

CONFERENCE OF GERMAN CHIEFS INDICATES NEW MOVE TO PEACE

Offensive Movement in France Regarded as More Than Mere "Feeling Out" in Which Army of 120,000 Men Was Used.

FORCES SWEEPED BACK BY COUNTER ATTACKS

Violent Artillery Fighting Continues in the Verdun Region—British Capture Important German Position on Somme.

London, Jan. 27.—England was waiting for another German peace move tonight. It deduced such a step as impending from the conference of central powers' rulers and military and naval chiefs at the German great headquarters and from recent reports indicating that German public opinion is favoring some further word from the government to offset the powerful arguments advanced by the allies in their three recent communications.

SUDDEN OFFENSIVE.

In the meantime the greatest interest was manifested here in the sudden resumption of a German offensive movement around Verdun. Details of the fighting Thursday night, around hill No. 304 made it plain that the thrust there was more than a mere "feeling out" of the opposing lines—the sort of attack that is common along the front. Best estimates placed the German forces hurled at the French positions at 120,000 men and the artillery preparation which preceded the assault showed an extraordinary proficiency of shells. The attack was made despite fearful losses and, judging from French reports tonight, with practically no gain as counter attacks appeared to have swept the Germans back. All day today there was a violent artillery duel between both sides.

ANOTHER SMASH EXPECTED.

If the crown prince follows his unvarying tactics of attack around Verdun, in the past, he will mass his forces for another smash within the next few days—but on the opposite side of the Meuse. No details had reached here tonight of the happenings at the German headquarters or how the kaiser celebrated his fifty-eighth birthday in the midst of the distinguished company assembled there.

COLD WEATHER IN EUROPE.

Europe has been suffering from an unprecedented cold spell during the past week. The effect of snows and cold weather in slowing up fighting is effectively illustrated by the almost complete stoppage of the German advance in Rumania. A Rumanian official statement issued from Jassy today detailed a sanguinary repulse of German attacks in the Casnu valley northwest of Focsani. Russian forces have apparently brought to a standstill all of Field

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MEXICANS LEAVE AFTER LONG FIGHT WITH GUARDSMEN

Cavalrymen Had No Casualties but Whether or Not Any Mexicans Were Killed Not Known.

Tucson, Ariz., Jan. 27.—Fighting across the international boundary south of Arivaca, Ariz., between Mexican soldiers and Utah cavalrymen, which had been in progress for 24 hours, ended at 3:30 this afternoon when the Mexicans withdrew, according to telephone advices to county officers tonight.

There were no casualties among the Utah troops. Whether any Mexicans were killed or wounded is not known. N. C. Bernard, supervisor of Pima county, who returned to Arivaca tonight from the firing line, declared that some of the Utah cavalrymen had reported seeing Mexicans fall, but that this could not be confirmed, because of strict orders against crossing the international boundary.

IDENTITY IN DOUBT.

The identity of the Mexican force is still in doubt. Whether they are organized Carranzista forces or roving bandits has not been learned. A Carranzista garrison is located at Sasabo, 12 miles from the scene of the fight, but no troops were sent from there to preserve order.

All day long the firing has continued, troop E, First Utah cavalry, Lieutenant Arns commanding, keeping up the fusillade on the American side of the border. At last reports tonight Arns and half of his command were still maintaining their positions in the rocks below Arivaca. A clash between the Mexicans and American forces occurred early Friday when six cowboys who rode to the border to drive back American cattle were fired upon near Stonehouse by 20 Mexican horsemen. They returned the fire. The rattle of rifle fire brought a detachment of Utah cavalrymen to the rescue from Stonehouse, where they were stationed.

SENT FOR AMMUNITION.

