FIND NEW MAMMOTH CAVE IN CALIFORNIA

Visalia, Cal.—Hidden deep in the recesses of a hitherto practically unexplored section of the Marble Fork of the Kewah river, almost within a stone's throw of the Black Oak trail and within eight miles of the famous General Sherman big tree, in Giant Forest, is said to lie one of the most wonderful subterranean caverns known to the mountains of California. The cave was discovered only last week by a party of fishermen exploring the upper reaches of the stream and these men, pioneers of the region, declare the newly discovered Sequoia national park wonder to be the largest of the several big caves in the park.

Enthusiastic accounts of the cave's interior are brought in by the mountaineers who ventured as far into its recesses as possible without light. Strangely, they declare, the air within appears fresh without the usual foul odor emanating from other such caves and this fact, they believe, is due to the stream of pure, snow water which flows through the cave and across a bed of solid marble of varied hues and which evidently enters from another opening to the cave beyond.

The accounts recite at least a dozen large rooms within the cavern, one of sufficient size for a modern ball room setting, and all covered with a fine white sand. Beautiful stalactites are in great number and of every color in one instance, they declare, forming an arch-like canopy not unlike a great throne room. The fishermen did not venture further into the cavern than 600 feet as they had no lights and bones found there indicated that the cave had been the lair of the wild animals which are in the Sequoi park.

Government agents will investigate the new discovery at once, it is said, and a new trail will be built from Giant forest directly to it, probably cutting the eight mile distance in half. Other improvements said to be in contemplation, if the cave proves as stated, include electric lights and a big dance floor for Giant forest campers throughout the summer season.

The Cyclops Mystery.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Few mysteries of the sea have been so inexplicable as the loss of the collier Cyclops. All the West Indian waters have been diligently scoured for some trace of her, but none has been found. Now the passengers on a ship which has just arrived from Rio tell a strange tale which may have some bearing on her fate. One of the passengers on the Cyclops was the American consul general at the Brazilian capital. Two weeks before she was reported as missing an advertisement in Portuguese appeared in a Rio newspaper stating that mass would be said in a certain church for Mr. Gottschalk, the "distinguished North American consul." At that time, of course, none of his friends knew he was dead. The pastor of the church denied that any arrangements had been made for a mass. Whence, then, came this ominous hint? What was the purpose of such an announcement? Some one must have had knowledge that the ship had been sunk, or foreknowledge that she would be.

There are two obvious explanations for the appearance of the advertisement. One is that it was a disguised assertion that the Cyclops had been sunk by a German submarine. The other is that it was a message to some German agent or agents engaged in the plot. The difficulty in accepting either is that no trace of the missing vessel has yet been found. Ships have been "spurlos versenkt" before, to be sure; but it seems incredible that a ship of the character of the Cyclops could go down in waters so near our own shores without even a wireless call or a piece of wreckage to reveal her fate. If there is really a German submarine lurking in the Caribbean or somewhere off the Bahamas, it may be one of those with the wide cruising radius which have been built recently. The story from Rio is perplexing, but it is too circumstantial to be wholly disregarded. If the navy could have first help from some genius of detective fiction the mystery might be solved. In any event, there are likely to be renewed efforts to solve it.

Moving Trucks Toward Port.

From the Detroit Free Press.

Running during the night hours only, and under as near "war zone" conditions as this peaceful section of America can provide, six trains of army trucks destined for service with Pershing in France are pushing forward from Detroit to an allied port. The convoy consists of 252 Packards and the trains are 24 hours apart.

Except that they use their lights and are not bothered by sudden gusts of shrapnel or other attentions from Fritz, the truck companies are proceeding as if in the immediate neighborhood of the front.

The soldier drivers, 78 men to a train, make camp by the roadside wherever dawn greets them, cook their meals on field ranges carried in the trucks, and clamber into the 3-ton carriers for their day's sleep. As soon as "breakfast" is finished in the evening, they swing the big khaki colored trucks into the road again and hit out toward the seaboard.

Besides the equipment of the soldiers—there is a 15-day ration aboard for each man—the trucks carry loads of parts, also destined for the American expeditionary force.

This is the first night run of a series in which the quartermaster's department of the United States army is giving the drivers a foretaste of the work they will be called on to do overseas. The trucks are given the honor of pioneering the night drives. Another innovation is that each of these truck companies numbers 14 more trucks than those which have been making the daylight run.

The only undoubted notice of silk in the bible occurs in Revelations, xvii, 12, where it is mentioned among the treasures of the typical Babylons.

UNDERGROUND, BUT KEEPS TAB ON FOE

Although far underground this member of Uncle Sam's signal corps is kept in constant touch with activities within the enemy's lines, through the medium of the apparatus attached to his head, which is connected with an observation balloon, floating far above the battle line. The observer transmits his observations by telephone to the man in the picture, who in turn relays it in the same manner to headquarters.

