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

BACKDOWN BY KAISER IN SEA POLICY

Resignation of Grand Admiral von Tirpitz Is Believed to Forecast Adjustment of Relations With the U. S.

Washington, Mar. 16.—The resignation of Grand Admiral von Tirpitz as head of the German navy has removed the chief obstacle to an adjustment of German-American relations, in the opinion of well-informed men today.

This is a triumph not only for Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, but for American diplomacy. The firm stand of the American administration in the armed merchantman controversy is believed to have figured behind the resignation of the chief exponent of the so-called "frightfulness" advocated by certain German leaders. The resignation is accepted as an indication that Germany will back down in the merchantman controversy and that no American lives will be intentionally imperilled by German submarines.

This result corroborates the exclusive story sent from Berlin by Carl W. Ackerman, United Press staff correspondent, on February 28, declaring that no passenger liner, armed or unarmed, would be attacked by German submarines, despite the decree.

The Hague, Mar. 16.—Resignation of Grand Admiral von Tirpitz of the German navy means an end to the attempt to force ruthless submarine attacks on belligerent vessels, according to reliable advices today.

It caused rejoicing among Berlin citizens who were anxious to preserve good relations with the United States. The resignation was considered a personal triumph for Imperial Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, who is a strong advocate of conciliation with America.

Berlin advices said a further change in the ministry of marine was not expected. The resignation came on the eve of the opening of a reichstag session at which von Tirpitz supporters planned a war on Hollweg's program.

Hollweg, returning from a conference with the kaiser at Verdun, declared the ruler supported him. Von Tirpitz then resigned, and Admiral von Capelle, director of the admiralty's administration department, was appointed his temporary successor. The appointment will probably be made permanent, it is believed.

The kaiser accepted von Tirpitz' resignation, after vainly trying to win him over to the Hollweg program. Von Tirpitz will be decorated with honors and retired on a pension.

Berlin, Mar. 16.—Grand Admiral von Tirpitz' resignation was officially announced today. The change, it was said, did not involve alteration of existing naval policies.

Berlin, Mar. 16.—In some circles it is believed Grand Admiral von Tirpitz' resignation was connected with the kaiser's decision not to extend submarine operations beyond the limits announced to neutrals in the recent official memorandum, said semi-official news agency reports today. Another possible reason was the kaiser's refusal to direct submarine attacks against neutral ships.

SENATE VOTES CASE FOR PUGET SOUND YARD

Washington, Mar. 16.—The senate today passed Senator Poindexter's measure appropriating \$2,065,000 to equip Puget Sound navy yard for battleship construction.

ROAD TO MOUTH OF ROGUE COST HALF MILLION DOLLARS

Washington, Mar. 16.—Over \$500,000 would be required to build a road sixteen feet wide from Gold Beach, Curry county, Oregon, to Galice, Leland or West Fork, three routes that have been suggested.

Such is the report given by Forester Henry S. Graves to Senator Chamberlain, who asked for an estimate on a road in that section.

To the Galice terminal the cost would be \$595,000, it is stated; to Leland \$581,000, and to West Fork \$554,000. For a ten-foot roadway, the estimates are lowered to \$340,000, \$333,000 and \$319,500, respectively.

2000 GERMANS LOST AT DEAD MAN'S HILL

London, Mar. 16.—Murderous French fire from "Dead Man's" hill cut to pieces two German regiments attempting to encircle Bethincourt and halted the Teuton offensive west of the Meuse, Paris dispatches claimed today. Caught in the open, the kaiser's men lost more than 2,000 in a few hours' fighting. A French bayonet charge hurled the survivors back to their trenches.

Latest advices reported a lull in infantry operations around Bethincourt, but French troops were on the aggressive in a series of hot skirmishes at Fort Vaux and the village of Vaux.

The German assault west of the Meuse was evidently planned with great care. First came a bombardment of the narrow sector between Bethincourt and "Dead Man's" hill. Then the German buglers sounded "charge," and a horde of gray-clad men swept up the northern slopes of Goose hill. A terrific machine gun fire staggered the line. It hesitated and broke up into individual units, fleeing back to their shelters.

Following this, Germans charged along three different routes between Bethincourt and "Dead Man's" hill, running through lanes prepared by the bombardment. Less than 100 yards separated the successive German waves which leaped upon the French defenses. Two of the columns were blown to bits by French artillery.

In spite of great gaps blasted in their ranks by shells, the third German column kept coming, and Paris admitted it gained ground.

"In only one section was the enemy successful," said the French announcement. "This was in the center, where by a series of sledgehammer blows in which they lost heavily, the Germans won two salients, a total of about 200 yards. Next dawn our counter-attacks recaptured the territory."

150 ENLISTMENT STATIONS TO OPEN

Washington, Mar. 16.—For the purpose of recruiting the United States regular army up to the full strength authorized by congress, the war department announced today many new enlistment stations would be opened and business would be resumed at 150 bureaus which had been temporarily closed.

