

The Democratic Banner.

\$1.50 PER YEAR

MT. VERNON, OHIO, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1916—No. 11

ESTABLISHED 1836

DANGER OF BREAK IS REMOVED

Berlin's Reply Affords Basis For Amicable Settlement

Final Understanding Expected Within Very Short Time

Washington, Feb. 7.—Berlin's latest memorandum on the Lusitania controversy can be made the basis of an amicable settlement, according to information which came from a high administration source. Whether the final agreement can take the exact form of the Berlin memorandum remains to be determined at a conference which the president and Secretary Lansing are expected to hold.

At all events the communication which Ambassador Bernstorff handed to the secretary last Friday has improved the outlook. This information, coming from an unquestionable source, confirms an impression which has steadily grown in the last twenty-four hours that all prospect of a rupture in the relations between the two governments has been removed for the present.

So optimistic are certain officials that they expect an announcement from the White House or the state department within the next two or three days which will remove all apprehension as to a break. It is understood that the president and Secretary Lansing will have met and have made up their minds definitely before the cabinet meets tomorrow.

The only point now at issue rests on the acceptability of eight words used by the Berlin foreign office to avoid the expression "illegal." The United States wanted Germany to say that she would pay indemnity because the attack on the Lusitania resulting in the killing of 116 Americans was illegal. Germany has offered, instead, to say that she will pay indemnity because, inasmuch as Americans were on the vessel, the attack should not have been made.

In German circles it was said that but for the interview given out in Berlin by Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Zimmermann, calling attention to the refusal of Germany to employ the word "illegal," the American public might never have noted the omission, so close does the expression actually used correspond with "illegal."

Count Von Bernstorff, according to his friends, is more than ever confident that Germany's proposals are going to be accepted by the United States. Anticipating that the American government would accept the final proposals of Berlin in their entirety, it is stated that the ambassador before going to the state department drew them up in the shape of a

formal note. In this form they are now before the president. Should he accept the terms set forth the communication, officials say, could be published as Germany's reply to the American note of July 21, the last formal communication from Washington to Berlin.

Following his conference with the president, it is expected that Mr. Lansing will invite Count Von Bernstorff to call at the state department, and if the proposals are accepted by the president as a basis of settlement of the crisis will be made to reach a final understanding without further delay.

FOR HUGHES FOR PRESIDENT

Whitman Says He Has Not Been Stung by Vice Presidential Bee.

New York, Feb. 7.—Governor Whitman declared he has not been stung by either the presidential or vice presidential bee; what he wants is another nomination for governor. He was discussing dispatches in some of the newspapers which said that while he was in Ohio last Monday he met Governor Willis and Senator Burton of Ohio, and that between them they had arranged that Senator Burton should be come president and Governor Whitman vice president. "They fixed up a very fine slate," said he. "That conference that I am reported to have had with Senator Burton never occurred. I am for Hughes for president. He would sweep the state and be elected by a huge majority."

BY DYNAMITE EXPLOSION

Skoda Gun Works in Austria Reported Partially Destroyed.

Rome, Feb. 7.—The Skoda gun works, the Austrian works, which are second in importance in Europe only to the Krupp plant at Essen, were partially destroyed by a dynamite explosion. Three factories, including the workshops where the Skoda twelve-inch howitzers are made, were demolished. The number of casualties is variously reported, one report saying that 200 workmen were killed, while another says that the killed and injured together numbered fifteen.

Chaplain to King George.
London, Feb. 7.—Rev. Clement Smith, chaplain-in-ordinary to the king, died at the age of seventy-one. He was a son of the late Henry Smith, accountant general of the war office.

MRS. MOHR COLLAPSES FOLLOWING ACQUITTAL

Providence, R. I., Feb. 7.—Mrs. Elizabeth F. Mohr was acquitted by a jury in the superior court of a charge of having instigated the murder of her husband, Dr. C. Franklin Mohr. C. Victor Brown and Henry H. Spellman, negroes, who were accused of the actual killing, were found to be guilty.

