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

CHASE VILLA TO SIERRA MADRES

Bandit Leader, With 200 Followers, Reported a Day's Travel Ahead of the Pursuing American Cavalry

El Paso, April 10.—Doggedly trailing Francisco Villa, American cavalrymen today were believed to be in the desolate Sierra Madres around Parral. At least one full day ahead of this "Nemesia," the bandit chieftain was reported with 200 followers at Magistral, a mining camp in Durango state.

He is making every effort to join the Arrieta brothers, who have 3,000 men around Durango City, according to information from American officers of a mining company at Parral.

Villa passed Parral Saturday. Magistral is nearly 75 miles south, over bad trails. The Sierra de la Candela in that region rears its peaks to a height of two miles, offering greater hardships than the United States forces have yet encountered.

Although spurred on by a desire quickly to end the chase and relieve Carranza from the danger of revolt threatened by generals opposed to the expedition, the Americans are believed falling behind. Villa obtained fresh mounts at Parral. With his great knowledge of the mountain trails, his chances of eluding the pursuers for an indefinite period are considered good.

While official Mexican advices still insist that Villa is wounded, James Hamilton, a British refugee from Parral, said he had absolute authentic word from Mexican miners that the outlaw is unhurt. Hamilton, who is acquainted with the Candela district, said he thought Villa was practically safe from capture there.

Officials refused to take seriously the news of General Salazar's departure after issuing a proclamation asking all Mexicans to join his new revolution. Salazar is known to be opposed to Villa.

Alarmist rumors of imminent danger from El Paso Mexicans rising up simultaneously with a Mexican mutiny at Juarez were treated lightly.

General Gavira is reported to be considering going to Chihuahua City for the purpose of participating in the Villa hunt. If he should do so, General Perternillo Hernandez may succeed him as commandante at Juarez.

5 BRITISH SHIPS SUNK IN 24 HOURS

London, April 10.—Five more British merchant vessels fell victim to submarines or mines during the past 24 hours, according to reports in shipping circles today.

The unarmed vessel Yonne, which is not listed at Lloyd's, was torpedoed without warning, survivors charged. The others destroyed were the Silsworth Hall, 4,777 tons; the Zafra, 3,578 tons, and the Glen Almond, unlisted. All the crews were reported saved.

Later in the day the steamer Eastern City, 4,341 tons, was added to the list of victims. She was not armed.

ESTIMATE OF GERMAN LOSSES IN THE WAR

London, April 10.—German war losses to date total 2,730,917, British newspapers figured today from German casualty lists. This includes 381,437 killed.

SUGAR COMPANY OFFERS PRIZES TO BEET GROWERS

The Oregon-Utah Sugar company has just announced a series of cash prizes to youthful growers of sugar beets during the present season. To the boy or girl under 15 years of age who grows the heaviest tonnage of beets for the Grants Pass factory from tracts of land of specified sizes, prizes will be awarded as follows:

One-half acre—First, \$10; second, \$5; third, \$3.

One-fourth acre—First, \$5; second, \$3; third, \$2.

One-eighth acre—First, \$3; second, \$2; third, \$1.

Each contestant must sign a contract with the sugar company to cover the acreage to be planted. It is understood, and must be so agreed, that the person signing the contract to grow beets for a prize must do all the hand labor in growing and harvesting the beets.

Another form of contest has also been inaugurated by the Oregon-Utah Sugar company, cash prizes being offered for beets testing the highest percentage of sugar grown from the sample packages of beet seed being distributed by the company. Three beets will be accepted from each contestant, and a first prize of \$3, second of \$2 and third of \$1 are offered.

ARMED POSSE HUNTS COX BROS. AT AUBURN

Auburn, Cal., April 10.—More than 100 heavily-armed horsemen maneuvered over the hills between here and New Castle today, hunting for the Cox brothers, Jim and Dave, who shot down Constable F. H. Dependener on the court house steps last night when he refused to liberate their third brother, Bert, arrested for disturbing the peace. Dependener is seriously wounded.

Witnesses say the Cox brothers approached Dependener as he stood on the court house steps and demanded their brother's freedom. He refused and started to walk away. As his back was turned the two men opened fire. The constable quickly drew his own gun and dodged behind a post.

In the duel he was hit in the stomach, leg and head, and dropped senseless. Church bells were ringing and many families were strolling in the main streets as the shots rang out and the Cox brothers ran to their horses, flourishing smoking revolvers, threatening to kill any person that tried to halt them.

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PRES. WILSON SUFFERS FROM TROUBLESOME COLD

Washington, April 10.—President Wilson, suffering from a troublesome cold, cancelled his engagements for today and remained secluded in the White House. The cold was contracted Friday. Bad weather forced him to quickly return from a cruise on the Potomac in his yacht, the Mayflower, by which he hoped to throw off the slight illness. He is reported improving.

DENY LOSS OF TWO SLAV TRANSPORTS

Petrograd, April 10.—Turkish communiques describing the sinking of two Russian transports in the Black sea were officially pronounced fabrications today by the war office.

