

VILLA REPORTED SURROUNDED BY JOINT FORCES

Carranza Commander States That Bandit Was Defeated by Americans and Mexicans With Loss of Several Men and a Hundred Horses—Battle Impending at El Oso.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 24.—General Pershing reported to General Funston today that two columns of the American expeditionary force were in the vicinity of Naniquipa, where he said Villa was last reported. No mention of other operations was made. This report, dated today, was the first in which General Pershing had referred to movements south of Casas Grandes since Monday.

He said he had established a temporary base at Valle, 55 miles south of Casas Grandes, on the way to Naniquipa. Several dust storms had made impossible the use of aeroplanes, his report said. General Pershing added that unless permission could be secured to use the Northwestern railroad for the movement of supplies, additional motor trucks would be required.

Battle Is Reported.

EL PASO, Tex., March 24.—No word had come to military headquarters early today to throw a light of confirmation on a report that the United States troops and the Carranza army had surrounded Villa and his men and a battle was imminent. The report was received by Mexican Consul Andres Garcia.

The Villa outlaws were said to be hemmed in at El Oso about five miles south of Naniquipa, whither Villa had fled after a conflict with the Carranzistas at Santa Gertrudes, Villa, according to a dispatch from General Bortani, Carranza commander in the field of operations, made a stand in the Santa Clara canon near Santa Gertrudes, but was driven out with a loss of several men killed and 100 horses captured.

Villa's Horses Captured.

The loss of the horses was a hard blow to Villa, it was said, as he depends on the high quality of the mounts of his men to execute rapid moves from place to place and thereby throw off his pursuers. In all of Villa's raids he has seized scores of horses, and these have been corralled in various sections of the Chihuahua district, so that as the Villistas dash from one section to another they can supply themselves with fresh mounts held in reserve for this purpose.

Information regarding the impending battle at El Oso was expectedly awaited today by Consul Garcia and General Gavia at Juarez. Brigadier General Bell at Fort Bliss was without information regarding General Pershing's forces, whose strategic moves in the Chihuahua district have been cloaked in strict silence. For several days General Pershing has made no report to his superiors regarding his movements. Apparently he is making his own plans of campaign and executing them without reporting any move to Major General Funston and the war department.

Fine Farming Region.

The El Oso district, where fighting is reported, is considered by Americans of long residence in Mexico to be the finest pasture and farming country. It is noted especially for its fine potatoes, but it also produces the best quality of wheat and corn and a neutral grass that grows knee high in the meadows. Although the farms have suffered much from raids, the peons still persist in their labor, and Villa is sure of food and livestock there as well as pasture and

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SAYS MEXICANS MASSING TROOPS NEAR DOUGLAS

Senator Ashurst Receives Telegram From Douglas Declaring Situation Critical—American Consuls and General Calles Deny Reports of Troop Movements or of Danger.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—A telegram from D. A. Richardson, Douglas, Ariz., to Senator Ashurst, saying Mexican troops were massing across the line from Douglas, pointing out that the Columbus massacre could easily be repeated in the Arizona front and asking that help be given before it was too late, was given out here today by Senator Ashurst.

Senator Ashurst said he knew Richardson and regarded his information as authentic. "I am giving this telegram for publication," said Senator Ashurst, "and will not even submit it to the senate because it would be useless. I am tired of trying to get anything done."

Asks Preparedness.

Richardson's telegram follows: "Mexican general has 40 pieces of artillery and 3000 cavalry stationed ten blocks from center of Douglas. Seven thousand cavalry six miles miles south of Douglas. We have only 1800 infantry, 300 cavalry and 4 pieces of artillery. Our troops stationed two miles east of Douglas. Am reliably informed that it would take one hour for our troops to reach Douglas in case of night attack. Our army forbidden by administration from crossing the border."

Statesman have been barred wire entanglements. We have no entrenchments. Mexican troops could easily repeat Columbus massacre in Douglas on much larger scale and return to Mexico with similar loss. All of these statements can be verified by our army officers here. Help us if you can before it is too late."

Conflicting Reports. Conflicting reports of the massing of Carranza troops on the border reached here today. American consuls in northern Mexico, under orders of the state department to investigate the troop movements reported that they found no massing of troops near Agua Prieta.

