

## LULL IN BATTLE BEFORE VERDUN

Fighting in Front of French Fortress Practically Ceased—Believed to Presage Another German Move.

GERMAN EMPIRE IS NOW CAKELESS

Imperial Edict Prevents the People Eating Cake—Staff of Life Scarce and Thieves Stealing Tickets.

LONDON, Mar. 19.—The fighting today before the defenses of Verdun was of but a desultory nature, according to dispatches received here from Paris. It is believed, however, that it is only a lull before another storm so to speak, as it is rumored that there have been important movements of German troops from the Dutch and Swiss frontiers. It is therefore expected that the Germans will make another attempt to take Verdun during the coming week. The Germans will find the French forces fully prepared to meet them, according to the Paris dispatches, which state that the lull has been used by the Frenchmen in accumulating fresh stores of ammunition and munitions of all kinds.

BULGARIANS AND ROUMANIANS MOVE.

LONDON, Mar. 19.—A report received here is to the effect that Bulgaria is rushing troops to the border of that country and Roumania as a consequence of the continued activities of Roumanian troops along the Bulgarian frontier. The railroads are being used for no other purpose than the transportation of troops, according to the report.

GERMANS ACTIVE IN BALTIC REGION.

AMSTERDAM, Mar. 19.—A report received here is to the effect that General von Hindenburg in command of the German forces in the Dunaberg region has started an offensive movement against the Russians. The Russians themselves have been very active in that locality during the past week.

GERMANY WILL FIGHT TO END.

BERLIN, Mar. 19.—Aneut the peace controversy which is now going on in this country the newspapers of this city editorially state that Germany has now no other out than to fight to the bitter end. They say that if Germany ever contemplated peace the time for making it was last December, when the allies were in a victorious mood. They further state that peace overtures at the present time are not to be thought of, for the reason that the demands of the Entente powers would be too great, and that Germany would never submit to them.

GERMANY WANTS NO MORE CONCESSIONS.

BERLIN, Mar. 19.—The members of the Reichstag have voted to demand that the German government has already conceded too much, and if there are more concessions it will retract upon the dignity of the empire and of the German people. Numerous arguments as to why submarine warfare should be allowed to continue were also advanced.

GERMANY DOES WITHOUT CAKE.

BERLIN, Mar. 19.—From this time until the end of the war the residents of the German empire must do without cake, for such, in effect, was the decree which went forth today from imperial headquarters. And, as a consequence, Berlin spent her first cakeless day today.

Bread, too, is also a scarce commodity. A number of arrests of people accused of stealing official bread tickets have been made. It is stated, however, that some of them reaped small fortunes from the sale of the tickets before they were finally detected at their nefarious work.

ALLIES CUT GREEK CABLES.

ATHENS, Mar. 19.—All cables connecting Greece with any of the Central Powers have been cut by order of the French commander at Saloniki. The reason for such action is not known, unless it be through a desire to keep this country incommunicado as far as the Teutons are concerned.

THANKS EXTENDED TO VON TIRPITZ.

BERLIN, Mar. 19.—In a personal letter written today and dispatched from imperial headquarters, Kaiser Wilhelm thanked Admiral von Tirpitz for his services as secretary of the navy. It is understood that the Kaiser will semi-officially decorate von Tirpitz soon.

SITUATION IN GREECE GRAVE.

ATHENS, Mar. 19.—The financial situation in this country is becoming graver every day. It is now practically impossible for the poorer classes to get hold of money. The chief sufferers are the families of the mobilized soldiers, who go hungry for the reason that their providers are not at hand to help them.

Shoots Her Husband And Is Exonerated

MARYLAND POLITICIAN MEETS DEATH AT HANDS OF ANGRY SPOUSE

FREDERICK, Md., Mar. 19.—Mrs. Elsie English shot and killed her husband here today. The shooting was done in the presence of the five-year-old daughter of the couple, five bullets in all entering the body of the victim of the irate woman.

Immediately after the shooting, Mrs. English was placed under arrest on a murder charge. She was completely exonerated, however, by the coroner's jury which sat within two hours after the shooting took place. It is thought that the "unwritten law," which, while not a part of the statutes of this state, is customarily used here in cases such as this, had something to do with the verdict.

George English, the dead man, was prominent in local politics. He was the son of a former New Jersey congressman.