LIMIT OF 25 POUNDS IS PLACED ON SUGAR

Householders Must Show Product Is to Be Used for Canning Purposes.

New York, May 16.—Twenty-five pounds of sugar is the maximum amount which a consumer may obtain at one time for home canning use, according to an announcement made here by the federal food board last night.

Units such as canning clubs, will be permitted to purchase 100 pounds at a time, however. The maximum fixed is in addition to ordinary household requirements.

In order to obtain canning supplies consumers must fill out certificates which will be provided by dealers.

FRENCH EDITOR TO DIE FOR BETRAYING NATION

German Propagandist Is Sentenced to Death and Six Others Are Imprisoned.

Paris, May 16.—M. Duval, who was director of the suppressed Germanophile newspaper Bonnet Rouge, was condemned to death today by courtmartial for treason.

The six other defendants were sentenced to imprisonment for terms ranging from two to 10 years.

Every decision of the courtmartial was voted unanimously.

The trial of the directors of the Bonnet Rouge, a Paris evening newspaper, closely following that of Bola Pasha, who suffered the death penalty for treason, attracted much attention throughout the allied world and directed the eyes of France to a political situation that for years was a closely guarded secret.

After the outbreak of the war, there appeared a number of articles in the paper attacking the French high command and when these articles were cut out by the censor, the edition of the paper as it appeared in Paris was above approach, but copies containing the objectionable article were sent out by "underground" methods and distributed among the soldiers at the front.

RAIL EARNINGS FOR FIRST QUARTER DROP

Washington, D. C., May 16.—Railroads in the first three months this year earned only $71,705,000, as compared with $179,431,000 in the same period last year, making a loss to the government under the system of common operation of about $100,000,000. This report today by the Interstate Commerce commission covers all but five of the 196 railroads in the country.

The net income in March was $63,033,000, or $7,000,000 less than in March, 1917. This difference, much less than in the preceding months, indicates that conditions are becoming better for government operation and returns from later months may go far toward making up the loss.

KANSAS WILL REQUIRE 30,000 HARVEST HANDS

Topeka, Kan., May 16.—Crop prospects in Kansas "could scarcely be more promising" declared State Agricultural Secretary Mohler today. Thirty thousand volunteers are needed for the coming harvest.

GERMANS CLING TO FIRST AIMS

Incorporation of Austria-Hungary In Mitteleuropa Scheme Is Believed to Have Been Accomplished.

VIENNA IS APPREHENSIVE

Fear Prussianization of Armies—Huns Expected Now to Dominate Ally With Proverbial Ruthlessness.

BY CARL D. GROAT.
United Press Staff Correspondent.

Washington, D. C., May 17.—Germany, seeking to gobble up Russia, is also still clinging to the old Mitteleuropa idea.

The thought that she has abandoned that scheme of running a blot of Teuton domination across the middle of Europe was disproved today by official diplomatic dispatches received anent the recent Hohenzollern-Hapsburg conference at the German great headquarters.

The conference resulted in arrangements for putting Austria more under German subjection than ever before.

It was significant from the fact that Austria has been going through a period of serious war stress.

Now, she and Germany will work more in unison—that is, German war lords will force her to do their bidding, ruthlessly, according to official interpretation here.

The session was not, however, the most harmonious that brothers in arms have ever had. On the contrary, injection of the Saxon and Bavarian kings into the meeting proved disconcerting and the official dispatches showed that the German-Austrian murder-and-business-bund had not yet been formally created "because the moment did not seem opportune."

Foundations were laid whereby the dual economic affairs will be regulated "so as to realize the plan of Mitteleuropa."

It was definitely stated a military convention will be signed whereby Austria will have a stronger military obligation than under the old treaty.

Vienna is reported to look with apprehension on the probability that the Austro-Hungarian army will be Prussianized and believes such a step more important than any other feature of the new alliance.

MINOR KINGS "BUTT IN."

Zurich, Switzerland, May 17.—Both King Ludwig, of Bavaria and King Frederick August, of Saxony, seem to have been participants in the great headquarters conference of the Austrian and German emperors although apparently neither was invited to be present. This is indicated by a statement in the Munich Neuste Nachrichten which says:

"The hour is grave and Bavaria cannot leave Prussia to be the whole arbiter of German destinies. King Ludwig therefore decided to proceed to headquarters. The departure of the king of Saxony to take part in the negotiations—a participation which was not desired in Berlin circles—was due to the same cause."

Zurich, May 17.—Count von Hertling, the German chancellor; Dr. Richard von Kuehlmann, the German foreign minister, and Herr Gratz and Herr Ruder, departmental heads of the Austrian foreign office, have arrived in Berlin to take up the new Austro-German treaty negotiations, the preliminary of which was discussed at the recent conference of Kaiser Wilhelm and Emperor Karl.

