

AFFAIRS IN MEXICO

STATE DEPARTMENT TOLD OF ECONOMIC CRISIS—SITUATION IS GRAVE.

FOOD SHORTAGE IN CAPITAL.

De Facto Government Pictured as Facing Serious Situation—Monetary Problem Becomes More Acute—Railway Men on Strike.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The economic situation in Mexico is extremely grave, according to official advices sent to the state department. With the monetary problem already acute, the food shortage in Mexico City virtually continuing without prospect of any immediate relief and with the labor strike extending over virtually all the Mexican railway lines, the de facto government is pictured as facing a serious domestic plight.

Consul Letcher from Chihuahua City is here, and brought with him a synopsis of the reports of five other consuls recently ordered to the border to talk over conditions with military officials there.

It was officially stated that while Mr. Letcher makes his report on conditions in Mexico, that was not the sole purpose of his trip. It was explained he was ordered here that routine matters might be taken up with him.

The department has received further advices from Special Agent Rodgers at Mexico City telling of the new note that was in process of preparation by the de facto government, but the message threw no light on its purport.

While reports as to the domestic situation of the Carranza government are gloomy, the attitude of the Mexican officials toward the United States has been described as more friendly since the border conferences between Gen. Scott and Obregon. It is believed possible this will be reflected in the new note, although some officials think a new request for withdrawal of the American expeditionary forces will be recommended with whatever other proposals Gen. Carranza has to make.

NEW PROTEST FOR BRITAIN.

United States Again Objects to Interference with Mails.

Washington.—President Wilson Monday completed a note vigorously renewing the protest of the United States to Great Britain against interference with American mails.

Secretary Lansing and legal experts at the state department made the original draft of the note and the president revised its phraseology. It is made up largely of legal arguments to meet the contentions of Great Britain, in the memorandum, occurred in France, presented to the state department several weeks ago. The United States takes the position that practices complained of in its first complaint on the subject have been continued, and the American government must now insist more emphatically that they cease.

State department officials consider that the chief weakness in the position of Great Britain is her policy of taking neutral mail vessels into British jurisdiction and submitting them to local censorship regulations.

Bill Carries \$23,900,000.

Washington, D. C.—That agricultural appropriation bill was reported by the senate committee Monday, carrying \$23,900,000, a reduction of nearly \$750,000 from the total as passed by the house. The committee cut in half the \$2,500,000 provided by the house for foot and mouth disease eradication and eliminated entirely \$200,000 allowed for free distribution of seeds. Items for general expenses of the animal industry and soils bureau were increased \$388,000. If the bill passes as reported there will be a fight in conference, as the house always insists upon its free seeds.

To Save Daylight.

Kansas City.—The clocks of Kansas City will be set forward an hour, to conform with the daylight saving plan, from the first Sunday in June to the first Sunday in October. If an ordinance that was passed in the lower house of the city council is favorably acted upon by the upper house, Friends of the measure say its passage there is assured.

Concern Over Illness of Hill.

St. Paul.—The illness of James J. Hill, railroad builder and capitalist, is causing more than passing concern to his friends and business associates. Mr. Hill has not been at his office in the railroad building since Wednesday of last week, remaining in retirement at his Summit avenue residence.

Johnson Tops for Bishop.

Saratoga Springs, N. Y.—Dr. E. S. Johnson, superintendent of Slough City district of the Methodist Episcopal church, Monday led the field of white candidates for election as missionary bishop of Africa at the general conference of the church in session here.

Army Bill Up to Wilson.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson Monday began consideration of the army reorganization bill passed by congress last week. He expects to sign it.

NEW U. S. SHELL MILL

MUNITIONS PLANT AT ROCK ISLAND AUTHORIZED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

MILL WILL COST \$1,250,000

\$750,200 Appropriated for Immediate Improvement at the Arsenal—Large Sums for Fortifications and Public Building Work.

Washington, May 22.—Rock Island arsenal is to be made one of the great munitions factories of the country under appropriations made by the house committee on appropriations, the plan to be perfected by the war department.

