

A SHRAPNEL BLAST

THIRTEEN WAREHOUSES RAZED BY CRASH AND FLAMES—DAMAGE \$25,000,000.

AMMUNITION FOR ENTENTE

Manhattan Skyline, Reflects Lurid Glow Following Detonation—Miles of Streets in City Strawn with Broken Glass.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. New York.—Property loss estimated at \$25,000,000 was caused by a series of terrific explosions of ammunition awaiting shipment to the entente allies and stored on Black Tom Island, a small strip of land jutting into New York bay off Jersey City.

Two are known to be dead and at least two more are missing. Scores of persons were injured, some of them probably mortally. The detonations, which were felt in five states, began with a continuous rapid fire of small shells, the blowing up of great quantities of dynamite, trinitrotoluene and other high explosives, followed by the bursting of thousands of shrapnel shells which literally showered the surrounding country and waters for many miles around.

Fire that started soon after the first great crash which spread death and desolation in its wake destroyed thirteen of the huge warehouses of the National Storage company on Black Tom Island, in which was stored merchandise valued at between \$12,000,000 and \$15,000,000. The flames, shooting into the clouds, were reflected against "New York's sky line" of towering office buildings, which only a few moments before were shaken to their foundations by an earthquake. Miles of streets in Manhattan alone were strewn with broken glass and shattered signs.

CARRANZA FOR PRESIDENT.

De Facto Head to Retire from Present Position to Seek Honor.

Laredo, Tex.—Venustiano Carranza is to retire as first chief of the de facto government of Mexico at an early date and will be succeeded by Gen. Pablo Gonzalez, according to information given out by the Mexican administrative circles in Nuevo Laredo.

Gen. Carranza will enter the field as a presidential candidate at the forthcoming elections it was said, apparently confirming recent unofficial advices from Mexico City which intimated that the first chief would seek elevation to the presidency at the hands of the voters.

Predicts More Raids.

Brownsville, Tex.—Almost certain indications that the Iowa national guard forces will remain concentrated on the border for at least four months were seen here in a declaration issued by Gen. Parker. He said that the Mexican situation was now the worst it had ever been. He looks for a new uprising and new border raids within a month.

Pay Guards' Car Fare.

New York.—Contrary to the reports that the guardsmen at the border released under the order permitting men with dependent relatives to be discharged on application must pay their own transportation home, it is learned that an order went into effect July 1 providing that they travel at the rate of 3 1/2 cents a mile.

Pays for Titanic Victims.

New York.—With the payment of \$665,000 outside of court the White Star line stands absolved of all liability for the sinking of the steamship Titanic, with a loss of 1,600 lives, and the four years of litigation of claimants is brought to an end in a final decree handed down by Federal Judge Mayer.

Packing House Strike Ends.

St. Louis, Mo.—The packing house strike situation was cleared when 1,200 strikers at a meeting voted to submit modified demands to their employers. The new demands do not insist on recognition of the newly formed union, but insist that the packers do not discriminate against its members.

Eight Months to Live?

Los Angeles, Cal.—Mayor Charles B. Sobastain has begun putting his affairs in order to face his future, which his attorney, Earl Rogers, said consists of "eight months to live," according to a group of physicians. The mayor was said to be suffering from Bright's disease in an advanced stage.

Past G. A. R. Chief Dies.

Zanesville, O.—Gen. R. B. Brown, 72, past commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, and newspaper editor, died here July 30.

Nearly 200 Lives Lost.

Englehart, Ont.—Forest fires raging in northern Ontario are believed to have resulted in the loss of from 150 to 200 lives. Other scores of persons have been injured and it is feared many of them may die. Several small towns have been wiped out by the flames that have been raging.

England Visited by Airships.

London.—German airships again have raised the east coast of England according to an official statement.

RUSS ROUT TEUTONS

CZAR'S TROOPS DRIVE THEIR WAY INTO BRODY, KEY TO LEMBERG.

GERMANS ADMIT RETREAT

Captured City in Flames, Though It Is Not Known Whether Town Was Fired by Shells or Put to the Torch by Austrians.

London, July 31.—The Russians have captured Brody. This most important single victory of the great Russian drive, which started two months ago, is chronicled in an official bulletin from Petrograd. Simultaneously the Slavs have smashed the entire Austro-German line west of Lutsk, where they had been held up for weeks in their drive upon the stronghold of Kovel. Capture of this great railroad center now appears imminent.

The capture of Brody, which is one of the main railroad centers in eastern Galicia, marks an advance of six miles in a single day, by the czar's forces, a speed almost unprecedented in the great war for large bodies of troops. Thursday's official reports showed the Russians six miles from the town at their nearest point of attack and the capture indicates not only a defeat of its Austrian defenders but their absolute rout.

