

AUSTRIAN MINE SINKS FRENCH SHIP, 38 DROWN Destroyer Dague, 720 Tons, is Sunk in Montenegrin Port of Antivari, French Marine Ministry Admits.

CHECK ALL ATTEMPTS TO INVEST VERDUN Kaiser's Troops Repulsed Repeatedly When They Try to Drive Wedge Through Allies' Lines—Blow up Trenches.

PARIS, Feb. 26.—Official announcement was made here today that the French destroyer Dague, a vessel of 720 tons, was sunk by an Austrian mine in the Montenegrin port of Antivari, Wednesday night. Thirty-eight men went down with the Dague.

The following statement was issued at the French ministry of marine: "The French torpedo boat Dague, while conveying provisions for Montenegrins, struck an Austrian mine in the port of Antivari at 9:30 o'clock Wednesday night and sank. Thirty-eight men of her crew disappeared with her.

"The accident did not prevent the successful termination of the provisioning operations and the normal return of the convoy."

The marine ministry also announced that the French armored cruiser Desaix, made a demonstration at Akaba on Tuesday. A landing party supported by guns of the ship, dispersed a small Turkish force occupying the village.

PARIS, Feb. 26.—French troops have successfully checked all attempts of the German to invest Verdun. The enemy's troops were repulsed time and again when they sought to drive a wedge through the valley separating the heights of Verdun from the slopes of Meuse.

Expanding mines, followed by intense artillery fire, drove the Germans from their trenches near the village of Eparges, and resulted in the French capturing that town. Repeated German counter attacks and attempts to recover the positions they had lost were all repulsed.

Review of Recent Operations. This information was collected in a review of recent operations issued by the war office today. The statement says: "The investment of Verdun has been continuously one of the objectives of the German general staff and toward this end the most important means have been employed. They have attempted fruitlessly to drive a wedge through the valley that separates the heights of Verdun from the slopes of the Meuse proper.

"The village of Eparges is extended to the eastward by a number of ordinary houses which are crossed by the first line trenches of the Germans. At the head of the valley, the enemy organized a very strong position, consisting of a great redoubt, stationed at each extremity of the valley and additionally safeguarded by two lines of trenches.

Capture Village of Eparges. "The village of Eparges is now in our possession. Saint Remy was seized by the Germans during their attack on Feb. 9. An advance on our part in this region manœvered the position of the Germans in the forest and the mountains, and indirectly also, their operations were checked.

THIRD AURORA WOMAN IS SLAIN BY MURDERER WELDING SCANTLING

Police Hold John Mason, 60-Year-Old Eccentric, and a Score of Negroes as Suspects in Latest Mystery.

AURORA, Ill., Feb. 26.—John Mason, a 60-year-old eccentric, and a score of negroes were arrested early today and questioned in regard to the murder of Miss Emma Peterson, who was struck down by a blow on the head last night within a few doors of the residence of former U. S. Sen. Albert J. Hopkins. Bloodhounds were brought from Decatur to track down the assassin, who was believed to be the same man who killed Theresa Hollander and Jennie Miller within a year.

Mason, the police said, was arrested chiefly because he was accused of frightening another girl by jumping out from behind a tree at her. While the police questioned him, they held to the belief that Aurora's Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, a maniac who strikes down women with no tangible purpose and runs away.

The young woman slain in the third and latest tragedy in Aurora streets was a maid employed in the home of John Pooling, a retired grocer, half a block from the scene of the crime.

Mrs. A. J. Condon, 218 N. Lake st., apparently was the only person who saw the slayer. She was preparing to retire in a front room on the second floor when she heard a woman scream. She ran to the front window and looked out in time to see a man running across the street. The nearest street light was 200 feet away and she was unable to get a good view of the fugitive.

Passers-by Find Victim. Mrs. Condon slipped on a wrap and ran to the sidewalk. Before she arrived, however, Miss Gertrude Munson and Miss Hazel Johnson, who were returning home from a picture show, stumbled over Miss Peterson's feet. They believed her dead and ran for a policeman.

