

## CARRANZA ISSUES DEFI TO UNCLE SAM

USE OF FORCE TO PREVENT BORDER FIRING UNFRIENDLY ACT, HE CONSIDERS.

## U. S. RIGHTS NOT VIOLATED

Short Term President of Mexico Denies Responsibility for Bullets That Have Killed Persons on American Side of Border.

Vera Cruz.—"If the United States employs force to stop the firing by Mexicans across the international boundary at Naco, it will be considered an unfriendly act, notwithstanding the friendly motives cloaking the act."

In this manner Gen. Carranza made answer to the formal notice served by the United States on both Provisional President Gutierrez and Gen. Carranza that unless such firing ceased force would be employed to protect American territory.

Carranza's reply to the American note, which is expected to reach Washington soon, will repudiate responsibility for any shots that have crossed the line and clearly set forth that he and his government will regard intervention at Naco as a hostile act.

At no time since the receipt of Secretary Bryan's note calling attention to the repeated wounding and killing of residents of the American town has Gen. Carranza appeared perturbed, but he has had long conferences with those close to him, and in framing his reply, it is said, he has been careful not to let himself remain in any uncertain light.

"Gen. Hill, constitutionalist commander of the forces at Naco, is on the defensive," continued Gen. Carranza, "and since his back was to the line, it is difficult to see how he could be responsible for the firing. The fact is that Maytorena's men have been attacking, and therefore it appears reasonable that they, and only they, could have been to blame."

"As a matter of fact, I do not know that the rights of American citizens have been violated. It seems to me that it would be well for the state department to investigate this question in order to fix the responsibility."

"I remember similar instances at El Paso, when the Maderista forces were attacking there. In that case those shot were for the most part the imprudent and curious individuals, who flocked to witness the fighting as if it had been a spectacular show, staged for their benefit."

"As to the use of force, of which Mr. Bryan talks, that is something the gravity of which I fear he does not fully appreciate. He says it would not mean an invasion of our territory or a violation of our national sovereignty. It would. And moreover it would certainly be an act directly against the constitutionalists, who now hold the town, and in favor of the Villistas, who would be left free to continue their operations. It would be simply trying Gen. Hill's hands and leaving Maytorena free."

## JOSEPH SMITH IS DEAD

Head of Mormon Church Passes Away. Eldest Son Succeeds Him—In Cheerful Humor.

Independence, Mo.—A revelation received by Joseph C. Smith, president of the reorganized church of the Latter Day Saints, eight years ago, designating as his successor his eldest son, lifted from the church the burden of choosing a new leader upon the death here of the patriarch who for 54 years had presided over the organization. The son, Frederick M. Smith, who, since his father announced the divine revelation in 1906, has fulfilled many of the duties of leadership, automatically becomes head of the church.

The new president is 37 years old. His designation to succeed his father was ratified by the general conference shortly after the father announced the revelation.

Although he was blind and during the last days suffered frequent rushes of pain, President Smith in his final hours showed a cheerful humor. Just before he became unconscious he smiled and said:

"I wish that those of my friends who may intend placing flowers on my coffin would refrain. Let them give the money to charity."

Three Hundred O'Pleased.

Batavia, N. Y.—Three hundred persons who attended a chicken supper at church here late were under physicians' care. Many were in a serious condition, but it was believed all would recover. Their ailment was diagnosed as typhoid poisoning.

Is State Issue.

Washington.—President Wilson was asked again to indorse a constitutional amendment for woman suffrage, but he reiterated that the question was for Congress.

## EDISONS MAIN PLANT BURNS

Loss About \$7,000,000, With \$2,000,000 Insurance—Buildings Were Considered Fireproof.

West Orange, N. J.—Fire destroyed virtually the entire main plant of the Edison Company here, causing damage estimated at nearly \$7,000,000, with insurance that it is expected will reduce the loss to approximately \$5,000,000.

An entire square block of modern reinforced concrete buildings, which were supposed to be fireproof, was burned out by the flames. The only building saved in the block was the laboratory building, containing valuable scientific machinery under the immediate superintendency of the inventor, Thomas A. Edison. Especial efforts made to save this structure were successful.