Recruiting stations are to be immediately established in Los Angeles, San Diego, Portland, Eugene, San Francisco, Chico, Oakland, Stockton, Sacramento, Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane.

If stations are already open in these cities, branches will be established soon and the present locations will be enlarged.

DEADLOCK IN BATTLE AT VERDUN

French Launch Attacks at Various Points During Lull in Artillery Battle, But No Important Gains Were Made

London, Mar. 16.—During a lull in the Verdun fighting today French troops strongly attacked at three widely separated sectors, war office announcements asserted.

Paris claimed victory in a skirmish east of Apremont forest, southeast of Verdun, where it was said a number of Germans was captured. The communique declared sections of German trenches in Belgium were wrecked by shell fire and mines.

Berlin officially chronicled a French attack south of St. Souplet, west of the Somme-py-Souain road. The assault was repulsed, it was declared, while 152 French prisoners and twelve machine guns were captured.

The infantry fighting at Verdun was unimportant, according to official statements. Berlin reported French charges at "Dead Man's" hill were repulsed and said that in an Alsace skirmish, Germans penetrated French positions, taking prisoners. Paris claimed all German attacks were hurled back.

Paris, Mar. 16.—French troops stormed German trenches east of Apremont forest and south of Verdun during the night, capturing a number of Teutons, it was officially claimed today. There was no infantry attacks north of Verdun. A severe bombardment on both banks of the Meuse continued, especially directed against French lines west of Douaumont.

In La Plage, Belgium, French hurled shells into German trenches, killing many, the announcement said. The Germans failed in an attack near Burhaupt, in the Vosges mountains.

LINER TUBANTIA SUNK IN NORTH SEA BUT ALL ABOARD ARE SAVED

Amsterdam, Mar. 16.—Three hours after a terrific explosion amidstships, the Royal Dutch-Lloyd liner Tubantia sank in the North sea, it was reported here today.

She carried 87 passengers and a crew of 300 men. All were said to have been saved.

Though the Tubantia's captain said she might have been torpedoed, reports at the company's offices said she hit a mine.

The Tubantia was hit at midnight, 12 hours after sailing. A huge hole was ripped in its stern. Wireless messages calling for help immediately flashed over the sea.

Passengers and crew abandoned the stricken liner at once, tumbling into lifeboats while still half asleep. Some were terrified by the explosion, the darkness and horror of the moment, but no panic was reported.

Several Dutch torpedo boats and life-saving craft appeared on the scene at daybreak, picking up the stricken liner's cargo. Only the fact that the explosion occurred while the Tubantia was near land prevented heavy casualties, it is believed.

Two of the Tubantia's heavily-laden lifeboats reached a lightship at 11 a. m. today. Though it is possible some passengers or sailors may have perished during the excitement,

CARRANZA'S ARMY HUNTS VILLA

Pres. Wilson Hopes That the Bandit Chieftain Outlawed by Two Nations May Be Captured by the Mexicans

Washington, Mar. 16.—President Wilson hopes that General Carranza will capture Francisco Villa.

The administration today made no effort to conceal the satisfaction it would give to have Carranza bag Villa before the Americans can reach him.

Villa's raid on Columbus nearly shattered the administration's confidence in Carranza. Reports that American troops entered Mexico with the consent and co-operation of de facto government soldiers did much to convince the White House that Carranza controls the situation.

The greatest danger is from peons who can not be reached through ordinary channels, and who will not see the official statement that the American expedition is not an "invasion."

White House feeling today was that the present crisis will determine Carranza's control over his forces. One prominent official said:

"With a week's start, Carranza ought to land Villa before we can reach him. That's the hope, anyhow."

THE PRICE OF SUGAR TAKES ANOTHER JUMP

Portland, Mar. 16.—The wholesale price of sugar will advance 15 cents more tomorrow, it was announced here today. This makes a total jump of 65 cents per 100 pounds within three weeks.

Three factors, wholesalers say, combine to cause the rise. They are: A combination of sugar interests in Cuba, heavy foreign buying, and a short crop in Hawaii.

the company's advices said all hands were saved.

The cargo's value is unknown.

Three Americans were aboard the liner. Therefore, it is understood, the American authorities will investigate rumors that she was torpedoed.

The American correspondent of the Central News says he was now certain the Tubantia had been torpedoed without warning.

Amsterdam, Mar. 16.—The big Dutch liner Tubantia today was reported to have struck a mine and to be sinking off North Hinder lightship.

Several Dutch vessels received wireless calls for help and hurried to assist. A large steam lifeboat left the Hook of Holland, seeking to locate the stricken vessel. Several British torpedo boats have put out from Flushing in reply to SOS signals.

The Tubantia departed from Amsterdam yesterday, bound for Buenos Aires. She carried a miscellaneous cargo and was reported to have many passengers aboard. The steamer is the largest and fastest in the South American service. She is owned by the Royal Dutch-Lloyd line, is of 13,911 tons, 540 feet long by 65.8 feet beam, and is less than a year old.

