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SALEM, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1916

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## GERMAN CROWN PRINCE SMASHES FRENCH LINES

Capture Six and a Half Miles of Trenches and 3,000 Prisoners—Making Desperate Effort to Capture Fortress at Verdun—Vanguard of Russian Army Near Tiflis—Turks Fleeing From Armenia—Japanese Fleet Reported In Mediterranean—Russians

London, Feb. 23.—The German crown prince dealing the greatest smash on the western front since making the English Ypres lines last May, has taken nearly six and one-half miles of French trenches near Verdun, the Berlin war office claimed today.

This extensive offensive was aimed against the outer defenses of the important town of Verdun, in the neighborhood of Consenvoye and Azannes, about 10 miles to the north. There the Teutons not only claimed their enormous gain of ground but they announced they had taken 3,000 prisoners and much booty.

Following up this reputed victory, they claimed that in another offensive move, they had captured 700 yards of French trenches east of Heidelberg in Alsace, and 80 prisoners.

How terrible was the German drive was evidenced from the Paris admission that there had been a great offensive around Verdun, and that the Germans had been killed off by battalions. Paris claimed that while the Haumont wood had been evacuated, the French had regained the Caures wood from which they had been evicted yesterday. Breaking of the French salient north of Beaumont and 10 miles northeast of Verdun was admitted. Recapture of some trenches around Souchez was claimed.

No attack of similar strength has been delivered on either side in the western combat for months, excepting the French offensive in the Campagne in September. The battle is still raging about 10 miles from Verdun on the east bank of the Meuse, with the crown prince aiming to force his army southward in the hope of conquering all the outer defenses of Verdun and then bringing up his 42 centimeter guns to level the fortress.

Such a move would give the Teutons a great advantage in the south as the French have threatened their communications by retreating the Verdun stronghold.

Paris, Feb. 23.—German forces are staging a strong offensive around Verdun, it was officially admitted today. Many regiments of infantry are attacking along a fifteen mile front.

The German attack on this strategic point in the south is apparently being pushed without need to loss of life, for German prisoners declare that whole German battalions have been annihilated.

French evacuation of the Haumont forest was admitted, but the communiqué claimed re-occupation of the Caures wood, which was evacuated yesterday.

Pierce attacks continue, too, in the Bois Giverny region near Souchez, and the French have succeeded in recapturing several trenches. The onslaught of the German crown prince's men in the Verdun region followed artillery preparation which began Sunday. The French replied to the Teuton efforts, and brought up reserves to combat them.

Through particularly vicious attacks, the Germans succeeded in occupying the Haumont woods, and they broke the French salient north of Beaumont and 10 miles northeast of Verdun.

The general offensive, begun last

### IS DECIDEDLY "BATTY"

San Francisco, Feb. 23.—Fifteen thousand miles of ocean travel and wilderness search is to be experienced by Professor Enock Morris, of Chicago, just to secure a specimen of an unusual variety of bat for his collection.

Professor Morris, who left here on the liner Sierra, made known his plans in Honolulu according to passengers on the steamer Lurline. He will land at Pago Pago, and in a small boat go with a band of naturalists for Gilbert group. Somewhere in this section dwells the "batty" bat, with a weird latin name. Several months and much money will be spent in endeavoring to capture a specimen.

### TRYING TO ROUND UP BLACKMAILING GANG

Score of Young Women, and Firm of Lawyers Said to Be In Scheme

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 23.—After an unsuccessful all night vigil, deputy sheriffs redoubled their efforts today to take into custody the alleged leader of blackmailers, who, with headquarters here, are said to have "badgered" some of the most prominent and wealthy men of the Pacific coast out of thousands of dollars during the past two years.

The man sought is a former financial agent and lawyer, who is said to have worked in collusion with a firm of attorneys and a score of attractive young women, in getting photographs of victims in compromising situations.

A last night deputy sheriff by accident near the door of the man sought, watching every entrance without success.

Investigator Lundin has refused to issue a warrant for the financial agent's arrest. Sheriff Hodge instructed his men to take him into custody notwithstanding.

According to Deputy Sheriff M. E. Hodge, whose investigations led to the exposure of the alleged "badger" game, the financial agent is the man who operated the camera in almost every instance, and who developed the negatives which were sold for fabulous sums to the victims.

Word was received by Sheriff Hodge from Los Angeles today, that Miss Isabel Clayberg, arrested in that city by Sheriff Cline yesterday, as an alleged member of the syndicate, has engaged an attorney and is preparing to resist extradition.