The captured city is in flames. This much is disclosed by the report from Petrograd, though it is not made clear whether the town was fired by Russian shells before its fall or was put to the torch by the fleeing Austrians.

Sweeping Russian victories in Volhynia and Galicia, the entire Austro-German system of defense on a front of more than 100 miles, and according to military experts here will precipitate a general retreat and reorganization of the whole Teutonic front which now protects Kovel and Lemberg, the two chief objectives of the Slav drive. Vladimir Volynski, another stronghold, lies in the way of the Russian advance, but no serious obstacle in the nature of permanent fortifications now looms between the Russians and Lemberg.

The Russian advance, announced from Petrograd, was forecast in part by an official report from Berlin which announced a retreat by the forces of General von Linsingen northeast of Svinulchy, in southern Volhynia, and only a few miles southeast of Vladimir Volynski.

GREAT TIME FOR MOTORISTS

National Touring Week, Beginning August 6, Will Find Them on the Road by the Thousand.

Chicago, July 29.—The dawn of August 6 will find untold thousands of American automobilists on the road for the greatest concerted vacation ever devised. The day will be the first of the National Touring week, preparations for which have engrossed the attention of manufacturers, dealers and car owners for months. The "see America first" idea is thoroughly aroused, but the spirit is concentrated in "see your home state first."

The touring week is to be a big family affair, for every motorist is planning to take his wife and children, if he has any, into the great open where they will find the rejuvenation that comes from rest and a change of scene.

From the Atlantic to the Pacific the week of August 6 will be made memorable and many thousands of Americans will discover beauties of their own land hitherto unknown to them.

LONGUEVAL IN BRITISH HANDS

Last German Stronghold in Village is Cleared Up—All Delville Wood Now Held.

London, July 31.—The last German strongholds in Longueval have been captured by the British troops, according to the official statement given out by the war office. Hand-to-hand fighting continued throughout the day in the vicinity of Pozieres, the statement adds.

The British also have possession of the entire Delville wood, the fifth Brandenburg division, the last Germans in the wood, being cleared out with the capture of three officers and 158 men.

VALUE J. P. MORGAN'S ESTATE

Transfer Tax Appraiser Sets \$78,149,024 on Property in New York.

New York, July 31.—The total assets of the estate of J. Pierpont Morgan, who died March 31, 1913, are fixed at \$78,149,024, exclusive of property outside New York state, in a report which will be filed with the state comptroller by Transfer Tax Appraiser Lyons.

Baby Plague Abating?

New York, July 31.—A slight decrease in infantile paralysis cases was noted in the 24 hours ending at 10 a. m. Friday, but it was not sufficient to lead the authorities to assert that the epidemic had been broken.

England Bars Cocaine.

London, July 31.—The importation of opium and cocaine into the United Kingdom is prohibited by a royal proclamation issued here. The growth of "cocaine sniffing" has become alarmingly prevalent.

RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN IN TURKEY



1—Russians capture Erzurum, Turkish fortress and military base in Asia Minor. 2—The evacuation of Erzurum obliges the Turks to move their fighting line virtually 150 miles west to Sivas, which now is the next objective of the Russian advance. 3—Angora, which is 350 miles west of Erzurum, is the chief objective of the Russian campaign. It is the terminus of the railroad to Constantinople.

GREAT DEFENSE SUM 22 PERISH IN TUNNEL

ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL OF \$314,000,000 IS PASSED.

An Amendment Giving the Soldiers on the Border the Right to Vote on the Field Eliminated.

Washington, July 29.—Nearly \$700,000,000 for national defense in the fiscal year 1917 is the aggregate of proposed appropriations reached in the senate with the passage of the army appropriation bill, carrying in round numbers \$314,000,000.

This grand total for preparedness still is subject to revision, however, because the army bill will follow the naval bill into conference, where reductions are probable, despite the firm attitude of President Wilson in supporting the liberal response of the senate to the call for adequate defense.

The appropriations for preparedness as they now stand are as follows: Army \$213,970,447.49; Navy \$118,830,943.55; Fortifications (new) \$2,748,000.00; Military academy \$2,278,328.57; Army and navy deficiency \$7,669,518.46.

Total \$355,543,917.27. As it passed the senate the army bill exceeded the appropriations made by the house by more than \$131,000,000.

In the final hours of debate on the measure the senate agreed to an appropriation of \$2,000,000 for the relief of dependent families of National Guardsmen and regular army soldiers in service in the Mexican emergency.

Distribution of the fund is left to the discretion of the secretary of war, but in no case shall any dependent family receive more than \$50 a month.

An amendment giving soldiers on the border the right to vote in the field at the November election was eliminated from the bill on a point of order just before passage.

As soon as the army bill was out of the way the senate took up and passed, after brief debate, the military academy appropriation bill, carrying \$2,278,328.57, an increase of \$1,019,524 over the house authorization.

