

## AMERICANS REPORTED LOST ON STEAMSHIP POSSIBLY TORPEDOED

About 75 Persons Missing  
From Sussex, Damaged By  
Exterior Explosion In  
Crossing Channel.

SEVERAL AMERICANS  
SAID TO BE MISSING

Opinions Differ As to Cause of  
Explosion—Four Americans  
Missing From Freighter  
Englishman.

The cross-channel steamer  
Sussex, with a number of  
Americans on board reached  
Boulogne, France today, after  
being seriously damaged by an  
exterior explosion. Reports  
reaching Paris declare that the  
steamer was torpedoed. Other  
opinion is that the steamer  
struck a mine. Several passen-  
gers, among them one Ameri-  
can are reported to have lost  
their lives and one American  
was seriously injured.

Dispatches indicate that at  
least 75 people are missing.  
Both allied and neutral capitals  
are displaying concern over the  
recurrence of submarine activ-  
ity. The British government's  
rate of marine insurance has  
not been raised, however.

The lull in the fighting  
around Verdun continues.  
Paris reports a quiet night on  
both banks of the Meuse of the  
fortress, the only incident men-  
tioned being an artillery duel  
in the woevre district.

Paris, March 25.—Reports of  
the sinking of the Sussex, ob-  
tained here today, stated that  
she was torpedoed.

London, March 25.—Accord-  
ing to official information given  
out from the admiralty this  
morning, between 90 and 100  
passengers of the Sussex have  
been landed at Dover and  
about 250 of the passengers  
and members of the crew have  
been landed in France.

Edward Huxley, president of  
the United States Rubber Ex-  
port company and Francis E.  
Drake, European manager of  
the company, were among the  
Americans rescued from the  
Sussex.

It is reported that there was  
a heavy loss of life, including  
probably several Americans.

Miss Baldwin, daughter of  
a prominent American resident  
of Paris, was injured seriously.  
Miss Baldwin's father and  
mother were also passengers on  
the Sussex. All were taken to  
Boulogne. In addition to other  
injuries, Miss Baldwin's legs  
were broken.

Last night's dispatches said  
that there were 386 passengers  
on the Sussex and a crew of  
about 50 men. This indicates  
that 75 or more persons on the  
Sussex are not accounted for.

Four Other Americans Missing.

Washington, March 25.—  
Consular reports to the state  
department today state that  
the Dominion line steamer Eng-  
lishman has been sunk near the  
British Isles and that four  
Americans are missing. The  
Englishman was a horse trans-  
port.

## German Raider Sunk By British Cruiser Feb. 29

London, March 25.—A Ger-  
man raider has been sunk in the  
North sea. Five German  
officers and 115 men, out of a  
total of 300, were captured.  
The British lost 74 men.  
The British armed merchant-  
man Alcantara, which sunk the  
German raider Greif, was her-  
self sunk.

## Entente Powers Reject Plan To Disarm Ships

Washington, March 25.—Secretary  
Lansing had before him today formal  
responses of the entente powers re-  
jecting the proposal made by the  
United States that they enter into a  
modus vivendi and disarm all mer-  
chant ships with the understanding that  
the central powers would give pledges  
that such unarmed ships would not  
be attacked without warning. It is  
understood that the fundamental ob-  
jection was that there should be no  
change in the principles of interna-  
tional law during the progress of hos-  
tilities.

## 13,000 Spectators Will See Willard-Moran Bout

New York, March 25.—Thirteen  
thousand spectators will crowd Mad-  
ison Square Garden tonight to see  
Frank Moran of Pittsburgh, try to  
wrest the world's heavyweight boxing  
championship from Jess Willard of  
Kansas. Though the bout is not an-  
nounced as for the title and no de-  
cision by the referee is possible un-  
der the state boxing law, Moran  
might win the championship either  
by a knockout, a foul by Willard or  
by Willard's failure to go the full ten  
rounds.

The fight is the most important  
boxing contest which has taken place  
since Willard won the championship

## INTEREST CENTERS ON CONVENTION

Question of More Than Two  
Delegates Will Probably  
Be Raised Today.

