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AMERICAN EXPEDITION TODAY FAR INTO INTERIOR OF CHIHUAHUA; VILLA FORCE IS LEISURELY MAKING FOR SIERRA MADRES

Two Cavalry Regiments Pressing Forward to Eastern Slope of Range—Bandit's Army Is Evidently In No Hurry—Villa Avoided Trouble at Mormon Colony and Passed Casas Grandes By—Mexicans Murdered—Censorship's Strictness Last Word In Secrecy—Carranza Gives Word Again That He Is Willing to Co-Operate—Government Troops Expected to Join Pershing's Outfit in a Few Hours, Reported

(By the United Press)

Washington, March 17.—The President has been further assured that Carranza acquiesces in his Mexican policy. A message from Consul Silliman today gave additional evidence of Carranza's willingness to co-operate.

Wilson Signs Army Increase Resolution.

The President today signed the joint war strength army resolution, making it effective immediately.

Mormons Not Attacked.

Washington, March 17.—Villa skirted the Mormon colony, 80 miles below Columbus, heading southward, say State Department advices. The reports indicated that some Mexicans were killed recently, presumably by Villistas, in the town of Colonia Dublan.

Expedition Making Good Progress.

El Paso, March 17.—Swallowed up by the hills and deserts of Northern Chihuahua is the expedition, in two divisions, seeking Villa. Its movements are surrounded by secrecy imposed by the censorship. Driving for the eastern slope of the Sierra Madres, the Seventh and the Tenth cavalry, under command of Colonel Dodd, is expected to arrive at Colonia Dublan soon.

Villa Moving Slowly Toward Mountains.

Mexico City, March 17.—Villa's forces were last reported to be in the vicinity of Pacheco, Chihuahua, 75 miles southwest of Guzman, moving leisurely towards the mountains. The Americans are going the same way. Bertain's Carranzista force of 1,800 men, is expected to join the Americans in a few hours.

No Fighting Yet.

San Antonio, March 12.—There have been no casualties nor fighting by any of Pershing's troops, it is officially said at Fort Sam Houston.

Hospital Troops With Pershing.

Washington, March 17.—Two ambulance companies and two field hospitals are with the expedition in Mexico. They have twelve motor ambulances.

Villa May Have Crossed Mountains.

El Paso, March 17.—The American troops are said to have found the Mormons safe, and will continue their enforced march from Casas Grandes, in an attempt to cut off Villas retreat across the mountains into Sonora. Col. Sloeum's column of cavalry, infantry and artillery is moving slowly southward toward Palomas, where it will possibly be joined today by seven aviators.

Dodd will be late possibly, since it is rumored that Villa has already crossed the mountains. Carranza cavalry is guarding the principal passes.

GERMAN OFFENSIVE RESTED EXCEPT ON SMALL PART FRONT

Quiet In Vicinity Dead Man Hill and Bethincourt—Night Attacks On Vaux Fort and Village Hurdled Back by the French, Said

(By the United Press) Berlin, March 17.—Reports that the city of Essen was severely damaged by airmen and that the Essen railroad station was bombed, have been semi-officially denied.

French Repulse All Attacks.

Paris, March 17.—Transferring their activities to the east bank of the Meuse, the Germans last night launched a series of violent night attacks against the fort and village of Vaux, it is said officially. Two attacks against each were repulsed. At Bethincourt and on Dead Man's Hill all is quiet.

WILL MAKE ADDRESS ON RESTORATION OF JEWS

Madame Pevsner, a Brilliant Woman, to Lecture Here Sunday Afternoon—Promotes Cause of the Great Proud Wandering Race and Pleads for Its National Existence Once Again

(Daily Free Press, March 17)

A brilliant woman, from repute, to make an address in the Courthouse here Sunday at 8 p. m. is Madame Bella Pevsner. "to whom has been given the rarest of minds, the strongest of hearts, the knowledge of the savant, and the all-embracing vision of the prophet," who will speak under the auspices of the local Jewish community on the condition of the Jews in some nations of Europe and the United States.

Touching upon Madame Pevsner's mission, one newspaper says: "The Jewish people of the world are in an hour of travail. All lands—the brutality of Russia, the freedom of America, not exclusive of the various and varying temperamental aptitudes of England, France, Germany and other European countries—are in varying measure contributing to the setting of this world stage of a world drama. Madame Pevsner comes preaching the highest altruism. She pleads, and with a wealth of convincing illustrations, for a return to a national Jewish existence—not a mere geographical limitation, nor a land-bounded materialistic environment, but a spiritual national endeavor, a cohesive pride in the history, achievement and mentality of the past, as a guide and incentive to the present and future. She promotes the cause which, to those of us who are Christians, is also our cause, for we believe in the restoration of Jerusalem to God's ancient people."