The victim lay on her back. Her feet were on the sidewalk and her head was pillowed upon her mink muff near the curbing. Her hat was knocked to one side by a blow which had crushed in her forehead. The white feather on the hat was stained crimson as was her collar. Another blow had crushed her jaw. Her black plush coat had been torn open and served as a blanket on which she rested, with arms out-stretched.

The policeman found she was still breathing and started with her to St. Joseph's hospital, but she died on the way.

Chief of Police Michael today said he was certain of a few clues: "The murderer, he said, had evidently waited behind a tree and stepped directly in front of the young woman when he struck.

The blow on the forehead which killed her, was on identically the same spot as that on the forehead of Jennie Miller, daughter of former Mayor Miller, who was murdered with a pipe wrench on Nov. 16 last.

Carried Weapon Away. Miss Peterson's assailant, however, carried his weapon away with him. The murderer carried off the girl's handbag which had a small amount of money in it.

Chief of Detectives Wirz said: "If the same man killed Theresa Hollander, Jennie Miller and Miss Peterson, he may have been in Aurora all this time and never have been arrested. In fact, he is sure he has never been brought in. It looks very

much like the same man had killed all three women. Miss Hollander was struck with a scantling. Miss Miller was killed with a pipe wrench. Miss Peterson was felled with a club, a piece of pipe or some similar weapon. All were struck down from in front."

Mr. Dooling said Miss Peterson had been in his employ only two weeks. She formerly worked as a clerk in a drygoods store. She went to Aurora two years ago from Danville, Ill. She had a good reputation and is said to have come from a well-to-do family.

Latest Bulletins From War Zone

LONDON, Feb. 26.—A news agency dispatch from Copenhagen states that the report of the sinking of the American steamer Palmyra has been confirmed by surviving members of her crew who were picked up by a Swedish ship. The sailors asserted, the dispatch said, that the Palmyra was sunk in the North sea by a mine.

CARDIFF, Feb. 26.—A German submarine is believed to have been destroyed on the coast of North Wales. Wreckage is being washed ashore today. Among the debris there were found charts of German and English ports.

BERLIN, Feb. 26.—Three members of the crew of the American vessel Carib were lost when the vessel was sunk in the North sea, according to advices received here today. It is now understood that the Carib was lost off the Borkrum island near the spot where the Evelyn also went down.

BERLIN, Feb. 26.—According to the Berlin official news agency, the Italian newspaper Corriere Della Sera reports the receipt of a dispatch from Lloyds from Eastbourne, England, stating that a British transport carrying 1,800 men has been sunk by a German submarine with all on board.

ROTTERDAM, Feb. 26.—The Swedish steamer Svartan arrived at Ymuiden today with a big hole in her starboard bow. According to advices received here, she either struck a mine or was torpedoed in the North sea. There were no casualties on board.

BERLIN (by wireless).—Today's official war report consisted of only eight words, as follows: "In both war theaters nothing important occurred yesterday."

CONSTANTINOPLE (via Berlin and Amsterdam), Feb. 26.—A Russian defeat in the Caucasus north of Artvin by Turkish troops was officially announced here today. The Russians suffered heavy losses and were forced to retreat.

PARIS.—It is officially announced that four forts at the entrance to the Dardanelles were destroyed in yesterday's bombardment by the combined French and British fleet. The allies' ships have entered the straits and mine sweeping has already begun.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 26.—Two men were crushed probably fatally and more than a score of persons injured in the wreck of the New York-New England special on the Big Four railroad at Templeton, Ind., early today.

The train, which left Chicago at 10:30 last night, was running at a high rate of speed when the engine jumped the tracks and turned over. Every car left the rails.

The injured were taken to hospitals here and at Oxford. The most seriously hurt were: Engineer James Beggs of Indianapolis; crushed and cut; reported dying.

Fireman Arthur Isom, of Indianapolis; crushed and scalded; reported dying.

J. P. Seale of Fairmont, Ind., injured internally; may recover. Nearly every passenger on the train was bruised or cut by flying glass. Occupants of the Pullmans were thrown from their berths when the cars left the rails and toppled to one side, and it was at first reported that several had been killed.

With all of the cars tilted at an angle or lying on their side and the lights all out, the passengers experienced difficulty in getting out. Few found their own clothing. Many were without money in their pockets and men with their hands and faces cut by glass were panic-stricken.