DOUGLAS, Ariz., March 24.—General P. Elias Calles, military governor of Sonora, today again denied reports that a large number of American troops have reached Agua Prieta, opposite here, from the south. The message did not reveal an increased number of troops in Agua Prieta.

No Troops at Douglas.

Several persons who visited Agua Prieta said they did not believe the Mexican troops there numbered more than 100. From 800 to 1000 troops, commanded by General Calles, are located at Cabullona, eighteen miles south. From 2000 to 4000 Mexican troops, according to Mexican officials, have been sent to eastern Sonora to guard the Chihuahua-Sonora state line.

In Douglas are sufficient United States troops to cope with any situation that possibly can arise, according to army officials. At the international boundary are three regiments of infantry, the first cavalry brigade and one battery of artillery. Trenches filled in with soft earth, parallel the border and could be occupied by American troops in less than one hour if necessary. Officers say soldiers could be in control of Douglas within thirty minutes after any imminent trouble was reported.

No entrenchments have been dug or entanglements created by the Mexican troops in Agua Prieta. The soldiers at Cabullona dug a small trench around their camp week ago.

BERLIN, March 24.—Dr. Karl Helfferich, secretary of the imperial treasury, told the reichstag today that the fourth German war loan had been a brilliant success, the subscriptions having reached more than 10,000,000,000 marks.

GERMAN LOAN BRILLIANT SUCCESS

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TWO MORE STEAMERS SUNK BY TORPEDOES

LONDON, March 24.—Another Danish steamship has been sunk—the Christiansund, of 1017 tons. Her entire crew of 22 was saved. The British steamship Fulmar, 1270 tons, also has been sunk. Eighteen of her crew were rescued.

GERMANS TAKE MORE TRENCHES NEAR VERDUN

Berlin Claims Two More Trenches at Haucourt Occupied—Russians Continue Vicious Assaults on the Northern Sector—Artillery Duels Increase in Intensity.

BERLIN, March 24, via London.—Further successes have been won by the Germans in the vicinity of Haucourt, northwest of Verdun, army headquarters announced today two additional trenches having been occupied.

On the Russian front the vicious attacks on the German lines in the northern sector have been continued, both northwest and south of Dvinsk. All the assaults have broken down, the statement declares.

German Statement.

The text of the statement follows: "The violence of the artillery duels increased considerably at times in the Champagne, on the Somme-Pyrenean high road, and in the Argonne and in the Meuse district as far as the Moselle."

"Following up our successes of Wednesday we occupied another couple of trenches west of Haucourt. On this occasion the number of prisoners increased to 32 officers and 879 men."

"Eastern theater: While during the day the Russians collected their forces only for a strong advance against the bridgehead at Jacobstadt, part of Buschhof, they undertook during the night repeated attacks on the Mitan-Jacobstadt railway, an attempt to attack us by surprise south of Dvinsk, and exhausted themselves in uninterrupted fierce storm attacks against our front north of Widay. All their attacks broke down with heavy losses in men."

French Statement.

PARIS, March 24.—There has been no change in the situation around Verdun since yesterday, according to the war office announcement this afternoon. West of the Meuse the night was calm. East of the river there were intermittent bombardments.

The text of the statement follows: "In the Argonne our batteries last night annihilated with energy the enemy positions in the wood of Malancourt. Near Hill No. 285 we caused the explosion of a mine and occupied the resulting crater."

"West of the Meuse the night passed quietly. East of the river there was intermittent bombardment in the vicinity of Donanmont and Damloup."

"In the Woivre there have been outbursts of artillery fire in the sectors of Moulainville and Eparges, both sides taking part."

"There has been no other development of importance on the rest of the front."

EXPUNGE INDECENT SPEECH FROM RECORD

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Senator Clark, at the direction of the house, today named a committee of five to investigate and report on expurgating from the Congressional Record a speech on Texas politics inserted under the leave to print privilege by Representative Davis. Representatives complained that the speech was indecent, vituperative and libelous in any publication but the Record.

CONSIDER INCREASE IN SUGAR TARIFF

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Serious consideration was given by the senate finance committee today to a proposal not only to repeal the free sugar clause of the tariff, but to increase the present tariff by half a cent a pound and levy a production tax of one cent a pound on all sugar produced in the United States to raise emergency revenue.

WHERE PERSHING IS IN PURSUIT OF VILLA



Map of portion of Northern Mexico, scene of American pursuit of Mexican bandit. Numiquipa is just above the letter "C" in Chihuahua, near center of map 2 1/2 inches from bottom.

