

WAR CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN PARIS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF ENTENTE ALLIES TO LAY PLANS

ARMEN MAKE GREAT ATTACK UPON GERMANS

French Claim to Have Pushed Back Offensive of Teutons.

RUSSIANS AGAIN MOVING FORWARD

Cessation in the Fighting in Vicinity of Verdun Forts.

London, March 20.—A war conference of probably momentous importance is about to open in Paris, where the military and political representatives of the entente allies are gathering.

The joint policies to be pursued by the entente in the next period of war will be decided upon by the conference which will be presided over by Premier Briand of France.

Aeroplane Raid Made.

Sixty-five allied aeroplanes bombarded the Belgian coast town of Zebrugge and all returned.

Official Statement.

The following official statement was made on the air raid: "In the early hours of today, a combined force of approximately 50 British, French and Belgian aeroplanes and seaplanes, accompanied by 15 fighting machines, attacked the German seaplane station at Zebrugge and the aerodrome at Houtlaide, near Zebrugge. Considerable damage appears to have been done. The machines on the average carried 200 pounds of bombs. All the machines returned safely. One Belgian officer is reported seriously wounded. All the British machines returned to base."

Bombard Malancourt.

Paris, March 20.—German forces have bombarded Malancourt and the attack made by them on French positions at Com de Polvois has resulted in a failure, according to an announcement by the French war office. There has been intermittent bombardment in the region.

Russians Attack.

With the slackening of the fighting around Verdun the Russians started a big offensive movement against the Germans on the eastern front. A raid by German seaplanes on the east coast of England and by French airmen on Metz and other German towns, the sinking of a French torpedo with destroyer by a submarine in the Adriatic, and the reported torpedoing of an Austrian hospital ship by an entente underwater boat are recorded in official and unofficial communications.

Berlin chronicles an attack of great violence by the Russians around Driewiaty lake and Lake Narocz, but says the Russians were repulsed with great losses, 9,270 Russian dead having been counted in the Lake Baroc Narocz region.

Teutons Driven Back.

Saturday the Germans in the Vaux Dam Loup sector, northeast of Verdun, began another spirited attack against the French, but the French, bringing their curtain fire into play, drove the Teutons back. The attack was not pushed again during Sunday, and only intermittent bombardments took place.

French reports their capture of some ground from the British northeast of Vermeilles, in the region of La Base and the driving of the French from a position northeast of Badonvillers in the Vosges. London admits the capture by the Germans of three mine craters at the Hohenliern redoubt.

French Bombard.

The French guns have been bombarding German trenches in Champagne and German depots northeast of St. Michel.

Five French aircraft dropped some bombs on Metz, ammunition depots near Chateau Salins and the aerodrome at Dieuse, while 28 other machines attacked the aviation camp at Habsheim and the freight station at Mulhausen. In battles in the air which followed the Germans and the French each lost three or four machines. A German airship attacked the entente allied fleet south of Saloniki.

New Department is Formed in London

London, March 20.—The board of trade has instituted a "department of import restrictions" for the purpose of giving effect to the British policy regarding the prohibition or restriction upon imports to meet the deficiency in tonnage.

Sir William Guy Granet is controller of the department.

The British official statement on the campaign in France issued last night reads:

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CARRANZA TROOPS ARE NOW IN THE REAR OF PERSHING'S COLUMN

El Paso, March 20.—The Carranza troops stationed at Casas Grandes, and other points of that section at the time General Pershing began his march into Mexico, now are located at Juarez, opposite El Paso, in the rear of Pershing's column. Villa has doubled east and south to Namsiqua.

MISSOURI RIVER ICE BREAKS, FORMING BIG GORGE AT STANTON N. D.

(Herald Special Service.) Mandan, March 20.—The Missouri river broke at Stanton at 9 o'clock this morning and a gorge which formed shortly afterward 10 miles below at Desplais, threatens to flood the lowlands. The river is at the 14.5 stage here but so far threatens no damage.

BRITISH SUB SEEN AFTER BOAT IS SUNK

Officers of Tubantia say they Observed Course of Torpedo.

COUNT SAYS PRESS UNFAIR TO GERMANS

British Government Denies That it is Responsible For Sinking.

