

Abbeville Progress

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Wild oats are not all sown in the dark of the moon.

Having faith in Providence, we believe that poets are self-made.

Man proposes but the censors frequently blue pencil everything.

The Houston Post thinks a wedding supper is incomplete without onions.

Mushroom hunters should never give a toadstool the benefit of the doubt.

A new use for the aeroplane. It is found to be a sure help to elopers.

It looks as if fewer aviators are killed during war than during peace.

But sometimes if there wasn't love at first sight there wouldn't be any at all.

Curiously enough, an army flies when one of its wings has been shattered.

"Oratory is a gift," declares an exchange. Huh! We thought it was a curse.

We would like to know why it is that comfortable things are never stylish?

Why is it that people look with suspicion on a man who is a good fisherman?

Machine made war is not less gruesome than the old-fashioned hand-made kind.

Perhaps that last wild pigeon went to keep company with the European dove of peace.

Be sure you are right and then go ahead; or go until somebody attacks your left wing.

We fear that those who are objecting to the hoopskirts are but paving the way for their return.

Deep down in her heart every woman thinks she is not too old to play with dolls if she wanted to.

The surest way of getting along with your wife's relatives is to live as far from them as possible.

In one way or another something desirable might be accomplished by imposing a war tax on the tango.

Wearing a smile may be all right—we would not dare say it isn't—but it is sure to stir up a lot of curiosity.

The only time some people sympathize with the under dog is when it is their own pup that is getting licked.

Quite a number of the names of places mentioned in the war dispatches look like typographical errors.

A correspondent wants to know the proper refreshment to serve at a picnic party. Why, pigs' feet, of course.

According to one of the war aviators, they have to fly high in order to be safe. Yes, and then they are not disgustingly safe.

Those who claim that nature never made a mistake should explain the existence of the man who wears a feather in his hat.

After a man has read a page full of contradictory war news it's a relief to turn to the sporting page. The "dope" there can be relied on.

A Pennsylvania doctor has issued directions for a eugenic kiss. There would be no use in explaining it, as it is bound to be a failure, anyway.

A confirmed grouch is the man who will come back from his vacation and complain that the cat he left with the next-door neighbor isn't as fat as when he went away.

It will be noted that the press agent of the well-known opera or theatrical star merely allows his principal to be almost shot as a spy, humanely drawing the line at the shedding of even stage blood.

Secretary Garrison has recommended that the annual army-navy football game be abandoned. Couldn't he and Secretary Daniels get together and arrange for a tiddledywinks tournament to take its place?

Charles M. Schwab has returned from Europe with orders for \$5,000,000 worth of supplies to be shipped to the belligerents. That should last them at least one forenoon, if there is not much going on that day.

A Worcester professor's definition of a Mexican científico is a scientist in government for the benefit of himself. There are such politicians in the United States, but it is probably exceedingly complimentary to the Mexican class.

At a medical convention in Pennsylvania one of the speakers advocated the use of sterilized tissue paper through which to kiss. But while even money greed may be satisfied with promises to pay on paper, true love will accept kisses on paper never.

CITY OF PACHUCA TAKEN BY VILLA

TRAINS, CANNON, AUTOMOBILES AND TROPHIES INCLUDED IN CAPTURED ARTICLES.

RAILROAD OPEN TO CAPITAL

Traffic Between Juarez and City of Mexico Again Open—Bandit Chief Zapata Still Holds Capital City—Order Prevails.

El Paso, Tex.—A telegram sent Tuesday by General Villa's first secretary, Luis Aguirre Benavides, at Tula, said:

"Tonight the city of Pachuca, where General Pablo Gonzales, Jacinto Trevino and other constitutional chiefs with their respective brigades had taken refuge, was taken. In the assault no more than three brigades of our forces, forming the vanguard, took part.

"They obtained as trophies of war all the Carranza trains, a large number of cannon and automobiles and articles which had been looted from the City of Mexico. A large quantity of provisions also was abandoned."

Pachuca is the capital of Hidalgo state.

Railroad communications were opened between the Juarez-El Paso border port and the City of Mexico, according to an announcement of the Villa agency at El Paso. This will afford the only entry into the capital since the railway between the City of Mexico and Vera Cruz has been cut.