WAITE CONFESSES TO GIVING POISON TO FATHER-IN-LAW

NEW YORK, March 24.—District Attorney Swann announced late today that Dr. Arthur Waite, accused of the murder of his father-in-law, John E. Peck, had confessed that he had purchased a quantity of poison and given it to Peck in a small package. Waite denied, however, having himself administered the drug or of knowing that Peck took it.

The district attorney added that Waite said he had bought the poison at Peck's request because the aged millionaire wished to commit suicide.

District Attorney Swann said the druggist's record showed that Waite had purchased enough poison to kill several men. Dr. Waite, in denying to Assistant District Attorney Broilings the charge of poisoning his father-in-law, said he had never in his life purchased the kind of poison said to have caused the death of Peck. When informed of the druggist's record he "became suddenly glum and refused to talk," Broilings reported.

The district attorney also examined Miss Catherine Peck, the aged sister of the drug manufacturer. He announced he had learned from her that she had given \$40,000 to Waite to invest in mortgage bonds, but instead of doing so he had used \$30,000 in a speculative account with Wall street brokers, and sent \$10,000 to his brother.

MINISTER VAN DYKE RETURNS TO HOLLAND

THE HAGUE, March 24, via London.—Dr. Henry Van Dyke, American minister to The Netherlands, arrived here last evening after spending a brief vacation in the United States. He was a passenger on the steamer Rotterdam.

NO NEED TO CALL OUT MILITIA FOR MEXICAN SERVICE

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The question of calling the National Guard for border duty to release regulars for service in Mexico was discussed at today's cabinet meeting, but it was decided there was no prospect of such action at this time.

The cabinet was told there was sentiment in congress to protect the constantly lengthening line of communications of the American punitive expedition by sending more regulars into Mexico and placing guardsmen along the border.

Major-General Funston, however, had not asked for additional troops. It was said today, and war department officials did not believe mobilization of state troops was now necessary. After the cabinet meeting official showed they feared a mobilization of guardsmen would have a disquieting effect in Mexico. They expressed confidence that American troops in Mexico were in no danger. Should large bodies of Carranza troops go over to Villa, however, the question of calling out the guard will be considered.

CALIFORNIA COW BREAKS WORLD RECORD

SACRAMENTO, March 24.—Tillie Aleartha, a Holstein-Friesian cow owned by A. W. Morris and Sons corporation at Woodland, Yolo county, already holder of the one year world's record for milk production, last night completed a test which gave her the world's record for two years' production. Her figure for the two years is 69,278 pounds.

CANNON SEEKS WITHDRAWAL LITERARY TEST

Immigration Bill Defeated by Congress—Uncle Joe Declares Names of Two-Thirds of House Come From Immigrants—Roosevelt Not on List of First Families of U. S.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—A lively debate occurred today over the literary test, which was supported by those who pointed to the possibility of vast immigration after the European war and opposed by former-Speaker Cannon, who ridiculed it.

Armed with a census report of 1790 he argued that the names of two-thirds of the members of the house were not found among those then recorded in the United States, and that the names of many men foremost in national life showed by their absence in the list that their forefathers had been immigrants.

No Roosevelts Either.

"There were no McKennans, Pitneys nor Vandevanters," he said, "nor no McAdams, Burlesons or Houstons to sit about the cabinet table. I can find among the first families of that time no Agassis, Edisons or Westinghouses, no Carnegies, Harrimans, Havemeyers, no Astor, Belmont or Lorillard, no Funston or Pershing, no Watterson or Pulitzer no Gompers or Morrison and Billy Sunday."

"Another name not on the list is that of Roosevelt."

The house cut loose with an approval of applause that continued until Mr. Cannon rose and bowed. Asiatic Provisions. The Asiatic provisions were explained by Representative Hayes, of California. He said they were acceptable to the secretary of state and to the Japanese government. He said he saw nothing in the bill that was offensive to Japan or any other government.

"We have the authority of the secretary of state, which we had before the provisions were incorporated into the bill, that there was no objection to them," said Mr. Hayes.

"The committee was unanimous in that it was not desirable to put in the bill anything offensive to Japan."

"All that the people of California and the Pacific coast want," he said, "is to protect themselves against the labor menace of the Japanese and Asiatic labor generally."

