

The Evening Herald

THAT resounding thump is the noise of the decorator's hammer—the only sort permitted in town

U. N. M. debaters will hold the boards Saturday night; go and hear them.

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THE EVENING HERALD. VOL. 26, NO. 58.

SENATE DEBATE ON ARMED SHIP QUESTION THE MOST SENSATIONAL OF THE SESSION

Senator Gore Springs Surprise With Announcement That the President Is Reported to Have Made Utterance Welcoming War With Germany as "Not Ungrateful" and Possible Benefit to Civilization by "Ending War This Summer." White House Issues Denial.

CHAIRMAN STONE OF FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE DEFENDS NATIONAL MAGISTRATE

Sharp Discussion Follows Pronouncement of Oklahoma Democrat, Calling Forth Formal Statement From Fellow-senator; Executive Continues Demand for Vote Upon Resolution to Warn Americans Off Vessels Mounting Ordinance, but None Is Taken Today.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Washington, March 2.—The following statement was issued late today at the White House: "The attention of the White House was called to certain statements in Senator Gore's speech this afternoon, the president authorized an unqualified denial of any utterance to which any such meaning could be attached."

Washington, March 2.—The armed ship question today in the senate with the most sensational debate of the new session in which Senator Gore, Democrat, the author of a resolution to warn Americans off merchant vessels, repeated what he characterized as a report that President Wilson had told certain congressmen that there was between the United States and Germany "bright and beautiful" and might result in advancing civilization by bringing about the end of the European war by this summer.

Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee emphatically declared that the president had ever expressed such sentiment in his hearing and Senator James, another administration leader, demanded to know why Senator Gore had not sought to confirm the report from the president himself.

Senator Gore responded that he had found the report was true, but he had repeated it only as a report surrounded by circumstances which gave it credence in his opinion, but that he was glad to hear it denied.

The storm broke in the senate unexpectedly when Senator Stone, announcing that he was not in accord with the president's demand for a debate of the armed ship resolutions, proposed a motion to let the floor resolution come to a vote and Senator James announced that the administration forces had the votes to defeat it.

Senator Williams of Mississippi spoke vigorously in support of the president as did Senator Lodge, the ranking Republican of the foreign relations committee. The debate ended without action and the senate passed to other business with the prospect of taking up the floor resolution at an early hour tomorrow.

Meanwhile the situation in the house was unchanged with the administration leaders apparently making no headway toward a vote there. To outline the position fully to the Republicans in congress, President Wilson will confer at 5 o'clock this afternoon with Republican Leader Mann.

Senator Gore, in his speech declared at the proper time he would not squander before the senate the question whether the sinking of an armed merchant vessel was a justifiable cause for war.

"I introduced my resolution because I was apprehensive we were heading toward war," he said. "My act was based on a report which seemed to me to come from the highest authority that certain senators and members of the house in a conference with the president, received from him the information that the declaration that if Germany insisted on her position, the United States would insist upon hers, and that this would result probably in a breach of diplomatic relations and a breach of diplomatic relations would probably be followed by a state of war and that a state of war might not be an evil, might not be ungrateful, might end the war by mid-summer, and thus might render a great service to civilization. I cannot certify to the truth of the report. I tell the tale as it was told to me. There were such external and internal marks of truth that I feared that it might be the truth."

If the senator from Missouri, the chairman of the foreign relations committee, will deny it, that will satisfy me. If the senator from Indiana says it is not true, I will accept that. "I do not recall why the senator quoted me," replied Senator Stone. "I did not quote the senator," replied Senator Gore.

Well, in fairness to the president, said Senator Stone, "I think I should state that the president never stated to me nor stated in any hearing that he believed in or entertained the thought that war between the United States and the central powers would be desirable or would result in any good, or would not be ungrateful."

"It is well known that the president has a passion for peace," interjected Senator Kern in a tone that indicated that denial of Senator Gore's charge.

"I have no passion for peace," Senator Gore retorted. "I do not believe that all peace is honorable, but that all war is dishonorable, but I repeat that what I heard of the report, and the senator from Missouri, and the senator from Missouri, was believed to be founded on fact because of the source from which it came to me. I was convinced that there must be some basis for the report that the president suggested to the senator from Missouri that the United States might bring the war to a close in the middle of the summer."

Senator Stone tapped to his feet a second time.

"The president of the United States made no such statement as quoted by the senator from Oklahoma," Senator Stone declared emphatically. "Whatever the president did say is something that I do not care to repeat. Whenever I go to the White House for a conference with the president, what the president says is what I repeat. I have only undertaken to tell of the report as it came to me."

