

Indiana—Cloudy Saturday; colder by night; Sunday foggy and rainy; Monday and Tuesday colder. Lower Michigan—Unsettled Saturday, probably rain south, rain or snow north; Sunday cloudy and colder.

INTERESTS TRYING TO BRING ON WAR WITH MEXICO

TWO STEAMERS ARE REPORTED AS DESTROYED

Americans May be on Sussex Which is Said to be Sinking in Channel.

MORE THAN 400 PERSONS MAY BE VESSEL'S VICTIMS

Englishman, British Ship, Reported to Have Been Sunk—Battles Continue.

Associated Press Service: With 356 passengers, probably some of them Americans, and a crew of about 50 on board, the cross-channel steamer Sussex, plying between Folkestone, England, and Dieppe, France, is in distress in the English channel off Dieppe. Unofficial reports say that the vessel was torpedoed. At last reports rescue boats were standing by.

The British steamer Englishman, a vessel of 5,257 tons, which plies between Portland, Me., and Avonmouth, has been sunk, but whether by a mine or torpedo has not been stated. Sixty-eight persons on board were rescued. Whether this number constituted the entire ship's company is not known.

It is still in the French and Russian war theaters that the heaviest battles are in progress, but fighting also is continuing in the Austro-Italian zone, in Serbia near the Greek frontier and in Asiatic Turkey.

The French are keeping up their vigorous bombardment of the woods of Malancourt and Avocourt, north of Verdun, which are held by the Germans, and also are hammering away with their guns at German lines of communication in the eastern fringes of the Argonne forest.

To the north and east of Verdun an intermittent bombardment by the Germans of French second line positions is still going on, with the French replying energetically.

The only infantry encounter along the western front took place in Argonne forest, where the Germans gained a portion of a French first line trench but were expelled from it by a counter attack and lost some 30 men taken prisoners.

All along the Russian front from the region of Friedriehstadt to the district around Vilna the Russians and Germans are hard at grips. Petrograd says that near Widys, between Dvinsk and Vilna, the Russians forced all the German lines and barricades and repulsed a vigorous German counter attack.

Berlin, however, says that here the Russian attacks failed with heavy losses before the German entanglements.

Bad weather prevails in the Austro-Italian theater, but, notwithstanding a blizzard, the Italians have attacked and occupied Austrian positions in the Cordevio valley.

Berlin reports that in the region of Glevogel on the Serbo-Greek frontier artillery duels have been in progress. The statement does not give the nationalities of the contending batteries.

The defeat of a British force that attacked the Turkish positions on the right bank of the Tigris river near Fehle is chronicled by Constantinople. The report also says that Turkish armies have again dropped bombs on Kut-Et-Amara, where a British force is under siege.

ENGLISHMAN SUNK. Associated Press Service: LONDON, March 25.—The steamer Englishman of the Dominion line has been sunk, according to Lloyd's. It is stated that thus far 68 survivors have been accounted for.

The last record of the steamer Englishman shows that she sailed from Portland, Me., Feb. 17, for St. Nazaire, and Avonmouth. The Englishman was a vessel of 5,257 tons and was owned by the Mississippi and Dominion Steamship Co. of Liverpool. She was built at Belfast in 1912.

SOCIALISTS SPLIT. Associated Press Service: BERLIN, March 24.—(By wireless to Buckerton, N. J.)—The long expected split in the German socialist party, as the result of the political situation created by the submarine warfare controversy in the Reichstag, occurred today. A party consisting of its socialist members, was constituted by the radical wing, a socialist caucus had decided to exclude Deputy Hiaz for a breach of discipline.

Democrats To Speed Labors Of Congress

Associated Press Service: WASHINGTON, March 24.—House Democrats in caucus Friday night adopted a resolution outlining a plan for speeding up the administration legislative program with a view to adjournment before the national political conventions in June as urged by President Wilson. They pledged themselves to cooperation in earlier daily meetings and to such night sessions as may seem advisable. The plan is to handle at night sessions the business of all special days in the week except the so-called calendar Wednesday.

SHACKLETON IS LOST IN SOUTH

Wireless From Aurora Shows Ship Failed to Meet Explorer

Associated Press Service: LONDON, March 25.—A wireless message from the auxiliary ship Aurora of the Shackleton Antarctic expedition was received in London yesterday.

The Aurora at the time the message was sent was in the far south Pacific. The wireless said that the steamer had been damaged and was proceeding to New Zealand for repairs. The fate of Lieut. Sir Ernest Shackleton and the party with him which set out to cross the south pole is not known.

