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HUNS NEEDED BUT TO BLUFF, CLAIMS SIMS

Germans Could Have Won War by Well-Directed Feint He Says — Would Have Paralyzed any Operations.

DEPARTMENT IN DARK

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 16.—A little "bluff" on the part of the Germans in 1918, at the crucial point of the war, would have paralyzed transportation of soldiers and war material between this country and Europe, Read Admiral Sims today told the senate naval sub-committee.

Information from authentic sources, indicating that the Germans were building two heavily armored modern battle cruisers for a desperate last hope raid against troop ship convoys was transmitted to the navy department, Admiral Sims said, and immediately he was besieged with cablegrams from Washington outlining various plans of action, all of which he testified, were impracticable, although such a contingency had been under discussion for nearly a year and there had been ample time to prepare.

"If the enemy had only known," said Admiral Sims, "all he need have done was to make a series of bluffs, involving little risk to himself, and we would have done the rest. Shipping would have been paralyzed."

Three of Four No Good

Admiral Sims discussed at length four plans proposed by the department for defeating Germany on the seas. They were: A protected lane through the danger zone; the blocking of German ports by sinking ships in the entrance; mine barriers of nets and mines of types then in use; mine barriers of mines of a new type. All except the last were impracticable, he declared, and much time was wasted by the insistence of the department that they be tried.

The department wished to land a "solar plexus blow" against the submarine campaign, the Admiral said and suggested many schemes long before rejected by the allies. Such a plan was that of sinking old battleships and cruisers in the entrances to all German submarine bases. Admiral Sims asserted, and only after he had pointed out that the Germans would require the sinking of 40 battleships and 43 cruisers, and six months of preparation did the department agree to abandon the plan. It took seven months of effort to bring the Washington officials to the final conclusion, he said.

First Suggested Mine

On May 11, 1917, the navy department first suggested the idea of a barrage of mines across the North Sea to trap the German sea forces. Admiral Sims said, and at that time he opposed the plan because the allies could not afford to divert the large numbers of men and ships and huge amounts of material necessary to make the project a success, he declared; and also because the old type mines then in use were not practicable for such a purpose.

Later, when the submarine campaign was well in hand and a new type of Antenna mine developed in this country he approved the idea, he said, and helped to expedite the laying of the barrage. The result, the North Sea mine barrage, was a magnificent achievement the admiral said, reflecting great credit on the navy and the officers and men who were responsible for the success of the project.

Admiral Sims said he particularly wished to refute an assertion "widely circulated" that the department had proposed and from the first favored the barrage mine project and that he was "about the only officer in the navy that ever opposed it."

Did Not Have Information

The navy department at the time the United States entered the war, Admiral Sims said, was not "very much better informed than the general public of actual conditions in the belligerent countries and had but little trustworthy information regarding such matters as submarine losses, shipping losses, anti-submarine measures or other matters concerning which complete knowledge was essential to the development of effective plans for combating the submarine menace."

Even after he arrived in England and had access to the information he could not place it at the disposal of the department immediately, he added, because of the smallness of his staff.

500 Volumes from Famous Edgar Huff Library Given to High School by Son

Five hundred selected volumes of history, literature, travel and classics, part of the famous library of the late J. Edgar Huff, have been given the Richmond high school by Walter E. Huff, his son, who is American manager for Alfred Bell & Co., London publishers of mezzotints and color etchings.

Mr. Huff arrived in Richmond Monday, on his way from his home in West Orange, N. J., to California. He stopped off here to unlock the book cases of his father's library and personally to oversee the selection and transportation of at least 500 books to the high school library.

"I am greatly interested in doing this, because I think books locked in their cases are useless. They only fulfill their mission when they are placed where they can be used. I am happy in giving these volumes to the library of the high school where they can be of service to the boys and girls of Richmond," said Mr. Huff.

"The books will be invaluable to the high school," Principal Bate said Tuesday. Mr. Huff's action follows a suggestion by Mrs. M. F. Johnston.

U. S. Leader on Rhine



Major General Henry T. Allen.

DISTRICT HEADS OF NORTH INDIANA M. E. HOLD CONFERENCE

Superintendents of the districts of the North Indiana M. E. conference gathered with Bishop Thomas Nicholson, of Chicago, in Richmond Tuesday, in a meeting preliminary to the North Indiana conference which meets here April 7-13.

The superintendents composing Bishop Nicholson's cabinet presented for general discussion possible changes in various pastorates. However, it is thought unlikely that any changes among the superintendents will be made. There may be a considerable number of pastorates changes due to ill health, death and other causes.

The report submitted to the bishop Tuesday noon was extremely gratifying, he said.

Pleased With Outlook.

"There has been and will be a general increase in pastor's salaries; a very great increase in benevolent offerings and in church members in every district," said Bishop Nicholson.

