

Forty-fifth Year, Daily-Tenth Year.

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BERLIN DENIES REPORT OF BREAK IN GERMAN LINES

Rumor of Allies' Success at Arras is Contradicted—German Forces Attacking Riga Capture Bridgehead on Dvina—Fighting Continues All Along Advancing Line.

BERLIN, Sept. 4 (by wireless to Sayville).—Rumors that the French and British have succeeded in breaking through the German lines at Arras are absolutely untrue, says the Overseas News agency.

BERLIN, Sept. 4.—The German army engaged in the battle for possession of the Russian port of Riga has won another important victory. Army headquarters announced today the capture of the bridgehead at Friedrichstadt, on the Dvina, about forty miles below Riga.

The text of today's official statement is as follows: "Western theater of war: The situation on the western front is unchanged."

Bridge is Stormed "Eastern theater of war: Army of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg: The bridgehead at Friedrichstadt was stormed yesterday. Thirty-seven officers and 3325 men were taken prisoners. Five machine guns were also captured.

On both sides of Vilna the enemy has repeated his vain attacks. Besides losing a large number in killed and wounded, he left 800 prisoners in our hands. In and around Grodno fighting still continues. During the night, however, the Russians, after suffering defeat everywhere, retreated in an easterly direction.

Fighting Along Line "Between the confluence of the Swisloz the army of General Von Gallwitz is attacking. Up to the present time 800 prisoners have been taken.

Army of General Field Marshal Prince Leopold of Bavaria: The fighting in the passages through the marshy district north and northeast of Grodno continues.

Army of Field Marshal Von Mackensen: The enemy is still holding the bridgehead near Bereza-Kartuska. Further south, in the region of Drobiczyn, sixty kilometers (37 miles) west of Pinsk, the enemy has been repulsed."

HUSBAND REFUSES TO EXECUTE NEGRO

BRENDEN, Tenn., Sept. 4.—A mob early today overpowered Sheriff La Fon near here, seized Mallie Wilson, a negro, and locked the sheriff in jail. The negro was charged with entering the room of Mrs. James White. A noose was tied around the negro's neck, but when Mrs. White's husband refused to be the executioner the mob returned the prisoner to the jail and released the sheriff.

HURRICANE DEVASTATES COAST OF FLORIDA

TAMPA, Fla., Sept. 4.—High winds and water have wrought damage along the Florida coast north of Tampa. One-quarter of a mile of the south end of Sand Key, an island opposite Clearwater, was washed away, the water carrying with it a fishing camp with all houses and equipment. No lives were lost, but the property loss was considerable. A launch with six people is missing from Tarpon Springs.

NEGRO DISCLAIMS CONFESSION OF MOHR MURDER

Alleged Assaultants Say They Were Given Third Degree by Police, But Refused to Sign Statements—Claim Innocence for Themselves and Mrs. Mohr—Doctor Threatened.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Sept. 4.—A denial that they had confessed to the murder of Dr. C. Franklin Mohr was made to the Associated Press today by George W. Healis, Henry Spellman and C. Victor Brown, the negroes who, according to the police authorities, had previously declared that they killed the physician at the instigation of Mrs. Mohr.

Brown told of his experiences at the Providence police station. "They dragged me up and down the room by the arm and kept shaking me," he said, "while one of the inspectors kept repeating, 'You know you did it.' I replied, 'Well, if you say so, I suppose it is so. You seem to know everything.' I never signed anything."

Police Inspector W. F. O'Neil said: "They did make a confession in the presence of Mrs. Mohr. Brown said he shot Dr. Mohr, Spellman said he shot Miss Burger, and Healis signed a statement that he stopped the car near a bunch of grass as directed."

Signed no Confessions Chief of Police Thomas F. Robins of Barrington admitted this afternoon that none of the men had signed a confession. The only statement signed, from them, of which he had knowledge, he said, was that in which Healis advanced the theory that robbery was the motive for the crime.

The denial was made in the county jail at Bristol, where the negroes are locked up. Healis, the chauffeur of Dr. Mohr's car on the night of the murder, was the spokesman, but Brown and Spellman assented to all. "That we are absolutely innocent," Healis said, "and that we believed Mrs. Mohr knew nothing of this crime. We have never signed a confession and anything so said to the Providence police was said joking or in a spirit of anger.

Threatened by Others "Dr. Mohr, to my knowledge, had been threatened by several Rhode Island persons. I found a letter in his car from a man living on Elmwood avenue, in which he threatened the doctor and said that if he did not cease his attentions to his wife he would fill him full of bullets."

Healis declared that the doctor's automobile was followed on the night of the shooting and it was his theory that Dr. Mohr was shot by some men who jumped out of a car, fired at both the physician and Miss Burger and then wrecked the machine on a cross road.

STATE DEPARTMENT NEEDS MORE COIN

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Representative Flood of Virginia, chairman of the house foreign affairs committee, declared today that larger appropriations would have to be made at the next session of congress to care for the work of the state department, which practically has doubled on account of the European war.

"We are now appropriating \$400,000 a year for the emergency fund," he said. "If we are to keep abreast of all that is going on confidentially in the capitals of Europe, we must double the \$400,000."

