

## BRITISH MAKE GOOD PROGRESS

Capture of Neuve Chappelle  
Marks Most Considerable  
Advance in West in  
Several Months.

### MAKES GERMAN HOLD ON LA BASSEE WEAKER

Russians Fail to Break German

Lines—Cruisers Are Said to  
Have Penetrated Dar-

danelles Narrows.

London, March 11.—Under cover of the fire of heavy artillery British troops have captured Neuve Chappelle, three and a half miles north of La Bassee, France. This success included the taking of 1,000 prisoners and several machine guns and marks the most considerable advance reported in the west in several months.

The capture of this place is strategically of great importance as the position commands the road between La Bassee and Lille and makes the German hold on La Bassee more insecure.

The British troops are now within two miles of the furthest point gained by General Sir Horace L. Smith-Dorrien last October, when with one army corps, in an effort to gain Fournes, on the road between La Bassee and Lille, he forced his way as far as Abucers, two miles north of Neuve Chappelle, but after a desperate battle against overwhelming odds, he was forced to retire.

News dispatches from Berlin report the failure of the Russian attempts to break through the German lines at Augustowo. The battle at Ostrolenka continues. The fighting west and northwest of Przasnysz is reported to be developing favorably for the Germans.

The British admiralty continues silent concerning the operations of the allied fleets in the Dardanelles, but French reports say that armored cruisers have penetrated the Narrows. It is not considered likely that the attack will be pressed until land forces are ready on both sides of the strait. That the land forces are almost ready for action is indicated by the report that a great French transport fleet has been sighted off Nalpa.

Berlin, March 11.—Major Mohr, the military critic of the Tageblatt, declares that the French campaign in Champagne has closed with a "complete French defeat."

He says that the city of Vouziers in the department of Ardennes was unquestionably the point which the French sought to take. This city commands in great degree the entrance to the Argonne and the district would have been evacuated by the Germans had the French taken the city, he says, or else the German front would have been exposed to attack on the west and south. Another result would have been the weakening of the pressure on Verdun.

To the material aspects of the victory, he says, must be added the physical and moral effect of their heavy losses.

Fire Slackens.

Paris, March 11.—A vigorous bombardment of the Dardanelles fortifications principally by the French warships was continued yesterday according to a Teneos dispatch to the Matin. A dense fog prevented the visitors from learning the results of the ships' fire but the replies from some of the Turkish forts slackened perceptibly.

## GUDGER HOPES TO GET FEDERAL JOB

Former Congressman Indorsed  
for Judge of U. S.  
Court of Claims.

Gazette-News Bureau,  
Wyatt Building,  
Washington, March 11.

Although he has been separated from the government pay roll for six days former Congressman James M. Gudger, Jr., has not despaired of again landing a federal job. Yesterday Senator Overman and Simmons called at the White House and urged the president to name the former 10th district congressman as judge of the United States court of claims to succeed Judge Charles B. Lowery, who retired a few days ago. Senator Simmons missed the conference at the White House because his watch was wrong. Senator Overman, however, told the president the good things he knew about Mr. Gudger. The president listened attentively. Senator Simmons called at the department of justice and indorsed Mr. Gudger to the attorney general. It is not believed that Mr. Gudger's candidacy will be given serious consideration either at the White House or the department of justice.

Senator Overman settled the Sylva postoffice controversy by sending in the recommendation of the Rev. Jas. J. Gray for appointment to succeed Mr. Gudger retired from Congress he recommended James Wilson. Charges were filed against Wilson and he withdrew from the race. It is believed that Gray will be nominated in a short time.

The following fourth class postmasters have been appointed:  
Balfour, Henderson county, Calmon N. Allison; Bakers Creek, Jackson county, James R. Martin; Brickton, Henderson county, Leland R. Geiger; Cherokee, Swain county, Mrs. Charlotte E. Jenkins; Eagle Nest, Haywood county, Samuel C. Satterthwait, Jr.; Naples, Henderson county, W. Thomas Smith; Rock Hill, Polk county, John H. Bell; Rough, Graham county, William N. Crisp; Talpa, Jackson county, Nathan Rogers; Thermal City, Rutherford county, Mrs. Estelle P. Castles.