As far as could be learned Monday General Villa and officials of the convention party continued to delay their entry into the capital.

El Paso, Tex.—"Time alone can prove, as it has proved so far, that I have had no ambitions regarding the presidency of my republic," General Francisco Villa says in his first official statement issued since he went south from Aguascalientes.

"My one ambition is that my people shall be free and that no tyrant, under whatever name or at the head of whatever party, may oppress them because they can not protect themselves. No one knows better than I that I am unfitted for the presidency. I do not have any aims or designs upon it.

"When peace is re-established upon a permanent basis, I intend to retire to my home at San Andreas and there enjoy the companionship of my wife. That is all I wish."

This official statement, signed by the well-known band of Villa, was received in the mail Sunday from the south by General Tomas Ornelas. It is Villa's statement of his position.

The state department at Washington reported Sunday that General Pablo Gonzales, now at Pachuca with 8,000 troops, had proclaimed himself provisional president of Mexico. He hitherto had been regarded as loyal to Carranza.

Gonzales was one of the foremost leaders of the constitutionalist army in the campaign against Huerta.

After the Aguascalientes convention Gonzales disappeared southward with his army and his whereabouts since had been more or less of a mystery.

The reports which came from Aguascalientes threw little light upon the latest complication in the Mexican situation. It is not believed at Washington that Gonzales with his comparatively small force, will be able to interfere with the forces of Provisional President Guiterrez and General Villa for the joint triumphal entry into the City of Mexico.

Washington.—While no definite advice had been received Saturday as to the situation in the City of Mexico, administration officials credited reports that General Villa's troops had joined the Zapata forces there.

The last dispatch to the state department, dated Friday, reported Zapata men and agents of General Villa as in control of the city. All official dispatches say order is being maintained, the only looting mentioned being that of a ranch owned by an American named Hill in the outskirts.

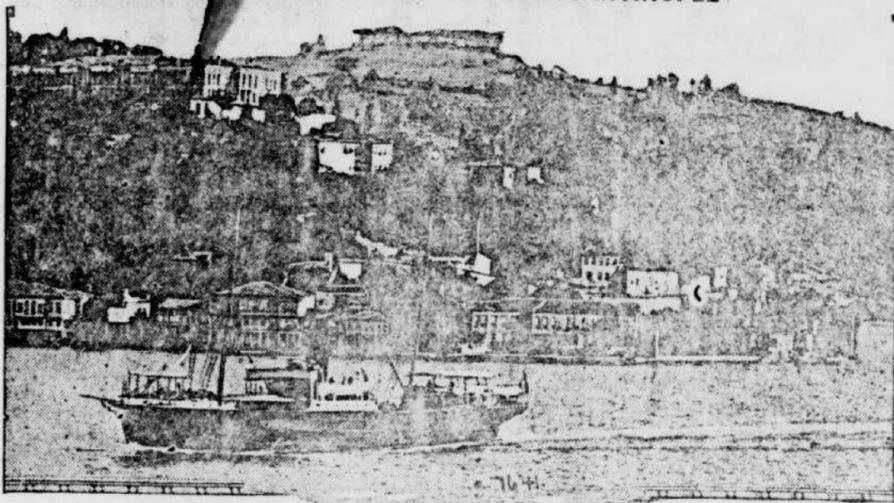
In the same section the Spanish ambassador told Mr. Bryan several Spaniards have been reported killed, sentatives if the report was true.

In view of the arrival of General Carranza at Vera Cruz, Secretary Bryan wired Mr. Silliman to remain in the City of Mexico. He said he had originally ordered Mr. Silliman to join Carranza when the latter was at Orizaba, where the department had no representative. American Consul Canada at Vera Cruz will handle all negotiations of the American government with Carranza.

Vera Cruz, Mex.—General Venustiano Carranza reached Vera Cruz Thursday from Cordoba. His arrival brought thousands of enthusiastic citizens into the streets, and when he spoke from the balcony of the Municipal Palace he was greeted with loud cheers. The general will take up his official duties immediately, and from Vera Cruz, as his temporary capital, will direct the campaign against Generals Villa and Zapata.

General Carranza made the trip to Vera Cruz in the presidential train.

