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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

NO PROTEST LIKELY ON PERSIA

Unable to Obtain Evidence That Liner Was Sunk by Submarine, United States May Drop Austrian Issue

Washington, Jan. 6.—The United States may never protest the sinking of the P. & O. liner Persia, with the loss of many lives, including that of American Consul McNeely.

Only on a startlingly frank statement from Austria that the vessel was torpedoed without warning could this government make a protest, two high state department officials said today. And, they pointed out, such an admission, unless accompanied by unquestionable evidence that the attack was justified, would mean renunciation of the Ancona concession Austria has made.

Consul Garrels' statement at no additional information, and none to show torpedoing, was obtainable at Alexandria, indicated that the administration must look solely to Austria for details of the Persia case.

CENTRAL POWERS PREPARE TO BATTLE ON GRECIAN SOIL

Saloniki, Jan. 5 (Delayed).—The central powers' assault on Saloniki is expected within 24 hours. Two hundred thousand of their forces have been concentrated for this purpose, aerial scouts reported.

London, Jan. 6.—The forces of the central powers are about to sweep into Greece. This was indicated today from United Press advices from Saloniki saying the Bulgarians are again concentrating before the Grecian border, after having withdrawn a safe distance temporarily.

Meanwhile allied aerial scouts are extremely active along the Bulgarian front, while the allied troops are hastening preparations for the expected attack.

The Frankfurter Zeitung today declared Field Marshal von Mackensen has been ordered to proceed immediately to Saloniki. To facilitate such a move, the Serbian railways, shattered during the recent Serbian operations, have been repaired and munitions are moving to the new front.

Further evidence of the anticipated invasion came in Athens dispatches saying that Bulgarian forces, returning from the Albanian campaign, are massing with their comrades at the Hellenic frontier. Rome messages, too, declared that the first battle in Greece is imminent.

MORE EXHIBITS FOR SAN DIEGO EXPOSITION

San Diego, Jan. 6.—A new exposition is in the making here today. Scores of new exhibits are being installed at the Panama-California International exposition, some of them the finest shown at the recent San Francisco fair. Among these are the Canadian, French and United States government exhibits. The local exposition has not closed its gates, however, during the reconstruction period, and hundreds of visitors are seeing the sights there daily.

E. L. Lawler came in yesterday from Holland and is spending a few days here while attending to business affairs here.

TO CONTRACT FOR SUGAR FACTORY SAYS SANDERS

Geo. E. Sanders, vice-president of the Oregon-Utah Sugar company, who, with Alex Nibley, has been in Portland for several days, is quoted in the Oregonian of Wednesday as follows:

"Rates on sugar beets from the farms of the growers to the mill will determine the location of the beet sugar factory to be established near Grants Pass, declared George E. Sanders and Alex Nibley, officials of the company, who were in Portland yesterday. They left last night for Salt Lake City, where capital has been raised for the plant. It is expected to start operations next September.

"We are now trying to get the freight rates settled definitely," said Mr. Sanders. "We have the matter up with the Southern Pacific, and a conference on the subject will be held in San Francisco next week.

"We have in mind placing the factory on the new Twoby railroad outside of Grants Pass about three miles. But this is dependent upon the freight rates.

"The contract for the factory will be let next week in Salt Lake City. It will cost about \$625,000. Dyer & Company and Larue & Company, leading builders of sugar beet mills in the country, will bid on the construction, and the contract will call for everything ready for operation by next September.

"Bonds have been sold to finance the project. We expect to have 75,000 tons of sugar beets delivered to us this coming season."

EMPLOYES OF STEEL COMPANY GET RAISE

New York, Jan. 6.—The United States Steel corporation today granted an increase of wages to all its employees. Common laborers were advanced 10 per cent.

PROSECUTOR NOT TO ENFORCE LAW ON SUNDAY BASEBALL

Portland, Jan. 6.—Baseball fans are not worrying much about Sunday closing law today. They have heard from District Attorney Evans.

"It will take a lot of evidence to convince me that anybody has a case against the national game," the prosecutor said.

Petitions are now in circulation to put the old law to a vote at the November election, and within two days nearly enough signatures have been secured. Prosecutors in several counties have said they will ignore the law until the voters have passed on it.

Judge McCredie, president of the Beavers, telegraphed to President Baum yesterday that he has no fear that the law will be enforced against Sunday baseball.

