

MEDFORD OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1916

NO. 13

FRENCH RETAKE  
'SQUARE WOODS'  
FROM GERMANS

Capture of a Large Portion of Position North of Avocourt Reported After a Day and Night Battle in Verdun Region—Germans Take the Town of Haucourt Under Fire.

PARIS, April 6.—The war office announced this afternoon the capture by the French of a large portion of the position north of Avocourt, known as Bois Carre, or "square woods." This ground was captured in the course of fighting which went on all of yesterday afternoon and last night in the Verdun region west of the Meuse on the Avocourt-Bethincourt line.

At one point along the Avocourt-Bethincourt line the Germans succeeded in penetrating French positions at Haucourt.

Two attacks were made by German troops against French positions north of Callette woods, but they were without result.

The text of the communication follows:

#### Surprise Successful

"In the Argonne a surprise attack delivered by us this morning on one of the enemy's trenches near the highway of St. Hubert resulted in our inflicting perceptible losses on our adversaries and in bringing back some twenty prisoners.

"In the region of Verdun the enemy after the relative calm of yesterday afternoon gave evidence of great activity during the evening hours. As the night progressed there took place to the west of the Meuse a bombardment of extreme violence in the region between Avocourt and Bethincourt. This was followed by a series of attacks in which large numbers of men took part against the two principal parts of this front. All the efforts of the enemy against the village were repulsed by our fire.

"During this same time the enemy delivered a furious attack on the center against the village of Haucourt. In spite of repeated efforts and of bloody sacrifices they were successful in getting a footing during the night in this village. We now hold the village under the fire of our dominating positions.

#### Capture of Wood Claimed

"On our side after a short preparatory artillery fire, we delivered a spirited attack, our men coming out from the redoubt of Avocourt, their purpose being to connect this redoubt with one of our works situated on the boundary line of the wood north of Avocourt. During this operation, which was in all respects successful, we occupied a large portion of the territory known as Le Basse Carry and took fifty prisoners.

"East of the Meuse two enemy attacks north of the Callette wood resulted only in serious losses to the Germans."

CHINESE REBELS  
VICTORS IN SWATOW

AMOI, China, April 6.—Revolutionaries have taken the entire city of Swatow in their possession. Business is at a standstill. The native population is reported to be panic stricken as they fear an attack by government troops from Canton.

The American gunboat Wilmington is protecting foreign interests at Swatow. The commander of the warship and the American consul are preparing to prevent fighting in the foreign property area if an attempt is made by government troops to recapture the city. The rebel forces are well disciplined.

FORD'S MAJORITY IN  
MICHIGAN IS 4000

DETROIT, Mich., April 6.—Detroit papers which compiled returns election Monday were agreed that Henry Ford of Detroit defeated United States Senator William Smith of Grand Rapids by the nomination by a majority 500 to 4500.

ZEPPELIN RAID  
UPON FACTORIES  
NORTH ENGLAND

Germans Claim Destruction of Battery, Iron Works and Other Factories—British Claim Child Killed and No Extensive Damage—One Airship Crippled.

BERLIN, April 6.—The German admiralty announced today that German airships last night attacked a battery near Hull, England, with bombs and destroyed a large iron works near Whitby. The airships returned safely.

The statement follows: "During the night of April 5-6 German naval airships destroyed a large iron works, with blast furnaces and extensive establishments near Whitby, after having put out of action with explosive bombs a battery north of Hull.

"The raiders also attacked factories in Leeds and the surrounding region, and several railroad stations in the industrial district. Good effects were observed.

"The airships were shelled heavily. All returned undamaged."

#### One Killed, Eight Injured

LONDON, April 6.—One person was killed and eight persons injured in last night's Zeppelin raid, it was officially reported this afternoon.

"The air raid last night on the northeastern counties apparently was carried out by three Zeppelins. The first made one attack about 9:10 p. m., but was driven off by the fire of anti-aircraft guns after dropping five bombs, which caused no damage or casualties. Numerous observers state that this Zeppelin was struck by gunfire.

