



# FRANCO-GERMAN WAR CLOUDS ARE LOWERING

## ALGERIRAS CONFERENCE IS DOOMED TO FAILURE

### French Premier Says "France Wants Peace Only on Conditions Assuring Her Rights and Dignity" --Conference Can Go no Further.

## FRANCE REACHES LIMIT OF HER CONSESSIONS

### STATEMENT FROM PARIS SAYS THAT WHILE IT IS RECOGNIZED FAILURE OF CONFERENCE WILL NOT PRECIPITATE IMMEDIATE WAR, YET IT LEAVES FRANCO-GERMAN RELATIONS IN THREATENING SITUATION.

PARIS, Feb. 24.—Officials of the foreign office emphasize Premier Rouvier's statement to the Chamber of Deputies yesterday, "that France wants peace only on conditions assuring her rights and dignity" as summing up the government's intentions at Algieras.

Coupled with this is the view that the government's rights and dignity have already reached their furthest limits of concession and that therefore, from the standpoint of the government authorities it is preferable that the agony of the conference be not prolonged, as France prefers to continue the status quo in Morocco as though the conference had not tried to deal with the question. However, this attitude does not involve any thought of immediate war. On the contrary, the high-

est authorities are firmly convinced that a failure of the conference will not bring war, first because their advice shows that Germany does not want war, and secondly, French official and public opinion is strongly against war.

### War May Be Delayed.

PARIS, Feb. 23.—What it is recognized that the failure of the conference will not precipitate an immediate war, yet it will leave the Franco-German relation in a state of uneasiness threatening serious future complications.

However, in government quarters here, it is said European unrest is preferable to France's surrendering all her rights and expectations in Morocco. According as the government opinion took a strongly pessimistic turn today, it foreshadowed a dissolution of the conference without a definite decision.

## GRAND JURY CHOSEN

### Jury to Investigate Steunenburg Case Drawn.

### Attorney Richardson, Representing the Western Federation of Miners, Closely Questions Each Juror of his Knowledge in Affair

CALDWELL, Feb. 24.—Attorney Richardson closely questioned each grand juror respecting his occupation, his relationship or business connections with the late Frank Steunenburg, his attitude toward Union Labor, and bias in the case arising from reading newspaper reports.

Attorney Fred Miller challenged the panel for Orchard. He said he had been misrepresented by newspapers as having deserted Orchard, and joined in the defense of other men and on the strength of this Orchard had refused

to see him again, but he still wished to protect the rights of the defendant. Judge Smith said he would take under consideration the request for an order that Miller be permitted to see Orchard. A. B. Moss, a Payette merchant and banker, is foreman of the jury. Richardson left this evening for Denver. He expects to return about March 7th.

### Criminal Contributions.

DENVER, Feb. 24.—Letters of encouragement and contributions in defense continue to pour into the headquarters of the Western Federation of Miners. The cash contributions to date aggregate twenty thousand dollars. Help from many unions in the East is promised.

## BANK ROBBERS FOILED.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 24.—Three bank robbers were discovered in the Missouri State Bank at Missouri City this morning. They had blown open the vault door. After a fight they escaped. One was later captured after being shot by the sheriff, and was identified as a former convict.

## SENATE MAY CONSIDER RATE BILL ON MONDAY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—The Senate Republican leaders had under consideration today important pending legislation. They determined that a proposition will be made Monday to displace the statehood bill and make the railroad rate bill unfinished business. The Senate leaders believe there will be little opposition to the passage

of the statehood measure if the Foraker amendment providing for a referendum vote in relation to New Mexico and Arizona is adopted. It is believed that the Philippine tariff bill will be defeated unless a compromise is effected, so that sugar and tobacco from the Philippines will be subject to a tariff equal to 40 or 50 per cent of the Dingley rates.

## KILLS SISTER'S LOVER.

BRUSSELS, Feb. 24.—Mr. Waddington, son of the Chilean charge d'affaires here, shot and killed the secretary of the consulate, Balmaceda. It is alleged Balmaceda threatened to break his engagement with Waddington's sister. Waddington took refuge in the Chilean legation and cannot be arrested. A great sensation was caused.