COURT RULES AGAINST JOHN BARLEYCORN

Tacoma, Jan. 6.—The United States district court—Judges Cushman, Gilbert and Rudkin, sitting en banc—this afternoon denied the restraining order asked by the Seattle Brewing & Malting company to prevent Attorney General Tanner from destroying beer valued at \$50,000 which the company claims it is unable to ship out of the state within the time provided by the prohibition law.

It is predicted that an appeal will be taken to the United States supreme court.

ASK FOR DATA ON MEXICAN QUESTION

Senate Calls Upon President Wilson for Full Information of Present Situation in the Southern Republic

Washington, Jan. 6.—The senate this afternoon unanimously adopted the resolution of Senator Fall of New Mexico, asking President Wilson for information concerning the state of the Mexican problem.

Fall charged that the administration acts toward Mexico had not squared with its "fair words and strong phrases," and he asked what had become of the promises of "pitiless publicity" which the administration announced would be its policy. "For the first time in history," said Fall, "the president has dared to ignore the senate in such a matter."

Chairman Stone of the foreign committee moved adoption of Fall's motion, saying that he objected only to Fall's remarks.

MRS. VILLA FAILS TO HEAR FROM HUBBY

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Los Angeles, Jan. 6.—Mrs. Juanita Torres Villa, wife of General Francisco Villa, declared at her home here today that her husband had dropped completely out of sight. He has not, she said, communicated with her, or with his agents at El Paso, for weeks. She laughed at the report that Villa had gone to Havana to join Mrs. Luiz Corral Villa, also known as his wife.

COLD DAY IN MANITOBA

Minneapolis, Man., Jan. 6.—Thirty-two below, said the thermometer here today.

ENGLISH LABOR IS UNITED IN PROTEST AGAINST CONSCRIPTION

(By United Press Leased Wire.) London, Jan. 6.—Labor leaders dealt today a heavy blow against conscription. The executive committee of the national labor congress presented to that body, in the name of 3,000,000 trades unionists, a resolution in protest against the government's compulsory service plans.

Cries of approval greeted the committee document, which expressed regret that the "nation's solidarity had been gravely imperilled and industrial and political liberty menaced by the plans of the conscriptionists."

Four hundred labor organizations, including the most powerful among England's labor bodies, were represented.

One group even demanded that Arthur Henderson, labor member of the cabinet, resign.

Harry Gosling, president, and a number of labor members of parliament were present.

Preceding introduction of the resolution, the executive committee reported labor's "deep-rooted, traditional and uncompromising hostility to conscription."

"This hostility can not be outraged with impunity," said the committee chairman, amid wild applause, "and especially since the wage earners have volunteered with such splendid chivalry."

The eyes of the nation is centered on the congress. It is expected that the delegates will pass the resolution,

FRENCH LINER CHASED BY SUBMARINE

Passengers of the Karnak Terrorized When Pursued by Under-Sea Craft From Which She Makes Escape

Marseilles, France, Jan. 6.—The French liner Karnak, with 250 passengers, arrived here today, after an exciting flight before a submarine all night. She brought survivors of the British liners Middleton and Abella, sunk by submarines.

Many of the Karnak passengers were hysterical as they realized the possibility that the submarine would overtake them and blast their ship.

"We sighted her at dusk," said an officer. "The captain put on full steam ahead through a heavy storm, and our bow was just splitting the big waves."

Passengers from the Abella and Middleton, just rescued, were so terrorized at their fresh peril that their condition was pitiful. Some passengers stood at the stern, watching the chase, but most of them were too frightened to do other than to cower in corners.

The submarine, an extremely large one, was bothered by the heavy waves, and to this was due the fact that the Karnak managed to outdistance her.

The Karnak passengers were ready for emergencies. Life belts were donned and the boats were swung outward. Meantime, everybody remained fully dressed and sat on deck or in the smoking room while the liner zig-zagged her way through the storm to dodge a possible torpedo.

The Abella had previously been reported as torpedoed, but the above is the first word concerning the destruction of the Middleton, a 2,056-ton vessel. There were two survivors from this ship.

HAMILTON TELLS OF THE FAILURE IN DARDANELLES

London, Jan. 6.—England's failure to send 50,000 reinforcements, requested by General Ian Hamilton, caused collapse of the Dardanelles expedition, Hamilton said today in his final report.

Hamilton made an equally sensational disclosure as to the reason for his recall from the Dardanelles operations, to be replaced by General Monro.

"Earl Kitchener," said his report, "sent me a message suggesting the possibility that we evacuate the Gallipoli peninsula, and abandon the attempt to reach Constantinople. I replied that this was unthinkable, whereupon I was recalled. I was informed on arriving in London that the government wanted fresh, unbiased opinion from another commander concerning the possibilities of early evacuation."

