



GUARANTEE Your Money Back If You Want It.

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U. S. Troops Cross Border; Rout Villa Raiders

FRENCH HOLD FORT VAUX AGAINST FIERCE ATTACKS

Germans Resume Direct Drive on Verdun from Northeast. DEFENDERS GAIN WEST OF MEUSE. Invaders Reach Vaux Village—Driven Out by Bayonet Charge.

London, March 9.—The main fury of battle on the west front, after centering for some days west of the Meuse, has again shifted to the Douaumont region east of the Meuse. The fierce frontal attack on Verdun has been resumed.

Berlin claims the capture of "the village and armored fort of Vaux," four miles northeast of Verdun, but the French official statement issued to-night says: "To the east of the Meuse the Germans directed several attacks against our front from Douaumont as far as Vaux. At the outskirts of the village of Douaumont an attack was broken by our infantry and artillery fire. Furious assaults against the village of Vaux likewise were repulsed with heavy losses for the enemy."

Men in Solid Formation. "Finally, the Germans launched against our trenches bordering the foot of the slopes of the ridge dominating Fort Vaux violent attacks in solid formations, which were driven back, the Germans suffering enormous losses from our curtain of fire.

"To the west of the Meuse" our troops continued to make progress during the course of the day in the Bois des Corbeaux, almost the whole of which we hold. "The artillery activity to the west and east of the Meuse has been very violent on both sides.

"Night Attack on Vaux. After telling of the consolidation of a large stretch of territory in front of the Bois des Corbeaux the French day statement describes night fighting of great bitterness on the line from Douaumont to Vaux. "Some detachments of German infantry who had penetrated the village of Vaux were driven out immediately at the point of the bayonet by a counter-attack," says the French statement.

BODY OF BRIDE EXHUMED; DIED IN OPERATION

N. J. Grand Jury Takes Up Dentist's Wife's Sudden Death. ILLNESS HIDDEN; TREATED IN HOME. Husband, Denying He Gave Ether, and Surgeon Silent.

Gossip that originally caused the secret opening of the grave of Mrs. Emma Wolf Truesdell, bride of a Montclair dentist, took a far more serious turn yesterday when the young woman's death became the subject of a grand jury investigation at Newark. The Essex County Grand Jury has examined four witnesses without succeeding in removing the mystery surrounding the sudden death of Mrs. Truesdell and will continue its search for facts to-day.

Mrs. Truesdell died on an operating table in her own home February 15. Why the operation was performed and what it was to relieve neither the husband nor the physician will say. Investigators have been informed that Dr. Truesdell stood at the head of his wife and administered the anesthetic while Dr. John H. Young, an acquaintance, performed the operation. Dr. Truesdell emphatically denies this, as does Dr. Young. Dr. Young admitted, however, that he performed the "partial autopsy" that preceded the burial of Mrs. Truesdell. It was performed, he said, in the presence of Dr. M. Herbert Simmons, deputy county physician.

Officials Hear Gossip. Dr. Simmons placed the facts before county physician William H. McKennie, whose suspicions were aroused to such an extent that he consulted the county prosecutor. Dr. McKennie said he had been informed that the vital organs had been punctured in the course of the operation—whatever it may have been. This was further involved in mystery by Dr. Simmons' statement that there was nothing to indicate that Mrs. Truesdell had expected to become a mother, thus disposing of one reason that might have been offered for the operation.

Physicians Saw Punctures. Two of the witnesses heard yesterday verified the statements of the physicians already heard. Dr. Walter S. Washington and Dr. William H. Hicks, who are said to have made a detailed examination of the organs removed from Mrs. Truesdell's body, were reported to have told the grand jury that they had found the punctures spoken of by several others.

"The whole thing looks like a political frame-up on Dr. Young and me," Dr. Truesdell said yesterday. "How would such a frame-up involve you?" was asked. "That may come out later," he replied. "I can only say now that my wife's death was as unavoidable as it was lamented."

16 AMERICANS SLAIN BY BANDITS IN ATTACK ON COLUMBUS, N. M.

U. S. COMMANDER AT BORDER. 1,500 Mexicans Surprise Town, Kill 9 Civilians and 7 Soldiers, Burn and Pillage. 259 MARAUDERS ARE SLAIN; 75 DIE IN FIGHT IN MEXICO. Outlaw Snipers Pick Off Inhabitants—Woman Shot in Hotel Doorway—Two Men Perish in Fire.



General Frederick Funston, who has been urging the War Department for months for authority to cross into Mexico to punish bandits.

Columbus, N. M., March 9.—Francisco Villa, outlawed Mexican bandit, raided United States territory to-day. With 1,500 men he attacked Columbus, killed at least sixteen Americans and fired many buildings before he was driven back across the international border.