"Whatever may have been the conversation between the president and Senator Stone, I hope the impression received by me and others was a mistaken one."

"Whenever the vital interests of the United States or the essential rights of American citizens are violated or outraged I will go as far as anyone to warn the president with every available power to wage war, whether it be with diplomacy or any other under the arm. I have no choice of evils."

Senator Gore took his seat and for a moment there was a lull in the debate.

The vice president called upon Senator Shields to continue with the winter power bill under discussion and the international debate was closed for the day.

The president was away from the White House when accounts of Senator Gore's speech reached there. Efforts were made immediately, however, to advise him of the developments.

A statement from the White House denying the account of President Wilson's statements given by Senator Gore to the senate today probably will be issued tonight.

Administration forces, faced with delay in the house, turned today to the senate to carry out President Wilson's demand for the defeat of resolutions warning Americans off armed ships of European belligerents.

Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee, announcing openly from the floor that he was not in accord with the president on the issue, proposed, however, that the senate take an adjournment instead of another recess and thereby get into a new legislative day, relieving the parliamentary situation which thus far has held Senator Gore's resolution from coming to a vote. His action was taken after a conference of administration leaders who were satisfied they had the votes to defeat the floor resolution and demonstrate to Germany that dissensions against the

HOUSE COMMITTEE AGREES ON ARMY OF 700,000 MEN

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Washington, March 2.—Final agreement today was reached by the house military committee to report unanimously next week a measure authorizing the formation of an army composed of regulars, national guardsmen and federal volunteers, with a total peacetime strength of approximately 700,000.

president's foreign policy did not have the support of congress.

"It has been decided to bring the resolution up for action as soon as possible but probably not today," said Senator James of Kentucky, one of the administration supporters. "We have got the votes in the senate to smash it." Senator Stone at the outset of his proposal made a statement of the international situation as he understood it.

He declared it was his hope that something could be done at once to bring the president and congress more closely in accord on the issue and that he was framing a substitute for pending resolutions on the subject.

Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, ranking Republican member of the foreign relations committee, declared he was in accord with Senator Stone's desire for prompt action, and he agreed that the issue was more important than anything else now before congress.

Senator Stone's statement follows: "A sharp issue has been defined between Germany and Great Britain as to the status of armed merchantmen. Germany contends that armed merchant vessels are the equivalent of auxiliary war vessels.

"On the other hand Great Britain contends that under international law merchantmen have the right to be armed for defensive purposes and has announced her intention to carry out that policy.

"Whether does the United States come in in that case? If we persist in these courses, neither yielding to each other nor to the opportunities of neutral nations, and if Germany attacks an armed merchantman and any American citizen is injured, the question is presented to this government what our attitude would be."

"To my mind this emergency is of high importance.

"He supports the contention that belligerent merchantmen have the right to bear arms for defensive purposes, but he does not say, nor do I, what constitutes defensive purposes."

Furthermore, if a German warship without warning should attack and sink a merchantman, the president proposed to consider the attack a lawless act. He will be disposed to hold the German government to strict accountability and if the German government persisted he would be tempted to sever diplomatic relations and submit the matter to congress, which, under the constitution, is the war-making body.

"If it must come to this, and I must disagree with the president and if I must disagree with my colleagues, I must not face this as a political question. My duty is clear."

"I cannot discuss the question now but will merely state that in duty to myself, to my constituents and to my country I will discuss it here at length in the near future. The president is opposed to any form of official warning keeping people off belligerent ships."

"If I could have my way, I would take immediate steps to save this country from becoming embroiled in the European war through the recklessness of some thoughtless citizen."

The president has written Representative Peck that the resolution has been a source of embarrassment to him in the diplomatic negotiations with the belligerents. I am sure that is so. I have diligently sought to prevent resolutions on this subject being adopted. Now we are informed that the resolution must be defeated."

Senator Lodge replied that the president had a right to ask for a vote on the precise proposition of warning Americans inasmuch as the issue had hampered his negotiations, so that he could know whether he could proceed with diplomatic negotiations with congress behind him.

Senator John Sharp Williams, Democrat, staunchly defended the president.

"The time has come for you and me," said Senator Williams, "to act on an issue that is before us, not because of any action of the president, but because of what he has been compelled to confront because of constant nagging, constant querying and constant expressions of opinion in favor of the negotiations of a foreign power as against our own."

"There are times in the history of all peoples, all administrations, all parties, when men come to the parting of the ways, when each must stand as best he may for that which he thinks to be brave, just and patriotic. That time, I think, has come for you and me concerning the proposition that now faces us."

