

BERLIN DENIES RESPONSIBILITY SUSSEX ATTACK

No German Submarine or Warship Torpedoed Vessel, Says Germany—Teutons Make Dent in Verdun Defenses at Harcourt and Are Dented in Turn by French.

BERLIN, April 8.—The German government is able to announce that no German submarine or warship was responsible for the explosion which damaged the British steamship Sussex.

LONDON, April 8.—The salient in the French lines west of the Meuse, with the village of Bethincourt at its sharp angle, is being pounded on both sides by the crown price's troops, which in their last drive succeeded in making a new dent in the line southwest of Bethincourt.

Germans Dent Line. The success was achieved near Haucourt village, the important position lost by the French on Wednesday, the Germans gaining a footing in two small field works between Haucourt and Hill No. 287, which lies two-thirds of a mile to the south of the village.

The Berlin report states: "On the left bank of the Meuse Silesian and Bavarian troops took by storm a strong French point of support south of Haucourt. They captured the entire enemy position on the ridge of Termiten hill, extending over a width of more than two kilometers. A counter attack attempted early this morning failed completely. Our losses were slight. Those of the enemy, owing partly to the treacherous behavior of some, were very heavy. In addition to those 15 officers and 659 men were captured unhurt, including numerous recruits of the class of 1916."

French Also Win. On the other side of the salient there also has been sharp fighting, but according to Paris today, the advantage here was with the French who bested their adversaries in grenade combats between Bethincourt and Chantansourt.

A German grenade attack near Fort Vanx was repulsed by the French whose positions east of the Meuse have been subjected to intermittent bombardment. An Austrian transport has been sunk in the Adriatic by a French submarine, Paris announces officially.

There is not letup in submarine activity. Added to the list of vessels destroyed are the steamers Chantantala, of 4949 tons; the Brauntown, of 4575 tons; and the schooner Clyde of Whitstable.

Russian attacks yesterday were limited to a narrow front in the sector south of Narok lake. They were repulsed easily, says Berlin. It was officially announced today at Paris that a French submarine has sunk an Austrian transport in the Adriatic.

VESSELS AWAITING CANAL'S REOPENING

WASHINGTON, April 8.—In anticipation of the reopening of the Panama canal on April 15 a number of vessels have gathered at the terminal preferring to wait even a fortnight rather than make the longer tour around South America by way of the Straits of Magellan. The members of the operating force who have been on furlough in the United States have been recalled to the isthmus. Vessels drawing up to thirty-six feet of water will be admitted to the canal at first, but it is expected that the draft will be materially increased soon after, unless the slides show signs of renewed activity.

A great accumulation of goods on the wharves at Cristobal and Balboa for lack of bottoms to carry it away has obliged the Panama Railroad company to place on embargo on all cargoes from the United States or Europe destined to port on the west coast and Callao.

AMERICA SAFE FROM GERMANY SAYS VON JAGOW

Imperial Minister of Foreign Affairs Denies Sinister Designs Against Canada, the United States and South America at Close of War—Reports Due to Enemies.

BERLIN, April 8.—Recent press dispatches have brought word of statements in the Canadian parliament and Canadian newspapers that Germany was planning after this war to plunge upon the American continent and particularly to demand cession to Germany of the Dominion of Canada. In a conversation with Herr von Jagow, minister of foreign affairs, the Associated press correspondent referred to these rumors. The foreign minister's first reply was an outburst of laughter.

"How can people invent or believe such stories?" he asked. "To anyone not entirely blinded by passion it is evident beyond doubt that Germany never pursued such senseless aims and never contemplated doing so."

"One can imagine a state of affairs in Europe after the war such that we should have the leisure or a free enough hand to divert our strength and efforts to such a task on the American continent?"

Monroe Doctrine Safe. "Equally ridiculous, though unfortunately this phase has a serious side, are rumors which I understand here and there are current in the United States that Germany after the war will take revenge on the United States by pursuing an anti-American policy. It is even reported to me that some apprehensive souls in America foresee from victorious Germany an attempt to break down the Monroe doctrine, plant its flag in South or Central America, or even a design to leap upon the United States and crush them in order to attain mastery of both continents."