## HAGUE DELEGATES TO MEET.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Root has issued a call meeting in Washington next week of the American delegates to the approaching Hague conference. The purpose is for considering the program and making the necessary arrangements for the trip. It will be impossible for the conference to meet before next fall at the earliest.

## THREE DROWNED.

SPRING VALLEY, Ill., Feb. 24.—While crossing the Illinois River at Hennepin, Blaine Kenkins, a mail carrier, Percy McWhorter, a grain buyer, and William Bentley, a barber, were drowned yesterday.

## MAY GRANT RAISE THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

### Coal Operators Propose a Compromise Agreement.

## WOULD RESTORE OLD SCALE

### Bituminous Operators Propose to Restore Former Scale of 1903-1904, an Increase of 5.55 Per Cent—Compromise May Be Made

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 24.—The Pittsburgh Dispatch will say tomorrow that the coal operators of the bituminous fields have presented a proposition to the miners restoring the scale of 1903-1904. This will be an increase of 5.55 per cent. The operators also request a modification of the demands for an advance of 12½ per cent, and ask the new contract to be for two or three years. If the United Mine Workers accept the compromise proposition, 150,000 coal diggers in the four competitive states, including Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana, and about 100,000 of the United Mine Workers in the Southwestern States will receive an advance in wages.

President John Mitchell of the United Mine Workers was apprised of the turn of affairs, in New York today and he immediately flashed back the pleasant news to personal friends in Pittsburgh.

## FATAL DUEL.

### Two Youths Quarrel Over Affections of a Girl.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 24.—A pistol duel with all the regulation accessories and having for a motive a dispute for the affections of a girl was fought tonight in the marshes in South San Francisco. The body of one of the participants is now lying on a slab in the morgue. Neither is over 21 years old. They were Benjamin Meyers and Ernest Bergillion, residents of the Potrero district. Last night the young men quarreled over a girl and decided to fight out the dispute. Accordingly they met tonight after dark and after paying attention to some few customary preliminaries, began firing at one another. It is said several shots were exchanged before Bergillion fell. He never moved. A bullet entered his right eye and pierced his brain. Meyers fled and when the

## DISASTROUS FIRE DESTROYS KENYON MILITARY ACADEMY AT GAMBIER, O.

authorities were notified a posse of police and detectives started to search for him but up to a late hour he had not been captured.

## HOUSE PASSES BILLS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—In a two-hours' session today the House passed 416 private pension bills, besides a number of minor measures by unanimous consent. An effort was made to secure the passage of a bill making the records of the international revenue bureau available for court evidence against violators of the prohibition and local option laws, but as the proceedings were by unanimous consent a single objection blockaded the measure.

### Three Cadets Burned and Nine Injured—Flames Cause Panic Among Students Who Forget Training Rules and Rush Madly About.

## STUDENT JUMPS FOUR STORIES INTO BLANKET

### EIGHTY-FIVE BOYS WERE IN DORMITORY WHEN FLAMES BROKE OUT—AN EFFORT WAS MADE TO PRESERVE MILITARY DISCIPLINE TO NO AVAIL—LOSSES ON BUILDINGS AGGREGATE \$50,000—INSURANCE IS SLIGHT.

### Question of Range Leases a Live One at Present.

## NO FEDERAL LEGISLATION

### The Issues May Be Defined This Session But No Culminative Action Likely Until Next Winter—West Must Study the Matter.

ASTORIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 24.—Western states will be compelled to face a range-leasing policy in due course of time, if the present trend of events in regard to public domain continues. No such a law will get through the present Congress, as the leaders of the two houses are not ready to precipitate discussion, but it is apparent to observing men that the time is not distant when such will be the case, and leading stockmen are already preparing for the issue. Those given to careful research are endeavoring to get facts for presentation. Texas, in her career of liberal and independent treatment of public lands is a shining example for the range leasers. Wyoming's experiences are also being exploited. The customs of the entire country based upon the principle of getting public land into the private ownership of the individual are being offered on the side of those opposed to the leasing system.

