

GERARD IS TALKING PLAINLY TO GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE MEN

Lusitania Incident Closed So Far As He Is Concerned, It Seems

THE SITUATION IS GRAVE

No Doubt, Says the United Press Correspondent At Berlin, That Status of Affairs Is Regarded by Germans as Serious

(By the United Press.) Berlin, July 29.—There is no chance for doubt that the situation resulting from the new differences of the United States and Germany is regarded as extremely serious here.

SITKA, OLD RUSSIAN CAPITAL, DECAYING

Trading Post and Fort Are Almost In Ruins—The Presbyterians' Mission School There—Climate All Right—Splendid Agricultural Possibilities of the Region

Dr. W. F. Hargrove, who has been spending several weeks in the Far West, is now returning home by easy stages. He writes from Sitka: "This is the old Russian capital of Alaska. I've spent five hours here today. It is an old, dilapidated place. The Russian trading post and blockhouse, almost in view, are about the only evidences of its age. The government has an experiment station here, trying out the products that are suitable to this north country. I ate some of the finest strawberries I have ever seen and the flavor beats ours. Raspberries grow to perfection in Sitka. I saw some timothy grass 6 feet high. The winter temperature averages 33 degrees and the summer 56 degrees. The population is mainly Indian and Russian, with a sprinkling of all nationalities. Fishing is the main occupation. The Presbyterians have a large mission school here for the Indians on the coast, where the girls are taught domestic science and boys get manual training. Parents are required to pay \$25 each year for each child sent to the mission. They are kept there all the time. They have the ninth grade, but few graduates. The girls make all the clothing and the boys do all the repairs to the school.

"Some of our party went out for two hours to catch black bass, and returned with the finest string of bass I ever saw. They used hand lines, and the pull made some pretty sore hands. The fish averaged about four pounds each. "We have now completed our journey north, and start on the return by the same route we came up on except as to Skagway. Saw two whales playing and spouting, shortly after leaving Sitka."

PARTIAL OPERATION OF BIG BELHAVEN PLANT

(Special to The Free Press.) Belhaven, July 29.—Manager Barrett of the Interstate Coasting Company said today that the saw-mill department will be reopened in a day or two. The main factory, however, will be suspended indefinitely. About 100 out of 800 men will return to work. Manager Barrett said "this will relieve conditions in Belhaven some, but not a great deal."

The I. C. Co. shut down when a typhoon, N. J., strike-affected country which takes the bulk of its output.

TOBACCO OF GOOD GRADE WILL BRING FAIR PRICE

So Thinks Queen Street Business Man—Crop Estimated to Be Practically Same As In 1914—Market Opens on the Seventeenth

Tobacco of good grades under existing circumstances is apt to bring good prices this fall, in the opinion of a leading Queen-street business man. Poor grades, he thinks, will not be in such demand as the best weed. Therefore the wisdom of curing properly. More pains should be taken by the planters than ever to put their product on the market in the best possible condition.

"And they should market slowly. There is no need of dumping it all on the market at once to get it over with, he advises. The chances are, according to optimists, that when the market here opens on the 17th, as it is expected, there will be excellent prices, but none sensational. Just how much of a crop has been made in the territory few are willing to estimate for publication even yet. It is a fair opinion, however, that the production is very little decreased, but hardly increased at all.

CHIEF OF BUREAU VITAL STATISTICS BROWN HERE

Spent Day Wednesday and Will Return to Lenoir Shortly for General Checking Up of Rural Takers—System Being Improved

Peyton Brown, a statistician at the head of the bureau of vital statistics of the State Board of Health, spent Wednesday here. It developed late in the day that the resignation of Collector of Vital Statistics I. T. Haskins and appointment of Mr. D. W. Wood to succeed him occasioned Mr. Brown's visit here. The Raleigh man is chock full of figures—and facts. He works more hours than any man in North Carolina, probably. He has eight thousand people on his mailing list.

Mr. Brown noted with some interest the threat of the State Board to expose sanitary conditions in Kinston to the world if they do not come up to the scratch. "That is the Department of Engineering and Education's work, a separate bureau from mine," he said. "Well, hard as it may look and kick as the people may, it will be a serious mistake to let Booker and the Bulletin get down behind the town." Booker, it seems, is the man who has charge of the book, the Bulletin.

