

AMERICAN PEOPLE NEED NOT BE SO SURE AMICABLE SETTLEMENT WITH THE GERMAN GOV'T, THOUGH BERLIN IS MORE HOPEFUL

Optimism Comes From Thin Air, Declares High Up Official—Gerard Has Said Nothing for Himself or the Kaiser's Advisors—One Difficult Point Seems to Be Warning of Freighters as Well as Liners—American Attitude on Armed Merchantmen Stated in Memorandum Issued Today—Von Bernstorff's Attitude Over Seizure of Von Igel's Papers Changes Completely—Embassy Now Calmly Indifferent

(By R. J. Bender) Washington, Apr. 26.—Optimism prevailing in Washington pending the German negotiations comes "from thin air," according to a high official. The danger of overconfidence was again today warned against. It was pointed out that Gerard's cables merely have contained resumes of German newspapers' editorial opinion, and not his own nor opinions he believes the German officials hold.

Warning of Freighters Big Question. (By Carl W. Ackerman) Berlin, Apr. 26.—Wilson's demand that German submarines warn freighters as well as passenger liners constitutes the most serious obstacle in the way of a settlement, it is said. Other points in the controversy, it is believed, can be settled without trouble. The feeling is growing here that there will be no break.

Embassy Now Indifferent Over Taking of Von Igel Papers. Washington, Apr. 26.—Ambassador Von Bernstorff's return from New York today was marked by a complete change of attitude at the Embassy regarding the seizure of the now famous Von Igel papers. The new attitude is one of calm indifference. The whole question is now considered a legal matter simply, to be handled by lawyers. If it be shown, however, that Von Igel is guilty of improprieties as an embassy attache, which, of course, is not admitted, the embassy takes the view that he will be recalled, as were Von Papen and Boyed.

Memorandum on Armed Merchantmen. Washington, Apr. 26.—America's attitude on the armed merchantment question was made clear this afternoon in a memorandum from the State Department. The publication is for the purpose of defining clearly what the President meant when he demanded that Germany abandon the "present methods" of submarine warfare.

MARTIAL LAW HOLDS DOWN THE RIOTERS IN DUBLIN COUNTY

Troops Sent to Irish Capital From England—City Still Cut Off From Communication—Rebels Hold Parts of the Town

(By the United Press) London, Apr. 26.—Martial law has been declared in Dublin county. Troops transported from England are in charge of the Irish Capital. Prompt Steps Taken. London, Apr. 26.—Prompt and energetic steps are being taken to put down the Irish insurrection in Dublin, which city is still cut off from telegraphic communication. Parts of Dublin are still held by the rebels.

HOPE TO RAISE MILLION FOR WAR SUFFERERS

New York, Apr. 26.—A million dollars has been set as the minimum to be obtained as a result of the Alliesazaar to be held at Grand Central Palace, New York City, June 3rd to 14th, under the auspices of the National Allied Relief Committee and the War Relief Clearing House for France and Her Allies. This means that a million dollars or as much more as can be secured will be utilized for the relief of the sufferers of the various Allied nations of Europe.

You cannot win one of the cars unless you try. The thing to do is to try.

PERUVIANS SHOWING DISPLEASURE OVER AN ALLEGED SLIGHT

Miffed at Inferred Insults Minister of Foreign Affairs Tells Other Governments About Conduct McAdoo's Commission

(By the United Press) Lima, Peru, Apr. 26.—The Peruvian Minister of foreign affairs today dispatched to all South American governments a detailed statement of an alleged inferred insult to Peru by Secretary McAdoo's International High Commission. Newspapers here continue denouncing the party. Dispatches say Chilean newspapers are doing likewise.

THE ODDDEST STORY IN THE NEWS OF THE DAY

Salem, Ore., Apr. 26.—The mysterious disappearance of 320 miles of highway in Lincoln county as shown in the biennial road report of Oregon, caused the Department of Agriculture at Washington to wonder.