A few days ago John Redmond told parliament that information concerning the Gallipoli abandonment was "something of a scandal," but he refused to divulge then what he knew of it. The Hamilton report is believed to be what he referred to.

RUSSIANS REPORT FURTHER PROGRESS NEAR CZERNOWITZ

(By United Press Leased Wire.) London, Jan. 6.—Though the Petrograd war office failed today to confirm reports of Slav reoccupation of Czernowitz, the official report told of further gains in that region.

"Northeast of Czernowitz," said the statement, "sharp fighting continues. We have taken further hostile positions and inflicted huge losses on the enemy. One unit captured 18 officers and 1,043 men."

South of the Pripet the enemy was driven back, while in the middle Strypa region Muscovite positions were consolidated.

Berlin, via Sayville, Jan. 6.—The Vienna war office today telegraphed an official denial that Czernowitz, Bukovina, has been evacuated, as recent press advices claimed.

The statement declared that despite extravagant claims by Petrograd, the Russians had not advanced near Czernowitz beyond the positions that the Russians have held for months.

"The Russian claims remind one of General Cadorna's reports of the Italian advance," said Vienna. "They are issued at Petrograd for obvious reasons."

CALL FOR STATEMENT OF NATIONAL BANKS

Washington, Jan. 6.—The comptroller of the currency today called for a statement of the condition of national banks at the close of business December 31.

EIGHT PERISH WHEN KANAWHA GOES DOWN

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Parkersburg, W. Va., Jan. 6.—Though Captain Berry of the steamer Kanawha thought all passengers and crew were saved when the vessel sank below here last night, advices today indicated that eight perished, including two women and a baby.

Captain Berry floated with the capsized vessel and pulled out by the hair a woman drifting close to the hull. A man on a raft made of wreckage floated five miles down stream.

SWEDEN MAY JOIN TEUTON ALLIES

Swedes Said to Be Ready in Case Russians Should Become Aggressive, Slavs Being Feared by Scandinavians

Copenhagen, Jan. 6.—Sweden does not intend to let Germany lose the war struggle, even if Sweden is forced to join the central powers to prevent such a conclusion.

Sweden may not insist on an out-and-out German victory, but she feels that, for her own safety, she can not allow the Russians to beat Germany. Sweden is not particularly pro-German, and yet she is not pro-ally, but she is anti-Russian with her whole soul. She will fight with Germany before she will see Russia win, and she believes her strength would be the deciding factor in the last resort.

This outline constitutes the outstanding facts in the Scandinavian situation as presented today to the United Press by reliable sources.

As far back as the Swedes can remember they have been in terror of a Russian attempt to secure a coveted warm-weather port on the west coast of the Scandinavian peninsula. This could be attained only at Norway's expense—and Norway could only be reached through Sweden.

The Swedes claim that they could put into the field 1,000,000 of trained troops.

While military experts doubt these figures, they concede that the Swedes are admirably trained, well armed and tenaciously courageous. In event of hostilities, they would invade Finland, expecting the Finns to join them in a campaign to capture the Russian capital, Petrograd, and then they would sweep southward, to join the Germans near Riga.

The Norwegians sympathize with England from sentiment, and in consequence of trade relations. Moreover, they are mindful of the ruin that England's navy would work on the Norwegian merchant fleet—the largest except England's and Germany's. While Norwegian army men are mostly pro-German by reason of their German training, the masses are friendly toward England. But, for political reasons, the Norwegians presumably would be with the Swedes in case of war against Russia, if they were compelled to take sides. The Norwegians can muster 400,000 soldiers, all well equipped.

On the other hand, Denmark does not enter into Scandinavian calculations in the matter of a prospective struggle against Russia. Denmark is frankly and persistently pro-ally. The Danes hate Germany, remembering how they wrested the tiny territory of Schleswig-Holstein from Denmark years since; further they fear the rest of their possessions will go the same way, and hence there is no chance of their joining in an alliance that would redound to Germany's advantage.

HERMISTON GIRL TO HANDLE CITY FUNDS

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Hermiston, Ore., Jan. 6.—Miss Maude Phelps, 21 years old, is today preparing to qualify for the office of city treasurer January 11. She was elected to the office only a few days after her 21st birthday.

GOV. WHITMAN FIRES PRISON SUPERINTENDENT

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Governor Whitman today requested the immediate resignation of Superintendent of Prisons Reilly for embarrassing the administration of the new warden, Prof. Kirshway, at Sing Sing.