Las Vegas Woman Dies Suddenly. East Las Vegas, N. M., March 2.—Mrs. H. M. Northrup died here yesterday after an illness of only three days. She was 49 years of age. Mrs. Northrup leaves a husband and three small children.

Tree Planting Begins in Las Cruces. Las Cruces, N. M., March 2.—Six carloads of fruit and ornamental trees have been received here for farmers and a campaign of tree planting is being prosecuted vigorously.

Indictments for Bribery Result of Alaska Land Fraud Hearings

Accusations Filed Against A. G. Frost, C. W. Bourke and Bert Wing, an Attorney, With One Other Man.

1913 ACQUITTAL HAS SPRIGHTLY AFTERMATH

Defendant in Earlier Litigation Derounces Charge as Silly, Cowardly, and Reflection on Jury.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Chicago, March 2.—Indictments charging bribery, acceptance of a bribe and conspiracy to commit bribery have been voted by the federal grand jury against A. G. Frost, defendant in the Alaska land fraud case three years ago. C. W. Bourke, one of the jury which acquitted Frost and his four co-defendants, and Attorney Bert Wing, said to have been an "outside" not connected with the defense in the land fraud case.

Frost and his four co-defendants in the \$10,000,000 Alaska land fraud case—George M. Seward, Pierre G. Beach, George A. Hall of Memphis, Ind., and Frank Watson of Spokane, Wash., were acquitted April 4, 1913. The case was tried before Judge Landis and when the jury announced its verdict, he was quoted as saying:

"I think it is for me to say that counsel for the defense are to be congratulated on having achieved a most extraordinary victory. Court is adjourned."

Judge Landis immediately ordered an investigation which led to the arrest of Bourke and the return from the investigators that Assistant U. S. Attorney, an alleged go-between, had made a confession naming Bourke as the man who had accepted a \$5,000 bribe from him.

Mr. Frost this afternoon issued the following statement:

"The charge that I employed anyone to bribe the jury in the Alaska coal case is preposterous. In the first place there was never a moment that I was not absolutely certain of acquittal. Had I done in any other country what I did in the development of Alaska I would have received honorable recognition."

"The grand jury system as practiced is a most cowardly method of attack. The indictment is not only a reflection on me personally but also on the men who served on the jury."

COPPER COMPANIES DECLARE DIVIDENDS OF INCREASED SIZE

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) New York, March 2.—Larger dividends were declared today by several of the leading copper producing companies. Utah Copper declared an extra dividend of \$1, in addition to its regular quarterly dividend of \$1.50. Chino Copper directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$1.25, an increase of 25 cents over the previous quarter.

TWO MISSING AND MANY INJURED IN HUGE SNOWSLIDE

Avalanche Strikes Denver and Rio Grande Train in Black Canyon, With Serious Results for Several.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Denver, March 2.—Two persons missing, a number of passengers slightly hurt and three cars derailed were the known results early today of the snowslide that late yesterday struck westbound Denver & Rio Grande narrow gauge train No. 215 five miles west of Soper, Colo. The accident occurred in the Black canyon

THE DAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE. Debated proposals to warn Americans from taking passage on armed merchantmen. Brandeis investigation continued.

HOUSE. Foreign affairs committee called to meet to consider McLennan resolution to warn Americans off armed ships. Naval committee continued national defense hearing.

STATE DEPARTMENT SAYS BERLIN HAS ERRONEOUS BELIEF

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Washington, March 2.—The state department today received advice that reports are being circulated in Berlin as coming from Washington that congress stands five to one against the president in the present crisis. Officials made their information known to show the extent to which they believe Berlin is being misinformed.

where at places the water of the Gannon river washes the road bed.

The missing C. H. Matthews, express messenger, Earl Levy of Pueblo, Colo., was reported to have been killed in a blizzard which also interfered with the search for the missing and efforts to clear the track. Reports to railroad headquarters here stated that 15 inches of new snow had fallen up to 1 p. m.

WIRELESS TELLS OF CAPTURE OF GERMAN RAIDER

Commerce Destroyer Moewe Said to Have Been Taken by British Cruisers Off the Coast of Brazil.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Buenos Aires, March 2.—Press dispatches from Montevideo say a steamer arriving from Europe intercepted near the coast of Brazil a wireless message stating that British cruisers had captured the German auxiliary cruiser Moewe. The Moewe, it is said, was taken to the island of Trinidad by her captors.