Miss Lillian Peterson, another woman wanted in connection with the case, was in Billings, Mont., up to Sunday, according to advices received by Sheriff Hodge from Sheriff E. W. Matlock, of Billings.

Since that time she has mysteriously disappeared. Deputy Sheriff Hodge says he has information that her fiancé is one of the wealthiest cattlemen in Montana.

C. last Thursday a telegram was sent to Sheriff Matlock asking him to locate Miss Peterson and keep her under surveillance. He replied the following day that she had been found and Hodge immediately wired:

"Keep her within your reach. Act quickly."

Yesterday Matlock wired: "Miss Peterson left on the 20th for parts unknown."

Hodge has today wired several other points in his search for the woman. Most of the alleged gang's operations here are said to have been conducted in a bungalow on Twentieth avenue.

At this house the camera was located in a clothes closet. A hole had been bored through the wall into an adjoining bedroom, so that the cameraman had a clear view of what went on there. The gang is said to have worked in hotels and in other houses in different parts of the city.

### Stock Market Sluggish Berlin Exchange Drops

(Copyright 1916 by the New York Evening Post.)

New York, Feb. 23.—The stock market moved today in the same desultory and uncertain manner that it did in the past three or four business days. Those stocks that moved at all appeared to do so because of peculiar local influences, while none of the movements were of particular significance—small declines and recoveries occurring simultaneously though these were unrelated.

The most interesting event of the day was the declaration by one Dupont company of a 19 per cent dividend on common stock, payable in Anglo-French bonds. Such a method of payment was unprecedented though it merely indicated that munitions companies have subscribed a considerable amount to the allied \$500,000,000 loan.

The half point decline in Berlin exchange to 73 7/8 elicited no particular explanation.

## CHINESE GUNMEN SHOT AND KILLED YOUNG YIN LUCK

Fired On Latter As He Came Out of Restaurant In Business District

FIRE SECOND SHOT IN VICTIM'S HEAD AND FLED

### Chinese Laundryman at Roseburg Murdered—Chinese Stay Indoors

Portland, Ore., Feb. 23.—A Chinese gunman shot and killed Yin Luck, aged 20, at 3 o'clock this morning when Yin Luck came out of a restaurant in the heart of the business district to sweep the sidewalk.

A taxicab driver gave chase to the highbinder who did the shooting, and drove him into the arms of a policeman three blocks away. He gave his name as Ah Low, and he was 41 years old and desired to speak to his attorney. He spoke excellent English and was well dressed.

The shooting of Yin Luck is the third, disastrous clash between tong gunmen in Portland since war broke out between the Hop Sing and an alliance of the Bow Leongs, Bing Kongs and Suey Sings.

In Chinatown the orientals remained behind bolted doors. But this morning for the first time in history a gunman invaded the business district of the city to do his deadly work. Supposing the tong war fully 10 blocks away, Yin Luck, a janitor, boldly went on the open sidewalk after sweeping out a restaurant. The highbinder was hiding in a dark doorway. He fired once and Yin Luck dropped. Placing the muzzle of his revolver at the prostrate man's head the toymaker again pulled the trigger. Then he fled, pursued by a taxicab driver.

This happened while negotiations were in progress for peace. Tongmen asserted yesterday that a truce had been declared.

"Bunk," said Captain of Detectives Baty, and doubled his guard of plainclothes men in Chinatown.

The killing of Yin Luck happened after two preliminary peace meetings had been held with District Attorney Evans presiding. The only trouble with the peace meetings yesterday afternoon and last night was that they were held in Hop Sing headquarters and the enemies of the Hop Sings wouldn't come.

The "Chinese Fords" from San Francisco were expected in Portland today and may be able to arrange a permanent peace. But the shooting of Yin Luck and the murder of another Chinese in Roseburg yesterday makes peace seem far away.

### A Roseburg Victim.

Roseburg, Ore., Feb. 23.—The brutal murder of Lee Faut, a Chinese laundryman, was committed by robbers who sought to cover their crime with the cloak of the tong war raging on the Pacific coast between the Hop Sing and allied Bow Leong, Bing Kong and Suey Sing tongs.

This was the belief of officers who, nevertheless, kept a strict watch on Chinatown today.

Lee Faut was found late yesterday in his little laundry. His head was badly battered, his throat cut from ear to ear, and a wicked looking dagger stuck in his abdomen. A bloodstained hatchet lay nearby. His little hoard of savings was gone.

### Fleeing From Seattle.

Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 23.—Nearly a hundred Chinese, members of the Hop Sing tong, are seeking refuge here today, after having fled from Seattle and Portland, where further tong war killings are feared by the celestials. Police have been asked to give the fugitives protection from Bow Leong gunmen who they fear may follow them to exact tong vengeance.

