

CARRANZA SEIZES CONTROL OF MEXICAN TRAMWAY COMPANIES' LINES AT POINT OF BAYONET

TROLLEY LINES UNDER CONTROL OF MILITARY

Property Valued at \$250,000.00 Jeopardized—Owned by English, French and Belgians—Lines Extend for 250 Miles and Carry Millions of Passengers Monthly.

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 12, by courier to Vera Cruz, Oct. 14.—The seizure of the Mexico Tramways company lines by the Carranza government today was made at the point of the bayonet.

The Mexican Tramways company, Ltd., is a foreign corporation, capitalized at \$1,000,000. Its home office is in Toronto, Can.

Shortly before noon soldiers surrounded the main building occupied by offices and plant, while a delegation of officials entered the premises and served notice on General Carranza that all the books, rolling stock and other property of the company, with the exception of cash in the vaults, must be delivered to the chief of police. The order was given in the name of the supreme chief and was signed by the governor of the federal district.

Explanation of Measure

The government explained that the measure was a provisional one, taken in the interests of public welfare and due to the stoppage of the street-car traffic of the city on noon of last Thursday, when the motormen, conductors, inspectors and shopmen struck because their demands for an increase in wages, an eight hour day and recognition of the union were not granted by the company in the four hours' time limit specified by the strikers' committee.

The principal owners of the property are English, French and Belgian, with some American stockholders. All foreign nemoloyes were kept in the building by troops. The management made a vigorous protest to the Brazilian, British, French and Belgian legations. A formal protest was registered also with Carranza.

Ramos as Manager

Carranza later designated Tomas Ramos as acting general manager of the system. The lines of the company form a network over the entire federal district, extending for nearly 250 miles and carrying millions of passengers monthly.

Due to a depreciation in the Mexican peso, the management informed the government today of its inability to grant the demands of the men for shorter hours and double wages, declaring that passengers were now being transported at less than 1/2 cent sold. Immediately thereafter soldiers took possession of the property. The act has caused a sensation here as the tramway company and the allied Mexican Light & Power company, Ltd., supply all the light, heat, power and transportation within a radius of thirty miles of the capital. The joint investment of the allied companies represents nearly \$100,000,000.

Passengers arriving from Aguas Calientes say that General Villa is thirty miles north of there with a large force and determined to fight unless the adherents of Carranza agree to a commission form of government.

BATTLE IN PROGRESS VICINITY OF OSTEND

LONDON, Oct. 14, 2:45 p. m.—A dispatch to the Reuter Telegram company from Ostend, under date of October 11, says:

Following violent engagements near Quatrecht and Melle, more than 600 Germans were killed and a large number of others wounded. French marine fusiliers charged with bayonets and took 400 German prisoners. The enemy was obliged to retire in the direction of Oorddegem. The battle began again this morning in the neighborhood of Lyde.

WAR DECLARED BY PORTUGAL LATE MADRID RUMOR

LONDON, Oct. 14, 1:21 p. m.—A Central News dispatch from Madrid says it is reported from Lisbon that Portugal has declared war against Germany. The message, which lacks official confirmation, is published in Madrid with all reserve.

LONDON, Oct. 14, 1:35 p. m.—Cabling from Lisbon, the correspondent of the Central News says it is reported that the German minister to Portugal and other Germans residing in Lisbon are about to leave for Madrid.

As a result of conference between the leaders of the various Portuguese parties and the president of the republic, the correspondent continues, it has been resolved to convene congress October 16 in order to pass a vote for the mobilization of the Portuguese troops.

BANKERS GRILL CURRENCY SYSTEM

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 14.—Discussion of the nation's new currency system marked the first general session here today of the American Bankers' association's convention. "Only the wisdom of management by the directors and officers of the various reserve banks and of the federal reserve board can insure the success of the experiment," declared Arthur Reynolds, president of the association, in his annual address.

"It is a just criticism of the measure," said Mr. Reynolds of the reserve law, "to say that it does not take the government out of the banking business and that it confers upon one of our government officials an extraordinary power and discretion unwarranted by the spirit of our institutions and repugnant to republican principles."

CAPTAIN'S HOME IN ANTWERP DESTROYED

NEW YORK, Oct. 14.—Captain Kohlange of the Belgian steamer Samland, which arrived today from London said that his home in Antwerp had been destroyed by a German shell and that he had lost his savings of a lifetime.