If vital statistics were properly reported as the law requires, Mr. Brown stated, the board would be much better equipped for its work. The collectors do not turn in nearly all of the figures, however. "They will come to that; and they are going to come to it quickly," he declared.

"I am coming back to Lenoir county shortly and get down behind the rural takers. They may as well take warning!"

JAP HOME MINISTER ACCUSED OF BRIBERY

Resigns Following Implication in the Election Frauds—His Arrest Expected—Entire Government May Be Upset by Official Corruption, Is Report Today

TWO HUNDRED GERMANS KILLED BY EXPLOSIONS

French Mines Under the Enemy's Trenches at Two Points—Assault Followed Discharge of the Mines—Testons Compelled to Fall Back Before Assaulters' Dash

Paris, July 29.—French mines exploded under German trenches near St. Hubert and Malencourt killed outright more than 200 men, the war office today announced. The French immediately advanced and forced the Germans to retreat slightly.

RUSSIANS IN FRONT OF WARSAW A SOLID "ROCK OF DEFENSE"

Mackensen's Attempt to Sweep Slavs Off Feet Is Checked and He Loses Ground in Counter Attacks—1,500 Captured

(By the United Press.) Petrograd, July 29.—The Russians who withstood three furious attacks by Mackensen's troops near Hrubieszow by brilliant counter attacks swept forward, recapturing three villages. The war office today said the wave of the German attack is battering fruitlessly on a solid rock of Russian defense. The troops took fifteen hundred German prisoners with the villages.

RICE, VA. BASEBALL STAR, TO WASHINGTON

(By the United Press.) Petersburg, Va., July 29.—Samuel Rice, star pitcher for the Petersburg Virginia League team, one of the best all-round players on the circuit has been sold to Washington. He will report Saturday.

NEGRO SHOT MINISTER WHO UPRAIDED HIM

Norlina, July 28.—What came near being a fatal affair occurred at a Holiness church in the Oine section, when Nelson Davis, colored, a deacon of the church, shot Rev. George Silver, pastor of the church, in the left arm. It seems that Davis had not been living as his pastor thought he ought to live and he was being given a hearing before members of the church, when he became enraged and flushed a pistol in the preacher's face, then pulled the trigger.

GERMANY HAS PROVED EQUAL TO ALL EMERGENCIES IN THE WAR; THE BRITISH BEGINNING TO TAKE MORE INTEREST IN AFFAIRS; JOFFRE THE ONE MAN FORTY MILLIONS FOR GENERALISSIMO

AS SEEN IN BERLIN

Berlin, July 29.—In the western campaign Germany met new conditions of modern warfare and overcame them before the enemies were able to do so. In the eastern war area old conditions of fighting have prevailed throughout the twelve months, and Germany again has shown that she is as skilful with the sword as with the pen.

The more valuable territory which has fallen to German arms in this war is Belgium and northern France. These conquered districts are far more wealthy than are the captured Polish and Baltic areas. Yet, without doubt, the chief glories of the German armies have been won in the east. Germany is proud of the year's magnificent record in the west, but it is the march of events in the east that thrills the German people to their very souls. In popular imagination, the might of the Russian Empire was the most disquieting fact of the war.

This belief was encouraged by the general feeling that if Germany were to hold her own in the great war, France must be overwhelmed before Russia's mighty millions could be mobilized. But Russia came on before France was overwhelmed. Germany had to meet her enemies on two fronts at once. The people of the empire trembled last summer as Russia's hordes crept further and further into East Prussia while the campaign against the western allies was yet to reach its height. Germany was not afraid of the western campaign, but the fact is privately confessed that the Germans did fear the outcome of the Slavonic feud.

