

RELATIONS WITH BERLIN TO BE BROKEN OFF IF IT IS PROVED GERMAN SUBMARINE SUNK SUSSEX; NO AMERICANS LOST, THOUGH

President and Secretary of State Ask for Haste in Assembling Facts of Disaster in Channel—Little Doubt That Torpedo Caused Sinking—Bodies Recovered—Many Passengers Declare They Saw Wake of Missile in Water—Bit of Metal Similar to That Used in German Torpedoes Discovered in Wreckage—Crisis Between Imperial and Washington Governments Most Serious Since Outbreak of the War

(By the United Press)

London, March 27.—Late this afternoon the Embassy announced that all information led to the belief that no American lives were lost in the Sussex disaster.

Severance of Relations Seems Probable.

(By ROBERT J. BENDER, United Press Staff Correspondent)
Washington, March 27.—Diplomatic relations with Germany probably will be broken off if this Government finds that a German submarine attacked the Sussex, according to a high Administration official. Wilson and Lansing are awaiting the facts. Both are urging haste in assembling them. They today conferred at length over the telephone. It is authoritatively stated that the belief is general that a torpedo was responsible for the disaster and loss of American lives. A piece of bronze metal similar to that used in German torpedoes is reported to have been found in the Sussex wreckage.

Determine America's Policy Now.

Washington, Mar. 27.—President Wilson and Secretary Lansing today arranged to jointly consider the facts obtainable concerning the sinking of the Sussex with the loss of American lives. It is realized that they must determine finally America's policy in perhaps the most serious crisis in the two-years' submarine controversy, if it turns out that a submarine really sank the Sussex.

At Least One American Dead.

(By Charles P. Stewart)
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
London, Mar. 27.—At least one American, it now seems certain, was shot when the Sussex was sunk. The American Embassy today announced that Miss Calliope Anastasia Fenelle of New York is missing.

Twelve bodies have been recovered. Both the American Embassy and the Admiralty today continued investigations. The majority of the survivors at Paris declare positively that the ship was submerged.

Liner Minneapolis Sunk; 11 Dead.

London, Mar. 27.—Eleven persons were killed when the liner Minneapolis, of 15,000 tons was submerged in the Mediterranean last Wednesday, said an Admiralty statement today.

Many Declare Torpedo Responsible.

Paris, March 26.—The great majority of survivors of the Sussex, both Americans and those of other nationalities, who have reached France assert the vessel was torpedoed and that there is no question of any warning having been given. None of them saw a mine or indications of one, whereas, the greater part of those whose stories have been given assert that they saw the wake of a torpedo.

Thirteen Americans Believed Lost.

The total number of victims is still unknown. It is estimated variously at fifty to eighty. Of the Americans, it now is regarded as certain that Miss Elizabeth Baldwin was killed. It is believed her father, Professor J. Mark Baldwin, was lost and that possibly Mrs. Baldwin perished.

THE ODDDEST STORY IN THE NEWS OF THE DAY

(By the United Press)
St. Cloud, Minn., March 27.—This town's whistling well is to be investigated by State geologists. The well is one of the greatest freaks in the country. Surface temperatures are the same as temperatures in the bottom of the 74-foot well and changing temperatures between the two cause the well to emit a whistling noise.

GERMANS BENT UPON MAKING OF VERDUN 2ND RHENMS, SAYS

United Press Correspondent Declares French City Is Invulnerable

USE INCENDIARY BOMBS

Teutons Evidently Trying to Wreck Town, But Unable to Secure Any Military Advantage—Russians Driven to Attack

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS, (United Press Staff Correspondent)
Headquarters of the Verdun French Armies, March 27.—Thrill baffled at Verdun, the Germans now are seemingly bent on destruction of the city. Daily they hurl about 350 incendiary shells into the business and residential sections. From a military standpoint Verdun is unscratched. Otherwise the city appears doomed to become another Ypres, or Rheims, or Arras.

During the bombardment I entered the underground city. It was built many months ago, in preparation for what is now occurring. The French expect further heavy attacks, but say they are foredoomed to failure. Verdun seems impregnable. Certainly it cannot be taken without an enormous loss.