It is estimated that 3,000 men and women will be temporarily thrown out of work because of the fire. In all, about 7,000 persons were employed at the plant, but at the storage battery building across the street from the main plant was saved, with other buildings nearby, it will be possible to keep something more than half the force employed.

Four firemen were injured fighting the blaze and were taken to a hospital.

"Although I am more than 67 years of age, I'll start all over again," said Mr. Edison. "I am pretty well burned out, but there will be a mobilization here and the debris will be cleaned away as soon as it is cooled sufficiently, and I will go right to work to reconstruct the plant."

The inventor expressed himself thus as he stood watching the flames lick up building after building of his mammoth electrical plant, started, it is thought probable, by an explosion in the inspection building, one of the smaller frame structures. This building was quickly a mass of flames, and the fire spread rapidly to other structures. Chemicals in some of the buildings made the fire fighting extremely difficult. Explosions occurred frequently. All employes at work in various buildings escaped.

## JUDGES CONSIDER THAW CASE

Oral Arguments for and Against Extradition Heard by Supreme Court. Justices Ask Questions.

Washington.—The request of the state of New York for extradition of Harry K. Thaw from New Hampshire to answer an indictment charging conspiracy to obstruct justice by escaping from Matteawan asylum was taken under consideration by the supreme court after oral arguments. The case came up on appeal from Justice Aldrich's decision in the federal district court of New Hampshire releasing Thaw on habeas corpus proceedings from extradition.

Members of the court asked Thaw's attorneys many questions about various points in their contentions. They did not interrupt William Travers Jerome, however, during his argument that Thaw was a fugitive from justice, not challenge the argument of Frank Kennedy, deputy attorney-general of New York, that the law under which Thaw was committed to Matteawan after the killing of Stanford White was constitutional.

Chief Justice White asked his first question when Philander C. Knox, former secretary of state, appearing for Thaw, argued that only those who had committed crimes could be extradited and that New York courts had held in five decisions that Thaw had committed no crime because he was insane. The chief justice suggested that a man might be declared insane one day and sane the next. Mr. Knox replied that the presumption was that Thaw remained insane.

William A. Stone, former governor of Pennsylvania, was interrogated closely by most of the judges during his argument that the indictment of Thaw for conspiracy was not valid. The questions led Mr. Stone to the position that the indictment stated Thaw was insane, showing on its face that he could not commit a crime.

## LONGEVITY IS ON INCREASE

Fifteen Years Greater in United States Than 35 Years Ago, Says Dr. Victor C. Vaughn.

St. Louis.—The average length of life in the United States is 15 years greater now than it was 35 years ago, according to a statement made by Dr. Victor C. Vaughn of the University of Michigan, president of the American Medical Association, in an address before the City Club here.

Crime he characterized as a disease due to hereditary and environment and the way to eradicate crime was to treat it as a disease and to disinfect its breeding places.

Dr. Vaughn said the death rate from tuberculosis had decreased 54 per cent since 1880.

St. Louis.—W. L. Chambers, chairman of the federal board of mediation and conciliation, will intervene again in the threatened strike of trainmen on the St. Louis Southwestern railroad, according to announcement of W. C. Turner, one of the union leaders.

Constantinople.—An official statement issued here says:

"Under cover of a man-of-war the Russians attempted to disembark near Genunni, south of Batum, Trans-Caucasia, in order to outflank our troops. They were compelled to retreat with heavy loss."

## BRINGING THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT TO THE POOR

IT IS a question whether the families helped or the workers helping them get most joy out of the Christmas distribution. A real settlement worker, one imbued with the right spirit, will tell you that only one who has visited the homes of the poor and the suffering on Christmas eve can realize the pleasure of bringing happiness and sunshine into these homes. Many settlement workers, who have given up the work for some reason or another, but who return to assist with the Christmas distributions, give generously from their own purses that the baskets may be larger and more families aided.