Apparently an attempt had been made to send the wireless for several months, but it had only just been reported at the New Zealand station which forwarded it to England. The message was sent by a member of the staff of the Aurora, which went from Australia to Ross sea at the end of 1914 for the purpose of bringing back Shackleton's party when they had crossed the south polar continent. It was not known that the Aurora had wireless on board and the dispatch was delivered to an office of the expedition which had been closed for some time.

The news as received in London leaves the world completely in the dark as to the doings or whereabouts of Lieut. Shackleton and his immediate party. If they have carried out their program they are now presumably at the Ross sea base, but without the expected ships to take them off.

Even if Shackleton has been unsuccessful in the attempt to cross the pole and has had to retrace his steps to the Weddell sea base thence to return to Buenos Aires, the relief expedition will have to be reorganized to effect the rescue of Lieut. Mackintosh, R. N. R., in command of his companions who were left on shore at Ross sea when the Aurora broke from her moorings. The great question is will the stores which these men possessed be sufficient to sustain the lives of the party for a year?

Until the Aurora arrives at some port and a full story of her adventures is available the extent of the loss sustained by the party cannot be definitely known.

The breaking away of the Aurora and her consequent inability to pick up the members of the Shackleton expedition on their arrival at the Ross sea side of the Antarctic was almost the only contingency that had not been foreseen.

LIEUTENANT KILLED

Found Shot to Death in Room Aboard Cruiser.

International News Service: SEATTLE, Wash., March 24.—Junior Lieut. Ormond C. Pailthorp was found shot to death in his room on board the United States cruiser Saratoga at the Puget Sound navy yard Friday. So far the yard officials are unable to determine whether he was slain or committed suicide. Lieut. Pailthorp was a native of Michigan.

MANY ENLISTING. International News Service: WASHINGTON, March 24.—Sergeant Harry Poe opened an army recruiting station here Friday morning and at noon 16 men had enlisted.

WAITE STATES HE GAVE PECK DEADLY FLUID

But Declares Aged Man Asked Him to Buy Poison to Slay Self.

TRIES TO BRIBE COLORED MAID TO HELP HIS TALE

Detective Asserts Alleged Slayer Wrote Out \$1,000 Check to be Paid Girl.

Associated Press Service: NEW YORK, March 24.—Confession was made today by Dr. Arthur Warren Waite, according to Dist. Atty. Swann, that he bought the poison believed by the authorities to have caused the death of his father-in-law, John E. Peck, of Grand Rapids, Mich., but he asserted that he made the purchase at the request of the millionaire, who was despondent and wished to commit suicide. Another sensational development late in the day was the statement made to Dr. Swann by Raymond Schindler, a private detective, that Dr. Waite had asked him to attempt to bribe Waite's Negro maid, Dora Hillen, to corroborate the dentist's story.

"If she will say in court that she heard Mr. Peck ask me to buy the arsenic," Schindler told the district attorney, Waite said, "and that she saw me give him the package unopened, I will give her a check for \$1,000."

Gives Out Check. Dr. Waite, according to the detective, thereupon signed what purported to be a check for \$1,000 to the order of the girl, written by Schindler on a sheet from his note book. This "check" now is in the possession of Mr. Swann. Schindler said Waite did not know he was a detective.

Dr. Waite was taken to the prison ward at Bellevue hospital tonight. Mr. Swann said he wanted the dentist kept under the closest possible surveillance, because Waite had expressed regret that the drugs he took Wednesday had not killed him and that he wished his wife dead.

When first questioned by Mr. Swann on Tuesday, Waite is said to have laughed heartily and declared, "Why this is rich! I never purchased arsenic in my life and have never had any."

In making his statement to the district attorney today, Waite was self-possessed and spoke with evidence of deliberation.

But when he was questioned about the alleged misuse of \$10,000 entrusted to him for investment by Miss Catherine Peck, sister of John E. Peck, and in regard to a woman he had previously admitted having lived with, he apparently became indignant, saying, "That has nothing to do with the subject in hand."

Admits Buying Arsenic. "Yes," he said, according to Mr. Swann, "I bought the arsenic, but I know you won't believe what I am going to tell you, so I'll probably go to the electric chair. Mr. Peck was an old man, he was very despondent over the death of his wife. One day I wanted to buy some poison for him. I don't remember whether he said he wanted arsenic or not. I went to see a physician acquaintance; told him I wanted to kill a cat, and asked him to recommend me to his druggist. He called the druggist on the telephone and told him I was all right. I also told the druggist I wanted to kill a cat. I took the poison home and handed the package to Mr. Peck. I never saw it again."

