

THE WEATHER

Shows Monday: Tuesday, cloudy and cooler.

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TERRIFIC STRUGGLE IN EAST PRUSSIA DRAWING WORLD WIDE INTEREST

Two Battles Developing, Outcome of Which May be of a Decisive Nature.

RUSSIANS ARE READY

Other Developments Overshadowed by Intense Situation in Prussia.

London, Feb. 14.—Two big battles, it is believed, already have begun, or will begin soon, on the Russian side of the East Prussian frontier, and on the river Sereth, in Bukovina. The Russians have withdrawn in East Prussia and in Bukovina, in the face of superior German and Austrian armies, to concentrate and come into closer touch with their lines of communication. The official reports make brief reference to the operations at these two extremes of the Eastern front, but what they do say indicates that the Russians have reached the lines on which Grand Duke Nicholas has decided to give battle. The rest of the campaign in the East, even the fighting in the Carpathians, is overshadowed by these greater events, on the result of which both sides are staking much.

GERMANS CLAIM VICTORY.

The Germans claim a big victory in East Prussia and the Austrians announce the Russian retreat in Bukovina with elation but apparently Petrograd views these incidents without misgiving. In the West there has been a continuation of heavy artillery bombardments in which Rhelms again has suffered and several infantry attacks in which both sides claim success. From official sources comes the news from St. Mihiel, on the Meuse, which the Germans have held so long, has come under fire of the French guns, which show that the French either have advanced in this region or have brought heavier guns in an effort to dislodge the Germans.

RUSSIAN FLANK NOT IN DANGER.

Petrograd, Feb. 14 (via London).—Russian staff officers today asserted that the occupation of the crown land of Bukovina by Austro-German armies does not menace the Russian flank or the Russian position around Lemberg. The Russians maintain that mountain ranges to the North and South render the action of the country isolated and that the Russian position in the West and range on the south preclude the possibility of a successful attack.

VOTE SELLING TRIALS NOT NEAR COMPLETED

Two Hundred and Two Concluded. Rek will Take Over Month.

Two hundred and two cases have been disposed of here in trials of 300 men on charges of selling their votes in the late legislative election. Several hundred indictments were returned. Ninety-six voters have been fined and disfranchised, 19 have been acquitted, 59 have been dismissed on motion of the prosecuting attorney and the other cases called have been referred to the next grand jury for action.

REPOPULATION OF FRANCE

Academy of Moral and Political Science Takes Matter Up. Paris, Feb. 14.—The Academy of Moral and Political Science is receiving the attention of Academy of Moral and Political Science. Figures in the country during the past 20 years fell from 860,000 to 750,000.

GARRANZA TAKES EFFECT OF WAR ON NON-COMBATANTS

Claims He Alone Authorized to Receive Communications.

OF DIPLOMATIC NATURE

Action Means That Foreign Diplomats Would Be Forced to Go to Vera Cruz to Consult Him, Which They Will Not Do.

Washington, Feb. 14.—While no official messages had been received today at the State Department or the Spanish embassy here as to the Spanish government's attitude toward General Carranza's expulsion of its minister from Mexico, press dispatches from Madrid indicating that the matter would be adjusted through diplomatic channels were credited by officials.

Another action of the Carranza government which may cause further complications for the Mexico City diplomatic corps was taken today in the announcement that Carranza is personally authorized to receive and pass on diplomatic communications. This may seriously affect the diplomatic activity of American consular agents instructed to deal with the de facto authorities who ever they may be.

Appeal a Mistake.

Reports of an appeal by Spain for joint action in Mexico were not regarded here as accurate. Officials pointed out the Spanish government probably would consult the United States before taking such a step. It was believed not unlikely, however, that for the information of the powers of the world Spain would communicate a statement of the circumstances under which the Spanish minister was deported.

An account of the severe censorship established at Vera Cruz by General Carranza, little news of the difficulties of foreign consuls and diplomats has been permitted to reach the United States. It has just been learned, however, that for some time consular relations have been maintained between Carranza and the consuls of Spain and Great Britain at Vera Cruz. Both the consuls incurred Carranza's displeasure, because of their persistence in insisting to his attention what they considered unjust aggression toward foreign property.