The treaty, which is known as the "union of arms," comprises political, economic and military arrangements and is to endure 25 years.

DENOUNCE NEW PACT.

Amsterdam, May 17.—The Berlin Tageblatt, in copies received here today declared the new Austro-German alliance is displeasing as evidence of the "non-parliamentary action" of Kaiser Wilhelm and Emperor Karl in effecting important treaties without consulting the representatives of the people.

VATERLAND SAILOR WILL BE INTERNED

Otto Greenburg, Known at Martinsburg, Neb., Arrested at Carroll, Ia.

Des Moines, Ia., May 17.—Otto Greenburg, 33, who was chased out of Martinsburg, Neb., some days ago for making pro-German utterances, was arrested by secret service men at Carroll, Ia., today. He admitted he was one of the German sailors on the Vaterland and had part in wrecking its machinery to make the vessel unfit for use by Uncle Sam when war was declared. Greenburg will be interned until the end of the war.

LONG RANGE GUNS SENT TO PLANT FOR REPAIRS

Geneva, May 17.—Two of the German long distance guns which have been bombarding Paris have been removed to the Krupp plant for repairs, the Constance Zeitung states.

MAIL PLANE SMASHED.

Washington, D. C., May 16.—The postoffice department was informed that the postal plane which left New York today for Philadelphia, piloted by Lieut. Stephen Bonsal, was smashed in making a landing at Bridgeton, N. J. The aviator was not hurt.

ITALIANS TORPEDO AUSTRIAN WARSHIP

Enter Harbor of Pola and Send 20,000 Ton Battleship to Bottom of Sea.

Rome, May 17.—An Austrian battleship was torpedoed by Italian naval forces in Pola harbor early Tuesday morning, it was officially announced today.

The battleship was of the Viribus Unitis type. (20,000-ton vessels.)

The Italian force worked its way into the Austrian naval base by dodging the patrol boats and searchlights of the defenders.

While the naval operation was progressing an Italian seaplane force engaged Austrian battle planes above Pola. Two of the Austrians were brought down and several others were compelled to descend out of control. The Italian machines all returned safely.

The official announcement says:

"Italian naval units avoiding patrol boats and searchlights succeeded in entering Pola harbor early on Tuesday and in torpedoing an Austrian battleship of the Viribus Unitis type.

"Simultaneously Italian seaplane squadrons attacked Austrian battleplanes over Pola, brought down two and forced several others down out of control. The Italian machines all returned safely to their bases."

There are four Austrian battleships of the Viribus Unitis class, which comprised the largest and most modern fighting vessels completed for the Austrian navy up to the time the Europen war broke out.

The other ships of the class are the Tegetthof, the Prinz Eugen and the Szent Istvan. The name ship was completed in October 1912, and the others at intervals between then and the beginning of the war with the exception of the Szent Istvan, which was not finished until 1915.

REPORTS OF GERMAN RIFLES EXAGGERATED

Munitions Made in U. S. for Export to Mexico, Is Belief—More Disclosures Near.

New York, N. Y., May 17.—Rifles and ammunition believed to have been stored near New York by German interests, were brought here for exportation to Mexico, according to the theory of some investigators, it was learned today. Attorney General Lewis of New York is conducting an official inquiry.

The arms were necessarily left near this city when the government shut down on shipments of munitions across the border.

The amount of arms and ammunition, if located, will be found much smaller than at first supposed, it was stated. In the investigation now being conducted by the state attorney general, direct connection between Germany and uprisings in Mexico before this country entered the war may be exposed, if clues now being followed developed as expected.

That there may be similar arms caches in cities within a short distance of New York, was indicated today when it was learned that a search is being made for such stores.

When the attorney general's probe first started, it was widely reported that the arms constituted a huge arsenal, which had been made ready for a German outbreak in this country. The investigation is not bearing this out, it was learned.

The munitions were brought into the United States but were manufactured right in this country by factories controlled by German capital according to the latest disclosures.

Sensational developments are expected before the attorney general's hearing is resumed next Wednesday.

Swindlers, who had a knowledge of the existence of German stores of munitions in this country, are responsible for the stories that the number of rifles and rounds of ammunition had run into the millions, according to authorities.

DROP PROPOSAL FOR CONTROL OF PACKERS

Believed Special Report to President Will Squelch Recent Agitation.

Washington, D. C., May 17.—Possibility of government operation of the packing industry for the war is officially squelched in a special report before President Wilson today.

The report submitted by representatives of the food, labor, agriculture departments and the federal trade commission is understood to recommend merely tightening up of the regulations already in effect toward the packing industry.