Berlin, March 20.—The Cologne Volks Zeitung reports that several credible witnesses said that soon before and after the sinking of the Dutch steamship Tubantia a British submarine was observed near Noord Kinder lightship, says the Overseas News agency.

Observed Course.

"There is good reason to believe a British submarine sank the Tubantia," Count von Reventlow, in the Tages Zeitung also expresses suspicion that a British submarine sank the Tubantia, particularly in view of statements of officers of the vessel, that they observed the course of the torpedo. He says that in a similar case previously there were indications that British submarines destroyed neutral steamers, while the press at the same time was spreading reports that German submarines were responsible, thus creating an ill-feeling against Germany in neutral countries.

The British government, however, has formally denied that there is any ground whatever for conjecture that a British submarine is involved.

KAHN AMENDMENT IS DISCUSSED

Amendment Would Bring Bill up to Proposals of Senate Bill.

Washington, March 20.—Representative Kahn's proposal to put the regular army at \$20,000 men, an increase of 80,000 over the administration bill, was lost in the house by a vote of 188 to 102.

Washington, March 20.—Representative Kahn's amendment for the house army bill to make the peace strength of the army 220,000 men instead of 140,000, was taken up for two hours of debate when the house resumed work on the measure. An amendment would bring the house bill up to the proposals of the senate bill, a vote will be regarded as a test on the disposition of the house to agree with the larger proposals of the senate.

FRENCH STOP RAID.

Paris, March 20.—The German forces in the Verdun region have resumed their activities to the north-east of the fortress, delivering an attack against the French front opposite Vaux and Damloup, the war office announced yesterday afternoon. The attack was without success, being stopped by the French curtain of fire.

BETHLEHEM CO. TO CUT PRICE ON SHIP ARMOR

Would Head off Erection of Plant by the Federal Government.

EXPERTS ALLOWED TO EXAMINE BOOKS

Believes Private Concern Can Quote Low Price on Plate.

New York, March 20.—The annual report of the Bethlehem Steel corporation for 1915, issued here today, disclosed that the net earnings of the corporation and its subsidiary companies, after deducting expenditures, amounted to \$24,831,408 as compared with \$6,549,667 in 1914, an increase of nearly 200 per cent. Orders on hand December 31, 1915 aggregated \$175,432,895, as against \$46,512,189 on the corresponding date of the previous year.

Armor Plate Matter.

Calling attention to the bill pending in congress for the building by the government of an armor plant, Messrs. Schwab and Grace declared that "Recognizing that though the interests of your property should be carefully conserved by your officers, on a matter of this kind," said the report, "your corporation also has an important obligation to the nation of which it is a citizen, your officers have appeared before the senate committee on naval affairs and urged the defeat of the pending measure. As it is frankly declared that the sole purpose of the proposed enterprise is that the government may secure its armor at a lower price, your officers have submitted the following proposition to the Federal government:

"We will agree to permit any well-known firm of chartered public accountants to audit our plant and make careful estimates of the cost of manufacture; with that data in hand we will meet with the secretary of the navy and agree to manufacture armor at a price which will be entirely satisfactory to the secretary of the navy as being quite as low as the price at which the government could possibly manufacture armor on its own account, after taking into account all proper charges. As a concrete working basis for such negotiations Bethlehem Steel company has offered to manufacture one-third of the armor plate required for the contemplated five year naval program (estimated at approximately 1,600,000 tons) for a price of \$395 per ton for side armor, as compared with the price of \$425 per ton now obtaining.

"No Increase Made. "It may be added that while all other steel prices have greatly increased the foregoing figure at which we now offer to make armor for the United States is not only a lower price than has been paid by the government for more than ten years, but it is also a substantially lower price than is paid for armor by Japan, Austria and Germany, France or England."

DEATH CALLS WAR VETERAN

Frank DeJude Died Early Today in Grafton Hospital.

(Herald Special Service.) Grafton, N. D., March 20.—Frank DeJude, aged 72, a resident of Grafton for the last 36 years, and well known in this section of the country died today at a local hospital of a complication of kidney trouble.