SUPER SUBMARINE GERMAN INVENTION

BERLIN, Sept. 4.—A dispatch from Christiansa states that a German submarine of a new type, far larger than any previous vessel of this character, has been observed off the southwestern coast of Norway. This is regarded in Berlin as confirming reports that Germany is about to place in commission super-submarines far exceeding the best of her submarines hitherto.

MODERN SOLDIER ADDS LATEST ARMS AND ARMOR TO FIGHTING OUTFITS



To the left is a soldier of the allies begoggled and muzzled against German poison gas, wearing a species of equipment not unlike that ancient Chinese warriors originally used in opposing "stink-pot" and "smoke-ball" attacks.

SLAV'S RETREAT IS MASTERPIECE OF DEVASTATION

GENEVA, Switzerland, Wednesday, Sept. 1, via Paris, Sept. 4. (delayed in transmission).—The Lausanne Gazette publishes a letter from an Austrian officer fighting on the eastern front in which he says: "The Russian retreat is a masterpiece of terrifying, systematic devastation which recalls the retreat of 1812. There is an immense sea of flames behind the retreating Russian armies, caused by burning houses and crops. General Mischenko is followed by well organized detachments of Cossacks whose duty it is to burn everything behind the army. They accomplish their task implacably.

"When the Huns tried to enter Krylow in pursuit of the Russians every street was aflame. They were unable to pass through the huge furnace and lost many precious hours in going around the town by indirect roads and across fields.

"When the Austro-Hungarians arrived at Vladimir-Volynskiy they found the town burning and the town of Verba was also blazing. Every village on the Volynskiy plain as far as Kovel was in flames. The Austro-Hungarian troops had no shelter for days.

"The roads are indescribably cut up and obstructed. Convoys arrive a day and a half late. It would take fifty soldiers to draw one cart out of a mud hole."

STAGNATION RULES MONEY MARKET

NEW YORK, Sept. 4.—Stagnation today followed the turmoil of the week in foreign exchange markets here. The relaxation was so complete that for more than an hour after the opening of the short business day not a quotation on any foreign monies was available.

RUSSIANS CHEERED BY REORGANIZATION OF STAFF OF ARMY

PETROGRAD, Sept. 4.—The appointment of General Alexiev as chief of staff to Grand Duke Nicholas, and of General Ruzsky as commander of the northern armies of Russia, has led to the adoption of a hopeful tone by the Russian press, which expressed confidence in the future operations of the forces of the empire. General Alexiev made a notable reputation in his conduct of the Russian operations against Austria.

The Russian offensive on the right bank of the Viliya river has slowed down. Russian military critics are convinced that the aim of the Germans is to cross the river Dvina, take possession of the railway line between Riga and Dvinsk, capture Vilna and also the fortress of Rovno to the south and entrench for the autumn and winter. It is believed here that the Russians have excellent chances of successfully defending the Dvina line.

HARRY THAW VISITS 'FRISCO EXPOSITION

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Sept. 4.—Harry K. Thaw arrived in Sacramento at 1:30 this morning from Placerville on his way to the San Francisco exposition. Reservations had been made in advance at the Hotel Sacramento and he gave orders to the clerk that he was not to be disturbed until late in the morning. He expects to continue on to San Francisco today.

DWARF DEAD AT AGE OF 107 IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Sept. 4.—Mrs. Jeanette Schwartz, who died last night in the Brooklyn Home for the Aged, in her 107th year, established a record, it is believed, for longevity among dwarfs. She was two and a half feet high and weighed less than 25 pounds.

THIRTY MEXICANS REPORTED KILLED IN BORDER BATTLE

BROWNSVILLE, Tex., Sept. 4.—Seven Mexicans were killed in a battle this afternoon between Texas rangers on the American side and the Mexicans, believed to be Carranza soldiers, on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande near Old Hidalgo, Tex.

The battle was still being waged at 2 o'clock. They fired across the Rio Grande this morning on a Texas ranchman, near where the fighting was being waged this afternoon.

No one on the American side had been killed when the last report was received here. At 3 o'clock this afternoon the battle between Americans and Mexicans between Mission and Old Hidalgo was in progress. Between 25 and 30 Mexicans had been killed, according to reports here. The firing was across the Rio Grande over a two-mile front.

MILITARY COURT TO BRING ELLIOTT BACK

DENVER, Sept. 4.—The military court of inquiry investigating charges against Adjutant General John Chase and other officers of the national guard of Colorado today considered means of bringing C. D. Elliott, wanted as a witness, back from West Virginia.

Extradition can be sought only after the returning of an indictment or the filing of an information charging Elliott with a felony. Pending decision as to its policy toward Elliott, the military court resumed the taking of testimony relating to charges against officers of the guard.

FIVE LITTLE GIRLS PERISH IN FIRE ORPHAN ASYLUM

St. Francis Girls' Directory Orphanage at San Francisco Burns—Sisters in Charge Prove Heroines, Marching Charges Out Through the Smoke-Filled Halls.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 4.—Five little girls perished early today in a fire which destroyed the St. Francis Girls' Directory Orphan asylum. One body was identified as that of Katie O'Brien, 5 years old.