"I need hardly assure you such reports, which from time to time have been set afloat by enemies of Germany in the evident intention of stirring up feeling against it, are too absurd for denial. I need only recall that Germany has never placed itself in opposition to the American principle of the Monroe doctrine."

Mexico Is Cited. "Again, I would ask American doubters to remember the attitude of Germany during the Mexican crisis. Although extensive German commercial interests were involved and although there was a strong demand for independent action to protect these interests during the protracted era of disorder, the imperial government at all times stood for leaving the United States a free hand in its policy toward Mexico. The Washington government was not at any time left in doubt as to the attitude of Germany."

TRIS SPEAKER IS TRADED TO CLEVELAND

NEW YORK, April 8.—Manager William Carrigan of the Boston Americans, announced here today that Tris Speaker, the star outfielder of the world champions, had been traded to the Cleveland club of the American league. The Boston club, he said, will receive for Speaker two players and a cash consideration, the amount of which he declined to make known. One of these players is Pitcher S. P. Johnson.

SHORTAGE OF HAY REPORTED IN OREGON

PORTLAND, Ore., April 8.—The most serious hay shortage experienced in the Portland market for years was reported today. The shortage is said to be due to the long, hard winter, which compelled stock growers to feed all surplus supplies. As a result record prices are being paid. No smother can be had and the alfalfa and grain hay offerings are unable to meet the demands.

HOLLAND TO CALL OUT RECRUITS OF 1917 CLASS



At left, the type of Holland soldier; at right, a street scene in The Hague; below, Wilhelmina, queen of Holland, commander of the army and navy, and called the "most motherly woman in Holland."

LONDON, April 8.—A bill has been submitted to the Dutch parliament to authorize the government to call up, if necessary, the recruits of the 1917 class, says a Reuter dispatch from The Hague.

THREE MORE SHIPS SUNK BY TORPEDOES FROM SUBMARINES

LONDON, April 8.—The loss of three more British vessels was reported today by Lloyd's. The steamship Brauntown and the schooner Clyde of Whitstable, were blown up. The crews were saved. The steamship Chantala was sunk.

The Brauntown, of 4575 tons gross and 350 feet long, was built in 1914 and owned at Cardiff, Wales. Her recent movements are not reported. She arrived at Spezia, Italy, from Philadelphia on December 18.

The Chantala was in London March 19 and was booked to call for Calcutta. She was built in 1915, was 493 feet long, of 4949 tons gross and was owned in Glasgow.

The Clyde of Whitstable, of 294 tons gross, was built in 1871.

MARSEILLES, France, April 8.—The large French passenger steamship Colbert was shelled without warning by a submarine in the Mediterranean, but being under a full head of steam, escaped her aggressor by superior speed, at the same time sending out wireless warnings of the submarine's presence to other ships in the vicinity.

The Colbert was of 3394 gross tons, 277 feet long and 47-foot beam. She was built in 1908 at French Mediterranean yards.

LONDON, April 8.—The Dutch steamer Rijnijk, which was yesterday reported damaged off the Solly islands, struck a mine, according to Lloyd's, which today reports her as in harbor with her holds full of water. The Rijnijk was bound from Portland, Me., to Rotterdam.

PERIN, China, March 12.—Correspondence of the Associated Press.—Rumors of an increase in the salt tax have caused much complaint among enemies of the government. The increase is being contemplated because of the additional expense entailed by the revolution. The output is controlled by the salt gabelle or salt monopoly.

SHERMAN LAW AGAINST TRUSTS PROVES FAILURE

No Relief for Public From Monopoly Afforded by Present Statute—Sole Result of Prosecution to Date 'Is Reorganization, Immunity, Dividends and Higher Prices.