Wheat Yield Of The Country Increasing

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—Figures compiled and published by the wheat growing bureau of the department of agriculture show an enormous increase in the wheat yield of the United States during the year 1915 as compared with 1914. The states of Minnesota and North and South Dakota alone are stated to have produced 38,000,000 bushels, an increase of 20,000,000 bushels over the output of 1914.

The increased production in the states above named is the result of an increase in the land acreage cultivated for wheat growing purposes. For many of the farmers of those states, encouraged by the high prices which prevailed during the winter of 1914-15, turned practically altogether to wheat farming as a means of livelihood.

And then, too, it is stated in the published account that the state named have never had better years for wheat growing in their history. It is also predicted that the yield for 1916 will be much smaller, owing to the fact that weather conditions during the present winter have been very severe.

Clark Probably Will Be Chairman

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—It is stated at Democratic headquarters here that Champ Clark, of Missouri, speaker of the house of representatives, will be named as temporary chairman of the Democratic national convention, which is to be held at St. Louis during the week following June 7. In that event he will deliver the speech which will open the convention and which will be the keynote of the plans of the National Democratic organization for the next election.

M'Noble Resigns as Steamboat Manager

SEATTLE, Mar. 19.—Captain R. J. McNoble, for many years the local superintendent of the Pacific Coast Steamship company, has tendered his resignation to the company, to take effect immediately. The reason he gives in his resignation is that advanced age forbids him to longer attempt to attend to the everyday duties and troubles of business life.

Captain McNoble will retire. He has always been prominent in local steamship circles, having been the master of one of the Pacific coast ships on the Alaskan run during the early days of Dawson.

## ANOTHER DUTCH STEAMER SUNK BY SUBMARINES

HOLLAND LINE STEAMSHIP PALEMBANK SUNK OFF ENGLISH COAST.

LONDON, Mar. 19.—Announcement made from the admiralty of fices today is to the effect that the Holland line steamship Palembang was torpedoed last night in the North sea, off the southeast coast of England. But few details of the sinking of the boat are available, but it is understood that all of the members of the crew escaped in the life boats before the Palembang was swept beneath the waves, and it is therefore believed that no lives were lost.

Whether or not the Palembang was sunk by a submarine is an unsettled question. Nor will it be settled to the satisfaction of the admiralty officers until the commander of the Dutch ship arrives here and tells his story. It is believed, however, that a German submarine is responsible for the torpedoing of the craft.

It is also thought probable that the vessel might have struck one of the mines laid by British vessels along the coast, although the information received here states positively that a torpedo explosion sunk her. A thorough investigation of the affair is now being made.

Argentina Aroused  
BUENOS AYRES, Mar. 19.—The press of this city is considerably aroused over the torpedoing of the Dutch steamship Tubantia. Practically all of the morning papers of this city today had editorials condemning such tactics, practically all of them blaming the German submarine policy for the sinking of the boat. They further declared that such outrages must stop in the name of humanity if for no other reason.

Germans Not Guilty  
BERLIN, Mar. 19.—The newspapers of this city this morning unite in saying editorially and otherwise, that German submarines were not responsible for the sinking of the Dutch steamship Tubantia. They claim that the boat was not submerged, but that she struck a mine. And they have ample proof that it was not a German mine that she struck, according to their statements.

Wants To Prosecute Writers Of Threats

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—Senator Culberson introduced a bill in the senate yesterday providing for federal prosecution of persons who write threatening letters. The introduction of the bill is the result of the receipt recently by President Wilson of scores of threatening letters. It is expected that the measure will pass the senate with but few dissenting votes. It is also understood that a like measure is to be brought to the attention of the house on Monday.

Iowa Germans Opposing Both

DAVENTPORT, Iowa, Mar. 19.—The Iowa German-American Alliance, delegates from which are now holding a convention in this city, has adopted a resolution opposing both Wilson and Roosevelt as candidates for the presidency. The measure was introduced at yesterday's session of the convention and was passed with but few dissenting voices. Several speeches were made by prominent German-Americans of this state before the measure was put to a vote.

Cummings Expected To Seek Nomination

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—It is thought in local political circles that Senator Albert B. Cummings, of Iowa, will shortly make official announcement of his candidacy for the presidential nomination. He has already been requested to allow his name to go on the ballot at the Republican primary soon to be held in the State of New Jersey, and in the event that he does so, the die is cast, in the opinion of local politicians.

## Villa Is Easy To Catch says Strong

ALASKA'S GOVERNOR SAYS HE COULD GET HIM WITH 1,000 ALASKANS.

