The Yadkin Ripple

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STATE DEPARTMENT WARNS CARRANZA

SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES MAY FOLLOW CONFISCATION OF FOREIGN-OWNED WELLS.

MAKES AN URGENT PROTEST

Sent By British Ambassador to the British Consul at Vera Cruz for General Carranza.

Washington—The United States Government has warned Gen. Venustiano Carranza that "serious consequences may follow" his threatened confiscation of foreign-owned oil plants in Tampico. This announcement was made by Secretary Bryan to day after a conference with Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British Ambassador and representatives of the American oil concerns.

Already the Carranza officials have enforced a virtual embargo on the exportation of oil by a big English company.

The British Ambassador at Mr. Bryan's suggestion, sent to the British Consul at Vera Cruz an urgent protest for General Carranza. As the British fleet obtains much of its fuel from the Tampico oil fields, the possibility of serious complications over Carranza's attitude is fully realized by the American government.

Mr. Bryan said that the foreign owned oil companies "feared confiscation of their wells" by Carranza and that today's action had been taken to forestall such action. A decree issued by the Carranza government makes it impossible for some foreign oil companies to operate without the consent of the Carranza authorities and it is said some American concerns have been forced to pay so heavy a tax that they have been compelled to shut down.

The prospect of a battle on the outskirts of Tampico is expected here to develop the situation further. If Villa forces are victorious, a solution of the problem is confidently expected because of previous assurances by the Villa Gutierrez officials.

EVERY BUILDING DESTROYED.

Only 2 or 3 Per Cent. of Avezzano's Poupulation Escaped.

Rome.—William Marconi who returned here from Avezzano on board the train with King Victor Emmanuel, said words could not describe the horrors he had witnessed. The town had been wholly leveled, he said, and residents who escaped death were destitute.

"King Victor Emmanuel told me," said Mr. Marconi, "that he had visited the scenes of all earthquake disasters in Italy since he was a child, but that this supassed all, including Messina. The king said survivors of Avezzano were only between two and three per cent of its population, while in Messino one-third escaped.

Describing the damage in Avezzano Mr. Marconi said:

"Avezzano has ceased to exist. In Messina some buildings give one the impression that they are still intact, their facades having survived the shock.

"Not so with Avezzano. No wall there remains erect. It seemed as though the town had been ground to powder by some gigantic machine."

Nation Unready For Fight.

Washington.—In urging upon the senate the need for a commission to report on national preparedness or a permanent council of naval defense, Senator Lodge declared that the national defense of the country "is not only imperfect and unbalanced but that it has grave and in some instances fatal deficiencies. "He designated what he termed many of the defect and said they were "almost wholly due to congress."

An adequate national defense the senator said, could be obtained without additional expenditure. "Cut off our needless army posts, navy yards and stations," he advised the senate.

"Lay aside for a few years appropriations for the public buildings and river and harbor improvements where they are not needed. Drop all the expenditures which are designed for spots where votes are lying thickest and you will have money enough to provide for a sufficient army and an adequate navy without adding to the burden of taxation."

He warned that the ocean barrier that defended the country in 1776 and 1812 had been destroyed by steam and electricity. Unarmed, unready, undefended, the nation stands an invitation to aggression and attack, he said.

Senator Lodge asserted that not only the regular army, but the militia was highly defective, adding that the Panama Canal was "miserably and most inadequately protected" against being blown up and blocked for months by agents or spies of a hostile nation.

Senator Lodge declared the army was without sufficient artillery and artillery manunition and said available testimony showed that the guns in the fortifications were of shorter range than those carried by foreign warships of the latest designs.

MISS ADELINE PENDLETON

Miss Pendleton, daughter of Col. E P. Pendleton, U. S. A., and Mrs. Pendleton, has recently been introduced to Washington society.

WOMEN CAN'T VOTE YET

NO VOTES FOR WOMEN YET AWHILE IS VERDICT OF THE HOUSE.

Suffragists Not Dismayed By Vote Which Was 204 Against to 174 For.—Antis Well Pleased.

Washington.—The house of representatives by a vote of 204 to 174 refused to submit to the states an amendment to the Federal Constitution to enfranchise women.

A two-thirds majority would have been necessary for adoption of the resolution submitting the amendment.

Hundreds of women who had sat in the crowded gallery throughout the eight hours of debate greeted the announcement of the result with varied expressions of approval or disapproval. Dejection mingled with enthusiasm as the purple and yellow sashes of the suffragists and the red rose bedecked anti-suffragists filed out into the house corridors wearied with the long strain of oratory.

