

Carranza Chief Joins Villa with 2,000 Men

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

The Sunday Bee is the only Omaha newspaper that gives its readers four big pages of colored comics.

THE WEATHER.
Cloudy

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CHINA RESUMES POSITION AMONG THE REPUBLICS

Yuan Declares Abandonment of Monarchy and Restoration of Popular Government in His Country.

REVOLUTION IS VICTORIOUS

Rebellion Shows People Not United in Favor of Empire, Says Official.

SO HE RENOUNCES HIS CROWN

PEKING, March 22.—A State department mandate issued tonight announced the abandonment of the monarchy and resumption of the republic.

The mandate says that the revolution shows that the demand for a monarchy is not unanimous and that, therefore, Yuan Shi Kai rejects the emperorship and resumes the presidency.

The imperial documents, the mandate adds, will be returned by Yuan Shi Kai to the state council, which will reconvene at the senate, preparatory to the resumption of the republic.

Hsu Shih Chang, who left the cabinet because of the monarchical movement, signed the mandate as secretary of state, having re-entered the cabinet.

Means Revolt Over.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 22.—Officials of the Chinese Republic association, which has been actively financing the opposition to Yuan Shi Kai, said here today that the announcement from Peking means that the revolution is at an end. The association has a membership in the Americas of about 300,000.

Austrians Abandon Bukovina Capital, The Turks Erzinjan

LONDON, March 22.—Abandonment of Chernovitz, capital of Bukovina by the Austrians is reported in an unofficial wireless dispatch received here today from Rome.

A Bucharest dispatch, forwarded by Amsterdam by the Central News, says the Turks have evacuated Erzinjan, a fortress of Asia Minor, 130 miles west of Erzurum.

BERLIN (Via London), March 22.—The Russians have gained no success in their great extended offensive against the German lines, the war office announced today.

PARIS, March 22.—German infantry attacks were again directed today against the French front between Avocourt wood and the village of Malancourt. All the German attempts to debouch from Avocourt, however, were checked, according to the official statement issued tonight by the French war office.

The Germans succeeded in gaining a foothold on the small hill of Haucourt.

Lightship Torpedoed In Mouth of Thames

LONDON, March 22.—The Gallopier lightship, at the mouth of the Thames, has been torpedoed and sunk, according to a Lloyd's report.

Forest Fires Cause Damage in Missouri

FAIR PLAY, Mo., March 22.—Driven by high winds, forest fires in Polk county raged last night in much damage to property and the loss of one life. Fred Simmons, a farmer, was burned to death while trying to save his live stock.

The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Thursday: For Omaha, cloudy; rising temperature. Partly cloudy; rising temperature.

Hours. Deg. 5 a. m. 35 6 a. m. 35 8 a. m. 35 10 a. m. 35 12 m. 35 1 p. m. 35 2 p. m. 35 3 p. m. 35 4 p. m. 35 5 p. m. 35 6 p. m. 35 7 p. m. 35 8 p. m. 35 9 p. m. 35 10 p. m. 35 11 p. m. 35

Comparative Local Records. 1916 1915 1914 1913 Highest yesterday 45 41 40 34 Lowest yesterday 35 35 32 31 Mean temperature 49 49 48 48 Precipitation .01 .00 .00 .03

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal: Normal temperature 50 Excess for the day .00 Total excess since March 1 .00 Normal precipitation .05 inch Deficiency for the day .00 inch Total rainfall since March 1 .00 inch Excess for year period, 1916 .00 inch Deficiency for year period, 1914 .00 inch

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M. Station and State Temp. High. Rain. Fall. Cheyenne, partly cloudy 34 54 0.00 0.00 Denver, clear 28 48 0.00 0.00 Des Moines, clear 34 50 0.00 0.00 North Platte, pt. cloudy 32 48 0.00 0.00 Omaha, clear 35 50 0.00 0.00 Rapid City, pt. cloudy 32 48 0.00 0.00 Santa Fe, rain 36 50 0.00 0.00 Sheridan, clear 32 48 0.00 0.00 Sioux Falls, clear 36 50 0.00 0.00 Valentine, clear 34 50 0.00 0.00

T indicates trace of precipitation. L. A. WELSH, Local Forecaster.