## GEN. VILLA WILL OPPOSE FOREIGN INTERVENTION

Declares He Would Join Car-

ranza in Case of Armed

Interference.

El Paso, Tex., March 11.—General Villa in a statement to the Associated Press received from Torreon declares that in event of intervention of foreign troops to subdue the Carranza forces he and all other Mexicans would unite against the invaders.

Villa denied recent interviews in American newspapers, which he said had just been called to his attention, in which he was quoted as saying that he would oppose armed intervention on the part of several powers, "to reduce Carranza to order," provided that he would be made commander of such a move.

"There is nothing more grotesque and absurd than such an assertion," said the message from the northern leader "since I always have insisted that all our troubles be settled solely among ourselves. Should some nation invade our territory I would be ready to fight against it until I would see the entire country in the possession of Mexicans only. All of us would fight until united against the enemy."

## MANY PERSONS KILLED AND INJURED IN WRECK IN SPAIN

Madrid, March 11.—Many people are reported killed or injured, when the mail train from Vigo to Madrid was wrecked late yesterday in a deep cut in Asturias. A relief train has been sent from Madrid to the scene of the accident. There are no details of the wreck.

## GERMAN AMBASSADOR AND ITALIAN PREMIER CONFER

Rome, March 11.—Prince Von Buelow, the German ambassador, conferred with Premier Balanda, for an hour yesterday. There was no announcement made but there is much popular comment regarding the meeting.

## FORMAL REPLY FROM CARRANZA

Answer to U. S. Representa-  
tions Indicates That Car-  
ranza Will Provide For-  
eigners Protection.

## FOOD SITUATION IN CAPITAL STILL SERIOUS

Efforts Being Made to Keep  
Railways Open for Those  
Who Desire to Leave  
Mexico City.

Washington, March 11.—Carranza's formal reply to the urgent representations of the American government relative to conditions in Mexico City, the text of which was published in Vera Cruz yesterday, was being deciphered today by the state department.

The reply is directed to President Wilson personally and was sent in the cable code. It was received at the state department last night.

The reply as published in Vera Cruz, indicates that Carranza will provide protection for foreigners in Mexico City. Assurances to that effect, officials confidently believe will make unnecessary for the American government to take further steps.

Secretary Bryan announced last night that the food situation in Mexico City continued serious and that General Obregon's forces appeared not to have evacuated the city, though this was expected at any moment.

Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, brought to the department a copy of a telegram from Thomas Hohler, charge d'affaires of the British legation in Mexico City, declaring the American note, a copy of which had been presented to General Obregon simultaneously with its delivery to General Carranza, had produced a good effect. The charge pointed out, however, the necessity at all times of keeping open railway and telegraphic communication between Mexico City and Vera Cruz.

No more warships were ordered to Mexican waters and none will be sent pending further developments in the situation.

Mr. Bryan said that Charles A. Douglas, Washington adviser to the Carranza government now at Vera Cruz, was co-operating with American Consul Silliman in an attempt to solve the transportation problem. The secretary said consular reports showed that the trains from Mexico City were being held for military purposes or being held for that object. As yet no requests had come, he added, from Americans in Mexico City for transportation facilities, but the department is doing what it can to arrange for trains for those who desire to heed the American warning for American citizens to leave Mexico City.

In a general way the situation seemed to some officials to have improved. There was an increasing confidence that the United States would not be compelled to take further steps.

At the state department the official reports continued to show the condition of affairs as threatening, although officials thought General Carranza would instruct General Obregon to arrange for the policing of Mexico City in the event of evacuation. The Zapata forces are expected to take possession immediately after Obregon's men withdrew.

