

GENERAL FUNSTON DIES SUDDENLY AT SAN ANTONIO, TEX.

Commander of Southern Department of U. S. Army Succumbs to Indigestion.

HAD BEEN WORKING AT UNUSUAL PACE

News Comes as Shock at Washington—Pershing Takes Command.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Feb. 19.—Major General Frederick Funston, commander of the southern department of the United States army since February, 1915, died suddenly at a hotel here tonight a few minutes after he had finished dinner.

Death was almost instantaneous. General Funston was fifty-one years old. Ever since March 1915, when he was placed in command of all United States forces on the Mexican border, General Funston had worked at an unusual pace.

Only today General Funston completed orders for the return of the last of the guardmen. Because of the amount of work which has fallen to him, General Funston's only recreation or relaxation for nearly a year has been an occasional dinner party with a few friends.

Colonel Marvin-Hill Barnum, General Funston's chief of staff, immediately notified the war department of General Funston's death.

Colonel Bernstorff's homeward voyage will last only about a week.

Expected That Steamer Will Be Ready to Proceed by Saturday.

GERMANS SATISFIED.

HALIFAX, N. S., Feb. 19.—The interruption to the homeward voyage of Count von Bernstorff and other German diplomatic and consular officials formerly here at the United States, which was caused by the British government's inspection here of the Scandinavian-American liner Frederik VIII, probably will not be more than one week, it was indicated tonight.

Although the Frederik VIII and its passengers are still held by the regulations imposed to prevent unaccompanied communications with the shore, telegrams to Count von Bernstorff and members of his party from various parts of the United States were delivered aboard ship today.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S NEXT STEP WILL PROBABLY BE DELAYED FOR THE PRESENT

Believed He Will Wait Until Near Close of Session Before Asking Congress to Give Him Additional Authority to Protect American Lives and Interests.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—There were strong indications tonight that unless some sensational development precipitates immediate action, President Wilson's next step in the crisis with Germany will be postponed until a few days before congress adjourns for the session a week from next Sunday.

The belief still is prevalent in official quarters and at the capitol that the president intends to ask congress for authority to protect Americans and their ships from illegal submarine attacks, and as he is known to want no extra session if it can be avoided, it is regarded as certain that he will address a joint meeting of the senate and house before March 4.

Although recognizing the existence of minority opposition in both houses to a resolution which would give the president authority to deal with any emergency that might arise after adjournment, administration leaders are satisfied that if such power is sought it will be given.

Demands that some way be found for relieving the congestion at Atlantic ports resulting from the holding of American and other neutral ships in port are pouring in at the white house and the executive departments.

Word came from the Spanish minister at Berlin today that the American prisoners of the prize ship Yarrowdale would be released "shortly."

Those in charge of the work of preparing the nation for possible hostilities, which has gone steadily forward day and night since the severance of diplomatic relations, believe it now has reached the stage where the country's

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TWO MEN CHARGED WITH VIOLATING NEUTRALITY OF THE UNITED STATES

Secret Service Men Make Important Arrests at New York.

HAD MANY AGENTS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Agents of the department of justice arrested here tonight two men charged with violating the federal law against carrying on a military enterprise against a foreign country.

The men gave their names as Albert A. Sander and Chas. W. Wunnenburg. The complaint against them was signed by Judge Learned Hand, of the United States District court.

Secret service agents had been working on the case for months. They began soon after the arrest in England of Geo. Vaux Bacon, who claimed to represent American newspapers.

CROP LIEN BILL GIVEN FAVORABLE REPORT BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE

House Tables Bill to Prohibit Sunday Golf in North Carolina.

DOG TAX IS PASSED.

Citizen Bureau, Raleigh, N. C., February 19. (By W. J. Martin.) The crop lien bill received favorable report this afternoon at the hands of the joint committee to which it was referred after a hearing that continued through most of the afternoon.

Speakers in advocacy included President H. Q. Alexander and Organizer Green, of the Farmers' union; Editor Clarence Poe, of The Progressive Farmer, and others.

The house spent two hours debating the Ray bill for a statewide dog tax and passed a substitute providing that any county can vote on the question of taxing dogs on petition of one-fifth of the qualified voters, the tax to be \$1.

Dull Days for Dan



GERMANY SPENDS THOUSANDS OF MARKS KEEPING GERMAN SIDE OF WAR BEFORE THE PEOPLE OF NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

Did Not Awake to Desirability of Having Her Side Represented in Neutral Press Until Long After War Had Started—Correspondents From Neutral Countries Have Experienced Constant Difficulty in Getting Real News of Conditions.

BERNE, Switzerland, Feb. 19.—(From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press.)—According to statements made to the correspondent before his departure from Berlin with former Ambassador Gerard, by public men in Germany, the German government did not awaken until long after the beginning of the war to the desirability of making a favorable impression on public opinion in neutral countries, or of having its side of the case given a hearing in the neutral press.

Correspondents from neutral countries have experienced constant difficulty since the beginning of the war in attempting to report facts in an unbiased manner.

As the weeks passed, the newspapermen found it almost impossible to write of the interesting things they saw.

NATIONAL GUARD UNITS ARE THANKED BY BAKER

Secretary of War Expresses His Appreciation of Work Done on Border.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Secretary Baker sent a letter of thanks today to the commanders of all national guard units which saw service on the Mexican border.

CHEERING CROWD GREET U. S. ARMOR PLANT BOARD

Johnson City Decorated and Board is Given Banquet by City.

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn., Feb. 19.—A cheering crowd of over 1,000 people, waving flags, met the armor plate plant board inspecting proposed sites for the \$11,000,000 armor plate plant for the government when they arrived here on a late train from Bristol this afternoon.

MRS. DEWEY THANKS THE N. C. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Is Grateful For Resolutions Passed on Death of Admiral Dewey.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Mrs. Geo. Dewey today thanked the general assembly of North Carolina, a letter expressing her gratitude for resolutions adopted by the North Carolina general assembly voicing appreciation of Admiral Dewey's services to the nation.

AUSTRALIAN BILL PASSES WITHOUT DISSENTING VOTE

Senate Unanimously Passes Australian Ballot Bill For Western Counties.

INDICATIONS THAT IT WILL PASS HOUSE

Will Mean Secret Ballot For the Tenth District and Madison County.

Citizen Bureau, Raleigh, N. C., February 19. (By W. J. Martin.)

Without a dissenting vote, the Australian ballot bill, introduced by Senator Jones, of Buncombe, to apply to the Madison county district and the senate this afternoon, and went to the house with every prospect of passing that bill without serious opposition.

Senator Jones went on to explain how for years the people of Western North Carolina have been demanding an Australian ballot law.

The bill now goes to the house, without engrossment, and it is expected to pass that body without serious opposition.

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Interest of the people in the west in the measure was manifested when

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PROGRESS AGAINST THE REVOLUTIONARY FORCES IS REPORTED BY MENOCA

Washington Believes Peace Will Be Re-Established Without Intervention.

SUPPORTS MENOCA.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Reports of progress by President Menocal's forces against insurgent bands in Cuba, increased the hopes of administration officials, today that peace may be re-established in the island without American intervention.

The rebels appeared to have made no marked progress, according to today's official reports, which added that some of the regular army which had gone over to the revolutionary party in the earlier days of the revolt, had rejoined the government force.

THE WEATHER. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Forecast for North Carolina: Generally fair Tuesday and Wednesday; colder Wednesday and in west and central portions Tuesday.