When Malheur, the biggest county in the state, showed an increase of 2,000 miles of highway in two years, the department demanded an explanation from State Engineer Lewis. Today Lewis made this explanation to Washington: The 1914 road report from Lincoln county was made when the tide was out. When the 1916 report was made the tide was in, and 320 miles of coats highways were under water and couldn't be counted.

THE DAY ON LOCAL COTTON EXCHANGE

Table with columns for date (Mar, July, Oct, Dec, Jan) and price (Open, 2:20, 11:94, 12:10, 12:29, 12:47, 12:55)

NORTHERN METHODISTS MEET SARATOGA SP'GS

(Special to The Free Press) Saratoga Springs, N. Y., Apr. 26.—The 27th delegated quadrennial session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church will convene here on May 1. Delegates from 133 annual conferences will attend. Organic union with the Southern church will be one of the important matters of discussion.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY NOT FAVORABLE TO BREAK

Washington, Apr. 25. Secretary Lansing announced late today that dispatches from Vienna, quoting Austria-Hungarian newspapers, indicated the opinion there seemed to be against Germany taking action that would lead to the severance of diplomatic relations with the United States.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press) GERMANS AND JAPS BEHIND NEW REVOLT? Mexico City, Apr. 26.—Many Germans are directing a new revolution from Guatemala it was learned today. Japanese are said to be furnishing arms and ammunition to the rebels.

Mrs. Geo. Taylor, LaGrange, Hits Bulls Eye; First Target

Miss Eoline Padrick of Kinston Gets Second Place, and Miss Glenn Sugg, of Snow Hill is Third—A Most Interesting Feature

As was promised the public by the contest management, the first Bulls Eye of the leaders and the near leaders for the special prizes are shown today for the first time. The target needs no further explanation. There you will find the nine leaders for the special prizes as they stood up to nine o'clock last evening. Several good reports came in too late to be recorded on the first target, but they were in time to be counted on the records for today. There were many other contestants who were less than two yearly subscriptions behind the leaders. When you think what this means and you realize how close together are one half of the contestants on the list, some vague idea of what an even and hard fought battle is being waged throughout the territory covered by this interesting contest. Mrs. George Taylor of R. F. D. LaGrange was the first contestant to hit the Bulls Eye. Mrs. Taylor is what may be called a new contestant, for it is only with this week that she has commenced work in real earnest. Miss Eoline Padrick of Kinston comes second and may also be called a new contestant since this is the first week that she has attempted to do any real work in the contest. But not so with Miss Glenn Sugg, the third candidate for the prizes. Miss Sugg is one of those who has accomplished good work from the start of the contest and who though handicapped with her school work has accomplished wonderful results. Miss Delia Hyatt, Mrs. Claude Smith, Mrs. Mamie Fitzgerald, Mrs. W. G. Morris, Mrs. Lillian Worthington, and Miss Aileen Jones, the other contestants who succeeded in placing their names on the target at the first appearance are all in the first class and deserve the support of their friends. By following the race for the special prizes which will be shown daily by the target one may realize how exciting is the race for the grand prizes at the end of the contest. In this struggle for the extra prizes the various candidates are trying their mettle and it is certain that those who lead in this weekly battle will also stand high at the finish. By the record of the targets even as by the record of the Honor Roll, the public will swing their support. Every contestant who has any hopes of winning should do their best to place their names on the target and to win one of the special prizes. Hit the Bulls Eye. At least put your name on the target and keep it there.

THIS LIST GIVES THE TOTAL VOTES AS TURNED IN UP TO LAST NIGHT

Table with columns for names and vote counts. Includes District No. 1, District No. 2, and District No. 3.

AMERICANS ARE THOROUGHLY BEATING UP MEXICAN MOUNTAIN COUNTRY IN THE NEW SEARCH FOR VILLA; A REPORTED BATTLE

Columbus Says Several Troopers Have Been Killed in Clash—Every Clue Being Run Down—Obregon Will Insist Upon Immediate Evacuation by Punitive Expedition, El Paso Learns—De Facto Government Cannot Pacify People While United States Soldiers Remain Across Border, Stated—Mexican Statesman-General Expected to Meet General Scott on the Boundary Friday for Conference

(By the United Press) El Paso, Apr. 26.—Several American soldiers have been killed in an engagement in Mexico, Columbus reports state.

