

GERMANY MAKING STEADY PROGRESS AGAINST FRENCH

Persistent Attempts Against One Salient Result in Gains.

FRENCH CLAIM THAT ADVANTAGE IS EVEN

Violent Fighting on the Austro-Italian Front at Present.

LONDON, April 8.—Persistent attempts by the Germans to reduce the salient in the French lines northwest of Verdun are resulting in steady progress for the operation.

Two Points Captured. Berlin reports the capture of two strong points of support to the south of Haucourt, which passed recently into German hands.

Violent Fighting. Violent fighting is taking place on the Austro-Italian front, the Austrians being on the aggressive in several sectors.

Three Austrian aeroplanes, part of a squadron which raided railway stations back of the hostile lines, failed to return to their base.

Several additional vessels have been sunk in the course of the German submarine campaign and Paris officially announces the sinking of an Austrian transport in the Adriatic by a French submarine.

A Berlin dispatch states that the German government is able to announce that no German submarine was responsible for the explosion which damaged the cross-channel steamer Sussex.

CHARLES HARRISON IS INDICTED BY GRAND JURY FOR BIG TRAIN ROBBERY

Is Charged With Being an Accessory After the Fact.

BROTHER WITNESS

ATLANTA, Ga., April 8.—Charles Harrison, held here by postoffice inspectors in connection with the investigation of a train robbery near Central, West Virginia, last October, in which more than \$100,000 in unsigned bank notes were stolen, was indicted by the federal grand jury today on charges of being an accessory after the fact.

Richard Harrison, a brother of Charles, arrested at Grand Rapids, Mich., was a witness before the grand jury. It is understood he has confessed. Jeff Harrison, another brother, is held at Parkersburg, W. Va.

William Carl Rentz, Jr., of Atlanta, brought here today from Cincinnati where he was arrested in connection with the robberies, said to newspaper men tonight that he had not admitted any connection with the affair.

"When I went before the commissioner in Cincinnati," he said, "I simply told him I knew nothing of the affair and waived preliminary hearing. I know nothing of the robberies."

Rentz is being held under arrest pending possible action of the federal grand jury.

MOON NOMINATED. CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., April 8.—Judge John A. Moon, present congressman, was today declared the democratic nominee for congress from the Third Tennessee district by the executive committee.

"VILLA'S BAND OR BANDS" NOT ENTIRELY BROKEN UP GENERAL FUNSTON THINKS

Does Not Regard Task Set Him as Accomplished, According to Statements Yesterday—Net Results of Week's Work Are Pointed Out.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, April 8.—General Funston does not regard the task set him of breaking up "Villa's band or bands" as accomplished.

This was made clear at Fort Sam Houston today when reports were received that an unofficial suggestion had been made that American troops be withdrawn from Mexico. One phase of the situation which army officers refuse to discuss, however, is a provision in the war department orders to General Funston for the removal of the troops whenever the forces of the de facto Mexican government "are able to relieve them of this work."

Result of Campaign. The net result of the week's campaign against Villa, it was pointed out, has been the killing of a few more than one hundred and fifty of his men and the extension of a line of American troops approximately four hundred miles into Mexico.

Villa's organization remains intact, so far as army officers here know. He has divided it into smaller units. One of these was attacked and defeated at Guerrero but there is evidence that the fugitive chieftain, although perhaps wounded and traveling on a stretcher, as stated in some reports, is yet directing in a general way their movements.

General Pershing's infrequent reports to headquarters continued throughout the week to indicate the optimism of himself and his officers that they soon would overtake Villa or his main force.

Will Stimulate Chase. Instead of anticipating an early withdrawal of the troops, General Funston has planned to stimulate the chase in every way possible. Failure to get the right to use without restriction at least one of the railroads extending south from Juarez caused General Funston and his staff to consider seriously the establishment of a new base at some point on the border nearer operations, perhaps

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NEW YORK CHAUFFEUR CONFESSES TO ROBBERY NEW YORK MAIL TRUCK

Implicates Three Others in Confession, According to Police.

"DOUBLE-CROSSED"

SAN DIEGO, Calif., April 8.—James Moran, a New York chauffeur, confessed today to participation in the robbery two months ago of a mail truck in New York city from which securities valued at thousands of dollars and valuable bonds were stolen, according to federal authorities.

"I've been double-crossed and I want to get even," Moran is said to have asserted in his confession.

