



JUDGE THOMAS D. FINLETTER SWORN INTO OFFICE



Assistant District Attorney Joseph P. Rogers is shown congratulating Judge Finletter just after the latter took the oath as Judge of Common Pleas Court No. 4.

GERMANS INFLICT TERRIFIC LOSS ON FRENCH IN WOEVRE

Offensive Against Wedge Checked—Berlin Reports Attacks Cost 15,000 to 40,000 Men—Paris Says Army Awaits Reinforcements.

The great offensive move of the French in the region between the Meuse and Moselle has been checked with terrific losses, according to reports from Berlin today.

The Germans assert that the sides of their great wedge on the St. Mihiel-Pout-a-Mousson line are intact and that at several points they have taken the offensive.

At the other end of the great battle line, at Albert, near the Belgian border, the Germans drove the French from their trenches in a surprise attack, but were later forced back.

Sunday attacks in the Argonne were repulsed, today's Berlin bulletin asserts. Successes at Ailly and La Pretre are reported. Bombs have been thrown on Nancy.

The official French report admits offensive operations in the Woevre have been temporarily suspended, as reinforcements are awaited.

Russian forces have passed the last of the western Beskid barriers and now are 20 miles within Hungary, where they control the heads of five railway lines along a 90-mile front.

Massed assaults in the Uszok Pass sector have been beaten back. Petrograd now announces opening of a general Hungarian advance on the assumption that the Carpathian offensive has been entirely successful.

Austria, however, bulletins gains in the wooded heights in the Uszok sector.

CONGREGATIONALISTS SAY SUNDAY FAILED

Ministers Declare Many of the "Trail-Hitters" Gave False Addresses.

THOMAS D. FINLETTER SWORN IN AS COMMON PLEAS JUDGE

Jurist Assumes Office and Receives Congratulations.

Thomas D. Finletter, appointed by Governor Brumbaugh to succeed Robert N. Wilson, resigned, as a Judge of Common Pleas Court No. 4, was sworn into office with the usual ceremony in Room G, City Hall, at 10 o'clock this morning.

At the same time Judge Charles V. Audenried formally was advanced to the presidency of the court, which was held by William Friends of Judge Finletter, lawyers, judges and others, witnessed his accession to the bench, congratulating him after the simple ceremony.

This is Judge Finletter's second occupancy of the Common Pleas bench. Under an act of the 1913 Legislature increasing the number of judges, he was one of Governor Tener's appointees. The Supreme Court declared the act invalid, however, after the new jurist had served about a month.

STEEL FOR SIX BRIDGES ACROSS RHINE ORDERED FROM U. S. BY ALLIES

Sensational Explanation for Rise in Stock of Bethlehem Steel Company Given by Employee of British Government.

LONDON, April 12.—A sensational explanation of the sharp advance in Bethlehem Steel shares on the stock market was forthcoming today from a highly placed employee of the British Government.

"At this moment," he said, "everything is in readiness in several great manufacturing plants in the north of England and in Scotland for the building of six bridges which are designed for erection at six points across the Rhine."

All that is necessary for their construction is the structural steel and this has been ordered and is being manufactured in the United States. This one order, unquestionably one of the largest in point of tonnage ever given to a steel manufacturer, doubtless accounts in part for the sensational rise in the market price of the company's shares in Wall street.

"Of course this one order itself forms but a small part of the great total of orders for steel which American manufacturers have received from the British Government in the last six months, yet it involves many hundreds of thousands of tons and a very large sum of money."

BUILDING IS A GAMBLE

GERMAN FLEET SLIPS BY BRITISH WARSHIPS; BIG BATTLE RUMORED

Large Squadron of Kaiser's Cruisers Sighted in North Sea by Captains of Norwegian Vessels. Heavy Firing Heard.

LONDON, April 12.—Reports that a German squadron has escaped the British blockade and has been engaged by British warships off the coast of Norway, south of Bergen, were received here today from a number of Scandinavian ports. The Admiralty flatly refused comment.