German submarines, flying the Turkish flag, inflicted negligible losses on Slav transport and supply ships, according to the Russian version.

A Slav destroyer, it was stated, rammed an enemy submarine near where the hospital ship Portugal was torpedoed.

BATTLE OF VERDUN IS APPROACHING CLIMAX

Army of the Crown Prince Hurlled Against the Fortresses of the French City, and the Most Furious Fighting of the World's Greatest Battle Progresses in An Attempt by the Germans to Break Down the Steel-Clad Ring

London, April 10.—The greatest battle in history entered its fiftieth day this afternoon with the German crown prince launching mighty blows at the fortress of Verdun. As the day drew to a close the shell-scarred old hills and villages among which the struggle is raging saw more furious fighting than has occurred since the smash at Verdun began.

Throwing more than 150,000 men into action on an arc-like front, the crown prince and his consulting generals have issued orders for every ounce of power to be brought to bear in a titanic effort to break the steel-clad ring of defenses.

While regiments are advancing under a curtain of shrapnel on the main front, the Germans are pounding at the northwestern and northeastern gates of the city with their heavy artillery and their hardest veterans.

Paris, April 10.—Germans penetrated French trenches for a depth of more than 500 yards on Hill 295 and Dead Man's hill in a series of terrific assaults during the night, the war office admitted today.

The Germans started a general offensive against Verdun Sunday along a front of 12 miles on both banks of the Meuse. They were only successful, however, at Hill 295, according to the communiques. This rise is on the slope of Dead Man's hill. Elsewhere they were hurled back.

On the east bank there was a bloody hand-to-hand struggle south of Douaumont. The French claimed to be making progress in their work of seizing German communication trenches.

After squeezing the French from the Bethincourt salient, the crown prince rushed up fresh troops without delay, said the communiques.

Since the battle of Verdun opened on February 21, the Germans have rolled back the French on both banks of the Meuse, capturing 150 square miles of territory and nearly 30 vil-

SEND MORE MOTORS AND AEROPLANES TO AID IN THE MAN-HUNT IN MEXICO

Washington, April 10.—Hope of breaking up the Villista bands in Mexico grew here today, a month after the orders to do so were issued. Army men thought that Major-General Fred Funston's code reports might bring news of Francisco Villa's capture before the week ends. The warm trail the United States cavalry is following is believed to be growing warmer. When General Pershing's men close in, if they are in anything like fresh condition, Mexico will be rid of Villa, experts here assert.

The state department is probing the sources of rumors which tend to prejudice relations between the United States and the de facto government. Despite the usual crop of wild reports, officials declare the Carranzistas have manifested nothing but friendliness and a desire to be of assistance in the hunt.

The army transportation situation is now under control and more auto trucks will be ordered if needed. But it is hoped that the speedy capture of Villa will make further purchases unnecessary. Two more aeroplanes will be sent to the border this week.

"General Pershing's comments show that there is every indication that the de facto government troops

lages, it was admitted. Nevertheless, the most terrific artillery bombardment in the world's history won only a single fort, Douaumont. It is estimated that losses on both sides total more than 200,000.

London, April 10.—With not a moment's lull in the fierce fighting northwest of Verdun, the Germans have followed up their advance at Bethincourt with drives against the French wings, which are five miles apart.

The battle is becoming more furious than any engagement on the west bank since the smash at Verdun began, advices declared today.

Both sides' losses in Sunday's struggle were appalling. The Germans sacrificed hundreds of men attempting to duplicate the "nutcracker" tactics by which they squeezed the French out of Bethincourt.

The Teutons hope to force evacuation of all outer fortifications to the northwest.

The "nutcracker's" right jaw broke the French line northeast of Avocourt wood. Immediate French counter-attacks ousted the attackers from their hard-won gains.

At the opposite end of the battle front the left jaw of the "nutcracker" was hurled against French ranks between Dead Man's hill and Cumeres. It was heavily repulsed. Emerging from the protection of the forest, the Germans were caught in a withering fire and halted in disorder before they reached the defenders' breastworks.

Berlin, April 10.—Silesian troops cut off and captured 714 French soldiers who were retreating from Bethincourt with 15 large guns, the war office announced today.

Germans also cleared the enemy from the district north of Avocourt and south of Crows woods, where 276 more prisoners were taken.

desire to aid the Americans to the full extent of their ability," said a war department statement.

General Gutierrez, at Chihuahua City, has also offered full co-operation.

With regard to El Paso reports that Carranza would demand withdrawal of United States forces from Mexico, Secretary of War Baker said:

"I do not believe Carranza is communicating with us through El Paso."

Baker would not comment on reports that Carranza had established a "dead line" at the Durango state boundary, beyond which the Americans can not go. It is known that a change in the proposed protocol which Secretary Lansing is understood to have found acceptable provides a limitation for the American field operations, but the exact nature of the restriction has not been learned.