BRITISH GET U. S. PROTEST

Note Charging Treaty Violation Now in the Hands of London Foreign Office.

Washington, July 29.—The American protest against the British boycott now is in the hands of the British foreign office. Acting Secretary of State Polk let it be known that the protest was approved by President Wilson.

It is understood that the protest was compiled by President Wilson personally. It will be made public next Monday morning. Officials at the White House and state department expressed themselves as hopeful that the British government will modify considerably its position in view of the emphatic opposition enunciated by the United States.

NEW TERRITORY FOR THE U. S.

Negotiations Completed by Which Danish West Indies Come Under Stars and Stripes.

Washington, July 27.—Official announcement was made at the White House that negotiations have practically been completed for the purchase of the Danish West Indies by the United States from Denmark for \$25,000,000.

While details of the treaty were not given out, it is understood that the United States will come into complete possession of the islands. Word has been received from Denmark that the treaty is practically certain of being ratified by the Danish parliament.

Fisher Fleet is Sunk.

London, July 31.—A German submarine has raided a British fleet of herring fishing boats. Eight of the vessels were sunk. The crews were landed at the North sea port of Tynemouth.

May Probs Packing Business.

Washington, July 31.—The federal trade commission has been requested by the house of representatives to make an estimate of what an investigation into the meat packing industry would cost.

MEXICO'S PLAN O.K.'D

UNITED STATES AGREES TO CARRANZA'S PROPOSAL FOR SETTLING DIFFICULTIES.

NOW UP TO FIRST CHIEF

State Department Sends Note to Mexico Suggesting That Other Matters Be Settled in the Same Way.

Washington, July 28.—The United States government accepted in full the Carranza proposal for the appointment of a joint commission to consider the causes of difference between the two republics and make recommendations on which the governments in turn shall act.

The series of conferences between Acting Secretary of State Polk and Eliseo Arredondo, Carranza's ambassador designate, have thus ended exactly as Carranza asked. With the acceptance of the Mexican proposal the state department made public the text of the note to Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations Aguilar, in which there is a suggestion that the joint commission may eventually continue deliberations so as to settle in advance other points of probable difference and thus effect an arrangement tending to improve mutual relations.

The note also requests notification that the Mexican government approves the arrangement, so that the United may immediately appoint its three commissioners and aid in fixing the date and place of the conference. Presumably the conference will be held in this country.

U. S. STEEL BREAKS RECORD

Earns \$6,000,000 More Than the Official Estimate, Which Was Considered Beyond Belief.

New York, July 27.—Net earnings of the Steel corporation in the June quarter were at the rate of 47 per cent per annum on the \$508,312,500 common stock—after allowing for interest charges, sinking fund requirements and the regular disbursements on the preferred shares. An extra dividend of one per cent was declared on the junior issue.

The net receipts \$81,126,048, were \$6,000,000 beyond the official estimates made last month, which appeared to be incredible to the financial district. The income in the last three months is equal to 11 1/2 per cent on the common certificates for the entire year.

BLISS TO WEED OUT GUARD

Will Recommend Liberal Construction on Policy of Releasing Men With Dependent Relatives.

El Paso, Tex., July 28.—To "weed out" the disgruntled militiamen along the border, Maj. Gen. Tasker H. Bliss will recommend to the war department that a most liberal construction be placed on its policy of releasing guardsmen with dependent relatives.

This conclusion was reached by the assistant chief of staff after an inspection of Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Michigan militia camps here. "For," he said, "it would be far better to have smaller organizations of contented men, than larger ones in which there is an element of dissatisfaction."

BOARD MEMBERS ARE NAMED

President Sends to Senate Names of Four Members of the Farm Loan Body.

Washington, July 29.—President Wilson sent to the senate the nominations of the four members of the farm loan board created by the rural credits act. The nominees are Judge Charles E. Lohdell, Republican, of Great Bend, Kan.; George M. Norris, Democrat, of Philadelphia; Capt. W. S. A. Smith, Republican, of Sioux City, Ia.; and Herbert Quick, Democrat, of Berkeley Springs, W. Va. Their early confirmation is expected.

BRITISH BIPLANE SHOT DOWN

German Submarine Captures Aeroplane and Its Pilot and Observer—Taken to Zeebrugge.

Berlin, via Sayville wireless, July 27.—The capture of a British aeroplane and its pilot and observer by a German submarine was reported by the admiral in the following official statement: "On Monday afternoon a German submarine brought down with its fire a British biplane. The inmates, two officers, were made prisoners by the Germans and transported, together with the enemy machine, to Zeebrugge on a torpedo boat."

New School of Musketry.

Washington, July 31.—The war department announced that a "school of musketry" would be opened at Camp Fort Belknap, Okla., in order to give special training to entitled men in the handling of machine guns.

Cattle Conditions Better.