The Mexicans immediately began a long distance attack on the Utah troops who held the line with the cowboys while cowboy couriers were rushed to Arivaca for ammunition and reinforcements. At 2 a. m. 30 more men from the Utah cavalry troops reached the border, followed by many civilians and cowboys. For several hours there was a lull in the firing, but it was renewed at daybreak. Meanwhile Lieutenant Arns had organized the civilians of his forces. He also divided his cavalrymen into two squads, half the troop serving on the firing line while the other half rested. This plan continued all day until the skirmish ended with the retirement of the enemy late this afternoon.

AMNESTY ISSUED ON KAISER'S BIRTHDAY

Berlin, Jan. 27.—Kaiser Wilhelm's fifty-eighth birthday was marked at great German headquarters today by a dignified celebration in keeping with the present war times. The empress and Princess Heinrich and Waldemar were among members of the royal family present.

GENERAL AMNESTY WAS ISSUED IN BERLIN TODAY TO PRISONERS AND ALL SCHOOLS, HIGH SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES HELD SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS.

SUBMARINE GIVES NEW LONDON THRILL

New London, Conn., Jan. 27.—The American submarine G-1, which gave New England coast a thrill Thursday by bobbing up while watchers were looking for the German merchantman Deutschland, furnished another sensation here this evening.

TO MEET AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Pittsburg, Jan. 27.—San Francisco will probably get the 1918 convention of the National Foreign Trade council, which concluded its fourth annual gathering here today.

MAYOR GILL OF SEATTLE UNDER INDICTMENT ON GRAFT CHARGE

Chief of Police, Former Sheriff and Number of Others Also Accused of Conspiracy With Huge Illegal Whisky Gang.

CONFESSIONS MADE BY LEADERS OF RING

Charge That They Paid the Mayor \$4000 to Dismiss Cases Against Them and Return Documentary Evidence in His Possession.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 27.—Mayor Hiram Charles Gill, Chief of Police Charles L. Beckingham and ex-Sheriff Robert T. Hodge, with a number of others were indicted by the federal grand jury late today on three counts charging conspiracy with the Billingsley bootlegging ring—the largest illegal whisky gang in America's largest dry city.

The indictments were returned after the Billingsleys charged that they had paid Mayor Gill \$4000, Aug. 23, 1916, to dismiss a number of city cases against them, return documentary evidence of their violations of federal laws and agree to protect them in paying their bootlegging business.

TWO MONTHS' INQUIRY.

The charges were filed after a probe lasting more than two months during which scores of witnesses were called, first to indict the Billingsley brothers, Logan, Fred and Ora, and then to substantiate their charges of corruption made against the city and county officials. The Billingsleys also charged that they paid substantial sums of money to Chief Beckingham and ex-Sheriff Hodge. The latter's term of office expired early this month. These men, they charged, in carrying on the alleged conspiracy, helped them get in whisky shipments and steal booze from rival bootleggers.

OTHERS NAMED IN THE INDICTMENT WITH THE "BIG THREE" WERE EDWARD J. BAKER, MANAGER OF THE JESSE MOORE-HUTT COMPANY, BIG SAN FRANCISCO WHOLESALE LIQUOR DEALERS; LOGAN AND FRED BILLINGSLEY AND CITY DETECTIVES MEYER M. PEYSER, JOHN POOLMAN, JAMES E. DOONAN AND DAN J. McLANE, A RAILROAD OFFICIAL NAMED WEIDEMAN.

FORMER PATROLMEN INDICTED.

In addition, former Patrolman E. J. Margalit, mided as a bootlegger by police Oct. 11, and the man who furnished the evidence on which the Billingsleys were indicted by the government shortly before Christmas, was indicted for federal liquor law violations. Former Patrolman C. J. Mullen was indicted for attempting to induce the Billingsleys to jump their bonds after they confessed they bribed the mayor.

W. H. Pielow and William Fraser, transformers, who handled the whisky hogs' shipments of liquor, were re-indicted, making a total of 15 against whom true bills were returned.