EIGHT THOUSAND MADE HOMELESS BY PARIS, TEX., FIRE

Business District and More Than Fifteen Hundred Houses Are Destroyed in Great Conflagration.

LOSS ABOUT EIGHT MILLION

Only About One-Third of the City Was Not Touching by the Flames.

SEVERAL LIVES PROBABLY LOST

PARIS, Tex., March 22.—Conservative estimate of the number of people made homeless by last night's fire in the business and residential districts here was 8,000, made early today by Mayor McCulister.

Although the city is without food, there was apparently little suffering, and a good natured, though dazed view was taken of the disaster by a majority of the citizens.

The fire wiped out the entire business district, destroyed from 1,600 to 2,000 homes, and caused a loss estimated at from \$2,500,000 to \$3,500,000. About one-third of the city was untouched by the flames. Confirmation was impossible of rumors that from ten to thirty people had lost their lives. Fires were still burning in some sections at daybreak.

Brick walls, blackened by heavy smoke, and extending into the air five and six stories, were being razed by dynamite, with a safety zone roped off, that passers-by might not be endangered by falling walls.

The work of dynamiting the buildings commenced early today. One by one the buildings, which cost from \$100,000 to \$500,000, already gutted by the flames, tumbled with a roar to add to the debris in the streets.

Estimate of Loss Made. Estimates of the monetary damage done by the fire were placed at about \$5,000,000, although it was impossible to get an accurate accounting of the loss. An unusual fact in connection with the fire was that there was no loss of life and so far as reported no one seriously injured.

In the business section there are left only smaller stores on side streets radiating from the public square.

In these stores Paris business men opened establishments this morning to carry on for the needy. In one brick building less than fifty feet wide and about (Continued on Page Eleven, Column Two.)

McGraw Oklahoma's G.O.P. Committeeman

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okl., March 22.—The condition of Ernest E. Blake of Oklahoma City, who chaired early today with Alva McDonald of El Reno during the state committee hearing on contested delegates to the Oklahoma state republican convention today was reported critically. He has been conscious only at intervals since the alleged altercation.

Discussion of the report of the credentials committee caused wild disorder and several fist battles here late today. Police quelled the belligerent delegates and an "old soldier" life and drum corps helped divert attention until quiet was restored.

J. J. McGraw was elected republican national committeeman from Oklahoma in the state convention here late today, following the withdrawal of James A. Harris, his opponent.

U. S. Army Trucks Are Abandoned and The Drivers Missing

DEMING, N. M., March 22.—A motorcycle courier arriving from the front reported today, according to a message from Columbus, that twenty-seven United States army trucks were found thirty miles off the line of march yesterday in northern Chihuahua and that their drivers were missing.

Trooper Married On Way to Front

DEMING, N. M., March 22.—Within a few hours after his marriage Howard P. Burns, a private of Troop C, the Thirtieth cavalry, today started south into Mexico to join in the hunt for Francisco Villa.

Troop C arrived at Columbus yesterday from Marfa, Tex. As soon as he could, Burns hurried here to the home of his fiancée, Miss Lucille Lablance.

Last night they were married by C. C. Rogers, justice of the peace. Shortly afterward Burns returned to Columbus to proceed to the front.

Sherman Proposes Wilson Be Given Power to Call for 50,000 Volunteers

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Senator Sherman of Illinois today introduced a resolution to authorize and direct the president at once to call for 50,000 volunteers for service in Mexico. Under the rules it lies on the table until tomorrow.

"I am apprehensive that congress does not fully appreciate conditions on the Mexican border and in Mexico," said Senator Sherman. "We have a few thousand American soldiers with their officers in Mexico. They will soon be hundreds of miles from our boundary. The railroads of Mexico are demoralized in service and equipment. Tracks and bridges are easily destroyed. The communications of the forces in pursuit of Villa may be cut at any hour. In case of an

HERRERA AND ALL HIS FORCES JOIN FRANCISCO VILLA

Ousted Carranza Governor of Chihuahua Goes Over to Bandit Camp with Force of Two Thousand Men.

COLUMBUS CENSOR PASSES THIS

People on the Border, All De Facto Soldiers Are Ready to Desert.

TAKE NO STOCK IN BATTLE YARN

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 22.—(Passed by Censor)—General Luis Herrera, until recently Carranza military governor of Chihuahua, has renounced Carranza and announced in favor of Villa, taking the field in western Chihuahua with 2,000 troops, according to reliable information received here tonight.