"When the attack on the fort began," said Captain Kohlange, "my wife sent two of our children to me in London, while she stayed in Antwerp to look after our home, our property and the other children. When one of the big shells struck our house, my wife was hurled out of bed. She and the children, scantily clad, escaped from the house before other shells fell there. Later they succeeded in reaching England."

HAITIEN REBELS DEFEAT GOVERNMENT

CAPE HAITIEN, Haiti, Oct. 14.—The Haitian rebels have defeated the government troops near Limonade, on the north coast. The president is retreating toward Grand Riviere. Other government forces are returning to Cape Haitien.

BOSTON EXCHANGE RESUME BUSINESS

BOSTON, Oct. 14.—The Boston curb exchange resumed business today after having been closed since July 30. The sheet showing the daily sales, usually issued at the close of business, will not be published for the present.

FRENCH DENY GERMAN CLAIM OF VICTORIES

Operations Developing Normally, Asserts Official Statement—Advances by German Cavalry North of Lys Repulsed—Aviators Pursue Troops—German Attack Repelled.

PARIS, Oct. 14, 3:16 p. m.—The following official announcement was given out in Paris this afternoon:

"In the Belgian field of operations there were some encounters during the night of October 12-13 and during the day of the 13th in the region around Ghent. French and English troops have occupied Ypres.

"First—On our left wing, as far as the Oise, the operations are developing normally.

"Second—On the center previous reports of the progress of our armies in the region of Berry au Bac have been confirmed.

"Third—On right wing there is nothing new."

False News Denounced

"While it is not our custom to reply to the inaccuracies of the German press, it seems to us proper to denounce the false news published in certain German newspapers concerning the pretended destruction of two divisions of French cavalry. This information is absolutely erroneous. The truth is that certain forces of French and German cavalry with supports have been engaged for several days, along the front at La Bassée, Estacies and Bailoul. The German cavalry succeeded in making a very slight advance between the canal of La Bassée and the Lys, but they were obliged to draw back in the territory north of the Lys.

"The losses sustained by the German cavalry are assuredly as perceptible as our own. One of the German divisions suffered particularly because it was pursued during one entire day by our aviators, who did not cease to throw down bombs on the German troops.

Not Attacking Verdun

"Another case is the fact that the Germans announce they are undertaking the investment of Verdun. In this instance also, to learn the truth, it is sufficient to refer to the situation as set forth, on several different occasions in the French official communications.

"The Germans have not succeeded up to the present time in hurling themselves against the fortified position of Verdun. They have, however, made two futile efforts to envelope, at a considerable distance, the French forces, which are operating around Verdun. One of these efforts was characterized by their attempt to go through the Aroenne forest between Binarville and Varennes. It will be recalled that this movement failed with very important losses. We did not even announce at the time that two German battalions had been annihilated in this engagement.

Meuse Advance Falls

"The other enveloping movement on the part of the Germans, undertaken in much greater numerical strength, was directed toward crossing the Meuse in the region of St. Mihiel. If the Germans succeeded in reaching this river in front between Maizey and Chauvencourt, all their efforts to advance farther resulted in failure. These German forces found themselves caught on the flank by detachments of our troops which advanced from the south to the north through the southern section of the heights of the Meuse and through the southern section of the Woivre district."

BRYAN TO PROBE TROLLEY SEIZURE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Secretary Bryan today telegraphed the Brazilian minister at Mexico City for information concerning the seizure of the tramway system. Senator Stone of Missouri had taken to the state department telegrams from constituents interested in the property.

TAX ON PATENT MEDICINES CUT FROM WAR BILL

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Proposed taxation of proprietary medicines in the war revenue bill was ordered stricken out today by the democrats of the senate finance committee. Reports had come of general opposition throughout the country and Majority Leader Underwood and other members of the house ways and means committee had given notice that the house would not agree to a tax on "the poor man's medicine."

Action, however, did not include elimination of the proposed tax on perfumes, cosmetics and chewing gum, which had been added to the house bill.

The committee also accepted an amendment to the proposed tax on shipments of newspapers. This would eliminate bills of lading in the shipment of news and provide that all bundles included in a general package on a single train or other conveyance, should be regarded as one shipment. In lieu of bills of lading, the witness would require publishers to issue on the 15th of each month a sworn statement of the number of such shipments made in the preceding month and attach to these stamps to the value of 1 cent for each shipment. Shipments of newspapers made within the county of publication would be exempted from tax.

