

CANNON ROAR ON WEST FRONT

But No Attempt Has Been Made to Follow Up with Infantry Attack

OFFICIAL REPORTS RECORD LITTLE

British Repulse Asserted by Constantinople—Bulgarians Have Reverse

There is a decided lull at present along the various war fronts. Heavy artillery play continues along the line in France and Belgium but neither there nor in any other important theatre of operations have there been infantry movements resulting in exchanges of territory worth noting, so far as the official reports reveal.

In Mesopotamia the British relief army under General Aylmer, which has been halted for some time a short distance down the Tigris from Kut-el-Amara, where General Townshend's force is reported to be beleaguered, does not appear to have been able as yet to make further progress. Constantinople declares the British attempting to advance from Feclie were repulsed by Turkish counterattacks and compelled to fall back to their former positions.

RUMANIA TO PLEDGE MORE "WAR" CREDIT

Bill Introduced in Legislature Would Add 8,000,000 Pounds to Amount Already Appropriated.

Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 5.—A Bucharest dispatch says: "At yesterday's sitting of the Rumanian chamber, the minister of finance introduced a bill authorizing a supplementary military credit of 8,000,000 pounds. The total war credits thus far amount to 24,000,000 pounds."

GERMANS REPULSED TWO ATTACKS

One Attempted by French South of Somme and the Other by British South of Labasse Canal.

Berlin, via wireless, Feb. 5.—The breakdown of a French hand grenade attack south of Somme and the repulse of a British attempt to advance south of Labasse canal are announced by the German army headquarters to-day. A continuation of heavy artillery fire by the French in the Champagne and Argonne is also reported.

CONDEMNNS REPRISALS.

Viscount Bryce Says Britons Stand for Humanity.

London, Feb. 5.—Viscount Bryce, former ambassador to the United States, speaking at Bedford college, London, last night, condemned the policy of reprisals against Germany, which since the last Zeppelin raid has gained many advocates. "We stand in this war for justice and right," Viscount Bryce said, "we stand for humanity and from that position we must not depart. I don't myself believe for a moment that we shall gain anything by departing from it. "If it came to cruelty against cruelty, the enemy would always win. I see no reason to think that any recourse to inhuman practices that are shocking the philosophy and morals, which the enemy has adopted, would have the slightest effect on him or promote in any way our military success. We would not gain, and we should certainly lose, because there is nothing that has won us more approval and sympathy of all that is best in the neutral nations than that we have championed the cause of justice and humanity. That is what has nerve our arm and has created a unity never paralleled in any previous crisis of our history."

ZEPPELIN HASN'T RETURNED.

Germany Issues Official Communication on L-19.

Berlin, via London, Feb. 5.—An official communication issued yesterday admits that Zeppelin L-19 has not returned from a reconnoitering flight and that inquiries concerning the airship have been without result.

London, Feb. 5.—No trace has been found of the Zeppelin wrecked in the North sea. British naval vessels have made a thorough search and have returned to port with the report that they had seen nothing of the dirigible.

George Denney, mate of the trawler King Stephen, which sighted the Zeppelin yesterday, stated that he believed there was no chance of the airship being saved. Denney said that all the men on the Zeppelin were life lines, which were fastened above the hatchway.

THREE DROWN AS BARGE IS SUNK

Coal Ship, Portsmouth Bound, Collides with the Steamer Howard.

Vineyard Haven, Mass., Feb. 5.—Three men were drowned yesterday when barge No. 12 of the Consolidation Coal company, in tow of the steamer Charles F. Mayer, was sunk off Point Judith in a collision with the steamer Howard, bound from Norfolk to Providence. Capt. Seaman of the barge and two of his crew, who were probably asleep at the time, were lost, while the Howard rescued two others and took them to Providence.

The Mayer was coming up the coast from Sewall's Point for Portsmouth, N. H., with two barges. She had swung in past Block Island and was heading across to Gay Head, shortly before daylight, when the Howard, also from the southward, attempted to cross her stern. The No. 12 was the first of the two barges and the Howard struck her on the starboard side just about midships. The barge was heavily loaded with coal and sank in a very few minutes.