A field artillery ammunition plant costing \$1,250,000 is to be erected at this arsenal, an initial appropriation of \$500,000 being made for the purpose.

Increased facilities are to be made for the manufacture of field artillery vehicles at a cost of \$90,000.

In all, \$755,200 is appropriated for immediate improvements at the arsenal.

In addition, the secretary of war is authorized to locate and have constructed a new powder plant at a cost of \$500,000. This new plant may go to Rock Island arsenal because of the existing facilities there and the desire of army authorities to have a middle West factory located in the interior of the country, and beyond reach of a possible enemy.

These appropriations were carried in the great sundry civil appropriation bill reported from committee, carrying a total of \$127,237,221 and providing for thousands of miscellaneous items not covered in other appropriation bills.

It carries increased appropriations for all the government arsenals and for the Panama canal, Hawaii and Philippine fortifications.

Among the appropriations for improvements to old and continued work on public buildings carried in the bill are:

Illinois—Carrollton, \$2,500; Carlinville, \$2,000; Carrollton, \$2,000; Chicago, mail conveying machinery, \$19,000; East St. Louis, \$50,000; Galesburg, \$2,500; Mount Carmel, \$5,000; Olney, \$500; Peoria, \$1,000; Quincy, \$1,000; Savanna, \$19,000; Taylorville, \$25,000; Woodstock, \$10,000.

Iowa—Boone, \$1,500; Carroll, \$500; Cedar Falls, \$500; Chariton, \$500; Charles City, \$30,000; Cherokee, \$1,900; Davenport, \$1,500; Des Moines, \$500; Grinnell, \$30,000; Keokuk, \$1,500; Marquette, \$24,000; Washington, \$30,000.

Wisconsin—Antigo, \$30,000; Beaver Dam, \$500; Fort Atkinson, \$5,000; Merrill, \$25,000; Milwaukee, \$15,000; Neenah, \$33,000; Rhinelander, \$1,000; Tomah, \$3,500.

Michigan—Albion, \$16,000; Bay City, \$2,000; Calumet, \$5,000; Charlotte, \$25,000; Dowagiac, \$22,000; Flint, \$3,000; Hastings, \$500; Houghton, \$500; Jackson, \$3,000; Marquette, \$1,500; Muskegon, \$20,000; Saginaw, \$2,500; Ypsilanti, \$20,000.

DETROIT HEARS ROOSEVELT

Makes Three Addresses and Shakes Hands with Thousands—Falls to Meet Henry Ford.

Detroit, Mich., May 22.—Theodore Roosevelt urged thorough military preparedness for the United States and pleaded for true Americanism in three addresses here on Friday, discussed "social justice" before the convention of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and shook hands with several thousand persons at a public reception in a downtown hotel shortly before departing for New York.

Speaking at a luncheon at the Detroit Athletic club, Mr. Roosevelt declared that true Americanism "means unity of the nation without regard to the lands from which our fathers came; without regard to religious differences, and without regard to the different sections of the country in which we live."

The set speech for the day was delivered at the opera house. There, as at Chicago, the demand for universal service provoked a patriotic demonstration, which as the colonel remarked, "gives me added proof that the middle West is sound."

Mr. Roosevelt did not meet Henry Ford, the local automobile manufacturer, although early in the day it was said the colonel planned to visit Mr. Ford at the latter's factory.

All Die on French Ship.

Marseilles, France, May 22.—None of the passengers or crew of the French coasting steamer Mira were saved when the vessel was sunk as a result of a torpedo attack in the Mediterranean May 16. The Mira was a vessel of 3,050 tons and was owned in Marseilles.

