

VILLA MUST FIGHT BEFORE END THIS DAY UNLESS HE HAS SUCCEEDED IN ESCAPING FROM CARRANZISTAS; CLASH INEVITABLE

More United States Troops Being Rushed to Border to Keep Open Lines of Communication—Mexican Government Forces Planning to Encircle Bandit Army and Three Columns Under Pershing Rapidly Approaching Scene—News of Engagement Eagerly Awaited Along Border—If Outlaw Chief Has Gotten Away It Will Take Many Weeks to Capture Him, However—2,700 More Cavalry Hastening to the Line

(By the United Press)

Washington, March 22.—Twenty-seven hundred cavalymen are speeding to the border to reinforce Pershing in response to Funston's appeal. Trains are today speeding to the border from all sections. There may be need for still more troops, it is thought.

Unless He's Escaped, Villa Must Fight Today.

San Antonio, March 22.—Pershing is at Lake Babricoro, and Dodd is between Elvalle and Namiquipa, while the third American column is at Carmen. Contact with Villa is inevitable today unless he has escaped through the territory between the Americans and Carranzistas to the South. If Villa has succeeded in getting away weeks or months will be added to the chase. Reinforcements are needed to strengthen the line of communication. The Carranzistas are in a complete ring, planning to surround Villa.

No Communication With Pershing.

El Paso, March 22.—A great silence has fallen over the operations of Pershing in Mexico. Cut off from the border, his field wireless has failed. The Villistas have cut the Juarez telegraph. The troops have not been heard from since they were reported nearing the bandits yesterday. A party is searching for two aviators lost in the desert or mountains and facing starvation.

GERMANY DID NOT STIR MEXICANS UP, DECLARED

Officials at Berlin Deny Rumor That Empire Sought to Make Trouble for United States South of the Rio Grande—Kaiser Wants Peace and Order, "Same as Other Nations"

By CARL W. ACKERMAN. (United Press Staff Correspondent) Berlin, March 22.—I have been authorized to deny emphatically a rumor that Germany was responsible for American troubles in Mexico. Germany followed in America's steps in recognizing Carranza. She wants the same as other countries, peace and order, I am told.

GERARD WON'T COME HOME THIS SUMMER

Ambassador at Berlin Gives Up Idea of Returning for Summer Vacation—International Complications Might Come Up Which Subordinate Could Not Handle, Believed—Gave No Reason

(By Carl W. Ackerman) Berlin, Mar. 22.—Ambassador Gerard today announced that he had cancelled his arrangements for a vacation and will not return to America in the summer. No explanation was made. It is believed he feels that important matters are possible of arising incapable of being handled by a subordinate.

No Peace Overtures, Says Washington.

Washington, March 22.—The President and Department of State unequivocally denied a story that Ambassador Gerard had postponed his vacation at the request of the German chancellor, owing to prospects for peace. There has been no intimation that Germany wants America to act as mediator, it is said, nor is there any suggestion that America is expected to lead the way. The Ackerman story that Gerard postponed his vacation because of important matters that might come up is expected to be held true.

GERMANS PROBABLY HAVE LOST HOPE OF CAPTURING VERDUN

French War Office Believes Offensive Is Practically Abandoned

THREE COSTLY ATTEMPTS

Resulted In No Material Gains—"Greatest Disaster Since Marne," Is Verdict of Military Critics of Allies—Drive Ended

(By William Phillip Simms) (United Press Staff Correspondent) Paris, Mar. 22.—The third and probably last phase of the Verdun offensive has ended, say dispatches. German successes at the Avancourt wood were only minor, it is declared. The war offices say the German failed elsewhere. It is not believed they will renew their assaults on the Northern front soon. The great drive ended in what the French believe to be the greatest German disaster since Marne.

Russian Gains Over Austrians.

London, March 22.—The Austrian front near Dneister has been broken at several points by the Russian offensive, say Petrograd dispatches. The Austrians suffered losses in the retreat, several hundred having been drowned.

Fighting In West at Night.

Paris, March 22.—Violent artillery fighting occurred last night on the northwest front at Verdun, it is said officially. Especially heavy was the cannonading at Malancourt, on Hautcourt Hill, and at the village of Esnes. The Germans failed to renew their infantry attacks.

Turks Evacuate Another City.