By GILSON GARDNER. WASHINGTON, April 8.—The Sherman anti-trust law affords no relief. This is the conclusion to which leaders in congress are being forced by present conditions, notably the gasoline situation.

Investigation, prosecution, "dis-solution," that is the routine of business as per the Sherman law. Result: reorganization, immunity, increased stock values and dividends, and—higher prices.

Not a single case has yet been pointed out in which the consumer has benefited by the remedies administered by the Sherman law. The Wilson administration has practically given over prosecutions under this act. The president has apparently seen that its effect was primarily a harassment of his business without material results, and following the precedent in the case of the American Telephone and Telegraph, and the Western Union monopoly, the government has been carrying out the policy of a "consolidation of power."

The firms which were disposed to be in any degree reasonable, have been exempted from prosecution and the federal trade commission, instead of a militant body as contemplated by the framers of the law, has become under the management of Chairman Davies, an aid and encouragement to big business.

Endless Investigation. Senator George Sutherland of Utah, (Continued on page two.)

INCREASED RATE TO COAST UNREASONABLE

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Proposed increased rates on iron and steel articles from terminals of the Great Northern and other railroads on the north Pacific coast to Spokane, Portland and other points in Washington, Oregon and Idaho, today were found unreasonable by the Interstate Commerce commission.

SNOW ENVELOPES ENTIRE EAST IN A MANTEL OF WHITE

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Snowstorms centering over the Ohio valley and Cape Hatteras were moving eastward and northward today and promised to cover almost the whole region east of the Mississippi and north of the gulf states. Temperatures had dropped below seasonal averages in most of that territory, but extreme cold was not reported. In its forecast for the week beginning Sunday the weather bureau says: "Comparatively warm weather will prevail throughout the week west of the Rocky mountains."

DES MOINES, Iowa, April 8.—A fall of snow was general last night throughout Iowa, except in the extreme northeast portion of the state, according to reports received today at the Des Moines weather bureau.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., April 8.—Snow fell over practically all of Indiana today.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, April 8.—More than two inches of snow fell in parts of Ohio during last night and today.

PHILADELPHIA, April 8.—Six inches of snow fell in many parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey today, the weather bureau here reporting the storm as a record-breaker for this time of the year.

NEW YORK, April 8.—Snow was falling today in this city and many parts of the eastern section of the country and growing increasingly heavy. An inch of snow fell here in two hours.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 8.—Freezing temperatures prevailed all over Kansas and in western Missouri today.

DALLAS, Texas, April 8.—There was a slight frost over the greater portion of north Texas early today, but vegetation was not materially injured.

TOLEDO TIED UP BY STRIKE AND BLIZZARD

OFFICIAL DENIAL OF REQUEST TO RECALL TROOPS

Lansing Declares That No Request Has Been Made for Withdrawing of American Forces From Pursuit of Villa—Funston's Orders Were Merely to Disperse Outlaw Band.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Secretary Baker stated most emphatically late today that there was "absolutely no basis of any kind" for reports that preparations were under way for withdrawing American forces from Mexico. He said the American troops were moving rapidly south and that the orders to General Funston following the Columbus massacre had been unchanged.

Secretary Baker made the following statement: "The object of the expedition was stated when it was undertaken. It has never been changed. No other orders have been given and the expedition is being pursued in the manner that I believe to be a fair chance for early success."

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Official denial of persistent reports that the de facto government of Mexico had asked for withdrawal of the American troops was expected here today to set at rest all such rumors.

Secretary Lansing emphatically declared that no such request had been made, formally or otherwise.

State and war department officials said there was no truth in border reports that General Carranza had given the United States a certain time in which to withdraw the American forces and that 15,000 Carranza soldiers were massed just below the international boundary line.