"The second raider made its appearance in another locality at about 10:15 p. m. Although it was in the neighborhood for some time, no bombs were dropped.

#### Slight Damage Done

"Another raider delivered an attack in a third locality during the night. Although several bombs were dropped only slight material damage was done.

"The total number of bombs dropped was twenty-four explosive and twenty-four incendiary. The casualties at present reported are: "Killed, one child; injured, eight. "No military damage was done."

ASK PROBE OF  
DUPONT LOBBY

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Investigation of "lobbying activities of the agents of the DuPont Powder company and former agents of the American Cyanide company, the Alabama Powder company, their subsidiary concerns and their associate corporations in connection with the effort to bring about the erection of a nitrate plant at the Muscle Shoals site on the Tennessee river," was proposed in a resolution introduced today by Representative Madden of Illinois, republican. The resolution proposes to empower the judiciary committee to hear witnesses and report to congress.

The resolution names Charles B. Landis and Hugh L. Cooper as representatives of the companies who have been here.

SPANISH CRISIS  
OVER TORPEDOING

MADRID, April 6, via Paris.—A meeting of the Spanish cabinet was called tonight to consider the question of the torpedoing of Spanish vessels.

The meeting was brought about by a message from ship owners in Bilbao and Seville, who telegraphed the government inquiring if the Spanish flag was a sufficient protection against a repetition of the torpedoing of Spanish vessels, such as the Vigo, by the German submarines.

GERMAN PEACE  
TERMS PROVIDE  
'NEW BELGIUM'

Chancellor Hints for First Time at German Withdrawal, But Seeks Guarantees as to Its Future—Special Disposition for Flemish Portion of Kingdom Demanded.

BERLIN, April 6.—Two statements in Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg's speech in the reichstag have attracted especially the attention of the public, the first being that in which he alluded to the submarine warfare and the relations of Germany with the United States and the second being the intimations regarding Germany's peace terms, when for the first time he referred to the possibility of Germany withdrawing from Belgium, which, however, he said, must be a "new Belgium." His words in this latter connection are interpreted as an affirmation that Germany would not evacuate a country where the blood of persons had been shed, without receiving necessary guarantees regarding its future and that the new Belgium must include a special disposition for the Flemish portion of the kingdom, a hint of the nature of which is regarded as being given by the chancellor's use of the word "Netherlandish."

He spoke of the necessity of assuring to the "long oppressed Flemish inhabitants," an opportunity for development on the basis of "their Netherlandish language and characteristics."

Dr. Peter Spahn, leader of the Catholic center party, and Frederick Ebert, socialist leader, delivered speeches in the reichstag concurring in the views which Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the imperial chancellor, had expressed, the Overseas News agency says. Herr Ebert said that Germany's enemies and especially the socialists in enemy countries, declined peace and asked for the annihilation of Germany, and that, therefore it was the duty of Germans to stand firmly by their government and their country. With regard to the question of annexation, Herr Ebert pointed out that Germany could not give back the Polish, Lithuanian and other peoples to the reactionary Russian yoke and this is to be understood in the light of the chancellor's declaration that Germany does not want to crush other races, but wants a basis for the peaceful development of European civilization.

MEAT CARDS FOR  
GERMAN PEOPLE

BERLIN, April 6.—Meat cards will be introduced in Bavaria and Saxony April 15, permitting consumption of 150 grammes (one third pound) per capita daily, except on two meatless days each week.

Bavaria has forbidden sale of canned meats, whole hams, whole sausages, etc., to individuals to prevent the accumulation of stocks in advance.