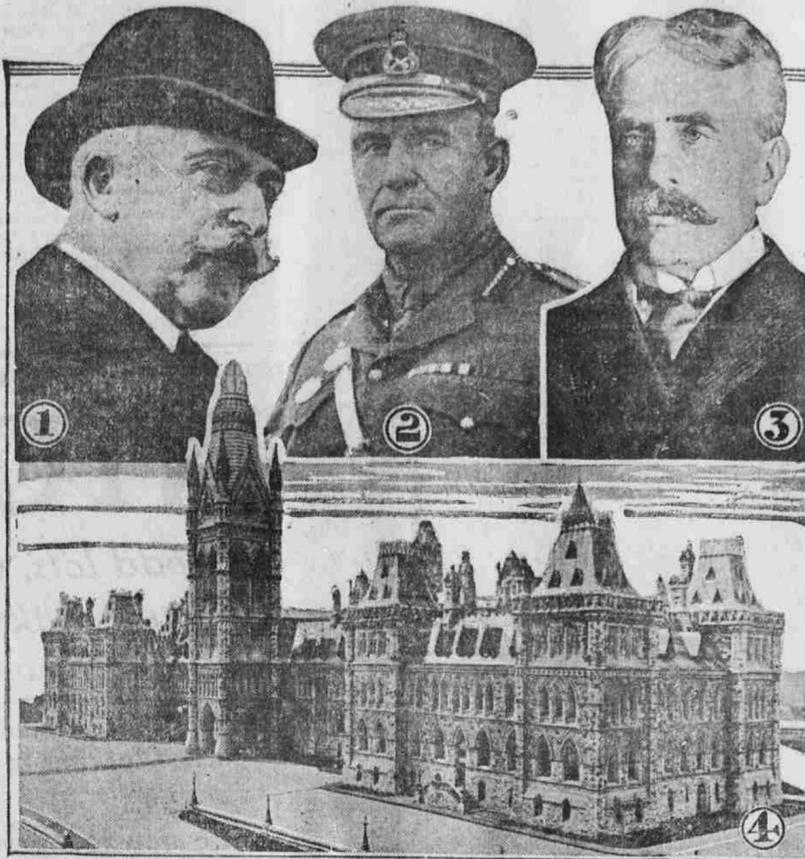
Mrs. Mohr experienced such a collapse owing to the extreme nervous condition she was enduring in the last hours of her trial that she is unable to see anybody.

Public sentiment has strongly supported the finding of the jury, and it is protesting the further prosecution of Mrs. Mohr. Attorney General Rice was asked if he proposed to seek this case. He refused to say what action the state would take.

The cost of the trial was the greatest ever experienced in Rhode Island, approximating \$40,000, and there is cut-spoken opposition to repeating the expenditure or any considerable part of it.

Campaign in Albania.
Rome, Feb. 7.—A squadron of Austrian cavalry has occupied the town of Kroya, about twelve miles north-east of Buttrazzo, while Bulgarian irregulars are burning Elbasan, but the Italian and the troops of Essad Pasha have as yet not come in contact with the invaders. Meanwhile fierce, merciless fighting is going on in the interior of Albania between Christian and Albanian tribesmen, and many thousands have been recruited by the Italians and Germans.

BURNED PARLIAMENT BUILDING ARCHITECTURAL PRIDE OF OTTAWA



The Canadian parliament building in Ottawa, virtually destroyed by a fire believed to have been caused by a bomb or infernal machine, has been the chief architectural glory of the Canadian capital. The houses of parliament form the center of the group of government buildings commanding the Ottawa, covering four acres and erected from 1859 till 1885 at a cost of

more than \$5,000,000. The architectural style is based on the Gothic of the twelfth century. The building is surrounded by beautiful lawns. The central edifice—that occupied by the houses of parliament—has a fine tower 220 feet high. It is 470 feet in length, and it is flanked by two wings containing the various ministerial offices. Behind the main building is

the library of parliament, a beautiful polygonal structure, with a dome supported by graceful flying buttresses. No. 1 in the picture is the Duke of Connaught, governor-general of Canada; No. 2, General Sam Hughes, head of the Dominion militia, who assisted in the work of rescue at the fire; No. 3, Premier Robert L. Borden; No. 4, the parliament building.