THE TRIAL INDICTMENT CONTAINED THREE COUNTS. TWO CHARGED THE MEN NAMED CONSPIRED TO VIOLATE THE FEDERAL CODE BY SHIPPING CARLOAD LOTS OF WHISKY TO FICTITIOUS PERSONS IN ALASKA WHEN THEY KNEW IT WAS TO BE DELIVERED TO THE BILLINGSLEYS IN SEATTLE.

THE THIRD COUNT CHARGED A VIOLATION OF THE FEDERAL INTERSTATE COMMERCE ACT.

GILL NOT SURPRISED.

"I have been expecting this for a month," said Mayor Gill when he appeared at the federal building to give bond. "I knew these bootleggers had threatened to get me because of my unwillingness to put them out of business by smashing their joint. "I am innocent, of course, and will show up the character, not alone of the Billingsleys, but of the grand jurors who voted the indictments. "A month ago a prominent hotel man whose place my police raided, made the announcement that it had been fixed to 'get me.' I am not worrying."

THE MAYOR SMOKED HIS FAMOUS CORN COB PIPE AS HE PACED THE CORRIDOR WAITING FOR FEDERAL JUDGE NETERER TO APPEAR AND APPROVE HIS BOND OF \$2500.

OTHER DEFENDANTS ALSO DENIED THEIR GUILT.

RECALLED AND RE-ELECTED.

Gill was recalled as mayor of Seattle in 1911 as the result of graft charges against his police department. Later Chief of Police Charles

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Found Guilty of Perjury In the Rae Tanzer Case

New York, Jan. 27.—By finding Franklin D. Stafford, a hotel clerk, guilty of perjury here tonight, a jury registered its opinion that Charles H. Wax, gay Lothario, who claimed numerous loves, is "Oliver Osborne," wooer of pretty Rae Tanzer.

Stafford swore James W. Osborne was the man who accompanied Rae Tanzer to a Jersey hotel when Miss Tanzer brought suit for \$50,000 against James W. Osborne, former assistant district attorney, alleging breach of promise. The three principals in the triangle are star witnesses in the trial of the hotel clerk and they played to a packed house as leaders in one of the most remarkable identity trials in New York's history.

Miss Tanzer stoutly maintained when called as a witness for the defense that Wax was not the man, and reiterated that her companion was James W. Osborne.

FOUR LIVES LOST IN INTERURBAN WRECK ON CLEVELAND LINE

Cleveland, Jan. 27.—Three men were cremated and one died later of injuries, the result of a wreck late this evening on the Cleveland and "outhwestern Interurban line near Medina, south of here. One man, name unknown, lay pinned under the full weight of a car, screaming with pain, while he watched the flames that finally killed him, creep nearer.

Mob violence feared.

There has been general apprehension that a lynching would take place upon the reappearance of Buster in Salmon. Leading citizens met to devise ways and means of presenting this violence, if they could. The invitation for him to leave was the result.

PROPOSAL MADE.

Senator Harding of Oneida county first proposed that a general consolidation program for the state educational institutions be worked out. He was followed by Representative Storey of Ada county, for a number of sessions a member of the legislature, who endorsed the plan. Senator Jackson of Bonner county first suggested that the University of Idaho be given a more central location, where climatic conditions would be more favorable. Other members of the committee joined in the discussion. No definite action was taken.

PROPOSAL MADE.

The primary purpose of the joint conference was to ascertain the needs of the several institutions. Later a conference was held with the appropriations committee of the house by the board regarding the budgets for the several institutions under its control which have to be revised owing to the limitation of the state. Later a conference will be held with the governor before the budgets are agreed to.

MAY INTRODUCE BILL.

Senator Harding will probably introduce a bill this week in the legislature having to do with the state institutions. It may provide for abandonment of the Albion normal and its consolidation with the Idaho Technical Institute at Pocatello.