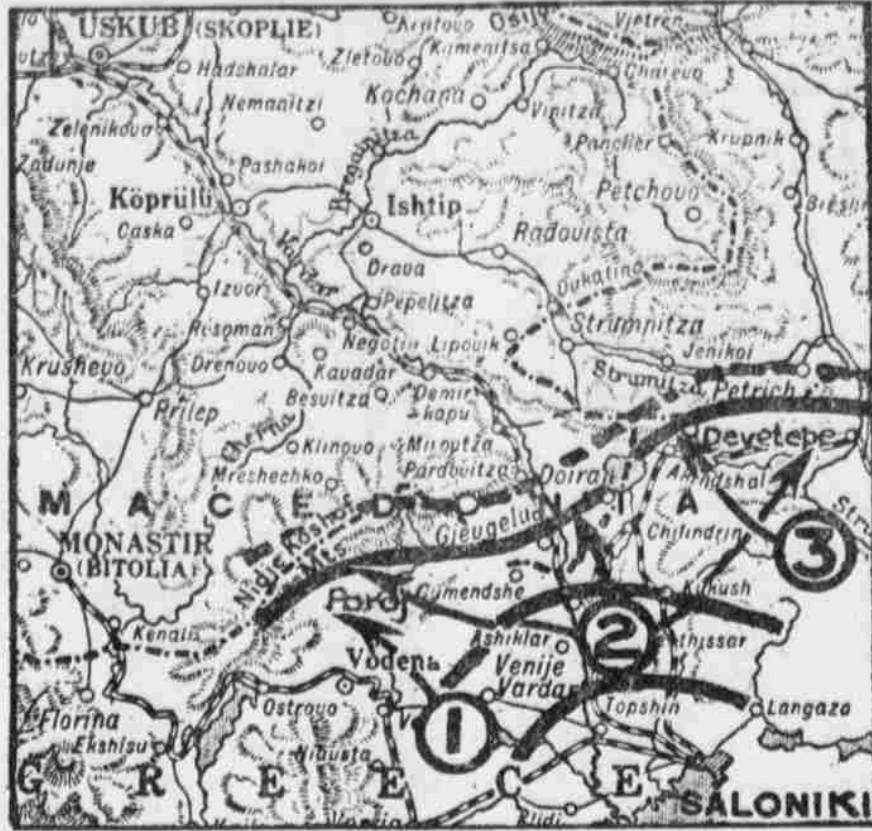
Say Cymric's Boilers Exploded.

Berlin, May 22.—Amsterdam dispatches state that members of the crew of the Cymric on their arrival at Liverpool reported the White Star liner had been sunk by an explosion of its boilers.

Prisoners Fight Fire.

Salem, Ore., May 22.—Prisoners in the Oregon state penitentiary saved the structure from being totally destroyed by fire on Friday afternoon. None of them attempted to escape. The loss was not heavy.

BATTLE LINES AROUND SALONIKI



1. Paris reports French forces at Saloniki have pushed in the direction of Monastir towards Poroj. 2. Allied infantry has shelled enemy encampments and organizations. 3. Army of East advance force occupies Devetepe, northeast of Lake Dolran.

AGREES TO U. S. TERMS SIX RAIDERS ARE SLAIN

CARRANZA TO PERMIT U. S. ARMY TO REMAIN.

Cabinet Given Scott's Report on Unwritten Agreement at El Paso, Approved by First Chief.

Washington, May 18.—An optimistic view of the Mexican border situation was laid before President Wilson and his cabinet on Tuesday by Secretary Baker, after a long conference with Major General Scott, chief of staff.

General Carranza and his advisers now understand the motives of the Washington government more fully than ever before, as a result of the conference at El Paso between Generals Scott and Funston and Obregon, Mr. Baker was able to tell the cabinet, and tension along the international line has greatly relaxed.

General Scott believes that the whole situation is less acute than it has been at any time since the raid on Columbus, N. M.

HOUSE VOTES FLOOD CONTROL

Measure Authorizes the Expenditure of \$45,000,000 on the Mississippi and Sacramento Rivers.

Washington, May 19.—The flood control bill, providing appropriations for the Mississippi and Sacramento rivers, was passed by the house on Wednesday by a vote of 180 to 53.

