

AMERICANS GO DOWN WITH CHANNEL BOAT

Sussex Is Badly Damaged But Proceeds To Boulogne Under Own Steam—Surviving American Passengers Declare They Saw Torpedo Coming Toward Ship—Fifty Lives Are Believed to Have Been Lost, Although Some May Have Been Picked Up by Other Ships—Other Vessels Are Torpedoed

By John H. Hearley,
 (United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Boulogne, via Paris, March 25.—Two Americans are missing among the 50 persons who are missing and believed to be dead today, as the result of an explosion which damaged the steamer *Sussex* as she was crossing the English channel. Three Americans aboard declare they saw a torpedo coming toward the *Sussex* just before the explosion.

There were at least 12 Americans on the vessel, including myself. The missing United States citizens are Elizabeth Baldwin and her father of Philadelphia. Others endangered were W. G. Penfield, an American student at Oxford university, Edward Huxley, president of the United States Rubber company, Francis E. Drake, head of that corporation's European branch, and Miss Alice Ruz.

Although the explosion damaged the *Sussex* so that passengers had to abandon her, the vessel arrived at Boulogne today under her own steam.

There were 350 aboard when we sailed from Folkestone yesterday noon. Excellent weather was encountered. Near the French port of Dieppe the terrible explosion occurred. I was conversing with several Americans about 4:30 p. m. when the blast shook the *Sussex* from bow to stern. A huge fountain of water spouted over the side. Many passengers standing at the rail were engulfed in this wave and huddled violently into the sea. It was among them that most of the casualties occurred.

Lifboats were launched immediately, but I learned that several persons struggling near the rail were not picked up. Just after the explosion the *Sussex* listed sharply and it was feared she would sink. Passengers were panic stricken. Women and children rushed shrieking about the sloping decks. Officers finally quieted them; and the panic subsided when the vessel righted itself.

Survivors remained aboard until 11 p. m. when most of them were taken off by the *Marin Theresa* and landed at Boulogne early today. It is believed the estimate of 50 dead may be exaggerated, as there is a chance of some passengers having been picked up by ships.

The explosion occurred in the forward part of the ship, wounding many of the uninjured passengers. The *Sussex* was apparently in no danger of sinking but as several lifboats had been splintered by explosion, sailors feared they might leak if launched. Another steamer came up in thick darkness in the midst of the transfer and offered to convey the *Sussex* to port. Thereupon the *Marin Theresa* hurried to Boulogne with its cargo of sufferers.

When the *Marin Theresa* came alongside the wounded were first transferred to it. Then the vessel sent boats over for the uninjured passengers. The *Sussex* was apparently in no danger of sinking but as several lifboats had been splintered by explosion, sailors feared they might leak if launched.

ABE MARTIN



Mr. Lemuel Akers, once rated as the wealthiest man in the country, died a grocer here yesterday. The fellow who wears eyeglasses alius gets credit for knowing twice as much as he does.

HUNTING MEXICAN BANDITS A FAVORITE SPORT IN NEW MEXICO



Hunting Mexican bandits is a favorite sport in New Mexico these days. Photo shows members of citizens posse of Columbus who accounted for some of Villa's outlaw followers. A good Villista—meaning a dead one—is shown in the foreground.

VERDUN CAMPAIGN WILL BE RENEWED WITH HEAVY GUNS

Return of Crisp Spring Weather Signals Aggressive Operations

VERDUN IS BURNING

Berlin, March 25.—German artillery has set fire to Verdun. It was officially announced today. There were no important charges on the western front during the night.

By Carl W. Ackerman, (United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Berlin, March 25.—Return of crisp spring weather to Verdun signals the renewal of heavy infantry fighting there which is expected to slowly squeeze out the French from the Malancourt-Bethincourt salient. The recent lull was due to fog and rain which hindered artillery. Now the weather is so fine that German soldiers from their newly gained positions on the Meuse west bank can look down on Verdun's glistening spires.

Shells from German 42 centimeter guns have greatly damaged forts on the eastern and northeastern sides of the city.

Neither Russian attacks nor sallies reports of heavy German losses at Verdun have shaken German confidence in the success of their smash against the strong fortress. Reports of 200,000 tons lost at Verdun are deemed absurd here.

The disorganized Russian offensive convinced German critics that the czar was not ready when General Joffre asked him to aid.

French Attack Briskly. Paris, March 25.—Concerted French attacks during the night inflicted severe losses on Germans in a defensive trench near Courthouse according to an official statement today. This was the only trench fighting mentioned. Artillery fighting on the Woivre plain and in the Moulainville sector was described.