THE ARGUMENT ADVANCED IN FAVOR OF THE CONSOLIDATION PLAN WAS THAT THE EXTREME DISTANCE FROM ONE END OF THE STATE TO THE OTHER FOR STUDENTS TO ATTEND THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO WAS A DRAWBACK TO THE GROWTH OF THAT INSTITUTION AND THAT THEREFORE A MORE CENTRAL LOCATION WAS DESIRED, TOGETHER WITH A CLIMATE MORE FAVORABLE THAN THAT OF THE NORTH. FOR THAT REASON IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THE UNIVERSITY BE LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWESTERN PART OF THE STATE WHICH ENJOYS A Milder climate than the north.

BOISE SUGGESTED.

Boise was suggested because it is the recognized central geographical location in the state. With the university here, it was said, it would be possible for students from all parts of Idaho to reach the university much easier than is now the case. Because of the location of the university in the north, it is said, many students who could attend but live in the southeast, go to nearby neighboring states to secure a higher education.

BECAUSE THE UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS ARE MORE EXTENSIVE AND VALUABLE THAN THOSE OF THE STATE NORMAL FOR THE NORTH LOCATED AT LEWISTON, IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THE NORMAL BE ABANDONED AT LEWISTON AND THAT IT BE RE-ESTABLISHED AT MOSCOW IN THE UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS. THIS PLAN WOULD STILL KEEP A NORMAL

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PROPOSED TO MOVE UNIVERSITY SOUTH

CITIZENS ASK ACQUITTED MAN TO LEAVE AND NEVER RETURN

(Capital News Special Service.) Salmon, Jan. 27.—Upward of 100 substantial men of Salmon met last night at the office of W. C. Smith to take action looking to the prevention of violence as an outgrowth of the acquittal of Guy Buster at Shoshone the day before the meeting. They called on the father of the acquitted man to present and requested him to advise his son to leave Lemhi county, never to return. It was also the sense of the meeting, as expressed by speakers that Buster might find a welcome at the place where he had been turned loose.

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Consolidation Program Is Outlined for Educational Institutions of the State at Meeting of Legislative Committees and the Board of Education

- PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM. Establish the University of Idaho at Boise. Abandon the Lewiston state normal at Lewiston and establish it at Moscow. Abandon the Albion state normal at Albion and establish it at Pocatello. Combine the Idaho Technical Institute and the Albion state normal at Pocatello.

A new educational institution consolidation program was proposed at a meeting of the educational and educational institution committees of the house and senate of the present legislature and the state board of education yesterday afternoon, which, in the concrete, is to give the University of Idaho a more central location by establishing it at Boise or some place in this section of the state; abandon the Lewiston normal and establish it in the university buildings at Moscow, giving to the north one state normal; abandon the Albion normal at Albion and locate it at Pocatello, combining it with the Idaho Technical Institute there, thereby keeping the second state normal school in the southern part of the state.

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RUSSIAN LAW WANTS TO ENLIST IN THE AERO CORPS OF FRANCE

London, Jan. 27.—The French government will let her, Ruth Law, premier American woman flyer, will enlist in the French aero corps and for three months try her hand at dropping bombs on the Germans, she said to herself today as she left London for Paris.

MOREOVER, SHE SAID SHE HOPED TO PERSUADE THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO LET HER PURCHASE A MOTOR SUCH AS IS USED BY NEW SPEED PLANS, WHICH THE FRENCH HAVE EVOLVED RECENTLY FOR EXPORT TO THE UNITED STATES. MISS LAW HOPES TO GET ONE TO USE IN A TRANSCONTINENTAL FLIGHT ACROSS AMERICA.

THE LITTLE AMERICAN FLYER SAID SHE HAD BEEN PROMISED A CHANCE TO WATCH FRENCH ARMY FLYERS AT WORK AT THE FRONT.