A dispatch from Hull this afternoon said that residents of Bridlington, 22 miles from Hull, reported they heard heavy cannonading coming from the direction of the North Sea late Saturday night. Other North Sea villages were filled with rumors of a naval engagement.

Captains of Scandinavian vessels arriving at Copenhagen today reported sighting German warships in the North Sea, at least 450 miles from Heligoland, on Wednesday and Thursday. Several skippers were positive there were 15 warships in the German fleet. Others guessed the number at 25.

A Norwegian steamer from Bergen reported she met a British cruiser south of Bergen while proceeding to Copenhagen, and was warned to hug the coast for the remainder of her journey.

Norwegian newspapers printed at Bergen carried rumors today of a naval battle off Sartor Island, on the Norwegian coast, on Wednesday night. At about 11 o'clock, according to the reports, there was a heavy cannonade, the blue light of gunfire on the horizon and windows rattled on the island. Persons who congregated on the beach were convinced a sea fight had occurred.

Residents of Autzire Island, 30 miles south of Bergen, reported that early Thursday morning they sighted a squadron steaming in a northwesterly direction. The nationality of the ships was unknown, according to the Bergen newspapers.

Captain Sorenson, of the steamship Vestor, reported when he put into the North Sea, and reports of heavy cannonading off the coast. In the present instance the reports came from several different sources and they were given some credence in London today. It was believed possible that a squadron of six German battle cruisers may have escaped from the German coast to raid British commerce, confident that their speed would save them from capture.

THINK GIRL OF 17 WAS SLAIN

Marks of Violence on Body of Miss Sullivan.

Slip on Roof Causes Suspect's Capture

CARDINAL PUTS HOPE FOR PEACE IN POPE AND U. S.

Gibbons Gives Evening Ledger Exclusive Interview on Message of Benedict XV.

His Eminence Departs From Rule He Had Made Not to Discuss Situation Abroad. Thinks Christianity Will Not Suffer Through War.

He Declares the Holy See Will Exert Powerful Moral Influence in This Country Toward Bringing an End to Hostilities Between the Warring Nations.

It was thus that James Cardinal Gibbons, in an exclusive interview—granted to an EVENING LEDGER representative today at the Archbishop's residence—voiced his comment on the widely discussed peace message of Pope Benedict XV, called to America yesterday.

The Cardinal is, among the public men of America, perhaps the most careful in making public statements, and has discontinued commenting in the newspapers on the war. He refused to see the reporters in regard to Pope Benedict's statement yesterday, but he expressed to the EVENING LEDGER representative today the hope that the message from the Vatican would be a potent influence in effecting an early cessation of hostilities among the warring countries of Europe.

GREAT MORAL INFLUENCE

"I presume the interview is an authentic one," he said, earnestly, "and it is, it reflects great honor on the paternal heart of the Holy Father, who manifests so earnest a desire for the early close of the war."

"I was also much pleased to see that he entertains great hope that the United States Government may be a very potent factor in bringing the war to a close."

Just what initiative steps he thought President Wilson might be able to take in order to bring about, with the cooperation of the Holy See, a condition favorable to an early peace, his Eminence would not state, but he intimated that the Pope's message might be expected to exert a tremendous moral influence in causing an early termination to the great carnage now going on, and that, after all the evil of war, some good might come.

CHRISTIANITY FURTHERED

"The cause of Christianity," he said, with deep conviction, "will be furthered rather than retarded. Already a fresh, strong impetus to religious practices the world over has been given by the war, and I hear that the German, French, English, Irish and soldiers of all nations engaged in the conflict turn to the author of the message for consolation and comfort in the face of the terrible work that confronts them."

AMERICAN LINER CALLS FOR HELP OFF JAPAN

Five Steamships and Two Jap Warships Rush to Aid Minnesota, Which Is Ashore.

TOKIO, April 12.—Five steamships and two Japanese warships rushed to the assistance of the American liner Minnesota today in response to a wireless call from the ship, which is stranded ashore in the Inland Sea, the long strait separating the island of Nippon from the islands of Kjusiu and Shikoku.