The train was due at Lafayette at 2 o'clock this morning. KEEP NEWS FROM WIFE. INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 26.—Mrs. Arthur Isom, wife of the Big Four fireman probably fatally hurt in a passenger wreck near Templeton, early today, is the mother of a 5-days-old baby. News of the wreck and of her husband's injuries was kept from her.

Mrs. James M. Beggs, wife of the engineer of the train and her daughter, were left for Lafayette as soon as word of the wreck reached them.

ELKHART MAN SHOTS WIFE AND HIMSELF Domestic Infelicity Cause of Second Double Tragedy Within Week.

Special to The News-Times. ELKHART, Feb. 26.—Another double shooting affair which is feared will end fatally occurred here early this morning when Charles Zeller, 22 years old, shot his wife, 13 years old, three times, and himself twice. Both are in a local hospital and hopes for their recovery are slight. Mrs. Zeller is suffering with two bullet wounds in her breast and one in the head. Her husband has one bullet in his head and another in his neck.

QUILLOT FOUND GUILTY, GETS FINE AND TERM IN JAIL

Vice Investigator Assessed \$50 and Costs and Sentenced to 10 Days in Jail For Alleged Public Indecency.

After being out from 3:40 o'clock Thursday afternoon until 10:15 o'clock Thursday night, the jury in the circuit court returned a verdict of guilty in the case of John H. Quilbot, charged with public indecency. A fine of \$50 and the costs was assessed against the defendant and he was sentenced to serve 10 days in the county jail.

Upon the reading of the verdict the defense immediately announced their intention of filing a motion for a new trial which motion was filed early in the afternoon. Arguments on the motion will be heard at 10 o'clock Monday afternoon. Meanwhile the defendant is released under bond.

Wanted Maximum Penalty. The first ballot of the jury showed a vote of nine to three in favor of conviction and of the maximum penalty of \$100 fine and six months in jail. During the six hours of deliberation the arguments were with the three who held out for acquittal. The verdict was the result of a compromise. When the verdict was announced counsel for the defense demanded a poll of the jury.

Following are the members of the jury which brought in the verdict: Joseph D. Rinder, foreman, Martin L. Garter, Andrew Gunderman, B. F. Wright, Isaiah Bigel, J. E. Cauffman, Joseph Colbert, G. E. Moon, P. G. Hood, George Jones, John Hunsberger and S. C. Scopes. Of these, Colbert, Cauffman, Hunsberger, Garter and Scopes are members of the regular panel.

Motion for New Trial. The motion for a new trial, filed by the defense at 1:30 o'clock sets forth in part as follows the grounds on which the new trial is prayed: "The court erred in overruling defendant's motion to direct the jury to return a verdict for the defendant at the conclusion of the state's case."

"Juror Andrew Gunderman was incompetent to sit as a juror in said cause by reason of the fact that he has been a member of a jury in the county within a year, to wit: The said Gunderman sat as a juror in the St. Joseph superior court on Jan. 18, 1915, and Feb. 4, 1915, as shown by the juror's time books in the said superior court. That neither defendant nor his counsel knew of the above fact until after the rendition of the verdict."

"That upon polling the jury as to its verdict, Juror Moon made no reply, as appears by the affidavit of S. E. Pettengill, hereto attached. "That the court erred in refusing to grant the defendant's motion, No. 2, as requested by defendant.

"That the court erred in permitting state's witness Mrs. Dekay, over objection of defendant, to testify as to other charges of indecency than those set forth in the affidavit. "Testimony Was Barred. "Error of law in refusing to permit defendant's witness, Paul Frank, to answer the following question put to him by defendant's counsel: 'State how Naomi Burnside was dressed when you saw her at the Foster bank on Jan. 23, 1915.'

"The punishment assessed by the jury is so excessive under the circumstances as to shock the conscience of fair-minded men and to indicate that the jury was biased, prejudiced and influenced by passion against the defendant. "Wherefore defendant prays the court for a new trial of said cause."

The instruction No. 2, to which reference is made, was to the effect that a property owner had a right to protect his property from injury through improper and vulgar persons even though the statutes did not provide how this should be done.