Verdun Bombardment Continues.

Paris, March 27.—The Germans today continued to bombard the Verdun sector. There were no new infantry actions, the war office reported. Russians Lose Heavily.

By CARL W. ACKERMAN, (United Press Staff Correspondent)

Berlin, March 27.—The First Siberian army corps, of 40,000 men, has been practically exterminated in fruitless attacks against Von Hindenburg's front, dispatches today said. The Russians were driven to the attacks by their own artillery, said the advices. Russian Attacks Repulsed.

Berlin, March 27.—The repulse of further heavy Russian attacks with enormous Slav losses is reported by the war office.

FRENCH TROOPSHIP IS REPORTED SUNK; LOSS OF LIFE GREAT, SAID

(By the United Press)

Berlin, March 27.—A French transport from Salonika has been mined and sunk with great loss of life, according to Athens dispatches. Only 73 persons were saved.

BUILD NEW CANNING PLANT ON ISLAND IN CURRITUCK

Elizabeth City, March 26.—A canning factory with a daily capacity of fourteen hundred cans in process of construction at Waterhill, on Church's Island in Currituck county.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

THREE ALLIED SHIPS SUNK

London, March 27.—Three more vessels, two of them British, the steamer Cerne and the fish carrier Kharion, and the French steamer Hexbe, have been sunk within the last 24 hours, with probable loss of life.

GERMAN TORPEDOBOAT SUNK

Berlin, March 27.—One of the German torpedo boats which engaged the British off the Frisian coast on Saturday is believed to have been lost, the Admiralty today admitted. Two German patrols also were sunk.

TEUTON STEAMER MINED, SUNK

Copenhagen, March 27.—The German steamer Greina has struck a mine and sunk with the loss of ten lives, outside Goltzlow.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS FOR LENOIR COUNTY NAMED ON SATURDAY

P. S. B. Harper of This City and R. G. Creech of LaGrange, Democratic Members, John E. Cameron of Grainger, G. O. P.

P. S. B. Harper of Kinston, R. G. Creech of LaGrange, Democrats, and John E. Cameron of Grainger, Republican, comprise the Lenoir County Board of Elections. They were named by the State Board in session at Raleigh Saturday.

The State Board of Elections ruled that a candidate's expenses begin when he takes his first step for election and not when he formally announces himself, passed a resolution in regard to expenditures of State Senatorial candidates and decided to meet on June 6 to canvass the State presidential primary returns and forward the results to the national conventions. All the county boards were named. Those of other counties in this section are:

Carteret: J. H. Davis, Beaufort; Luther Hamilton, Morehead City. J. F. Duncan, Beaufort. Craven: William Dunn, Jr., New Bern; R. A. Nunn, New Bern, and E. L. Mallard, New Bern. Duplin: J. A. Gavin, Jr., Kenansville; W. J. Grady, Albertson, and L. M. Cooper, Kenansville. Greene: F. L. Rouse, Snow Hill; B. F. D. Albritton, Hookerton, and J. W. S. Beaman, Snow Hill. Jones: D. J. Dixon, Trenton; H. A. Parker, Pollocksville, and Lewis King, Trenton. Onslow: George A. Hurst, Jacksonville; G. W. Brady, Jacksonville, and A. Z. Jarman, Richlands. Pitt: S. J. Everett, Greenville; S. T. White, Greenville, and Henry T. King, Greenville. Sampson: I. C. Wright, Clinton; M. J. Newman, Clinton, and B. H. Crumpler, Clinton. The first two named of each board are Democrats, the third Republican.

NORFOLK AND HOUSTON HAVE COSTLY SUNDAY FIRES; LOSSES GREAT

Norfolk, Va., March 26.—Two fires of unknown origin caused damage estimated at \$262,000 in this city early today. The Progress building, in the heart of the wholesale district in Water street, was completely destroyed, the loss being placed at \$237,000.

The plant of the Colonial Cereal Company in Brambleton avenue was also destroyed, the loss being \$25,000. Houston's Loss More Than \$500,000.
Houston, Texas, March 26.—Fanned by a stiff breeze, fire of undetermined origin which started in the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway cotton sheds here today destroyed about 4,100 bales of cotton and badly damaged the warehouse of the F. W. Heimann Company, hardware dealers, and several residences before it was brought under control. The loss was estimated at \$530,000.