The poison was bought on March 9 and Peck died March 12. The district attorney's office has information that the dentist made other purchases of poison between Dec. 21 and March 7. Mrs. Peck died here on Jan. 30. It was after Waite was confronted with written records of some of his purchases that he made his alleged confession.

"How much was Peck worth, do you know?" the district attorney asked him.

"Yes, I know," Dr. Waite replied. "A million dollars."

Mrs. Waite had no knowledge of her husband purchasing poison, Mr. Swann said the dentist told him. "My regret is that this will wound my wife very deeply," the dentist said.

Yuan Shi Kai Admits Blame For Condition

Associated Press Service: WASHINGTON, March 25.—President Yuan Shi Kai's mandate renouncing his acceptance of the title of emperor of China, and declaring China's return to republican government was made public in part Friday night by the Chinese legation. In it Yuan says he consented to proposals for a monarchy after "irresistible" insistence by a convention of popular representatives, but feeling that acceptance of the throne would violate his oath as president never took any steps to put the monarchical program actually into effect. For his failure to oppose the monarchical movement more vigorously, however, he takes upon himself the blame for "all the faults of the country" and calls upon all Chinese to unite in saving a nation which, through internal dissension, "is racing to perdition."

DENIES FAST NAVY GROWTH

Rear Admiral Fiske Says Men Cannot be Trained in Short Time.

Associated Press Service: WASHINGTON, March 24.—Rear Admiral Bradley A. Fiske declared before the house naval committee Friday that regardless of how many ships were built, it would be impossible to carry out the general board's plan for making the American navy equal to any other by 1925 because it would take ten years longer to develop and train the personnel necessary to man the navy in first rank.

"You can appropriate enough money to build enough ships to equal the ships of any other navy in three years," said the admiral, "but ships do not make a navy. You would not have the men, officers or training that would bring a navy up to first rank. Great Britain has been 80 years training its men and building up its navy. We can't catch up with Germany in five years. As to training men we need to train enlisted men, but the greatest need is the training of the admirals."

Reiterating his official expressed opinion that the navy never could be made efficient as long as its personnel were subject to change by every new secretary of the navy, the admiral urged legislation for the establishment of a general staff with statutory powers and to define and extend the powers of the chief of operations. He agreed that the navy now needed battle cruisers and badly, but said the most urgent need was an adequate flying corps.

Admiral Fiske, who has been a center of the storm of criticism of the navy's administration since he resigned as aide for operations a year ago, was not inclined to dwell upon his differences with Sec'y Daniels. In response to questions he said the secretary had granted him a month leave of absence when he asked for three months and that Mr. Daniels had told him he did not want naval officers in Washington talking to congressmen and newspaper men.

SPEECH CRITICIZED

Congressman's Tirade May Not be Printed in Record.

International News Service: WASHINGTON, March 24.—A special committee of the house was appointed Friday to investigate and determine whether a speech inserted in the Congressional Record several days ago by Rep. "Cyclone" Davis of Texas was "fit to be printed." The speech was a vitriolic attack on a newspaper writer who had criticized the Texas representative at large.

Rep. Madden of Illinois called the attention of the house to the Davis speech.

"I do not intend," said Rep. Madden, "to allow the Congressional Record to be used as a cesspool. Some of the language in this speech is such that no respectable newspaper in the United States would print it. It contains language which could not be published in a newspaper and which would be libelous if published anywhere except in the Congressional Record."

Madden moved that the objectionable speech be expunged from the Record, but after some discussion it was decided to follow the regular practice of the house which calls for an investigation by a special committee. Reps. Webb of North Carolina, Barclay of Kentucky, Montague of Virginia, Cooper of Wisconsin and Platt of New York were named to conduct the investigation.

SHERIFF ASKS GOVERNOR FOR EXTRA TROOPS

Texas Executive Informed That State Soldiers Should Hurry to Border.

COUNTY AUTHORITY URGES ADDITIONAL PROTECTION

Situation Viewed More Seriously Following Latest Developments in Mexico.

Associated Press Service: EL PASO, Texas, March 24.—Evidences of the seriousness with which the local authorities regard the border situation was supplied Friday night in an announcement by Sheriff Peyton James Edwards that he had telegraphed Gov. James E. Ferguson that he believed the Texas national guard troops should be sent to the frontier.

