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PRICE ONE CENT

PARIS SANGUINE AS FRENCH STAND FIRM ON MEUSE

German Assaults Hurling Back on Both Banks of River Near Verdun

RIBOT SEES EARLY PEACE

Teutons Preparing Fresh Assaults on Positions at Vaux

BERLIN, March 18.—The German offensive around Verdun has slackened because of weather conditions, the War Office announced this afternoon.

PARIS, March 18.—Operations on the Verdun front were confined to artillery bombardments, according to today's official communique.

PARIS, March 18.—Optimism in Paris has reached its record mark as a result of the crushing setbacks administered to the arms of the German Crown Prince on both sides of the Meuse River at Verdun.

This was the 37th day of the great battle on which the Kaiser had staked so much.

OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE. The text of the official communique this afternoon follows:

In the Argonne, in the sector of Courtes Chaussees, a battle of mines resulted to our advantage.

East of the Meuse there was a violent bombardment in the region of Vaux. It was intermittent at other points in that sector, as well as in the Argonne.

During the night of March 17-18, a squadron of 17 bombing aeroplanes threw 54 shells of large calibre.

HIT XERXES SUNKEN SHIPS So Greek Naval Officers Believe—Will Investigate

ATHENS, March 18.—During the mine-sweeping practice by Greek naval vessels in the Bay of Eleusis this week, obstacles were encountered which are thought to be Persian galleys of Xerxes's fleet, sunk 2400 years ago.

COW SWALLOWS \$300 Prize Guernsey Eats Bills of North Carolina Farmer

DURHAM, N. C., March 18.—John Layton, a farmer near Durham, had no faith in banks.

THE WEATHER At last, with the mercury down to 10 degrees, it has become known to us why a certain foreboding is credited with having a very highly-developed intelligence.

LOST AND FOUND BARBERS' List, containing missing passes, returned to E. H. Lewis, 114 E. 17th.

Monte Crispin, a Thrilling Tale of Adventure and Mystery in Philadelphia, Begins on Page 7 of This Issue



DR. DWIGHT W. WYLIE Called to the pastorate of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 50th street and Baltimore avenue, from Iowa City, Ia., where he was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church.

'JIM CROW' BISHOP NOT DESIRABLE, SAY METHODISTS

Conference Votes Down the Mississippi Amendment

HOT DEBATE ON PLAN

Today's Program 4 p. m.—Pentecostal service, 8 p. m.—Anniversary of Conference Temperance Society.

The "Mississippi amendment" to the Methodist Episcopal constitution, providing for negro, Japanese and other bishops along strict color lines, was voted down today after a spirited debate of an hour at the fourth business meeting of the 125th session of the Philadelphia Annual Conference, at St. James' Church, Olney.

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COURAGEOUS WOMEN VANQUISH BURGLARS BY WIT AND MUSCLE

One Heroine Locks Intruder in Room He Was Plundering, Another Knocks Down Thief and Sits on Him

POLICEMEN DO THE REST

Two women in different parts of the city took their own part first and called for the police afterward when intruders entered their homes during the early hours of the morning.

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VILLA DISCHARGED BY COURT

Namaste of Mexican Bandit Ended Celebration in Cell

Villa celebrated St. Patrick's Day and is a much more sober man today.

YOUNG PRIZE FIGHTER DIES IN PATROL AFTER FATAL BLOW IN RING

Andrew Crowley, Lightweight Boxer, Expires on Way to Hospital, Following Injury Inflicted by Opponent

SIX MEN HELD IN CASE

U. S. LAYS TRAP FOR ITS JUDASES ON MEXICO LINE

Plans to Round Up Traitors and Mexican Agitators Tomorrow

FELIX DIAZ UP AGAIN

Carranza Attorney Holds Conference With Acting Secretary of State Polk

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Administration officials are gravely apprehensive of trouble along the Mexican border tomorrow.

Charles A. Douglas, Carranza attorney, called at the State Department today and told Acting Secretary Polk that this agitation was not confined to Mexicans.

Upon this suggestion it is expected that all agitators will be rounded up by Department of Justice agents and arrested.

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U. S. CLASH WITH VILLA NEARS AS FORCES GAIN IN BANDITS' WAKE OF LOOTING AND ARSON

Two American Columns Join in Casas Grandes Region for Pursuit of Outlaws

Carranza Troops Also Reported Near and Fight Imminent, but Battles Probably Will Be Guerrilla Affairs With Small Forces in Treacherous Mountainous Sections

Third Expedition Believed on Way Into Mexico as Two Cavalry Details Leave Columbus—Funston Asks Use of Railroads—Villa Spies Reported Active in El Paso

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, March 18.—Colonel Dodd's column is now within 30 miles of Villa's forces in the Galeana district, according to latest information at General Funston's headquarters.