HOUSES OF BRITISH AT CONSTANTINOPLE



Crandilla, a suburb of Constantinople on the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus, occupied as a residential quarter by the British and open to attack by the Turkish warships.

BATTLES RAGE IN RUSSIAN POLAND

GERMANS AND RUSSIANS NOW IN A MIGHTY STRUGGLE FOR SUPREMACY IN POLAND.

REINFORCEMENTS TO FRONT

The Fighting in Belgium and France Has Subsidized, and the Great Struggle Has Shifted to the East.

Summary of War News to Date.

The Berlin official statement Tuesday says that there is nothing of importance to report from Poland, while the Russian government rests upon its warning against overoptimism.

The facts, as gleaned from various messages of correspondents, appear to be that three semi-independent engagements are progressing between Thorn on the north and Cracow on the south, in which both combatants have achieved local successes, without a distinct victory for any of the armies.

Some of the British military experts believe that Field Marshal von Hindenburg's forces have been split into three units, one of which certainly is almost completely enveloped, while the Russians have driven a wedge between the German army and its Austrian ally in the region of Cracow. They declare that the Germans have consistently underestimated the qualities of their Muscovite opponents and have opposed them with a body composed almost wholly of second line troops, but are now rushing heavy reinforcements from the western line. They express the opinion that the issue depends on whether these arrive in time.

Berlin reports the failure of the Russian attack on the fortifications east of Darksen, in East Prussia, with heavy losses, while unofficial messages from Petrograd describe an important Russian gain and the capture of ten miles of trenches to the northeast of Lodz.

Advices from Holland report that railway traffic, newspapers and posts in the Brussels region are entirely suspended. It is presumed for the purpose of suppressing news of a movement of German troops to the eastward.

The only development of the day in the western theater was the renewal of the British naval bombardment of the German base at Zeebrugge.

England was surprised at the announcement that King George had left Monday night on a visit to the headquarters of the British forces in France, where he is certain of an enthusiastic reception from the soldiers.

Monday was the fortieth birthday of Winston Spencer Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, and the papers, except a few of those antagonistic to him, pay a tribute to his remarkable career. The seventieth birthday of the queen mother, Alexandra, was celebrated Tuesday.

The Dutch papers say that the Germans have imposed an indemnity of \$7,000,000 monthly on Belgium for the duration of the war for the maintenance of the troops, and in addition, \$75,000,000 as war levy for alleged violation of neutrality.

Luxemburg reports that the Germans have paid a substantial sum for damages resulting from their occupation of the grand duchy.

Heavy fighting is in progress in Northwestern Serbia, but snow is badly hampering the operations. The Montenegrins claim to have defeated the Austrians with great losses near Vishegrad, on the Drina river.

Field Marshal Sir John French, commander of the British expeditionary forces on the continent, in an official statement gives an optimistic view of the situation in France and Belgium from the standpoint of the allies. His report brings the operation only up to Nov. 20, but he concludes by saying that signs are in evidence that "we are possibly in the last stages of the battle from Ypres to Armentieres," as the German artillery fire had slackened and infantry attacks had virtually ceased.

A dispatch from Athens says that Turkey intends to sequester all religious establishments in Palestine belonging to France, Great Britain and Russia.

The German field marshal, Von der Goitz, former governor general of the captured Belgian territory, has been attached to the entourage of the sultan of Turkey.

President Wilson is expected to confer during the course of the week with Henry Van Dyke, the American minister to the Netherlands, who, it is reported, has brought back to this country a message from Queen Wilhelmina proposing a plan for neutral nations to bring peace to Europe.

General von Bissing is the new governor general in Belgium.

The president of the French republic, M. Poincare, and Premier Viviani are visiting the battle line in Eastern France.

From Vienna comes the official announcement that on the southern front the Serbians are opposing the Austrian advance by heavy counterattacks, but that the Austrians have gained ground beyond Valjevo.

While deprecating the exaggerated reports of Russian success in the battle in Northern Poland, where the German emperor has joined Field Marshal von Hindenburg to offer his advice, and to encourage his troops, the latest available official reports from Russian headquarters state that the advantage in the fighting still lies with the Russian army. It is also officially said that enormous losses have been inflicted on the Germans, but no mention is made of the capture of German divisions, which has been so freely claimed by the Petrograd correspondents of London and Paris papers.