The bill now goes to the senate. It would authorize the expenditure of not exceeding \$45,000,000 for flood control and general improvement of the Mississippi river under the Mississippi river commission, and \$5,000,000 for flood control, removal of debris and general improvement of the Sacramento river, including continuance of the California debris commission plans.

SENATE ADOPTS ARMY BILL

Conference Report on Reorganization Measure Passes Without Roll Call.

Washington, May 19.—After a lively discussion of the Mexican situation, the National Guard and the proposed government nitrate plant, the senate on Wednesday adopted the conference report on the army reorganization bill without a roll call.

The bill provides for a regular army of 211,000 officers and men at peace strength, and approximately 260,000 at war strength, and for a federalized National Guard of 457,000 officers and men at maximum strength.

Republicans generally and a few Democrats expressed their hostility at the retention of the provision for the nitrate plant.

IMPORTANT NEWS ITEMS

London, May 20.—British warships and aeroplanes have bombarded the town of El Arish, in Egypt, near the border of Palestine, it was announced officially.

St. Louis, Mo., May 20.—Miss Jennie Jones, holder of the woman's golf championship of Iowa, was instantly killed when the automobile in which she was riding collided with a police patrol wagon.

Irish Poet is Arrested.

London, May 22.—Darrell Figgis, well-known Irish poet, has been arrested in Ireland in connection with the political disturbances. Figgis was taken in custody Thursday and is now confined in a military barracks.

U. S. Flyer Drops German.

Paris, May 22.—Corporal Kiffen Rockwell of Atlanta, Ga., a member of the American flying squadron, attacked a German aeroplane. The German machine was brought down in France.

TROOPS UNDER LANGHORNE CLASH WITH BANDITS.

Deemer and Payne, Americans Captured by Outlaws, Are Rescued by the Soldiers.

Marathon, Tex., May 19.—The Mexican bandits who raided Glen Springs several weeks ago and killed half of the gallant little band of American troops that garrisoned the town were captured near Laguna del Fresno, 105 miles south of the border, by the troops under Major Langhorne and Colonel Sibley. This word was brought here by soldiers returning on truck trains.

Six of the Mexicans were shot as they tried to escape. The others, numbering about 75, laid down their arms and surrendered without a move, according to best reports on the affair.

These are the same Mexicans who captured Jesse Deemer and Monroe Payne, Americans, during the Glen Springs and Hoquillas raids. Deemer and Payne were rescued by Major Langhorne before the clash with the bandits occurred.

Y. M. C. A. HOTEL DEDICATED

Elaborate Series of Exercises at the Opening of New Hostelry at Chicago.

Chicago, May 20.—With an elaborate series of exercises extending over a period of three days, and in which many men prominent in religious and philanthropic work participated, the new Y. M. C. A. hotel of this city has been dedicated.

The building is probably the largest of its kind in the world. It occupies a ground space of 96 to 166 feet, is 19 stories high and contains over 1,800 sleeping rooms in addition to the offices, writing and recreation rooms, dining rooms, toilet and bath rooms.

The construction of the building was made possible by donations from a number of leading business men of the city, and its cost has been above \$1,350,000. The intention is not to conduct it as a charity, but to make it self-supporting by nominal charges to its patrons. It is expected that it will offer an attractive home to hundreds of young men from the country visiting the city for a few days, or those seeking to gain a foothold in its industrial or business life.

BERLIN GIVES SEA WARNING

Merchant Vessels That Fail to Halt or Turn Toward Submarine Will Be Attacked.

Washington, May 18.—Germany in a note presented to Secretary Lansing warns neutral governments that merchant ships flying neutral flags must obey the provisions of international law in regard to their conduct when stopped by a German submarine, and that they incur danger should they turn their ship in the direction of a submarine.

Birdsall Dies Suddenly.

Clarion, Pa., May 18.—B. P. Birdsall, former congressman from this district and successor to Col. D. B. Henderson, died suddenly after a brief illness at his home here. Mr. Birdsall, who was well known throughout the state, served in congress from 1902 to 1908.