The Hop Sings began arriving here shortly after the outbreak of hostilities at Portland. Some are quartered with fellow tongmen, but the greater number are huddled together in a vacant store room on lower Broadway.

All strange Chinese are being closely watched by the police, and all those found with firearms in their possession will be arrested.

### One Under Arrest.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 23.—Chinese tong war activities centered today on the legal fight brewing around Yee Bow, accused by the police of shooting Y. U. Park, a Korean, a week ago.

Former Assistant United States Attorney J. J. Sullivan, employed to defend him by friends who say that imported gunmen did the shooting, has obtained a writ of habeas corpus from Judge Ronald.

States attorneys will try and show cause he should not be released from jail.

### WHY GASOLINE IS UP

San Francisco, Feb. 23.—With gasoline prices ascending to luxurious heights, the Standard Oil company of California is preparing today to distribute a 50 per cent stock dividend, in addition to its regular 2.50 per share quarterly dividend, due March 15. The 50 per cent "bonus" rated on the present quotations means distribution of more than \$93,000,000, though, as authorized by the state corporation commissioner at Sacramento, the dividend is \$25,000,000.

### LEFT PUSSEY A STAKE

Philadelphia, Feb. 23.—An angora cat, known as "Mrs. Pussy" received \$1,000 under the will of Mrs. R. T. Stewart.

## TWO ALLEGED GUNMEN TAKEN FROM TRAIN

Chinese Carried Loaded Revolvers But Claim To Be Agents of Cannery

Two Chinese armed with loaded revolvers and who are thought to be gunmen involved in the tong war that is now breaking out along the Pacific coast were arrested by the Salem police last night as they came through this city on a passenger train at 1:55 a. m. The men gave the names Charley So and Sing Bong when they were booked on a charge of carrying concealed weapons at the police station. The Portland authorities were notified of the arrest of the Chinese and Captain Baty, of the Portland detective force, asked that the men be held until officers from Portland could look them over.

In jail today So and Bong do not appear to be particularly hostile and say that they were only out to employ men for a fish cannery. One of them carried about \$80 and the other about \$50 in cash and they stated that they were to be used for the employment of Chinese labor.

Charley So and Sing Bong were both taken from the southbound train which reaches this city at 1:55 a. m. The officers have been on the lookout at both depots for strange Chinese since the tong war has been started on the coast and last night their vigilance was rewarded by finding the two gunmen. The Chinese arrested carried loaded and oiled for action. When arrested the Chinese made no resistance but told the officers that they were going to Albany to hire men to work in a cannery. Their tickets were purchased in Portland for Albany.

On one of the men was found a sheet of paper bearing the address of the Bing Kong tong headquarters in Sacramento, Stockton, Fresno and Los Angeles and also the address of Ying Shing Lung in Seattle. Both of the men declared that they were for peace at any price but the officers were inclined to doubt their story about being employment agents for a salmon cannery as men in this business seldom carry loaded revolvers.

Sheriff William Esch and Chief of Police J. T. Welsh made a thorough search of the Chinese quarters in this city last night but failed to find any trace of gunmen wanted in Portland or Roseburg. Their search revealed several secret hiding places but in none of them was found any suspicious or strange Chinese. The Salem orientals appear to be bearing out their assertions that they are neutral and are not looking for trouble.

The Chinese quarter was surrounded by police officers and the sheriff and the chief conducted the search personally and left no stone unturned to locate the Chinese wanted for the tong murders but they are convinced today that Salem has not been chosen as a hiding place by the wily murderers.

Charley So and Sing Bong were each fined \$40 in police court today on a charge of carrying concealed weapons and their revolvers confiscated. They are being held, however, upon the advice of Chief Clark, of Portland, pending the arrival of Portland officers.

## BLUE EYED CHILD HAD JEALOUS DISPOSITION

Prince and Wife's Foster Daughter Startle Fashionables at the Beach

New York, Feb. 23.—That Mrs. Almon Crocker, wealthy former California, realized the folly of waiting until youth almost before her gay honeymoon was ended, was the claim of her husband, Prince Miskinoff, today in resuming testimony in their separation case.

She had repeatedly accused him of

## RELATIONS STRAINED BY GERMANY'S DECREE

President May Announce to Congress His Desire to Break Diplomatic Relations With Germany—Bernstorff Reported To Be Instructed to "Play for Time"—England Also Getting In Bad Odor On Account of Violating Her Pledges and Attempting to Deceive the United States

Washington, Feb. 23.—President Wilson's appearance before congress within the next few days to announce a desire to break off diplomatic relations with Germany was forecasted today by high administration authorities.