The American consul at Vera Cruz, W. H. Canada, time and again has made representations to Carranza on the treatment of Spaniards. Recently he was instructed to say that the Department of State had learned of the shooting of seven Spaniards at Apizaco, and of another at a nearby town, and to point out that a continuation of the policy of executing Spaniards would be regarded with keen displeasure by the United States, which would place personal responsibility on Carranza.

Carranza's latest decree concerning foreign diplomatic representations has revealed today in a telegram from Rafael Zubizarreta, minister of the Interior, that Carranza had intended to place personal responsibility on Carranza.

IMMEDIATE EMBARGO ON WHEAT SHIPMENTS

Urged as Price Reducer by New York Committee.

George W. Perkins, Chairman of Mayor Mitchell's Committee on Price of Food Makes Report and Urges Action.

New York, Feb. 14.—An immediate embargo on the exportation of wheat to prevent further bread price-increase is recommended in the report of Mayor Mitchell's food committee, submitted by George W. Perkins, chairman, today. The opinion is expressed that if wheat exports continue at the present abnormal rate, the price of bread will soar much higher.

When struck we were only 15 miles off the coast and we were picked up within an hour by a French torpedo boat.

WILL RELEASE WILHELMINA

Representative of Company in Germany Consistent of the Outcome.

Berlin, Feb. 14 (via London).—W. L. Brooking, head of the export department of Willitt T. Green & Co., of St. Louis, the concern which chartered the American steamship *Wilhelmina* to carry food from New York to Germany, declared today that Mannheim (Baden) he fully expected the British government to release the ship. The *Wilhelmina* is now detained at Esbom.

Mr. Brooking said the German government had guaranteed that the vessel's cargo would be used only for the civilian population.

DEMOCRATS PRESS THE CLOTURE RULE

Administration Forces Begin on That Fight Today.

BUT SIXTEEN DAYS LEFT

If Amendment to the Rules Adopted Passage of Ship Purchase Bill Will Be Made Possible by February 19.

Washington, Feb. 14.—Congress tomorrow will enter on the last 16 days of the Sixty-third session bound in one of the most extraordinary legislative tangles of its history—a tangle so threatening that conservative majority members in the Senate who have respected the hard and fast rules of the deliberate body throughout the years have determined to try to break the fetters of unlimited debate.

Amendments to the rules proposed would end the prolonged Republican filibuster against the government ship purchase bill and permit its passage not later than February 19. Democratic leaders proposed tomorrow to pass a cloture rule.

Passage of such a rule, however, seems doubtful as Senate Democrats are far from unanimous on the proposal, notwithstanding that a Democratic caucus agreed to the programme last night. Seven Democrats who revolted against the ship purchase bill remained away from the party conference and others are not satisfied that any cloture rule should be adopted. Such action would be unprecedented in Senate procedure.

Real Fight on House.

While the Senate is fighting out the plan to limit debate, the action on the ship bill itself will remain in the House, where it will be held up by a House Democratic caucus tomorrow night on the compromise Weeks-Gore ship bill and will probably reach a vote on the bill Tuesday.

Greenwich, Conn., Feb. 14.—Seymour J. Hyde, a prominent manufacturer and a member of the firm of A. G. Hyde & Sons, of New York, cotton brokers, insured at home here today from injuries sustained January 31 when he was thrown from his horse. He was 54 years old.

Lima, Peru, Feb. 14.—The entire cabinet resigned today as a result of the ministerial crisis which became acute at the end of last month when the introduction into conditions of the budget brought about a discussion of the country's finances.

LEGISLATURE IGNORES NEWBERN COURT AFFAIR

Carter-Abernethy Trouble is Quietly Down

Representative Whitford Denies He Intended to Introduce Resolution in House in Interest of the Seafarer.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 14.—Representative Whitford, of Craven, who has been credited with planning to introduce in the Legislature a resolution in the interest of solicitor C. L. Abernethy, in the Judge Carter-Abernethy contempt "affair" says that he knows nothing about it; that he has just returned from Morganton, where he went with a legislative visiting committee from the Legislature and really knows nothing about the affair in the Newbern court and that he has no such resolution and knows nothing of the preparation of one if it exists.