THOUSANDS HOMELESS BY ARKANSAS FLOOD

Little Rock, Ark., Feb. 7.—The rapidly widening lake in southeastern Arkansas, formed by the flood waters of the Arkansas river pouring through breaks in the levees, has engulfed a score of towns, leaving several thousand persons homeless. Sixteen lives have been lost in the last few days and damage that probably will run into hundreds of thousands of dollars has resulted in the rich farming territory.

Still greater damage is feared if the Mississippi continues to rise as in the last few days. Predicted stages at Arkansas City would endanger the

levees there and would precipitate a serious situation in the river valley. All day the 700 men who remain in Arkansas City, toiled in an effort to strengthen the levees against the fast rising waters, and they were hopeful that the levees would hold and the town be saved. The narrow strip of levee is the only land in sight there. On one side the river, swollen under its surface, is fifteen feet above the level of the town. On the other side of the levee is the great flood lake, nearly forty miles long and twenty miles wide. From it only the upper stories of buildings in Arkansas City protrude.

CHARGED WITH BURGLARY WANTS WORK SPEEDED UP

Marysville, O., Feb. 7.—Ira Paver of Columbus and Charles Daniels of Marysville have been bound over to the grand jury on a charge of burglarizing the home of George Kleiber.

Washington, Feb. 7.—Efforts to speed up the work of congress on the army and navy bills will be continued this week by President Wilson. He will see a large number of the senate and house and will impress on them his belief that it is necessary to dispose of the administration's preparedness program as quickly as possible. He wants the army and navy bills out of the way in order that work may be begun on the shipping bill, the tariff commission bill and revenue legislation.

FARMER IS KILLED

Xenia, O., Feb. 7.—Edward O. Gerlach, sixty-nine, a farmer, was killed at the Pennsylvania railroad crossing in Alpha when a wagon in which he was taking milk to the traction station was struck by passenger train No. 512.

Former Mayor Dead.
Tenia, O., Feb. 7.—Thomas B. Jobe, seventy, former mayor of Yellow Springs, and also former postmaster of the village, is dead.

British Steamer Sunk.
London, Feb. 7.—The British steamship Balconic, 1,061 tons gross, has been sunk. The crew, with the exception of the second officer, was saved

PRANKS OF STUDENTS

Alliance, O., Feb. 7.—Five stuffed monkeys, stolen by students from the museum of Mt. Union college, frightened the fair coeds of Elliott hall when they left the dormitory for classes. Scarcely had they recovered from their fright when they saw the museum skeleton dangling from a tree near by. The library also was entered and books and catalogues disarranged. An investigation is being made.

SKATING FATALITY

Boston, Feb. 7.—An unusual skating fatality occurred on Long's pond, South Westmouth. William L. Griffin, thirty, put on skates for the first time in several years, remarking "I suppose I'll break my neck." Five minutes later he fell and broke his neck, dying almost instantly.

IS WANTED IN OHIO

Somerville, N. J., Feb. 7.—Traced from Trumbull, O., by a letter written by a Bound Brook, N. J., woman, two men found at her home were arrested in connection with the murder of S. S. Parker, reputed to be a wealthy manufacturer at Jefferson, O., on Jan. 25 last. The suspects are Selick Myslik, twenty-eight, and John Cuboy, twenty-nine, former employees of Parker.

FAVORITE SONS HAVE THE CALL

Delegates to Republican Convention to Be Selected Soon.

