

ADMIT MADE BOMBS TO GO ON VESSELS

Germans On Trial In New York Confess, But Deny They Knew The Object.

MADE ON A NORTH GERMAN LLOYD LINER

They Were Fixed So As To Destroy Ships Carrying Munitions to The Allies—Worked Under Instruction of Dr. Scheele.

(By Associated Press.) New York, March 28.—Germans on trial in the government's prosecution of men under indictment on a charge of plotting to destroy enemy munitions-carrying ships leaving America in 1915, testified in their own defense here today in Federal court.

Ernest Becker, another defendant, an electrician on the same ship, told how he and other electricians saw lead pipe into lengths, which were used as shells for bombs in the workshop on the vessel.

JEWISH WOMEN WANT PART IN PEACE WORK.

(By Associated Press.) New York, March 28.—Prominent Jewish women throughout the United States, it was announced today, are organizing to represent their sex at the American Jewish Congress.

AN EIGHT-HOUR DAY FOR WESTERN UNION.

(By Associated Press.) New York, March 28.—An eight-hour work day will be put into effect by the Western Union Telegraph Company, beginning May 1, in its principal offices, it was announced here tonight.

CALLED ON LABOR TO SIGN PLEDGE

Head of New York Federation Issues Call to The Members To Stand By Wilson.

(By Associated Press.) New York, March 28.—Official appeal to organized labor to join in signing a pledge to support the President in protecting American rights was issued today by James P. Holland, president of the New York State Federation of Labor.

(By United Press.) New York, March 28.—Democrats of the Fifth New York Congressional district today will name a candidate to seek the place of the late Democratic Congressman, Michael F. Conry, at the special election called for April 12.

SECOND AMERICAN LINER TO SAFELY RUN THE GAUNTLET

The Freight Steamship Manchuria Arrives at Her Destination.

A BRITISH SHIP ALSO SAFELY OVER

Manchuria Sailed Day Before The St. Louis—The Adriatic The Same Day.

(By Associated Press.) New York, March 28.—The American Line freight steamship Manchuria has arrived at an English port after a voyage across the Atlantic, it was announced here today by P. A. S. Franklin, head of the International Mercantile Marine, owners of the vessel.

REPORT ON COTTON SEED AND PRODUCTS.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 28.—Cotton seed and cotton seed products statistics for seven months ending February 28 announced by the census bureau yesterday include:

NO TRUTH TO SUCH REPORTS

Only Small Number of Germans Have Crossed Into Mexico Since Feb. 3rd.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 28.—Official reports from the Southern Department made public today say reports that many Germans have crossed into Mexico since diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany were broken off are without foundation.

STATUE OF LINCOLN PRESENTED TO FRANCE

(By The Associated Press.) Paris, March 28.—The statue of Lincoln, which America is giving France, will be erected in Paris, the city council having accepted the offer of it made by Premier Ribot.

SPECIAL ELECTION FOR CONGRESSMAN

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***** CALLED BACK TO SERVICE. *****

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 28.—Orders were issued today by the War Department calling all National Guard units which have partially demobilized back into the Federal service.

A GERMAN SPY ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

Caught With Damaging Documents on His Person.

(By Associated Press.) Rochester, N. Y., March 28.—Adolph Vattes, a German, is under arrest in Geneva, on the technical charge of attempted suicide, pending the arrival there of Federal officers from Buffalo.

DETECTIVES FIND MISSING BANKER

Disappeared Last November and Supposed to Be Dead.

(By Associated Press.) Baton Rouge, La., March 28.—Information has been received here indicating that William M. McCausland, former Baton Rouge banker, who mysteriously disappeared while hunting near Mobile last November, and was supposed to have been drowned, is alive and well in Seattle, Wash.

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THE DEATH ROLL REACHES ELEVEN

In the Storm-Swept Section of Alabama—Great Damage to Property.

(By Associated Press.) Montgomery, Ala., March 28.—Eleven persons were killed and three probably fatally injured in the storm that swept a portion of Central Alabama the latest reports available here.

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COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE NOW IN DEMAND

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 28.—Civil service commission officials today called upon heads of American universities and colleges to permit senior technical and scientific students to receive diplomas at once, so the government, if necessary, may quickly obtain their services.

***** STATE'S FIRST CITIZEN. *****

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 28.—Hopes for a non-partisan organization of the House of Representatives, at the special session next week, were virtually abandoned today.

***** MANN ABANDONS PLAN. *****

(By Associated Press.) Norfolk, Va., March 28.—The United States District Court here today, on order of the Supreme Court, turned over the prize ship, Appam, to Floyd Hughes, representing the British-African Steamship Navigation Company, owners of the vessel prior to her capture by the Germans.

APPAM GIVEN OVER TO OLD OWNERS

By Order of Supreme Court "Prize Ship" Given to English Today.

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Governor T. W. Bickett, Progressive North Carolinian, speaker at the Live Stock Exposition and Conference in Wilmington today.

BITTER ATTACK MADE ON HEADS OF THE UNIONS

Southern Pacific Official Calls Brotherhood Chiefs "Arrogant"

"CONTEMPT OF THE PUBLIC," HE ADDED

Scathing Denounced Them Before Committee—Believes in Compulsory Investigation.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 28.—Railroad brotherhood officials were criticised today before the Newlands joint committee by Julius Kruttschnitt, chairman of the Southern Pacific board.