WILLARD GOT NEARLY FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR TRIMMING CHALLENGER MORAN; KANSAN WITH BROKEN HAND WAS EASILY THE BEST MAN

New York, March 27.—Fight experts whose predictions were disproved by the result of Saturday night's Willard-Moran bout in Madison Square garden were Dal Hawkins, Tom Sharkey, Sam Harris, Billy Rocab and Billy Gibson. They had picked Moran to win. Congratulating themselves today, upon their judgment are Jim Connett, Strangler Lewis; Joe Choynski, James J. Jeffries, Robert Fitzsimmons and Geo. Considine, who expected Willard to retain the championship won from the negro Johnson at Havana last year.

The fight went the scheduled ten rounds without a K-O. Willard broke his right hand in the third, but the big champ. had all the best of the scrap in seven rounds. The third was given to Frank Moran, and the

TOM PENCE DIED IN WASHINGTON TODAY AFTER LONG ILLNESS

Complications Caused Demise of Sec'y National Democratic Committee

WAS NORTH CAROLINIAN

Brilliant Newspaperman—Was Friend to Thousands—Bright's Disease, Pneumonia and Heart Trouble Combination Fatal to Him

Washington, Mar. 27.—Thomas J. Pence, Secretary of the National Democratic Executive Committee, died at his home here this morning, after a long illness due to complications.

There is no attempt by the Democrats here to conceal their sorrow. Close friends of the brilliant young North Carolina newspaperman thronged his quarters. Many of them gave signs of actual grief. Pence was popular with thousands of persons here.

Since coming to the Capital Tom Pence had lived in unpretentious quarters, in keeping with his modest, unassuming nature. His fine character earned him a great coterie of admirers and he was a good mixer in spite of his innate reticence. The President and scores of Senators and Representatives had taken personal interest in his illness. Bright's disease, bronchial pneumonia and heart disease combined caused his demise. No hope had been entertained for him for weeks, and last night physicians told his intimates that the end was near.

Pence was regarded as almost indispensable to his party. Merit rather than powerful friends secured him his high position, and he made good from the beginning.

The funeral plans have not been announced. It is expected that the body will be carried to North Carolina for burial.

MAY BE DEATH BLOW TO THE MOVIES THERE

(By the United Press)

Winnipeg, Man., March 27.—The kibosh was thought today to have been put on the movies here. A tax of 20 cents for every seat occupied during any amusement performance in Winnipeg has been officially ordered. Theaters in other towns in the province pay 10 cents a seat. War revenue and compulsory economy on the part of the public are the causes.

GUILFORD BEATS U. OF N. C.

Greensboro, March 27.—The Guilford College nine defeated the University of North Carolina baseball team 2 to 1, here Saturday afternoon.

VILLA, RUNNING AWAY, MAKES MEXICANS JOIN HIM OR BE SHOT; A TRAIL OF DEATH BEHIND HIM; STORIES OF SNIPING TODAY

(By the United Press)

Columbus, N. M., March 27.—Many drivers of incoming wagon trains today reported encountering Mexican snipers along the Casas Grandes-Columbus road. No Americans were hit.

Washington Doesn't Believe Stories.

Washington, March 27.—War Department officials today discounted sniping stories from the border, saying that no word of casualties had been received since the troops crossed.

Change of Ships at Tampico.

Washington, March 27.—The gunboat Marietta has been ordered to Tampico, relieving the battleship Kentucky, lying off the harbor.

Villa Threatens Peons; Trail of Death.

(By E. T. CONKLE, United Press Staff Correspondent)
El Paso, March 27.—Leaving a trail of dead and wounded, Villa is fleeing southward from Namiquipa, toward the Sierra Tarahumare mountains, according to army advices. He is forcing upon peons the choice of being shot or joining him.

A NEW GREAT LAKES SHIPBUILDING BOOM

Cleveland, March 27.—Cleveland lake ports are experiencing the greatest ship-building boom in years. Ship yards and drydocks are working day and night. Employees, mostly skilled, are scarce, and wages are 10 to 15 per cent. higher than in past years.