ALL CANDIDATES ARE HOPEFUL

Burton's Managers On Good Working Terms With All Other Candidates and Expect Second Choice Support. Knox Likely to Enter Race at an Early Date—Indiana to Declare For Ex-Senator Fairbanks.

Washington, Feb. 7.—Within a month the first primary election will be held to select delegates to the Republican national convention. This will be in Indiana. Interest in it is passive, because the state has a favorite son, Charles W. Fairbanks, who will have the support of his state without opposition from other candidates. Immediately following the Indiana primaries will come the New Hampshire and Minnesota events. New Hampshire is expected to elect delegates who will support Senator Weeks and Minnesota will choose delegates instructed for Senator Cummins.

The North Dakota primaries will also be held early, and it is the belief here that since Senator Cummins has given away to LaFollette there, that the senator from Wisconsin will carry that state, as he carried it four years ago over both Taft and Roosevelt.

Thus the early March primaries will put four candidates for the Republican nomination in the field practically without opposition. Never before in the history of politics, say the old-line politicians, has so little definite information been obtainable as to the trend of politics within five months of a convention. Everybody in the Republican camp seems satisfied and hopeful. A lot of politicians wink knowingly and say the outlook is just what is desired.

It is very certain that there will be no Republican choice before the convention meets. The presidential primary, which was expected to result in the people making a choice in advance of the convention and the delegates simply to record the popular will, has operated just the other way. A lot of favorite sons are obtaining the endorsement of their respective states without a struggle.

Senator Burton's campaign managers are very hopeful. They appear to be content to allow favorite sons in other states to be complimentary and claim that they are on good working terms with all other candidates and logical heirs of second choice support. Senator Burton has been speaking almost steadily for several weeks. One of the most interesting rumors of the week is that Senator P. C. Knox will be found to be in the race soon and strongly backed. His candidacy for the senate will in no wise interfere with the plan to make him a presidential candidate, it was said.

LIVE STOCK AND GRAIN

EAST BUFFALO, Feb. 7.
Cattle—Prime steers, \$4 40@5 85; shipping steers, \$7 00@8 25; butchers, \$4 75@8 15; heifers, \$5 75@7 10; cows, \$3 25@6 50; bulls, \$4 50@6 75; fresh cows and springers, \$5 00@9 25; calves, \$4 12@7 75.
Hogs—Heavy and mixed, \$8 90; Yorkers, \$8 65; pigs, \$7 00@7 75; roughs, \$7 25@7 40; stags, \$4 50@6 75.
Sheep and Lambs—Yearlings, \$5 50@10 25; wethers, \$8 98 25; ewes, \$4 67 75; mixed sheep, \$7 75@8 15; lambs, \$7 50@11 95.
CHICAGO, Feb. 7.
Cattle—Native beef steers, \$6 40@9 00; cows and heifers, \$3 20@8 25; calves, \$3 11.
Hogs—Light, \$7 00@8 05; mixed, \$7 75@8 35; heavy, \$7 70@8 15; roughs, \$7 70@7 80; pigs, \$6 10@7 25.
Sheep and Lambs—Wethers, \$7 60@8 15; lambs, \$8 50@11.
PITTSBURGH, Feb. 7.
Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$3 40@8 65; butcher steers, \$7 50@8 15; heifers, \$6 25@6 65; cows, \$5 50@6 50; bulls, \$5 75@6 25; calves, \$2.
Hogs—Heavy \$8 50; heavy Yorkers, \$8 00@8 55; light Yorkers, \$5 85@6 25; pigs, \$7 25@7 50.
Sheep and Lambs—Top sheep, \$8 25; top lambs, \$11 40.
CLEVELAND, Feb. 7.
Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$7 50@8 75; butcher steers, \$5 75@6 50; heifers, \$6 07 75; bulls, \$5 75@6 75; cows, \$5 25@6 50; calves, \$11 10@12 12.
Hogs—Yorkers, mixed, heavy, medium and light, \$8 25@8 40; roughs, \$7 35; stags, \$5 75.
CINCINNATI, Feb. 7.
Cattle—Heifers, \$5 65@7 50; calves, \$4 25@10 50.
Hogs—Packers and butchers, \$8 10@5 40; common to choice, \$5 50@8 25; pigs and lights, \$5 50@8.
Sheep and Lambs—Sheep, \$2 00@8 55; lambs, \$8 25@11 50.
Receipts—Cattle, 600; hogs, 5,000; sheep, \$8 50@11 25.
BOSTON, Feb. 7.
Wool—Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces: Delaine washed, 34c; half blood combed, \$5 20@5 25; three-eighths blood combed, \$2 40@2 45; delaine unwashed, 23c.