To Modify Taxes.

Washington, May 19.—Consul Rodgers at Mexico City reported that Carranza had announced his intention of modifying the "confiscatory" taxes levied against all mining property in that country.

Mrs. Franklin MacVeagh is Dead.

Chicago, May 19.—Mrs. Franklin MacVeagh, wife of the former secretary of the treasury and for many years a leader in the exclusive circles of Chicago society, died in Washington on Wednesday.

TOLD TO OBEY LAWS

KAISER ORDERS GERMANS IN U. S. TO AVOID VIOLATING NATION'S NEUTRALITY.

WOULD PREVENT WAR PLOTS

Action is Taken by Von Bernstorff on Direction From the Berlin Foreign Office "in Consequence of Cases Which Have Occurred of Late."

Washington, May 20.—Germany, through Ambassador von Bernstorff, has instructed all German consuls in the United States to admonish German citizens in their districts to observe American laws scrupulously. This is done in an effort to end various alleged violations of American neutrality.

The ambassador acted on instructions received on Thursday from the Berlin foreign office. The action was announced in this official statement from the German embassy:

"In consequence of cases which have occurred of late, the German ambassador has sent instructions to all German consuls in the United States to strongly impress upon German citizens living in their districts that it is their duty scrupulously to obey the laws of the state in which they reside."

It was said at the German embassy that the instructions were designed to prevent plots or lawlessness on the part of German citizens who might be disposed to engage in such. The German government, it was said, looks with great disfavor upon any such conduct and desires that its citizens shall not engage in any undertaking in any way outside the law.

Whether specific cases have been brought to the attention of the German government was not disclosed, but it was made clear that Berlin officials wish the United States and its people to understand that they have not countenanced any illegal affairs with which German citizens or sympathizers in this country have been connected.

Count von Bernstorff's instructions were forwarded immediately to German consuls.

\$200,000,000 FOR WARSHIPS

House Naval Body Votes to Abandon Five-Year Program—Battle Cruisers Will Cost \$20,433,531 Each.

Washington, May 20.—The house naval committee on Thursday voted to abandon the five-year building program, recommended by Secretary Daniels, and to recommend that five battle cruisers, to cost \$20,433,531 each; four coast cruisers, ten torpedo-boat destroyers, 20 submarines, one hospital ship, one oil supply ship and one ammunition supply ship be built during the 1917 fiscal year.

The committee voted, 13 to 8, on battle cruisers and submarines. No dreadnaughts are recommended.

The naval bill carries a total appropriation of approximately \$200,000,000, as against \$150,000,000 for the current fiscal year. The five battle cruisers are to be as powerful and swift as any afloat.

WELCH ELECTED M. E. BISHOP

President of Ohio Wesleyan University of Delaware, O., Named on Eighth Ballot.

Saratoga, N. Y., May 20.—Rev. Herbert Welch, D. D., LL. D., was elected a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church on the eighth ballot taken at the present general conference on Thursday.

Thomas Nicholson was also elected a bishop on the ninth ballot. Thomas Nicholson is fifty-four years old. He was born in Canada, but has spent all his life in the United States. He is a graduate of Northwestern university and Garrett Biblical institute, Evanston. In 1903 he became president of Dakota Wesleyan university and in 1909 secretary of the board of education of the denomination.

DR. MARQUIS IS MODERATOR

President of Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Ia., Chosen for High Office by Presbyterian Assembly.

Atlantic City, N. J., May 20.—Rev. Dr. John Marquis, president of Coe college, Cedar Rapids, Ia., was elected moderator of the general Presbyterian assembly on the second ballot on Thursday in possibly the keenest contest ever waged by the conference. The new moderator, who brings the supreme honor for the first time to Iowa, is a descendant of "Silver Tongued" Marquis, who was one of the pioneer preachers back in 1780. He is fifty-one years old and was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania.

Many Ships Destroyed.