Opposed to this are the German official reports which say that the Russian attacks have been repulsed and that the German counter-attacks have been successful.

The British admiralty announces that the collier Khartoum has been blown up by a mine off Grimsby, England. Her crew was saved.

Lloyd's reports that in addition to the British steamer Malachite, the sinking of which off Havre had been previously announced, a German submarine has sent to the bottom off Havre the British steamer Primo.

The British parliament has adjourned—the house of lords to Jan. 6 and the house of commons to Feb. 2.

At the last session of the house of commons Winston Spencer Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, announced that in view of Great Britain's rapid construction of warships she could lose a dreadnought every month for a year and still maintain her superiority over Germany in ships.

David Lloyd-George, the British chancellor of the exchequer, announced that the British war loan of \$1,750,000,000 had been largely oversubscribed.

The former German cruiser Goeben, now of the Turkish navy, lost eleven men killed in her recent fight with the Russians in the Black sea.

The French Stock Exchange will reopen Dec. 7.

The military authorities in Petrograd, assuming that the unofficial reports of a victory are true, express astonishment that the Germans should have attacked Lodz, for they say defeat there was inevitable. The Germans who advanced from the north and south, these military observers add, doubtless intended to seize the railway between Skiernewice and Piotrkow and interrupt communication between the northern and southern Russian armies, but Grand Duke Nicholas with the enormous number of men at his command was able to sandwich them and direct his attacks from all points except due west.

The reported failure of the German crown prince's army to advance on the Cracow-Czenstochowa front is considered by these military critics as contributing to the checking of the Germans.

Except for artillery fighting the battle in the west remains virtually at a standstill, although in isolated attacks both sides claim to have made some progress. There is no indication where the next German blow is to be struck in the attempt to reach the French coast.

British Warships Patrol Atlantic.

New York.—At least twelve British warships are patrolling the Atlantic between New York and the Panama canal, sweeping the seas with their wireless, crowding ordinary commercial radios from the air and keeping close check on all forms of shipping, according to wireless operators on the steamship Ancon, that arrived Monday from Cristobal.

The wireless activity of these war vessels, the operators said, is causing great inconvenience to the commercial work of American vessels, as the high-powered waves of the men-of-war are heard continually, in utter disregard of commercial business.

The Ancon brought from the canal zone ten members of the congressional committee on appropriations, who have been making an official inspection of the great waterway.

Holland Will Take Care of Destitute.

The Hague, via London.—The Dutch government has categorically declined all offers of financial aid for Belgian refugees in Holland which were recently unofficially offered by an American charity. While deeply appreciative of the generous proposal, the government says it feels that it would be incompatible with the country's honor to allow another nation or individual association to assist in this mercy work, and that Holland herself desires to provide for all these different neighbors who are afflicted by the war.

Of the million Belgian refugees who fled into Holland at the beginning of the war, 300,000 penniless ones remain. In addition there are 45,000 Belgian soldiers interned in Holland. The authorities face a grave task in concentrating former inmates of Belgian prisons, who were liberated wholesale before the Germans arrived, and are considered now a public menace.

German Army in Three Parts.

Petrograd, via London.—A review of the military operations in the last week by both sides at the rear of Lodz, as given out semi-officially, indicates that the German army under General Mackenzen has been cut in three parts.

The right wing is struggling fifteen miles west-southwest of Lodz in an attempt to unite with the column sent to its assistance from Wielun. The center is ten miles northeast by north of Lodz and still is engaged in a desperate effort to cut its way west to rejoin the left wing, which is partially cut off from the strongest position on the Vistula. This army, the "review asserts, is moving back before the Russian onslaughts, but is stubbornly disputing the Russian advance.

In this quarter the Russian advance is from Gombin, fifty miles north of Lodz.

It is estimated that the centers of the three parts of the German force are at least twenty miles apart and that the middle one is acting entirely on its own initiative, being completely isolated from the others. It is said the main bodies of the German wing are maintaining a thin line of communication to the rear, extending in semi-circular shape a distance of forty miles.

Russian experts declare this situation is almost unprecedented in the history of warfare.

England Loses Man O'War.

Sheerness, England, via London.—The British battleship Bulwark was destroyed by a terrific explosion as she lay off her station Thursday. Only fourteen of the crew of 700 or 800 men survived.