Then, almost over night came the news that the battle of the Magurian Lakes had been fought and had resulted in one of the greatest victories for Germany in all history. Seldom is a nation thrilled even in war time as Germany was thrilled by the news that Marshal Von Hindenburg had

SIX MEN HELD, TWO NEW INQUIRIES ARE BEGUN IN CHICAGO

Federal Steamboat Inspectors Criticized by the Coroner's Verdict—Redfield Conducts One of the Investigations

(By the United Press.) Chicago, July 29.—With six men held for a county grand jury as a result of the coroner's inquest to fix the blame for the Eastland disaster, the presentation of testimony was today begun in two new probes, that of the government steamboat inspection service, headed by Secretary Redfield, and by the federal grand jury. The verdict of the coroner's jury bitterly arraigned the federal laws, permitting inspectors to arbitrarily increase boats' passenger-carrying capacity regardless of the question of stability.

AMERICA TO ASK DAMAGES FOR LOSS OF LEEANAW

Washington, D. C., July 28.—With the receipt late today of a practically complete report of the torpedoing of the American steamer LEEANAW by a German submarine, State Department officials began the preparation of a note to Germany requesting the payment of damages on the ground that the Prussian-American treaty of 1828 had been violated.

London, July 9 (By Mail)—A suffragette recruiting agent on the Strand severely berated a stalwart young man because he had not joined the army. "Have you no pride in your country?" the suffragette asked. "Yes, madam, I have plenty of pride in my country. I'm going back next week. I am an American." The suffragette vanished.

BECKER'S WIFE WILL PLEAD WITH GOV'N'R TO SPARE HIS LIFE

Preparations for Execution Made—Former Policeman Will Die Like a Man, He Says—Gets Suit of Sombre Hue

(By the United Press.) Albany, July 29.—Mrs. Becker will make a last-minute plea for executive clemency for Charles Becker, late today. She will meet Governor Whitman about 7 o'clock this evening. Becker Prepared for End. Oshining, N. Y., July 29.—All preparations have been completed for Becker's execution tomorrow. His head has been shaved and he has been given the black garb for those about to die. The hour set is 5:45 a. m. Becker bears up well. He said today, "I will die like a man."

AUSTRIAN RAID ALONG THE ITALIAN COAST

Railway Object of Attack by Ships and Air Craft—Powder Magazine Destroyed—Fano Station, Barracks and Supply Depots Shelled by the Aviators.

Berlin, July 29.—A remarkably successful raid on Austrian warships and airships upon the coast of Italy is reported by the Vienna war office. Great damage was inflicted along the line of Adriatic Railway between Ancona and the Pesaro powder magazine at Fano. The magazine exploded. Airships shelled the station, barracks and military stores at Ancona.

MUST KEEP OPEN TO CAPITAL RAIL LINE FROM COAST MEXICO

State Department to Tell Leaders of Factions That There Must Be a Way to Get Food Into the City—Villa Losing

(By the United Press.) Washington, July 29.—The State Department will make strong representations to the Villa-Carranza factions, it was announced today, demanding that the railway line into Mexico City be opened to allow the entrance of food. After six hours' fighting the Carranzistas captured Pachuca, the Carranza agency announced. Villa's volunteer sent to aid Zapata, was completely defeated by Carranza troops, the agency asserted. Arrivals today at El Paso from Torreon said Villa had evacuated the latter city.

SIX HUNDRED BOSTON MACHINISTS STRIKE

Concern Making War Munitions Affected by Latest Labor Trouble—Employers and Committee Failed to Agree on Increase of Wages and Walkout Followed

(By the United Press.) Boston, July 29.—Six hundred machinists of the Becker-Brainard Milling Machine Co., manufacturers of war munitions, struck today following the failure of a conference between the company officials and a union committee on the question of a wage increase.

"NO PRICE TOO GREAT FOR ENGLISH VICTORY"

Lloyd-George Makes Patriotic Address to Mine Operators—Coal Is Called the Life-Blood of the Nation—"Speed Up," His Injunction to Representatives of Industry

London, July 29.—"No price is too great to pay for victory," declared Minister of Munitions Lloyd-George, in a characteristic speech today, urging representatives of the mining industry to "speed up." He addressed more than 20,000 coal operators in the London Opera House. He said coal is the life-blood of the nation.