Moran surrendered last night, and, according to United States Commissioner C. E. Burch, he made a confession today declaring he was aided in the robbery by three others, one the ring leader, whom he named, and two postal employees whose names he said he did not know.

Moran then was taken to Los Angeles for further investigation. After the robbery, Moran is said to have asserted, he was given \$200 and sent to San Francisco where the loot was to be divided. Then, smarting under the belief that he had been "double-crossed" he came to San Diego, attended a Salvation army meeting at which he, conscience-stricken, decided, according to the alleged confession, to make a clean breast of the affair.

Two postal employees, according to the confession, were in the plot, but Moran did not know their names. "I think it was January 18," the confession continued, "that I went to the leader and he laid for the mail wagon and as it went on the ferry boat we drove in back of it."

The key to the back of the wagon was handed to the ring leader by one of the postal employees, the confession said, "and we opened the back of the wagon and took out eight or nine registered mail sacks."

According to the confession the mail sacks were opened in Bronx park and Moran was given \$200. "I was to get rid of the car and they told me to go to San Francisco where the division was to take place," Moran said. The leader, according to the confession, was to bring Moran's share to him, but failed to show up.

BOB BURMAN, NOTED RACE DRIVER, IS KILLED WHEN HIS MACHINE OVERTURNS

Two Others Dead and a Number of Spectators Injured.

CAR THROWS WHEEL

CORONA, Cal., April 8.—Bob Burman, of Detroit, noted automobile racer, his mechanic, Eric Schroeder, of Chicago, and a track guard are dead tonight as a result of the overturning of Burman's car in the Corona road race here today. Five spectators were injured, several seriously.

Burman suffered a fracture of the skull and his left leg was broken. His car threw a wheel in the ninety-seventh lap on the back stretch and the machine overturned in a crowd.

The race was won by Eddie O'Donnell, who covered the 301 miles in three hours, twenty-nine minutes, fifty-two seconds. Joe Thomas was second with a time of 3:38:10 and Eddie Pullen third with 3:38:36 2-5.

Teddy Teitzlaff and R. C. Durant finished fourth and fifth, respectively. Burman died in a hospital at Riverside, twelve miles away. Mrs. Burman was with her husband when he died.

As she stood beside him in the council chamber of the Corona city hall, where Burman first was taken after the accident, a woman was beside the cot. When she left, Mrs. Burman accused her of taking from her husband's clothing a diamond pin valued at \$800.

A. C. Ramsey, chief of police, ordered her searched. He reported that two nurses found the pin concealed under her corset. The woman was held pending the filing of a formal charge.

LIVED IN DETROIT. DETROIT, April 8.—Bob Burman lived in Detroit. He was born at Inley City, Mich., in 1884 and did his first racing in Michigan. Burman held the world's straight-away records up to and including one mile, and many dirt track marks. In three races on the Pacific coast this season he finished second twice and won one event.

The Hand of Esau



GERMAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES THAT NO GERMAN SUBMARINE OR WARSHIP WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR SINKING OF SUSSEX

Declares That Investigation Has Been Complete and That German Government Has Learned That No German Submarine or Warship Had Any Part in the Explosion Aboard the Steamship— Gives New Twist to Affairs of United States.

BERLIN, April 8.—(Via London).—The German government is able to announce that no German submarine or warship was responsible for the explosion which damaged the British steamship Sussex.

When Germany on April 5 handed Ambassador Gerard an interim note replying to the inquiries of the United States government regarding the Sussex and four other steamers, the matter of responsibility still was in doubt and the investigation still was proceeding.

The German foreign office, appreciating the agitation in the United States over these cases, transmitted the readiness of the government, should the Sussex prove to have been destroyed by a German torpedo contrary to the understanding with the United States, to make all reparation, including the payment of compensation.

Investigation Complete. The Associated Press was informed authoritatively today that the investigation has now been completed; that all the craft which possibly might have been involved in an attack on the Sussex have reported; that from the reports of their commanders it is absolutely certain that the Sussex was not destroyed by a German torpedo, and that Germany is in no wise responsible for the disaster.

From the material at hand it also will be possible to reply to the American inquiries regarding the steamers Englishman, Manchester, Engineer, Eagle Point and Berwindale and establish, according to the German contention, that no blame attaches to Germany.

RAISES NEW DIFFICULTIES. WASHINGTON, April 8.—Germany's disclaimer of responsibility for the destruction of the channel liner Sussex surrounds the position of the United States in the present submarine situation with further difficulties and may turn action, if any is taken, from the Sussex case itself to the

out warning since Germany gave accumulation of ships destroyed with-surances governing the submarine campaign.