Every person interested is invited to hear Madame Pevsner. Gentiles as well as those of her own race and religion. There will be no admission charge.

COTTON UP TO ELEVEN AND HALF CENTS TODAY

(Daily Free Press, March 17)

About 23 bales of cotton had been sold here today by 3 o'clock. The high price was the best in some time, 11 1/2 cents. New York futures quotations were:

Open	2:40
May	11.93 11.94
July	12.16 12.12
October	12.27 12.24
December	12.43 12.38
January	12.48 12.40

EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY ACTIVE COTTON MILLS

Washington, March 17.—Eight hundred and forty active mills, 4,123,466 tons of cotton seed crushed in 1915, and 880,780 bales of linters obtained, were facts contained in a census report today.

INDICATIONS THAT TUBANTIA WAS SUNK BY A CONTACT MINE

Dutch Reports Agree That Big Ship Was Not Submerged—Berlin Willing to Do the Right Thing If Guilt Shown—15 Lost

(By the United Press) Washington, March 17.—Investigation of the sinking of the liner Tubantia with Americans aboard and a reported attack on the liner Patria has been ordered by the State Department, acting Secretary Polk today announced. The New York customs collector and the Lisbon consul have been asked to investigate the Patria case. The Holland consuls will investigate the Tubantia matter.

Amsterdam, March 17.—Affidavits of the first and fourth officers of the Dutch liner Tubantia declare the vessel was submerged, says an official report by the admiralty. Examination of the officers was made at The Hague. They swore, say the dispatches, that they clearly saw the wake of the torpedo prior to the ship's sinking. The majority of the passengers, according to newspapers, declare the vessel was torpedoed, but that the submarine was unseen.

Mined, Said Earlier Reports.

Amsterdam, March 17.—Berlin said today Germany would make a prompt disavowal and pay full compensation if it is shown that a submarine sank the Tubantia. Rotterdam and Amsterdam dispatches both agreed that the liner was mined. The Dutch naval officers have started an investigation.

London Hears 15 May Have Been Lost.

London, March 17.—One of the Tubantia's boats, carrying fifteen missing, is feared to be lost, the Evening Standard today declared.

PURIM, FEAST OF THE DELIVERANCE BY ESTHER

Purim, a minor feast in the Jewish calendar, falls this year on the 19th day of March. It recalls the deliverance of the Jews of Persia through the intervention of Queen Esther and her kinsman Megasthenes from a threatened massacre planned by Haman, the king's vizier.

The feast bears the name of "Purim" because it is recorded that Haman the arch enemy of the Jews sought to fix the day of their destruction by casting "Purim," which according to a popular etymology given in the Book of Esther, means "lots." The feast is more social in character than religious.

WRECKED PART OF A STILL IN CRAVEN COUNTY

Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue I. M. Tull has returned from the Vanceboro section, where he destroyed a part of an illicit still. The operators are thought to have been warned of Tull's approach, since a part of the equipment had been moved before he arrived. Several successful raids have been made in the vicinity of Vanceboro in the past few weeks.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

STEAMER SUNK.

Copenhagen, March 17.—An unidentified steamer has been mined and sunk south of Oeland, it is reported. The fate of the crew is unknown.

BERLIN WAR REPORT.

Berlin, March 17.—The repulse of two French attacks at Dead Man's Hill is claimed, officially. Part of the enemy on the first attack reached the German line, and were taken prisoners.

WILL BE MORE THAN THOUSAND MEMBERS IN GROUP SCHOOLS

B. P. Polk, Head of Movement In State, Arouses Interest of Lenoir County Juveniles in Hog-Raising—Organize Clubs

(Daily Free Press, March 17) "To the teachers interested in and working for the group center commencements in the rural schools of Lenoir county a few words about the same plan of work in another county may prove to be encouraging, since this is the first year of the new plan in our county," says Miss Hattie Parrott, the Lenoir county assistant superintendent.

A rural school in Johnston county visited on Wednesday, is about fifteen or twenty miles from Smithfield. For several miles before reaching the school we could see wagons, buggies and automobiles, crowded with the friends, patrons and pupils, and all going toward the three-room school building where the commencement was to be held. Even with the very threatening weather and rain later, here were over 600 people at this meeting.

