wounded treated since March 1.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—Consular dispatches from Piedras Negras today reported a battle at Icamole, near Monterey, between Carranza troops and the combined forces of Villa, Hernandez and Raoul Madero. Both sides, the reports state, claim victory.

ANOTHER FLOOD HITS MISSOURI

Heavy Toll of Life Is Taken As Small Rivers Near St. Louis Overflow

DAMAGE AMOUNTS TO MANY MILLIONS

Thousands of People Leave Homes and Take to the Trees for Safety

Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 23.—Flood water from the White river is coming over the Rock Island levee at Newport and the town will be flooded, according to reports here today. The \$25,000 causeway just completed over Newport lake has been broken.

Hundreds of volunteers this morning were working on the levee and negroes had been forced at the point of shotguns to join them. The levee at Ingleside near Newport has broken.

Reports were received here last night that a family of five persons had been drowned in the bottoms near Oil Trough.

In Newport all business has been suspended. The water and electric light plants have been put out of commission by the water. The damage to crops in White river bottoms will be enormous.

The steamers Muskogee and Mary G. Lucas are running day and night rescuing families from the overflowed districts, many of the lowland dwellers being taken from trees.

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 23.—St. Louis county is recovering somewhat today from the third calamity which has descended on this community in as many days—a flood which snuffed out at least twelve human lives, possibly many more—destroyed more than a million dollars worth of property and made two thousand families homeless.

Twelve deaths had been reported to the coroner this morning and almost a hundred persons were listed as missing. River men who are closely acquainted with the situation fear the falling of the Meramec today may disclose a heavy toll in human lives. They also said the bodies of many of the drowned probably would be washed into the Mississippi river, carried far down stream and might not be recovered soon because of the mass of flood debris now in the river, and of its unusually strong current.

Equally distressing conditions prevail throughout southeastern Missouri and parts of western Illinois, where the toll, less severe in the number of lives lost, is far greater in damage to property and crops. Railroad, telephone and telegraph facilities in many counties are interrupted; the physical damage may aggregate \$5,000,000 and tens of thousands of farmers and villagers are homeless.

More Floods Threaten.
In Greene and Jersey counties, Illinois, from ten to fifteen thousand acres of farm land are under water as the result of the breaking of three levees in Madison and Saint Claire counties, and all rivers and creeks are flooded to the point of breaking their levees.

All these conditions are due to a branch of the Texas coast storm, which last Friday swept through Arkansas into Missouri and across the Mississippi to Illinois. St. Louis had hardly recovered from the effects of the tornado and its accompanying record breaking downpour Saturday when the river Des Peres went a mile out of its banks and on receding disclosed eleven dead. Before the Des Peres had fallen to its normal level the Meramec river, ten to fifteen miles west of this city, went two to four miles out of its banks with much more disastrous results.

Rise Comes Suddenly.
The Meramec rose during the night while thousands of campers and picnickers slept in club houses and summer cottages which dot the river's banks. From 2 o'clock yesterday morning until last midnight the river

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AVIATOR ESCAPES SWISS

Interned Man Who Landed on Neutral Soil When Motor Went Dead, Is Back in France.

Paris, Aug. 23.—Eugene Gilbert, the French aviator who was obliged to land in Switzerland June 27 through an accident to his motor, after bombarding the Zeppelin sheds at Friedrichshafen, and was interned near Saint Gothard, has escaped. Gilbert arrived in Paris last night and reported for service at the French ministry of war today.

Torpedoed Steamer Used for Screen By German Submarine

London, Aug. 23.—The admiralty today authorized a denial of the report that the steamer Dunsley, torpedoed shortly before the Arabic was sunk, was an armed patrol. The admiralty states the Dunsley was a peaceful and unarmed trader.

Survivors of the Dunsley stated yesterday that she was torpedoed just before the Arabic was sunk and that the German submarine hid behind the Dunsley to lie in wait for the Arabic.

