

Mexican bank notes (state bills) 8 1/2 @ 14
Mexican pesos 44-Nacionalista bills
15 1/2-Carranza currency 2 1/2-Bar after
Handy & Harmon (national) 16 1/2
Copper \$2.50-Grains lower-Livestock
steady-Stocks irregular.

LATEST NEWS BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

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EL PASO, TEXAS, SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 26, 1916.

DELIVERED ANYWHERE 10 CENTS A MONTH.

36 PAGES, 4 SECTIONS, TODAY.

WEATHER FORECAST.
El Paso and west Texas, fair, warmer;
New Mexico and Arizona, cloudy, prob-
ably rain.

KANSAS NEEDS A GAS; GUN RAIN DEATH

Cut New Army Figures To 140,000 Men

COMMITTEE APPROVES MEASURE

Voting Begins At Proposal Of 220,000 Men and Is Gradually Scaled Down.

1000 ADDITIONAL OFFICERS, IS PLAN House Bill Is Nearly Complete; Senate Has Army Encampment Proposal.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 26.—The house military committee late today voted approval of a regular standing army of 127,000 men, with a two percent allowance for recruiting, bringing the number up to 140,000, which is slightly more than the war department asked. The Republicans and three Democrats joined the vote. Voting in the committee began at a proposal for 220,000 men. The number was gradually scaled down until a proposal for 150,000 men was beaten by one vote. Then the Republicans and three Democrats put through the provision as it was finally accepted by the committee to be incorporated in the bill to be presented to the house.

Increase Officers by 1000. The war department's estimate of additional officers for the regular army also was increased from 746 to 1000. The section for reorganizing the national guard was framed to provide for a maximum strength of 424,000 men, of which 50 percent must be recruited within two years.

Summer Camps Planned. The senate committee has practically agreed on a provision for several summer student encampments at the direction of the president. Those who take the instruction would be mustered into a special federal reserve, pledging themselves to serve the country if needed, but being quite apart from the regular army reserve or the national guard. The plan resembles the continental army scheme somewhat.

Alpine People Telegraph President They Are With Him for Peace with Honor

Alpine, Texas, Feb. 26.—Telegrams are being sent from Alpine this afternoon to the president, senators, representatives and congressmen at large endorsing the president's stand on the rights of Americans to travel on ships of belligerent nations. The telegrams are signed by all the prominent citizens of Alpine.

DECLARE ADVERTISING IS GREAT HELP TO CHURCHES

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 26.—Approval of advertising as a means of making churches strong and progressive was voiced at a meeting of churchmen and advertising operators of Chicago and neighboring cities here Friday. Some of their sayings follow:

DOCTOR AND BRIDE FEAR GOSSIP; LATTER KILLED

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 26.—To save his bride and himself from gossip, Dr. Lester Long, a young physician, performed three bloodless operations on his wife, the last of which resulted in her death Friday night. This was the statement made to the police today by Dr. Long, who is being held pending the verdict of a coroner's jury.

Best Paper In State.

Editor El Paso Herald:

I like to read the El Paso Herald and think it the best newspaper in the state.

Chicago Woman Official Testifies Further On the "Split-Salary" Scandal.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 26.—The hearing before the city civil service commission on the charges connected with the so-called split salary scandal, precipitated by Mrs. Page Walker Eaton's assertion that she had been forced, as a city employe in the bureau of public welfare, to "split" her salary to help toward the support of major Thompson's sister-in-law, was resumed today with the expectation that it might be completed by night. Mrs. Eaton was the first to appear before the commission to complete her story.

Mrs. Eaton in her testimony denied the charge that she had been paid anything by a newspaper since the exposure. She charged she had been annoyed by employees and that the telephone wire to her home had been tapped.

President Coffin of the civil service commission explained an incident of Friday when a woman ran weeping from the room, by saying: "She is nervous and not used to city hall ways. She heard some one say 'Coffin is a crook' and the remark affected her."

Irish "Taster" To Test Viands At Taft Banquet To Foil Any Poisoner

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 26.—An official taster to test dishes served to William Howard Taft, archbishop Mundelein and other guests who will attend the St. Patrick's day banquet of the Irish Fellowship club, was appointed today.

COLLIER'S HIRED BRANDEIS TO APPEAR FOR GLAVIS?

Washington, D. C., Feb. 26.—Norman Hapgood, former editor of Collier's Weekly, today told the senate judiciary subcommittee investigating the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis to the supreme court, that the reason Collier's had employed Mr. Brandeis in the Ballinger-Finchon investigation was because Collier's wanted to support Mr. Glavis, whose charges against Mr. Ballinger were the main issue. He wanted to avoid the appearance of desiring to get into the limelight.