Troops Run Down Every Clue. Pershing's Headquarters, Mexico, Apr. 26.—Several cavalry columns are actively engaged in running down the Villistas reported to be in the mountains along the communication lines extending three hundred miles below the border. Every clue that does not carry the troops below the new limited field of operations is being run down.

Obregon to Insist Upon Withdrawal. (By E. T. Conkle) El Paso, Apr. 26.—Speedy withdrawal of the American expedition will be insisted upon by Obregon in the border conference with General Scott, according to local Carranza officials. The Mexican de facto government's plea is that it cannot pacify the country while American troops are on Mexican territory. Obregon will demand evacuation on practically his own terms. General Obregon is expected to reach Juarez Friday.

REPUTATION OF MISS DUDLEY COURT ISSUE

Girl Had Been Indiscreet Before Alleged Criminal Assaults by Banker Edmundson Occurred, Evidence is Introduced to Show—Physician Had Refused Criminal Operation

Local lawyers who attende Federal Court at New Bern Tuesday stated that the trial of F. A. Edmundson, charged by Miss Eulalia Dudley with white slavery, was rather interesting. Edmundson probably would be proved technically guilty, they stated. Miss Dudley, a New Bern girl, claims that Edmundson, a former bank cashier of Greenville, induced her to go to Norfolk with him, and that he twice criminally assaulted her. Evidence was introduced to show that the girl's reputation prior to the trip out of the State, declared by her to have been spotless, had already been blotted by indiscreet actions upon her part. A young man was named. A doctor said that he had refused to perform a criminal operation upon the girl at the request of the youth.

TIRED SEEING DEAD MEXICANS; NOR DOES HE LIKE THE LAND

(By the Eastern Press) Washington, N. C., Apr. 26.—In the Mexican mountains the American soldiers of the punitive expedition frequently have to build windbreaks to protect their camps, writes Corp. A. A. Nichols of a cavalry machine gun troop to relatives here. The wind whistles through the peaks at a rate of 75 miles an hour "on the slightest excuse." "Fierce country," he declares; "one almost burns up in daytime and nearly freezes at night." Nichols has frequently assisted in the task of burning bodies of dead Mexicans, and is tired of seeing them, he states.

RIOTING BY STRIKERS IN EAST PITTSBURGH

Pittsburg, Pa., Apr. 25.—The first serious rioting in the strike of 13,000 employes of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company in East Pittsburg occurred tonight. Several shots were fired and an unidentified striker and a detective were injured.

THE COMMENCEMENT WILL LAST THROUGH USUAL THREE DAYS

Orator Not Yet Determined Upon—Exercises Monday and Tuesday and Sermon Sunday Evening—Primary School Program

Superintendent Caldwell of the City Schools today announced the following tentative program for the annual commencement: Sunday evening, April 30, at 8 o'clock: Annual sermon by Rev. H. A. Humble, in Queen Street Methodist church. Monday, May 1, at 10 a. m.: Playground exercises at Lewis building, by primary children. At 8:15 p. m. Class day exercises by senior class. Tuesday, at 10 a. m.: Declamation contest for Faulkner medal. At 8:15 p. m.: Annual address, awarding of honors, medals and scholarships, and delivery of diplomas. The orator has not been announced.

STRAWBERRY CROP IN THE CAROLINAS SAID TWELVE HUND'D CARS

Washington, Apr. 26.—A Department of Agriculture statement says the North and South Carolina strawberry crop will be about twelve hundred carloads. Thirty-one cars have already been shipped North.

TO PUNISH PARK COPS FOR STOPPING SPOONERS

Pittsburgh, Apr. 26.—Here is Police Superintendent Matthews' pronouncement concerning spooney lovers in Pittsburgh public parks: "Any policeman who is so lacking in brains as to disturb any exercise of that kind will be placed on the books. Such an officer would not be humane. "Yes, air; you can say for me that spooning goes in the parks. It is the Spring of the year especially that young hearts turn to love and love leads to marriage and happy homes."