Mr. DeJude was born in Italy, and came to this country to serve in the civil war. Up to a short time before his death, he was the leader of the Grafton band, and conducted a music store in the city.

He was commander of the local camp of the G. A. R., and the funeral services will be held under the auspices of that body.

No Attacks Made by German Troops

Paris, March 20.—The bombardment in the region to the north of Verdun very materially slackened during the course of yesterday, according to the official statement issued by the French war office last night. No attempt to attack was made by the Germans.

MONITOR SURVIVOR IS GRANTED FAVOR LINCOLN PROMISED



John Driscoll.

John Driscoll of Hampton, Va., is the last survivor of the old U. S. S. Monitor, conqueror of the Merrimack in the civil war. After the famous naval battle President Lincoln summoned the Monitor's crew to Washington and told them if anyone ever wanted a favor it would only be necessary to ask it. Driscoll, now 76, never asked anything of the U. S. until recently, when he told the navy department a trip through the Panama canal on the warship before he died would make him happy. The proposition will be made good and he will sail on the next ship to take the passage.

NO NEW CREDIT BEING PLANNED

Denial Made by J. P. Morgan on His Return From Europe.

New York, March 20.—J. P. Morgan, head of the banking house of J. P. Morgan & Co., who arrived here yesterday from Liverpool on the steamship Philadelphia, reiterated the denial recently issued from his office here that a new credit against American securities, said to have been mobilized in London, had been arranged by him for the entente allies.

He asserted that he knew of no new loan to the allies being contemplated now and asserted that the resources created by the last loan were not exhausted, supporting his assertion by reference to the steadiness of the exchange market. As to the reported mobilizing in London of American securities held in Great Britain and France, Mr. Morgan said:

"I understand they expect to handle these securities as they have been doing in the past, and they will be taken care of in a way that will not hurt the market."

The financier refused to discuss his mission abroad or in what transactions he had been engaged. He declined also to talk of a second appearance as a witness before the Thompson legislative committee to testify regarding the affairs of the Interborough Rapid Transit company. "I know nothing about it," he asserted.

Asked as to what impressions he had gathered while in Europe as to the progress of the war, he smilingly said:

"I am not a military man; hence I cannot express an opinion, but I can observe, however, any signs of weakening."

Mr. Morgan sailed from New York on February 10, and he had reported he had gone abroad in connection with a new French loan. This report was denied by Octave Homberg, the British steamship agent, and the government's financial representative here. Later reports from abroad were that his mission had to do with American securities.

SEVERAL SHIPS REPORTED SUNK

Lives Lost When British and Neutral Vessels are Destroyed.

London, March 20.—The sinking of two neutral and one British steamship with the loss of a number of lives, as announced here, was the Norwegian steamer Langelie was sunk with 16 survivors rescued. Several members of the crew were lost. The Danish steamer Skodsborg of 1,497 tons was sunk with 17 members of the crew saved and three lost. The British steamer Fort Dalhousie was sunk, with a portion of the crew missing.

There are rumors of other ships having gone down.

DIPLOMATIC PROBLEMS HOLDING CENTER OF STAGE TODAY IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST VILLA BAND

AMERICANS TO AVOID TOWNS ORDER STATES

Protest Received From Carranza Against Seizure of Cities.

NO INTENTION TO TAKE RAILROADS

Washington Government is Making Efforts to Avoid Rupture.

Washington, March 20.—General Carranza has formally protested against American troops occupying Casas Grandes in their pursuit of Villa and the American government has replied that the troops have been ordered specifically not to occupy Casas Grandes or any other towns or cities in Mexico.

Notes Exchanged.

The protest and reply were included in the exchange of notes between Acting Secretary Polk of the state department and Elie Aronson, ambassador designate to the United States from Mexico. After the conference between Secretary Polk and the president, it became known that Secretary Polk, in a note forwarded to Mexico yesterday said instructions had been sent to General Funston to have his troops away from all the towns. The state department had not received a reply from the request sent to Carranza for use of the Mexican railroads in transporting supplies to the expeditionary force. It has been pointed out to the Carranza government that the Mexican railroads are in a state of disrepair and that the United States troops proposed to take over any railroads in Mexico or that the request is in any sense a demand or ultimatum. The administration realizes fully the difficulty of Carranza's position because of the feeling in Mexico. For that reason every effort is being made by the state department to disseminate in Mexico information that the United States has no motive of aggression in sending troops after Villa.

