

OLD GUARD ASKS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES FOR CAMPAIGN AID Letters From Democratic City Committee Viewed With Suspicion as the Product of Bipartisan Machine.

Federal employes in this city believe that a secret investigation to determine the political affiliation of every person employed in the various Federal departments here is being conducted by agents from Washington.

Letters requesting substantial and prompt contributions to the Democratic campaign fund have been received by nearly all the employes in the Postoffice, the Custom House and the Internal Revenue departments within the last two weeks.

"Despite the force of their declaration," said one of the postoffice employes this afternoon, "we have not forgotten threats made by the 'legally constituted City Committee' when Ryan lost the nomination for Governor."

"The one sentence in the letter of the committee in the 'legally constituted organization of the party in this city' may delude a few of the Federal employes into making contributions to Penrose, but that number will be few."

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FOUR PERSONS KILLED WHEN POWDER EXPLODES

President of Chicago Fireworks Company One of Victims.

CHICAGO, Sept. 30.—Four persons, including H. B. Thearle, president of the company, were killed today when a powder explosion wrecked the plant of the Fireworks Display Company on Washington avenue, near the business center of the city.

PINCHOT FAINTS IN ERIE; BRIDE TAKES HIS PLACE

Too Ill to Leave Room on Account of Ptomaine Poisoning and Wife Represents Him at Meetings.

ERIE, Pa., Sept. 30.—While Clifford Pinchot, Washington party candidate for United States Senator, was suffering with a sharp attack of ptomaine poisoning today, Mrs. Pinchot, after being up all night caring for her husband, carried on the campaign by appearing at an early morning shop meeting, and in 29 Erie and Crawford County towns during the day.

Mr. Pinchot was ill all day yesterday, but concealed the fact during one of the most strenuous days of his campaign. He started yesterday morning in Franklin City, Pa., where he was to appear at a meeting by shaking hands with 300 workmen between 6 and 7 o'clock and then toured parts of three counties, arriving in Erie at 7:30 for a night meeting.

Mr. Pinchot hopes to leave tonight for Philadelphia to attend the meeting tomorrow at which Colonel Theodore Roosevelt will open the campaign in behalf of the Washington party ticket.

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PEACE PARLEY BEGUN; CARRANZA READY TO FIGHT IF NECESSARY

First Chief Sends Word He Will Retire if Convention in Capital Accepts Resignation, But Not Otherwise.

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 30.—The first session of the peace parley between representatives of First Chief Venustiano Carranza and General Francisco Villa is under way in Zacatecas, according to a telegram from that city.

It is the object of the first chief's delegates to maintain the status quo until the real peace convention is held in this city next month.

WILL FIGHT IF HE MUST. Carranza, according to his friends, still maintains the attitude that he should remain at the head of the government until his successor can be chosen by the people or by the convention of Governors and Generals that will convene here possibly in October.

General Carranza's attitude was explained in a message which was placed before General Villa's generals in Zacatecas today. In part it says: "If the chiefs accept my resignation when it is tendered to them at the convention in the capital, I will gladly retire to private life with the consciousness of duty well done."

WANTS PEOPLE TO SPEAK. In speaking of the approaching conference General Carranza said: "We want it to be truly representative of the people, so that it might be said afterward that the result of the convention is truly the voice of the people in Mexico."

There is no news coming to the War Department of operations north of the capital and it is believed that an armistice practically exists pending the result of the parley in Zacatecas.

At a meeting of the National Baseball Commission held at noon today at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel all the details for the world's series of 1914 were arranged.

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"PORK BARREL" FIGHT ENDS \$20,000,000 Compromise Measure Sent to President.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Congress' big fight over rivers and harbors "pork barrel" legislation ended today when the \$20,000,000 lump sum compromise measure of the Senate, as passed later yesterday by the House, reached the White House for signature of the President.

The money will make possible immediate resumption of work upon many projects suspended since July 1.

OCEAN LINER AFIRE AT BROOKLYN PIER; OIL FEEDS FLAMES

Half a Dozen of Crew Overcome Rescuing Shipmates From Hold of the Santa Anna.

NEW YORK, Sept. 30.—Fire caused by spontaneous combustion in the hold of the steamship Santa Anna, of the Faber line, was discovered early today, while the ship was moored to a pier at the foot of 31st street, Brooklyn.

Half a dozen members of the crew were overcome by smoke in fighting the fire, and were rescued by shipmates who risked their lives entering the smoke-filled hold.

