

MEXICANS KILL FOUR U. S. SOLDIERS AND 7 VILLIANS, THEN APPLY TORCH

VAUX VILLAGE AND FORT CAPTURED IN GERMAN ADVANCE

Berlin Announces That Other Adjoining Positions Are Taken by Crown Prince.

RECAPTURED, PARIS SAYS German Right Swings Into Position For Assault on Goose Hill.

BERLIN, March 9.—Fort de Vaux, defending Verdun from the east, and Vaux village have been captured by the Germans, it is announced this afternoon. Adjoining positions were also taken by the German troops, it is stated.

PARIS, March 9.—Repeated and heavy German attacks against the village of Bethincourt, eight miles northwest of Verdun, throughout last night were repulsed, the French war office reported this afternoon. Two of the heaviest onslaughts were preceded by artillery fire lasting several hours. The German advance was stopped by a French curtain of fire from Goose Hill and Dead Man Hill to the east.

Driven Out By Counter.
German troops entered the village of Vaux, southeast of Verdun, but were completely driven out by a counter-attack, the war office reported. Several strong attacks on the Douaumont-Vaux front were repulsed. The Germans swung forward with their right wing on the Forges-Bethincourt front, west of the Meuse, planning to straighten their front before making a grand assault on the Goose Hill and Dead Man Hill positions.

At the same time they made fruitless attempts, the war office reported, to dislodge the French from the Corbeux woods positions, southeast of Bethincourt, recaptured by the French yesterday. In this region the French are consolidating the reconquered works, it was stated.

Artillery Smothers Trenches Along Meuse

LONDON, March 9.—French trenches were smothered in storms of fire in a renewal of heavy German artillery assaults on the whole crescent-shaped Verdun front, according to latest dispatches from Paris today. The campaign became most violent yesterday on both banks of the Meuse. Driven out of the Corbeux woods positions by vicious French counter-attacks, the Germans poured thousands of shells in upon French positions east of Goose Hill, and followed with infantry attacks.

On Banks of Meuse.
On the east bank of the Meuse the lull in infantry fighting was suddenly broken. After several hours' bombardment the Germans drove the French from the Hardaumont fortified position east of Fort Douaumont in hand-to-hand fighting.

The Crown Prince lost 5,000 men in a twelve-hour fight for possession of Corbeux forest, seven miles northwest of Verdun, Paris dispatches reported. After driving a wedge in the French front at Verdun, the Germans struck under a heavy cross-fire from French batteries on Goose Hill, to the west, and Dead Man Hill to the east, and forced to evacuate all but the extreme eastern part of the forest.

Positions Menaced.
Despite this reverse, the Germans have made important progress in the past thirty-six hours in the new drives upon Verdun from the northwest and southeast.

Beginning with an attack on the village of Forges, they have swept forward to the accompaniment of mortars and heavy artillery, the strongly fortified Meuse and Dead Man Hill positions northwest of Verdun.

The German war office, minimizing the importance of these operations, declared in the latest official statement that the Germans attacked on the west bank of the Meuse with the sole object of straightening their front.

Paris dispatches, however, report that the German artillery fire almost equalled the terrific cannonade around Douaumont.

Paris believes the crown prince will launch another heavy attack from the west.

Austrians Admit Lull Since Tarnopol Victory

BERLIN, March 9.—The Austrians have made no further advances in Galicia, following their capture of 1,200 yards of Russian trenches northwest of Tarnopol.

BORLAND RIDER MAY BE DEFEATED TODAY BY A POINT OF ORDER

Mondell to Make It as Soon as Amendment Is Reached in the House.

ODDS IN FAVOR OF CLERKS SPEECHES ARE WITHHELD

The Borland eight-hour amendment, lengthening the working day of all Government employes in the executive departments here, is scheduled for consideration in the House late today.

There is increasing confidence among the friends of the clerks who have organized the fight against the rider in the House that the Borland proposal will go out of the bill on a point of order.