"Up to date the Ft. Wayne district, of the North Indiana Conference, leads with an increase of more than 2,500 members for the year. Each district shows an increase of about 1,000 or more. The total increase for the last six months in the Chicago area, of which North Indiana Conference is one of seven conferences, is more than 25,000 members," added he.

Pastors in the area have been making on an average more than 2,000 conversions a week, it was stated.

Those present were, beside Bishop Nicholson, the following district superintendents, with the districts they represent: The Rev. Sommerville Light, Richmond; the Rev. W. W. Martin, Fort Wayne; the Rev. R. J. Wade, Goshen; the Rev. Freeland Hall, Logansport; the Rev. B. F. Freedland, Wabash, and the Rev. J. M. Beatty, Muncie.

South America Wants More Passenger Ships to U. S.

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, March 16.—A demand for more passenger ships between South America and the United States is heard from coast to coast in the former country according to A. E. Clegg, president of the American ship and commerce navigation company who recently returned from a business trip there. At the present time, he said, for every passenger ship leaving South America for this country there are a dozen sailing for European ports.

Freight service, he added is more evenly divided and steamers between the two Americas are keeping up very well with the present demands of trade.

Letters Wander in Germany Since 1914; Finally Return

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 16.—Senate leaders worked today for an agreement to vote on ratification of the peace treaty this week, so that the pact might be sent to President Wilson, or laid aside to permit consideration of other business.

If the ratification vote fails of the necessary two-thirds majority, a motion to reconsider is expected immediately probably by majority leaders, in the hope of stamping some of the opposition into changing their votes. It was admitted the situation held many possibilities, in view of the urgent representations that have been made for ratifying the treaty to stabilize world conditions.

Adoption yesterday of the substitute reservation to Article X, by a vote of 55 to 26, removed the last obstacle to a vote on the treaty itself, although a number of other questions remain to be settled first.

14 Democrats Accept It.

Fourteen Democrats voted with the majority, but that number was less than half of the strength which ardent ratificationists had promised to deliver.

Administration leaders seemed without fear that their forces would crumble sufficient to enable the Republicans to ratify the pact with the objectionable to reservation to article X which President Wilson let it be known "rough Senator Hitchcock he would not accept."

Declarations Pile in For Small Political Jobs

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 16.—Conditions in the coal industry respecting costs of production and prices necessitates collection of information of the industry, the federal trade commission declared today answering in the District of Columbia supreme court, the question of the Maynard coal company of Columbus, O., for an injunction restraining the commission from requiring monthly reports.

The application of the Maynard company, filed last week, was announced as the first of a series of friendly suits designed to test the authority of the trade commission to require private corporations to furnish information of their business.

The commission denied the contention of the Maynard company that forms for collection of its information would necessitate changes in its accounts, that it was exceeding its authority, and that power to require such reports had been transferred by President Wilson to the fuel administration.

The Republican candidates for precinct commissioners who filed declarations include William P. Judkins, Cambridge City, precinct 5; Jackson; Edgar R. Beeson, Milton, precinct 1, Washington; George B. Rothermel, Milton, precinct 2, Washington, and John Noss, 100 South Twenty-second street, precinct 29, Wayne.

Andrew Carroll, Democrat, 32 North Tenth street, filed his declaration for committeeman of precinct 14, Wayne township.

Labor "Jury" Acquits I. W. W. of Murder of Centralia Service Men

(By Associated Press)

TACOMA, Wash., March 16.—The "jury" of labor men appointed by various organizations of the northwest to sit at all sessions of the trial at Montesano, Wash., of ten Industrial Workers of the World charged with murder in connection with the killing of four former soldiers during an armistice day parade, returned a verdict of "not guilty". A statement which accompanied the finding, made public here today, said the "verdict" was adopted unanimously.

Seven of the defendants were found guilty Saturday night of second degree murder after a five weeks' trial for killing Warren O. Grimm. Two who were acquitted were returned to Centralia, Wash., where the former soldiers were killed, to stand trial for the murder of Arthur McElfresh. The other man, who was not found guilty but insane, was placed in jail here.

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Leads Short Revolt



Maj. General Baron von Luettwitz.

WOMEN, CHILDREN, AMONG 30 KILLED IN HAMBURG RIOTS

(By Associated Press)
COPENHAGEN, March 8.—Thirty persons were killed, including some women and children, in yesterday's fighting at Hamburg between citizens' guards and Baltic troops, advices from that city state.

Fifteen persons are reported to have been killed and many wounded in fighting yesterday at Steglitz, in the southwest outskirts of Berlin.

At Charlottenburg, a western suburb of Berlin, four persons are said to have been killed and six wounded, as a result of collisions.

No Compromise!

Reports of negotiations for a compromise between the Ebert government and the reactionary regime at Berlin are untrue according to a telephone dispatch from Hamburg to the Social Demokraten at midnight. It was said these rumors were spread by adherents of Dr. Wolfgang Kapp, the new chancellor in Berlin "to deceive the public."

Gustav Noske, minister of defense in the old government, has issued a decree forbidding the circulation of proclamations issued by Berlin authorities in territory outside that city.