The hold in which the flames were first discovered is next to two coal bunkers, which quickly became a vast mine of fuel for the blazing fuel.

Two days out from Naples a mutiny broke out among the vessel's crew, and five of them were placed in irons.

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ST. MIHIEL RETAKEN, RELIEVES PRESSURE ON VERDUN FORTS

Victory on Meuse River, Officially Announced, Leaves Allies Free to Harass Von Kluk's Flank.

PARIS, Sept. 30. French forces have recaptured St. Mihiel, effectively halting the German efforts to pierce the Verdun-Toul forts. The Germans crossed the Meuse last Saturday in the face of terrific artillery fire, placing the Allies' right wing in danger.

Desperate efforts of the French to push the invaders back to the east side of the Meuse failed until today, when the War Office officially announced that St. Mihiel had been recaptured and that French troops were making progress east of the town.

The success in driving the Germans back beyond St. Mihiel, where the Kaiser's troops for a time threatened to cross the Meuse in force and invest Verdun, has been a relief to the Allies.

With the damage to their right wing removed, the Allies are free to hang to the flank of General von Kluk's army.

WIRELESS COMMAND "HEAVE TO" HALTS SHIP

British Vessel's Fears Quietened When Our Warship Appears.

A preemptory command to "heave to" in wireless waves, and not the common "shot across the bow," brought the British steamship Start Point to a stop in the Atlantic Ocean on September 15, until officers of a British cruiser had satisfied themselves as to the legitimacy of vessel and cargo, according to the story told today when the steamship docked at Pier 27, North Wharves.

The Start Point left London on September 14 with a large general cargo. The officers and crew felt assured that warships flying the British flag had cleared the north Atlantic steamship lanes of all hostile warships.

When the British flag was discerned floating from the mast of the approaching cruiser, the tension was broken and nervous fears gave way to hearty British cheers.

Officers of the cruiser boarded the South Point and Captain Pinkham soon convinced them that his vessel, crew and cargo were intensely British, and he was permitted to proceed.

The wedding ceremony was performed at the Church of the Immaculate Conception by the Rev. Father John J. Munnion. A reception followed at the home of the bride's parents, after which the couple left on a wedding trip through the South.

Mullin's meeting with Miss Murphy was dramatic. He was walking along the beach at Atlantic City one August afternoon when he heard a cry for help.

GERMANS REPULSED IN FIERCE ASSAULT TO SAVE VON KLUK

Allies Beat Back Desperate Invaders at Forest of L'Aigle and Press on to Surround Weakening Right Wing, Paris Officially Announces.

PARIS, Sept. 30. Failure of desperate assaults by the Germans to free their right wing from increasing pressure by the Allies is announced by the War Office.

The statement indicates that the invaders, made desperate by the continued success of the foe's enveloping movement along the Aisne and Aisne Rivers, have made violent but futile assaults on the opposing lines.

The attack was especially vigorous at the northeast of the forest of Laigle, where the Germans were repulsed with heavy loss.

This forest is in the promontory formed by the Rivers Aisne and Oise and extends almost to Noyon, on the west bank of the Oise. This promontory was considered the keystone of General von Kluk's defense.

While no official announcement is made that the armies of Von Kluk and Von Boehn are in full retreat, the statement that the Germans' efforts to drive back the Allies is received here as a confirmation of part of earlier reports.

The capture of St. Mihiel relieves the pressure against the French right wing, and reinforcements probably will be rushed to complete the enveloping movement against Von Kluk.

The report that Von Boehn's army, as well as Von Kluk's, is retreating indicates the Allies have fought their way far to the north and now are threatening the German rear.

The full War Office statement, issued this afternoon, follows: On our left wing, at the north of Somme, the conflict continues to develop more toward the North between the Oise and the Aisne.

The enemy has made a vigorous attack on Tracy-le-Mont, at the north-east of Laigle forest. He has been repulsed with heavy loss.

At the center there is a lull in the storm along the entire front, which extends from Rheims to the Meuse. Between the Argonne forest and the Meuse we have made a slight advance.

In the Meuse region violent fighting has taken place. Our troops have advanced at many points, notably to the east of St. Mihiel.

FAIR WEATHER FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity—Fair tonight and probably Thursday; not much change in temperature; moderate west winds. For details, see page 14.

SATURDAY IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER Next Saturday, October 3, is the last registration day for the November election.

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