The victory of the Germans at Wirballen was aided by a snow storm. The Russian garrisons retreated and became easy victims of the attacking Germans. Ten thousand Russians were captured at Wirballen.

APPEALS ARE TAKEN Liquor and Assault and Battery Go to Higher Court.

An appeal to the circuit court has been taken by Timothy Murphy, fined \$50 in the city court on the charge of operating a blind tiger. An appeal has been taken to the superior court by Edward Holski for a similar cause. W. D. Van Dusen, fined \$5 on a charge of assault and battery, and Louis Kreidler, fined \$25 on the charge of selling liquor in a drug store, have each taken appeal from the city court to the superior court.

AFFIDAVIT AGAINST HUSTON. An affidavit, signed by Charles L. Scott, has been filed in the circuit court charging criminal assault on Ruby Scott, 16 years old, by Ralph Huston. The defendant, a local prize fighter, is being held at the county jail.

LANSING, Mich.—A bill being prepared by Sen. Verdier would abolish spring elections and have the constitutional offices voted for in the spring, filled by appointment by the governor, justices of the supreme court being excepted.

SOUTH BEND'S SPRING FASHION WEEK.

South Bend's Spring Fashion Week, March 9 to 13, inclusive, will not be a catch-penny affair, devised to appeal to the sordid instincts of mankind. On the contrary it will be an appeal to the artistic appreciation of people who love the beautiful for beauty's sake, who recognize merit and value when they see them, and who are susceptible to impressions which are elevating and beneficial in their influences.

Not one feature of South Bend's Spring Fashion Week will touch a sensational chord. Not one street sight or sound will offend the most fastidious ear. Not one suggestion of the street fair will be found.

South Bend's Spring Fashion Week will be for the appreciation of intelligent people who do not enjoy maudlin fun. Come and spend the week with us.

BOTH FRENCH AND BRITISH CLAIM GAINS IN WEST

Joffre's Men Win in Champagne District and French on La-Bassee Road—Von Hindenburg in New Drive.

PARIS, Feb. 26.—Gains by both the French and British troops are claimed in this afternoon's official communique from the war office. The British success was won on the La-Bassee high road, while that of the French was gained in Champagne, where the troops of Gen. Joffre advanced in the forest northwest of Perthes and also to the north of Meunil-Les-Hurlus. Fighting continues in Champagne where the Germans are attempting to check the offensive which the French troops are maintaining.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Snow storms are hindering operations on the battle front in France and Flanders where the British troops are opposing the Germans. Intermittent fighting continues, however, though neither side has made any sustained infantry attacks.

The British aviators are carrying out their scouting duties in spite of the snow storms. A weekly summary of the operations of the British troops issued at the official press bureau today says that the fighting has centered about Ypres and pays a marked tribute to the valor of the soldiers, relating only the names of a sergeant and his men held a trench unaided and shot down all the Germans who attempted advance.

On the remainder of the front the Germans have maintained a heavy artillery fire. GERMANS IN NEW DRIVE. PETHEN, Feb. 26.—By another rapid shift of troops, Field Marshal von Hindenburg has massed a German army believed to number at least 350,000 men, on the front between the Bobbe and Virella rivers and launched desperate attacks in an attempt to cut through the Russians there before the newly assumed offensive of Grand Duke Nicholas' troops west of Warsaw compels the retreat of the weakened German army there.

It was admitted here today that the Germans had made some gains at Prasznyz, but their mass attacks upon the Russian positions cost them dearly.

BERLIN (via Amsterdam), Feb. 26.—Among the booty captured by the Germans when they overtook at Wirballen the Russians retreating from East Prussia, was a hospital train equipped by the czarina of Russia. This was subsequently used as the headquarters of Gen. von Laurensen, commander of the German troops in that region.

The victory of the Germans at Wirballen was aided by a snow storm. The Russian garrisons retreated and became easy victims of the attacking Germans. Ten thousand Russians were captured at Wirballen.

GERMANY READY TO ACCEPT U. S. TERMS

Foreign Minister von Jagow Confers With Chancellor on Reply to American Note.