Rider's Defeat Predicted.
He has prepared an argument which he believes conclusively shows that legislation of this character has no place in an appropriation bill.

Other parliamentary experts in the House privately say they believe the Borland rider is clearly subject to a point of order.

At this time the odds seem decidedly in favor of the undermonious death of the Borland amendment.

When the point of order is sustained the eight-hour legislation will be figuratively kicked out of the back door of the Capitol.

Although Mr. Mondell, Mr. Gallivan, Mr. Austin, and other members who are opposed to the Borland rider believe it is doomed, they are making plans to defeat it if the amendment should be allowed to come to a vote.

That the point of order is not sustained, it is believed that the Borland proposition may be defeated on its merits. If the point of order is sustained, it will be considered.

Senator Sheppard Has Measure Providing For Rate-Making in Capital.

Senator Sheppard of Texas introduced a bill in the Senate today intended to provide for supervision of fire insurance rate making in the District.

It provides for standardization of the fire insurance business in the District and for supervision by the superintendent of insurance of the fire insurance rate making bureau.

Senator Sheppard said he considered legislation along this line seriously needed.

Germans Advise To Quit Portugal

Rumor Says Kaiser's Envoy's Are Preparing to Leave Before End of Week.

LISBON, March 9.—Germans still remaining in Portugal were advised today by their consuls to leave at once for Spain. It is rumored that the German diplomats are preparing to leave before the end of the week.

M'CUMBER RECALLS WARNING MEASURE FROM THE SENATE

Plan to Warn Americans Halted As Crisis Is Less Acute in International Situation.

SPEECHES ARE WITHHELD STRIVING FOR PRINCIPLE

It is understood that the Administration plans to issue a concise statement giving its position on the new international submarine issues.

The sudden turn which has been given the U-boat and armed merchantman controversy by reason of the disclosure that the United States intends to give strict inspection to liners entering American ports and to treat them as auxiliary cruisers if offensively armed has had its effect on Congress.

Senator M'Cumber, author of the warning resolution now pending in the Senate, announced that he had withdrawn the resolution.

He has been moved to this action by the fact that the developments seem to indicate a possible adjustment. He does not want to say anything which might operate against a clearer diplomatic understanding.

Holds Off Speech.
Senator M'Cumber had a speech on the subject prepared for today, but at the last moment he decided to hold off.

Senator La Follette has a sketch prepared, but he concluded to delay until tomorrow.

The whole trend of the situation today indicated that members of Congress are becoming less pessimistic about a break with Germany, and if things seem to trend that way, it is probable that Senator M'Cumber, in withdrawing his resolution said:

"In a rather sharp turn of events during the last twenty-four hours in our international tangle, and in view of what seems to be an authorized (Continued on Second Page.)"

\$30,000 SENT TO "CONSCIENCE FUND" Is Largest Contribution of Its Kind Ever Received at the Treasury Department.

A package containing \$30,000 in currency was received at the Treasury today for the Government "conscience fund," the largest contribution of the kind ever received.

The letter accompanying the money follows: Hon. W. G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, Washington.

Dear Sir: In a separate package I am sending you \$30,000 to be added to the conscience fund. This makes a sum aggregating \$80,000 which I have sent the United States, or four times the amount I stole years ago.

I have hesitated about sending all this money, because I think it does not really belong to the Government, but conscience has given me no rest until I have commended the four-fold return, like Zacchaeus, the publisher of old. May every thief understand the awfulness of the sin of stealing, is the sincere wish of the penitent.

P. S.—Let no one claim any of this amount on any pretext.

Although the letter which accompanied the package containing the money was dated at Philadelphia, both the package and letter were mailed from New York at 10:30 o'clock last night.

ROOSEVELT INSISTS NO FIGHT BE MADE FOR HIS NOMINATION

Declines To Be Candidate in Any State—Interested in No Politics.