Southern Railway trains yesterday  
afternoon brought in large numbers  
of delegates to the congressional con-  
vention which convenes in the county  
court house this afternoon for one  
of the most interesting political gather-  
ings held in the tenth district in years.  
Last night there were many confer-  
ences, continuing until a late hour,  
presided over by those high in the  
party councils in this part of the state.  
One question said to have been  
raised without being settled is whether  
more than two delegates shall be sent  
to Chicago. Of course, it is customary  
to send only two. But in case a sharp  
division of opinion should arise over  
the car "day of Thomas J. Harkins  
and Richmond Pearson, the selection  
of an additional representative to the  
national convention will be offered  
suggested as a basis of compromise  
between belligerent moose and stand-  
patter. A man well versed in the  
issues confronting the today's meeting,  
however, stated this morning that  
while this measure may be introduced  
it will quite probably be voted down.  
That prophecy indicates a fight to a  
finish between the Harkins and Pear-  
son forces.

Chairman Brownlow Jackson calls  
a convention to order for action that  
is realized to be of far reaching im-  
portance to the party. Frank Linney,  
chairman of the state executive com-  
mittee, is slated for a speech which is  
expected to prepare the way for har-  
monious action and the prediction is  
confidently made that whatever the  
result no aftermath of bitter feeling  
will arise to plague the leaders in  
their attack on the dominant party.

Congressman Britt has no adversary  
to oppose him today, unless some po-  
litical miracle should take place.  
James F. Barrett is expecting endorse-  
ment for commissioner of labor and  
printing and McKinley Pritchard ap-  
pears to have a smooth road before  
him for the position of presidential  
elector. Charles G. Lee will probably  
be an alternate delegate to the na-  
tional convention.

## STATE TROOPS NOT NEEDED ON FRONTIER NOW

Cabinet Decides Against Call-  
ing Out Militia to Relieve  
Regulars for Service  
In Mexico.

## NEWS ABOUT TROOPS OF CARRANZA CONFLICTING

Reports That Large Numbers  
of Mexicans Are Massing  
Along Border Have Not  
Been Established.

Washington, March 25.—Conflicting  
reports of the massing of Carranza  
troops on the border continued to  
reach here yesterday. American con-  
suls in northern Mexico, under orders  
from the state department to investi-  
gate the reported troops movements,  
advised the department that they had  
found no massing of troops in the  
northern section of the country. Sen-  
ator Ashurst of Arizona, however, re-  
ceived from D. A. Richardson of  
Douglas a telegram saying that a  
Mexican general with 3000 cavalry  
and 40 pieces of artillery had arrived  
on the border, not more than ten  
blocks from the center of the city and  
that 7000 additional Carranza cavalry-  
men were not more than six miles  
south of the border. Mr. Richardson's  
telegram stated that the forces at  
Douglas were inadequate to meet  
the situation and that there was fear  
of an attack.

Reports Denied.  
Douglas, Ariz., March 24.—The Car-  
ranza military governor of Sonora to-  
day denied reports that a large num-  
ber of Mexican troops had reached  
Agua Prieta, opposite here, from the  
south.

Investigation did not reveal an in-  
crease in the number of troops at  
Agua Prieta.

Willard Not Call Guard.  
Washington, March 25.—The ques-  
tion of calling out the national guard  
for service along the Mexican border  
in order to relieve the regulars for  
service in Mexico was discussed at the  
cabinet meeting yesterday but was de-  
cided that there was no prospect of  
such action at this time. The cabinet  
was told there was sentiment in con-  
gress for the protection of the con-  
stantly lengthening line of communi-  
cations of the American punitive force  
by sending more regulars into Mex-  
ico and by placing national guards-  
men along the border.

General Funston, however, has not  
asked for more troops, it was said  
and war department officials do  
not believe the mobilization of state  
troops is now necessary.

After the cabinet meeting officials  
showed that they feared that the  
mobilization of the national guard  
would have a disquieting effect in  
Mexico. They expressed confidence  
that the American troops in Mexico  
are in no danger.

## MRS. GARMAN DIED AT HOME HERE

Following a long illness, Mrs. W. H.  
Garman died at her home, at No. 23  
8000 street this morning, shortly after  
9 o'clock. Mrs. Garman was thirty-  
one years of age and is survived by  
her husband and two daughters, Miss  
Florence Garman and Miss Virginia  
Garman, her father, G. W. Swartz of  
Tennessee. Three brothers and three  
sisters also survive. Mrs. Garman  
was a devout member of the First  
Presbyterian church and was always  
interested in the work of the church.  
The funeral services have not yet been  
arranged.