The explosion is believed to have occurred in her forward magazine. Whether it was caused by accident or design is a question to be determined by the commission which has been appointed to investigate.

In the opinion of naval men it was an internal explosion that put an end to the battleship. There was no great upheaval of water such as would have occurred if she had been torpedoed or struck by a mine. Instead, the ship was enveloped in smoke and flame and when this had cleared nothing could be seen but wreckage floating on the water.

Considering the size of her navy, Great Britain has been singularly free from disasters of this character.

U. S. REFUSES TO BREAK UP TREATY

TEXT OF CABLEGRAM REGARDING TREATMENT OF NEUTRAL VESSELS IS MADE KNOWN.

NO PIECEMEAL ADOPTION

United States and Germany Among Powers Which Recorded Their Acceptance of Declaration—Great Britain Has Not Acted.

Washington.—The decided stand taken by the United States government in refusing to accept piecemeal adoption of the principles of the declaration of London as a guide to commercial restrictions to be imposed during the European war was made clear Thursday at the state department when the text of a cablegram sent to Ambassador Gerard at Berlin on Oct. 14 last was made public.

Mr. Gerard had communicated a preliminary notice that Germany intended to protest to this government against alleged violation of the declaration by Great Britain and France. The German ambassador, Count Bernstorff, called at the state department Wednesday to lodge the formal complaint, and the text of the reply, copies of which were sent to all American diplomatic representatives abroad, was then made public. It follows:

"Please inform the German government that the department's suggestion made to the belligerent countries for adoption, for the sake of uniformity, of the declaration of London as a temporary code of naval warfare for use in the present war, has been withdrawn because of the unwillingness of some of the belligerents to adopt the declaration of London without modification. The United States government therefore will insist that its rights and duties and those of its citizens in the present war be defined by the present rules of international law and the treaties of the United States with the belligerents independently of the provisions of the declaration, and this government will reserve the right to enter a demand or protest in every case in which the rights and duties mentioned above and defined by existing rules of international law are violated or their free exercise hindered by the authorities of the belligerent governments."

The message was signed by Counselor Lansing, then acting secretary of state.

The declaration of London, framed at an international conference in London, from which it drew its designation, was designed as a uniform naval procedure for war times to be recognized by all the powers participating in the conference. It set out definite declarations as to what articles should be considered contraband of war and defined the rights of neutral shipping. The declaration was generally viewed as marking a great advance over the conflicting practices the several nations had applied during periods of belligerency with most unsatisfactory results to neutral shipping. It has never been ratified, however, by all of the powers which participated in the conference.

The United States and Germany are among the powers which have recorded their acceptance of the declaration, while Great Britain has not taken this action. One article of the declaration provides that it shall be binding as between belligerent powers only upon those by which it has been ratified.

Soon after the outbreak of the European war it became evident that while they recognized in a general way the spirit of the declaration, some of the belligerent powers intended to insist upon great modification of important details, basing their action upon the fact that they had not formally ratified the convention.

Since the declaration was in fact a compromise between the extreme views of the several governments which participated in the conference, a high official at Washington pointed out that it would have been neither just nor fair, in the opinion of this government, to consent to any modification without the agreement of all parties. On this theory the state department felt obliged to withdraw from its adherence to the declaration even before the German protest was received.

Forty-Three Saved From Wreck.

San Francisco, Cal.—Forty-three survivors had been rescued Tuesday night from the wrecked wooden steamer Hanalei, which went ashore Monday in a dense fog on Duxbury reef, nine miles north of the Golden Gate, and was battered into splinters by the pounding surf.

Queen Mary Thanks America.

London.—Queen Mary has sent to Mrs. Walter H. Page, wife of the American ambassador, a letter of thanks for the Christmas gifts from American children to children in England and on the continent.

Railroad Safe Is Blown Open.

Jewett, Tex.—The safe at the Houston and Texas Central depot was blown open last Sunday night by robbers, who demolished the safe and secured \$16,200.

Former Mrs. Mackay Marries.

Paris.—Dr. Joseph A. Blake, the New York surgeon who for some time has been living in Paris, and Mrs. Katherine Alexander Duer, formerly Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay of New York, were married in Paris Saturday.