HAS NINE SEA RAIDERS.

Germany is Said to Be Fairly Well Supplied.

New York, Feb. 5.—Nine sea raiders of the type of the Moewe have been fitted out by the Germans and one of them which escaped from Kiel on New Year's day with the Moewe has since been preying on British commerce with as much success as the Appam's captor, according to a story told here last night by Mrs. Francis Fuller, wife of the British governor general of Asbanti. Mrs. Fuller was one of the 97 passengers of the Appam who arrived here from Norfolk, Va., on board the Old Dominion steamer Jefferson. Forty officers and 93 members of the crews of the British vessels captured by the Moewe and later taken in charge by the German prize crew which brought the Appam to American waters also were on the Jefferson. They were transferred to a tug and taken to the Seaman's institute, where they will be cared for until arrangements can be made to send them back to England.

Mrs. Fuller declared one of the German officers who came aboard the Appam was authorized by the president of the German navy to state that the Appam was captured by the Moewe and the other which escaped the British patrol passed almost within stone's throw of three British cruisers within a few hours after they left the Kiel canal.

PHILIPPINE BILL PASSES SENATE.

Vote was 52 to 24, Several Republicans Being for the Measure.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 5.—The Philippine bill, which would extend to the islands a greater degree of self-government and would authorize the president to grant them absolute independence within 10 years, passed the Senate last night, 52 to 24. Various Democratic senators, led by Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee, tried unsuccessfully to obtain amendment of certain features of the independence clause, but in the end the Democrats, joined by six Progressive Republicans, voted solidly for the measure.

It is understood the bill will go to the House with the backing of President Wilson, and there will be prospect for early passage. There has been little indication of what action the House will take, but administration leaders last night seemed confident that the bill, including the independence feature, which Democratic senators declare squares it with the Baltimore platform, would have the approval of the House Democratic majority. The Republican senators who voted for the bill were Borah, Clapp, Koyon, La Follette, Norris and Works. By overwhelming majorities, the Senate had refused to modify the Clarke amendment, adopted several days ago, which contains the independence provision and also gives the president authority to extend or withhold independence at the end of four years, if he should find conditions in the islands unfavorable. The time would be extended, however, only until an incoming Congress could consider the subject.

Senator Stone declared the bill in reality was not an independent measure at all because of the extension provision and offered an amendment to eliminate it, but his proposal was voted down, 60 to 17. Senator Hitchcock, chairman of the Philippine committee, sought to amend the bill by extending independence within four years on condition that the people and legislature of the Philippines should ratify a constitution. This was rejected, 52 to 25.

"This action is an unjustifiable and unbecoming surrender of American rights," he said. "If these islands become anarchistic and the people get to warring among themselves, you will be blamed for it as you ought to be. If other countries go to war over them, it will date from the day when you abandoned a task which providence placed in your hands and which, by this act you are acknowledging your are unable to master."

ALLOWED \$20 DAMAGES ONLY

Although Woman Valued Property Lost at \$7,000.

New York, Feb. 5.—The appellate division of the supreme court yesterday affirmed a ruling of the lower courts that Ruth de Rochemont is entitled to only \$20 damages from the Boston & Maine railroad company for the loss of a box, the contents of which she valued at \$7,000.

The box was shipped from Portsmouth, N. H., under the classification of "household goods," upon which a value of \$10 a hundred pounds was placed.

STRONY WAS FREED TO-DAY

Suspect in Ottawa Parliament Fire Was Arrested Yesterday

IS OPERA SINGER; HOME IN CHICAGO

Dominion Government Ordered His Release at Windsor

Windsor, Ont., Feb. 5.—Charles Strony, the opera singer arrested last night on suspicion of having been connected with the fire in the Parliament house at Ottawa Thursday night, was released to-day on orders from the dominion government. Strony said he expected to leave for Chicago early this afternoon.

Strony was arrested yesterday afternoon on instructions received from Col. J. S. Sherwood, chief of the Dominion police, being taken from a Canadian Pacific train from Ottawa. Strony characterized the charge as ridiculous. He said he had played a musical engagement before the Duke of Connaught and his staff Thursday afternoon and was on his way to Chicago. According to the message received from Col. Sherwood, Strony left Ottawa two hours after the fire started.