At least 250 troopers of the 13th United States Cavalry followed the Villa band into Mexico. Reports to Colonel H. J. Slocum, commanding United States troops at this point, late to-day, stated that Villa had made a stand fifteen miles south of the border, where spirited fighting ensued.

In this engagement an unnamed private was killed and Captain George Williams, adjutant of the 13th Cavalry, was wounded. Americans Disperse Bandits. The small detachment of troopers, under Major Frank Tompkins, fighting dismounted, made a determined stand against the renewed Villa attack, returning late to-day to Columbus after dispersing the bandits.

The raid on American territory proved costly to the bandit chieftain. One hundred and forty-one Mexicans paid the penalty. In addition, American troops pursuing Villa left a trail of forty-three dead Mexicans along the American side of the border and sent seventy-five Mexicans to a last accounting on the Mexican side, a total of 250 slain.

These are revised figures of the Mexicans slain during the battle. In addition many Mexicans were wounded; how many no one on this side knows. Villa escaped the American pursuit and is believed to be heading for the American colony country near Casas Grandes, where there are 500 Americans he hopes to kill.

Seven Soldiers Killed. The casualties of the 13th Cavalry in the fighting at Columbus were seven killed and six wounded. The American killed on the Mexican side was one corporal slain when Villa threw out a heavy gauge to engage the pursuing American troopers.

Of the eight American civilians slain here, Charles Dewitt Miller, of Albuquerque, N. M., and Dr. H. J. Hart, of El Paso, were burned to death in the fire that destroyed the Commercial Hotel. The body of Walton Walker, a Sunday school convention delegate from Playas, N. M., who was shot to death with W. T. Richie, proprietor of the hotel, also was interred.

Snipers Pick Off Citizens. The Mexicans set the hotel on fire, together with a number of other buildings, and posted snipers to pick off Americans as they fled. Mrs. M. James was shot and killed in the doorway of another hotel, from which she was running with her sister, Mrs. James fell, dying, over the body of C. C. Miller, who had been driven from his drug store, across the street. Her sister, a child not yet in her teens, escaped the fusillade without a scratch. Mrs. James' husband was wounded.

Lured to His Doom. Citizens armed themselves, and from vantage points within their homes answered the shots of the Mexicans. Some of the bandits sought to entice Americans out into the streets by speaking English. J. S. Dean was caught in this way. A Mexican, who spoke excellent English, called to him. Dean emerged from a doorway and his reply in English betrayed him to be an American and brought his death.

ASKS CONGRESS TO AID MARJORIE

Bennet Offers Resolution Requiring Daniels to Accept Warship Fund. (From The Tribune Bureau.) Washington, March 9.—Marjorie's Battleship Fund made its appearance in Congress to-day, when Representative William S. Bennet, of New York City, presented a resolution in the House instructing the Secretary of the Navy to accept the funds subscribed for the building of a battleship for naval construction purposes. Under the rules the resolution went to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The resolution, entitled "Directing the Secretary of the Navy to accept the Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund," reads as follows: Whereas, in consequence of a letter written by Marjorie Sterrett, a child of thirteen years, a fund of several thousand dollars has been donated by nearly 20,000 contributors, mainly children, to encourage the construction of battleships for the defence of the United States;

Resolved (if the Senate concurs), That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he is hereby, directed to accept the Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund and such accumulations as may be added thereto, as an inspiration to patriotism on the part of the youth of the country, designed to assist the government in safeguarding the national peace; said fund so accepted by the Secretary of the Navy to be turned from time to time into the Treasury of the United States as a special fund to be appropriated in accordance with law for naval construction purposes.

"I am always in favor of doing anything to help along a patriotic movement," said Mr. Bennet, in speaking of the measure, "and at a time like this I am sure patriotism should be encouraged, if it ever is.

"Certainly anything that tends to teach the lesson of patriotism to the young is a thing to be encouraged. This little girl's idea is a splendid one. It is a splendid thing to arouse the children to the sense that this is their country as much as the grown-ups."

Furthermore, I believe that any citizen who wishes to give money to the government for a lawful purpose should be allowed to do so, whether it be a multimillionaire desirous of applying his fortune to the reduction of the national debt or a group of children giving their dimes to assist in the protection of the peace of the country. They will rule when their elders pass off the stage. There is something back of the dimes of these children that mere money cannot buy—sentiment, love of country—and that is why I am with Marjorie's plan."

T. R. MAY RUN IF U. S. ATTAINS HEROIC MOOD

Refuses to Squabble for Nomination He Does Not Wish. HIS MESSAGE CHEERS MOOSE. Republican Leaders Ponder While Watching Effect on Hughes Boom.

