

ANOTHER SENSATION IN RINTELEN STRIKE PROBE

Important and Unexpected Developments Announced by Federal Officers in New York-- "Sizzling," They say--Little Learned from Close-Mouthed Agents.

(By Associated Press.)
New York, Dec. 9.—Important and unexpected developments have occurred in the government's investigation into the alleged activities of Franz Rintel and associates to incite strikes in munition factories, it was learned today from federal officials.
After United States District Attorney Marshall Snowden's sudden summons to Washington yesterday, it was announced today that the grand jury which was investigating the Rintel case would not be released until next week.
It was stated at the federal building today that things were "sizzling," but officials refused to give out anything as to the turn affairs had taken. It was admitted that certain Austrian and German officers are connected. It was also mentioned that the strike in

AMERICAN NOTE OVER ANCONA SINKING

Washington, Dec. 9.—Official circles are doing to give out today in connection with the note dispatched to the Italian steamer Ancona and the loss of several American lives. The note, which is not up to the standards of congressmen, was being discussed.
The Ancona was sunk in the Mediterranean sea November 9, while bound from Naples for New York. The only testimony of a native American survivor of the liner before the department is in a deposition by Dr. Carl Greil of New York. In her deposition Doctor Greil asserts specifically that the liner was torpedoed by the men, women and children in the cabin and steerage were scrambling to get into the small boats. The department has been inclined not to accept this single statement as positive proof unless corroborated by other sources.
An important witness.
Much weight was given, however, to what Doctor Greil had to say. Her testimony was considered of so much importance that she was taken to Rome where she told her story to Ambassador Payne. A report of this conversation reached the state department recently.
After the inquiry of the United States had been before the Vienna foreign office several days. Ambassador Payne reported that more time was desired in which to frame a reply. Late last week Secretary Lansing instructed the Ambassador to urge a prompt reply.
Doubts.
The American note, it is understood, sets forth that the United States cannot believe that the communications of Austrian submarines have been under a misapprehension of the facts. It is stated that more than 2000 messages of warfare such as those employed in the sinking of the Ancona, is practically impossible, under such circumstances to remain within the rules of fairness, justice and equity.
The prospect of humanity and justice which were championed in the note, it is believed, are understood to the Austro-Hungarian government. Warlike submarine attacks is being made. While every opportunity is said to be left for an amicable solution, the belief prevails in official circles that the controversy will not be settled until the conduct of submarine warfare was in progress.
Two Contentions.
No information could be obtained as to whether the United States had

determined whether any "misinformation" appeared in the statements of the occurrence which have been issued by the Austrian admiralty. The Austrian contention was that a warning shot was fired, that the ship tried to escape and that when she finally came to a stop after being hit several times, 50 minutes was given in which the passengers might have been taken to the boats.
The Italian statement on the subject alleged that no warning was given to the men, women and children in the cabin and steerage were scrambling to get into the small boats. The department has been inclined not to accept this single statement as positive proof unless corroborated by other sources.
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NEW RAILROAD CHARTERED
Raleigh, Dec. 9.—The Alaska Valley Railroad Company, principal office at Bryson City, was chartered by the state for the construction of 12 miles of railroad, wholly in Swain county, to extend from Bryson City on the Murphy branch of the Southern Railway, to the Falls and Alaska creeks. The line is to run in a southerly direction from Bryson City to Alaska creek and then follow the creek valley to the falls. The capital is \$150,000 authorized and that subscribed is \$12,000 in shares of \$10 each. The incorporators are Arthur Brooks of Buchanan, West Va.; Leslie Brooks, Irene Brooks, J. E. Coburn, D. K. Collins and L. M. Mar.

MAIN FEATURES PLEASE SIMMONS
Washington, Dec. 9.—Senator Simmons, chairman of the finance committee, called at the white house and held a ten-minute conference with the president. Senator Simmons said that he did not mention politics nor did he discuss with Mr. Wilson any specific method of raising the additional revenue which will be necessary if the president's national program is adopted by congress.
Mr. Simmons told the president that he heartily endorsed the main features of his message and believed that a majority of congressmen would cooperate with him in passing army and navy measures which would meet with the approval of the president and the country alike.
Twins are more often born in temperate than other climates, the rate in the United States being ten cases in 900 average babies. Triplets are found to occur once in 7,910 births.
Sheriff Isenhour will be in Hickory Saturday at the city manager's office between 9 a. m. o'clock and 4 p. m. o'clock to collect taxes.—(Adv.)