"Nothing To Be Hoped For From Present Administration," He Comments.

NEW YORK, March 9.—Col. Theodore Roosevelt "does not wish" the Presidential nomination and "will not consent" to having his name used in any of the coming State primaries.

He so declared today in a statement made at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Danish West Indies, and called by Henry L. Stoddard, of the New York Evening Mail.

The statement, however, makes it clear that, despite his wishes, the colonel recognizes that his services are subject to draft in a crisis. The statement follows:

"I am deeply sensible of the honor conferred on me and of the good will shown me by the gentlemen who have announced themselves as delegates to be elected in my interest in the Massachusetts Presidential primary.

Declares Candidacy.
"Nevertheless, I must request, and I now do request and insist, that my name be not brought into the Massachusetts primaries, and I emphatically decline to be a candidate in the primaries of that or any other State.

Months ago I formally notified the authorities in Nebraska, Minnesota, and Michigan to this effect. The statement follows: "I am not in the least interested in the political fortunes either of myself or any other man.

"I am interested in awakening my fellow countrymen to the need of facing unpleasant facts.

"I am interested in triumph of the great principles for which with all my heart and soul I have striven and shall continue to strive.

Devotion To Ideals.

"I will not enter into any fight for the nomination, and I will not permit any factional fight to be made in my name.

"Indeed, I will go further and say that it would be a mistake to nominate me unless the country has in its mood something of the heroic unless it feels not only devotion to ideals, but the purpose measurably to realize those ideals in action.

"I am interested today to grapple with the tremendous national and international problems of our own hour in the same way and with the ability shown by those who upheld the hands of Washington and Lincoln.

"Whether we do or do not accomplish this feat will largely depend on the action taken at the Republican and Progressive national conventions next June.

Attitude of Hypocrisy.

"Nothing is to be hoped from the present Administration and the struggle between the President and his party leaders in Congress are today merely a struggle as to whether the nation shall be led by the hypocrites.

New Secretary of War Who Took Oath Today



Newton D. Baker, New Secretary of War, photographed just as he left the White House after conference with President Wilson today.

BAKER IS SWORN IN AS HEAD OF ARMY

New Secretary Greeted By Grave Mexican Situation on Arrival at Department.

Newton D. Baker was sworn in as Secretary of War today.

The oath of office was administered by John B. Randolph, assistant chief clerk of the War Department, in the office recently vacated by Secretary Garrison.

Secretary Baker was hardly inducted into office until official reports reached the War Department of the attack on Columbus, N. M., raising the gravest crisis in Mexican relations since the invasion of Vera Cruz.

He went into conference with Maj. Gen. Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff, who retired a few moments before as Secretary of War ad interim.

Mr. Baker arrived in Washington at 8:30 this morning, and went immediately to the Shoreham.

At 10 o'clock he went to the White House to pay his respects to President Wilson, conferring with the President for half an hour.

Accompanied by Daniels.
Secretary Daniels accompanied Mr. Baker to his new office, introducing him to General Scott, Captain Coates, the latter's aid, Chief Clerk Seefeld, and Assistant Chief Clerk Randolph.

After being sworn Secretary Baker received all the army officers stationed in the State, War, and Navy buildings.

The movie men and photographers initiated Secretary Baker as he left the White House, giving him all the degrees.

He had hardly emerged from the clutches of fifty odd newspaper men before the photographers hemmed him in. Mr. Baker bowed for the moving picture cameras, and then conferred with the photographers again.

"Being a greenhorn," said Mr. Baker when leaving the White House, "I can't say that I have any policy of my own at this time."

Then he sent out calls for the dispatches from the border on the Mexican invasion and began his conferences with staff officers.

WHITE HOUSE FACES CRISIS AS RESULT OF INVASION OF U. S. SOIL

One Woman Among Victims of Villistas; Fifty to 100 Bandits Shot Down By Troopers Before They Are Driven From Town.