The commission was asked by the president to investigate to see whether there was need for a "new policy"—perhaps government control—in connection with the food administration's efforts to bring about satisfactory cooperation between the government, cattle raisers and the packers.

The federal trade commission has been carrying an an exhaustive probe of the packing industry and is nof preparing its report for congress.

FAIRBANKS AND WIFE ARE NOW RECONCILED

Los Angeles, Cal., May 16.—Further evidence that the reported breach between Douglas Fairbanks, movie actor, and his wife, involving another screen favorite, has been healed, was given today when Mrs. Fairbanks, returning from the east, took charge of the Fairbanks home again. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Fairbanks would make any statement.

GUN DUELS ARE RAGING IN WEST

Heavy Artillery Fighting In Progress Along Flanders and Picardy Fronts—Infantry Idle.

HUNS ARE ABOUT READY

Nearly 1,200,000 Entirely Fresh or Rested Men to Be Hurled Against Allied Lines In France.

By United Press.

London, May 17.—Allied and German artilleries are pounding at each other in various sectors along practically the whole western battle front, Field Marshal Haig reported today.

"There is reciprocal artillery fighting at different points, particularly in the valleys of the Somme and Ancre, east of Arras and on the northern battle front," the statement said.

"We raided enemy trenches in the neighborhood of Gavrelle last night and took a few prisoners."

Paris, May 17.—Artillery actions occurred last night on the French fronts southeast of Amiens in the Hailles-Castel sector, says today's war office announcement. West of Montdidier a German raiding detachment was driven off. The French took prisoners in patrol operations north of the Ailette.

BY WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS.
United Press Staff Correspondent.

With the British Armies in France, May 17.—Nearly 100, rested or fresh German infantry divisions (1,200,000 men) are on the west front, ready for immediate battle.

Hindenburg has slowly patched up his badly battered war machine, which is reported to be again in something like running condition.

About 125 German divisions (1,500,000 men) are facing the British, French, Belgians and Americans in the actual line. About 80 divisions (960,000 men) are in reserve. Of these latter, a dozen are quite fresh, not having participated in the present campaign. Between 50 and 60 German divisions have not fought for so long that they must be counted as among the available troops for the coming thrust.

The battle front yesterday was moderately quiet. There was some fighting north of Kemmel where the French, in a snappy counter attack, regained Hill 44 which previously had been captured by Von Armin's storm troops.

Southwest Morlancourt the Australians sturdily biffed out the Germans who had previously captured a position.

The artillery is barking louder during the past 24 hours in the Corbie, Morlancourt and Arras regions. Likewise, Strazeele and the hill country there about is being generously strafed.

The general situation is one of jostling for position. The Germans are desperately eager to win certain advantages jumping off places before the big smash.

Today's skies were clear and blue, and German patrols swarmed up and down the lines, striving to drive off the allies' planes, which were constantly breaking through to watch the enemy's every move. The machines circled, charged and fired point blank

Soldiers admit the mastery of the air was never so important as now.

An American who has served here since the beginning of the war told me: "Whenever I hear the drone of a motor, I always look up, hoping to see a plane with stars on the wings. Say, tell me why don't they come."

RUSS QUIT FINLAND.

Stockholf, May 17.—The Russians have evacuated all of Finland, with the exception of fortress Ino, retreating as far as Kronstadt, according to a dispatch from Helsingfors. They also have given up the railway line from Valkeashari to Petrograd.

REPULSE AIR RAID.

Paris, May 17.—An attempted German air raid on Paris last night was repulsed after enemy planes had penetrated to the outskirts, is was officially announced today. The attack occurred about 10 o'clock. Only a few bombs were dropped.

WANT FLANDERS COAST.

Amsterdam, May 17.—"Without the Flanders coast, the German economic system, based upon access to the world's markets, is impossible," Herr von Boehlendorff, conservative member, is quoted in Berlin dispatches as declaring in the German reichstag.

FIGHTING IS HEAVIER.

Vienna, via London, May 17.—"Several reconnoitering thrusts were repulsed between the Brenta and the Piave," the Austro-Hungarian war office announced today.

"At Monte Asolone and Monte Pertica the fighting was hand to hand."

KILL PART OF GARRISON.

Rome May 17.—"Italian detachments entered two Austrian positions in the region of Monte Asolone, killing a part of the garrison," the Italian war office reported today.

"The other fled, leaving a few prisoners."

LEMARS MAN DIES FROM AUTO INJURIES

LeMars, Ia., May 16.—A. E. Marx, a prominent retired farmer, driving from here to his farm near Alvord Tuesday evening, was so badly injured in an automobile accident that he died at 1 o'clock this morning. The deceased was a son-in-law of the late John Swain and was 60 years old. He is survived by the widow and three sons.