DR. WAITE ENTERS PLEA OF NOT GUILTY OF MURDER

New York, April 10.—Dr. Arthur Warren Waite pleaded not guilty today to a charge of murdering John Peck, Grand Rapids, Mich., millionaire, his father-in-law. The plea was

NEGRO SOLDIER KILLED BY TEXAS STATE RANGER

San Antonio, April 10.—"So they may have a chance to 'work off excess energy,'" Major-General Funston announced today that he had ordered the transfer of negro troops at Del Rio to Mexico. These soldiers, who are a detachment of the Twenty-fourth infantry, were in trouble with the citizens during the night. During the fighting, a state ranger killed one of the privates.

Funston also stated that tentative plans for the removal of the army base at Columbus to a more southern border point had been abandoned.

FIND MEN DROWNED NEAR EUREKA HARBOR

Eureka, Cal., April 10.—The bodies of John Jacobsen, J. Johnson and Leonard Riggs, three seamen of the gasoline vessel Magnolia, were washed ashore at the mouth of the Klamath river and brought here today, following the capsizing of their craft in a heavy surf. Towed by the tug Relief, the wrecked Magnolia was brought into Humboldt bay. It is being pumped out. The body of Engineer Ed Baker was found in the engine room. It is hoped that the remains of Captain Johnson may be found there also.

REINFORCEMENTS SENT TO MEXICO

El Paso, April 10.—Reinforcements and supplies continued to pour into Mexico today as if there were no prospect of a withdrawal soon. Activities in connection with the campaign were speeded up. A field telegraph had already been rushed to Galeana.

Meantime, Francisco Villa and his men are south of the Durango state boundary, which rumor persists in saying is the "dead line" beyond which Washington has promised the United States troops shall not operate.

With a following of 200 horsemen, the bandit chief is marching rapidly toward the interior, apparently intending to effect a junction with Canuto Reyes and Arrietas, both of whom command considerable forces of outlaws.

Villa is at least 50 miles ahead of the most advanced American troops, and is in territory so rough and wild that it is unfavorable for swift pursuit.

On the revival of rumors of an impending withdrawal of United States troops from Mexico, officials and leading business men here conferred to plan to meet any acute situation which may develop from the activities of Mexicans in El Paso and Juarez. It is feared, also, that disgruntled Americans may cause trouble. General Salazar's whereabouts are causing Juarez officials considerable concern. Department of justice agents who only last Thursday questioned him with regard to anti-Carranza plots have been informed that he crossed the border into Mexico with a small escort of former Huerta adherents. It is reported that Salazar is acting as head of the Felicistas in Chihuahua.

The statement that in a secret protocol Washington had promised Carranza not to pursue Villa beyond a fixed distance, and that since Villa was already beyond that limit the Americans would have to withdraw from Mexico, was declared groundless by Consul Garcia.

entered in the court of general sessions. Waite's counsel asked leave to withdraw this plea or make such motion as he might see fit within 10 days. After the proceedings Waite was returned to a cell in the Tombs.

AGAIN TALK SUBMARINE POLICY

Secretary Lansing and Ambassador von Bernstorff Discuss Situation Involving the Two Countries

Washington, April 10.—Germany having pleaded not guilty, according to press cables, to the indictment charging it with torpedoing the British channel steamer Sussex without warning, Ambassador von Bernstorff and Secretary Lansing discussed the general charge of illegal submarine activities today. The conference lasted ten minutes.

If the state department consents to reopen the whole submarine subject, Germany may precipitate a comprehensive controversy on the entire question of submarine attacks against allied freight vessels. There are numerous indications, however, that since Lansing ceased informal negotiations with Bernstorff on the undersea boat issue the state department does not believe such proceedings to be of any value whatsoever.

It remains to be seen if today's conference was the first of a new series of informal discussions. Bernstorff said he had merely been seeking information. He asserted the Sussex case was not mentioned.

Asked if the conference had changed the situation, a state department official replied:

"It could not be said that it has."

SHIP OREGON PAPER TO EAST IN QUANTITY

Oregon City, April 10.—Workmen were busy today loading 25 freight cars with news print paper, to be shipped to a large Philadelphia newspaper. This is the first order received by the Crown-Willamette Pulp & Paper company from the east.

ASK FRANCE TO TELL OF ATTACK ON LINER

Washington, April 10.—The state department today asked France for any information it may have concerning the submarine attack upon the liner Patria. Affidavits describing the attack have been laid before the department.

JIBE DEMOCRATS FOR BACK-UP POLICY

Washington, April 10.—Repeal of the free sugar clause in the tariff bill came under consideration in the senate today. Both parties were pledged to the repeal, but the republican side seized the opportunity to jibe at democrats for what they termed the abandonment of another pledge made at the Baltimore convention.

When the matter came before the house it passed a straight repeal measure. The senate bill only repeals free sugar until 1920.

MEXICAN PEONS THROW STONES AT AVIATORS

San Antonio, April 10.—American aviators who landed in Chihuahua state were courteously treated by General Gutierrez, commandante there, although crowds of peons threw stones before they realized the Americans had come on a friendly mission, it was learned at army headquarters today. Headquarters was not fully in touch with the United States columns in Mexico, but it was stated the officials here would not be surprised if Colonels Brown or Dodd reached Parral today.