There were less than 700 pig club members in North Carolina last year, and not many more than 400 of them owned pigs, Mr. Folk says. The number should go to 1,000 or 1,200 in 1916, he thinks. The clubs are destined to bring the young breeders into closer contact with one another, so that ideas may be exchanged and rivalry and enthusiasm stirred up.

GARRIS BROTHERS ARE FINED FOR ASSAULTING PASSENGER CONDUCTOR

Barney, Tobe and Robert Garris brothers, were convicted in the Wayne County court at Goldsboro Thursday afternoon of conspiracy and assault upon Will Hinnant, well-known Norfolk Southern passenger conductor.

The brothers were making themselves obnoxious on Hinnant's train one evening several weeks ago and he remonstrated with them repeatedly. One of the men struck Hinnant a crashing blow with his fist. Passengers, one of them with a drawn revolver, stopped the affray and prevented the other brothers from joining in the assault.

The Garrises were fined rather heavily, fines and costs aggregating \$200 or a little more.

BIG NEW ENGINES FOR N. S.; START ANOTHER PLANT NEAR NORFOLK

Two of half a dozen giant "consolidation" locomotives recently ordered by the Norfolk Southern Railroad have arrived at New Bern. They were built in Philadelphia, and are of the latest type. They are of considerable more pulling power than any engines in service on the road at present, it is said. The two new machines will be used for dragging rock trains from Neverson quarries to Lookout harbor.

The Norfolk Southern Thursday commenced construction of new shops, to cost a quarter of a million dollars, at Carolina Junction, near Norfolk. The shops will take care of a part of the company's increasing rolling stock, likely that on the Norfolk and Raleigh divisions.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS OF NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Because big new locomotives could not enter the building, it has been found necessary to change the plans for the Norfolk Southern roundhouse at New Bern to replace the building partially wrecked by fire some months ago. A modern planing mill will be a part of the equipment at the new shops.

Jeff Laughinghouse, alleged whiskey dealer who recently escaped from the Craven county jail, is believed to have been seen in Norfolk.

SAYS JOHNSON FOLK TAKE LOT INTEREST IN GROUP SCHOOLS

Assistant Superintendent Lenoir County Schools Tells of Witnessing Exercises at Rural School Near Smithfield—600 Present

(Daily Free Press, March 17) "To the teachers interested in and working for the group center commencements in the rural schools of Lenoir county a few words about the same plan of work in another county may prove to be encouraging, since this is the first year of the new plan in our county," says Miss Hattie Parrott, the Lenoir county assistant superintendent.

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There are nine schools in this group, all taking part in the exercises, which included the following program: "Welcome by the principal of the school. "Recitation contest. The 9 schools were represented by girls from the fourth grade up. "Declamation contest. Nine boys contested for the honor of representing that particular group of schools at the county commencement.

"Singing contest, duets, quartets and sextets from the different schools, which gave selections from "old-time" songs. This number was a very pleasing and enjoyable feature of the program. "The winners in all the contests will represent the group of schools at the county commencement to be held at Smithfield, on April 7.

"The friendly rivalry between the schools taking part in the contests was plainly an incentive for each one to do his best. Those who were not so fortunate as to win are already planning to first, attend the county commencement and encourage the group representatives; second, make every effort to do better next year and hoping that their school will win next spring at the group center commencement.

"The girls taking part in the exercises made the dresses they wore—just plain, inexpensive, sensibly-planned white dresses. They have organized sewing clubs in these schools, where the pupils who are members of the clubs receive instruction from the teacher one afternoon each week of the school term.

"The next number on the program was intensely interesting to all present. It was a demonstration lesson in the moonlight school work. A pupil about fifty years old stated from the platform that previous to October, 1915, he could not read a letter, nor could he write his name or make figures. He read several paragraphs from the book used in the moonlight school and read well. He then wrote his name on the blackboard, showing a fair degree of ease; legibility and rapidity in the writing. This pupil expects to continue his studies until he has the ability to read papers and write letters, etc.

"An educational address along the line of better rural schools was very attentively listened to by the interested audience. "Athletic contests, including basketball, running and jumping and several relay races took place in the afternoon.

"To one interested in rural school work, it was a great pleasure to visit a meeting of this kind—to see the coming together of the people in the nine school communities, and all interested in helping each other and the whole group toward having better schools and giving the boys and girls of the rural communities every opportunity for the best in work and in pleasure.