The Minnesota, largest liner on the Pacific Coast, is reported to have about 1500 persons aboard. She was bound from Manila to Seattle when she went ashore.

A severe storm recently had been sweeping Japan, and it is believed that this was responsible for the predicament of the Minnesota, though a wireless dispatch sent from the ship early today said that the weather was calm at that time.

The Minnesota is commanded by Captain Gierke, one of the most capable navigators of the Pacific Ocean. She is a vessel of 13,211 tons and is owned by the Great Northern Steamship Company.

BULLETINS

BETHLEHEM STEEL SKYROCKETS AGAIN

FIVE-YEAR-OLD CAMDEN CHILD FATALLY BURNED

LINDSEY OPPONENTS LOSE FIGHT

BATTLE IN PROGRESS IN MEXICO

COFFIN WITH CHILD'S BODY HURLED TO STREET

AVIATOR FALLS 60 FEET TO HIS DEATH

PARENTS ADVERTISE FOR STOLEN BABY

UPSETS LAMP IN TENT; DYING OF BURNS

HOUSE OF CORRECTION INMATE CHOKES TO DEATH

PRESIDENT WILL ATTEND RECEPTION HERE IN MAY

ARGUMENT ON THAW'S PLEA POSTPONED

536 MEN WANT CIVIL SERVICE JOBS

TWO MILLIONAIRES INDICTED FOR CONSPIRACY

CHARGES AGAINST DR. PARKHURST DISMISSED

BULGAR ASSAULTS ON SERB FRONTIER

TWO AMERICAN SHIPS SEIZED BY BRITISH

MAN JUMPS FROM BRIDGE INTO RIVER

GERMAN RAIDER'S CAPTAIN SCORNS CORDON OF FOES

As Easy to Dash Out of Newport News as It Was to Slip in, He Confidently Declares

Naval Experts Deem Interment Necessary on Account of Damage to Kronprinz Wilhelm—German Officers Criticize Britons' Strategy.

U. S. Authorities Demand Early Answer to Query as to Duration of Cruiser's Stay—Wireless "Team Work" With Eitel Suspected by Washington.

NORFOLK, Va., April 12.—Captain Thierfelder, of the German converted cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm, at Newport News, announced today that his ship would be ready for sea in two weeks.

That the raider would intern, experts deemed certain. Captain Thierfelder declared, however, that his ship had more work to do on the high seas, saying: "We are too speedy to be caught unless they take us unawares." He asserted: "We get out as soon as the enemy can get out in the same way."

Captain Thierfelder, in all his conversations, insisted his ship would make a dash to sea as soon as it was re-equipped and repaired.

No official cognizance had yet been taken of reports that the German vessel cleared irregularly when it left Newport News. Thierfelder admitted the ship could be repaired in the neighborhood, but explained that its orders were changed by wireless. Port authorities said the matter would be investigated.

SUPPLIES TAKEN ON

Collector of the Port Hamilton asked the German commander to make all possible haste with his request estimating the time the Kronprinz would need to re-equip at Newport News.

German officials permitted the cruiser to take on fresh vegetables, meat, 200 gallons of water, necessaries for relief of the beriberi sufferers on board, and 10 tons of coal.

The crew's water had been limited for 10 days to a decidedly brackish supply from the condensers, and there was a rush for the tanks today as soon as the work of refilling began.

Forty British prisoners on the Kronprinz Wilhelm were transferred this afternoon to the British horse ship Casanova, leaving tonight for Avonmouth.

Any officers virtually were unanimous in protesting that the Kronprinz Wilhelm would intern. They pointed out that it was a simple matter for a fast vessel, and a cruise in the neighborhood was not suspected, to slip into Hampton Roads even though four hostile cruisers were waiting outside the harbor. It would be an entirely different matter, they said, for the raider to get out of Hampton Roads safely, as the British cruisers undoubtedly would get notice of.

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THE WEATHER

FAIR

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity—Fair and somewhat colder tonight and Tuesday; fresh west to northwest wind.