LONDON, March 15.—The new government at Berlin held a cabinet council last night which was attended by General Ludendorff, former first quartermaster general of the German army, according to a dispatch from the Exchange telegraph from Berlin, by way of Amsterdam.

During a demonstration at Leipzig yesterday, troops fired on a crowd, killing more than 20 persons and wounding 60, says the general correspondent of the Central News. Reports received in Copenhagen, the correspondent adds, states that fighting continues in many parts of Germany.

Munich Tries Independence.

A new government was formed at Munich, Bavaria, yesterday, composed of Democrats and the center Party, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to the Central News. The new government will meet today, the dispatch says.

The working classes are much exasperated against the Kapp administration as a consequence of the shooting of a young girl in the south Berlin railway station and the killing of four persons in the north Berlin industrial section by guards, according to a Berlin dispatch.

Mathias Erzberger, former finance minister of the Ebert government of Germany, has been placed under arrest, according to a dispatch to the Exchange telegraph company filed in Berlin Monday night.

The dispatch states an official communiqué has been issued by the Ebert government at Stuttgart, declaring: "The new rulers are trying to make the people believe the constitutional government has entered into negotiations with Dr. Kapp General Merker acting as mediator. This is untrue."

Leipzig Socialists Meet.

Eighteen meetings of Communists and Independent Socialists were held at Leipzig last night, according to a telegram received here.

After the meetings had been dismissed, street fighting took place and several people, including two street car conductors, were killed. When this news reached the other workers, all street car employees left their posts, leaving the cars where they stood.

Strike Set for Today.

The national strike of the German railways was set to begin this morning, says a message to the Exchange Telegraph company, from Berlin, filed yesterday. The railwaymen's officials have declared themselves in solidarity with the workingmen of the country.

THE HAGUE, March 16.—Holland so far is recognizing only the Ebert government of Germany, and is dealing only with the representative of that regime here, it is learned from government sources. No other action will be taken by the Netherlands government until the present chaos in Germany is ended.

BERNE, March 16.—Encounters at Kiel and Magdeburg are reported in telegrams from Berlin. In Kiel some naval officers have been killed, while in Magdeburg there has been fierce fighting about the central postoffice.

Conservatives Favor Move.

Conservative parties in Germany are declared to be supporting the new government without having, however, being directly identified with it. Westphalian miners are said to take a neutral attitude, the only condition they have laid down being that the Republican constitution be maintained.

The street has already been paved within 18 inches of the track, but because of the track ties it is impossible to completely pave the street, unless the tracks are temporarily rerouted.

It is expected that the testimony would be concluded late Tuesday afternoon.

COAL REPORT NOT READY, SAYS WILSON

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 16.—John L. Lewis, president, and William Green, secretary, of the United Mine Workers of America called at the White House today to inquire as to the status of the bituminous coal strike settlement question. They were told that President Wilson had not yet finished his study of the majority and minority reports of the members of the commission.

Both Mr. Lewis and Mr. Green are hopeful that the situation can be ironed out on the basis of the reports and a final agreement as to wages, hours and working conditions reached.

The president has not yet indicated whether he will call together the three members of the commission with the request that they renew their efforts to reach a unanimous decision.

Centerville Asks Action Compelling T. H. I. & E. to Move Tracks; Would Pave

(By Associated Press)

Testimony in the mandate suit of the town of Centerville against the Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern Traction company, was begun in circuit court Tuesday.

Centerville is seeking a mandate to compel the traction company to move its tracks temporarily, that the town may permanently pave the main street over which the tracks pass, with cement.

The street has already been paved within 18 inches of the track, but because of the track ties it is impossible to completely pave the street, unless the tracks are temporarily rerouted.

It is expected that the testimony would be concluded late Tuesday afternoon.

MADRID, March 16.—Spain will not recognize the new German government until after that step is taken by a majority of the allied governments, according to announcement here.

PARIS, March 16.—The general strike is effective throughout Germany and only food trains are running according to advices. Severe fighting is reported from Dresden, Leipzig, Brandenburg and Chemnitz.

Sentiment in Baden is strong for a separation from Berlin and in favor of a union of Bavaria, Wurttemberg and Baden, according to a telephone dispatch to L'Information from Basle. It is said many Badenese are openly advocating joining the Swiss confederation.

GREENE TOWNSHIP
Homer Stegall entered army Oct. 15, 1918, in regular army; trained at Rolling Prairie and Valparaiso; discharged Nov. 21, 1918.

Jimmie C. Clements entered navy Feb. 1, 1918, as apprentice seaman; embarked for overseas service May 16, 1918, on U. S. S. Drayton, destroyer unit; was in combat with submarine August 15, 1918; discharged Feb. 22, 1919.

Chester H. Clements entered army May 24, 1918; assigned to engineer corps; embarked from New York Aug. 12, 1918; arrived home Sept. 22, 1919; discharged Sept. 29, 1919.

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