MATTAMUSKEET PROJECT PROGRESSING ALL RIGHT

Mr. M. S. Clark of Roanoke, Va., a contractor, was here today from Lake Mattamuskeet. He has been assisting the superintendent of the reclamation work there.

"Some obstacles have been encountered in the immense work," said Mr. Clark, "but the task is a great one. Fifty thousand acres will be redeemed to agriculture. The lake, twenty miles long and seven wide, now is crossed by three lateral canals ten feet deep and encircled by another for the entire circumference, about 14 feet deep. The water is to be pumped out, early in 1916, it is expected, by some of the biggest pumps in the world at the rate of a million gallons a minute, through a canal 7-3 miles long from the lake to Pamlico Sound. This canal is 12 feet deep. When the lake and the main canal are separated by a dam at the pumping plant there will still be a permanent waterway. Produce can be shipped almost directly from the farms to market.

"I don't know what is going to become of the fish. The water in the lake is fresh, so, of course, they can't be turned into the sound. There are oceans of them—chub, cats and other kinds. Alligators are still found in the vicinity."

San Diego, Cal., July 29.—Eight hundred and sixty midshipmen from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, passed in review before Col. Theodore Roosevelt today as they marched from the battleships Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin to the Panama California exposition grounds, where they were guests today.

AMERICAN MARINES COW BLACK TROUBLE MAKERS TWO POINTS

Ports Held By Landing Forces—French Cruiser At Port Au Prince—Legations and Consulate Are Guarded

(By the United Press.) Port Au Prince, July 29.—Haiti's bloody revolutionists today were cowed by five hundred United States marines and blue jackets, who surrounded the United States legation, French legation and the United States consulate.

Two Ports Are Held By Americans. Washington, July 29.—American marines are in control of the two important ports of Haiti, Port Au Prince and Cape-Haitien, Consul Livingston today reported to the State Department. A marine guard from the U. S. S. Eagle has been landed at Cape-Haitien to protect the French consulate, menaced by mobs. The French cruiser Descartes is at Port Au Prince. The occupation is the result of the violent scenes of yesterday, when President Guillaume, who had fled from the revolutionists, was dragged from the shelter of the French legation, shot to death, and his body dragged through the streets.

GOING ON IN KINSTON'S NEIGHBOR CITIES TODAY

The most important event at Morehead City next month will be the gathering there of the North Carolina Shriners. Practically all the wearers of the fez in Kinston will be present, and a number will take their families.

"Boss" Hackburn of New Bern and his pet bulldog, "Boss, Jr., have been delegated official welcome. The last-member of the reception committee is being taught special manners for the occasion.

There will be hundreds of Shriners from Asheville to Wilmington at the big meeting. Samuel Long, a member of the Kalem firm, moving picture manufacturers, is dead in New York. He was a brother of W. H. Long, a well known Greenville man. He succumbed to typhoid fever.

CHILDREN'S PET PUPPY KILLED BY AUTOMOBILE

The children of Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Dunn are greatly grieved at the loss of a valuable pet collie puppy, which was run down and instantly killed by an automobile on the Gritton highway Tuesday afternoon. According to Mr. Dunn's version of the affair, he and his two boys were driving in their buggy on their return home after a visit in the neighborhood and the puppy, a half-grown collie, and special pet of the children and Mrs. Dunn, was following them, the automobile came from the opposite direction and was traveling at such a rate of speed, Mr. Dunn says, that he could not recognize the occupants, the dog was struck and instantly killed and the machine did not slacken speed. After the boys had had a good cry over the death of their little favorite, Mr. Dunn dragged the dead animal into the woods. When he and the boys reached home and broke the news to the balance of the family, there was still more grief and it finally became necessary for him to hitch up his horse and return for the dog, that it might be given a "decent" burial. Mr. Dunn says that had the driver of the automobile exercised a little care, and not been driving faster than he should have been, that the accident would not have occurred.

BECKER DENIED NEW TRIAL; MUST GO TO CHAIR TOMORROW

New York, July 29.—Justice John Ford of the Supreme Court tonight denied a new trial to Charles Becker, the former police lieutenant under sentence of death for instigating the murder of Herman Rosenthal, the gambler. This decision means that Becker must be electrocuted on Friday.