GERMANS PLAN TO BEGIN SEIGE BELFORT FORTRESS

LONDON, Oct. 14, 10:12 a. m.—A dispatch to the Central News from Copenhagen says:

"According to a Berlin dispatch received here, the Germans are preparing to lay siege to Belfort with as large force as possible. Almost the entire civil population has left the city."

Belfort is an almost impregnable fortress in France just across the Alsatian border opposite Muelhausen. In the Franco-Prussian war it withstood a siege of more than three months. The town has a population of about 26,000.

COTTON PINCHED BY EUROPE'S WAR

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Some idea of the extent to which the cotton growing industry has suffered as a result of the European war was disclosed today in a census bureau report, showing that for the first two months of the cotton exports fell off more than a million bales compared with the same period last year.

Domestic consumption of cotton during the same period decreased more than 75,000 bales. Imports of foreign cotton, however, increased 42,402 bales, having been brought from abroad, compared with 15,234 bales last year, Egypt sending 13,241 bales, or 3,688 bales more than a year ago.

BELGIAN OFFICIALS ARRIVE AT HAVRE

LONDON, Oct. 14, 7 a. m.—A Reuter dispatch from Havre says the members of the Belgian government arrived in Havre at 8 o'clock Tuesday evening and were received by the minister of marine and the local authorities. Military honors were rendered the Belgians and the populace gave them an enthusiastic reception.

GERMANS TRY FOR REPETITION RUSH TACTICS

Rapid Sweeping Movement That Took Them to Gates of Paris to Be Again Inaugurated—Ostend to Be Seized—Entire Army Corps Is Thrown Into Lille by Von Kluck.

LONDON, Oct. 14, 1:40 p. m.—Out of the mass of wholly irreconcilable assertions regarding the war in Europe emerges the seemingly established fact that the Germans are attempting to repeat the rapid sweeping movement which five weeks ago took them almost to the gates of Paris.

With most of Belgium already occupied, there is nothing that can stop the invaders reaching the coast and remaining there at least temporarily unless the British naval guns are able to render tenure impossible.

The length of their stay at the popular seaside resort, should they seize Ostend, will, of course, depend on the outcome of the great battle now understood to be opening near the frontiers separating the provinces of West Flanders and Hainaut from the French department of the north.

Beyond an unconfirmed report of fighting in the direction of Zeebrugge, a coast town 15 miles northeast of Ostend, there is no further news of the German advance in this vicinity. Further south there is reason to believe that the left wing of the allies has been strongly reinforced, and confirmation of this is found in the statement in the latest report from General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief that the offensive against the Germans has been resumed in that part of the line of battle.

In order to strengthen his forces in this vicinity General Von Kluck has thrown an entire army corps into Lille. This manufacturing town has once before been in German hands, and it has been within the German lines since an early stage of the hostilities. Its occupation today does not seem to have been seriously opposed, in fact, it is explained here that it could not have been without disarranging the allies' line.

According to observers in London, the Germans have been particularly anxious to reach Amiens and thus secure control of the railroads to the north end and to the south.

ALLIES LEFT WING CHECKS EFFORTS OF INVADING ARMY

PARIS, Oct. 14, 7:01 a. m.—The left wing of the allies, where the French and British forces have taken the offensive at certain points against the Germans, is expected to be the scene of sharp fighting.

The occupation of Lille by the Germans, it is believed by the French, will be of short duration. The actions in this vicinity previously have been principally engagements between the contending cavalry forces, but the French official communication now speaks of "our forces" in general and not as previously, "our cavalry," in referring to the troops around Lille, indicating that in addition to the squadrons of allied cavalry their infantry also has got forward.

The German army corps, which has occupied Lille, evidently is part of the force which has been released from service in Belgium.

Having failed in their attacks at Arras, Albert, Roye, Lassigny and Tracy le Mont, there was speculation on the result of the next effort of the Germans. The allies, who have maintained a solid barrier, hoped not only to keep their lines intact, but to make some progress as it is reported they did yesterday.

SWORDS BEAT INTO PLOUGHSHARES FAIL FOR PEACE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Swinging the handles of swords, whose blades by order of Secretary Bryan had been turned into miniature plowshares, Senators William Alden Smith and McCumber made an ostentatious entry into the senate chamber today, after a meeting of the foreign relations committee, in which their attitude toward the pending Nicaraguan treaty had been anything but peaceful.