HOUSE VOTES TO REPEAL THE FREE SUGAR TARIFF

Washington, Mar. 16.—The free sugar clause in the tariff law was repealed by the house today by a vote of 346 to 14. During the debate, Congressman Kitchin digressed to refute the claim of Congressman Humphrey with regard to the effect of the Underwood law on the northwest's lumber industry.

"He started his calamity howling while the biggest shingle mill in the world was being built at Everett," said Kitchin. "Under the Underwood law Seattle enjoyed the greatest prosperity in its history."

HUNT FOR VILLA IS NOW ON IN EARNEST

Washington, Mar. 16.—The greatest man-hunt in history is on.

Vanguards of the American expedition against Francisco Villa are already well inside Mexico today, but officials expected few results to be reported in the very meagre news early available.

The Americans are somewhere south of Columbus, N. M. Little else concerning them is known.

A race between American and Mexican troops to see which would capture Villa seemed possible. Casas Grandes promised to be the battle ground. The most authentic reports located Villa in that region.

The strength of the expedition is still in doubt. General John J. Pershing is believed to have led about 4,000 men across the line. Fifteen hundred more probably started last night, or will march today from Culberson's ranch.

The two forces are expected to join near La Ascension, probably tomorrow. Then they will head through Corralitos toward Casas Grandes.

A brigade at El Paso awaited the signal to march. When it is to leave has not been disclosed. It is thought its departure may be considerably delayed. El Paso, Juarez and vicinity are believed honeycombed with Villista sympathizers. Prevention of a Mexican uprising in El Paso must be given consideration by the American commanders.

BATTLESHIP KENTUCKY ORDERED TO VERA CRUZ

Washington, Mar. 16.—The battleship Kentucky has been ordered to proceed from New Orleans to Vera Cruz as speedily as it can coal and provision, the navy department announced today. Secretary Daniels gave as his reason the fact that there should be a war vessel with a powerful wireless in Mexican waters.

ENGLAND TO TELL WHY GERMANS WERE SEIZED

Washington, Mar. 16.—England is preparing a reply to America's inquiries regarding the seizure of 38 Germans from the American liner China by a British warship off Shanghai, the state department was advised today.

Frank Metschan left last night for a visit at Portland.

She is commanded by Captain H. K. Wytama. The liner has been in service only a few months, and is one of the most elaborately outfitted "ocean palaces" on the Atlantic.

It is believed possible that one of the German mines reported sowed recently in the North sea may have been struck by the ship.

The Tubantia's crew numbered 300 men. She carried mails and a number of passengers. The captain was taken off by a rescue boat. He said the Tubantia was wrecked by a terrific explosion amidstships. The captain declared she might possibly have been torpedoed.

U.S. SOLDIERS PROGRESS IN MEXICO

Funston Announces Troops Are Proceeding Satisfactorily Though No Important News Is Yet Expected

San Antonio, Mar. 16.—The American soldiers marching into Mexico have made satisfactory progress, General Funston officially announced this afternoon. Aeroplane scouts are believed reconnoitering in advance of the main body. Funston said he expected no important news in the near future, as no Villistas or irregular Mexican forces are known to be north of Corralitos.

San Antonio, Mar. 16.—Uncle Sam won the first lap in the gigantic "hare and hounds" chase in which Francisco Villa's life or person is grand prize.

Army headquarters here was jubilant today. General Funston expressed great satisfaction at the success of his initial movement in getting two columns safely into Mexico. Tension, noticeable for days past, was appreciably easier.

The censorship established at Columbus is expected to fall on Douglas soon.

General Pershing's report explicitly stated that the attitude of Carranza troops was all that could be asked.

Constitutionalist soldiers were detailed to work beside Americans in the dangerous scouting ahead of the main body. Funston authorized Pershing to employ Mexicans for that duty. If Villa counted on defections from Carranza's ranks, he lost again.

That American soldiers are still the best rifle shots in the world, was the belief Funston expressed after receiving his first detailed report of fighting at Columbus. Sixty-seven Mexicans were killed on the American side.

"When you consider that the attack was a surprise delivered in the darkest hour of night, just before dawn, and that our men were aroused from their sleep by the assault, the result is remarkable," said Funston. "I estimate the total number of Mexicans killed on both sides of the border at 150. Once during the pursuit when the Americans were 12 miles over the line, 32 troopers stood off 800 Villistas. It was splendid."

MORE U.S. CAVALRY ARRIVES AT BORDER

Douglas, Ariz., Mar. 15.—Eight troops of the First U. S. cavalry, arriving from California, were placed today on the border, facing Agua Prieta, Sonora, to the south.

Mexicans in both Agua Prieta and Douglas are greatly excited over the American entry into Chihuahua and trouble may break here at any time.

The United States troops at Naco, Ariz., are entrenching, according to reports from there today, indicating that an uprising against the Americans is feared there also.

Ives G. LeVier, Carranza consul at Douglas, stated today that he would file a protest with Washington against the action of the United States military authorities censoring all code messages into Mexico. The action was necessary to prevent Villa being informed of United States troop movements.

W. H. Cook, of Merlin, was in town today on business.