Amsterdam, March 22.—The Turks have evacuated the Armenian city of Erzizing, their headquarters, following the Erzerum defeat, say Bucharest dispatches. They blew up the munitions depot there before leaving.

Russian Offensive Near Riga.

Berlin, March 22.—The Russians are violently assaulting Von Hindenburg's front on the south and south-east of Riga, it is said officially. The attacks have all been repulsed.

TEXAS TOWN WIPED OUT BY FIRE WITH DAMAGE IN MILLIONS

Twenty Thousand of Population of Paris Homeless. Two-thirds of City In Ruins—Most Stores Obliterated—Relief Work

(By the United Press)

Paris, Tex., March 22.—Two-thirds of the business and residential sections of Paris were destroyed by fire with a loss of between two and three and a half millions. Twenty thousand of the population are homeless. The relief work has already started. Not a hotel, dry goods store, or wholesale grocery or drug store is left, and but a few retail stores.

Worry Over German Reverses Sent Him To Raleigh Asylum

(By the United Press) Durham, March 22.—Brooding over the German losses at Verdun caused the mental breakdown of Robert H. Cowan, a Spanish War veteran and prominent North Carolina newspaperman and German sympathizer, who was committed to State Asylum at Raleigh today.

The Wilson Times is suggesting a union passenger station for that town.

REPORTED BREACH OF NEUTRALITY BY SLAVS

Bucharest Dispatch Says Russian Man-of-War Torpedoed German Ship In Roumanian Harbor—Took Crew Prisoners—Prey Flew False Colors and Double Sets of Them

(By the United Press)

Bucharest, March 22.—The German steamer Esperanza, of 7,000 tons, carrying food from Constantinople, was torpedoed and sunk by a Russian warship in the Roumanian port of Kiliakra Sunday, say dispatches. The crew was taken prisoner. The ship was flying the Spanish and Roumanian flags.

CYCLONE HURLS A TRAIN FROM TRACK

Three Trainmen Injured at Marion, Ind.—Passengers Escaped—Lost Their Clothes As They Abandoned Cars in Night—Terrific Wind Blew Roofs Off and Started Fires, Reported.

(By the United Press)

Marion, Ind., Mar. 22.—Three trainmen were injured, but a score of passengers escaped when a cyclone threw three cars of a train down an embankment near here early today. The nightclothes of escaping passengers were blown off. The storm unroofed a number of buildings and caused fires.

One Person Reported Dead.

Muncie, Ind., Mar. 22.—Hartford City and Montpelier advices tell of thousands of dollars' damage done by last night's storm. A girl is reported to have been killed at Montpelier and three factories wrecked, business blocks unroofed and a church damaged.

USED FIRE ALARM TO CALL MILITIAMEN TO DRILL; PUBLIC SORE

(By the Eastern Press)

Washington, N. C., March 22.—This town "hated like thunder," in the words of a prominent citizen, to part with its firebell. It took a lot of nerve on the part of the aldermen to install an automatic alarm system in the face of sentimental opposition. The bell could be heard for ten miles, was the gift of women to the municipality and was almost a hundred years old.

Now another prominent citizen has come forward with the declaration that the alarm system "is a nuisance."

Frequent false alarms worried the firemen and citizens, but the sounding of the riot call to turn the naval militia out for drill "was the limit." The fire chief denies that he gave the zealous commanding officer of the sailors permission to use the alarm equipment for any such "idiotic" purpose.

TRENCH TELEPHONE PLAYS FUNNY TRICK ON ENGLISH TOMMY

(By the United Press.)

London, March 22.—Even the telephones in the trenches play tricks once in a while, according to an officer just back from the front. This officer was in charge of a telephone at an advanced post. He was talking to another officer at another post when the line went wrong. After many moments of silence the instrument buzzed loudly and he heard a sweet female voice demand: "Number please." Exasperated at what appeared to be a bad joke, he asked for his home number in London. Another short pause and another female voice was heard. It was his wife in London. Joyous greetings were soon interrupted by other voices which explained that the trench line had been crossed with the main headquarters line connected with London.

NEW HANOVER ROADS TO BE SHADED BY PECANS

(By the United Press.)

Wilmington, March 21.—New Hanover commissioners will introduce a novelty in this section by planting 1,000 pecan trees by the side of the county roads.