Enemies Must First Seek Peace, German Chancellor Declares
(By Associated Press.)
Berlin, by wireless to Sayville, L. I., Dec. 9.—"If our enemies seek peace of peace compatible with German achievements, we shall always be ready to discuss them," said the German chancellor, Dr. Bethmann-Hollweg today. The chancellor said he would be "fully for Germany to support them as long as in the countenance of our enemies the statement was not in the confusion of public opinion."
The German declines responsibility for the further continuation of the war. He cannot be charged with producing the war for territorial ex-

panation," he said.
"The war can be terminated only by a peace which will give a certificate that war will not return," the chancellor declared.
"We all agree about that."
He asserted that Germany's food supplies were sufficient and that her immense stores of copper would last three years.
After Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg had made his interpellation to the socialists today, the other parties made a joint declaration that in the view of conditions of peace made after the war there must be guarantees of Germany's safety, even if it required the annexation of new territory.

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CATAWBA CASES DECIDED BY COURT

The North Carolina supreme court yesterday afternoon affirmed the judgment of the lower court in sentencing L. E. Stephens of Bandys township to twelve months on the roads for attempting to burn a dwelling house. A man named Lowman, said to be half-witted was alleged to have been employed to apply the torch. He was convicted and later he was sent home for his relatives to care for. Stephens is at Montreat under bond.

Another interesting case decided by the higher court was that of Stephens vs. Mr. R. W. Stephenson of Hickory for obstructing the public street near the North school building. Mr. Stephenson decided the land for the property, but afterwards built a wall in the street. He was convicted and fined \$15 and costs and the case was carried on to the higher courts. The judgment of the lower court was affirmed. Mr. A. A. Whitener represented the state and Mr. W. A. Sell the defendant.
A case from Longview was that of Yoder vs. Fry and Carpenter, an action for false arrest. The plaintiffs lost in the superior court, and when the case reached the supreme court the action of the lower court was affirmed.
No error was found in the case of Campbell vs. Sigmon, also from Catawba.

FORM NEW CABINET
(By Associated Press.)
Madrid, via Paris, Dec. 9.—Count Alvaro Romanos today was chosen by King Alfonso to form a new Spanish cabinet in succession to the Dato cabinet which resigned Tuesday.

RUSSIANS TAKE WHOLE ARMY STAFF

(By Associated Press.)
Petrograd, Dec. 9.—The entire staff of the 82nd German army division was captured by Russian scouts and brought as prisoners in the Russian lines, as the result of a daring night raid recently it became known today.

CARRANZA SELECTS HIS AMBASSADOR

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 9.—The first step towards the resumption of diplomatic relations between the United States and Mexico was taken today in the appointment of Eliseo Arredondo, general Carranza's confidential representative in Washington, as ambassador to Chile, soon will be announced as ambassador to Mexico. This means that Mexico soon will take her long vacant place in the nations of the world.
Henry P. Fletcher, at present ambassador to Chile, soon will be announced as ambassador to Mexico. This means that Mexico soon will take her long vacant place in the nations of the world.
Washington, Dec. 9.—Eliseo Arredondo, General Carranza's confidential representative in Washington, has been selected for Mexico's next ambassador to the United States. Secretary Lansing announced that the new American ambassador to Mexico will be named later. The ambassador to Chile is almost certain to be transferred.

For nearly three years, since the days of Madero, there has been no government in Mexico recognized by the world powers. Mr. Arredondo is General Carranza's cousin. He enjoys his leader's confidence, and in addition is a leading jurist.
Mr. Fletcher has been selected to represent the United States during the reconstruction in Mexico because of his familiarity with the Latin temperament. He is a Republican, 43 years old, unmarried and a lawyer. He worked his way up. During the Spanish-American war he was a private, later going to the Philippines. He went to China and later to Portugal. He went to Chile as minister and was advanced to the higher post of ambassador.
Practically all of the principal powers of the world with the exception of Japan have followed the lead of Latin-America in recognizing Carranza.