The exact place at which General Herrera's troops are encamped was not indicated in the message which reached Columbus from a source that always has been found thoroughly reliable. It is believed, however, that the troops, most of whom recently constituted the Carranza garrison at Chihuahua City, tonight are some place in the distance between the San Pedro and Chihuahua and are preparing to work north and west toward the American punitive expedition, in the field under General Pershing.

All Are for Villa. The sentiment of the people in this district, which lies about seventy miles directly east of the Guerrero region, in which Villa began his days as an outlaw, is strongly in favor of the bandit chieftain. His success in withdrawing Porfirio Diaz' rurales for eight years, during all of which time there was a heavy price on his head, was due to the loyalty of the peons, who worship Pancho Villa as an idol. Army men believe here that Herrera and his command will have every possible co-operation from the people of the district.

Silence Ominous. EL PASO, Tex., March 22.—The silence which for two days has enveloped the Mexican situation as far as any definite news of the pursuit of Pancho Villa is concerned, gave fresh force today to the numerous reports from various sources of grave disaffection among the Carranza troops. On the border at least it was believed that the soldiers of the first chief are from giving any real co-operation to the American expeditionary forces. It is admitted that General Carranza and some of his lieutenants are sincerely anxious to avoid friction with the United States but it is not believed that the head of the de facto government represents the attitude of sentiments of his army or fellow citizens.

Herrera's Men Revolt. From several different sources a circumstantial report was received today that the garrison at Chihuahua, supposed to number 2,000 men, had revolted and that their commander, General Luis Herrera had declared in favor of Villa. Andrea Garcia, the Carranza consul here, emphatically branded this report as false but in high official circles here it was (Continued on Page Eleven, Column Four.)

Town of Spray, N. C., Reported Burning

GREENSBORO, N. C., March 22.—Spray, N. C., north of here, was burning this afternoon. Practically all structures in the business district were reported destroyed and the flames were spreading. Spray has 6,000 population and ten of the largest cotton and woolen mills in the state.

La Follette Leading In Dakota Primary

FARGO, N. D., March 22.—Returns today from yesterday's presidential primary indicate that United States Senator Robert M. La Follette of Wisconsin apparently defeated Henry D. Eastbrook of New York, but by a majority greatly less than anticipated by his supporters. The returns are being slowly received owing to severe snow storms.

The Day's War News

THE BATTLE FOR VERDUN, now well in its fourth week, continues with intensity, but at present the infantry is held in leash while the big guns prepare for further assaults.

THE POWERFUL GERMAN thrust west of the Meuse, which developed early this week, halted when it reached the southern edge of Avocourt wood. But the activity of the German artillery in this sector, which Paris reports particularly violent, indicates that the German intention probably is to make further determined attempts to advance this important flanking operation.

SITUATION ON the eastern bank of the Meuse is unchanged, but here, too, the artillery fire continues intense, particularly near Vaux and Dambloup.

RUSSIAN WARSHIPS are reported active in the Black Sea, where the 7,000-ton German steamer Esperanza, said to be loaded with foodstuffs, has been sunk off the Romanian coast, according to advices from Bucharest. Sinking of a score of small sailing ships also is reported.

SIXTEENTH INFANTRY LOADING SUPPLY TRAINS to be moved across the border. On account of the barren territory and the unfriendliness of many Mexicans, the United States expedition in pursuit of Villa must depend almost entirely upon supplies and even water rushed from the United States.



LOADING SUPPLIES FOR THE FRONT. © INT. MIL. SERVICE

FIRE SWEEPS BIG CITIES OF SOUTH

Twenty-Seven Blocks Destroyed in Nashville, and Augusta, Ga., Suffers Loss.

LATTER BLAZE STILL SPREADING

AUGUSTA, Ga., March 22.—Fire which broke out early tonight in the business section of Augusta had caused damage estimated at \$500,000 at 9 o'clock and still was spreading before a high wind.

The Dyer bank building was among the structures destroyed and the Union bank building, the Western Union building and the buildings housing the Augusta Chronicle and Augusta Herald were among those damaged. Fire companies with equipment were rushed here on special trains from Macon and Atlanta.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 22.—The fire department announced at 7 P. M. after thirty-five blocks had been swept, that a fire, starting early this afternoon, was definitely under control. One negro was burned. Not less than 1,000 people were homeless.