Before the next step is taken, collection of evidence, intended to prove legally that the Sussex was destroyed by a German submarine, will have to proceed further. Additional evidence in the form of affidavits and statements gathered by the American embassy in Paris is arriving on the steamer St. Paul, due in New York tomorrow, and will be in President Wilson's hands Monday.

The situation will be thoroughly discussed at Tuesday's cabinet meeting and soon afterward a decision on the next step is expected. Apparent difficulties of proving the Sussex case alone leads many officials close to the president to believe decision will hinge on consideration of cumulative evidence that Germany's promises are being disregarded by her submarine commanders. On the strength of that evidence, finally judged by the president and the cabinet will depend what step, if any the United States will take at this time.

In Position of Judge. The United States was described officially tonight as being placed in the position of a judge of a court of law. A decision will be reached on the evidence and the United States will absolutely be sure it stands on firm ground before rendering one. The final decision will be rendered by President Wilson. It is likely that if drastic action is called for, congress will be consulted.

While it will be difficult for the United States to question the good faith of Germany the administration is prepared to act upon circumstantial evidence of sufficient strength should it be secured. All evidence thus far obtained indicates the Sussex was torpedoed. There are two weaknesses in the case of the United States at this time however. One is that no American citi-

zen saw the wake of a torpedo before the bow of the channel steamer was torn off by an explosion. The other is that, while American naval officers declare that the pieces of metal removed from the hull are parts of a German torpedo, there is so far as known no conclusive evidence at this time that the metal fragments actually were removed from the Sussex. Every effort is being made to establish beyond all doubt the origin of the fragments.

Official reports regarding the announcement of the German government, as cabled to the United States in press dispatches from Berlin, were lacking tonight. The press report was accepted as being true.

Laid Before Wilson. The news dispatches laid before President Wilson on his return from his trip down the Potomac. In all quarters it was agreed that the United States would be obliged to move deliberately. The opinion prevailed that action by the United States would be retarded, rather than hastened, by the German declaration.

It is known the administration had considered it highly probable that action in the situation brought about by the numerous recent marine disasters might be based primarily upon the case of the Sussex, regarded as the most aggravated of all. Should the United States fail to make out a case on the Sussex however, there remain many other disasters to be explained by the Berlin government.

President Wilson and Secretary Lansing have asked Ambassador Gerard regarding other ships recently meeting with disaster. It is considered that Germany by this time should be able to report in regard to those whose experiences occurred before the Sussex case.

Immediately on its arrival the information carried by the St. Paul will (Continued on Page Two)

PURSUIT OF VILLA BROUGHT TO HALT OFFICIAL STATES

Lack of Railroads Seriously Hampers the American Troops, He Declares.

RAILROAD PROBLEM MUST BE SETTLED

Speedy and Sensational Development in Situation is Expected.

EL PASO, Texas, April 8.—The pursuit of Francisco Villa has been brought to a definite halt, according to a statement made here tonight by an American army officer holding a position of responsibility.

"There is no use blinking at the facts," he said. "Even a layman should be able to understand that General Pershing with the relatively small number of men under his command, cannot maintain lines of communication anywhere from 300 to 500 miles long, and at the same time press the pursuit of a bandit into a country where he is known to have thousands of sympathizers, if not active supporters."

Railroads Needed. "With the free use of the Mexican railroads we could still hope to affect something, but apparently there is no hope of such a concession, at least at present. I cannot see that the army can do anything more until the railroad problem is settled in our favor or substantial reinforcements are sent in to General Pershing. I know nothing about reports that the withdrawal of the troops is contemplated. That is a question for Washington to decide. It is hardly necessary for me to say that it is a solution which would be a bitter pill for us."

Statements from Mexican officials here and in Juarez, coupled with the dispatches from Washington are accepted as intimations that a speedy and sensational development in the situation is coming in connection with this falling. There are reports from a dozen sources of concentration of Carranza troops near the border. These reports, it is known here, have been forwarded to Washington as credible. For over a week it has been reported that additional Carranza troops were on their way to Juarez and General Gaviira, the present commander in the Mexican town, was to be superseded.