Eleven Americans, including four United States soldiers, were killed and five wounded in an invasion of American soil by 400 Villista soldiers early today.

Press dispatches and official reports to the War Department agree in all essential facts on the first real invasion by Mexican bandits of United States soil.

Fifty to one hundred of the invaders were killed by the soldiers and civilians who took part in the two hours' fight before the Villistas were routed. Columbus, N. M., was the scene of the battle. The invaders swooped down on the sleeping town just before daybreak, firing into houses and applying the torch to scores of buildings.

As the inhabitants, panic-stricken, poured into the streets the Mexicans shot them down, and when the United States troops, under the command of Col. Herbert Slocum, attacked a fierce battle ensued.

A running battle to the border followed, but the bandits escaped into Mexican territory, taking back a number of United States cavalry horses.

Official circles view this latest outrage in the gravest light. In view of the number of invaders and the fact that Columbus is well back from the border line the international complications are the most serious that have yet arisen.

An outbreak in Congress is expected hourly. Stirred by the latest outrage both Senator Fall and Senator Borah are said to be lining up facts for an attack on the Administration policy.

The strict enforcement of American rights on the high seas with an opposite policy on the Mexican border will be the center of the Fall attack.

In Administration circles it is said that strong representations will be sent Carranza.

Raid Recognized As an Attempt to Bring Intervention

An official report from General Funston giving the details of the Villista attack on Columbus, N. M., brought a new Mexican crisis squarely before officials today.

This attack, the first serious invasion of American soil during the years of Mexican revolution raised a serious issue which officials realize may change the course of the Administration's action in dealing with the Mexican situation.

The invasion was recognized as an attempt on the part of Villa to force American intervention.

After receiving the report Newton D. Baker, who had just previously been sworn in as Secretary of War, conferred with staff officers. Secretary Baker later sent the report to President Wilson.

The first official report of the incident came from Major General Funston, commanding United States troops on the border. His telegram, sent from Fort Sam Houston, said:

"Col. Herbert J. Slocum, Thirteenth cavalry, at Columbus, N. M., reports camp attacked at 4:30 this morning by a force of Mexicans from across the border. Attack repulsed at time of reporting, 6:35 a. m. Mexicans were then retiring toward the border to southwest. He has sent mounted troops in pursuit. Several buildings burned in town of Columbus. So far as known at time of report, loss three men killed, four wounded. Number of civilians killed in town not known. Number of dead Mexican soldiers lying around town in camps. All firing has ceased. He has sent mounted troops in pursuit. It is now understood at the War Department that Funston's troops crossed to Mexican soil in the pursuit.

Mexicans Driven Off Only After Two-Hour Battle

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 9.—Eleven Americans were killed by 400 Villista soldiers early today, and were driven off only after nearly two hours' fighting with 300 United States cavalrymen and citizens.

Fifty to one hundred Villistas were killed or wounded, it is estimated. Five American civilians were wounded.

Aroused from sleep by the sudden onrush of the Mexicans, firing into the streets and houses, four American troopers and seven civilians, including one woman, were killed before the Villistas were finally driven across the border, three miles below Columbus.

Three United States soldiers were shot dead, and a wounded trooper died shortly after the battle.

Rumors Discredited.
Rumors that several guests died in the Commercial House, to which the Mexicans applied the torch, are not credited, although the ruins are being carefully searched for trace of bodies.

Mrs. Geary, wife of James Geary, a leading merchant, was shot down in cold blood beside her husband, who was also killed in the defense of his home.

T. C. Miller was shot and killed by the Mexicans before they set fire to his drug store.

W. T. Richey, proprietor of the hotel, was no match for the squad of Villistas who attacked his place. Richey was killed by their first volley. Three other men gave up their lives aiding the troops.

J. L. Greenwood, president of the Columbus Bank, an eye-witness to the battle, said the soldiers were asleep in their camp in the city's limits, when the Mexicans attacked.