FORMER GRAFTON MAN IS CALLED

(Herald Special Service.) Grafton, N. D., March 20.—Word was received here today of the death at Milton, N. D., of John Hall, formerly a resident of this city. He is survived by a brother, J. E. Hall, and a sister, Mrs. R. O. Hatfield, both living in Grafton. His mother was also visiting here.

UNIVERSITY READINGS. 7 a. m.—28; maximum, 34; minimum, 22; wind, south 7; miles; barometer, 29.71.

WEATHER FORECAST. Tonight and Tuesday: fair. Wednesday: warmer.

Railway Heads State Protest Against the Increase in Pay Demanded By Their Trainmen

New York, March 20.—The conference committee of managers for the eastern railroads, of which Elsie Lee is chairman, in a statement issued here today, "To the 300,000 stockholders of these companies," characterized the demands of the railway trainmen for higher wages as unfair, and added that "the carriers cannot and should not shoulder this burden of an unwarranted increase of \$100,000,000 in the wages of a small minority of their highest paid employees."

The payroll of the eastern roads in 1914, it was shown, amounted to \$428,000,000, of which \$186,000,000 went to the trainmen.

"The 660,000 owners of the railroads, who have put \$7,000,000,000 of their savings in the business, receive on their investment about \$300,000,000 a year or four per cent. The railroads, in statement issued here today, "The railroads employ trainmen on every road in the country are demanding an increase in wages that will add not far from \$100,000,000 to the payroll."

"These employees, the highest paid in the service, are less than one-fifth of the army of railroad workers. They have taken the cream of the big wage advances of the past few years. If they force their demands on the carriers, by threat of a nation-wide strike, surely the wages of the other four-fifths would require adjustment. Manifestly the resources of the railroads would not permit granting all employees the same proportionate increase."

"The demand of the trainmen is that in all but passenger service they shall get their present ten hours pay for eight hours or less service, thus increasing the hourly rate by 25 per cent. For the past year, one and a half times the new higher hourly rate, an advance of 87.1-2 per cent.

Higher Pay Demand. "It is not a demand for an eight-hour work day. It is frankly a demand for higher wages on an eight-hour pay day basis—the eight-hour pay to be a minimum, but the equivalent of the present ten hours pay."

"Not only are these train employees not asking for an eight-hour work day, but they would bitterly oppose any effort of the railroads to make them work eight hours a day—no more and no less.

The high wages and the favorable working conditions enjoyed by the trainmen, as compared with other railroad men and workers in other industries, their demand for still higher wages is not a fair one. Nor is it an honest statement to put this demand for higher wages in the form of a plea for an eight-hour day.

Pay Roll Big Item. "The railroad payroll for 1914 was \$1,200,000,000—or nearly two-thirds of the cost of operating the roads. The payroll absorbs 45 cents of every dollar the public pays for transportation.

IMMEDIATE PEACE IN SIGHT SAYS MESSAGE TO SHIPPING COMPANY

Galveston, Tex., March 20.—"Immediate peace is in sight," is one sentence in a cablegram received from London by a Galveston Shipping firm. The cablegram which cancelled arrangements which had been made through a Galveston house for chartering a considerable amount of shipping tonnage gave as the reason for this action the prospect for immediate peace in Europe.

TOM TAGGART NAMED AS U. S. SENATOR TO FILL DEATH VACANCY

Indianapolis, March 20.—Thomas Taggart, democratic national committeeman, was appointed United States senator to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Shively.

Mr. Taggart will leave for Washington immediately. Taggart for 25 years has been the leader of Indiana democracy.

ORPET GRANTED VENUE CHANGE

Trial Will not be Taken out of Lake County, However.

Waukegan, Ill., March 20.—Will Orpet, the University of Wisconsin student accused of killing his former sweetheart, Marion Lambert, was today granted a change of venue from the court of Judge C. C. Edwards of Waukegan to another judge of the same district.