McLennan Again On Stand in the Brandeis Probe

Law Partner of Bostonian Occupies Entire Day With Testimony Before Senate Judiciary Committee.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Washington, March 2.—Edward F. McLennan, law partner of Louis D. Brandeis, today continued his explanation of the various incidents for which Mr. Brandeis has been criticized in connection with the senate subcommittee's investigation of his fitness for the supreme court bench.

"We have an antagonism of the Boston law firm of French, a Boston attorney, said, 'high minded men, able and distinguished. They cannot consider with equanimity the selection of any one from their community for this high tribunal who is not a typical, hereditary Bostonian.'"

Francis Peabody of Milton, Mass., last of the "character witnesses" for those opposed to Mr. Brandeis, testified that he had talked with more than fifty members of the Suffolk bar and only one gave him the impression that Mr. Brandeis was trustworthy and honorable.

"How far is the esteem in which Mr. Brandeis is held due to his being a Jew?" asked Senator Fletcher.

"I did not know until the last few years that he was a Jew," the witness answered.

When Mr. Baker appeared to present his petition, he was asked as to Mr. Brandeis' reputation as a lawyer.

"I do not know his reputation in Boston," he said, "but among public service workers he is known not only as the best lawyer but a detached, spiritual, high minded man."

Grass Fire Near Hatter. Hatter, N. M., March 2.—A grass fire in the Sugarite bottoms east of here, caused considerable excitement this week, as the high wind fanned it into a considerable blaze.

Gallup Bonds Likely to Carry. Gallup, N. M., March 2.—From all present indications the proposed issue of \$50,000 in bonds for a municipal water system, to be voted on here next month, is likely to be carried.

Roadhouse Employee Scalded. Hatter, N. M., March 2.—Steam from the blow-off valve of a passing engine not only knocked down Gilbert Hirsch, an employe at the Santa Fe roadhouse here, Monday morning, but scalded him severely.

German Thrust On Verdun Once More Under Way After a Break

Scale of Attack, However, Is Smaller Than at First and Assault Is Not Pressed So Forcefully.

FRENCH MAKE VAIN DRIVE AT DOUAMONT

Ninety Thousand Teutons Concentrated to North of Great Stronghold for Launching at Breastworks.

The German offensive at Verdun has been resumed after a brief halt, but apparently not on the scale or with the force exerted during the early days of the drive.

The offensive was reopened on the plain of the Woëvre, east of Verdun. The Germans made a drive on the French in the French position at some points. Paris, however, declares that they were promptly ejected.

The French themselves took the offensive at Douaumont, ten miles northeast of Verdun. Berlin announced that the attack was fruitless.

West of the Meuse river the Germans are showing signs of renewed activity, violently bombarding French positions between Metzcourt and Forges.

Reports of the capture of a German sea raider, either the auxiliary cruiser Moewe or the cruiser Roon came to hand today from South American sources. The capture is said to have been effected by British cruisers, which took their prize to Trinidad off the Venezuelan coast. It was a crew from the Moewe that brought the British steamer Appam a prize into Newport News.

After a lull in infantry operations in the vicinity of Verdun since the early part of the week there has been a resumption of the German offensive in the Woëvre region. A violent bombardment was followed by a spirited attack on the French at Fresnoy, ten miles southeast of Verdun. Paris reports the driving out of the Germans from the few positions which they succeeded in penetrating.

The new attack gives color to what seems to be the prevailing military opinion in Paris that the German offensive at Verdun had merely halted. It also calls particular attention to the Woëvre region, where the Teutons have advanced along a line south of Fort Douaumont well to the east of the Meuse heights as far as Combray, twelve miles southeast of Verdun.

Dispatches from both Berlin and Paris point to the difficulties of a further advance in this region. The French positions, Paris points out, stretch along the heights from which the ground slopes abruptly to the Woëvre plain, with its moist clay soil, across which the transport of the heaviest of the German artillery on ground away from the high roads is held to be almost impossible, while the attacking troops would have to deploy in the open under the fire of the French guns on the heights.

Berlin commentators, however, advance the view that the Teutons have previously shown that similar disadvantageous conditions could be successfully met.

From Dutch sources come reports that the German drive is to be resumed from the northeast, 90,000 men having been concentrated near Buzen, behind Fort Vaux, which is said to have been destroyed by the German heavy mortars.

Estimates of the German losses in the offensive are running high in recent quarters, one from Paris placing them at between 125,000 and 130,000. All accounts from German sources, however, declared that the casualties of the attacking armies were surprisingly small.