Sheriff Edwards said he "did not wish to be considered an alarmist," but that developments in Mexico convinced him that additional protection was needed for Americans along the border. He refused to give the wording of his telegram or say how many additional troops he thought necessary. The action of Sheriff Edwards, taken subsequent to that of the Arizona authorities in directing that the border companies of national guard of that state be recruited to full war strength, gave renewed force to the tension, which early in the day showed signs of flaring.

Outbreak Feared. There is a sharp difference in the point of view between federal and local officials here. The former insist that while the situation is filled with dangerous possibilities, there is no reason to fear any immediate crisis. The local authorities, on the other hand, equally are positive that there is grave danger of an outbreak which will set the entire border in a blaze.

The federal officials are showing increasing irritation over the alarming reports about conditions which are being circulated here night and day and which are being sent out to the rest of the country in news dispatches. They are fearful of the circulation of these reports and anxious that some steps be taken to stop them. It is understood that similar messages have been sent to Washington from other federal officers with a direct recommendation that a censorship be established here.

No News of Fights. No news of the reported fighting between Carranza and Villa forces near Namiquipa, or of the report from Mexican sources that the bandit chief and his followers were surrounded five miles south of Namiquipa by American and Mexican troops, was received here Friday.

According to the Mexican consul here, Andres Garcia, the Mexican wires have been cut between Casas Grandes and Madara. The same reason was given by Consul Garcia for the dearth of news following the first encounter reported near Namiquipa some days ago.

The contradictory reports received from Mexican sources and the absence of definite information from Gen. Pershing have raised new doubts here as to the status of affairs in the district where Villa is supposed to be. The fact that no reference in his report Friday of any fighting despite the fact that he announced that American troops were at El Valle, only 40 miles from Namiquipa, was regarded as significant.

Believe Report.

The status of Gen. Luis Herrera was considered as doubtful here Friday, as it has been since the first report of his revolt reached this city. In spite of reports from American consuls and emphatic statements from Carranza generals and officials, the belief that Herrera either had turned against the de facto government or was on the point of doing so, was firmly held here.

Americans who arrived from the interior Friday gave fresh color to this belief by circumstantial stories of Herrera's defection and asserted that he was Friday between Chihuahua and the temperature reached a maximum of 77 degrees.

News From War Centers

SET TOWN AFIRE.

Associated Press Service: COLUMBUS, March 25.—Janos, about 40 miles northwest of Casas Grandes and on the route taken by the American expeditionary force, was set on fire early Friday, presumably by a band of Mexican bandits. Four large fires were reported by Americans passing near the town.

READY FOR ATTACK.

Associated Press Service: SAN ANTONIO, Texas, March 24.—Gen. Gaviira, Mexican commander at Juarez, advised Consul Beltran of the Mexican government here that he had been informed that an American army officer with the forces near Namiquipa had notified Gen. Pershing that they probably would attack Villa today.

DENIES REPORT.

Associated Press Service: NEW YORK, March 24.—Juan T. Burns, consul general here for the de facto Mexican government, announced today that he had received a "direct" message from Gen. Herrera, from Chihuahua, denying the report that he had deserted Gen. Carranza and had joined Villa's forces.

ALL IS QUIET.

Associated Press Service: WASHINGTON, March 24.—Commander Marshall of the gunboat Machias at Tampico reported by wireless late Friday that conditions in the vicinity of that Mexican port still were unchanged. His message was in reply to one sent by Sec'y Daniels when two days passed without any information reaching the department concerning a rumor that bandits had raided Tampico and the Machias had taken aboard American women and children.

AMERICANS KILLED.

Associated Press Service: BOULDER, Colo., March 24.—Three Americans, two women and one man, were killed near Gibson's line ranch on the New Mexico-Mexico boundary eight miles west of Columbus, N. M., between 4 and 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, presumably by Mexicans, according to the story brought here by a party of five Douglas people, who said they arrived on the scene shortly after the bodies had been removed by soldiers.

A command of United States soldiers stationed at the Gibson ranch was said to have crossed the line in pursuit of the slayers.

LACK OF AVIATORS.

Associated Press Service: SAN DIEGO, Calif., March 24.—"There are no qualified military aviators available at the signal corps school here for duty with the expeditionary forces in Mexico," said Capt. Arthur S. Cowan, commanding at the North Island training institution, in commenting upon the request of Brig. Gen. John Pershing for eight more fliers.

"There are four student aviators at North Island who are ready to take their junior military aviators' tests," he said, "but none has had experience in cross-country flying. They need training before being sent into the field in service, such as they would find with the expeditionary forces in Mexico."