The change of venue, however, will not take the trial out of Lake county.

MANDAN PARENTS SEEK LOST BOY

Mandan, N. D., March 20.—Kenneth, 15-year-old son of A. J. Beall, of this city has been missing since Friday evening, no trace has been found of him and his parents fear he has been killed on some lonely country road by being thrown from his bicycle.

CRUISER SHELLS TURKISH COAST

Amsterdam, March 20. Via London.—The following Turkish communication has been received here: "In the Dardanelles a cruiser unsuccessfully shelled the neighborhood of Toke and Helles Topo. Two enemy aeroplanes which crossed over the Gallipoli peninsula were obliged to retreat before the machine gun fire of one of our battle planes."

"In the Caucasus in a counter attack by our left wing we captured some enemy war material."

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RAILWAYS ARE BADLY NEEDED BY EXPEDITION

Negotiations With Carranza Government Are Now in Progress.

BANDIT BELIEVED ROUSING PEOPLE

Mexican Commander Demands Opening of American Mine at Once.

ADVANCE CONTINUED.

San Antonio, Tex., March 20.—General Pershing led the greatest part of his force beyond Casas Grandes yesterday and personally began the direction of operations of that it is hoped at headquarters will terminate in the capture of Francisco Villa. All the evidence secured indicated that Villa was not many miles away, but whether he intended to continue his flight or stop and fight still remained unknown to the Americans.

General Funston withheld all information as to the details for the active pursuit of Villa.

El Paso, March 20.—The railroad problem overshadowed everything here in the Mexican situation today. The reply of Carranza to the request of the United States government for permission to use the railroads, is expected to reach Washington tonight.

A refusal would embarrass the operations of American troops, while his acquiescence would be seriously misconstrued by a considerable section of the Mexican people, and to be expected the opinion of Carranza. The unexpectedly rapid advance of the expeditionary columns under General Pershing has forced the railroad question to an issue.

Americans familiar with the country where the columns are now, assert it is imperative for the railroads to be placed at the army's disposal for the bringing up of supplies. Dr. I. J. Bush, formerly chief surgeon of Madero's army, asserted today that speedy transportation facilities were essential to further progress by the American army.

Force are reported to be at Galeana, said Dr. Bush. "Twenty miles south of here there is El Valle and from that point the Sierra Madre north of bringing up supplies is by the railroad. The valley there converges into a narrow gorge in which about two thousand men could be held in a fortification in which Villa probably will remain in an imaginary line between Chihuahua and Minsas, with the Mexican Central railroad on one side and the Sierra Madre mountains on the other. Villa's soldiers have the advantage over the Americans in that they will travel light days and night and their provisions and are seasoned men."

Villa Spreading Yarns. Dr. Bush said that he had no doubt Villa was spreading stories of his wonderful victories over the American army. He declared that Carranza had gone over to the United States. It would be easy, he said, for Villa to make the ignorant people believe the wildest stories.

Another serious situation has been caused by the demand of General Calles, minor governor of Sonora, that La Colorado Mining company of New York re-open its mine at Hermosillo immediately. He has wired the company that if the mine is not reopened immediately he will make it over and run it. The property is said to be a very rich gold mine, and formerly employed 1,000 Mexicans, according to General Calles. He declared that he had no intention of confiscating the mine, but that as Mexicans are suffering through being thrown out of employment, he intended to put them back to work.

SEVERAL FIGHTS AROUND TORREON

Torreón, Mex., March 20.—Fighting took place between Carranza forces and small bands of Villistas at five different points in the neighborhood of Torreón Saturday, apparently with a view to reaching the Monterey train which was derailed near Pomona two days ago and which was captured against Vilella, Matamoros, Coyota, San Ignacio and Canon Chorrillos, where the government patrols steadily held their ground, but with a small loss in killed and wounded.

The train reached here today reporting that four Mexicans had been killed in the wreck, which was due to bad conditions of the road bed.

The Americans here who number about a hundred men, women and children, including those in Durango are undecided about leaving the frontier as the train journeys are very slow, apart from risks of derailment.

It is the belief here that there is absolutely no business here at present for Americans and it might be better for them to go at least to Monterey.

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