Since the Public Land Commission reported in favor of leasing that part of the public domain adapted to range purposes, the policy is regarded as having administration backing. President Roosevelt's reference to the subject in his message was the last endorsement, which was expected to force the question this Congress. As the first session draws toward its close, there seems no room for range-leasing before the summer adjournment. The next session will be short, and unless the administration presses urgently for consideration of this measure, or pro-leasing interests perform the same service, it is hardly probable that the short term will create the law that is bound to have broad influence upon the entire West.

In whatever is done, there are sure to be provisions that will facilitate the

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GAMBIER, O., Feb. 24.—The buildings of Kenyon Military Academy burned at an early hour this morning and are a total loss. Three cadets are dead and nine are seriously injured, three of whom probably will die.

### Names of Missing.

WINIFRED KUNKLE, Ashtabula, O., returned to the building for some purpose and was not seen afterward.

JAMES J. FULLER, Warren, O.  
J. EDWARD HENDERSON, Indiana. Fuller and Henderson were roommates.

### List of Injured.

HARRY BARNES, Cleveland, probably fatally injured.  
RENNOX BAXTER, Cleveland, slightly burned.  
JOHN N. NICHOLSON, Steubenville, badly burned and will not recover.  
RUPERT STEARNS, Cincinnati, burned about face, not serious.  
HART SHANNON, New York, arms and body badly burned; may not recover.

J. DORSEY, Dallas, Tex., slightly burned about face and head.  
HOMER THURMEICHLER, Oak Harbor, slightly burned.  
S. R. SALLAWAY, business manager of the military academy, badly burned about face and hands.

Several others were slightly burned in escaping from the buildings.

### Jumps From Fourth Story Window.

Barnes was one of the last to leave the Delano Hall and jumped from the fourth story window into a blanket, which gave way and he was precipitated onto the pavement, sustaining injuries to the back. One leg was broken. He will die.

Eighty-five boys were in the dormitory when the flames broke out. An effort was made to observe military formation, but the younger students forgot their military training and rushed about the burning building in a panic, shrieking and crying for help. The

buildings destroyed were Delano Hall, Milner Hall and the annex.

The losses on the buildings and their contents will probably aggregate \$50,000. The insurance is slight.

The origin of the fire is unknown. This is the second time the academy buildings have been destroyed.

Students at Kenyon College held a mass meeting and arranged to provide homes to the military academy students at Baxley, Theological Seminary, Old Kenyon Dormitory, Hartcourt Ladies' Seminary and the village school.

### NOT WANTED.

BOISE, Feb. 24.—Detective McPartland says he does not want Ed Munson, arrested in Tacoma. He does not know of such a man in the Steunenburg case.

## MOB KILLS FIEND

### Shoots Negro Monster and Burns His Body to Ashes.

### Governor Blanchard of Louisiana Sends Company to Scene But it Arrives Too Late—Negro Confessed to Brutal Crime on Girl.

SHREVEPORT, La., Feb. 24.—A mob of 500 men shot to death Wiltse Page, a negro aged 30 years, afterwards burning his body, in the town of Beaville this afternoon. The negro was captured last night. He was suspected of being the one who attempted to assault Sarah Gaut, an 11-year-old school girl yesterday. He was identified by the girl. The mob overpowered the officer, and took the negro to the scene of the crime, where he made a confession. The mob stood him up against a tree and shot him to death. More than 500 shots were fired.

## CINCINNATI BANKS PAID FOR USING COUNTY MONEYS

CINCINNATI, Feb. 24.—Sensations were the order of the day in the Senate investigation of the Hamilton county affairs; the positive refusal of county Treasurer Hynicka, to produce his private accounts and bank books and the statement of Banker Hirsch that his business would have been paralyzed had the county funds been retained in

the treasurer's vaults. He said that 95 per cent of all the business was done on paper and the tying up of so much cash would be a great hardship. Banker Kleybolte testified that his bank, the Western German Bank, had paid "Compensation" to the county treasurers for the last sixteen years for the use of the county moneys.