BRIEFS FROM THE WIRES

Eugene, Or., Mar. 25.—Chewing tobacco, says J. H. Lee, is the secret of longevity. Lee is a third cousin of General Robert E. Lee. He celebrated his 103 birthday yesterday.

Pendleton, Or., Mar. 25.—Romeo Hagen, of Seattle, had another scalp at his belt today. Last night he knocked out Ray McCarroll, of Dillon, in the second round of a scheduled ten round fight.

Grass Valley, Cal., Mar. 25.—When W. J. Mow had a doctor examine a spot in his neck that pained, he learned that his neck had been broken since last August. The bones of the neck were splintered.

FISHERMEN LOST. Venice, Cal., Mar. 25.—Portions of a gasoline launch washed ashore today, led to the belief that a party of fishermen may have met death in the storm which raged off this coast Thursday. When the storm was at its height a launch was sighted helpless off Playa Del Rey. No trace was found of it after the storm abated.

EXTRA! CAPITAL JOURNAL TONIGHT!

The pink sport section of the Daily Capital Journal will be issued late this evening as an extra and sent to all subscribers. It will contain a full account of the Willard-Moran fight by rounds. The fight begins in New York at 9:30, which is about 6:30 here in Salem, and the extra editions should be out by 8 o'clock, if the bout is pulled off promptly.

The fight will also be bulletined by rounds tonight at the Capital Journal office as fast as it comes in over a wire direct from the ringside.

TWELVE THOUSAND WILL ATTEND FIGHT IN NEW YORK TONIGHT

New York, Mar. 25.—Between 12,000 and 13,000 persons are expected to attend the ten round fight between Jess Willard and Frank Moran at Madison Square Garden tonight. More than 1,000 women will probably be there. Every seat in the house has been sold and today, long before the doors opened, crowds began gathering around the arena.

Training camp eleventh hour reports said both men were ready for the big quarrel. Willard was regarded as a heavy favorite, as Moran must put him to sleep in order to win the championship. The Irish challenger is confident of his ability to lullaby Willard into a brief doze by earasing him with right swings, but few betters seemed disposed to stake anything on it.

For his labors this evening Willard will receive \$55,100. Moran's share is to be \$26,750. The increase is due to the fighters receiving shares in the motion picture rights.

Boxing enthusiasts flocked into New York today from all over the country. Some came from as far away as the Pacific coast. Most of them had seats purchased in advance. Those who had not were forced to delve deep into the wallet, as speculators held all available seats and sold them for thrilling figures.

A little sentiment in favor of Willard winning by a knockout developed today. With the champion outweighing Moran by 50 pounds, a number believed it would not be difficult for him to ease Frank into a state of coma. Moran, however, ridicules the suggestion that there will be resin in his hair when the affair ends. He apparently honestly believes such a thing out of the question. Moran says he never felt better in his life, and "points with pride" to the hard fights he has engaged in during the past months while Willard was posing before the camera and getting corpulent.

Tex Rickard, promoter of the battle, is said to have cleared \$50,000 as his share of the profits.

SERIOUS SITUATION THREATENS RELATION WITH GERMANY NOW

By Charles P. Stewart, (United Press staff correspondent.) London, Mar. 25.—The most serious situation since the Lusitania incident threatened German-American relations today as a result of the alleged torpedo attack on the channel steamer *Sussex* and the sinking of the Dominion liner *Englishman*, in the view of British officials.

Dover dispatches said nearly 100 survivors of the *Sussex* explosion, including several Americans, had landed there. The chief engineer of the *Sussex* and a Belgian passenger were killed outright. Their bodies have been recovered. One American is missing and is believed to have drowned. Dover reported.

EL PASO WANTS WAR AND WANTS IT BAD

City at Gateway to Mexico Seethes With Sentiment for War and Same Feeling Exists Along Entire Border—Texan Naturally Hates Mexican Tricolor and Speculators and Adventurers Are Strong In Similar Feeling—Funston Will Be Compelled To Ask For More Troops—Villa Seems to Have Escaped Again

By E. T. Conkle,
 (United States Correspondent.)

El Paso, Texas, March 25.—El Paso, war capital of the United States, is frankly for war. The more war the better El Paso will like it. Mexico in America's hands is El Paso's dream. Its hotel lobbies today are lined with millionaires who have made their stake in Northern Mexico and who dream of the day Uncle Sam will throw his protection over the rich mining and cattle region of the south and allow them to pile up their millions without fear of revolution.

They are frankly adventurers. Some have discarded the high boots for patent leather pumps, the horse for the motor. Others, new products, have still the look of the pioneer. For all Mexico in American hands spells millions.