The Russian steamer Alexander, westward of 2,535 tons, is reported sunk, eighteen of her crew having been drowned. The Italian steamer Elisa and three British fishing smacks also are reported sunk.

LITTLE OF IMPORTANCE AS REPORTED BY PARIS. Paris, March 2. (2:11 p. m.)—The war office announcement here this afternoon says that the Verdun fighting amount to between 125,000 and 130,000 and constitute about one-fifth of the German effectives actively employed. The French losses are declared to have been light. They were not made public, however.

FORT VAUX DESTROYED BY FIRE OF MORTARS. London, March 2. (3:10 a. m.)—An Amsterdam dispatch to the Central News says that Fort Vaux, the Verdun stronghold, has been destroyed by heavy mortar shells.

(Continued on Page Two.)

Felix Diaz Not Operating Near Douglas, State His Adherents

Official Denial of Rumored Activity Made by Followers of New Revolutionary Chief in Mexico.

GENERAL ARGUMENTO IS EXECUTED AFTER TRIAL

Leader of Opposition to De Facto Government in Durango Court-martialed and Shot Yesterday.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) El Paso, Tex., March 2.—Official denial today was made by adherents of Felix Diaz in the Douglas district of Sonora was made today by Mexican Consul A. G. Levesque of Douglas, Ariz., in a dispatch to the Mexican consulate here.

Consul Levesque stated that reports of Colonel Diaz having crossed the international boundary with 500 men to start a counter-revolution and arson through the aid of agitators who through some had crossed and gone in the direction of Guaymas, with the expectation of starting up discontent. They were being watched, he said.

General Cordero had ordered the international border closely patrolled. Consul Levesque stated, and has sent officials to investigate the possibility of discontent at Guaymas. As an additional precaution he has augmented the garrisons at Nacozari, Agua Prieta, Fronteras, El Tigre and Cananea and plans to exterminate the reactionaries and prevent them from organizing on the border of Sonora.

The citizens of the towns along the Rio de Guaymas in the Cochahuatla state border have been given arms by the Sonora state government in aid in the extermination of Cochahuatla state bandits.

ZAPATA FORCES DEFEATED AND ARE BEING DISBANDED

El Paso, Tex., March 2.—The Mexican consulate here today received an official dispatch from Mexico City stating that the forces of Zapata were defeated at Uruelca, Puebla state, and are disbanding into small groups. General Arnaldo Gonzalez, it was stated, has been named governor of Puebla state.

"I am disappointed on all sides that Felix Diaz is in Mexico," the dispatch added.

General Benjamin Argumedo was credited along the border with having been the supreme military commander of the factions opposing the de facto government.

Originally a federal officer, he deserted Diaz to join Madero in his revolt in the north. When a Orozco was defeated he became a bandit with the so-called "Red Flaggers" on the northern border.

After the killing of Madero, Argumedo united with General Huerta and on the departure of Huerta from Mexico he turned to banditry. Uniting finally with Zapata in Morelos, he became identified with the Zapata-Villa element of the constitutional convention. After the split between Villa and Carranza he rejoined Zapata and came north from Morelos, attacking all the prominent cities in the country, including Zacatecas and Durango for the raids around Torreon. While a Huerta officer in 1914 Argumedo's defense of Torreon against the overwhelming forces of Villa won him military recognition.

GENERAL BENJAMIN ARGUMENTO EXECUTED

El Paso, Tex., March 2.—General Benjamin Argumedo, leader of the opposition to the de facto government in Durango, was court-martialed at Durango City yesterday at noon, according to a dispatch received today from General Murguía, military commander of Durango state, by the Mexican consulate here.

General Gabriel Gavira, commandant in chief, announced today that a messenger sent by General Reyes, one of the prominent commanders who operated in conjunction with Argumedo, had sent an emissary to Juarez to procure amnesty for himself and his men. With the permission of Carranza the amnesty was granted and the emissary with a safe conduct issued by the Carranza authorities at Juarez, started back to the country south of Torreon, where Reyes is awaiting opportunity to surrender.

ARGUMENTO COURT-MARTIALED WEDNESDAY

Torreon, Cochahuatla, Mexico, March 1.—(delayed)—General Benjamin Argumedo, leader of the opposition to the de facto government in Durango and the Laguna district of Cochahuatla, was court-martialed yesterday at Durango City and ordered executed today at noon, according to a report received today from the American consul at the Durango capital.

It was confirmed today that Grover C. and John E. Vann, the American ranch owners of the Santa Lucia district, are safe. Rumors that these Americans, Houston, Starr and Mueller, were held by bandits for ransom near Villenas are believed un-