WELL KNOWN IN UNITED STATES.

Charles Strony Formerly Was Conductor With Boston Opera Co.

Chicago, Feb. 5.—Charles Strony, held at Windsor, Ontario, for alleged complicity in the destruction of the Canadian Parliament building at Ottawa, is widely known as a musical director and during the season just closed he was under contract with the Chicago Grand Opera company to conduct a French opera. Previously he was for five years with the Boston Opera company as assistant conductor.

RIGID INVESTIGATION OF OTTAWA FIRE

Suspicion Still Remains That the Destruction of Parliament Building Was Due to a Plot.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 5.—The list of those who lost their lives in the fire which destroyed the Canadian Parliament building has been fixed at seven. Five of the bodies still lie beneath the ruins. They are those of B. B. Law, a member of Parliament, Deputy Clark LaPlante, Dominion Constable Desjardins, Alphonse Desjardins, a plumber and Randolph Fanning, a waiter.

While firemen spent yesterday in pouring tons of water on the smouldering debris, government officials were making plans to erect a new and more imposing structure on the site of the building wrecked by Thursday night's fire. Meantime Parliament will sit in the auditorium of the Royal Victoria museum until the new customs house can be made ready for occupancy.

Although the police frown on the theory that plot was responsible for the destruction of the building or that the fire was started by a bomb, Fire Chief Graham is quoted as having said that "the fire was set" and that he heard several explosions.

Government officials assert they do not believe the flames were of incendiary origin, but they nevertheless are conducting a rigid investigation in an effort to determine whether there is any basis for such a suspicion. Coroner Craig of Ottawa will hold an inquest on February 17 into the deaths of Mesdames Bray and Morin, whose bodies are the only ones thus far recovered. The remains of both were taken last night to Quebec.

A cordon of troops has stood guard all day around the ruins of the building and held back the thousands who visited the scene. None was permitted to enter any part of those sections of the building which remain standing.

GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

Will Be Appointed to Investigate Parliament Fire.

Ottawa, Feb. 5.—Sir Robert Borden, premier, announced to-day that the government proposes to appoint a commission to investigate the disaster which destroyed the Parliament buildings. He has asked Opposition Leader Sir Wilfrid Laurier to name one of three commissioners. They will be armed with far-reaching authority and will have the dominion secret service at their disposal. The investigation will begin at once.

GUARD WASHINGTON.

Capitol Building More Thoroughly Protected Now.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 5.—Alarmed over the wrecking of the Canadian Parliament building at Ottawa, presumably by bomb-planters, the force of guards at the United States capitol was increased yesterday, to guard against a possible attempt by a crank to wreck the building here.

Supt. Elliott Woods, in charge of the capitol, has issued stringent regulations to every man on his force. Last night the building was searched from basement to dome. Officials who are responsible for the capitol have never fully recovered from the shock they experienced when Frank Holt planted a bomb in one wing of the building last summer. Capitol employes became much alarmed yesterday when the news of the Ottawa disaster became known. They intimated that the effects of a well-placed bomb, exploded during a session of either house of Congress, might result in a terrible death toll.

ACTOR BALLIN DIED AT SEA

The American Citizen Had Been Deported from England

HAD TAKEN PASSAGE ON LINER BALTIC

The Steamer Arrived in New York To-day with Small Passenger List

New York, Feb. 5.—The White Star liner Baltic arrived to-day from Liverpool, with only 25 steerage passengers and 153 first and second cabin passengers. Henry Ballin, the American actor deported from England, died on Jan. 29 and was buried at sea.

MAY ISSUE ORDER ON GRADE CROSSING

Because Railroads and Montpelier Could Not Agree on Division of the Cost.

Following a hearing which lasted nearly the entire day at the State House in Montpelier on the matter of eliminating the Taber grade crossing located between Montpelier and Barre, the public service commission instructed the city of Montpelier and the interested railroads, the Central Vermont and Montpelier & Wells River, to endeavor to agree upon the division of expense. A conference was held between city officials and officials of the railroads without success and the hearing adjourned with the understanding that the commission would make an order in the case.