Wealthy women, who have never done settlement work, enter into the Santa Claus spirit and visit the alleys and tenement districts of the large cities on the night before Christmas, their automobiles heavily laden with toys, turkeys and good things to eat. They employ investigators to canvass the section in which they are interested a week before the holidays, and the distribution is made according to their reports. Oftentimes small trees are sent to the homes, with glass balls, trimmings and candy toys, and the donors, with the aid of their chauffeurs and the parents of the children, fix the tree while the little tots are asleep.

Though little known, Santa Claus' work in the slums of the big cities is carried on along systematic lines to overcome any overlapping of the multitude of good intentions. In days gone by, charitably inclined women would leave a large basket of provisions in a house in ignorance of another basket hidden in the closet. And it was not unusual for two or three baskets to meet in the same kitchen at the one time, each burdened with good things for the one family.

This is an error of the past; for now the Christmas giving has been systematized. Settlement workers of the various societies and representatives of the wealthy private givers compile a list of those they will assist, and all go over their lists carefully together.

Although the Christmas giving is all out and dried a few days before the time, Santa Claus' secret is not given away. Half of the pleasure would be gone if the families knew that the visitors were coming with food and toys in abundance. It is true that those who are visited and quizzed by the private workers have a shrewd suspicion, after they have told their tale of woe and received the sympathy of the visitor, that something substantial is to follow. The regular settlement workers know their ground pretty well; they know which families have had a hard road to travel and are putting up a good battle against the tide of misfortune.

The settlement workers have little investigating to do before the holidays; their entrance into a home or tenement is always greeted with surprise, for they generally make it a point to go where they are least expected.

"The poor are always with us" is doubly true at Christmas time. Families who can barely exist, who do not know where the next day's bread is coming from, can certainly not afford any extras for the holiday season. They consider themselves fortunate if they have a loaf or two of bread and a small piece of meat for the Christmas dinner and coal for the kitchen fire.

No one appreciates this seamy side of the bright Christmas story more than the charity worker. She knows that tribulations exist at Christmas time as during any other part of the year. Years of experience have shown her how to use tact and good judgment on her travels and where she cannot leave good cheer, she can at least make the sorrows and troubles easier to bear. The "Angel of the Settlement" knows, more than any one else, that there are many cases when the word "Merry Christmas" would sound like a mockery; where the hand of death, for instance, has been heavily felt when it takes away the chief provider of a large family.

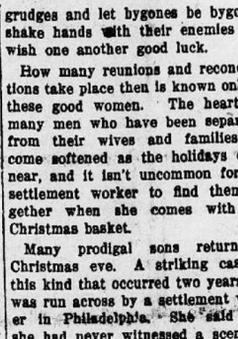
She knows, also, that the Christmas spirit is cherished by the poor as well as the wealthy. While they cannot spend the day in feasting and merry-making, they can at least forget old



THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER ANSWERED



AN UNEXPECTED SANTA CLAUS



A REAL CHRISTMAS REUNION

grudges and let bygones be bygones, shake hands with their enemies and wish one another good luck.

How many reunions and reconciliations take place then is known only to these good women. The hearts of many men who have been separated from their wives and families become softened as the holidays draw near, and it isn't uncommon for the settlement worker to find them together when she comes with the Christmas basket.

Many prodigal sons return on Christmas eve. A striking case of this kind that occurred two years ago was run across by a settlement worker in Philadelphia. She said that she had never witnessed a scene on any stage that could equal it. It was a real case of where the Christmas prayer of a broken-hearted mother was answered by the return of her boy.

The son ran away from home seven years earlier, when a youth of sixteen years. He had a good home and the family consisted of his parents, an older brother and a sister. His father was a hard-working man and used all his earnings for his home. The younger boy, being the baby of the family, was the pet of all; but he had a wild disposition, and he wanted to see something of life. He decided to run away from home and go West.

When he reached the ranches of Arizona he found that the cowboy life wasn't as bright as it was painted. He longed for home many a time, but vowed that he would not return a failure. He persevered until he had made good, though it took seven years for him to do it. His fearlessness and daring attracted the attention of the owner of the ranch, and he placed him in charge of another place. When the young man had a goodly wad of bills accumulated he decided to return in time for Christmas.

