

GERMANS HOLD TRENCHES WON FROM FRENCH IN VERDUN REGION

Berlin Reports No Headway Made in Attempts to Recapture the Ground Captured in Recent Offensive.

RUSSIANS STOP THE TEUTONS NEAR RIGA

Reinforcements Sent to the Frozen Marsh Lands Where the Germans Have Been Pressing Forward and Advance Is Checked for the Time.

(Associated Press War Summary)

The Germans are holding to the mile of trenches they reported yesterday having taken from the French in the Verdun region. Berlin declares no headway was made by the French in attempts to recapture the lost ground.

The Russians, pouring reinforcements into the Riga region, where the Germans are pressing northward over the frozen marsh lands, apparently have stemmed the German advance for the time at least.

POSTMASTERS PUT IN CIVIL SERVICE BY THE POSTAL BILL

Washington, Jan. 27.—An attempt to have stricken out of the legislative executive judicial bill a provision making all postmasters non-political and placing them on the civil service list will be made in conference according to senators.

Other provisions of the bill which now goes back to the house for approval, would increase government clerks' salaries and prohibit bureau of education employes from receiving pay from private educational institutions.

WINTER CARNIVAL OPENS.

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 27.—Amid the booming of cannon, the playing of bands and the cheering of thousands of enthusiastic spectators, St. Paul today inaugurated its second annual carnival of outdoor winter sports.

WASHINGTON EAGER TO HEAR MRS. VISCONTI

BELIEVED AT CAPITAL THAT SENSATIONAL STORY WILL BE TOLD TO THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING THE LEAK ON PRESIDENT'S PEACE NOTE.

Washington, Jan. 27.—While waiting for the resumption in Washington of the leak inquiry by the rules committee of the house of representatives, which is scheduled to follow the probe in New York, there is much gossip here regarding just what Mrs. Ruth Thomason Visconti, slated to be the first witness, has to offer the committee.

But it is believed by many here that she will unfold a much more sensational story. She is said to be in possession of evidence, documentary and otherwise, which may blow up the

This Might Have Been In Movie; Real Happening



MRS. DIAMOND BROWN.

Mrs. Diamond Brown of New York and her husband and little daughter were in court awaiting a hearing for a separation. The child began crying, then maneuvered the hands of her papa and mamma together and pulled them side by side until they were smiling into each other's faces.

TRYING TO SAVE DR. WAITE FROM THE DEATH CHAIR

Further Attempts to Be Made to Prove Insanity of Confessed Slayer of His Father-in-Law.

New York, Jan. 27.—That a man of normal mentality could not spend months in the prison death house, awaiting his turn to die in the electric chair, and continue in a cheerful and apparently happy frame of mind, will probably be advanced as one of the strongest arguments to prove the insanity of Dr. Arthur Warren Waite, the confessed murderer, whose appeal is to be argued Monday before the court of appeals at Albany.

Waite has been an inmate of the death house at Sing Sing since June 1 last, following his conviction on a charge of poisoning his father-in-law, John E. Peck, a Grand Rapids millionaire. On the witness stand he told of how he attempted to cause the death of Miss Katherine Peck, the wealthy aunt of his wife, and his own benefactor, by feeding her disease germs. He also confessed to trying to kill his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs.

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MILLIONS FOR BOISE VALLEY FARMERS FROM YEAR'S CROPS

Figures on Production for Past Year Tell the Story of Prosperity for Those Engaged in Tilling the Soil.

MANY CROPS BRING ENORMOUS RETURNS

Potato Growers Derive an Average of \$132.33 an Acre and Other Crops Show Even Higher Returns—Forty-two Farms Not Included in Figures.

Crops to the value of \$2,327,493.55 were raised on the Boise project in 1916, according to the report of D. W. Cole, project manager. The report covers 1950 farms with a total cropped area of 72,58 acres, or 32.42 per cent of the project. The average value per acre of the crop yield is given as \$32.07.