MAJ. GEN. BELL PRAISES 24TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

San Francisco, Calif., Feb. 26.—High praise was given the 24th infantry, a negro regiment, by Maj. Gen. J. Franklin Bell, commanding the western division, as the regiment entered Friday for Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo.

BURLESON'S SISTER NAMED MEMBER LIBRARY COMMISSION

Austin, Texas, Feb. 26.—Miss Emma Burleson, a sister of postmaster general A. S. Burleson, was today appointed a member of the State Library and Historical Commission.

PACKERS RAISE WAGES.

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 26.—M. R. Murphy of Omaha, general manager of the Cudahy Packing plants, made the statement today that the Cudahy and Armour packing companies will immediately advance their wages of employes in all their packing plants 4 percent.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS.

Resumed debate on Shields water power bill. Judiciary subcommittee continued Brandeis inquiry. Agricultural subcommittee continued sisal investigation.

House.

Military and naval committees worked on defense plans.

Postoffice appropriation bill debate under special rule.

Replies to U. S. Proposal With Argument; No Conclusion Is Apparent.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 26.—Secretary of state Lansing announced today that one of the entente allies had replied to his suggestion for the disarmament of merchant ships.

Congress Is Quiet.

With the apparent quieting down of the situation in congress the submarine crisis shifts back to the negotiations between secretary Lansing and count von Bernstorff, German ambassador.

Mr. Lansing said today there was no intention of transferring the negotiations to Berlin to be conducted between ambassador Gerard and the Berlin foreign office, and reiterated that the state department had heard nothing from Germany on the American request for a declaration that the new submarine campaign would not be conducted in violation of previous assurances for the safety of Americans traveling on unresisting liners.

The situation in congress apparently is being held in check by the administration leaders, while president Wilson remains firm in his determination to insist on the rights of Americans to travel on ships armed for defense only.

PORTUGAL MAY FIGHT TEUTONS

Lisbon, Portugal, Feb. 25 (via Paris, France, Feb. 26).—The Portuguese press today stated that attempts had been made to induce the government and the army to accept a declaration that an explosive had been found on the steamship Lusitania of the North German Lloyd company.

ITALIANS HAVE LEFT DURAZZO

Rome, Italy, Feb. 26.—This report that Durazzo, an Albanian port on the Adriatic sea, has been evacuated by the Italian troops stationed there, is confirmed by the Italian press.

TWO BRITISH STEAMERS SUNK NINE LIVES LOST

London, Eng., Feb. 26.—Lloyd's announced the sinking of the British steamer Denaby, of 2987 tons, and the steamer Tummel, of 531 tons.

THIRD ARMED ITALIAN SHIP IS IN U. S. PORT

New York, Feb. 26.—The Napoli, the third Italian steamer to arrive here within the last few days with guns mounted, arrived today. The Napoli carried two three-inch guns. She is a freighter and carries no passengers.

PORTUGAL IS SEIZING ALL AUSTRIO-GERMAN SHIPS

Lisbon, Portugal, Feb. 26.—Portugal has extended the seizures of German and Austrian ships to all such ships lying in harbors of Portugal or her colonies.

Works 20 Years Without Pay, Expecting Wife As Reward But Gets \$15,300

Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 26.—Lewis O. Bates, a farmer, who worked for 20 years on farms owned by the late Edward Howell, and his daughter Jennie, without salary, expecting as a reward that Miss Howell should be his wife, will receive \$15,300 as the result of a jury's decision in the Polk county district court.

LYMAN FOUND IN SOUTH. ADMITS HIS IDENTITY

Tampa, Fla., Feb. 26.—J. Grant Lyman, under federal indictment in New York on charges of using the mails to defraud while operating under the firm name of "John H. Putnam and company," today admitted his identity when taken before a United States commissioner for examination.

SLAYER OF TWO ITALY REFUGES ADMITS SHIPS PAYS MURDER PENALTY

Colorado Governor Declines To Interfere With Execution, Pending Election.

COOK'S ACCOMPLICE SERVES LIFE TERM

Death Chamber Scene Terminates Long Fight In Courts Of State.

CARON CITY, COLO., Feb. 26.—Oscar Cook was executed here at 5:15 this morning for the murder of Andrew J. Lloyd and William McPherson in Denver March 19, 1912. Cook was taken into the execution chamber at 5:15 and was pronounced dead seven minutes later.