TO START WORK ON STANTONSBERG LINK VERY SOON, STATED

Norfolk Southern Reported to Be Strengthening Trestles on K-S. H. Line Preparatory to Handling Heavy Trains

Rumors emanating from authoritative sources say work on the Snow Hill-Stantonsburg shortcut of the Kinston-Snow Hill Railroad will be commenced within sixty days. Materials are now going over the Kinston-Snow Hill road from here for culverts and the strengthening of trestles, preparatory to passage of heavy trains of materials for construction of the additional sixteen miles over the line.

The extension to the Raleigh division of the Norfolk Southern at Stantonsburg will give Greene county a more direct rail outlet to the North. Kinston is expected to be considerably benefited, too. Trains will be operated from New Bern to the Raleigh division and the distance to Raleigh and Wilson from Kinston and all points east of here will be shortened by many miles. At least two trains a day will be run, it is believed, whereas there is now but one train a day from Kinston to Snow Hill, returning the morning after.

This is the second important shortcut to be built by the Norfolk Southern and its subsidiaries within a few years. The Bishop's Cross-Belhaven short line has proved of great value and a great deal of traffic is handled over it.

Snow Hill people traveling to the North or West now have to come to Kinston and then go to Goldsboro to take passage on a through train.

MAN WHO KILLED HIS FOUR CHILDREN AND SELF WAS OUT OF JOB

Greensboro, March 21.—D. G. Patterson, who early this morning killed his four children and himself, was a native of Liberty, and for a number of years he was yard foreman for the Southern Railway Company here and drew a salary of \$125 a month. Several months ago he lost this position. After some little time spent in a vain effort to get another place, he went to Hopewell, Va., the magic city, and lost his savings in the restaurant business. He returned to the city and led his wife to believe that he was again in the employ of the railway. Yesterday being railroad pay day, he had no excuse he could give his wife for not having money, and this and his financial troubles drove him to commit the deed, it is believed. He was about 50 years of age.

BIRD PROTECTION WOULD SAVE EIGHTY MILLIONS

Winnipeg, Man., March 22.—Game preservation in Manitoba, North Dakota and Minnesota was argued here today by the Audubon Society. Declaring that it represented "the 96 per cent. of the population that does not shoot prairie chicken," the society asks for laws protecting the bird whose eggs, it says, have largely been destroyed by frost. The protection of plover, woodcocks, snipes and sandpipers would save North American agriculture \$80,000,000 a year, the society says, because these creatures live on seeds and insects.

BIG ATTENDANCE AT THE BAPTIST WOMEN'S CONV'N

Winston-Salem, March 21.—The first session of the Baptist Women's Missionary Union was held in the First Baptist church here tonight. The annual sermon was delivered by Rev. Livingston Johnson of Rocky Mount. There are fully 500 delegates here from every part of the State, and more are arriving on every train.

FEDERALIZATION OF THE MILITIA BEING THRESHED OUT NOW

Hay Bill Consideration in House Halfway Completed, It Is Stated

SENATE HAS JOINED IN

Preparedness Main Business in Upper House Now—Tillman Bill Passed, Increase for West Point Up and Army Bill Is Next

(By the United Press)

Washington, March 22.—The House is halfway through with the army bill.

The Senate today joined in the consideration of preparedness legislation. The passage of Chamberlain's bill doubling West Point's capacity will be followed up by the army bill.

The crucial test of the Hay bill is now due. The House is debating federalization of the militia. The Tillman armor plate bill passed the Senate late yesterday.

NEW BERN OFFICER CERTAIN GLASS BOY WAS IN E. CAROLINA

"Chief Lupton has sent a message to Mrs. Charles Glass, the mother of the lost James Glass, stating that he is positive that her son has been in this section. He assured her that every effort will be made to locate him," said the New Bern Sun-Journal Tuesday evening. The New Bern police chief says that a woman member of the only gypsy band in the section, now in Martin county, left the band at Washington, probably before their camp there was searched, and with two children in her charge passed through New Bern and Kinston to Goldsboro. The police at Goldsboro. Lupton is quoted as saying, saw a boy answering the description given of James Glass, kidnapped in Pennsylvania last May.

It was this information from New Bern probably that led Mrs. Glass to make a statement to a New England news agency Tuesday that she had a "definite clue" that her son was near here. The statement was mentioned in a story in Tuesday's Daily Free Press.