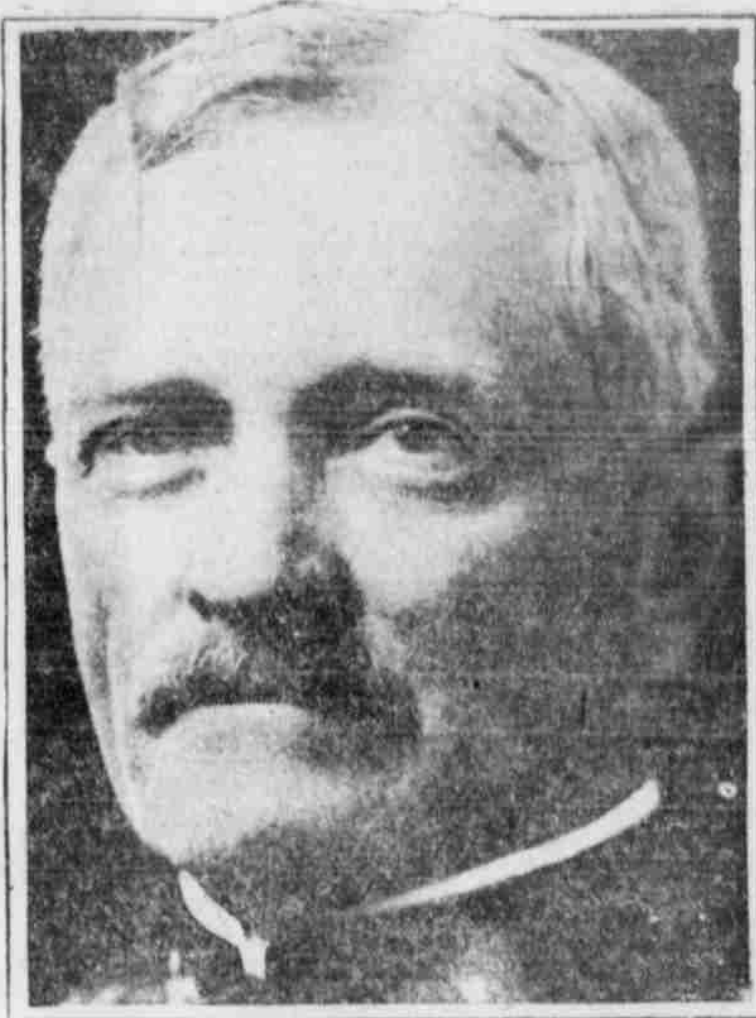
Individual meat cards probably will not be issued in Berlin. Regulation of distribution will be effected by limiting the supply for each retailer.

BLOCKADE RUNNER  
SEIZED BY BRITAIN

LONDON, April 6.—The Brazilian steamer Salsanha de Gama, which sailed from Para, Brazil, February 6 for New York with a cargo of 120 tons of raw rubber, has been seized off the Orkney islands by a British patrol boat. The ship and her cargo have been placed in the prize court.

This is believed to be a deliberate case of attempted blockade running, the officials here contending that a steamer from Para for New York could never have gotten so far off her course. This is the first seizure made by the actuality of a complete cargo of rubber.

## VETERAN CAVALRY OFFICER NOW PURSUING VILLA



BRIG. GEN. JOHN J. PERSHING

AXE AND HAMMER  
USED IN DOUBLE  
MURDER, SEATTLE

SEATTLE, Wash., April 6.—Mrs. Corinne Wheeler, 76 years of age, and her sister, Mrs. Kate B. Swift, aged 53, who were slain and robbed of \$2000 last night in their home on Westlake avenue north, half a mile from the business center of Seattle, were evidently beaten to death with a hand axe and hammer, which were found, stained with blood, under a pile of boards in the house, Howard S. King, aged 40, nephew of the murdered women, was closely examined by the police, who say they are satisfied he is telling the truth. King said his aunt had withdrawn her money from a bank several months ago and had been keeping it in money belts worn about their waists. Their clothing had been torn and the money belts out from their bodies. Apparently the women had been attacked in the parlor, Mrs. Swift being felled first. Mrs. Wheeler evidently had fled to the bedroom to arm herself and was struck down by the assailant, who followed her.

Mr. King said he left the house early yesterday afternoon, promising to return and pass the night with his aunt. He found the door unlocked when he returned to the house at 11:30 last night. Mrs. Wheeler suffered from insomnia and it was the sister's custom to take long walks at night. King lighted a fire and waited an hour and a half for his aunt to return. Then he entered the parlor and found Mrs. Swift's body lying in a pool of blood. He went into the bedroom and found Mrs. Wheeler's body. Then he notified the police. The coroner said the women had been dead three hours when the alarm was given. King is not under detention. The women came here from Carthage, Mo., two years ago.