The average value of crops per acre is low because of the fruit crop failure, but the report shows vast possibilities along certain lines of agriculture. On five different articles the average production amounted to more than \$100 an acre. Onion seed leads the way with \$180 an acre. Next comes pop corn, \$157.09 an acre. White potatoes brought the producers an average of \$132.33 an acre; broom corn \$125, sweet potatoes, \$105.75.

Project percentages are figured on the basis of an irrigable area of 223,846 acres, including vested water right lands for which crop statistics were not collected, as follows: 34,400 acres in Pioneer Irrigation district, 24,158 acres in Nampa & Meridian Irrigation district, and 21,498 acres covered by water of the New York Canal company, limited, or a total of 80,056 acres. Crop statistics were not available for

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GERMANY OBSERVES KAISER'S BIRTHDAY

Berlin, Jan. 27.—Emperor William's fifty-eighth birthday was celebrated today with the usual observances. He has been on the throne 28 years and a half. All of the crowned heads of the German states, together with the rulers of Austro-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey, sent messages of warm congratulation to his imperial majesty. During the forenoon the customary services of thanksgiving were held in the castle chapel. In honor of the anniversary Berlin and other cities throughout the empire were profusely decorated in the national colors.

OUTING FOR REALTY MEN. New York, Jan. 27.—A large party of members of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, many of them accompanied by their families, sailed from New York today for a 24-day cruise in the West Indies. Many sections of the country are represented in the party. The voyage is made in a specially chartered steamship.

Legislature Today

HOUSE. Received and adopted report exonerating officers in charge of Boise barracks and Second Idaho regiment. Passed King Hill project relief bill; bill requiring permit from health officer to sell milk, cream, butter, etc.; penitentiary educational bill; measure giving governor power to fill vacancy in United States senate and amendment to constitution requiring payment of county officers' salaries monthly.

SENATE. Passed house bill creating county of Camas out of Blaine county; bill to give school district trustees power to apply for appointment probation officers.

Bill introduced to create two congressional districts in Idaho, placing Ada county in the second district; relating to districting hardwood and nut growing trees; fixing auto license minimum at \$10 and maximum at \$50. Butte county division bill recommended for passage.

Adjoined to Monday morning at 10 a. m.

RATES FROM IDAHO TO SAN FRANCISCO WILL BE LOWERED

Flour and Other Wheat Products Must Be Transported at Rate 5 Cents Higher Than on Wheat.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Complaint that prevailing freight rates on flour and other wheat products from Utah and Idaho to San Francisco and other California and Nevada points are too high was today found justified by the interstate commerce commission, which ordered the railroads to establish, not later than April 10, rates that shall not exceed by more than 5 cents per hundred pounds the present rate on wheat.

DRESDEN ARSENAL REPORTED BLOWN UP; THOUSAND KILLED

Paris, Jan. 27.—The Dresden arsenal has been blown up and 1000 women and young girls killed, according to a letter taken from a German soldier dated Dec. 30. The letter was written from Dresden. The writer said all windows within a radius of 12 miles were broken by the explosion. It was added that the authorities were keeping the news secret and no railroad tickets were being issued for Dresden except for urgent reasons.

RECORDS OF STOCK BROKERS BEING SENT TO THE COMMITTEE

New York, Jan. 27.—Records of stock brokers' transactions during the period covered by the investigation of the congressional leak committee began to reach the committee's representative here today. The brokers were assured the committee expected to make no more modifications in its demands. When the investigation is resumed Monday it is believed some time will elapse before witnesses will be examined.

INDIANA MAN QUILTS OFFICE IN LEAGUE TO ENFORCE PEACE

Indianapolis, Jan. 27.—Henry Lane Wilson in a letter to William Howard Taft, president of the National Association of the League to Enforce Peace, today announced his resignation as president of the Indiana branch of the league. He stated his retirement was due to the belief that some of the leaders were trying to divert it from its original purpose and adopt as a program of action the plan for a world alliance put forward by President Wilson in his address to the senate this week.