He reached the old house to find that another family was living there, and he learned from neighbors that his father was dead; that his sister had grieved so over his disappearance that she died shortly after he had left, and that his brother had been killed in an accident. The mother, doubly aged with grief, had been left alone and was subsisting as best she could in a third-story room. The son lost no time and arrived in the room just after the settlement worker had reached there with her basket of provisions. The mother had just finished telling her story to the sympathetic listener when this latest prodigal returned.

"No one can really appreciate," said a settlement worker in another city, "how happy one feels after visiting the homes of the poor on Christmas eve. The gratitude of one woman alone last year was enough to recompense me for the work I did. This woman's husband was in the penitentiary serving an 18-year term for murder. It appears that he and a companion were working in the cranberry bogs. They quarreled, and in a scuffle the man stabbed his opponent. He made his wife promise she would never allow the family of six to be separated. She not only kept them together by taking in washing and working until all hours of the night, but she refused to accept outside aid in any shape or form. There would have been no Christmas celebration

in this home, and it was a delicate undertaking to bring a woman like this any provisions. But I explained to her that it was a present and her joy was only equalled by that of her children, who were more than delighted with their new toys.

"I have been in homes where the children never had toys, and I have brought them their first playthings. In one case there were two children, a boy and a girl, Pepino and Mechaimo. Their father died when they were babies, and the mother supported them. She had come to this country a bride and was not well versed with the American way of doing things. She did not even know how to make a rag doll for the children. We brought those children a small tree, decorated it, and gave them plenty of toys. Words couldn't tell the happiness of those little ones.

"There is more pleasure in the work than you would imagine. We see many sad scenes, sorrow and joy mingled together, but we also find much to amuse us. Last year we took a basket to an old colored woman. Her husband was a paralytic and she had two orphaned grandchildren to keep. Christmas to her was to be the same as any other day until we arrived with the provisions and toys. She glanced at us as we entered the room, and when we put the basket on the table, she stared at it and pointed to herself, as much as to say, 'For me?' I said, 'Yes, Lisa, that's for you.' You could see nothing but the whites of her eyes, and she raised both of her hands above her head, clasped them together and said, 'De Lord be praised.' That was all she said; but she repeated it time and again. One time her eyes would be as large as dollars and she would joyously sing the 'De Lord be praised' and again she would be sad and mournful and moan 'De Lord be praised.'

"Finally her husband, who was unable to leave his chair, lost his patience and he shouted, 'Lisa, good Lord, woman, has you done lost your head altogether? Why don't you thank the ladies?' Then, as a sort of apology to us, he said: 'You'll have to excuse her, ladies, for she has surely done lost her head altogether.' As we left the room and glanced back, poor Lisa was still standing there, looking at us with her hands clasped before her and slowly nodding her head saying: 'De Lord be praised.' We concluded Lisa knew better than her husband. She was thanking the right one.

"I have witnessed many reconciliations of families of foreigners on Christmas eve. The afternoon that I spent at the immigration station last year was one of the pleasantest of my life. It was interesting to note the expression of gladness on the faces of the children in the costumes of their various fatherlands. They couldn't speak a word of English, but they could show you that they were grateful for the playthings.

"I will never forget my first Christmas visitation. It was my initial experience with social service work. One of the first places we visited was in a court, a poor German family. When we arrived at the house the mother was telling the three children Christmas legends. She had gilded apples, and that was their only reminder that the morrow was a great festival. She had no meat nor vegetables in the house for the next day's meals, and there was no coal in the bin. But the place was as clean and neat as a new pin.

"The mother was an educated woman, and you could tell at a glance that she had seen better days. She had married against the wishes of her family and she was too proud to let them know of her poverty. Her husband had gone West to try to better his condition, but was unable to get work there and became stranded. The wife kept the wolf away from the door as best she could by sewing. We brought her a turkey, vegetables, fruits and cranberries, then went out and got a tree and a doll for the children and left an order to have coal sent there immediately. It is impossible to tell how grateful that poor woman was."

red this in telegraphing news from London to his paper in Italy. At the beginning of the war he used Italian. Then when all languages except English and French were forbidden he took French. Later, finding that French, though accepted by the post office, seemed to cause delay, he changed to English, and to his surprise he found that he is saving quite a lot of money in telegraph fees owing to the superior brevity of the English language as compared with French or Italian.

the compound as separate words. But in international telegraphing there is a word length limit (or, as the Germans would print a wordlengthlimit). Ten letters is the maximum allowed for a single word. Any word longer than that counts as two; or as three if it gets beyond the second ten, as some German words do.