## WITNESSES TELL OF THAW'S ESCAPE

Attendants at Mattewan Tell  
of Thaw's Escape From  
the Asylum.

New York, March 11.—Four witnesses who saw the sensational flight of Harry K. Thaw from Mattewan asylum testified at his trial here today in which he is charged with conspiracy in connection with his escape from the asylum.

Howard Barnum, the gatekeeper at the asylum, who opened the gate for Thaw, described how Thaw dashed through the gates and jumped into an automobile which sped away in a cloud of dust.

## RIGHT TO CALL ELECTION GIVEN

Legislature Passed Bill Giving  
Asheville Aldermen Author-  
ity to Call a School  
Bond Election.

## A \$200,000 BOND ISSUE PROPOSED FOR SCHOOLS

Superintendent Howell Return-  
ed Last Night From Ra-  
leigh—Tells of Needs  
of City Schools.

Among the last bills that passed the legislature of North Carolina before the adjournment last Tuesday, was the bill authorizing the board of aldermen of Asheville to call a special election for the purpose of voting on a proposed school bond issue of \$200,000. No date was set for the calling of the election, that feature having been left with the city fathers for such a time as they may see fit.

Superintendent Harry Howell, of the city schools, returned to Asheville last night from Raleigh, where he has been since last Sunday, conferring with Buncombe county representatives in the general assembly in regard to the passage of the school bond bill, as it is called.

In an interview with a Gazette-News reporter today Mr. Howell stated that the city school board authorized the bill to be drawn and introduced in the legislature, it being the unanimous opinion of the members of the school board that the election should be called and the matter of issuing the bonds to the amount of \$200,000 be voted on.

If the election is called and carries the city school board plan to build a new high school building; enlarge the Park avenue building; either enlarge the Orange Street school or build a new building in that district; pay \$4500 owing on the property recently bought on Central avenue and Liberty street as a playground for the Orange Street school; enlarge the Catholic Hill colored school; pay the \$20,000 now owing on the new Hill Street colored school and do many other things that are much needed in the school systems of Asheville.

The needs of the high school are so many that Superintendent Howell stated today that he did not feel it would be necessary to call to the attention of the citizens of Asheville the necessity for a new high school building. It is admitted that the location of the school is the most ideal that could be found in the city, but the building itself is inadequate for the needs of the present day and Mr. Howell states that every department and every room is crowded so that it is utterly impossible to do good work and the attendance is growing larger all the time making it more and more difficult to handle the classes.

Owing to the large attendance at the Park avenue school the extension of the work, sewing, cooking and manual training classes having recently been installed, it has become very crowded and several additional rooms are badly needed.

Superintendent Howell states that the Orange Street school is now full and other pupils coming in all the time, until he believes that it will be necessary in a very short time to either build additions to the school or to erect a new school building in the Orange street district.

At the Catholic Hill colored school, Mr. Howell states the crowded condition has made it necessary for the board to rent the old church building, where two classes are taught each day. At this school six classes are using these rooms.

The board is also renting a church building on Southside avenue, near Oates park, for several colored classes and Mr. Howell states that very soon a building will have to be provided for colored students on Victoria avenue.

## Bond Issue in 1912.

The last city school bonds were voted in 1912, when the citizens voted an issue of \$50,000. This money was to be used in building additions to the various city schools and was expended in 1913. It was not only insufficient, but Superintendent Howell states that the records show that \$70,000 was spent, leaving the board to shoulder a debt of \$20,000. Mr. Howell says that the work of building the various additions cost about

(Continued on page 3)

## HABITUAL DRUG USERS APPEAL

President Wilson's Mail J  
Crowded With Appeal  
for Aid in Get-  
ting "Dope."

## CONFESSED USERS OF DRUGS ASK FOR ACTION

Law, Which Went Into Effect  
March 1, Passed in Hope  
of Relieving "Dope  
Fiends."

Gazette-News Bureau,  
Wyatt Building,  
Washington, March 11.