SEATTLE, Mar. 19.—"If I had 1,000 Alaskans in the pink of condition such as they are usually when traveling the trails of the territory, I would guarantee to catch Senor Pancho Villa and his band of bandits in five days."

The above is a statement attributed to Governor J. F. A. Strong, of Alaska, printed in one of the morning papers today. The governor is now a visitor to the city, having arrived here last night on one of the incoming ships from the north and will probably be here for several days. During his stay he is being entertained at the Arctic club.

Continuing his talk, according to the story printed this morning, Governor Strong stated that he is greatly in favor of the preparedness plan of the administration, and that he would like to see several regiments of troops raised in Alaska, along the lines laid down by the administration. He says that recruiting would be an easy job, as the hardships which are undergone on occasions by soldiers are part and parcel of the life of that portion of hardy Alaskans who prospect and travel the trails of the northland.

Seattle Not To Sell Her Ships

SEATTLE, Mar. 19.—The Seattle Times this morning prints a story to the effect that a steamship company with headquarters in this city has refused an offer of \$60,000 for ten of the largest ships now engaged in the Alaska trade. The offer is reported to have been made by a large New York shipping concern. The refusal of the offer indicates that the Seattle concern is making more out of their boats using them on the Alaska run than they could possibly make by selling them. The offer itself, if the report concerning it is true, is indicative of the fact that United States shipping interests are now enjoying a greater volume of business than ever before.

Gambler Would Bet On Closing of War

REQUEST THAT LLOYD'S PLACE INSURANCE AGAINST DAYS OF PEACE.

LONDON, Mar. 19.—Lloyd's agencies in this city are in receipt of numerous requests asking that they insure against peace. The requests come from some of the biggest gamblers in the country, who are willing to take a chance with the big insurance agency on the matter of the termination of the war, win or lose.

The plan of the gamblers is to set a date for the closing of the war in each proposition, said date to be agreed upon between the agency and the gambler. The losses will be paid, it is stated, at the actual termination of the war, the exact time to be decided by the date on which the manufacturers of the world cease making munitions for the contending armies.

GOVERNOR STRONG IS FOR HOME RULE

SEATTLE, Mar. 19.—Governor J. F. A. Strong, of Alaska, who is now a visitor in this city, expresses himself as in favor of home rule for the territory. He likewise states that Alaska unitedly demands home rule.

Assaults Teacher For Whipping Boy

WASHINGTON MOTHER BELIEVES IN SPARING ROD AND SPOILING CHILD.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Mar. 19.—Because she was entirely too active with the whip in the case of Johnny Bazzell, Miss Tessie Conkright, a school teacher of this city, has suffered a few marks to her countenance. The marks were inflicted by the lad's mother, Mrs. Harriet Bazzell, who assaulted the teacher when she learned that her son had been whipped.

Immediately after she was attacked by the irate mother, Miss Conkright swore to a complaint against Mrs. Bazzell, and the latter was arrested. The defendant in the proceedings has been released on bail until the trial of the case, which takes place tomorrow morning.

## FUNSTON ORDERED TO HURRY ALONG

ARMY BILL TO BE DISCUSSED ALL THIS WEEK

CONGRESS WILL DISCUSS BILL PROVIDING FOR INCREASE IN THE ARMY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—It is believed here that the matter of bills relating to the increase of the standing army of the United States will be completed this week. There is still some opposition to the bills in both the house and the senate, even among the supporters of the administration's preparedness plan, but it is thought that the opposition in the house will be overcome this week.

Wilson Enters Denial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—President Wilson has entered a denial to the statement that the Hay army bill, as introduced in the house, was one of his pet measures. He states that he is in favor of the passage of the bill, but denies that he had anything whatever to do with its construction.

Among other things the Hay bill provides for the training, each month in the year, of citizen soldiers. Work on the details connected with it will start in the house tomorrow.

Wants Big Army.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—Announcement has been made here to the effect that Representative Kahn, of California, will introduce an amendment to the Hay army bill in the house tomorrow, providing for making the peace strength of the army 220,000 men. Embodied in his amendment, according to those who know, Congressman Kahn will show where all of the men could be used advantageously by the government.

Debate Today.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—The senate army bill is due for debate tomorrow in the senate. It is thought that it will be strenuously opposed, but it is expected that when a number of contemplated amendments are attached that it will pass. The bill provides for a peace strength in the army of 194,000 men.