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MR. MANN'S OFFER OF WITHDRAWAL

Considered a Political Move and Evidence of His Belief in Democratic Victory.

(By George H. Manning.) Washington, D. C., March 28.—The Democratic leaders in the House of Representatives recognize in the offer of Congressman James B. Mann, Republican floor leader, to withdraw from the Speakership contest, and to cooperate with the Democrats in a non-partisan or bipartisan organization, an admission that the Democrats have the votes to elect Speaker Champ Clark and organize the House.

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GERMAN ARMY BACKS UNDER THE TERRIFIC ATTACK OF FRENCH

ADMIRAL OLIVER AS GOVERNOR OF NEW POSSESSIONS

Danish Islands to be Formally Transferred to the United States Next Saturday.

PURCHASE PRICE TO BE DELIVERED

To Danish Minister by Secretary McAdoo—Hoisting of and Salute to Stars and Stripes.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 28.—Rear Admiral James H. Oliver, chief of naval intelligence, today was named by Secretary Daniels as Governor of the Danish West Indies, which are to be taken over Saturday by the United States.

The chief ceremonies of transfer will take place at St. Thomas and in Washington on the same day. Secretary McAdoo will deliver the government warrant for \$25,000,000 in payment for the islands to the Danish Minister.

Important fortifications will be constructed and the islands used as a naval base for further protection of the Panama canal and for general military purposes.

Rear Admiral Oliver will leave Saturday for his new post. He will serve until a permanent form of government is fixed by Congress. Secretary Daniels announced that two naval vessels, the transport Hancock and cruiser Olympia, have been ordered to St. Thomas for the transfer ceremonies.

Captain B. B. Bierer, commanding the Hancock, will officiate as the ranking naval officer.

The acquisition will be marked by the lowering of the Danish flag and the raising of the Stars and Stripes and firing of salutes by the two ships.

DUTCH STEAMERS REPORTED TAKEN

Great Britain Said to Have Confiscated Such Vessels in Port.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 28.—Dutch steamships in British ports were reported here today to have been confiscated by the British government.

The information is understood to have reached here from a grain house, which sold the Dutch government the grain aboard many of the vessels. It could not be confirmed at the Netherlands legation.

About 40 Dutch ships now are in ports belonging to Great Britain, and a fleet of 15 grain-carrying vessels is understood to be on its way from a Holland port to the United States.

Many of the Dutch ships now in British ports have been detained for from six to eight weeks.

The British government for some time has been insisting that a certain percentage of Dutch merchant tonnage carry cargoes to British destinations and the Dutch government has refused to comply.

Newly Negotiating. New York, March 28.—Representatives here of Holland steamship lines were informed yesterday through unofficial sources that the Entente Allies were negotiating with the Dutch government to take over all freight ships detained in ports controlled by Great Britain.

Southern Wing of Teutons' Hosts In France Is Slowly Recoiling.

FIERCE STRUGGLE TO HOLD FOREST.

Germans Trying Hard to Wrest Plateau Near St. Quentin From The French Bad Weather Interferes With Operations.

The southern wing of the German army is slowly recoiling along a ten-mile front under the furious onsets of the great Coucy-St. Gobain forests has been completely cleared of the invaders, and General Nivelle's troops are now free to face with the last formidable natural barrier which lies between them and Laon—the plateau of St. Gobain.

This densely wooded plateau lies between the Oise and the Ailette, and is about 10,000 acres in extent, rising from about 80 to 200 feet in height. No railways or highways traverse it, but an important railroad sweeps around its southern border and runs north to Chauny. This road is in the hands of the French up to within about three miles of Anisy, which is ten miles west of Laon.

To the north, the French are about two miles from the town of St. Gobain, center of the plateau. The French are in a position to make a desperate effort to wrest from the French the Essigny-Benay plateau, undisputed possession of which will, according to military critics, render the fall of the city inevitable.

Further north the British have made some slight progress, but no material change in the situation has taken place. Bad weather is reported to have seriously interfered with operations on this portion of the front.

Sporadic fighting has occurred in several of the other war theatres, but nothing to indicate the commencement of major operations.

Apparently the Russians have no need to apprehend a German drive on the northern front towards Petrograd in the immediate future. Warnings that such an attack was impending were recently issued in the Russian capital based on German concentrations along this front, and it had been thought that Berlin might take advantage of the possible disorganization of the Russians, due to the recent radical change in the form of government, and press an offensive.

The spring thaw has now set in along the whole front, however, and operations on a large scale will be impossible there for some weeks.

Meanwhile the other fields where the expected big Teutonic drive were inaugurated are being scanned. Attention is particularly attracted to the Austro-Italian front. An attack of the heaviest character here has been hinted at, and the probability of its taking place is being widely discussed in Rome.

Some consideration in this connection is also being given points on the Franco-Belgian front outside the zone of the great retreat.

GUBAN REBELS STEAL A CIRCUS

Bandits Draw Lots For The Garments of Caesar and Cleopatra.

(By Associated Press.) New York, March 28.—Cuban revolutionists stole an entire one-ring circus except the tents and the sawdust, according to Edward and Lotie McGinley, members of the show, who arrived here today on a steamship from Cuba.

The rebels, ordered by their chief to commandeer the circus horses and food supplies, made off with the garments of Caesar and Cleopatra, after drawing lots for distribution of them, and captured also a 25-year-old lion, and Hattie, the elephant. The circus was playing at a town about 20 miles from Havana, the arrivals here said.