Enforcement of the anti-narcotic law, which went into effect March 1, took a startling turn yesterday when President Wilson discovered that his mail was crowded with appeals from victims to aid them in getting the drug that has enslaved them.

The president was amazed when word was carried to him that for several days letters have been pouring in from persons in all parts of the country imploring a restoration of the drug supply. Among the writers are said to be persons suffering from various diseases as well as confessed "dope fiends."

Men and women afflicted with tuberculosis, cancer and other diseases are numbered among those who complain that they have been deprived of pain-alleviating opiates by the operation of the law, which was enacted in the hope of redeeming about 2,000,000 habitual drug users.

In addition to the appeals received by the president several thousand invalids and drug victims have written the internal revenue bureau of the treasury department, which is charged with the strict enforcement of the law.

President Wilson referred all letters that came to the White House to the revenue officials with instructions to do all that is possible to relieve the distressed ones. Employees of the department are working overtime advising the writers to consult physicians or apply for treatment to clinics and hospitals.

Surgeon General Blue of the United States public health service, announced last night that he would authorize the opening of marine hospitals to drug victims in all cities where local health authorities indicate that help is needed in treating those crazed by the failure to obtain supplies of "dope."

New York and Chicago, it was said by an official, present the biggest problems. As was anticipated drug fiends in the underworld of those cities have been overtaxing the local hospital facilities. It was from Chicago that the appeal came for marine hospital aid in handling the situation there.

Many of the letters received here indicate that the law does not deprive them of the use of any particular drug, but requires that it be obtained only from a physician authorized by the government to prescribe it for medicinal purposes.

Other letters of inquiry from druggists and physicians disclose that they are not informed as to the provisions of the law. The internal revenue officials hope that the replies they are sending out to consumers and physicians will avert the carrying out of suicide threats and lead to the reformation of drug victims.

The idea of the government officials charged with the enforcement of the law is that "dope fiends" shall be encouraged to apply to physicians for the drug they have been using and that the doctors will seize the opportunity to effect a cure in every possible case.

The usual method employed in curing the drug habit is to allow the victim gradually reduced quantities of the narcotic instead of cutting it off completely.

Under the policy adopted by the internal revenue department, therefore, physicians would be warranted in prescribing the drug in connection with the process of a cure. The government officials expect that physicians also will exercise their professional prerogative in administering drugs to sufferers from severe pain or victims of insupportable diseases.

Prominent Dr. Found Guilty  
of Burglary in Alabama

## PROBE SINKING OF U. S. VESSEL

## UNION STATION FOR CHARLOTTE

Commission Will Not Order  
Ry. Co's. to Build Sta-  
tion Asked for.

(By W. T. Bost.)

Raleigh, March 11.—The corporation commission has dismissed Charlotte's petition to require the Southern, Seaboard, Norfolk Southern and Piedmont Electric railways to build a union station where the Southern station now stands.

The controversy, now more than ten years old, will be partly settled by a further commission order that both the Southern and Seaboard submit within sixty days, plans for new stations.

The commission bases its ruling on inaccessibility of the Seaboard and Norfolk Southern tracks, the first being five-eighths of a mile and the second a mile distant from the proposed union station.

The commission also settles the row between Plymouth and Plymouth Light company, requiring the municipality to pay \$1,400 for its lights, which it had refused to pay.

## EMIGRANTS LEAVING U. S. EXCEED IMMIGRANTS

Departures of Aliens for Last  
Six Months 18,545 Great-  
er Than Arrivals.

Washington, March 11.—For the first time in American history the tide of immigration has been turned back toward Europe.

Statistics announced by Commissioner Caminette show the change, caused by war, came in December when the number of emigrant aliens leaving the United States was greater by 2,240 than the total of immigrants entering. In January, 1,757 more departed than entered.

Departures for the six months from August, 1914, to January, 1915, exceeded 18,545 more than arrivals, including both emigrant and non emigrant aliens.