Berlin, via Sayville wireless, May 22.—Since January 1 enemy merchant ships having a total tonnage of 671,500 have been sunk by German and Austrian submarines, it was announced here.

Three Americans on Sunk Ship.

Washington, May 22.—Consul Batton at La Rochelle reported through the American embassy at Paris to the state department that three Americans were on the British steamer Entosser, which was sunk by a mine.

GOSSIP FROM STATE HOUSE

Governor Morehead has declined to sanction a reduction of taxes for common carriers doing business in the state.

The railway commission will meet at Lincoln next month to get data from which to make the semi-annual freight classification.

Assistant Attorney General Roe has rendered a decision that a land owner may forbid fishing in a stream that runs through or adjoins his land.

State Superintendent A. O. Thomas asserts that the rural teacher problem will be solved only when the situation at country schoolhouses is made more attractive.

C. A. Sommer, of Lincoln, has been appointed by Governor Morehead as a member of the public library commission of Nebraska for a term of five years, running until May, 1921. He will succeed F. L. Haller.

Nearly 100 educators of the state attended the teachers' training conference at Lincoln, at which problems of educating school ma'ams and masters were discussed. Experiments conducted in line with the discussions were reported upon.

An opinion rendered by Deputy Attorney General Dexter Barrett provides that alcoholic ingredients of all preparations made by pharmacists shall be denoted on the bottle in which they are sold. This applies, he says, to all classes of medicine and other preparations.

County Treasurer William Ure, of Douglas, has remitted the sum of \$11,316 to the state treasury, but no mention was made of the penalty which Treasurer Hall attached, because of the failure to remit when he ordered it. The state officials are perplexed over what kind of a suit to begin for collection of this penalty.

Through the courtesy of Captain Donald Thompson, the National guard during the state encampment, will be permitted to see moving pictures of the choicest views of European battle fields. By reason of his rank as a member of the N. N. G. Captain Thompson has been able to secure much freedom in getting these pictures.

Those persons in Lexington, who were unable to collect insurance for fire losses written by the Dayton Mutual and the Southern Home, have no recourse through the state insurance board. This is the substance of a reply from the state auditor answering a query on the question. The companies named are not licensed in the state.

Governor Morehead has received word from Adjutant General McCain at Washington that under a new act of congress the governor has power to appoint three national guardsmen to the West Point government military academy. The appointees must take a competitive examination, which is the same as the regular examination for gain admittance.

A joint examination of the Woodmen of the World, whose headquarters are at Omaha, and its auxiliary, the Woodmen Circle also of that place has just been commenced by representatives of the Nebraska, Texas, Illinois and Wisconsin insurance departments. C. Q. DeFrance, actuary for the Nebraska department, will represent this state in the investigation.

The state railway commission has been notified of the location of the town of Hoffman, this side of Alliance, and the opening of a station there by the Burlington. The town has a population of about 400. It sprung into existence as a result of the discovery of very valuable potash mines there. The industry is so extensive that two carloads of the product are shipped out each day.

Attorney General Reed lost in a suit in Douglas county to recover for the state an estate worth \$50,000. He contested the will of James Bates, who left his property to his friend, Hans Anderson. The attorney general alleged the deceased, when the will was made, was not competent. The county court decided that while Bates was not strong mentally, he was sufficiently normal to make a will.

State Superintendent Thomas has just completed the preparation of a bulletin on the semi-centennial celebration of the admission of the state of Nebraska into the union. The bulletin carries special directions for the celebration and a complete outline of history study for the year beginning September, 1916.

An inventory is being taken of the state's resources and industries in order to furnish the war department with data regarding Nebraska's standing from a military point of view.

A notice that is being sent out by the United States war department has been received by Adjutant General Hall to the effect that hereafter the federal government will not replace military property in charge of the militia organizations when it is destroyed by fire. The communication requests that steps be taken to have all such property insured at state expense.

The war department has furnished Adjutant General Hall, for the use of the N. N. G., two modern range finders.