Supplementing official information given out previously concerning the sinking of the Arabic, the British admiralty today made the following announcement:

"The Arabic was an unarmed passenger ship, outward bound to a neutral port. It was thus impossible for her to have been carrying contraband to this country.

"She was sunk by a German submarine without warning, and she neither attempted to attack the submarine nor to escape from it."

U. S. Will Go Slow.
Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—Secretary Lansing today called Ambassador Gerard at Berlin, asking if the German government had received an official report on the sinking of the White Star liner Arabic. The ambassador, however, was not instructed to ask for one. It was officially stated that the

American government is not yet at all sure of the facts and considers its information very fragmentary.

Secretary Lansing said the situation was exactly as it stood Saturday; that no steps had been taken other than to get accurate information as to what had taken place.

From the fact that Ambassador Gerard was not directed to seek an explanation, the inference was drawn that the state department has decided to let the German government initiate any explanation it may have to offer.

Ambassador Page at London had sent by mail some affidavits and other data, but has been instructed to cable a synopsis of the material.

In the view of the state department, no points have been established beyond doubt regarding the important questions of convoy, the change of course of the Arabic just before the torpedo struck, and other essentials. All the information received, aside from the newspaper reports, which reflect censorship, is embodied in one brief affidavit by an American, Zelah Covington. The department regards it as essential that this shall be corroborated and supplemented.

The American embassy will be expected to find survivors and secure their statements, which may be slow work.

HAITIEN REBELS TO FIGHT THE U. S.

RELIABLE INFORMATION IS TO EFFECT THAT AMERICANS ARE TO BE ATTACKED.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—Reliable reports have been received that Haitian rebels have been organizing an army to attack the American forces on the island, and reinforcements will be sent to Rear Admiral Caperton.

The marine artillery battalion of Annapolis, comprising 350 men and twelve 3-inch field pieces, will be embarked on the armored cruiser Tennessee and sent to southern waters this week.

Admiral Caperton today reported quiet at Cap Haitien and Port au Prince but said it had been necessary to take over the custom house at Saint Marc.

FOREST FIRES IN THE NORTHWEST

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 23.—From Alter bay to the international boundary line, the coast of British Columbia was shrouded today with smoke as a result of numerous forest fires.

An army of fire wardens has been fighting the flames in various districts for several days, but lack of rain is seriously handicapping their efforts. Thirty dwellings and farm houses, several saw mills and hundreds of telephone and telegraph poles have been burned.

White Rock, a resort where a large number of residents of Vancouver and Westminster have summer dwellings, is threatened by one of the fires.

ISLAND EVACUATED.

Vienna, Aug. 23.—The admiralty announced today that reconnaissance on Saturday established the fact that the Italians had evacuated the island of Pelagos in the Adriatic sea, having destroyed all buildings and fortifications.

WOMEN AND GIRL EMPLOYES STRIKE

NEARLY A THOUSAND QUIT WORK TO ENFORCE THEIR DEMANDS UPON EMPLOYERS.

Bridgeport, Conn., Aug. 23.—About 800 women and girls, 600 of them employed in the George C. Batchelor company's shops and the remainder at the Crown Corset factory, struck today to enforce a demand for a re-adjustment of working conditions. Besides the eight hour day they ask modification of certain charges and abolition of the fine system.

It had been hoped by union leaders and officials of the company to stave off the walkout pending conferences between the two sides.

Strikers at the International Silver company's plant did not return to work today, although the eight hour day and time and a half pay for overtime, which had been asked for, had been granted. The strikers say certain changes in shop conditions, which they desire, had not been made.

AUGUST TERM OF COURT IS OPENED

Judge C. W. Vermilion of Centerville Begins an Eight Weeks Term

GRAND JURY REPORTS TO COUNTY ATTORNEY

No Special Investigations Slated for This Time; Soon to Be Through

With Judge C. W. Vermilion of Centerville, opening court and making assignments of cases at 10 o'clock this morning and the grand jury reporting to County Attorney Daugherty at 1:30 this afternoon, work for the eight weeks August term of district court, is well started at the court house.