## W. R. CHAMBERS IS NOW AN ATTORNEY

Principal of West Asheville  
School Takes Oath as a  
Lawyer.

Principal Walter R. Chambers of  
the West Asheville Graded school,  
was this morning sworn in as an at-  
torney at law in Superior court, before  
Judge W. F. Harding, Representative  
Gallatin Roberts introduced the ap-  
plicant to the court in a graceful  
speech and read the oath. Mr. Cham-  
bers received a number of congratula-  
tions from the members of the local  
bar and friends who were present.  
Mr. Chambers is a native of the Ivy  
section of Buncombe county. After  
graduating at Mars Hill and Wake  
Forest colleges he studied law at  
Wake Forest and secured license from  
the Supreme court last August. Last  
year he was principal of the Sand  
Hill school. Mr. Chambers has not yet  
announced when he will open an of-  
fice or where he expects to locate.  
He has been very successful as a  
schoolmaster.

## DUNCAN BEATEN IN 4TH DISTRICT

Anti-Duncan Forces Win Dele-  
gates to Republican National  
Convention and Defeat  
Col. J. C. L. Harris.

## FIGHT IN DELEGATES CONTESTS VERY CLOSE

J. J. Jenkins Is Nominated  
Against E. W. Pou—Geo. T.  
Whitaker of Franklin  
District Elector.

Special to The Times:  
Raleigh, March 25.—The fourth  
district convention which elected R.  
W. Ward of Raleigh and J. D. Park-  
er of Smithfield as delegates to the  
Chicago national convention, nomi-  
nated J. J. Jenkins of Siler City as  
the primary candidate for congress  
against E. W. Pou, J. W. Harden  
of Raleigh, chairman of the executive  
committee and George T. Whitaker  
of Franklin, elector for the district.  
Jenkins stumbled through three weary hours  
yesterday without the mention of Ma-  
rion Butler's name.  
The contest for delegates overshadowed  
everything else and came near-  
ly than all things done to creating  
district division. R. W. Ward and  
James Daniel Parker represented the  
anti-Duncan strength, and Willis G.  
Briggs of Wake and J. J. Barefoot  
of Johnston were its dual expression.  
The convention had 91 votes, and in  
the final count, Briggs and Barefoot  
received 44.5 against the 46.5 of their  
opponents. Consolation prizes of the  
alternatives were offered them but  
each declined with many thanks and  
more reasons. They did not wish to  
represent a district whose wishes were  
not theirs.

But for Wake's overwhelming de-  
feat of Briggs and Barefoot, the two  
would have gone to Chicago. Therein  
is the fruit of the old Butler feeling.  
The locals were aided by Lester But-  
ler of Durham, who eschewed furni-  
ture deals and came down to help in  
the effacement of Colonel J. C. Lan-  
gan Harris and E. C. Duncan. No-  
body blamed Mr. Butler particularly  
though he lives in another district.  
What Mr. Duncan did for his postfe-  
lice ambitions will be remembered a  
few centuries hence with pleasure and  
pain; and what Colonel Harris did  
for Mr. Butler four years ago as  
chairman of the county convention  
will be remembered a few more.

Colonel Harris called the conven-  
tion together. The first contest came  
about as the result of a chairmanship  
fight. Colonel Harris and J. J. Jen-  
kins were offered as the candidates  
for permanent chairman. Sheriff Ham  
fixed a good bed for the home  
of Harris and suggested that the col-  
onel's health would not permit his  
presiding over the body. The colonel's  
chairmanship four years ago was de-  
cidedly hard on Sheriff Ham's health.

Colonel Harris replied that if any-  
body wished to vote for him consid-  
erations of health should not inter-  
fere. The roll call was demanded, and  
on the show-down Colonel Harris re-  
ceived 41 and Mr. Jenkins 50 votes.  
Wake gave 18 against him in his home  
county and only ten for him. His  
entire check was loudly as the home  
vote was stacked up against him.