TRIAL OF SPANNELL DRAWING TO CLOSE

San Angelo, Tex., Jan. 27.—One of the most remarkable murder trials in Texas court annals is drawing to a close tonight. The case of Harry J. Spannall, charged with shooting his wife and Major M. C. Butler, in an automobile at Alpine, last July, is expected to go to the jury by next Tuesday.

THE PRESENT TRIAL, WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER WAY FOR TWO WEEKS, IS FOR THE MURDER OF MRS. SPANNELL. THE DEFENDANT IS SCHEDULED TO BE TRIED ON THE CHARGE OF KILLING BUTLER NEXT WEEK.

MAIL SERVICE BY PNEUMATIC TUBES

Washington, Jan. 27.—The senate, in addition to sustaining a \$1,000,000 appropriation for pneumatic tube mail service, inserted in the house in the postoffice appropriation bill, will make expenditure of the appropriation for the tube service mandatory, according to Representative Tague of Boston, author of the amendment, who hinted government ownership might come.

FARMERS IN FIGHT FOR STATE OWNED PUBLIC UTILITIES

Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 27.—The fight of farmers of this state for a state owned terminal elevator, state owned flour mills and state owned packing plants, and eventually, state owned public utilities of various classes, through the state legislature and an administration made up of farmers, began in earnest today. Passage of house bill No. 44, the magna charta of the Farmers Non-partisan league, embodying legislative provision for all these things by the house yesterday had been discontinued.

THE FARMERS' ORGANIZATION HAS EASY CONTROL OF THE HOUSE AND CONTROLS THE STATE ADMINISTRATION. WHEN THE BILL WENT TO THE SENATE TODAY, HOWEVER, IT MET THE OPPOSITION OF A BODY NOT CONTROLLED BY THE LEAGUE. AFTER THE BILL PASSES BOTH HOUSES THE RATIFICATION OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION WHICH THE BILL PROVIDED BY A SPECIAL ELECTION IN JUNE IS NEEDED.

HUNGER STRIKE OF MRS. ETHEL BYRNE TO RESULT IN MOVE ON CONGRESS—WANT TO GIVE INFORMATION TO GIRLS.

New York, Jan. 27.—The first result of the hunger strike and forcible feeding of Mrs. Ethel Byrne at Blackwell's island came tonight. A drive on congress Tuesday by Mrs. William Fassett and others to get national pro-birth control legislation was being organized. Meanwhile, Mrs. Byrne, hunger-stricken, in protest against her conviction and imprisonment for disseminating birth control information, continued her battle, the first of its kind in the United States. It was not until Mrs. Byrne, having gone 103 hours without food or water, collapsed, that Commissioner Lewis established a precedent in American prison annals, by ordering her forcibly fed. "My sister," said Mrs. Margaret Sanger, leader of the birth control movement, "is in a very critical condition."

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An Opportunity for You to Help Make Idaho Greater. The Anniversary Number of the Capital News will be issued next Sunday. It will most comprehensively cover the activities of Idaho people along all lines and furnish a compact picture of Idaho resources, institutions, industries, possibilities. It will be a large but not an unnecessarily bulky edition and the circulation will be much larger than that of any special number ever gotten out in Idaho. SUCH AN EDITION IN THE HANDS OF PROSPECTIVE HOME-SEEKERS AND INVESTORS WILL CREATE A FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF THE STATE. Copies will be wrapped ready for mailing. In order to insure delivery, the Capital News circulation department requests that orders be brought or sent in not later than 6 o'clock next Friday evening. This edition furnishes SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO ADVERTISERS. It will be necessary, however, to get copy in early in order to insure insertion.

THE WEATHER. Forecast for Boise and vicinity, PROBABLY RAIN OR SNOW TODAY. Highest temperature yesterday, 44; lowest temperature yesterday, 37. The temperature over the country is still rising. The only below zero weather reported last night at 8 o'clock, observation time, was from Calgary, Alberta, where the thermometer was four below. Threatening conditions overhang the northwest with the prospect of rain or snow in Boise today.