It was the second defeat suffered by the sugrage cause in Congress within a year. On March 19 last an equal suffrage constitutional amendment received a vote of 35 to 34 in the senate obtaining a bare majority but not the necessary two-thirds.

Suffragists leaders undismayed by the result of the House vote declared that the fight was by no means over. Dr. Anna Howard Shaw and other prominent suffragists who sat with her in the gallery through the debate, predicted a more favorable result when Congress again is called on to vote on the question.

Anti-Suffragists were well satisfied. "The result was what we expected" said Mr. Arthur M. Dodge, president of the National Association Opposed to Women Suffrage. "It means that the suffrage movement, fostered by hysterical women is on the wane."

Voting for the resolution were 86 Democrats, 72 Republicans, 12 Progressives, 3 progressive-Republicans and 1 Independent. Total 174.

Voting against the resolution were 171 Democrats and 33 Republicans. Total 204.

ARMY BILL UP NEXT.

Senate Military Committee Begins Consideration of Measure.

Washington.—War department bills to strengthen the army and create a reserve corps were taken up by the senate military committee with Secretary Garrison and aides present to explain various projects. Members of the committee indicated by their questions their general approval of the measures.

Senator Dupont, however, objected to the bill for the addition of 1,000 officers to the mobile army, contending that it would result in a disproportion of colonels and lieutenant colonels. Secreatry Garrison said the bills had been prepared in the War College and that the reason for the apportionment selected would be to furnish the committee.

Secretary Garrison said enactment of the coast artillery bill would bring that arm of the service up to 50 per cent of the strength it would have in war. He said he considered this an urgent matter.

Trade Balance Doub

Washington.—A favora
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GERMANS GRANTED PARTIAL SUCCESS

FRENCH OFICIAL STATEMENT ADMITS REVERSES ALONG THE AISNE.

RUSSIANS EXPLAIN MOVE

Were Not Forced But Retired to Concentrate Troops—Furious Fighting In Poland.

London—A reverse of the Allies along the Aisne in the neighborhood of Soissons is admitted in the latest French official statement although the possible effect of the German advance is officially minimized. After continuous engagements, which lasted nearly two days, the Germans forced the French to yield in front of Vregny, east of Crouy. The French war office explains that the flooding of the River Aisne destroyed several of the bridges and thus rendered precarious the communications of the troops operating on the right bank. These troops were withdrawn, as it was thought impossible to send reinforcements to their support.

"The success is a partial one for our adversaries," says the French statement, "but will have no influence on the operations as a whole."

Emperor William himself was present at these operations which resulted in capture of several thousand French prisoners and were continued throughout January 12 and 13.

Petrograd claims progress on the right bank of lower Vistula, where the German cavalry was repulsed. On the other front fighting is made up largely of skirmishes and artilery duels.

The general staff of the Russian Caucasus army devotes a statement to operations in Azerbaijan, where it is explained, it became expedient to regroup the Russian forces, necessitating evacuation of certain places previous occupied. No important action took place.

British aviators early in the week dropped bombs on the German position in Antwerp, according to a Netherlands newspaper dispatch. The damage has not been ascertained.

Eighteen Russian generals have been discharged from important positions, according to The Hamburg Fremdemblatt.

COLE L. BLEASE RESIGNS.

Retires as Governor of South Carolina, Giving No Reason.

Columbia, S. C.—Cole L. Blease has retired as South Carolina's governor five days before his second term of two years would have ended. His resignation, sent to Secretary of State McCown, was supplemented by a brief message to the general assembly informing the members that it also was tendered to them.

Some members of the house of representatives and senate cheered the announcement of the governor's resignation. No formal action was necessary and by direction of the presiding officers in the two houses the message was received only as information.

Lieutenant Governor Charles A. Smith was immediately sworn in as the state's chief executive to serve out the unexpired term. Chief Justice Gary of the state supreme court administered the oath of office. Mr. Blease and several state officials then accompanied Mr. Smith to the governor's office. Legrand G. Walker, president of the senate, automatically succeeded to the lieutenant governorship. "I hereby resign my office as Governor of South Carolina," wa sthe mull communication of Govenor Blease.

Kaiser Witnesed Battle.

Berlin.—Emperor William was present in person during the spirited battle on the Vregny Plain, northeast of Soissons, which resulted in that elevated ground being cleared of the French and which is described in the German official statement as a "brilliant feat for our troops." In the engagement the Germans claimed to have captured 14 French officers and 1,150 men.

Wheat Goes Soaring Again.

Chicago.—Generally accepted assertions that unless the European demand soon diminishes the United States would have no wheat to ship abroad after March lifted the price of that cereal here in $1.43 3-8, the highest in many years. Retail flour prices rose simultaneously, sacks which r cently sold for 70 cents g Five European Governmen ported to be actively in market on this side of the addition to individual buye eign fields.

Turki

SENATOR J. W. STONE

It is roumored in Washington that Senator Stone of Missouri is soon to suceed William J. Bryan as secretary of state.

BLEASE DISBANDS MILITIA

DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN GOVERNOR, WAR DEPARTMENT AND MILITIA IS REASON.

Will Try to Hold Organization Together Until New Governor Comes Into Office.

Columbia, S. C.—Governor Blease has disbanded the South Carolina organized militia. Thirty-one companies, comprising approximately 2,000 officers and men, are affected. Disagreement between the governor and militia and war department officials on the organization and equipment of troops was given as the reason for the action.

Militia officers began a movement to prevent complete disorganization. Telegrams were sent to South Carolina members of Congress at Washington requesting that they use their influence to have the war department delay asking the return of $200,000 worth of supplies loaned the troops.

While Mr. Manning has not yet indicated what action he will take, it was considered certain by militia officers that he would rescind the action of Governor Blease.

Adjutant General Moore has gone to Washington to confer with war Department officials on the situation.

Governor Blease explained in his order disbanding the troops that the secretary of war and the secretary of the navy and Adjutant General Moore of South Carolina on one side and himself on the other, prompted him to take this step. These differences, he said, resulted in serious breeches of discipline in the militia corps.

"The present governor of the Stat of South Carolina is of the opinio that it will be unfair and unjust on h part to turn over to his successor office the militia of South Carolina its present condition," the order re

The controversy between Gove Blease and Adjutant General M was said to have been the resul the governor's refusal to sign ce orders and official papers prese to him by the adjutant general.

Urge Colombian Treaty.

Washington.—Urging in the op Senate early ratification of the pe ing treaty with Colombia under wh the United No would pay $25,00 000 for the h Canal strip, S tor Ran the U Sta

12,000 PEOPLE DEAD FROM EARTHQUAKE

ROME SHAKEN HARDER THAN EVER BEFORE.—TOWN AVEZZANO DESTROYED.

MUCH DAMAGE DONE IN ROME

Building Where American Ambassador Lives is Cracked, Several Villages Destroyed.

Rome.—A terrific earthquake, th strongest ever felt in Rome, laste several seconds and caused a serio panic, people everywhere rushed fro their houses in terror. Many bui ings were damaged by the shock.

Th town of Avezzano was virtua ly destroyed by the earthquake. Th dead are estimated at 12,000. On thousand persons escaped from th ruins but most of them were injur

The dome of the Church of Charles Catinari was cracked. large piece of the cornice of the suit Church of St. Ignatius fell a crash, adding to the fright of sons in the neighborhood.

Ceiling in many of the houses a number of persons being injure that manner.

A colossal statue at the basilica St. John in Lateran, which occu a position visible from many parts Rome, tumbled down and was s tered on the steps of the edifice.

Several street cars lines were fo to suspend operations.

As details began to arrive it apparent the disturbance in the vince of Rome and the Abrubbi been greater tha nat first believe that it also had been felt se around Naples.

At Monteretondo three p were killed and two wounded; garnlo the dome of a church Galiano part of the cath wrecked; at Verolt two p killed and two injure person was killed houses collapsed one person was were injured. cation with of Aquil terrupti reporte lages w

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OFFICIAL POULTRY SHOW

Wake County Exhibition Held Under Auspices of American Poultry Association.

Ralegih. — The North Carolina Branch of the American Poultry Association, membership of which is composed of practically all active poultry men in this state, held its annual meeting in Raleigh in conection with the annual Wake Poultry Show and Harry M. Lamon addressed the largest gathering of poultrymen ever assembled in the state. Mr. Lamon is chief of the poultry division of the Animal Husbandry department of the United States government.

The Wake Poultry Show thi was the only official poultry in North Carolina under t and rules of the America Association. The America Association yearly has juri one poultry show in ev which means that the takes higher rank o shows and that the Show was the mo poultry shows Birds from

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