Cook and Edward Seward shot and mortally wounded patrolman William J. McPherson and Andrew Lloyd, in a saloon in Val Verde, a suburb. Cook was slightly wounded and was arrested soon afterward. Seward is now serving a life sentence in the penitentiary for his part in the crime.

Cook Twice Convicted.

Cook was twice convicted in the district court of first degree murder, and was sentenced to life imprisonment to 15 years in the penitentiary, in connection with the murder of McPherson. He testified against Cook in both trials and as a result of his testimony was arraigned on the charge of murdering Lloyd and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Executive Clemency Refused.

Gov. Carlson's statement said: "No one prizes life more than I, but the one question before the people of Colorado is the protection of the law, the fact that a movement is on to change that punishment does not alter the obligation of my oath to enforce existing law."

EBY NAMED AS ONE OF 70 WRITERS OF CHILD'S CODE

Austin, Texas, Feb. 26.—Prof. W. P. Doughty, state superintendent of public instruction, today announced the appointment of Dr. Frederick Eby, of the University of Texas, as one of the 70 writers who will compete in a contest in writing a child's code of morals. This contest was inaugurated by the National Institution for Moral Instruction, at Washington, D. C. These code writers are being appointed by the superintendent of public instruction and other prominent educators in the various states.

Successful Men Wanted

If you possess average personality and a fair degree of persistence and the ability to present a business proposition in a straightforward way after you have shown how you can easily be successful in making good with us, then we want to get in touch with you. Call in person or write to H. H. Fry, financial manager of the El Paso Herald.

Snaphology

Is a projectile that will hit close to the center of the character of an individual 5000 miles away, when fired and directed with an intelligent knowledge of the signs disclosed in his or her HANDWRITING. Read the articles in The Week-End Herald beginning March 4.

VILLA ABANDONS HIS ATTACK ON CARRANZISTAS AT CASAS GRANDES

Finds the Town Better Protected Than He Anticipated and He Withdraws Again Into the Mountain Country; Carranza Troops Rapidly Drawing a Cordon Around the Former Leader's Forces.

DISCOVERING that Casas Grandes, which it was claimed, he planned to attack, was considerably better fortified than he had been informed by his scouts, Gen. Francisco Villa has withdrawn from his proposed movement upon that military point and turned his forces southward, back to the mountains, where he is said to have headquarters near San Anna, and much cached provisions and ammunition. Villa's withdrawal from the plains of northern Chihuahua, where the advance of Carranza forces from all directions indicated he would be hemmed in, has been a course of keen interest to Gen. Carranza, who has the Juarez garrison. "We will capture him yet," said the general, "though some little time may be required."

Gen. Francisco Bertalan, who was in Juarez during the early part of the week and whose movements were held secret, and who returned Thursday to Casas Grandes, was on the military train which encountered the wrecked Northwestern train at Santa Sofia. It is thought that Villa knew of Berta's movements and that he attempted to get to Casas Grandes before

GUTIERREZ JOINS VENTURE IN CHASE ON PANCHO VILLA

Brings 2000 Carranza Men From South to Aid in Surrounding Him.

Torreón, Coahuila, Mex., Feb. 26.—(Delayed)—Gen. Luis Gutierrez was reported today passing Jimenez with 2000 troops—of which 1000 are cavalry, to cooperate with Gen. Luis Herrera, in the pursuit of Gen. Francisco Villa in western Chihuahua.

Reliable information has been received here that Gen. Canuto Reyes burned his wagon train loaded with stolen equipment at Ojo del Agua, south and east of Escalon. This would indicate that he had no intention of taking the wagon route north to Sierra Mojada. It was later reported that he moved southeast to Chaco de Risa, 50 miles north of San Pedro Colonia. It is believed here that his only escape from the Carranza forces in pursuit of him is through the cordon that is stretched in a semicircle to the west, north and south of him. Back of him is a desert. It is believed that should he get through the cordon, he would make for familiar territory, the Pinar del Rio.

The presumption that Gen. Juan Delgado, who recently appeared at Dinamita, belonged to the Reyes force, was strengthened today by a report that he entered the Austin, manager of the dynamite factory there to send out to Charcos de Risa.

Bandits Steal Payroll Funds.

Reports from Tlaxiahuatl are that the bandits robbed the Mexican cashier of the Tlaxiahuatl Agricultural company of 30,000 pesos, the payroll of the company, while he was en route to Lerdo.

A train from Durango, arriving today, was fired upon by bandits. There were no casualties. Passenger trains from Chihuahua arrived today without incident.

