

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

MANY TURKS CAPTURED BY SLAVS

From 30,000 to 100,000 Prisoners, With Many Guns, Fall Into the Hands of the Grand Duke at Erzerum

London, Feb. 17.—Between 30,000 and 100,000 Turks, together with many guns, fell into Russian hands when Grand Duke Nicholas' forces captured the important Turkish Armenian city of Erzerum, said an official Petrograd message today.

The garrison that withstood the onslaughts of Nicholas' men for several days is estimated to have been 100,000, while the modern forts flanking the city mounted more than 1,000 guns.

There is nothing, however, to indicate how many escaped.

The fact that the city fell within five days after storming operations started makes it possible that the captures were large. Moreover, the ordinary exits from the city were few. Then, too, the city was surrounded and heavy snows made the highways impassable, so that it is believed that thousands failed to escape.

Inasmuch as many of the captured guns were modern Krupps, they may prove to be of great value in further Slav operations.

The city is believed to have been aflame when the Russians entered, but whether any of the mosques or government buildings were saved is unknown.

Petrograd, Feb. 17.—Petrograd gave itself over to rejoicing today and crowds in the streets made holiday over the fall of Erzerum before Grand Duke Nicholas' forces. Flags decorated houses and public buildings.

In the dimly lighted Kazan cathedral throngs chanted the Te Deum, while others massed outside in the snow, prayed for the grand duke and hailed him as the national hero.

The capture of Erzerum, the first important Muscovite victory since the retreat from the Carpathians, nearly a year ago, stirred the city to new patriotism, while the newspapers declared it the prelude to Russian clearing of Russian Poland and Galicia before summer.

Details of the capture are lacking, though it is reported that the Turks are moving westward, abandoning part of their artillery. This may mean that most of the garrison escaped from the beleaguered city during or after the five days' attack of the grand duke's men.

Experts now believe that the Turks must abandon their proposed campaign against Egypt, inasmuch as the British forces, soon to be heavily reinforced, are only 110 miles from Bagdad, while the Slavs are heading westward through Armenia. With these two forces thus near to forming a formidable alliance, it is thought the Turks will scarcely risk a drive against the Suez canal.

ASTORIA HOT AFTER NEW NAVAL BASE

Astoria, Feb. 17.—The sentiment favoring a strong naval base for Astoria was at fever heat today after a monster mass meeting in the Astoria theater last night. Able speakers harangued the crowd and urged that every possible means be used to induce the government to make the entrance of the columbia as impregnable as Gibraltar.

SHOE HIDING PLACE OF DIAMOND IS MISSING

Santa Monica, Cal., Feb. 17.—Somewhere in the sunny southland there roams a tramp today with a diamond ring worth \$160.

Mrs. A. D. Brown hid the gem in an old shoe. Then came the wanderer, and the maid gave him the old shoe. Diamond—adieu.

FALL OF ERZERUM CAUSES SLUMP IN MARKS

London, Feb. 17.—The Russian capture of Erzerum caused a record slump in the rates on German marks, said an Amsterdam dispatch today.

NO MORE GAMBLING AT CALIFORNIA RESORTS

Santa Monica, Cal., Feb. 17.—A sudden rush of piety overwhelmed Santa Monica, Ocean Park and Venice today. The piety was personified in a squad of sleuths from the district attorney's office. All gambling games were closed up, and even rolling the Ivories for cigars banned.

CONGRESS TOLD IT CAN TAKE TITLE TO O. & C. LANDS

Washington, Feb. 17.—The house public lands committee today took up the Oregon and California land grant bills, involving disposition of 2,300,000 acres of land in western Oregon, with a view to framing legislation under the supreme court decision giving congress six months within which to provide a method for such disposition. Representatives of the interior, agriculture and justice departments testified.

H. W. Williams, of the justice department, telling of his Oregon investigations, said that he found few actual settlers on the property, and that the land was highly valuable for timber only. He considered that congress is empowered to take the title to the lands again and to dispose of them as it sees fit, allowing the Oregon and California railroad \$2.50 an acre. He advised that the government sell the land for what it can get, but in a manner to insure its development.

No further hearings have been fixed.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER FLOODS MANY TOWNS

Natchez, Miss., Feb. 17.—With the federal steamer La Fourche standing by, rescuers in small boats sought today to take to safety several hundred persons locked in by flood waters at Newellton, La.

The situation there, increasingly dangerous for the past three days, became so serious last night that telephone calls were sent here for aid. The report was that around 1,000 persons were marooned and that there had been three deaths, while the city had virtually no facilities for taking off the stranded.

Thousands of acres of farm land are under water, while a new town, Ostria, La., has been added to the list of submerged places.

Houses have been swept away at many places, livestock has perished, and there are fears that there may be a number of casualties unless the situation is relieved at an early moment.

RUSSIANS LOST 5000 MEN AT ERZERUM

Amsterdam, Feb. 17.—Five thousand Russians were killed, and several thousand wounded, in the last three days of battling before Erzerum, Turkish Armenia, said Constantinople dispatches today.