This action is certain to result, one official said, if German intimations are correct that Foreign Secretary Von Jagow's instructions to Ambassador Von Bernstorff will be to play for further delay in settlement of the Lusitania case, and for a long discussion of technicalities in the matter of the German proclamation of warfare against armed merchantmen.

The Von Jagow instructions are expected to reach Von Bernstorff within the next two days.

An authority, generally regarded as reliable declares that the president intends to make his refusal to temporize in the situation so emphatic that no doubt can remain as to his purpose to require closing of the Lusitania incident according to his original demands.

Since Germany is not expected to withdraw her armed merchantman decree, it was pointed out that the only course left open to the president is to cut off diplomatic relations. This would mean handing Ambassador Von Bernstorff his passports, and the consequent withdrawal of Ambassador Gerard from Berlin.

It is declared that President Wilson is committed to a policy of firmness but does not desire to take the step of breaking relations without first presenting the matter to congress. This idea is said to explain the long conference Monday night between President Wilson, Senate Leader Kern, Chairman Stone, of the senate foreign committee, and Chairman Flood of the house foreign committee. These persons have not discussed the subject of their conference, except that one conferee indicated his own personal apprehension that certain of the courses considered might lead to war.

The idea of breaking diplomatic relations is said to explain, too, why Senator Stone called off his projected speech in defense of the administration foreign policy.

While administration circles took a gloomy view of the situation, it was suggested that publicity of the government's views might prevent a break.

Even if President Wilson decides to take the question of a rupture to congress, it was pointed out that there would be sufficient time between delivery of his message and any congressional action thereon for Germany to "see the light" and to correct her policy.

At any rate, officials said that the president is done with parleying. Already his recent vigorous activities have caused collapse of the democratic agitation for issuance of a warning to Americans to keep off armed merchantmen. Democrats fostering the plan have not changed their idea about it, but their desire to press such a resolution has disappeared inasmuch as they have learned the White House would not support them.

### Has England Broken Faith?

Washington, Feb. 23.—Whether England has broken faith with the United States and thereby complicated the German-American submarine situation, was a new question injected into the controversy today. Apropos of this it was pointed out that the British Ambassador Sir Cecil Spring-Rice in August, 1914 wrote Secretary of State Bryan that Foreign Secretary Grey has given the "fullest assurances" that merchantmen would not fire on submarines unless attacked by the latter.

Germany now claims England has a secret order to merchantmen either to flee or fire at submarines upon sight. If England's pledge in this respect has been violated, an American protest to England is probable. While Secretary of State Lansing has continually held that negotiations with belligerents must be separate and that dealings with one side shall not be contingent upon the policy of the other, he may demand fulfillment of England's promises should the Berlin evidence now en route prove the existence of the alleged secret British orders.

Ambassador Von Bernstorff expects to receive before Saturday instructions from Berlin as to his course toward the Lansing notice that America regards as illegal the Teuton decree of warfare against armed merchantmen.

Meantime, both the state department and the embassy believe that the chance of Germany's postponement of operation of the decree is remote.

While the submarine situation is in statu quo, congressmen are showing President Wilson evidence of a big propaganda to force an embargo on munitions and issuance of a warning to Americans to keep off armed merchantmen. They reported receipt of letters, cards, pamphlets and papers in support of such

steps and said that there was even lobbying on the floor of congress in favor of it.

Complaints against shipments of munitions cited that 115 men had been killed by a single American made torpedo, while hundreds had been killed or maimed by a single shell sent to the allies.

## DISARMAMENT MAY COME WHEN WAR ENDS

Russian Foreign Minister Thinks This May Come at Least In Part

London, Feb. 23.—Partial disarmament may be possible after the war, according to M. Sazonoff, Russian foreign minister, as quoted in a Petrograd dispatch to the Chronicle today.

"If Prussian militarism, that evil thing which darkened our lives so long, is finally destroyed as I firmly believe it will be, then I think some measure of disarmament may be possible," he was quoted as saying. "It should be quite possible, for with England and Russia friends, the rest of the world is safe."

"England, France and Russia are responsible now for the future of Europe."

(Continued on Page Two.)

## THE WEATHER

Oregon: Fair tonight and Thursday; northeasterly winds.



Who remembers th' fine old days before business efficiency when you got a few pennies back at th' meat shop? It seems like th' folks who are all right "when you git 'em" never have very long funerals.