That was taken as the convention  
strength of the delegates who offered  
for the national honors, but it was  
wrong. Briggs and Barefoot stood a  
lot better. Before the vote was tabu-  
lated, Sheriff Jones rose to ask the  
privilege of a change by one of his  
friends. It was apparent that the vote  
was very close. It was also certain  
that the Ham Jones crowd was to get  
another vote. The word went out that  
it was not necessary and the dele-  
gate's identity never became known.

Candidate for Congress.  
The candidate for congress was  
handsomely presented by James Dan-  
iel Parker who said that he is the  
equal of Edward W. Pou and will  
carry the county in which Mr. Pou  
claims residence. "Johnston will go  
five years ago the banner county with  
2,500 to 3,000 democratic majority,"  
Mr. Parker said. "Johnston will go  
republican this year."

The nominee for district elector,  
George T. Whitaker was presented as  
a cracking good campaigner and  
ready to meet Pou at every turn. Just  
why that job was given to him rather  
than Mr. Jenkins was not learned.  
But Mr. Whitaker was given the elec-  
tion after Colonel Thurston Hicks had  
been nominated by a gentleman who  
had a conversation like a bull and  
passionately praised the colonel who  
will not charge more than six per  
cent for money. Colonel Hicks was  
withdrawn by his friends because it  
was known that he did not want the  
honor. Colonel Hicks may have fig-  
ured in the final result.

Colonel Harris did not seek again  
the chairmanship of the executive  
committee and J. W. Harden of Ra-  
leigh was chosen.  
During the deliberations Mr. Dun-  
can and a few of his friends stood  
behind the delegates and smiled. A  
Johnston delegate got slightly warm  
once and asked to be allowed to do  
his duty without Wake interference.  
Otherwise the convention was un-  
eventful. It made plain that its con-  
gressional nomination was simply the  
expression of the convention's will and

## TO CIRCUMVENT PLANS TO FORCE INTERVENTION

Administration Officials Con-  
vinced That Certain Inter-  
ests Are Trying to Cause  
War With Mexico.

## SPREADING REPORTS OF ALARMIST NATURE

Energetic Steps Will Be Taken  
to Put an End to Efforts to  
Inflame Minds of  
the People.

Washington, March 25.—  
Convinced that powerful influ-  
ences are at work to force inter-  
vention in Mexico through the  
spreading of alarming  
rumors, administration officials  
are considering just what steps  
to take to bring such agitation  
to an end. Many officials be-  
lieve that well defined efforts  
are being made by interests  
owning property in northern  
Mexico to inflame the minds of  
the people in the United States  
and Mexico to the point where  
war between the two countries  
will be inevitable.

Following a thorough discus-  
sion of the subject at yester-  
day's cabinet meeting, Secre-  
tary Lansing has prepared a  
formal statement concerning  
the matters which is awaited  
today.

President Wilson is said to  
be determined to stop the cir-  
culation of inflammatory rum-  
ors and to take legal steps if  
necessary. The use of the law  
against the publication of re-  
ports tending to incite "arson  
and riot," the tightening of  
the censorship on Mexican  
news and the warning of army  
officers on the border against  
giving out unconfirmed re-  
ports, all were under consid-  
eration by the administration of-  
ficials today.

With the reports of the Her-  
rera revolt positively denied by  
American Consul Letcher at  
Chihuahua City and with rum-  
ors of impending frontier dis-  
turbances received from unof-  
ficial sources by members of  
congress discounted by reas-  
suring official advices from  
points just beyond the Mexican  
frontier, the apprehension sub-  
sided today. Officials today  
sat down to wait word that  
Villa and his band of outlaws  
had been killed or captured by  
the international forces report-  
ed to be closing in about him.

Though no official news had  
come to the war department it  
was said that General Funston  
placed some credence in the un-  
official report that the United  
States troops had met and en-  
gaged Villa's band.