The Constantinople official statement did not mention the Russian capture of the city, though it told of Russian frontal attacks which took no account of loss of life.

SENATE GETS REPORT ON MEXICO

President Sends Data on Conditions in Southern Republic in Response to Resolution by Senator Fall

Washington, Feb. 17.—Replying to the Fall resolution asking facts surrounding the recognition of General Carranza's de facto Mexican government, President Wilson today sent to the senate the desired report. In it he answered attacks upon his policy, admitted the present Mexican government is military rather than constitutional, but counseled continuance of the present course as the best for the time being.

At the same time, he prophesied the establishment of a constitutional government will supplant the present conditions.

Between 1913 and 1915, inclusive, 76 Americans were killed in Mexico, the report said, as compared with 47 in the previous three years, during which time there was "less domestic strife" in Mexico.

Twenty American civilians and 16 soldiers were killed by Mexicans on American soil during the 1913 to 1915 inclusive period.

The president explained he had recognized Carranza in preference to Villa because the regime of the latter seemed to be disintegrating, while the Carranzistas had undisputed possession of three-quarters of Mexico.

Carranza, the report added, now controls all but a very few sections of the always-bandit-infested country. He is doing extremely well under the circumstances in protecting Americans, the president held.

The chief executive admitted that there are many bandits who can not be suppressed immediately, and that sporadic outrages may be expected for some time.

"Reasonably adequate protection is being afforded, however," said the message.

The senate ordered the report printed as a public document. In form it is simply the president's letter transmitting the report of Secretary of State Lansing, answering Senator Fall's questions and also giving various documents and reports already made public. The president said he approved Lansing's findings.

GERMANY MAKES COUNTER PROPOSAL IN SUBMARINE WARFARE PROTEST

Washington, Feb. 17.—Great Britain must pledge that her liners will not fire upon German submarines before Germany will instruct her undersea commanders not to attack armed merchant ships without warning.

This is Germany's counter-proposal in answer to America's objection to the Tontin decree proposing such unwarned attacks, it became known after an informal conference today between Ambassador von Bernstorff and Secretary of State Lansing.

Germany and America, it was learned, are agreed upon the Lusitania settlement, except that the United States considers future submarine questions, as well as those of the past, must be cared for.

Lansing is understood to have insisted upon adherence to the previously proclaimed American stand for the right of merchant vessels to arm for defensive purposes.

Bernstorff indicated that he must ask his home government for instructions before meeting American terms, and he does not expect to see the secretary before next week.

The Austrian decree for attacks, given out by the department today, was similar to Germany's orders.

MYSTERIOUS JOHN DOE GETS YEAR IN PEN

Portland, Feb. 17.—Percy Campbell, the "mysterious John Doe," whose real identity was not known for a month after he tried to hold up Agent J. D. Stewart at Multnomah station December 21, was taken to Salem today to begin serving one year in the penitentiary.

Campbell was allowed to plead guilty to a charge of attempted burglary and take the light sentence.

"In the language of the street," said Judge McGinn, "it's time you were taking a tumble to yourself; you will probably be killed the next time you attempt such a thing. I'll take off my hat to the man who shot you."

USE 200 MEN ON FACTORY BUILDING

M. D. Gilman, in Charge of Work of Construction, Says About 6 Months Will Be Required to Complete Plant

M. D. Gilman, E. G. Breeze and wife, Stanford Darger and W. O. Sharpe arrived in the city this morning from Salt Lake city, Utah, and are stopping at the Josephine while becoming permanently located as residents of Grants Pass. The gentlemen are to be connected with the building of the new sugar factory, being employees of the Dyer company, the contractors. Mr. Gilman states that this will be the 15th sugar factory upon which he has worked for the Dyer company. He says that he expects Messrs. Nibley and Austin will arrive within a day or two, and that as soon as the corners for the factory are marked out that the work of construction can commence.

Mr. Gilman is field superintendent for the contractors, and will have charge of the Grants Pass building construction. He says that it now requires about six months in which to complete a sugar factory, and that he can have the one here ready in ample time for the first beets to arrive September 1. He states that the steel and machinery, all of special design, will arrive from the factory ready to put in place, but that the other materials, brick, lime, cement, gravel, lumber, etc., will be obtained locally. For a factory of the capacity of the one here, he estimated that about a million brick would be required. About two hundred men will be given employment during the construction period, all of whom must be obtained locally except the few brought from other work to have charge here. Stanford Darger, who arrived with Mr. Gilman, will be assistant to the latter gentleman; Mr. Breeze has the title of commercial agent, and will be in charge of the office work during construction; Mr. Shope is field manager, and will have charge of the heavy derrick work in the erection of the building and machinery. Chas. Staack, timekeeper, also arrived with the party from Utah.

NINE LIVES LOST IN COLLAPSED HOUSE

Mexia, Texas, Feb. 17.—Nine bodies had been taken today from the ruins of the collapsed opera house here, three persons were injured and \$100,000 damage had been wrought as the result of a fire that followed the collapse.