GIRL AND BOY OUTWIT FOLKS

Freda Werner and Clyde Anderson Flee to Chicago to be Married.

That it will be a case of "Bless you, my children," so far as Freda Werner, now evidently Mrs. Claude Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Werner, 634 Duval av., this city, is concerned, seems to be the prevailing opinion among those close to the family Friday night.

After an officially interrupted elopement to St. Joseph, Mich., Freda, who in the city court here said she would marry Anderson or die, despite the fact that he was little more than 18 and she 17, left Thursday with Anderson for Chicago. There a license to wed was issued Thursday. No confirmation of a marriage had been received, according to neighbors who have followed the case with the mother.

Freda had not returned to her home since March 15, when she was returned from St. Joseph after advice from the police department here had halted the pen of County Clerk George W. Larkworthy as he prepared the license. She lived for a few days with the Andersons, R. F. D. No. 3, and then went to the home of a sister, Mrs. William Labadie, Mishawaka av. It was understood she would remain there until she reached the age of 18.

Wednesday evening, it is reported, Anderson, with his brother George, came to the house, and on their departure Freda said she had to leave. She then went to Anderson's sister's home for the night, after which the couple left for Chicago on a second matrimonial attempt. Apparently it proved successful, for no one contested the issuing of the license. Mrs. Werner, after her daughter's declaration in police court, is said to have consented to the match, but to have later changed her mind.

That the marriage is legal, is the opinion of a local attorney, unless one of the parties in the contract brings proceedings.

"With such love as theirs," he said, "there isn't a jury in the world that would not countenance the vows. It is bound to be a case of 'Bless you, my children,' and it is to be hoped that the love exemplified before Judge Warner never dies."

CABINET IS ANGERED BY MANY TALES

Effort to be Made to Curb Reports Sent Out in Hope of Creating Strife.

MEXICAN PROPERTY OWNERS ALLEGED BEHIND MOVEMENT

Pres't Wilson Determined to Put Stop to Alarmist Reports Being Issued.

BULLETIN.

Associated Press Service: EL PASO, March 24.—Two companies of the seventh infantry were ordered to report to police headquarters tonight. All information as to the reason for the order was refused by the police and military officials.

Associated Press Service: WASHINGTON, March 24.—What are regarded as evidences of activity of powerful influences to force intervention in Mexico through the spreading of alarmist reports were discussed at today's cabinet meeting and resulted in the preparation of a formal statement on the subject by Sec'y Lansing which probably will be made public tomorrow.

Administration officials believe that a definite effort is being made to bring about a war between the United States and Mexico. One cabinet member expressed the opinion following today's meeting that the attempts to force intervention were backed by interests owning property in northern Mexico. Well defined steps were being taken, he said, to stir up public opinion and the United States to the point where a general clash between the two nations would be inevitable.

WILSON PLAN IS REJECTED

Entente Powers Refuse to Disarm All of Their Merchant Ships.

Associated Press Service: WASHINGTON, March 24.—All of the entente powers, through their embassies here, have handed to Sec'y Lansing formal responses rejecting the proposal made by the state department in its circular memorandum that the United States government would endeavor to secure from the central powers a pledge not to attack any such unarmed ships without warning and without providing for the safety of the passengers and crew.

Soon after the proposition was broached, through interviews in the press and otherwise, responsible officials of the entente powers indicated their decided opposition to such a plan. It was generally believed here that this unanimous expression of disapproval inspired the German government to promulgate the new order, which is now in force, for attacks without warning by submarine commanders upon any armed belligerent merchantman.

The nature of the objections to the proposal was indicated in the unofficial statements of various officials when the American memorandum was submitted.

It was contended in the unofficial discussions that Germany's contempt for treaties and other formal stipulations, as evinced by her treatment of Belgium, had made it unsafe to rely upon any German pledge or understanding not to attack a merchant vessel.

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ATTACKS POLITICIANS

Declares Poor Management Reason for German Air Raids.

International News Service: LONDON, March 24.—A new aeroplane which can climb at the rate of hundreds of feet a minute and which looks like a huge silver fish is being used by the French army, says Lord Northcliffe in an article in the News Friday.

Lord Northcliffe declared that the Germans are afraid to attack Paris with their Zeppelins, and that Lord Northcliffe said that Lord Northcliffe could be made just as safe if it were not for the politicians.

The article in part says: "The French are very indignant that any German Zeppelin or aeroplane should attack Paris. On the occasion of the last feeble Zeppelin raid the French immediately got rid of the Zeppelins, and that Lord Northcliffe could be made just as safe if it were not for the politicians."

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