In the committee meeting each member had been presented with the handle of a discarded army sword and a note saying that the blades had been made into plowshares paper weights for ambassadors and ministers of foreign nations, who had signed peace commission treaties with the United States.

The republican members refused to make peace with the secretary in the war over the treaty with Nicaragua whereby the United States would obtain the Nicaraguan canal route and naval station rights in the bay of Fonseca for \$3,000,000. The committee lacked one of a quorum, and the democrats vainly sought unanimous consent to poll absent members in a vote on the treaty.

REPORT RUSSIANS LEAVE LEMBERG

LONDON, Oct. 14, 4:16 p. m.—In a dispatch from The Hague the correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph company says the Austrian legation at The Hague announces that the Russians have evacuated Lemberg, Galicia, after a fierce fight.

Lemberg has been in possession of the Russians since shortly after the beginning of their Galician campaign.

GENERAL RONDONY KILLED IN BATTLE

PARIS, Oct. 14, 9:10 a. m.—News was received in Paris today of the death of General Rondony, commander of the third brigade of French colonial infantry. The general was killed while leading his brigade against the enemy.

Two English nurses have met their death in field of battle. The women were killed by an exploding shell while they were on duty in a field hospital behind the center of the allied armies.

DUTCH STEAMER CHASED BY BRITISH

NEW YORK, Oct. 14.—Officers of the Dutch steamer Prinz Wilhelm V, which arrived today from the West Indies, reported that the vessel had been chased by a British cruiser while off Asbury Park. Two German citizens were aboard the steamer. When the British cruiser approached the steamer was headed in shore. She ran well within the three-mile limit. The war vessel then turned and steamed out to sea.

WOMEN TOLD TO LEAVE TURKEY

LONDON, Oct. 14, 2:56 p. m.—The Amsterdam correspondent of Reuter's says that the Frankfurter Zeitung publishes a communication from Constantinople which says the British ambassador, Sir Louis Mallet, asked the women of the embassy last Monday to leave the city, and told them: "You must accept the hint without asking the reasons."

ARIZONA ASKED TO WITHDRAW STATE MILITIA

Secretary Garrison Wires Governor Hunt That Militia Complicates Situation—Additional Troops Sent to Frontier to Prevent Mexicans From Crossing or Interfering.

PHOENIX, Ariz., Oct. 14.—Accepting the view of the secretary of war that everything possible was being done to protect life and property, Governor Hunt announced today that he would not at this time send the Arizona National Guard to Naco or elsewhere on the border.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Secretary Garrison today telegraphed Governor Hunt of Arizona that the dispatch of state militia to Naco or to Douglas, as proposed by the governor, would greatly complicate the situation at those places, and that the United States' forces there are now doing everything that should be done to protect American lives and property from the danger to which they are exposed by the fighting Mexicans across the line, short of actually invading Mexico. He earnestly advised the governor to use his influence to prevent Arizona citizens from exposing themselves to danger.

Garrison's Message

"I have just received your telegram of October 13. We have at the present time at Naco, Arizona, 14 troops of cavalry and two machine gun companies. General Bliss reports to me that if the local influential men of Naco will help allay the excitement it will greatly aid in handling a delicate situation. One of the greatest embarrassments arises from the activity of the inhabitants of Naco, Arizona, and of surrounding places, who attempt to get near the boundary line to observe the fighting.

"We are doing everything short of invading Mexico and driving the combatants away by force that we can possibly do. Additional troops would not be of any use to us in doing what it is proper for us to do, under the circumstances. Were you to send state troops to Naco it could only have the effect of further complicating the situation and adding a new element of risk.

Divided Responsibility

"It would also introduce the great peril which arises out of divided responsibility. An ill-considered move on our side may precipitate an armed conflict between the American forces and the Mexicans with ultimate consequences that no one can foresee. I feel you should give the gravest consideration to the great responsibility you assume in this respect before you determine to do so.

"I can assure you and you people that we are giving constant and sympathetic consideration to the situation.

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PARENT-TEACHERS ASK EQUIPMENT

Members of the Parent-Teachers' association appeared before the school board Tuesday evening, and urged and recommended that more equipment be installed in the public schools of the city, upon the grounds of increasing the efficiency of the teachers. Complaint was made that the teachers were hampered in their work by the lack of equipment in many of the departments. The Parent-Teachers' association was represented by Mrs. Porter J. Neff, Mrs. E. H. French, Miss Mears and others interested in this work. The school board took the matter under advisement.