SUSSEX VICTIM  
OF SUBMARINE

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Reports of the American naval attaché at London on his investigation of the destruction of the liner Sussex received today at the state department agree with the reports of the attaché at Paris that the ship probably was destroyed by a torpedo.

Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, called at the state department, in connection, he said, with questions of minor importance relating to the prize ship Appam. He conferred briefly with Counselor Polk.

The submarine situation, it was declared, was not mentioned.

APACHE INDIANS  
GO ON WARPATH  
FOR VILLA'S SCALP

COLUMBUS, N. M., April 6.—Clad in khaki and leather uniforms of American cavalrymen, twenty Apache Indians were preparing here today to start for the headquarters of General Pershing, where they will act as scouts and trailers in the combing of the mountains of Guerrero for Villa. Thirty years ago fourteen of the Indians in war paint and blankets fought against the American troops, of which General Pershing was then a second lieutenant, in the Geronimo campaign in the same district. Captain O. P. M. Hazard, who arrived with the scouts from Fort Apache, Ariz., asserted that they would leave for the front as soon as their ponies can be unloaded.

"We are going to bring Villa back," said Joseph Valesquez, interpreter for the party. "Our men were pledged to do so in a great war dance—the first for years—and they cannot go back on their word. These men are man-hunters, men who can follow a trail of broken twigs and disturbed dust as readily as you can read a printed page."

Valesquez said that the warriors, some of whom are now more than 70 years old, donned war paint and danced throughout the night before they left, as they did years ago, and then, without sleep, rode horseback the sixty miles to the nearest railroad station.

TO CONTROL FLOODS  
SACRAMENTO RIVER

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Flood conditions on the Sacramento river will be eased for in the general bill being drawn to cover conditions on the Mississippi. The new house flood control committee has so decided and will vote on the bill within the next few days.

The measure proposes an expenditure of \$45,000,000 for the Mississippi and \$5,100,000 for the Sacramento.

The latter appropriation will be spent in co-operation with California state and district appropriations. Both appropriations will cover continuing work over five or six years.

LASSEN PEAK AWAKES  
WITH FEEBLE ERUPTION

REDDING, Cal., April 6.—Lassen peak awoke again at dawn today with an intermittent explosion of smoke and steam lasting several hours.

Smoke on the mountain is melting fast. Today's effort was feeble in volume and force.

THIRD ELEMENT  
PREPAREDNESS  
BEFORE HOUSE

Largest Fortification Bill Proposes to Spend Hundred Millions Annually in Coast Defenses—Largest Sized Guns to Be Mounted at Great Cities—Panama to Be Fortified.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The third great element of the national preparedness program was today brought into the house. It is the largest fortification bill ever reported and the first of four annual measures under which it is proposed to spend approximately \$100,000,000 for increasing and modernizing the coast defenses, already officially declared to be superior to any in the world, and to supply an ample store of reserve ammunition for the guns.

Included in the bill are provisions for mounting 16-inch direct fire rifles to guard New York, Boston, San Francisco and other great cities from long-range naval bombardment. Provision is also made for mounting twelve-inch rifles now in reserve so they will have a range of more than 20,000 yards, or fifteen sea miles. No ship could live within that distance of the guns.

#### Add Mortar Batteries

The plan will add sixteen-inch mortar batteries to the present twelve-inch emplacements because of the increased armor protection of warships. In addition it provides for sixteen-inch mobile howitzers and fourteen-inch guns on railroad cars to defend points not protected by established forts.

In approving the bill the committee accepted almost without alteration the proposals of the war department and the officers who have studied the subject of coast defenses for years.

The bill carries appropriations of \$23,305,123 and additional authorizations to reach a total of \$34,299,630. It is the first of the bills mapped out by former Secretary Garrison to cover a four-year program of expenditure totalling \$82,064,557 on the continental coast defenses and reserve material.

#### Fortifying Panama

The Panama canal defenses will add \$13,995,000 to the project, reaching a grand total of \$96,659,557.