VIGOROUS SHELLING

Of The Teuton Trenches By The Allies

Activity Noted on Western Line in Belgium and France.

AIR RAID IN WESTERN RUSSIA

German Asphyxiating Gas Reservoirs Demolished by the French, According to Paris Dispatches—Turks and British in Minor Engagements in Mesopotamia—Russians Harassing Turks in Caucasia.

London, Feb. 7.—Severe fighting is reported in France and Belgium, and on the Caucasus front. Little fighting of moment is in progress in any of the other war theaters.

In northwest Russia there have been aerial raids by both the Germans and Russians, and in Galicia and Bukovina small infantry and grenade attacks. At one point along the line where the Russian General Ivanoff is in command, the Russians found a system of Teuton mines and having wired it, detonated the mines. The British and French in Belgium have shelled with destructive effect German trenches at Boesighe, and the French heavy guns have silenced a German battery to the east of Boesighe.

In Champagne the French report the wrecking of German trenches on the plateau of Navarin and the blowing up of munition depots. In addition, Paris records the demolition of asphyxiating gas reservoirs, the escaping gas waves from which were blown back on the German lines.

Attempts by the British to make advances southwest of Neville and south of LaBassee canal were repulsed, according to Berlin.

Petrograd says the Russians continue to harass the Turks over the entire Caucasus region and that all attempts by the Turks at an offensive have been repulsed with heavy losses to the Ottomans.

In Mesopotamia, near Fehlis, small artillery and infantry engagements have been going on between the Turks and the British. At Kut-el-Amara, where the British have been engaged by the Turks, there is a change in the situation.

The British are pressing the Germans hard in the Kamerun region of German West Equatorial Africa. A Spanish official communication says that 900 Germans and 14,000 of their colonial troops have crossed the south asylum in Spanish Guinea, where they were disarmed and interned.

TO REACH CALAIS

Germans Making Preparations For Another Drive.

London, Feb. 7.—A centering of activity on the west on the Belgian and Artois fronts is noticeable in the official statements issued at Paris and Berlin, thus adding weight to the probabilities of a forthcoming German drive in this sector in another effort to reach Calais. The British and French artillery is very active in this region, apparently for the purpose of hindering the German preparations for the great drive.

The Germans have displayed great activity in the use of mines recently along the northern part of the battle line. British forces occupied the western slopes of three mine craters near the Vermelles-LaBassee road.

The Germans have been bombarding Ypres. There was artillery activity about Frise, to the north of LaBassee canal, and about Wytshaele and Ypres, while the allied guns did severe damage to the German organizations before Roenschen.

Prominent Divine Resigns.

New York, Feb. 7.—Rev. Dr. Charles A. Eaton, pastor of the Madison Avenue Baptist church since 1900, tendered his resignation to his congregation in a letter in which he explained that he desires to devote himself after a brief rest, "by voice and pen, to the great work of spiritual and social reconstruction" that will follow the war.

Want Eastern Time.

Dayton O., Feb. 7.—A campaign has been started in this city for eastern time. The proposition will be submitted to the city commission at the next meeting.