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## ALLIES PREPARING TO TAKE OFFENSIVE

GERMANS RESIST ST. BORNLY ATTEMPTS TO ADVANCE AND BOTH SIDES CLAIM VICTORIES.

## BLOCKHOUSE IS BLOWN UP

Several German Trenches Said to Have Been Destroyed and Evacuation of the West Bank of Year Canal Forced.

Paris.—The French official bulletin given out in Paris says French troops now occupy the west bank of the Year canal.

The text of the communication follows: "The enemy has completed the evacuation of the west bank of the Year canal to the north of the house of the ferryman, and we occupy this bank."

"In the region of Arras there have been artillery engagements. In the region of Nampool our batteries have reduced to silence the batteries of the enemy. In the region of the Aisne our heavy artillery silenced the field batteries of the Germans. At a point northeast of Vally one of their batteries of howitzers was completely destroyed.

"In the region of Perthes and in the vicinity of the forest of La Grurie there have been artillery engagements and some infantry fighting, which resulted advantageously to us.

"On the heights of the Meuse the artillery of the enemy showed little activity. On the contrary, our artillery demolished at Deunxoums, to the west of Vigneulles-Les-Hattonchatel, two batteries of the enemy, one composed of guns of large caliber and the other used for firing upon aviators. In this same region we have blown up a blockhouse and destroyed several trenches.

"Between the Meuse and the Moselle there is nothing to report, and in the Vosges there have been artillery engagements. In the region of Secones we have consolidated the positions gained by us the evening before."

Berlin.—The German army headquarters made this announcement: "In Flanders the French made attacks in the region of Langemarck, which, however, were repulsed. They lost 200 men in killed and we took 340 prisoners.

"Our artillery bombarded the Ypres railroad station to interfere with the movements of the enemy's troops. "We have made some progress near Arras.

"French troops again attacked us near Souain-Perthes, but without success.

"In the Argonne forest the French for two weeks past have limited themselves to very weak attacks, and they everywhere have been repulsed. On the other hand, German troops have again taken possession of an important French position of support by means of the explosion of a mine. The enemy has suffered heavy losses in killed and many of their troops have been so severely shaken as to be unable to fight any longer. Moreover, we took 200 prisoners near Apremont. South of St. Mihiel repeated stubborn French attacks were repulsed, as were also other attacks in the vicinity of Markirch."

London.—There is disparity between French and German accounts of the battles in Flanders and France. It is apparent from both, however, that the allies have assumed at least a partial offensive. The French announce that this movement is meeting with success, while the Germans declare the attacks of the allies have been repulsed with heavy losses.

The general impression here is that the allies, with artillery and occasional infantry attacks, are preparing the way for a general offensive, but in doing so are meeting with the usual stubborn resistance from the Germans, who are firmly established in entrenched positions. The advance, if it is possible, must therefore be slow.

Riot Over German Ditty. Niagara Falls, Ont.—V. O. Ryckman, general manager of the Dominion Chain company, and Frank Pfeiffer, also an official of the company, are held by military authorities at the armory here on a secret charge.

Order of Merit Awarded. Berlin.—Emperor William has conferred the order of merit on Gen. von Morgan for his accomplishments in Poland.

Peace Message to Japs. Richmond, Va.—The final session of the convention of the Federal Council of Churches of America came to a close with the adoption of a fervent peace message drawn by a committee of nine members to be transmitted to Japan "for the purposes of welding the friendship between the Japanese and the people of the United States."

Jap Naval Attache. Tokyo.—Comdr. Kichisaburo Nomura has been appointed naval attache to the Japanese embassy at Washington.

## DRESDEN IS SURROUNDED

British Ships Win Fierce Sea Battle. Cruiser Nuremberg Sent to the Bottom of Sea.