Among those who were examined yesterday were civil engineers for the railroads, President A. B. Tenney of the Tenney Electric company, Supt. A. A. Stebbins of the Montpelier & Wells River, Harry S. Taber, who resides near the crossing which the city seeks to eliminate by means of an overpass, and Mayor J. M. Boutwell.

DIED AT WILLIAMSTOWN.

S. Martin Seaver, a Respected Citizen of the Town.

Williamstown, Feb. 5.—S. Martin Seaver, an aged and respected citizen of Williamstown, died at his home on Northfield street in this village at 3 o'clock this morning of bronchial pneumonia, following the grippe. He had been sick for a week. Mr. Seaver was a native of Williamstown and spent most of his life in this town, although for a time he resided in Middlesex. His occupation was that of farmer and stock dealer.

He leaves his wife and two daughters, Myrtle B. Seaver, a teacher in Springfield, Mass., who came home when her mother was hurt by a fall, and Mrs. Lester O. Morgan of this village; also two grandchildren; a brother, Wesley M. Seaver, and a nephew, Charles M. Seaver. He was born Dec. 8, 1839, and was therefore 76 years old. His marriage to Miss Eliza Bruce took place in Montpelier Nov. 1, 1866, and had lived until now November the couple would have observed their 50th wedding anniversary. While a resident of Middlesex Mr. Seaver served as road commissioner, an office which he was later to fill in Williamstown, where he was also a selectman for some years.

OFFICERS CHOSEN.

Supt. Walter H. Young Heads the Caledonia County Teachers.

St. Johnsbury, Feb. 5.—The Caledonia County Teachers' association elected the following officers yesterday afternoon: Supt. Walter H. Young of St. Johnsbury, president; Supt. M. E. Daniels, Lyndonville, vice president; Miss Nellie A. Manchester, Middlesex Falls, treasurer; Miss Doris Phillips, Sheffield, treasurer; Supt. Leonard D. Smith, Wells River, Miss N. A. Leonard, Concord, and Principal O. D. Mathewson, Lyndon Center, executive committee.

LEG BROKEN BY FALL.

Joseph Senna of Waterbury Center Hurt While Chopping.

Waterbury, Feb. 5.—While chopping for B. J. Adams on the Watts hill last yesterday afternoon Joseph Senna was struck by a tree and one leg was broken. He was taken at once to the Fanny-Allen hospital in Winoski, accompanied by Mr. Adams. Senna lives at Waterbury Center and has a wife and one child.

INSTANTLY KILLED GIRL.

John H. Pierce Then Shot Himself Fatally on Wedding Day.

Douglas, Mass., Feb. 5.—Miss Lena B. Keyser of Schenectady, N. Y., was shot and killed here yesterday by John H. Pierce of Delanson, N. Y., who afterwards shot himself, according to the police. The couple were about to be married when Miss Keyser's mother appeared and urged her not to go through with the ceremony. Physicians said Pierce probably would die.

Pierce, who had been employed in railroad construction work, returned Thursday from Schenectady, accompanied by Miss Keyser. The young woman's mother arrived later and told her daughter that Pierce had been married before and had not obtained a divorce.

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ELECTION GOSSIP IN BARRE.

Several Names Have Been Mentioned in Connection with Mayoralty.

Election day coming this year on the latest day in March that it can in any year and yet comply with the requirements of section 3,418 of the public statutes, the political pot in Barre has been unusually slow to get a-boiling, albeit there has been a subdued bubbling within the present week, and to-day, it may be said, there are some very tangible rumors percolating through the sub-strata of town talk. Until within a very few days, there have been evidences of apathy in the situation, but signs just now point to the forward movement that is usually started in the weeks immediately preceding election day by those exponents of extreme business, the mentioners.