Waste Fertilizer Has Great Value

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—In the department of agriculture bulletin which was recently issued here, it is stated that material good for fertilizer to the value of \$250,000 is wasted every year by the canneries of Alaska. Therefore, if this waste could be conserved in some manner, the output of the canning industry annually would be increased just that much. The bulletin also deals extensively with means whereby the waste could be conserved, but it states that the canning companies now consider that the expense involved would not pay for trying to save the waste fertilizer material.

Every Voyage May Be His Last One

NEW YORK, Mar. 19.—The steamship St. Paul left her dock here today for Liverpool. Her pursuer is Thomas Kinsey, who, with her sailing, started on his eleven hundredth trans-Atlantic trip. He has been on the St. Paul ever since she entered the service, and has also made the trip across the Atlantic numerous times on other boats.

Olivia Lason has brought suit against Robert Spencer McMillan, an Alaskan mining man, for \$50,000. The suit has been instituted in the courts of King county, Washington. The complaint recites that McMillan married the plaintiff at Iditarod when he had a wife and family living in Canada. They became acquainted on Cleary creek during the early days of the Fairbanks mining camp.

Jones is Favoring Strict Prohibition

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—Senator Jones, of Washington, made a long speech on the floor of the senate yesterday in defense of prohibition. And in his talk he stated that he is in favor of strict prohibition throughout the District of Columbia. His speech created something of a sensation here, for, while it was known that some of the legislators favor prohibition in this city, none had ever been so bold as to broach the matter during a session.

Department Wants Villa Hunted Down in Short Order and Sends Instructions to Commander.

BATTLE BELIEVED TO BE IMMINENT

American Troops Hot on Trail of Villa Whom They Expect to Catch—Texans Are Getting Angry.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—Information received at the war department from General Frederick Funston is to the effect that the army of invasion of Mexico under General Pershing is progressing as rapidly as could be expected. It has met with but little opposition on its march, as yet, according to the advices received from General Funston.

FUNSTON ORDERED TO HURRY THINGS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—Following a conference held at the war department today upon the receipt of a report from General Frederick Funston concerning the movements of the American troops in Mexico, it was decided that Funston should be ordered to push the invasion as rapidly as possible. Accordingly, an order was prepared and sent to the general telling him, in effect, to speed up the Villa hunt.

VILLA BUSY ON THE BORDER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19.—The "hurry along" dispatch sent to General Funston today followed the receipt of advices in this city to the effect that a number of followers of General Villa are attempting to stir up trouble on the border. It is stated in the dispatches that a number of American ranchers are in danger of being attacked by the Mexicans, and General Funston has been ordered to dispatch troops to their aid as soon as possible.

VIVA WILSON Y LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

VERA CRUZ, Mexico, Mar. 19.—The officials representing the city government of this place are much elated over the decision of the United States to invade Mexico and make an attempt to capture the bandit Villa and his following. A celebration of the entrance of American troops into Mexico was held today and President Wilson and "Los Estados Unidos" were roundly cheered.

WAR VESSEL OFF TO VERA CRUZ.

NEW ORLEANS, Mar. 19.—The United States battleship Kentucky sailed from this point this morning for Vera Cruz. She carries a full complement of sailors and marines, and it is thought that it is intended that she shall stay in Vera Cruz harbor for a time in the event that trouble might arise.

ADVANCE GUARD IS AT CASAS GRANDES.

EL PASO, Tex., Mar. 19.—According to information received here today, Colonel Dadds, commanding the advance guard of cavalrymen of General Pershing's force, entered the city of Casas Grandes today. His occupation of Casas Grandes is the cause of considerable relief being felt here, as it was feared that the Mormon residents of the country in that vicinity, it being a Mormon colony, might be in danger from the Villistas.

The advices received here from prominent Mormons give Col. Dadds and his men great credit for the amount of hardship they have undergone in reaching Casas Grandes, saying that all of the men show great endurance. They are reported to have ridden all night last night, in order that they might make their entrance into Casas Grandes at daybreak today.

TEXAS FEARFUL OF THE BANDITS.

MARFA, Texas, Mar. 19.—It is reported here that a large number of Villa bandits are organizing in Mexico, just across the Rio Grande river from Presidio, in the county of the same name, and about 60 miles south of this place. The report is the cause of considerable alarm being felt here, as the main line of the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient railroad runs directly from Presidio to this place, and it would

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