The governor had called on all semi-military organizations to join the militia in aiding the fire sufferers and protecting their property.

The Cumberland river separates the fire swept section from the business district. Evansville, Chattanooga, and Louisville have been asked for fire apparatus.

Another Aviator Is Reported Safe; Only One Missing

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 22.—General Funston today received from General Pershing the first report from the front in sixty hours. It came from Casas Grandes and the only reference made to the operations of Villa was that Villista and Carranza troops had been engaged Monday near Namsquipa.

Major Sample, reporting from Columbus, N. M., said that Aviator Willis is safe and that Aviator Gorrell is the only fire no^o missing. Gorrell was last sighted over the Colona Juarez, southwest of Casas Grandes.

General Pershing reported an aeroplane in communication with the Seventh cavalry, sixty miles southeast of Casas Grandes. Two other advance cavalry columns are known to be pushing south. No report of fighting between Americans and Villistas has been received.

Small Fire at Farwell. FARWELL, Neb., March 22.—(Special.)—Monday evening fire was discovered in the kitchen of the hotel. The blaze was well started but quick work with two chemical engines and a bucket brigade soon had it under control. The loss is about \$500. No insurance was carried.

WILSON RESENTS PEACE STORIES

White House and State Department Deny Report Germany Has Intimated Desire for Mediation.

NO BASIS FOR INTERFERENCE

WASHINGTON, March 22.—President Wilson was represented at the White House today as being resentful of publication of stories that Ambassador Gerard had reported Germany was about to make a move for peace. The published reports were characterized as being based on inferences. The statement was issued:

"President Wilson, through Secretary Tamm, today authorized a denial of stories appearing in papers to the effect that the purpose of Ambassador Gerard's remaining in Berlin was to await Germany's proposal for peace. There is no justification for that inference being drawn."

Yesterday the State department took notice of the publications by denying that Germany had intimated to the United States that the time was ripe for the United States, as the largest neutral, to renew its friendly offices for peace, or that the United States had been informed that Mr. Gerard had been requested to postpone his vacation because of pending peace negotiations.

Unofficial reports reaching here today said the ambassador actually had postponed his vacation, but gave no reason.

State Department's Statement. The State department today again took cognizance of the report and the following statement was issued:

"Any statement that the German government had intimated that it desired this government to act as mediator in peace negotiations or had in any way suggested formally or informally that this government should take the matter up with other powers is absolutely without foundation, and the State department has no information that Germany is preparing to make a definite move in the direction of peace."

State department officials declared they were resentful at the publication of the reports because, they said, if there were any prospects of mediation it would be damaged, if not destroyed.

It is known that the American ambassadors in all the belligerent countries have constantly been reporting on confidential conferences for the information of President Wilson, and it is understood the burden of the reports has been that there were no more prospects for peace now than there have been at any time in the last six months.

All the belligerents are understood to be ready for peace on their own terms.

Million-Dollar Fire in Oil Field Near Drumright, Okl.

TULSA, Okl., March 22.—Damage estimated at not less than \$1,000,000 was done in the oil fields near Drumright last night, when a fire, starting in a pile of refuse, spread to the wells. At midnight twelve wells were burning, twenty-four derricks had been destroyed, and many thousands of barrels of oil in tankage consumed by the flames. Without means of checking the fire, oil men feared that the loss would extend into many millions of dollars.

NEW COLUMN MAY BE SENT TO MEXICO

Expedition Will Advance Along Wagon Road Running South from Fabrans, Texas.

TRANSPORT IS BIG PROBLEM

EL PASO, Tex., March 22.—The Mexican railroad problem again took first place in public interest on the border today following a report that the American military authorities were contemplating sending a new column into Mexico from Fabrans, a village thirty miles east of here.

It was stated that the plan was under consideration as an alternative should General Carranza refuse the request of the Washington government for the use of the Mexico North western railroad over which to transport supplies.

The report of the plan for an entry from Fabrans followed a conference between General Bell and an American, who is thoroughly familiar with that section of Mexico. General Bell declined to discuss the report.