Attention naturally centers on the mayoralty question, and while several possible candidates have been mentioned, it cannot be said that anyone has so far avowed himself a candidate as to make a statement over his own signature. Perhaps for the reason that he is already, on familiar terms with present city affairs, it is seemly to refer to the name of Alderman O. D. Shurtliff. Mr. Shurtliff has been approached. Close friends and others have almost implored him to make a campaign. His reply is that he is not a candidate in the sense that he has his sleeves rolled up for contest.

Then there is ex-Alderman Harry C. Patterson, who has had the honor of having had his name mentioned in connection with two offices, that of mayor and alderman from the second ward. Mr. Patterson is in a mood that might be described as receptive, although he is deeply engrossed in his business affairs and is not by any manner of means seeking the office. Attorney E. L. Scott has been solicited as a candidate, but refuses to take the solicitations of his friends seriously enough to warrant the faintest hope that he would allow his name to be used. Within the week Attorney J. Ward Carver has been sought out by his friends and his name openly connected with the mayoralty. Despite unusual pressure brought to bear upon him and notwithstanding the fact that many are ready to concede that he would poll exceedingly well, Mr. Carver is quoted as saying that he is not a candidate.

Moreover, he is his own authority for the statement that no combination of circumstances could persuade him to stand as a candidate. For a time the mentioners were occupied with the name of W. J. Clapp, at present overseer of the poor, but it is understood that Mr. Clapp's plans for the immediate future do not include an entry into the mayoralty arena.

To date the mentioners have concerned themselves principally with the names quoted in the foregoing paragraphs. Any summary of political gossip at this time would be incomplete without a reference to the attitude of the present executive, Mayor Langley, it is said, is not anxious to go before the voters for a second term if it is apparent that any considerable section of the electorate is dissatisfied and wishes to displace him. On the other hand, it is probable that he would take a second term if it is the pleasure of the people.

Regardless of the selection made in the citizens' caucus, the nominee must expect opposition from the Socialist party, if from no other quarter. Consistent with the policy adopted several years ago of formally pledging support to party men only, the Socialists expect to go about the business of nominating a complete slate, as in former years. A meeting of the city central committee of the party was called for Thursday night, but owing to the absence of some of the members, the meeting was adjourned until the evening of Friday, Feb. 4. At that time, if the Socialists follow the program they now have in mind, a slate will be prepared and calls will be issued for ward and city caucuses. A lack of interest noted in other circles seems apparent among the Socialists, and for that reason their own political pot has not bubbled forth many names. Someone has put forward F. W. Sutor's name as a "mentioner" in the second ward, and Alcey F. Ritchie has been mentioned as a potential ward candidate in No. 4, although close friends of Mr. Ritchie are quoted as saying that he would not consent to let the party use his name.

In ward 6, the Socialist field is barren of "mentioners" at this time. Robert Gordon, thrice the leader of his party in the city election, has been suggested as a majority candidate for the fourth time, but there are those of his own political faith who express clear doubt as to whether his consent can be obtained. So far as the mentioners are concerned the present aldermen in wards 2, 4 and 6 are given full sway. Ward 2 voters are silent, although it is possible, some say, that Alderman J. A. Healy will be a candidate. Down in ward 4, city politics in its general aspects is under discussion, but the only name to be mentioned is that of Alderman Edwin Keast, who will probably run for a second term. In the sixth ward, Alderman A. E. Bruce is about the only man who has not been ignored by the mentioners. Just now it looks as though he will be a candidate for re-election.

Constable George L. Morris may be expected to stand as a candidate for the tax collectorship, and there is little doubt that George Parks, the second constable, will be tendered a renomination. Apart from occasional little ramblings into the byways of gossip and rumor, the political situation in Barre is in a deep hush, depressingly quiet, it might be said, when compared with conditions that have existed in former years a month before election day.

HAS CONCUSSION.

John Bush of Rutland May Have Fractured of Skull.

Rutland, Feb. 5.—Suffering with concussion and a possible fracture of the skull, John Bush, employed on the Rich lumber job in Manchester, was brought to the Rutland hospital yesterday. He had been conscious only part of the time and much of the time he was delirious.