On Pacific Coast. Mr. Hayes said Pacific coast people did not want to see another race imported there.

"We are willing, entirely willing," he explained, "that the student, the traveler, the scientists and business men from the orient shall come into this country, but we on the Pacific coast do not want to be submerged by an overwhelming influx of labor from the orient, overwhelming us as they have the Hawaiian islands. This is the reason for our insistence on this legislation."

Mr. Hayes said that Pacific coast folk are grateful to the Japanese government for maintaining the gentleman's agreement "preventing the laborer of Japan from overwhelming us on the coast." The bill, Mr. Hayes added, was not aimed at any particular element of the Caucasian race, nor at any religion and was only aimed in its large operations at one large class of people, "those who are ignorant and stupid, that's all."

Representative Johnson, of Washington, urged the need of Hindu exclusion. Representative Kahn, of California, told the house that the literary test was no test of character. "Strike the test from this bill," he said, "and I apprehend almost every member of the house will vote for it. Do we find illiteracy in this country? Of course we do. Let us sweep our own doorsteps before we talk about illiteracy in other parts of the globe."

ALLIES REFUSE TO DISARM MERCHANTMEN

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The entente allies, replying individually to Secretary Lansing's suggestion for the disarmament of all merchant ships, have in effect declined the proposal.

ANTARCTIC SEA SAFELY CROSSED BY SHACKLETON

Explorer and Party Marooned for Another Year on Ross Sea, Through Loss of Steamer, Leaving Ten Men Ashore—No Ship to Meet Explorer on Return to Base of Supplies.

SIDNEY, N. S. W., March 24.—Lieutenant Sir Ernest H. Shackleton has returned from his Antarctic expedition. News of the achievements of the expedition is withheld for the present.

LONDON, March 24.—A dispatch from Sydney says that the steamship Aurora, of Lieutenant Shackleton's expedition, has broken from her moorings at the Ross sea base, leaving most of the party ashore and unable to embark. According to these advices Lieutenant Shackleton and his companions will be compelled to remain another year before it will be possible to rescue them.

No Ship to Meet Him.

Reuter's Telegram company states that a wireless dispatch has been received announcing that the Aurora has gone adrift in the Antarctic sea, having broken from her moorings in Ross sea while a party of ten men was on shore. This party consisted of Lieutenant Aeneas MacIntosh and nine members of his staff. These ten are thus left on shore.

The consequence is that if Lieutenant Shackleton has got through and crossed the Antarctic continent there is no ship to meet him and the whole party will have to remain on the shore of Ross sea for another year.

Crossed the Antarctic.

The dispatch received in London from Sydney indicates that the point at which Lieutenant Shackleton has arrived, which was not brought out in the first announcement of his return, was at the Ross sea base. There the party was to have embarked on the Aurora to return to New Zealand, whence the Aurora set out.

Ross sea, named for the English explorer, John Ross, who discovered it in 1842, is between latitude 70 and 80, and it within the Antarctic circle. The Shackleton base probably is between 1500 and 2000 miles from New Zealand.

If Lieutenant Shackleton has reached this base he has crossed the Antarctic region to a point which is perhaps 800 or 1000 miles beyond the south pole.

Purpose of Exploration.

The adventure of Lieutenant Sir Ernest Shackleton, heading the British trans-Antarctic expedition, had a three-fold purpose, to navigate Antarctic on a meridian; to secure for the British flag the honor of being the first national emblem thus to be taken from sea to sea across this south polar realm and to conduct scientific work relating, among other phases, to meteorology, geography, geology and geodetic survey.

The expedition left England in two sections about six weeks after the European war began, but it was not until early in January, 1915, after delay due to unfavorable ice conditions, that the party headed by Sir Ernest set off on a 1700-mile voyage from South Georgia, an uninhabited island in the south Atlantic ocean, about 500 miles due east of Cape Horn, for Ross sea, on the other side of the south pole.

GOVERNMENT TRIES TO LEASE WIRELESS

SAN FRANCISCO, March 24.—The United States government has asked upon what terms the Federal Telegraph company would lease its high-power Poulsen wireless station at El Paso, it was learned here today.

Officials of the Federal Telegraph Co. admitted that overtures had been made, but would not say whether the suggestion had come from the war or navy departments. It was said that the latest offer is a renewal of former negotiations. Negotiations for Poulsen field outfits were also said to be under way.