Fifty-two children and six adults, housed in the five-story frame building, high on a hill, were awakened by the flames and only the heroism of Sister Mary Agnes kept the death toll so small.

Sisters Rescue Helpless Forty-seven others and several blind and aged women were guided safely out of the burning five-story frame building by Mother Superior Margaret, Sister Mary Agnes and Sister Mary Katherine.

The bodies of two children, Elizabeth O'Brien, 5 years old, and Katie O'Brien, her sister, 14 years old, were identified.

The bodies of three other small girls were burned beyond recognition, lying in one little bed on the fourth floor. About them blackened timbers protruded and great holes were burned in floors, walls and ceiling. They had been enveloped by the flames.

March to Safety The mother superior and the two sisters were aroused soon after midnight by the smell of smoke, the crackling of the fire and the tinkle of breaking glass. They awakened their little charges and with all but the five who are dead, marched through smoke-filled hallways, downstairs to safety.

Three infirm women, two of them blind, were rescued by Patrolman O'Rourke. O'Rourke climbed through a window into a room where Miss Mary O'Gorman stood, with her escape by other ways cut off by the fire.

Miss Ellen O'Brien and Miss Mary Montague were found later by O'Rourke, wandering aimlessly through rooms not then attacked by the fire.

Children in Nightgowns The threescore women and children conducted their fire drill in their night clothing. One little girl, cooler than others, began dressing when aroused and came out fully clothed. A favorable wind spared St. Joseph's hospital, close by, where there are housed more than 200 patients. Nurses and patients watched from the windows of the hospital and saw the long line of little girls in their night clothes march from the door, shivering and frightened.

Hundreds of persons gathered by the alarm threw coats and cloaks about the children and aided them.

SUBMARINE UNABLE TO SINK BRITISH BARK

LONDON, Sept. 4.—Word was received by Lloyds today that the British bark William T. Lewis, owned in San Francisco, was still afloat. She is waterlogged.

A message received in San Francisco yesterday said that the William T. Lewis had been fired on by a German submarine off Queenstown and was believed to have been sunk. She sailed from Everett, Wash., on March 29 for Sherness, England, with a cargo of lumber. A subsequent cablegram from Queenstown said the vessel was reported to be a derelict and that her crew had been rescued.

ALABAMA LEGISLATURE COMMENDS PRESIDENT

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Sept. 4.—The Alabama senate and house today adopted a joint resolution congratulating President Wilson for his stand on submarine warfare and praising his efforts to obtain safety for Americans traveling on ocean liners.

RECLAMATION SERVICE MAKES WATER SURVEY

Investigation of Irrigation Possibilities in Rogue River Valley to Be Made by Federal Reclamation Engineers, Jointly with State Engineer—Cost to Be Ascertained.

Portland, Sept. 4. Reclamation service has ordered that investigation by federal engineers as petitioned for by Water-Users' association be made of water resources of the Rogue River valley. (Signed.) GEO. E. CHAMBERLAIN.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 28. Mr. Henry Hart, president Water Users' association, Medford, Or.

My Dear Sir: Your letter of August 18, addressed to the secretary of the interior, relative to investigation of feasibility of irrigation in the Rogue River valley has been referred to this office. The reclamation commission has considered this matter carefully and has decided that such investigation as you request should be undertaken. Instructions will accordingly be issued to have this work started at an early date. Yours truly, A. P. DAVIS, Director and chief engineer.

Dr. Henry Hart, president of the Water Users' association, received the above letter Saturday from Arthur P. Davis, director and chief engineer of the federal reclamation service, Washington, D. C., formally approving the application made by the association for a federal survey of the water resources of the Rogue river valley jointly by the federal and state governments.

The survey will be made at once by Engineer Whistler, who is division engineer at Portland, in conjunction with State Engineer Lewis, and will be paid for from the fund set aside by the state an government for joint reclamation work.

The object of the survey is to ascertain definitely the area of the valley that can be irrigated, the amount of water available for irrigation from the various sources, the estimated cost of construction and recommendations as to methods of securing the water.

The amount of water that can be developed from each available source, the cost of developing and placing it on land, the comparative merits of the various irrigation schemes will be definitely ascertained by non-interested and authoritative engineers, whose recommendations will form a definite plan to present to the people to secure needed irrigation.

Hitherto the league has been working blindly without a definite plan for securing water. Its efforts have been directed to arousing irrigation sentiment. Not having the funds necessary to secure the survey, application was made to the reclamation

(Continued on page six)

ANDERSON LEADS 500 MILE RACE

FORT SNELLING, Minn., Sept. 4.—Promptly at noon Starter Fred Wagner sent out their way the fourteen cars entered in today's 500-mile automobile race.

Resta, Anderson, Cooper and De Palma comprised the first squad to leave, the others following at periods of ten seconds. Ideal weather prevailed.

Cooper led at 300 miles, with his teammate, Anderson, in second place. Anderson took the lead at 301 miles when Cooper stopped for gas. Cooper and Anderson had a twelve-mile lead on O'Donnell, in third position. Cooper's average for this distance was 88.28 miles an hour.