FIRE AT PITTSBURG CAUSES HEAVY LOSS; MANY FIREMEN HURT

Pittsburg, Jan. 27.—Fire which swept through a section of the retail business district early today destroyed the Grand opera house, the Frank & Seder department store and a dozen other buildings, causing an estimated loss in excess of \$3,000,000. Four firemen were seriously hurt and a dozen others removed to hospitals.

FORCIBLE FEEDING RESORTED TO IN THE ETHEL BYRNE CASE

New York, Jan. 27.—Prison authorities resorted to forcible feeding in the case of Mrs. Ethel Byrne, after the birth control propagandist had collapsed while maintaining a hunger strike in her cell on Blackwell's island, where she is serving a 30-day term. She did not resist, according to physicians, as she was too weak.

PROGRESS MADE IN AMERICAN EXPORT

Pittsburg, Jan. 27.—Notwithstanding much adverse criticism of American export practices, blunders in American exportation are the exception and not the rule, according to a report on "Examples of American Export Enterprise" which the National Foreign Trade Council submitted to the fourth National Foreign Trade convention here today.

"Certain American consuls, commercial organizations and banks have done a useful service in sharply calling attention to specific derelictions on the part of Americans in export trade," says the council, "but these specific complaints have become the basis for generalization highly discredit to all American foreign trade." The charge that Americans do not know how to pack their goods for export is one "unfounded" charge that is so widely prevalent as to be a positive hindrance and it is the argument largely used by foreigners against American products.

RESIGNS FROM BOARD. Washington, Jan. 27.—The resignation of Bernard Baker, of Baltimore, as member of the federal shipping board, was officially announced today.

UTAH CAVALRY AND MEXICANS IN CLASH

In Jail for Shooting Down Chauffeur Husband, Denver Woman Shows No Regret



MRS. STELLA SMITH, HER SLAIN HUSBAND, JOHN S. SMITH; AND HER FORMER HUSBAND, WILLIAM A. MOORE.

Drunken, Unfaithful, Vile, Says Mrs. Smith in Speaking of Man for Whom She Gave Up First Husband.

Denver, Jan. 27.—That she has no regrets for the killing of her husband, is the declaration of Mrs. Stella M. Smith, who is awaiting trial here for the murder of John S. Smith, whom she shot at her home in the fashionable Park Hill section of this city. The shooting followed a quarrel over her daughter by a former husband.

DIVORCED TO MARRY SMITH. Mrs. Smith's wealth and former social position lend unusual interest to the case. She divorced her first husband, William Moore, son of the late Bishop David H. Moore, of St. Louis, to marry Smith, a chauffeur for her (Continued on Page Eight.)

FORMER BOISE MAN FOUND GUILTY OF USING MAILS TO DEFRAUD IN SALE OF STOCK

R. R. Sidebotham Found Guilty in Federal Court at Helena—All but Two of Defendants Acquitted.

Helena, Mont., Jan. 27.—R. R. Sidebotham and J. G. G. Wilmott were found guilty on one count out of six in the federal district court here for having used the United States mails to defraud in the sale of stock of the Northwestern Trustee company. The other defendants were acquitted.

The defendants who were acquitted are A. M. Alderson, former secretary of state; William C. Rae, former state treasurer; J. W. Spear, of Great Falls; D. G. Bertoglio, of Butte, and Miss M. A. Cort, of Great Falls, all former officers or directors of the company.

Robert R. Sidebotham, convicted at Helena of using the mails to defraud, is well known in Boise. When a boy he lived here and attended the Boise public schools. After an absence of some years from the city he returned during the real estate boom days and organized the Trustee Company of Idaho, in which much stock was sold. Later he went to Montana, where he has since been engaged in several enterprises, the latest of which was the organization of the Northwestern Trustee company.