Young Bush has been at work as fireman of an engine which runs in hauling logs from the top of the mountains to the company's mill, near Manchester, since he was discovered by the engineer lying on the floor. The engine was quickly detached and the man was rushed to the mill where Dr. L. J. Calahan treated him. He was moved on a cot to the railroad station and brought to Rutland. It is thought that he was taken with a dizzy spell or was injured in falling.

SHARP ISSUE ON "ILLEGAL"

United States and Germany at Variance on Its Interpretation

LATEST BERLIN NOTE

It as Presented by Von Bernstorff Last Evening

Washington, D. C., Feb. 5.—The Lusitania case again to-day is in the forefront of international problems, occupying the consideration of the Washington government.

President Wilson and Secretary of State Lansing carefully went over the new proposal presented last night by Ambassador Von Bernstorff. Until they have decided, there will be no change in the virtual deadlock to which the negotiations came weeks ago, and perhaps not then. Apparently the stumbling block of the situation is the word, "illegal," as differently interpreted in this country and Germany.

Only One Obstacle to Argument. Berlin, Feb. 5.—The view is entertained here that one of the most serious crises of the war has arisen in connection with the Lusitania case, and that it is impossible to foresee the outcome from any indications here. The result of the negotiations appears to hinge solely on the one word "illegal."

In the way of an agreement between the United States and Germany stand only these seven letters, expressing the conception which President Wilson and Secretary Lansing insist must be embodied in the German formula expressing regret for the loss of American lives aboard the Cunarder. The Associated Press is informed positively and authoritatively that Germany cannot and will not designate as illegal the sinking of a liner by any submarine.

Virtually no other difficulties in the way of settlement remain, and the new instructions forwarded to Ambassador Von Bernstorff on Tuesday contain merely the new formula by which it is hoped to satisfy Washington without humiliating this country. Although the suggested sentence, according to a reliable version, consists of only eight words and does not contain the word "illegal" or characterize the sinking of the Lusitania as such, it goes otherwise to the furthest extent possible toward meeting American desires.

The state department does not consider the general situation surrounding the Lusitania negotiations, which is still described as confidential and informal, as any more grave than it has been. Administration officials, while carefully refraining from expressing an opinion, pointed out that it could not be termed a deadlock, because negotiations are still under way.

BIG STONE PLANT TO BE ENLARGED

Presbrey-Coykendall Co. Feel the Need of More Room and Will Put on 110-Foot Extension.

The Presbrey-Coykendall company has practically completed plans for the material enlargement of its Willey street stone shed, already one of the largest and best equipped manufacturing plants in the Barre granite belt. For some time the demands made on the space now available have so taxed the concern's facilities that an annex seemed inevitable. Heavy masonry work is handled in big orders by the Presbrey-Coykendall company and in the past few years business of this kind has increased so rapidly that conditions at the plant have been crowded to capacity.

Plans call for an extension of 110 feet, which will conform in material of construction and appearance to the main shed. The annex will mean more adequate facilities for the workmen and plenty of room for new machinery that is to be purchased. An order has been placed for a new traveling crane to augment the derrick apparatus already in use and other devices will be introduced with the completion of the annex. It was announced at the office of the company to-day that work on the annex will be started as soon as the weather is favorable for building operations. Office facilities at the plant, it was stated, are to be enlarged also, as a sizable annex is to be added to the present office.

FUNERAL OF RICHARD GIBSON

Held This Afternoon—Interment in Hope Cemetery.

Funeral services for Richard Gibson, a well known Barre granite cutter, whose death at his home, 17 King street, on Wednesday afternoon followed a 10 days' illness of the grippe and complications, were held at the house this afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. E. F. Newell, pastor of the Redding Methodist church, was the officiating clergyman, and a sizable delegation from Vicinia lodge, Knights of Pythias, to which the deceased belonged, attended the funeral. The Pythian service being used at the house. The bearers were: Walter Griffin and George L. Morris, long time friends of the deceased, the former a brother Pythian, Leonard Timmons, a brother-in-law of Mr. Gibson, R. S. Currier, W. W. Parry and William Black, members of Vicinia lodge. There was a profusion of floral tributes. Interment was made in Hope cemetery beside the remains of Mr. Gibson's brother, who died several years ago.