Mexico City, July 31.—Minister of War Obregon has issued official reports from government commandants to show that conditions in northern Mexico are fast becoming settled owing to the efforts of the government.

GOSSIP FROM STATE HOUSE

Nebraska troops on the border, practicing daily marches, have reached an average daily speed of four miles an hour.

The expenses of the state for April, May and June amounted to \$1,032,457. The first quarter showed an outlay of \$1,421,540.

It is planned to have a naval exhibit at the state fair, consisting of dreadnaughts, submarines, battleships and other vessels and paraphernalia from the naval department.

Irrigation water at the Kearney industrial school killed the potatoes and the board of control is at a loss to understand the situation. Wheat on high land produced a big crop.

Many members of the Fourth and Fifth regiments at Camp Llano have applied for a discharge under the president's recommendation regarding militiamen who are the support of families.

More fresh meat, vegetables and fresh baked bread daily were among the recommendations made by Major General Bliss to commanding officers at Camp Llano. Aside from this, he found conditions ideal.

The state general fund has fallen off about \$50,000, due to diminishing receipts, but there is still a balance of \$639,000 in it, which will be enough to tide it over until receipts from new taxes begin pouring in.

Food Commissioner Harman is determined that dealers handling gasoline must comply with the law, and hereafter that containers of that product will be required to be labeled with its proper specific gravity.

Sanitary conditions, the camp and the personnel of the men and officers of the Nebraska regiments at Camp Llano were highly commended by General Bliss after a tour of inspection of the entire camp, which is under the sanitation charge of Captain Smith of Fremont and Major Birkiner of Lincoln.

Any political party can put a candidate in the field for county office by action of the central committee, even though the party had no candidate at the primaries. This is according to the ruling of Attorney General Reed, in reply to a query from F. S. Baker of Harrison, Nebr., county attorney of Sioux county.

Lieutenant Edward Bagnell of Lincoln, a member of the Nebraska national guard who took a course in aviation at Newport News, has been mustered into the government aviation service. He telegraphed Adjutant General P. L. Hall that he had been mustered in and ordered to report for duty at Mineola, L. I.

W. A. Luke, general secretary of the Lincoln Y. M. C. A. has received an offer to go to the Mexican border to conduct association work among the United States troops. The offer came in the form of a telegram from R. O. Kaighn, secretary to John R. Mott, head of the international committee of the association.

Under orders from division headquarters drilling of all units of troops in earnest at Camp Llano has started. The men will drill two hours a day, two in the morning and two in the late afternoon. A ten mile drill will be a weekly feature. Equipment for the men is arriving every day. This includes shirts, trousers and underwear.

A shortage of funds to address and mail out initiative and referendum publicity booklets has been discovered by Secretary of State Pool. The cost, he says, will be upward of \$6,000 this year and the fund available from the state printing fund is about \$3,000. That was the size of the appropriation made for the purpose by the legislature.

A popular amusement of the guards at Camp Llano is trapping chameleons, the animal that once sold at Nebraska county fairs at half a dollar, and was worn by women of fashion. The troops have found much amusement in watching the rapid color changes of the chameleon as it goes from green grass to brown tree, or is placed on cloths of different hues.

An appropriation of \$20,000 is urged by Assistant State Engineer William Steckelberg in his report to Secretary of State Pool to rebuild the southeast wing of the state capitol, which he says is now in a dangerous condition.

Sixty legal reserve life insurance companies in Nebraska with a combined surplus of almost \$185,000,000 had losses equaling 33.8 per cent of the premium income in 1915, according to the annual report of W. H. Eastham, state insurance commissioner.

A regular United States postoffice has been established at Llano Grande. Although it is unimposing and its furnishings are of the most homely sort, it is nevertheless efficient in the work for which it was established. The postmaster is a regularly appointed one, by the government of the United States.

Otto Hallgren of Omaha, was the first Nebraskan at Camp Llano to become a member of the reserves, and he is anxiously awaiting orders to start for the north.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES

Ottawa, Ont., July 27.—The war is costing the Dominion of Canada \$1,000,000 a day, an official announcement said.

London, July 27.—Sir Roger Casement, convicted of treason because of his part in the rebellion in Ireland, will be executed publicly, according to the Daily Chronicle.

Mitchell, S. D., July 29.—A vigilance committee was organized in Mitchell to deal with the lawless harvest hands who are passing through the city by hundreds.

Air Craft Bombed Durazzo. Rome, July 29.—A squadron of Italian aircraft, after a long fight across the Adriatic, bombed the Albanian port of Durazzo, which is now held by the Austro-Hungarians. It has been officially announced.

Turkish Regiment Mutinies. Athens, July 29.—Advices from Smyrna state that an entire Turkish regiment mutinied at Sevoikios, taking refuge in a forest on Mount Simolou. Loyal Turks gave chase, setting the forest on fire.