"About \$27,000,000 is invested in contracts in Great Lakes ship yards for vessels to be delivered within the next two years," said H. C. Estep, editor of a marine trade paper here. "Sixty-six ships have been contracted for by Great Lakes companies. Four companies will deliver the bulk of these ships."

RUSSIA FEARS FINNS MAY START REVOLUT'N

Copenhagen, March 8.—(By Mail)—Possibly forecasting a serious internal situation in Finland, all military eligibles have been forbidden to leave the country, it became known here today.

Finns between ages of 19 and 41 must remain in Finland pending the Czar's decision to draft them into the Russian army. There are, approximately, 500,000 men in Finland available for military service. Less than 4,000 Finns have joined the Russian army to date. All ports of exit are now closely watched with the utmost vigilance by the Russian authorities.

PREPAREDNESS TALK OF NATION, SAYS DANIELS

Lynchburg, Va., Mar. 26.—"Preparedness" is the great word on every tongue in America today, and rightly so," said Hon. Joseph Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, in his address tonight on "Preparedness From God's Standpoint," before an enthusiastic audience made up largely from Y. M. C. A. members and other religious workers of Lynchburg.

DR. M. CLARK ACCEPTS CALL FROM CHARLESTON

Greensboro, March 26.—Rev. Dr. Melton Clark, who has been pastor of the First Presbyterian church here for ten years, announced to his congregation tonight that he had decided to accept the call recently tendered him by the Second Presbyterian church of Charleston, S. C. He will leave in a few weeks.

WILLIAMSTON MAY BACK OUT FOUR-TOWN LEAGUE

(By the Eastern Press)
Washington, N. C., March 27.—Promoters of the East Carolina semi-pro. baseball league admit Williamston may not stick. The Greenville, Washington and Aurora members of the governing organization are conferring with Farmville fans in the hope of getting that town in the league in the event Williamston does quit.

PRESIDENT EXPECTED VETO BURNETT BILL

House By Big Majority Today Voted to Retain Clause Requiring All Immigrants to Be Able to Read and Write Language of Own Country—Vote of Representatives 225 to 82

(By the United Press)
Washington, March 27.—By a vote of 225 to 82, the House today retained in the Burnett immigration bill, the clause requiring all immigrants to be able to read and write their own language. The President is expected to veto the bill.

EXPERTS FORECAST GREATEST SLAUGHTER OF WAR IN SPRING

(By WILBUR S. FORREST, United Press Staff Correspondent)
London, March 15.—(By Mail)—Men who have been in closest touch with every move of the world war to date are beginning to forecast that the next five months will bring an unparalleled burst of battle, attended by the worst bloodshed in the world's history.

Throughout all the theaters, the coming spring will see the greatest activity of the war, attended by the slaughter which conditions make inevitable, the military experts are saying.

Nor will the slaughter be limited to soldiers, some forecasts declare. It is believed in some circles that zepplins will take heavy toll of civilian populations in many quarters. Reports from Friedrichshafen, on Lake Constance, say that the zeppelin factory there is turning out 12 or 16 zepplins a month. The German Parseval and Schultz-Lange factories, located elsewhere also are reported active to an extent of ten times their normal output.

NEGRO WOMAN KILLED; SEARCH FOR HUSBAND

Fayetteville, March 26.—Fannie Smith, a colored woman, was found dead by a roadside near "Myrtle Hill," the country home of S. H. Strange, this morning, and officers are tonight seeking her husband, Arthur Smith, who is missing.

THE DAY ON LOCAL COTTON EXCHANGE

Five bales were receipts on the local cotton exchange today, prices ranging from 10 1-2 to 11 1-2 cents.
New York futures quotations were:
May 11.90 11.93
July 12.05 12.04
October 12.12 12.14
December 12.25 12.31
January 12.34 12.34
J. A. Wiggs, police chief of Wilson who shot and killed Phil. Worth, colored, Friday, was on Saturday exonerated. Worth was said to have been resisting arrest when the officer killed him.