Francisco Villa, hunted by American and Mexican Government troops, today is fleeing southward in the Casas Grandes Valley, burning and looting as he goes.

Francisco Villa is fleeing southward from the Casas Grandes district without waiting to offer resistance to the American troops sent to effect his capture.

Two American columns advancing into Mexico to capture Villa have effected a junction in the region of Casas Grandes.

Administration circles are "pleased" with the situation in Mexico, no trouble having been reported, except at Tampico, where there was "a little excitement."

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12 DU PONT MEN SAVED WHEN LAUNCH SINKS

Powder Works Employees Rescued by Steamship When Boat Hits Ice Floe

Twelve employees of the du Pont Powder plant at Carney's Point were rescued from a sinking "jitney boat."

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THREE MEN GET \$400 PIN IN CAFE HOLD-UP

Take Valuable Article After Rushing Into Place With Revolvers Drawn

The first night that William Malamut, of 21 North 10th street, put in as owner of the Glenwood Cafe, 936 Arch street,

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NEW WAR SECRETARY AMAZES WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Somnolent Washington is surprised at the new Secretary of War, Mr. Baker, because, among other things, he gets to work before the conventional (Washington) hour of 9 o'clock.

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AMERICAN NEGRO SAW PERISCOPE NEAR SILIUS

HAVRE, France, March 18.—The Norwegian Vice Consul says that an American negro seaman named Hartman on the destroyed vessel Silius had seen a periscope near the ship through the water.

BRITISH SHIP TORPEDOED OFF IRISH COAST

LONDON, March 18.—The British brigantine Willie has been sunk in the Atlantic near Valentia Island, off the west coast of Ireland.

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BULGARS AND GERMANS OPEN BATTLE IN GREECE WITH ALLIES

GENEVA, March 18.—Heavy forces of Bulgarian and German troops have entered Greece from Serbia, southwest of Lake Doiran, where they engaged the outposts of the Allies, according to information received here today from Athens.

DUTCH STEAMSHIP SUNK; FIFTY RESCUED

LONDON, March 18.—The Dutch steamship Palembang has been sunk. Fifty of her crew were rescued.

TURKS REPULSED ON ADEN FRONT

LONDON, March 18.—Turkish troops, led by three German officers, attacked the British troops defending the Aden front in Arabia on March 16, but were repulsed, the War Office announced today.

REPORTED SHIP SEIZURE BY BRAZIL UNCONFIRMED

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The Brazilian Embassy today said no confirmation had been received of the rumor that 44 German ships had been seized in Brazilian ports by the Government.

BRITISH EMBASSY SEES LITTLE HOPE OF PEACE PARLEY

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Commenting on the report that Premier Asquith would be asked to say whether the Government would agree to a peace conference, little hope for such action soon was held out at the British Embassy.

MARINES WILL REMAIN AT PHILADELPHIA NAVY YARD

No marines will be taken on the transport Hancock, which sails from League Island for Pensacola, Fla., late today, according to an announcement made at the Navy Yard.

P. R. R. PLANS \$5,000,000 BUILDING IN PITTSBURGH

PITTSBURGH, March 18.—Plans have just been approved by the Engineering Department of the Pennsylvania Railroad for the erection of a new building in connection with the present downtown building which, with accompanying trackage improvements, will cost \$5,000,000.

125,000 VETERANS WANT TO HUNT VILLA

A trained army of 125,000 men, who have seen service in the Philippines, Cuba and China, is promised to President Wilson in a resolution forwarded to him today by members of the Philadelphia Henry W. Lawton Post No. 5, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

ENVER PASHA SAFE IN CONSTANTINOPLE, ATHENS SAYS

ATHENS, March 18.—Enver Pasha, Turkish war leader, who has been reported as assassinated or wounded by a would-be assassin, has returned to Constantinople from a tour of inspection, according to advices received here today.

KWANG-SI REBELS PROCLAIM REPUBLIC

HONG KONG, March 18.—The Province of Kwang-Si has declared its independence of the Chinese Government. The revolutionists have proclaimed a republic. (Kwang-Si has an area of about 80,000 square miles and a population of 5,000,000.)

LIEBKNECHT CAUSES UPROAR IN REICHSTAG

LONDON, March 18.—There were turbulent scenes in the Reichstag, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company, when Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the Socialist, declared that the assassination of Crown Prince Franz Ferdinand of Austria at Sarajevo was a "gift from God."

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ANDREW CROWLEY Prize fighter killed by blow in boxing contest.

A blow on the neck preceded the death of Andrew Crowley, a lightweight boxer, of 2128 West Oxford street, which is being investigated today by the coroner.

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