The heaviest emigration was shown among aliens from southern Italy. Of these 75,629 more departed than were admitted during the seven months ended with January. That presumption was due to the calling of Italian reservists to the colors.

## RESULTS OF JANUARY OPERATION BY SOUTHERN

Comptroller Plant Gives Out  
Interesting Account of Jan-  
uary Operations.

Washington, March 11.—The results of operation of Southern Railway company for the month of January, exclusive of interest, rentals and other income charges, are announced by Comptroller A. H. Plant today as follows:

Gross revenue January 1915, \$4,653,003; January 1914, \$5,738,969; decrease \$1,085,966 or 18.93 per cent.

Operating expenses January 1915, \$3,730,350; January 1914, \$4,460,850; decrease \$730,500 or 16.38 per cent.

American Government Will  
Await Decision of Neutral-  
ity Board Before Act-  
ing Warship Case.

## DESTRUCTION OF SHIP CONSIDERED SERIOUS

Warship Still at Newport News  
—Practically Certain She  
Will Interne There Till  
End of the War.

Washington, March 11.—The state department officials today awaited the decision by the neutrality board on the problems arising from the destruction of the American ship, William P. Frye by the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, before deciding on what steps to take.

The following statement was issued at the White House today:

"President Wilson, when asked in regard to the sinking of the American sailing ship William P. Frye by the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, said: 'The most searching inquiry will be made into the matter and whatever action is taken will be based on the result of this inquiry.'"

Decisions on the various delicate problems of international law created by the arrival of the German cruiser yesterday at Newport News are expected to be reached today.

The most serious problem in connection with the warship was created by the announcement that during her four months raiding as a commerce destroyer, she had sent to the bottom one American owned vessel which flew the flag of the United States. This has profoundly stirred official Washington.

Lies at Anchor.

Newport News, Va., March 11.—The German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich lay at anchor here today with the full details of her long sea raids untold, awaiting instructions from the German embassy at Washington as to her next move. There seems practically no doubt but that the cruiser will intern here for the remainder of the war.

Chief on the program of activities in connection with the arrival of the German warship was an attempt to learn the full details of the sinking of the American sailing vessel William P. Frye, whose officers and crew were brought aboard the German cruiser. The Eitel Friedrich still has on board the victims of the hazards of war, and the master Commander Thierichsen has asked the American officials for time in which to repair his ship, strained almost to the breaking point.

It was indicated clearly to Collector of Customs Hamilton that the cruiser could not be repaired under six weeks. Meanwhile, British cruisers whose signals have been heard, are believed to be lying off the Virginia capes.

Collector Hamilton, under instructions from Washington, planned to get a formal statement from the commander of the cruiser as to why he sank the American sailor, sent to the bottom off the South American coast with a cargo of 5,500 tons of wheat for England.

Commander Thierichsen awaited instructions from the German embassy at Washington, and he expected Captain Boy Ed, German naval attaché at Washington, to be on hand to aid him.

Captain H. Kiehne, the master of the William P. Frye, slept aboard the cruiser last night. He is expected to make a supplemental statement today concerning the destruction of his vessel. The commanders of other vessels destroyed by the German cruiser were landed and spent the night at hotels. Passengers from the French liner Floride were also landed.

It was stated early today that a number of Englishmen held by the German cruiser had refused to agree not to bear arms against Germany and her allies.

Attempts to board the cruiser met with repeated refusals by the officers of the watch, who stated that none would be admitted aboard except United States officials.

## GERMAN-ITALIAN AGREEMENT; ITALY TO ATTACK AUSTRIA

Rome, March 11.—Although it declares it considers such an agreement impossible the Idea Nazionale discusses the report that Germany has agreed with Italy that if Austria refuses Italy territorial concessions, no objections will be offered by Germany if Italy attacks her present ally provided Italy does not enter an alliance with the Triple Entente. The newspaper calls such an agreement "folly" and says it would mean the betrayal of Italy.