SONORA TROOPS TO GUARD STATE LINE; LOOK FOR VILLA

Douglas, Ariz., Feb. 26.—Gen. P. Elias Calles, military governor of Sonora, is sending troops to guard the mountain passes between Sonora and Chihuahua to prevent Villa from escaping into Sonora while Carranza troops in Chihuahua hem him in and attack in northwestern Chihuahua.

The main body of Sonora troops under Gen. Estrada, will be in Dolores pass in the southern limit of the Sahuaripa district. Ojitas pass will also be heavily guarded. Smaller detachments will be in the San Luis and Carrizosa passes.

MEXICAN EXILES MAY BE ALLOWED TO RETURN HOME

San Antonio, Tex., Feb. 26.—Exiled Mexicans may reach an understanding with the Carranza government whereby they may be allowed to return to Mexico, according to C. P. Alvarez, representative of a junta which has been maintained here.

Both Alvarez and the decision of a conference of so-called scientifics here to abandon plans for a "financial revolution" in view of the proposed settlement.

VERDUN FORT IS BROKEN DOWN

Germans Close In From East And Southeast, As Well As From the North.

TEUTONS LOSE ABOUT 150,000

Massed Batteries Of Heavy German Guns Maintain Deluge Of Fire.

LONDON, Eng., Feb. 26.—It is now agreed that Paris is the goal of the German battering ram. Verdun is the key to Paris, and the first of its score of forts has fallen before the German attack. Paris is about 150 miles distant. German losses are estimated in excess of 150,000 men, but the fury of the assault grows.

The tremendous German offensive aimed at Verdun is gaining force hourly and new and serious breaches have been made in the French lines. Berlin announces today that the fortress is now menaced from the east and southeast, as well as from the north and northwest.

Not only has Fort Douaumont, one of the outlying defenses of the stronghold, been taken, but French resistance on the plain of the Woerth to the east has been broken, according to the German bulletin, which reports that the Germans are pushing the beaten foe along the Woerth front.

Paris Does Not Concede Losses.

Although the substantial successes noted are officially claimed by the Germans, Paris has not conceded them. Regarding Douaumont, the French statement only declares that in this region the battle is still raging and has assumed a most sanguinary character.

Center of Attack Swings Around.

While the German wing on the east has been driving at Fort Douaumont and its protecting trenches, the center of the crown prince's forces has worked down the Meuse valley until it is hammering at the ridge of La Cote du Poivre, just south of Louvemont and about four and a half miles north of the main front.

All along the Verdun front the Germans are hurling their men against the French lines without regard to sacrifices, Paris declares, the fighting being particularly desperate in the region of Verdun, almost directly north of the Meuse.

Massed Batteries Rain Death.

The rain of shell fire in the September offensive of the allies was at the time without precedent, but correspondents near the front declare that it was feeble in comparison with the deluge of projectiles which at present is poured upon the French trenches and fortifications from the massed batteries of the Germans.

BERLIN, Germany, Feb. 26.—Fort Douaumont, one of the fortifications of Verdun, has been taken by storm by the armies of the German crown prince, under direction of the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. D)

Big Rally of Men Sunday; Mobilizing for Convention

THE mobilization meeting for the Laymen's Missionary movement, to be held Sunday afternoon in the First Christian church at 3 o'clock, is expected to be the biggest meeting of men held in El Paso in a long time. Much interest has already been aroused in the missionary convention and many, who are not thoroughly acquainted with the movement, will attend the mobilization meeting Sunday afternoon to learn what they can of the work. G. P. Putnam will preside and the following program will be carried out:

- Opening hymns, "Onward Christian Soldiers."
- Prayer.
- Quartet, Y. M. C. A. male quartet.
- Address, Rev. J. K. Brown, missionary from Turkey.
- "A Report," George B. Oliver. "What the Laymen's Convention Did for Us Six Years Ago."
- "A Preview," Bradford Hardie. "What the Big Convention is to Mean to Us This Year."
- Solo, Brooks Smith.
- "A Prophecy," Rev. H. G. Porter. "The Laymen's Missionary Movement and the Churches."
- "A Challenge," V. R. Stiles. "What El Paso Will Do for the Laymen's Convention."
- Quartet, the Calvary male quartet.
- "A Last Word," David McKnight. "Your Part and Mine."
- Closing hymn.
- D. E. Wade, in charge of the music of this meeting, has arranged to bring not only a male quartet, but also an orchestra from the Calvary-Houston Square church. The other is the Y. M. C. A. quartet.

Congress Boldly Insinuates That It, Too, Has a Few Ideas About Honor