Berlin.—An official communication issued by the admiralty reproduces the statement of the British admiralty regarding the sinking of the German cruiser Dresden off the Falkland Islands, and adds: "Our losses seem to have been great. Concerning the strength of the enemy, whose losses are reported to have been small, the English dispatches say nothing."

Buenos Aires, Argentina.—Trapped in the Straits of Magellan, there seems to be no hope for the escape of the German cruiser Dresden, the sole survivor of Admiral Count von Spee's destructive German squadron. After making the Nuremberg, following the battle off the Falkland Islands, the Scharnhorst, the Gneisenau and the Leipzig were sunk, the British pursued the Dresden, already badly battered in the long battle.

The Dresden lay her course for the harbor of Santa Cruz, on the east coast of Argentina and just north of the entrance to the Straits of Magellan. When the Nuremberg, more severely wounded, had disappeared in the battle that is believed to have lasted over a distance of 500 miles, the Dresden made for the straits.

She cannot last long there, it is believed, because a watchful Japanese squadron is understood to be guarding the Pacific end of the straits. Therefore news is expected momentarily that the Dresden has gone down.

The British naval division commanded by Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee, who left his office as chief of the war staff to destroy the German naval power in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, is understood here to have been composed of nine warships, among them being several of the most powerful vessels of the British navy.

## 3 GERMAN CRUISERS SUNK

Kaisers Pacific Squadron Put Out of Commission by British—Fight in South Atlantic.

London.—A British squadron under Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee, chief of the war staff, engaged a German squadron under Admiral Count von Spee off the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic and won a victory which is being acclaimed throughout England.

The armored cruisers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau and the protected cruiser Leipzig, three of the German warships that had menaced British shipping and part of the squadron that sank the British cruisers Good Hope and Monmouth in the Pacific on November 1, were destroyed, while the cruisers Dresden and Nuremberg, the two other vessels comprising the German squadron, made off, and, according to latest accounts, are being pursued. Two colliers were captured.

The announcement of this victory, which was the most important naval engagement of the war except that of Heligoland last August, was made in a statement by the admiralty of less than 100 words.

The following official announcement was issued by the official information bureau: "At 7:30 a.m., on the 8th of December, the Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Nuremberg, Leipzig and Dresden were sighted near Falkland Islands by a British squadron under Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee.

"An action followed, in the course of which the Scharnhorst, flying the flag of Admiral Count von Spee, the Gneisenau and the Leipzig were sunk. The Dresden and Nuremberg made off during the action and are being pursued. Two colliers also were captured. "The vice admiral reports that the British casualties are very few in number.

## ALLIES VICTORIOUS AT YPRES

Very Violent German Attack Reported. Repulsed—Trenches Are Recaptured—Advance in Argonne.

Paris.—The French official communication says: "In the region of Ypres a very violent German attack has been repulsed. "In that same region those of our trenches which were reported in the official communication before as having been taken by the Germans, have been recaptured by us.

"Upon the rest of the front there is nothing important to report." The text of the communication follows: "The enemy showed a certain activity in the region of Ypres. He directed several attacks against our lines, three of which were completely repulsed. At one single point on the front the Germans succeeded in reaching one of our first line trenches. On our side we continued to make progress in the direction of the enemy's lines.

Horses to France. Newport News, Va.—The British steamer Anglo-Bolivian sailed for Bordeaux, France, with a cargo of 1,100 horses. The animals are for use of the allied armies in the war zone. The British steamer Anglo-Colombian has arrived here for a similar cargo.

Learn if Missionaries Held. Washington.—Great Britain, through the embassy here, asked the state department if it was true British missionaries were being held as hostages at Beirut, Syria.

## 'TELEGRAPHESE' BEST TO USE

Correspondent Finds English Language to Be the Tersest in Europe.

Which language makes the best telegraphese? At so much a word one might hasten to say German, because of its purely typographical device of sticking a number of words together to look like one compound word. We really do exactly the same thing in English, only we print the elements of

the compound as separate words. But in international telegraphing there is a word length limit (or, as the Germans would print a wordlengthlimit). Ten letters is the maximum allowed for a single word. Any word longer than that counts as two; or as three if it gets beyond the second ten, as some German words do.

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