Good Wagon Road. From Guadalupe across the border from Fabrans, one of the best wagon roads in northern Mexico leads south and southwest through Charco to the lake region about Ahumada and El Carrizal. From El Carrizal it follows the Rio De Carmen to a spot scarcely fifteen miles from El Valle, the most southerly (Continued on Page Two, Column One.)

Prairie Fires in Dozen Counties in Southwest Kansas

TOPEKA, Kan., March 22.—Prairie fires were burning in a dozen western Kansas counties early today. Although no loss of life has been reported, many houses have been caught in the fast-moving flames and pasture lands have been reduced to vast reaches of black stubble.

Dodge City maintained a fire guard all last night on the edge of the city to check the flames which threatened from the northwest. Six counties were afire to the north and west of that place. Barton county reported a small blaze.

Volunteer fire fighters worked all night plowing fire-guard furrows, carrying water and using every other possible method to stop the advance of the flames.

Agree Upon Draft of Mexican Protocol

WASHINGTON, March 22.—A draft of the protocol asked for by General Carranza to govern the operations of the American expedition in Mexico was agreed upon late today by acting Secretary Polk and Eliseo Arredondo, Mexican ambassador designate. It was forwarded at once to Carranza for approval and is expected to be in effect within a few days.

SENATE VOTES TO DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF CADETS

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The senate today passed the Chamberlain bill to double the number of cadets in the West Point military academy.

RADIO MESSAGES COME TO BORDER FROM PERSHING

All Are in Code and Army Officers Refuse to Reveal the Contents or Discuss Them.

ONE AVIATOR IS HEARD FROM

Missing Airman Descended South of Casas Grandes—His Name is Withheld.

THINK VILLA ELUDED PURSUERS

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 22.—Wireless communication with the advanced base of the American expeditionary forces at Casas Grandes was restored today. Several messages, all in code, were received, but none gave word of the two missing lieutenants of the army aero corps. Search for the missing men is being continued.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 22.—One of the aviators missing from the squadron that went to join General Pershing's column, descended somewhere south of Casas Grandes, it was learned at General Funston's headquarters today. His name was not given.

Earlier reports had indicated that both came down somewhere along the line of communication between the border line and Casas Grandes, General Pershing's advanced base of operations.

Reports today explained that one reached Casas Grandes and was sent south over the country in which the three detachments of cavalry are operating. No details relative to his disappearance were received.

General Pershing's failure to report an encounter of his troops and those of Francisco Villa, and the absence of news from Mexican sources relative to the outcome of the fighting between Villa's men and Carranza's troops in the vicinity of (Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

Funston Thinks that Pershing May Have Met Forces of Foe

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 22.—Although it was sixty hours at noon today since General Pershing filed his last message regarding the disposition of cavalry south of Casas Grandes, General Funston professed to be anxious as to the welfare of any of the troops.

The exact whereabouts of General Pershing was unknown at headquarters here. It was considered probable he was out with one of three detachments, away from his wireless and in no position to report.

Whether the Carranza troops succeeded in holding Villa near Namsquipa, or whether the detachment of American cavalry that was riding towards that point encountered him, was not known, but General Funston believed it not unlikely that by this time the Americans and Villa's men had met. Villa was reported to have had a superior force, but General Funston professed confidence that the smaller force of Americans would be able to more than hold its own.

The most evident worry of General Funston was caused by the news that two of his aviators, Lieutenant Gorrell and Willis, are missing. He was deeply concerned to learn their fate.

Of the two regiments now on their way to the border, all but one battalion will be sent into Mexico, increasing General Pershing's force by about 2,000 men. One battalion of the Twenty-fourth infantry, a negro regiment which is at its full war strength and which recently returned from the Philippines, will be held at the border.

Repeated failure of the wireless sets General Pershing has been using caused the dispatch from here of Captain Charles DeF Chandler, of the signal corps, to supervise their operation.

Telegraph wires between Torreon and Piedras Negras, opposite Eagle Pass, were cut today, according to a telegram received here.

General Funston today requested newspaper correspondents to deny again that Villa's men had captured machine guns at Columbus or anything else, either at Columbus or on the march south of the border. Friends of the general have written to him expressing their sympathy over the "loss" of the machine guns.

The Only Pictures

You will find in reading the classified columns, are those created in your mind after a real study of those ads offering rare buying opportunities. There are lots of them every day, too—take a look.