Gaviira Relieved? A statement from Mexican sources tonight, declared that General Gaviira had received orders to proceed to Casas Grandes to take a field command and that he would be succeeded by General Petronillo Hernandez. General Hernandez was said to be already on the way, having entrained at Villa Ahumada with three thousand men. Villa Ahumada is half way between Juarez and Chihuahua city. A train which arrived here today (Continued on Page Two)

REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE ENDORSES L. L. JENKINS FOR LIEUT.-GOVERNOR

Chairman of Committee, Linney, Captures Governor's Place on Ticket.

FULL TICKET NAMED

GREENSBORO, N. C., April 8.—At a meeting of the republican state executive committee here this afternoon and tonight for the purpose of selecting a candidate for each state office, a full state ticket was decided upon with Frank A. Linney, of Watauga, chairman of the committee, heading the ticket for governor. L. L. Jenkins of Asheville, was endorsed for lieutenant governor. The others on the ticket selected were: A. L. French, of Raleigh, commissioner of agriculture; Zeb Vance Walser of Lexington, attorney general; J. Q. A. Wood, of Gaston, auditor; W. J. Jordan, of Greene, commissioner of labor and printing.

The offer of the candidacy for attorney general to Walser was the only evidence of the presence of the olive branch.

Mr. Walser is, with a few others, bearing the heaviest part of the progressive machinery in the state, according to all indications. There was no apparent inclination of the republicans here to do that which the progressive committee demanded, endorse Roosevelt, for the sake of peace. As far as known, the only man considered of endorsement of the committee for the highest office in the nation was Judge Jeter C. Pritchard, of Asheville, and Chairman Linney said that Judge Pritchard would have been endorsed and his name placed before the primary for the presidency, in answer to state-wide request, but for the ruling of Attorney General T. W. Hixson to the effect that the office of president and vice president may be left blank in the primary and each voter allowed to name individual choices. Nothing was said about endorsement of Roosevelt.

TRIS SPEAKER SOLD TO CLEVELAND AMERICANS

Famous Outfielder of World Champions Goes to the Naps.

NEW YORK, April 8.—Manager William Carrigan, of the Boston American league baseball club, announced here today that Tris Speaker, star outfielder of the world champions, had been traded to the Cleveland club of the American league.

The deal was closed here late today by Manager Carrigan, of Boston, and Robert McRoy, of Cleveland. Speaker was one of the mainstays of the Boston club, both in fielding and batting, and contributed largely to the winning by his team of two world's series during his eight years with the Red Sox.

In return for the famous player, Boston will receive. Manager Carrigan said, two players, Pitcher S. P. Jones and another to be chosen later, and a cash consideration.

The release of Speaker is said to have been caused by inability to come to terms on the question of salary.

NATIONAL GUARD DENIES MAINTAINING A LOBBY

General Foster Sends Letter to Senator Lee to Place in Record.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—A denial that the national guard had maintained a lobby in Washington in connection with preparedness legislation, as charged in the senate by Chairman Chamberlain of the military committee, and others, was made in a letter written today to Senator Lee, of Maryland, by General J. C. R. Foster, chairman of the executive committee of the National Guard association for incorporation in the senate record.

General Foster declared the association had not sought interviews with members of congress, circulated literature or maintained headquarters or a publicity agent in connection with military legislation. He complained that guard officials had been given no opportunity to appear before the military committee to give their reasons for suggesting amendments to the army bill, and said that as a consequence it had become necessary for individual guardsmen to bring the proposals to the attention of their respective senators and representatives.

THE WEATHER. WASHINGTON, April 8.—Forecast for North Carolina: Partly cloudy Sunday, cooler on the coast; Monday rain.

MISDEEDS COMMITTED IN ALASKA ARE COSTLY

District Attorney Starts on 1,200 Mile Journey to Probe Killing.

SEWARD, Alaska, March 21.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press).—A drunken brawl in which an Indian killed a white man, started United States District Attorney William M. Spence from here today on a 1,200-mile trip by boat to Unga, near the western tip of the Aleutian islands. He went to see whether Simon Verekin, the Indian, should be brought here for trial with the necessary witnesses, a large expense to the government. Verekin claims he shot in self-defense.

Recently a government teacher was convicted at Attu island, where his school was situated. Fees and traveling expenses ran to \$15,000, all told. The coastguard cutter Tacoma was wrecked while en route for additional witnesses, and several of her crew were drowned. The boat carrying the prisoner to the revenue cutter upset and the prisoner's leg was broken. The total cost of the trial was said to exceed \$75,000, besides loss of life. The prisoner received a jail sentence of several months.