"Hell, ain't we Americans? Ain't we entitled to the same protection as New York? We made our money just as honestly as Wall Street did and a — more so," said one gold miner who sits in the big boards in Wall Street.

Their own vast tracts, rich mines, great forests, mostly by grant of some Mexican dictator, labor was cheap. It was easy to run a shoeing into a shoe store. They did it. They took a chance but now they ask Uncle Sam to double-rivet their title. Ask them why St. Louis, New York and Chicago should march to death to clear their title and they don't understand. In fact most of them are as ready to saddle and go to battle as they are to send others.

A notch down are the merchants, hotel keepers, business men, to whom uninterrupted traffic spells good living. They fatten as the men higher up prosper. Their workers have the same interest.

Then, too, they believe that open war would mean the end of the menace that has lasted since the Alamo. El Paso, with her 73,000 people, is 65 per cent Mexican. Across the border are 15,000 more Mexicans at Juarez, with five the shallow line of 100 which General Funston could wade, not swim between them and the United States. Carranza soldiers, the other end of the international bridge taking toll. But beyond the appeal of gold, lead and cattle is another appeal.

The border has suffered. American cattle have been stolen. American mines and ranches have been plundered. American women have been ravished and their babes 't breast slain. Every town, every hamlet along the border has the proof in graveyards or wrecked lives.

The average Texan hates the Mexican tricolor as the crusader hated the crescent. War with Mexico may be a matter of politics, business, statesmanship with the great east and central states, but with the border it is as deep as human hatred.

Right or wrong, wise or foolish, the border is for war. The rest of the United States might as well consider that as it starts.

VILLA MAY HAVE ESCAPED

By E. T. Conkle, (United Press staff correspondent.) El Paso, Texas, Mar. 25.—Francisco Villa is believed to have escaped the American-Carranzista trap laid for him near Namiquipa. With a great number of his followers he is thought to have reached the San Miguel country. Military men expressed this conviction today when a report of a decisive battle with him failed to materialize. In the absence of word to contrary, it is believed the American expedition lost Villa's trail. The bandit chief was last reported at Namiquipa a week ago. The American expedition did not reach there until Thursday or Friday.

Consul Garcia had no further word today with regard to the situation at El Paso where Villa was reported backed up in a canyon between Namiquipa and Santa Clara fighting for his life. Villistas have cut all telegraph wires south of Casa Grande.

It is apparent that Villa has scattered his forces. A small number are perhaps surrounded in the Namiquipa district from which come persistent reports of the American expedition enveloping the bandits. Another group probably set fire to Janos, a small town which the United States troops found burning.

Villistas are believed to have been connected with the wreck of an American troop train south of Casa Grande. The engine and several cars turned over near Cumbres. There were no fatalities, but a number of cavalry horses were so badly hurt they had to be

killed. The column marched overland for the remainder of the journey.

Funston May Need Aid.

San Antonio, Texas, Mar. 25.—Major General Fred Funston may be compelled to ask for more troops as a result of many urgent demands for protection from alarmed communities in Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico. Army headquarters intimated today he might ask the war department to call the militia of three states to patrol those districts. Funston is reluctant to do so, fearing that the presence of additional soldiers on the border would embarrass Venustiano Carranza. He is also loath to insure the extra expense.

Headquarters was very apprehensive at reports of Villistas having crossed three Americans at Gibson ranch. The story was not confirmed, however. Major Sample, commandant, urged that accurate information be rushed to headquarters.

Sheriff Edwards was expected to ask Governor Ferguson for militia to protect El Paso if need of guarding General Pershing's communication lines further depleted the force of regulars there. Additional troops to protect the line required now must be sent either from here or from another department of the army.

Major General Funston, in replying to General Pershing's demand that he take over the Mexican Northwestern railroad and operate trains from El Paso to Casa Grande, told him authorities for such a proceeding had not been received from Washington.

Plans May Be Changed.

Douglas, Ariz., Mar. 25.—Sweeping changes in the plan of campaign against Villista bandits was predicted by military leaders here following unconfirmed reports that three Americans had been murdered a few miles west of Gibson ranch by Mexican bandits.

Preparations were being rushed today for a troop movement here. While United States army officers refused to talk to correspondents it was hinted that several troops of the First cavalry stationed here would be sent to the vicinity of Gibson's ranch just inside the American territory, where the raid was reported.

Owing to the strict military censorship practically nothing could be learned of the affair in which two American women and one man were said to have been killed.

The Mexicans were mounted and numbered nearly a hundred according to the story brought here by a party of five motorists who were guarded by

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THE WEATHER



Oregon: Tonight and Sunday rain; Sunday night, fresh to strong—near the coast.