Solicitor Abernethy is expected here tonight and there is any plan for a meeting in the Legislature it would come from his side of the trouble. There seems not to be the slightest possibility for the leaders in the Legislature, seriously considering any proposition to take cognizance of the affair.

"No one is able to locate anything tangible regarding such a movement and the general disposition is to completely disregard it," L. E. Warren, chairman of the State Democratic committee, who came in from Newbern said that the stir in Newbern has completely quieted and that the general opinion was that the judge and the solicitor were each unintentionally to blame to some extent for the unfortunate developments. But that certainly there is nothing that the Legislature could do in the matter.

BERLIN NEWSPAPER COMMENT IS UNFAVORABLE TO AMERICA

Interview With Dr. Gerard

CLAIM U. S. NOT NEUTRAL

Naval Expert on One Paper Says Washington Government Does Not or Will Not Recognize German Declaration

Berlin, Feb. 14.—via London.—Berlin newspapers continue their comment on the American note concerning the German admiralty's sea war zone proclamation. The editorials generally are friendly. Conspicuous exceptions however, are furnished by Die Post and the Tages Zeitung.

"When something does not suit the Yankees," says Die Post, "they are accustomed to adopt as threatening and as frightful a sabre-rattling tone as possible. They reckon that the person thus treated will be frightened and give in. If this does not come to pass, however, if the person thus threatened replies with the strongest expressions and shows that he is not scared and will not let himself be driven into a state of funk, the swaggering Yankees calm themselves soon and quiet down."

Charge of Favoritism

Die Post complains that the United States did not protest against the British declaration of the North sea as war territory "that is to say, they are in benevolent agreement with England, but make a threatening protest against us. If the North American government would show Germany the same neutrality as is shown England, the entire present note with its threatening tone would be superfluous."

Count Ernest Reventlow, the naval expert in the Tages Zeitung, says the request of the United States that ships be searched before further action is taken against them shows "that the people in Washington do not or will not comprehend the meaning of the German measure."

Of Secondary Importance

"Whether it is regarded or protested against is of secondary importance. It is inexcusable," Count Reventlow continues, "we may believe that the United States misjudges its ground. The same can be said of the remarkable phrase 'America is acting in America, naturally see itself impelled to hold the German imperial government responsible for such action of its naval authorities. One cannot escape the conclusion that the American government is not to be regarded as an equal partner in their communications with the German Empire.'"

New Factor in Naval Warfare

"The submarine," it says, "runs a risk against armed merchantmen. England and its ally, America, has advised them to carry false flags. 'Shall Germany in the face of such treacherous measures throw down her arms because an American ship might be mistaken for an enemy?' The American note demands nothing else. 'We desire to protect neutral commerce in the future as in the past, but we do not wish that neutral carriers on trade with England in certain 'false flags'. The protection of neutrals, the Vossische Zeitung continues, will be possible if neutrals take care that their flag is respected by Great Britain.

The Lokai Anzeiger points out that only the United States among all the neutral countries has protected against the German declaration of a naval war zone. It admits the friendly nature of the note, but says:

"All this cannot alter the fact that we must characterize the standpoint of the note as a mistaken one, since it does not take into consideration the naval situation as it has developed without Germany's fault and since a much sharper note should long ago have been sent to the British government."

Germany's Course not Changed

The Kreuz Zeitung declares that Germany's course will not be influenced by the American note. "Although the note demands inviolability of American citizens," the newspaper adds, "it is to be hoped that they are on board English ships. If, as reported, the Lusitania's passengers begged the Captain to hoist the American flag Washington cannot wonder if this flag is not respected."

The Hamburger Nachrichten says that nobody can demand that German warships expose themselves to destruction through consideration for neutrals. "American merchantmen," the Nachrichten continues, "retain their right to sail in the specified waters or to avoid them. If Washington assumes that the



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