FIRE AT TENNESSEE COPPER PLANT DOES TWO MILLIONS DAMAGE

(By the United Press)

Copper Hill, Tenn., March 22.—Assistant Supt. George Strohl was killed and more than a million dollars' damage done by a fire which destroyed two buildings at the Tennessee Copper Co.'s factory here today.

HOW CHAPEL HILL WILL HONOR SHAKESPEARE

Chapel Hill, March 20.—Plans for the fitting observance here of the Tercentenary of Shakespeare's death have advanced sufficiently to indicate that the celebration will be carried out on a large scale, the entire community taking part in the various productions.

COTTON SELLS HIGH BUT BREAKS LITTLE

About ten bales of cotton had been sold here today by 3 o'clock. The high price was 11.70, but the market broke. Good cotton probably would have brought about 11.50 at the close. New York futures quotations were:

Open	Close
May	11.96 11.96
July	12.10 12.10
October .. .	12.20 12.19
December ..	12.25 12.24
January .. .	12.41 12.40

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS OF OTHER EAST CAR. COUNTIES AND TOWNS

Goldsboro Philatheas and Baracas are preparing for the joint State convention of the societies in that town on April 27-30.

Tuesday was the anniversary of the famous Federal entry into Goldsboro, in 1865. Grant visited the place soon afterwards to confer with Sherman.

The funeral of the late Dr. W. E. Headen of Morehead City was held there late Tuesday. Dr. Headen, who was well-known to the medical profession throughout the State, died at Morganton, N. C. Sunday afternoon. Construction of an annex to the Craven county courthouse at New Bern is about to begin.

STATE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES THICK AND FAST FOR FEW WEEKS

Washington, March 22.—With primaries in Indiana, Minnesota, New Hampshire, and North Dakota out of the way, candidates on both sides of the political fence are awaiting the voice of people from sixteen primary states. From now until June 6 the primaries will be frequent.

Here is the latest list at political headquarters in Washington, with the number of delegates to be named: Wisconsin, April 4, 26; New York, April 4, 88; Illinois, April 4, 58; Iowa, April 10, 26; Nebraska, April 18, 16; Oregon, April 18, 10; Massachusetts, April 25, 36; Maryland, May 1, 16; California, May 9, 26; Ohio, May 9, 48; Pennsylvania, May 16, 76; New Jersey, May 23, 28; South Dakota, June 6, 10; West Virginia, June 6, 16.

OKLAHOMA G. O. P. NOT TO INSTRUCT DELEGATES

Oklahoma City, Okla., March 22.—Even the most astute politicians in the State admitted that the result of the Republican State convention, which opened here today, could be expressed at present by a big question mark. Roosevelt, Hughes and Borah are the favorites. An un-instructed delegation appeared to be the most probable outcome.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

NORWAY CALLS UPON GERMANY TO EXPLAIN.

Copenhagen, Mar. 22.—The Norwegian government has asked Germany for an explanation of the sinking of the bark Silius, carrying seven Americans in crew, and the steamer Langeli, say dispatches.

EARTHQUAKE IN AUSTRIA.

Amsterdam, Mar. 22.—Hundreds of houses in the Austrian towns of Brihar and Grizane have been destroyed by an earthquake, say Vienna dispatches.

PROTESTS RATES TO CAROLINAS, ETC.

Washington, March 22.—Scott Paper Co. has complained to the Interstate Commerce Commission of alleged unreasonable rates from Philadelphia to North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama.

WILL CONNOR MAKE THE RUN FOR OFFICE TO BE VACATED BY BICKETT?

The name of Judge George Connor of Wilson is being mentioned in connection with the attorney-generalship, it is said in Raleigh. The News and Observer of that city said today that Judge Connor is presiding over court there and that mention of him as a possible candidate "came close upon the talk about the possible entry of former Solicitor N. A. Sinclair of Fayetteville.

Ever since it became known that Bickett, the incumbent, would make the run for Governor there has been a great deal of interest centered in the attorney generalship, because of the large number of aspirants and possible candidates.

COAST GUARD CUTTER IS TO REMAIN AT WILMINGTON

Washington, March 21.—The Treasury Department has notified Representative Godwin that the coast guard cutter will be permitted to remain at Wilmington. Mr. Godwin said Secretary Daniels made this action possible by sending a destroyer to San Juan to relieve the Itasca.