"Johnston county is justly proud of its schools, and Supl. Royall and his assistant, Miss Kelly, are justly proud of the co-operation of the teachers, committees and patrons in the educational work of the county."

SEVEN MEMBERS OF FAMILY BURNED TO DEATH IN VA. HOME

Ellsworth Fout and 6 Children Perished In the Flames

Had Rescued Wife and Baby—Son-in-Law Injured Trying to Get Girl Bride Out of Blazing House at Clayville—Brother Hurt

Cumberland, Md., March 17.—Ellsworth E. Fout and six of his children were burned to death, and a son-in-law, William Shearer, and brother, David Fout, seriously burned, in a fire which destroyed the Fout home at Clayville, Va., 35 miles south of here, today.

Fout died trying to save his children, after saving his wife and an infant child.

Shearer was burned trying to save his eighteen-year-old bride.

NEWS NOTES FROM A. C. COLLEGE, WILSON

President-Elect Makes Visit—Play to Be Presented—Baseball Schedule—Hesperian Society Has New President—Local Young Man to Compete In Coming Peace Oratorical Event

(Special to The Free Press) Wilson, March 17.—State Superintendent of Education J. Y. Joyner will deliver the class address at Atlantic Christian College on May 25.

The faculty and student body enjoyed recently a short visit from the president-elect, Dr. Raymond A. Smith of Beckley, W. Va.

Mr. Mulberger, dean of the Music College, will on the evening of March 17, present Miss Alice Privett in a piano recital. Miss Privett will be assisted by Miss Susie Montgomery, mezzo-soprano.

Miss Myrtle Harper, the librarian, and Miss Frances Harper of the department of mathematics, spent the week-end last week with their sister, Mrs. Whitley, at her home in Wentzell.

Mrs. Aston, professor of Latin, is repairing some of her students to give the play "Julius Caesar." It will be given in the college auditorium.

A schedule of intercollegiate games now being arranged by the A. C. C. baseball team. There is also the usual seasonal interest in tennis.

The Hesperian Society has reorganized and now has Mr. John M. Waters of Washington as its president. For the past four years they have furnished the A. C. C. representatives in the Intercollegiate Peace Oratorical Contests. In these A. C. C. has won two prizes, thus not being excelled by any other college of the state. A debate on "Preparedness" is being planned by Hesperians.

Alethian Society was entertained recently through the courtesy of Mr. Ameson. This year they send Mr. Joel E. Vaue of Kinston to represent A. C. C. in the forthcoming Peace Oratorical Contest at Durham, in which the nine leading colleges of the State participate.

There has been effected a union of young men's and young women's societies at A. C. C., thus the institution is co-educational throughout.

The government will establish a wireless telephone station at Beaufort, it is reported.

REVOLT IN BULGARIA LIKELY, SAYS REPORT

(By the United Press)

London, March 17.—A military revolt is imminent in Bulgaria, a Rome special today said. The populace also is growing restless, it is stated. Bombs Under Palace.

London, March 17.—A number of bombs have been discovered under the Bulgarian royal palace at Sofia, says a Rome wireless. Several arrests are reported.

GYPSIES QUIT BEAUFORT COUNTY IN HURRY; HAD STOLEN BOY, SAY WOMEN

(By the Eastern Press.)

Washington, N. C., Mar. 17.—Whether he is Jimmie Glass or not, a party of gypsies who have just left here over the Atlantic Coast Line hide a small, flaxen-haired boy, very closely resembling the description of the Glass boy, with them when they left, according to a member of the Woman's Club. She asserts that the lad, apparently about five years of age, was hidden under voluminous folds of a woman's dress when officers searched the camp, and that at the station in the city he was similarly

STRIKE ON GULF & S. I. HAS BEEN SETTLED

(By the United Press)

Mobile, Ala., March 17.—The striking switchmen, flagmen and brakemen have agreed to return to work on the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad. The company has agreed to a 10 percent increase of a twelve-hour day and increased wages.

CONGRESS GETS BUSY ON THE PREPAREDNESS LEGISLATION TODAY

(By the United Press)

Washington, March 17.—The Senate and House today responded to the President's appeal for action on preparedness and both plunged into defense legislation. The Senate army bill was launched. The House is considering the army reorganization plan.

The band left hastily after learning that they were suspected, and evidently intended going some distance or otherwise they would have travelled by caravan in the usual fashion, it is thought. The Woman's Club is trying to discover the party's destination.