Funston's Orders. The original order given Major General Funston on March 19 for the American punitive expedition into Mexico made public for the first time at the war department today, did not include a direction for the death or capture of Villa, but principally directed dispersal of Villa's outlaw band that attacked Columbus, N. M., on March 9. General Funston's orders read:

"You will promptly organize an adequate force of military troops under the command of Brigadier General John J. Pershing and will direct him to proceed promptly across the border in pursuit of the Mexican band which attacked the town of Columbus, N. M., and the troops there on the morning of March 9. These troops will be withdrawn to American territory as soon as the de facto government of Mexico is also to relieve them of this work. In any event the work of these troops will be regarded as finished as soon as Villa's band or bands are known to be broken up."

Task Not Finished. "In carrying out these instructions you are authorized to employ whatever guides or interpreters are necessary; you are given general authority to employ such transportation, including motor transportation, with necessary civilian personnel, as may be required."

"You are instructed to make all practicable use of the aeroplanes at San Antonio for observation. "Telegraph for whatever reinforcements or material you need. Notify this office as to force selected and expedite movement."

Brigadier General Scott, chief of staff, declared today that General Funston had not yet reported that this task had been accomplished.

ALLIES TO CONFER ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

PARIS, April 8.—The conference of the entente allies for discussion of economic and commercial questions will assemble in Paris on April 29. It will be attended by many distinguished delegates, including cabinet ministers from the various countries. The sessions will extend over four days. President Poincaré will preside at the opening. The principal topic of discussion will be mutual exchange of commodities under a tariff system favorable to the allied nations.

AVENGING ARMY ON NEW TRAIL IN VILLA PURSUIT

Aviator Reports American Troops Moving in New Direction—Line of Pursuit Now 400 Miles Long—Villa Reported to be Carried on Stretcher Because of His Wounds.

EXPEDITIONARY FIELD HEADQUARTERS SOUTH OF NAMIQUIPA, April 5, by aeroplanes and wireless to Columbus, N. M., April 5.—That the American troops are on a fresh trail of Villa as a result of reports made by an army aviator and an observer who returned today from what may prove one of the most important scouting flights of the campaign.

New cavalry columns were hurried southward today while the other columns in the field are taking a new direction. The new movement, coupled with other reports received, increases the conviction of General J. J. Pershing and his officers that troops on the new trail of Villa, opened several days ago, following reports made by an aviator, are on the right track.

Villa on Stretcher. The American line of pursuit is now 400 miles long and some of the difficulties encountered by troops threading their way through the rocky passes were indicated in the report of an aviator today that he had been obliged to drop messages in a small parachute to an advanced detachment.

New reports of Villa's flight received today said that because of his wounds, Villa is riding on a stretcher carried on the shoulders of his men and that he is accompanied only by a small personal bodyguard and rear guard.

Reports brought by the aviators showed that somewhere south of Sateo a cavalry column is riding a thrilling ride, which may equal in importance that upon Guerrero of Colonel George A. Dodd's command. The men are sparing neither themselves nor their horses.

Delivering Messages. The fliers were at a height of 8000 feet when they discovered the cavalry column to which they were carrying dispatches flying through a wooded canyon. They floated slowly down until they were within the perspective of the troops and then, making sure that they were American cavalrymen, landed. One of the aviators caught a grazing horse and rode to the American five miles away without saddle or bridle, and with only a bit of twisted rope about its nose to guide the animal.

The troops confirmed reports that Villa had been wounded, but were unable to offer any additional details. They said Mexicans encountered on the chase were friendly and that there has been dissatisfaction among Villa's followers.

PRESIDENT ABANDONS WEEK-END CRUISE

WASHINGTON, April 8.—President Wilson, who left last night on the naval yacht Mayflower for a week-end cruise, will return to Washington at once, arriving about 4:30 p. m. today. Snow and sleet were given officially as the cause for his return.

Secretary Lansing said no new information had been received from the German government concerning the submarine question, but it was expected at any time. The secretary plans to see the president tonight.

GERMANY DENIES SINKING PALEMBANG

LONDON, April 8.—Reuter's correspondent at The Hague telegraphs that Germany has informed Holland that the Dutch steamship Palembang, sunk near Gallipoli lights last month, was not torpedoed by a German submarine. It is said that no German submarine was in that vicinity at the time.