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GREAT BRITAIN YIELDS TO U. S.

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 9.—Ambassador Page at London advised the state department today that Great Britain had acceded to the American protest against the requisitioning of ships of the American Trans-Atlantic Company.
Test cases will be made of the steamers Hocking and Genesee, which will not be requisitioned, but held pending a decision of a prize court. In the meantime Great Britain will not seize any more ships.

(By Associated Press.)
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DR. ROBERTSON ON PAUL AT ATHENS

Dr. John Robertson addressed a large audience at the Presbyterian church last night. He read the story of Paul at Mar's Hill, one of the most striking passages in the Bible and read in Doctor Robertson's inimitable way. Many commentators declare that manifestly Paul's visit to Athens was of small consequence but the minister took issue and declared that the conversion of Dionysius the Areopagite was possibly the most remarkable of all the conversions under the apostle's preaching.
Dionysius was contrasted with Felix who missed salvation and was pronounced by Doctor Robertson "the man who did not miss it." Dionysius was the chief judge of the Greek court, and Dr. Robertson graphically delineated his conversion, describing the venerable fact that Paul was providentially brought into the presence of this great Athenian, showing the divine control of man's hearts.
Doctor Robertson told an interesting story of Duncan Matheson, who hired the town hall at Huxley, Scotland, and preached to an empty house, and was overheard by two small girls, who crept in and on their reporting it at home, a crowd gathered and Matheson stayed for three months and great numbers were converted.
The point the minister made was that human minds have no power to gauge opportunities from the divine standpoint.
Several persons expressed religious concern by requesting Doctor Robertson's little booklet "God's Way of Saving Man's Soul."
Services tomorrow at 8:15 a. m., 1:30 p. m. and 7:30 p. m. No services Saturday.

(By Associated Press.)
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Colonel Callis of the Greek army is now conferring with the entente commanders, but the entente powers express fear that he is not authorized by his government to take responsibility there.
The interview given by King Constantine to the Associated Press is attracting a great deal of attention in Germany, where the opinion is general that he has given the most favorable answer possible concerning the Greek position.
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GERMANS ARE REPORTED ON GREEK BORDER NOW

Anglo-French Line Reforming to Give Battle-- No Prospect of Peace From any Direction-- Russians Alone Display Notable Activity on Big Fronts.

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WITH THE BRITISH CAMP NEAR SALONIKI, GREECE

Saloniki, Greece, Dec. 9.—The camp of the British Scleritraman expeditionary force lies to the west of the Saloniki or Thessaloniki as the Greeks call it—among the rolling foothills of Mount Korchoou. Although a very considerable force has already left for Doiran on the Serbo-Bulgarian frontier, there are still some 11,000 men gathered in the camp.
The first lot of British troops landed in Greece were Irish, as the commanding officer, General Sir Bryan Mahon, told them. They were what was left of the Irish division sent out to Gallipoli, whence they came on to Saloniki. But, as the general told the Associated Press: "They are not as Irish as they were." "Not," he added, "because they are less Irish—only there are fewer of them." For a great many were killed, wounded and taken prisoners in Gallipoli, and have been replaced by what material was at hand.
Whatever they are, they are beyond doubt content to leave Gallipoli. The climate of Saloniki is nothing to boast of at this season. It rains every day. The rough, badly paved streets are muddy and full of chuck holes. The roads—such as they are—are ankle-deep in mud. They are scolded and the food is bad and dear. The price of everything has gone up three times since the arrival of foreign troops. A British sovereign, for the first time in its life in a bankrupt country like Greece, is worth less than its face value in local money. While French is fairly current as a language, English is not spoken at all. At a despite all of these material drawbacks, the British Tommy in his camp outside Saloniki is so delighted to escape the heat of the sun, the dust of the march and the stench of Gallipoli that he finds Macedonia a sort of paradise by comparison.
The road from the harbor to his camp lies through the old Turkish quarter of the town, at a steep angle up narrow, winding streets. From almost every house hangs a projecting second story in which the latticed windows of the harem do not always conceal the