LABOR TO PAY HONOR TO ITS AGED LEADER

New York, Jan. 27.—Officials and members of labor unions have concluded arrangements for a unique tribute to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in celebration of several interesting anniversaries in the Gompers family. Today is the sixty-seventh anniversary of the birth of President Gompers and also the twenty-fifth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gompers, Jr. Tomorrow Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gompers, Sr., will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary and the day also will mark the completion by Mr. Gompers of half a century of active service in the trade union movement. The several anniversaries are to be celebrated tomorrow night with a dinner in this city. The affair will be attended by a large number of union labor leaders from various parts of the country.

AMERICAN ARMY STARTS NORTH

General Pershing's Force Now On Its Way Toward the Border. El Paso, Jan. 27.—American troops started north from the field headquarters at Colonia Dublan at dawn today, according to reliable reports from Columbus, N. M. A message to Juarez from Casas Grandes said the American troops started marching from Colonia Dublan at 7 o'clock. It was predicted at Casas Grandes that the entire expeditionary force would be on the road northward during the day.

The troops which left headquarters early today included cavalry, infantry and artillery, accompanied by motor lorries and wagon trains, according to Columbus passengers. MOVE TO OJO FREDERICO. All of the troops at the field headquarters camp were ready to move to Ojo Frederico, 80 miles distant, where temporary field headquarters will be established. General Pershing is expected to be the last to leave headquarters for the north. Villa followers were in the wake of the American expeditionary forces as they withdrew from El Valle, San Joaquin and Charcos, according to a reliable report. Carranza cavalry left El Valle at the same time as the American troops did.

WEEK OF MERCY FOR THE JEWS IN EUROPE

New York, Jan. 27.—Today begins the observance of "Week of Mercy," planned by the Jews of the United States in aid of their suffering brethren in Europe. The day was chosen because it is the first anniversary of President Wilson's proclamation setting aside a day for Jewish relief endeavor.

In thousands of synagogues throughout the country this is to be a day of exhortation and prayer in behalf of the sufferers in the war zones. Tomorrow a series of public meetings will be held in the principal cities of the United States. The week following will be devoted to a special effort to collect relief funds.

Battle Across the Border Between Forty National Guard Cavalrymen and Band of Carranza Soldiers From the Sasabe Garrison

NO LOSSES REPORTED ON AMERICAN SIDE

Reinforcements Being Rushed to the Scene and Civilians Ready to Help—First Shots Fired by Mexicans on Cowboys—Fighting Resumed at Daylight.

Tucson, Ariz., Jan. 27.—Lying in rocks close to the international line five miles south of Ruby, Ariz., 40 members of troop E, First Utah cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Arns, were keeping up incessant firing at Mexican soldiers across the line all last night, the Mexicans returning the shots.

As far as known no American has been killed or wounded. Reinforcements from Nogales are being rushed to the scene. It is reported several Mexicans were seen to fall. The Mexicans are from the Carranza garrison at Sasabe.

RELIEF ARRIVES. Firing was kept up until 2 o'clock this morning when the cavalrymen were relieved by a detachment from Arivaca, 15 miles distant, where the Utah troops have been stationed. The clash was resumed at daylight. Mexican soldiers opened fire on American cowboys who were trying to round up a herd of cattle on the American side, it is alleged. The cowboys, although outnumbered, returned the fire and sent for reinforcements from the Utah command.

CIVILIANS KEPT BACK. American civilians are being kept back from the scene of the fighting by Lieutenant Arns, who is holding them in reserve until it appears the troops are unable to cope with the situation. A party of civilians headed by N. C. Bernard, a rancher and county supervisor, left Arivaca at dawn for the scene of the fighting. Bernard will telephone the sheriff whether he needs assistance. Sheriff Rye Miles is ready to respond, leaving Tucson in automobiles with posse. The scene of the fighting is 75 miles from Tucson by a fair automobile road.

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THE WEATHER. Forecast for Boise and vicinity, RAIN OR SNOW TONIGHT AND SUNDAY. Highest temperature yesterday, 43; lowest temperature this morning, 30; mean temperature yesterday, 32. A gradual rise in temperature is being experienced by the whole country with Montreal the lowest point this morning, reporting a minimum of eight degrees below zero.



MRS. RUTH THOMASON VISCONTI.

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