The committee cut down the 1917 estimates \$1,378,073. As the bill stands, however, it represents an increased expenditure over last year of \$16,936,833.

As to reserve ammunition, the report says:

"In the light of the European war, the board decided to very greatly increase the amount of such material thought to be requisite, and it has been planned to expend this year \$3,000,000 to secure a new reserve."

The report shows that four of the new 16-inch guns will be emplaced at Cape Henry, Va., two at Rockaway Beach, N. Y., others at San Francisco and San Pedro, Cal.

Long range 12-inch guns will go to New York, Boston and either Portland, Me., or San Francisco.

JURY TO PROBE  
VON PAPEN'S PLOT

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The government's investigation of the alleged connection of Carl A. Luderitz, German consul at Baltimore, with the issue of an American passport to Horst Von der Goltz, confessed German spy, under the name of Bridgman Taylor, has reached a point where the next step is to lay the facts before a federal grand jury.

The story told to department of justice agents by Von der Goltz at New York is to be made the basis of grand jury action. In his statement Von der Goltz is quoted as saying he went to Baltimore with a letter from Captain Von Papen, the former German military attaché here, requesting the consul to aid Von der Goltz in any way he could. Von der Goltz has told the agents he presented the letter and discussed with Luderitz plans for obtaining fraudulently an American passport.

VILLA REPORTED  
AGAIN ENCIRCLED  
BY CARRANZISTS

Capture of Bandit Claimed Near—American Pursuers Out of Communication—No Grounds for Reported Withdrawal of Troops—Railroad Not Yet in Use.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Secretary Lansing today flatly denied that there was any ground whatever for the reports that the withdrawal of American troops from Mexico was being contemplated.

MEXICO CITY, April 6.—General Gutierrez reported to the war department today that the capture of Francisco Villa within a very short time was certain. He said constitutional forces were again reported to have located Villa and surrounded him.

It is also reported that a combined force of constitutional forces from the state of Jalisco, Aguas Calientes and Zacatecas is closing in on General Bracamonte, who, with a large force of Villa cavalry, has been located near Juchipila, in southern Zacatecas.

#### Pursuit Still Continues

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 6.—The most advanced cavalry detachments engaged in running down Villa were beyond communication today, and at General Funston's headquarters it was believed they already were as far south as Satevo, from whence trails extend toward Parral. Only unofficial and conflicting reports as to Villa's whereabouts have been received here, but General Funston and his staff officers place most credence in the report that he was in the vicinity of Satevo Tuesday and traveling south.

From Satevo the American forces could send a courier to Chihuahua with reports for transmission by the regular telegraph lines, but the local authorities in Mexico have persisted in their refusal to accept the coded messages from officers of the punitive force.

#### Railroad Not Used

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Attention of administration officials was focused today on the diplomatic aspects of the American expedition into Mexico. News regarding military developments was lacking.

In some quarters there was a strong inclination to connect the de facto government's apparent delay in permitting the use of the railroad for the shipment of supplies to the United States troops with a desire to have the American force leave Mexican soil. It is understood that Carranza officials on the border have made informal inquiries as to how much longer the expedition will remain in Mexico and how far south it will go.

Legally, the American forces are now pursuing what is termed "a hot trail." No great surprise would be occasioned here if Carranza should suggest soon that the trail had become cold and should question the propriety of American troops proceeding much farther.

SCHILLER'S PIRACY  
AN ACT OF WAR

NEW YORK, April 6.—The exploit of Clarence Hudson, alias Ernest Schiller, in holding up, unaided, the British steamship Matopos on the high seas last week was not piracy, Hudson contended through counsel in federal proceedings here today, but was an act of war which was acquiesced in by the captain and chief officer, who, he declared, joined him in a toast to the emperor of Germany.

Hudson began today to fight to avoid being removed to Wilmington, Del., for trial in the federal court there on the charge of piracy as requested by the United States attorney general. His counsel demanded a full hearing and he was held in \$25,000 bail for examination Saturday. Unable to furnish the bond, Hudson went to the Tombs.