The building caved in last night during an art show. A gas explosion followed, spreading flames to several other buildings. Superintendent of Schools Weisner and his wife were among the dead.

OLIVA TO BE TRIED ON CHARGE OF BIGAMY

San Jose, Cal., Feb. 17.—August R. Oliva must stand trial on February 23 on a charge of bigamy. This date was set for his examination today when he was arraigned in superior court. His bail of \$5,000, which was furnished when he was released yesterday, will stand. Neither of Oliva's wives appeared in court. Mrs. Camille Oliva, wife No. 1, who has divorce proceedings pending against him, is the complaining witness.

FORMER SENATOR LORIMER ON TRIAL

Chicago, Feb. 17.—Former United States Senator William Lorimer, accused of bank wrecking, won the first fight in his trial here today when three indictments charging embezzlement and conspiracy to loot a half a dozen Illinois banks were constructed as his counsel asked.

"I am not saying anything about the probabilities of acquittal," said Lorimer. "Let the verdict decide that."

Friends of Lorimer say that he seeks only vindication in the trial.

ANARCHISTS ARE UNDER FEDERAL INVESTIGATION

Chicago, Feb. 17.—An anarchist plot, extending from San Francisco to New York, and aimed against the government, is under federal investigation, authorities admitted today.

Only word from Attorney General Gregory is awaited, it is understood, before government officials make raids on anarchist groups in San Francisco, Chicago, New York and Pittsburg, where plotters are reported to have arranged to terrorize officials and damage federal buildings.

Evidence of this alleged plan of terrorism is said to have been produced today in a conference between United States District Attorney Clyne and Justice Department Agent Clabaugh from facts gleaned in connection with the alleged "poison banquet" plot of Jean Cronos.

The national scope of the plot is admitted. Hatched in New York, the conspiracy was financed by blackmail, leveled against financiers in many parts of the country. Authorities believe they can get further documentary evidence from the hands of at least a dozen well known anarchist leaders.

"With one swoop we can break up the conspiracy," an official said, "and we are now merely awaiting word from Washington before going ahead. Plans of government buildings in the possession of some of Cronos' associates gave us the first clue to the situation and our later discoveries have borne out the original clue."

It is stated that the conspiracy statute invoked against the late General Huerta would be used, along with the blackmail laws to punish the alleged conspirators.

The presumably incendiary fire at the city hall yesterday is regarded as one phase of the situation.

CONVENTION CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

Delegates From Over the State Will Meet in Grants Pass Friday for Session to Cover Period of Three Days

This evening the vanguard of delegates from various parts of the state will begin to arrive for the twenty-fifth annual convention of the Oregon Christian Endeavor union, which for three days will have possession of the Presbyterian church, the convention headquarters. The delegates will find the church beautifully decorated with pennants and festoons of the state and national colors, the C. E. insignia in the store windows and a hearty welcome in the hearts of the people.

The program is now practically complete, and omitting business and routine work, the high lights of the sessions will be as follows:

Friday Afternoon

3:00. Devotional services, led by Dr. W. P. White.

Vocal duet, Miss Genevieve Pattillo and Mrs. Louise Clarke.

3:45. County and district conference.

Friday Evening

7:30. Song service, led by Jas. McCallum.

Vocal solo, Mrs. Bert Barnes.

7:45. Addresses of welcome by Chairman W. M. Trimble and others.

Response by State President E. E. Felke.

8:00. Opening address, "Efficiency," Rev. C. T. Hurd.

9:45. Campfire meeting, in charge of State Secretary H. H. Rottmann.

Saturday Morning

8:30. Devotional services, led by Dr. White.

Conferences, led by H. H. Rottmann, E. E. Felke, Paul Brown, and L. R. Carrick.

Street meeting at noon.

Saturday Afternoon

1:45. Devotional services, led by Dr. White.

Vocal solo, Mrs. Francis Favre.

3:30. Discussion of problems before the city and country societies, led by Paul Brown and H. H. Rottmann.

4:30. Adjourn for recreation and sight-seeing.

Saturday Evening

6:15. Banquet at Hotel Oxford for delegates and members of the young people's union, with Rev. C. T. Hurd toastmaster.

7:45. Song service at the church.

Vocal selection by High School quartette.

8:00. Address, "Efficient Soul-Winners," Paul Brown.

9:00. Campfire meeting, led by H. H. Rottmann.

Sunday Morning

7:00. Sunrise prayer meeting.

Regular Sunday school and church services.

Sunday Afternoon

3:45. Song service.

Anthem by double quartette.

4:30. Address, "The Call for Leaders," Paul Brown.

Sunday Evening

6:30. Union young people's meeting.

7:45. Union church services, with Paul Brown and Rev. C. T. Hurd in the pulpit.

Vocal solo by Mrs. A. N. Parsons.

In the absence of Harold Humbert, who at a late hour found it impossible to keep the engagement, the young people have secured Jas. McCallum, of Eugene, who will direct

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