## Border People Alarmed.

El Paso, Texas, March 25.—The ac-  
tiveness with which local authorities  
regard the border situation was made  
evident last night when Sheriff Ed-  
wards telegraphed Governor James E.  
Ferguson that he believed the Texas  
national guard troops should be sent  
to the frontier.  
Sheriff Edwards said he "did not  
wish to be considered an alarmist,"  
but that developments in Mexico  
convinced him that additional protection  
was needed for Americans along the  
border. He refused to give the word-  
ing of his telegram or say how many  
additional troops he thought nec-  
essary. The action of Sheriff Edwards,  
taken subsequent to that of the Ariz-  
ona authorities in directing that the  
national guard be sent to the frontier,  
is not an effort to circumvent the pri-  
mary which requires formal entrance  
as a precedent to running.

border companies of national guard  
of that state be recruited to full war  
strength, gave renewed force to the  
tension which early in the day showed  
signs of relaxing.

There is a sharp difference in the  
point of view between federal officials  
here, who insist that while the situa-  
tion is filled with dangerous possi-  
bilities there is no reason to fear any im-  
mediate crisis, and local authorities,  
who are equally positive there is grave  
danger of an outbreak which will set  
the entire border in a blaze.

The federal officials are showing in-  
creasing irritation over the alarming  
reports about conditions which are be-  
ing circulated here night and day and  
which are being sent out to the rest  
of the county in news dispatches. They  
fear the effect of these reports on the  
Mexicans who have shown many signs  
in the last few days of increasing rest-  
lessness.

General Young Pleased.  
Raleigh, March 25.—Adjutant Gen-  
eral Laurence W. Young returned yester-  
day from Washington quite pleased  
with the military doings of congress  
and happy that the National guard  
gains status, the thing for which it has  
contended.

General Young went to Washington  
to aid in the presentation of the mil-  
itia's side and he remained until it  
went through. He was backed by the  
guard generally and it shares his joy.

## ASKS ABOUT FLY CAMPAIGN HERE

Montana Official Writes to  
Postmaster Gudger for  
Information.

Postmaster Owen Gudger received  
a letter today from R. R. Parker,  
assistant entomologist of the state  
board of Entomology of Montana,  
asking for information in regard to  
the methods used and results obtain-  
ed in the extermination of flies in  
the city of Asheville.

It is stated that Asheville was one  
of the first cities in the United States  
to undertake an organized campaign  
for the extermination of the house fly  
and that the result that is being ob-  
tained in this city is attracting na-  
tion-wide attention. The letter received  
by Postmaster Gudger is only one  
of many that has been received re-  
cently in the city in regard to fly ex-  
termination. It is the opinion of those  
best informed that since the campaign  
was begun in the city for the destruc-  
tion of flies that their numbers have  
been reduced from 75 to 90 per cent.

It is further stated that in the best  
residential sections of the city, where  
sewer and street conditions are ideal,  
that the fly has been almost comple-  
tely exterminated and that the residents  
of these sections hardly know what  
the fly nuisance means. Since the fly  
campaign began in Asheville several  
years ago, it is stated that typhoid  
fever cases have been on the decline,  
and of the eight cases in Asheville  
last summer practically all of them  
could be traced to an out of town  
source.

## SUPERIOR COURT HAS ADJOURNED

Chambers Wins Suit on Board  
Bill—Several Cases Were  
Continued.

The trial of Chambers versus Gal-  
ther, which has been on trial since  
yesterday morning, resulted in a ver-  
dict for the plaintiff for \$296.22. The  
plaintiff sued for recovery of an al-  
leged debt for board. Connie Foster  
was granted a divorce from her hus-  
band on statutory grounds.

Several motions were made by coun-  
sels in different cases for continuance  
and orders, and court adjourned for  
the term. The case of Rhoda Daniel  
by James Daniel, next friend, against  
the French Brood Manufacturing com-  
pany was yesterday comprised by the  
attorneys for the defendant and plain-  
tiff, the plaintiff receiving the sum of  
\$600.

The plaintiff had originally asked  
for the sum of \$2,500, which she  
claimed as damages for the loss of a  
finger in some machinery, while in the  
employ of the defendant. The defend-  
ant was represented by Martin, Rollins  
& Wright, and the plaintiff by Zeb F.  
Curtis.

## Meal Tickets for Horses.

Zurich, Switzerland, March 25.—  
Fodder tickets for horses, on the lines  
of the bread ticket system, are about  
to be issued in Vienna. For stables  
with more than twenty horses fodder  
will be supplied from municipal  
storehouses. Owners of smaller stab-  
les can get it from the dealers upon  
the production of the tickets.