A full attendance of the bar, including attorneys from Eldon and Edgewood, in addition to those from Ottumwa, greeted this morning to again take up the work for Wapello county. A number of probate cases were disposed of at the outset, some out of town counsel being present for the testimony in regard to the wills. This work was followed immediately by the assigning of the cases which will be heard during the next two weeks, which do not require the services of a jury.

The county attorney states that he does not expect the grand jury to be in session more than three or four days. The members will only take up such matters as are waiting for them; no special investigations being planned at this time. The petit jury was ordered by the court for Monday, September 6, but he announced this morning that he would postpone their coming one day on account of the original date being Labor day and it is probable that the court house will be closed. With the report of the grand jury by Thursday or Friday the court will probably make his criminal case assignments at once and this work will take up about two weeks of the term beginning as soon as the petit jurors arrive.

The last will and testament of Rachel M. Patterson is the first matter to come up on the probate and chancery assignments which were made this morning. The liquor cases of the State vs. James Looker, Fowler vs. Tate and Siberell vs. Mungo have also all been listed for trial Tuesday. Thursday the case of the State vs. the Ottumwa Railway & Light Co., involving the running of cars east and west on Second street is scheduled for trial. Benny Sivich was not taken before the court this afternoon as originally planned.

TONGUE AND LAW FIRST REQUISITES

PROPER TRAINING OF ALIENS DEMANDS THAT THEY LEARN TO SPEAK ENGLISH.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—Responding to numerous inquiries, the bureau of naturalization today issued a general letter relative to its views as to the course which should be followed in training the alien population in American citizenship.

While pointing out the impossibility of laying any hard and fast rules on the subject, the letter declares that the prime requisite is ability to speak the English tongue.

"It is through this medium alone," it says, "that aliens can acquire a practical knowledge of our institutions."

Above all, the letter says, aliens should be taught that the supreme authority in this country is the law and that the first duty of an American citizen is obedience to that law.

ELEVEN MILLIONS VISIT THE FAIR

San Francisco, Aug. 23.—The total number of visitors to the Panama-Pacific exposition has reached 11,000,000, it was announced today. The 10,000,000 mark was recorded August 9.

The average daily attendance since the exposition opened February 20 has been 99,919. The average for the last two weeks has been 79,277.

HARD ROAD IDEA IS STILL PUSHED

Des Moines, Aug. 23.—Notwithstanding the action last week of the state association of county supervisors in going on record against hard surface roads in Iowa at present, sponsors of the movement for paved roads continue to prosecute steps to make their plan a reality.

The Greater Iowa association hopes to have 1,900 miles of hard surfaced roads constructed during the next five years.

A bill to be presented to the legislature will be drafted, providing for a bond issue sufficient to pave 2,000 miles of roadway at a cost of \$10,000. This may be stretched to provide for 4,000 miles if the people demand such action.

Woodworth Clum of Clinton, secretary of the association, has interviewed 2,500 business men, farmers, professional men and others throughout the state in the interest of hard surface roads. It is announced that mass meetings will be held in every county in the state during Greater Iowa week, the latter part of September.

ATTACK VALIDITY OF APPROPRIATIONS

Chicago, Aug. 23.—The Citizen's association of Chicago today announced that its board of directors had decided to take part in the prosecution of the suits recently started by F. S. Munro, John A. Watson and others to test the constitutionality of appropriations of more than \$2,000,000, made by the Illinois legislature. President M. B. Greenbaum, in making known the decision of the association, said that an attorney representing the Citizen's association, would be entered as counsel in each of the five injunction suits instituted by Mr. Munro and his associates, to prevent the payment of these appropriations out of the state treasury, and now pending in the circuit court of Sangamon county.

AMERICANS ENDANGERED.
London, Aug. 23.—There were seventy-seven Americans in the crew of the steamer Baron Erskine, which was sunk by a German submarine last week. The Americans, who were horse tenders, were landed safely with the rest of the crew.