BERLIN (via Amsterdam), Feb. 26.—Imperial Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg and Foreign Minister von Jagow held a third conference this afternoon to discuss the reply that will be sent to the American note suggesting a solution of the difficulty presented by neutrals by England's food war against Germany and the latter country's retaliatory submarine warfare.

As this reply is regarded of even greater importance than that recently sent to the other American note, the utmost care is being taken in its preparation. While the reply has been only tentatively formulated, it is understood that it will wholly accept some of the suggestions made by the American government and will suggest changes

INDIANAS 69TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM THE NEWS-TIMES INDIANAPOLIS BUREAU

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 26.—The bill to remove Indiana university to Lafayette was killed in the senate today without a roll call. The measure was unfavorably reported by the senate committee on finance and the report was approved.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 25.—With all the important democratic party measures out of the way, the house today went to work to clear up a large pile of bills that are awaiting consideration. The first proposition to be considered was the suffrage question, which has already been disposed of in the senate by the passage of the Mason limited suffrage bill.

The bill to provide for arbitration of labor disputes, already stamped with Gov. Rainston's approval, was made a special order in the house for this afternoon. Rep. Feick offered a resolution which was adopted this afternoon, commending Pres. Wilson for his action in the European crisis, and approving his efforts toward establishing peace in Europe.

SENATE PRINTING BILL. The Chambers bill to change the state printing laws so as to admit greater competition among bidders for the printing for public institutions was passed by the senate this afternoon. A spirited fight against the bill was led by republican Floor Leader Robinson. Voting with Robinson against the measure were Sens. Genial, Kinder, Lantz, Mercer and White. Sen. McConaha, progressive, deserted the republican side and voted with the democrats for the measure.

Sen. Sammill's bill for a commission to investigate the tax question in Indiana was passed unanimously by the senate.

Word was passed in the house today that the senate had adopted important exceptions are made, no bills will be permitted to introduce in the house after tomorrow.

Only eight days and nights will be ahead of the senate at the end of this week in which to complete an enormous pile of business.

Railston Takes Hand. Gov. Rainston today took a hand in legislative matters and caused the house to defer action on the Waltz bill increasing railroad fares to 2 1/2-2 1/2 a mile, until after the public service commission can investigate the claims of the railroads that they need the increased income. In a lengthy communication to the house Gov. Rainston pointed out that the bill would increase the revenue of the railroads in the state from \$500,000 and he urged the widespread interest in the measure, he advised it to be turned over to the commission before the house acts. The governor's suggestion was acted upon without opposition.

The senate did not get down to business today until after noon. A caucus of the democratic senators was held until noon, when it was decided that the only action decided upon, it was stated, was to rush party measures through the upper house.

An attempt was made by Rep. Baigman in the house to have a committee of five representatives appointed to investigate the proposition to move Indiana university to Lafayette.

The passage of the workmen's compensation bill, H. R. 47, in the house yesterday afternoon, put the house on record on the last of four important party measures, the state wide primary, the anti-lobby law and the appropriation bill being the others.

The compensation measure adopted by the house was a compromise and opinions expressed today were that the bill came nearer pleasing both capital and labor than any of the several bills offered on this subject.

The Sare workmen's compensation bill was passed by the house of representatives Thursday afternoon. The vote was 84 to three, there being many absentees when the vote was taken. The measure as passed was a compromise between certain representatives of manufacturers on the one side and union labor on the other. Neither side was satisfied with the measure.

LANSING, Mich.—Michigan retail grocers succeeded in getting the Sunday closing bill passed here Thursday through their vocal efforts. In a body they marched into the senate and sang "Michigan, My Michigan." After the song the bill went through.

LANSING, Mich.—A bill being prepared by Sen. Verdier would abolish spring elections and have the constitutional offices voted for in the spring, filled by appointment by the governor, justices of the supreme court being excepted.

BILL TO COMBINE UNIVERSITIES IS KILLED IN SENATE

Measure to Move "I. U." to Lafayette is Unfavorably Reported by Committee and Report is Adopted.

FEICK ARBITRATION BILL UP IN HOUSE Proposed Law Providing For Settlement of Labor Disputes Made Special Order—House Passes Compensation Act.

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