Some of the old-line Republican leaders who read Colonel Roosevelt's statement yesterday, from Post of Spain, Trinidad, were not in a "heroic mood." The Colonel said it would be a mistake to nominate him as the Republican Presidential candidate unless the country had in its mood "something of the heroic." It was another way of reiterating his stand that he was not seeking the nomination and that he would not allow his name to be used in the primaries of any state in that respect. "I am not the least interested in the political fortunes of myself or any other man," he declared.

The Republican leaders, however, were prone to acknowledge that it was "a strong statement," characteristic of the Roosevelt Americanism. The Old Guard, of course, saw nothing of sacrifice in the Colonel's announcement that he did not "wish the nomination." It only added to their embarrassment, with another little shudder at the still vague outline of the writing on the wall.

Progressive leaders outshored the statement. It put the Colonel one step nearer the Chicago nomination, they said. They pointed out that although he declared himself out of the preliminary running, which he had already done months ago, the ultimate voice and choice of the Republican National Convention would be entirely beyond his control. They felt the call would come and that he would respond.

See Reference to Hughes. Some of the politicians read into the Colonel's statement a reference to Justice Hughes, when he said that the candidate should be a man "who will not merely stand for such a programme before election, but will resolutely and in good faith put it through if elected." They contended that it was either an attempt on Colonel Roosevelt's part to eliminate Justice Hughes or to draw him out on the issues of "Americanism" prior to the convention. A state Republican leader who will go to the convention as a delegate-at-large with a personal preference for Justice Hughes declared that no one who really favored Hughes would attempt to draw him out at this time, in view of the justice's determined attitude in the matter. Such a course would only hurt his candidacy, he said.

"Make Torch of Women and Children"—Villa

Mrs. Wright, Captive During March on Columbus, Says Raider Planned Massacre of All Inhabitants and Soldiers.

Columbus, N. Mex., March 9.—Mrs. Maud Hawk Wright, an American woman, who said she was held captive by Villa for nine days and was "liberated" in the midst of to-day's fighting, declared that Villa announced on March 1 his intention to attack Columbus and proceeded north under forced marches to carry out his purpose.

His men, with scant supplies of water and meat, suffered severely, she said, and many dropped from their horses on the march to Boca Grande, Villa, she declared, ruled them by fear, and his officers with the flats of their swords beat the soldiers into submission sufficient to reach that point, where they rested and prepared for the raid.

Tuesday, Mrs. Wright related, Villa bandits attacked employees of the Palomas Cattle Company, engaged in rounding up cattle, killing four Americans.

Mrs. Wright said her husband, Edward John Wright, formerly of Houston, Tex., and Frank Hayden, a youth employed at the La Rooker sawmill, were taken from the Wright ranch March 1 and presumably killed. When she was taken prisoner and forced to ride away with a detachment of Villa's men under Colonel Nicholas Servantes, she said, a bandit ordered her to give her baby to a Mexican family.

VILLA BAND MENACES TROOPS AT HACHITA

Columbus, N. M., March 9.—A report reached here to-night and was relayed to military headquarters at Hachita, N. M., that a Villa force had appeared on the American side of the border west of here with the apparent intention of attacking the 7th United States Cavalry Border Guard near that place.

CAPITAL BACKS PURSUIT OF VILLA

Official Opinion Behind Slocum's Action in Crossing Border.

Washington, March 9.—Washington stands squarely behind Colonel Slocum in sending his cavalrymen into Mexico in pursuit of Francisco Villa and his band of outlaws, who raided Columbus, N. M., to-day, murdering American soldiers and citizens and firing the town.

Secretary Lansing to-night informed the de facto government of Mexico, through Eliseo Arredondo, its ambassador designate here, that he trusted no objection would be made to the action of the American troops, they having followed what is known in military circles as a "hot trail." No orders have been issued for the return of the soldiers and it is not probable any will be issued for the present.

Shocked indignation occasioned by news of Villa's outrage was quickly succeeded by undisguised satisfaction in official and Congressional circles over the knowledge that after three years of patient forbearance United States troops actually were on Mexican soil to avenge the death of their comrades and to bring to justice the outlaws whose acts have terrorized Americans on both sides of the border.

Anxiety for Invading Forces. Reports that the American troops were in action to-night probably fifteen miles south of the border, against a much larger force of bandits, were heard with anxious interest in official circles. Five troops of cavalry crossed the border early in the day. At a late hour to-night it was not known officially just where they were or just what account they had given of themselves.

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In Case of War How would the Hyphenates line up if war with Germany came to-day? Pertinent questions on this point were put to prominent German-American editors. You will find their answers interesting—and various. You will find them in The Tribune next Sunday. And you will find The Sunday Tribune outside your door the first thing in the morning if you tell your dealer to deliver your copy. The Sunday Tribune First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations