

BIG GERMAN COMMERCIAL RAIDER IN THE ATLANTIC

Standard Oil Tanker Picked Up Wireless Conveying Such News.

ATTACKING SHIPPING REPORT IS FLASHED

The Communipaw Reaches Port With Story of How German Raider is Playing Havoc on Atlantic Ocean—Accompanied by Captured Vessels.

New York, Feb. 29.—Wireless messages that a German commerce raider, possibly accompanied by consorts, was attacking shipping in the Atlantic were reported by the Standard Oil Company's talker, Communipaw, which arrived here today from Algiers.

A message received on February 17, when the vessel was south of the Azores, said:

"German steamer is attacking ships in the Atlantic and may be assisted by captured vessels, which she armed. Description: 6,000 tons; speed, 15 knots; combination freight and passenger steamer. Carries two guns and is posing as a neutral."

Last December it was reported that the Communipaw had been attacked and sunk by a submarine in the Mediterranean. After Washington had tried in vain to ascertain her whereabouts she was put into port at Algiers. The captain denied that any attack had been made.

HOPES THAT LEVEES WILL NOT BE BROKEN

Heavy Rains Add to the Work of the Relief Parties in the Flood Zone of Louisiana.

New Orleans, La., Feb. 29.—A large force of workmen was reported early today making an effort to prevent the breaking of the Mississippi river levee at Mark, La., 20 miles below Baton Rouge.

According to early information received here hopes are entertained that the levee could be held. The situation at Mark, it was stated, is similar to the one at Southwood, where State and Government railway engineers worked for five days and nights and finally overcame the river's efforts to break the levee. Owing to the heavy rains of last night through the inundated section of Northern Louisiana the relief workers today anticipated additional calls for assistance. Few of the marooned persons are thought to possess adequate shelter and it was declared at Natchez that food supplies are running low. Increase difficulty in providing access to the refugees was seen in view of the reports of food shortage.

HEARING HAS BEEN SET FOR MARCH 20

Governor Will Then Hear Those Wanting Commutation for Warren Woman

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 29.—The hearing before Governor Craig of an appeal made for the commutation of the death sentence imposed on Mrs. Ida Bell Warren will take place March 20. A definite date was named today at request of Judge E. B. Jones, attorney for Mrs. Warren. Governor Craig recently announced the hearing must be held on or before March 20.

BRITISH LOSSES DURING FEBRUARY.

London, Feb. 29.—British casualties in all the war areas published during the month of February showed a total of 739 officers and 17,847 men.

MISSED JUMP AND WILL LIKELY DIE

Young New Bern Fire Laddie Probably Fatally Injured Answering Call Duty.

Special to The Dispatch. New Bern, N. C., February 29.—While attempting to jump on the "Atlantic" motor truck as it was en route to answer an alarm of fire turned in at box No. 42 late Sunday afternoon, Carlard Eastwood, a young white man whose home is on Pollock street, failed to get his foot on the step of the machine and was thrown violently to the ground. His head hit the brick pavement with awful force and it is feared that his skull is fractured. One foot was also run over by one of the wheels on the machine and the shoe torn from this but, strange to say, that foot was not badly injured.

As soon as the accident occurred a number of spectators rushed to the assistance of the victim. He was carried into Dr. Leinster Duffy's drug store and given medical attention and later was transferred to St. Luke's hospital. An examination there showed that he has a bad wound on the back of his head and it is possible that the skull is fractured. In addition to this his foot and leg which were run over by one of the rear wheels of the truck, are bruised and somewhat lacerated. All during the night he never regained consciousness and attending physicians state that they are not able yet to tell just how badly he is injured but grave fears are entertained for his recovery.

Young Eastwood was at one time a member of the old Fourth Ward Hose company but at the time the accident occurred he was not a member of any company and, in reality, had no business on the truck as only members of the company are allowed to go to fires on it. However young Robert Pittman, the driver, slowed down for him when he saw that he was attempting to get aboard.

The accident is a regrettable one and everything possible is being done to save the life of the victim.

CABINET TAKES UP GERMANY'S LAST NOTE

But No Decision Reached—Government Awaiting Evidence From Berlin.

Washington, Feb. 29.—Germany's latest communication on submarine warfare was discussed in detail at today's cabinet meeting and at a separate conference between President Wilson and Secretary Lansing, but no conclusion was reached. It was decided to await data on the way from Berlin regarding instructions alleged to have been issued by the British Admiralty to merchant captains for attacks on submarines.

Cabinet members carefully avoided the question of whether the German position, as outlined by Count von Bernstorff, in his note to Secretary Lansing yesterday, was acceptable to the American government.

It was reiterated, however, that the United States would continue firm behind its position that attacks should not be made on merchantmen unarmed or armed for defensive purposes and would hold Germany accountable if that position is not observed.

The chief danger, it was said by officials, lies in a possible attack on a ship carrying Americans.

BODIES OF SEVEN FOUND TODAY IN HOUSE RUINS

Taloga, Okla., Feb. 29.—The bodies of seven persons were found early this morning in the ruins of a farm house that burned some time during last night, six miles northwest of here.

The dead have been identified as M. Creed, the occupant of the house, his wife, three children and two brothers.

Revival at Shiloh.—Rev. J. W. Folk is in the city to conduct a two weeks' revival service at Shiloh Baptist church (colored). The meeting begins tonight. Rev. W. H. Moore is pastor.

"Bloodhounds Chasing Burglars"



BUT THEY FOLLOWED THE "SCENT."

REPUBLICANS GATHER FOR STATE CONVENTION

Tar Heel Wing Will Likely Endorse Hughes For President—Roosevelt Crowd

TENTATIVE PLATFORM DECIDED ON TODAY

Would Call For Control of Public Schools By The People—Man From Ash County Talked of As Nominee For Governor—Linney Don't Want It.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 29.—The North Carolina Republican State Convention will meet here tomorrow, with State Chairman Frank Linney, of Boone, presiding. Prominent delegates to the convention said today the meeting would be harmonious and would be ready for adjournment during the afternoon.

Mr. Linney announced today he would not be a candidate for Governor if re-elected State chairman. It was regarded as likely he would be re-elected and would be eliminated as a gubernatorial candidate.

Grier Parsons, of Ash county, today was deemed the most likely candidate for Governor and Thomas Harkins, of Buncombe, as his running mate for Lieutenant Governor. L. L. Jenkins, of Asheville, had many supporters who were ready to endorse him as Secretary of State.

Justice Hughes, of the United States Supreme Court, is said to be favored as the convention's choice for President and it was said that the Roosevelt supporters would abide by the vote of the majority and that no bolt from the convention on the part of the latter is anticipated.

A tentative platform under consideration here today by party leaders was outlined as follows: For fair elections and honest enforcement of the corrupt practices act.

For control of the public schools by the people of the various counties.

For a constitutional system of public schools making the State the jurisdiction, but on such a basis that the resources of all the public school fund will be so distributed that each county may receive the same amount per scholar regardless of the wealth of the county in which it is located.

For a just and fair employers' liability act.

It was also stated that an attempt would be made to insert a plank in favor of rural credit system and it would be suggested that a platform, containing an endorsement of labor be inserted, patterned after the New York law.

AMERICAN SLAIN AT HIS RANCH.

Washington, Feb. 29.—The murder of Grover C. Varn, an American, by Villa forces, at his home last night, 25 miles north of Durango, was reported today to the State Department.

WELL KNOWN WINSTON MAN DIES IN ATLANTA

Winston-Salem, N. C., Feb. 29.—Edward H. Wilson, former postmaster and for several years manager of the Southern Bell Telephone exchange in this city, died in Atlanta, Ga., today. Mr. Wilson was 57 years of age and moved to Atlanta about six months ago. The body will be brought to Winston-Salem for burial.

HENRY JAMES' BODY WILL BE CREMATED

London, Feb. 29.—The body of Henry James, the novelist, who died yesterday, will be cremated. The funeral services will be held Friday in a church near his residence. The place of interment of the ashes has not been decided on.

DIAZ LEFT TAMPA FOR MEXICO FEB. 18th.

Washington, Feb. 29.—General Felix Diaz sailed from Tampa on February 18 on a ship bound for Pierra, in the State of Vera Cruz, Mexico, according to advices today to the State Department.

MISS BURCH, MILLINER.

Will Have Charge of Belk-Williams' Millinery Department.

Miss Blanche Burch, of Danville, Va., arrived yesterday afternoon to take charge of the millinery department of the Belk-Williams Co. Miss Burch is a milliner of much experience and ability, having gone out from New York and Baltimore houses for the last 12 seasons. The management expresses themselves as feeling very fortunate in securing Miss Burch, and that they believe the ladies of the city will be glad of the opportunity to have her assist them in selecting their spring and summer hats.

Makes Monte A Hotel.

San Francisco, Feb. 29.—Gretchen E. Best has been granted a divorce from Otto Best, a Los Angeles chemist, because he considered his home a hotel and his wife an unnecessary encumbrance. "That seems to be a prevailing weakness nowadays," said the Judge who tried the case. "Too many men consider their homes merely a place to sleep and eat and their wives as servants, and if the wives refuse to be merely servants then they are considered nuisances."

SUBMARINE POLICY IN EFFECT AT MIDNIGHT.

Berlin, Feb. 28 (Via London) Feb. 29.—The Associated Press is informed by Germany's leading statesmen that the new rule of submarine warfare, which was announced in the German memorandum regarding the future treatment of armed merchantmen, will positively be put into effect at midnight tomorrow (Tuesday) February 29.

CONVICT EVANS MAY BE IN THE CLUTCHES

Felon Who Murdered Pitt County Guard Thought to Have Been Captured.

Special to The Dispatch. New Bern, N. C., Feb. 29.—A negro who in every way answers the description of Dave Evans, who several days ago killed Joseph McLawhorn, a guard over the Pitt county chain gang and who later, in company with six other negroes, made his escape, was today placed under arrest at Trent, Pamlico county, just after he had stepped of a boat from Elizabeth City.

The authorities there notified Chief of Police C. Lupton, of this city, of their capture and asked for a complete description of the murderer. This was given and they feel sure that the man they have in custody is the one wanted, and for whose capture rewards aggregating \$400 are offered.

Sheriff McLawhorn, of Pitt county, and Sheriff Windley, of Beaufort county, were notified of the capture and they have gone to Bayboro, where the negro has been carried to identify him and to carry him back to Pitt county, in case he turns-out to be the murderer.

Feeling against Evans runs high in Pitt county and it is possible that he will be placed in the Craven jail, in order to prevent any possible trouble.

ITALY MAY DECLARE WAR ON GERMANY

This Expected When Parliament Meets Tomorrow—Interned German Ships.

London, Feb. 29.—It was announced in the House of Commons today that the Italian government had requisitioned 34 of the 37 German steamers interned in Italian ports.

Recently reports from London said grave interest was being discerned in England over the possibility of a declaration of war on Germany by Italy when the Italian parliament opened March 1.

Divorce Action—Mary Gurganious today filed a divorce action against her husband, Floyd Gurganious. The case will be tried at the next civil term of Superior court.

GETTING READY FOR A RENEWAL OF BIG DRIVE

MINEERS DROPPED TO DEATH.

Kempton, West, Va., Feb. 29.—Seventy-one miners were dropped by an explosion in the mine of the Davis Coal and Coke Company, near here, today soon after the men went to work. Two made their way to the surface and rescuers, within an hour, had brought out 37, four of whom were dead and two so badly hurt that it was feared they would die. Volunteers are working under trained rescue crews in an attempt to reach the others.

Lull Taken to Mean Teutons are Preparing For Another Terrific Onslaught.

700,000 MEN SAID TO BE ENGAGED

French are Replying With Counter-Attacks and Preparing to Hold Their Lines, Turks are Hastily Leaving Trebizond Before Russian Advance.

What may mean a renewal of the German drive on Verdun, with the tremendous force of the initial attack, is contained in announcement from Paris today that bombardment north of the fortress has assumed great intensity. The heaviest infantry fighting of last night seems to have been in the Woerwe district, to the south of the fortress, where the German attackers captured the village of Manchuelles. The French declare that in a counter-attack they attained the west boundary of the village, which they now hold under their fire.

The comparative lull prevailing for some hours before renewal of the intense artillery fire reported today indicated a new phase of the battle might be developing. As a whole the German attack while continuing was apparently less powerful, while pressure is being shifted from point to point. The possibility is indicated by military observers that the Crown Prince's armies are gathering their forces for a new and concentrated attack at some selected point and that thrusts are now being made here and there for the purpose of picking out the weakest spot in the extended line. The Germans, it is noted, are placing their heavy guns in position and even now may have brought them up behind the advance of their infantry, closer to the fortress for concentration on the permanent works. Meanwhile the French are delivering vigorous counter-strokes. When attacked their lines in the stronger positions they now occupy hold firm.

Estimates of the number of Germans engaged in the great battle are considerably larger than 300,000 men, believed to have been engaged in the initial operations. Some authorities declare as many as 750,000 troops are on the German side, strong reinforcements having arrived.

The Russians are energetically continuing their campaign against the Turks in Armenia. Advances from Petrograd declare the Turkish forces are hastily evacuating Trebizond, on the Black Sea, and other towns on the coast in the Caucasus region.

Recent dispatches have reported the Russians closing in on Trebizond, both on the east along the coast and from the direction of Erzerum, the captured Turkish stronghold.

Sinking of the former French liner, La Provence, a converted cruiser, in the Mediterranean last Saturday, was officially announced in Paris today. The vessel in peace time was engaged in the trans-Atlantic trade between New York and Havre. The ministry of marine estimates the number of survivors at 870.

The La Provence was one of the largest and finest of French line vessels. Her gross tonnage was 12,753. She was built in 1906, was 605 feet long, 65 feet beam, and 38 feet deep. She was requisitioned by the French government at the outbreak of the war.

CALL CONVENTION.

Progressive Party Will Hold Meeting in South Carolina. Columbia, S. C., Feb. 29.—The executive committee of the Progressive party in South Carolina at a meeting held here yesterday decided to hold a State convention in this city on May 2. Nine delegates to the National convention in Chicago will be selected.

STORM PASSES OFF ATLANTIC COAST.

Washington, Feb. 29.—The storm that was over the West Gulf States yesterday morning moved rapidly east and today is passing off the South Atlantic coast, the weather bureau announced.

"Bad" Negro Captured. Capt. A. L. Bryan, of the local police force, assisted by Policemen Whitford, late yesterday afternoon located and captured Lee Marshall. (Continued on Page Six.)