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Nine Americans Battle Five Hours with 300 Mex. Bandits

Bandits Burn and Loot Village of Glenn Springs, Texas—Carry off Two Americans—Conditions on Border Line at Present Causing Much Uneasiness in Washington

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Organization of a new hunt in Mexico against Big Bend raiders confronted the administration to-day.

Officials believed a military readjustment along the border, with dispatch of a small body of men across the line to punish the Glenn Springs and Boquillas marauders, would meet the new situation.

The big element in renewed attacks against border towns, however, was that they came from points General Carranza had persistently claimed to control.

Persons in close touch with the embassy declared the raids were directed from the American side of the border to embarrass matters while the El Paso agreement was under negotiation. Maguistans, followers of Jesus Mangun, they thought, might be responsible. In other quarters, though, the belief was that men nominally Carranzistas, had broken down their control and swept over the boundary.

Administration leaders refused to believe that the raids were significant of a general anti-American feeling among Mexicans. In this connection they pointed out that Carranzista and United States soldiers helped each other in the latest attack against Villistas in Chihuahua, while several Mexican governors had proclaimed against anti-Americanism. Further evidence of a desire to co-operate with the Americans was seen in Carranza's acquiescence in El Paso peace pact essentials.

General Funston has a considerable force already in pursuit of the raiders. Crossing of the border under the recent protocol arrangement will undoubtedly be necessary. At the same time, the border patrol probably will be rearranged to give stronger protection to the Big Bend country.

Heretofore, the war department has felt scattered detachments were sufficient for that region, because it is sparsely settled and Coahuila flanking it has been strongly Carranzista and under control. The raids undoubtedly will be called to Carranza's attention with perhaps strong urging that he strengthen his Coahuila garrisons.

Searching for Bandits.

ALPINE, Texas, May 15.—American troops to-day rushed through the desolate stretches of the Big Bend country in pursuit of Mexican bandits who killed three American soldiers and a ten-year-old boy and captured two American citizens after a five-hour battle against a little detachment at Glenn Springs, Texas.

The Big Bend country was in a white heat of rage and throughout the district cattle men and other residents were rallying to the cry for vengeance. An entire battalion ordered out by General Funston, following delayed reports of the fight of American troops converging on Marathon, Texas, by railroad, will detain immediately and sweep southward over the desert toward the border. These troops are from Fort Bliss, El Paso, Fort Clark, Brackett, Texas, south of San Antonio, Presidio and Alpine. Fifteen cavalrymen dashed out of Alpine at the first news of the raid, to the aid of another small detachment of nine men which had arrived from a nearby desert post to aid the stricken American settlement.

The raid broke at 10 o'clock Friday night, when a force estimated at from 150 to 300 Mexicans crept up on the little wax settlement. They avoided the border patrol by a wide detour, forded the Rio Grande and crossed the intervening sandy stretch at night. There were nine men of the Fourteenth cavalry stationed at Glenn Springs to protect the settlement from attack. Others in the village were C. D. Wood and W. K. Ellis, owners of a wax factory, with their families; J. Deemer, owner of a general store, and F. Compton, employed as Deemer's clerk.

The wax factory represented the town's only industry and the store was the only trading post in a radius of many miles. A few Mexican families composed the remainder of the village. The nearest city lay eighty-five miles and the village was far removed from railroad communication. Retreating to an adobe house after firing a few shots with revolvers, the Americans barricaded the doors and began a five-hour fight against tremendous odds. In the end they were routed by fire when the Mexicans, despairing of approaching the hut while the Americans had any ammunition, hurled fire balls on the thatched roof. Three men fell as the detachment fled at fast from the blazing hut. The remainder, including some wounded, reached the shel-

ter of a rocky field and continued the fight until daylight, when the Mexicans with triumphant yells, mounted their horses and rode away carrying their captives, Deemer and Compton, and leading pack horses loaded with loot.

No hope was held out for Deemer and Compton. Knowing the character of the Mexican raiders through frequent border clashes, residents of the surrounding country were prepared to hear the worst regarding the fate of the two frontiersmen. Compton's son, a mute, was slain in the first few minutes of the raid, supposedly because the Mexicans thought the child was concealing information.

The attack centered on the soldiers. When the surviving troopers, most of them badly wounded, escaped to the hills back of the settlement, and lodged themselves behind sheltering rocks the Mexicans turned their attention to the village store. From their perch on the hillside the American troops saw the dark forms of the Mexicans passing in and out of the building as the loot was carried into the open and strapped to the pack horses. Then at dawn the building burst into flames. A residence soon followed, and in a few minutes the country was lighted by the flames of the burning settlement. The Mexicans made good targets, silhouetted against the light, and stains on the sand later convinced the Americans that some of their bullets had found their mark.

Thought Cure.

Anxious Mamma—"Little Dick is upstairs, crying with the toothache." Practical Papa—"Take him around to the dentist's."
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Germany Can't Last Until End of 1916

Danish Paper Says That Soldiers' Rations Were Cut Six Weeks Ago

LONDON, May 16.—The Danish paper, Ribstifts Tidende, claims to have discovered by a month's investigation that the belief prevails in Germany that it is impossible to continue the war to the end of 1916. Many in Germany believe that it cannot be maintained through the summer, the paper asserts and continues:

"The rations of the German soldiers were cut six weeks ago. Meat is becoming rare, bread is limited to twelve ounces daily and food parcels from the soldiers' homes are now forbidden lest the civilians themselves suffer."

"Desertions are numerous, and they include officers. Socialism is spreading amazingly among the troops. Slackness of discipline is evident, resulting from the extremely harsh treatment. The shortage of horses necessitated the reducing of gun teams."

"Ammunition and arms, however, continue to be produced in credible quantities."
 While numerous German papers, copies of which have just reached here, are harping upon the food troubles, the Kränische Zeitung, of May 7, asserts that "Germany is able to continue the war indefinitely, notwithstanding the inconveniences."

Incidentally, the paper announces the discovery of a process of making a certain quality of steel for munitions, for which Wolfram imported at great cost, has been necessary. The paper says: "No means at the disposal of our enemies can prevent the unexampled elasticity of German organization from being applied to every demand the war imposes."

"A new proof of this is presented in the fact that two Rheinisch-Westphalian firms have succeeded in producing steel of the highest efficiency for the so-called 'rapid process work,' without Wolfram. What this means for the munitions industry will be recognized abroad."

"There is no conceivable profligacy of shells which German industry is not capable of meeting with a still greater output. America can neither with her money nor with her supplies tear open the doors of a German fortress."

Lancot Objects To Further Recruiting

Should Wait, he Says, Till Enlistment Are Called Overseas

OTTAWA, May 15.—One Parliamentary protest was voiced against the Canadian war-aid bill for \$250,000,000 as it went through its final stages in the Commons. Mr. Roch Lancot Napierville, wanted a halt called those men now in khaki in Canada had been summoned to overseas service.

"I know I have no followers in this House," declared Mr. Lancot, speaking in French, "but I have in the country. Baron Shaughnessy spoke in Montreal in the presence of the Minister of Militia the sentiments I endorse."

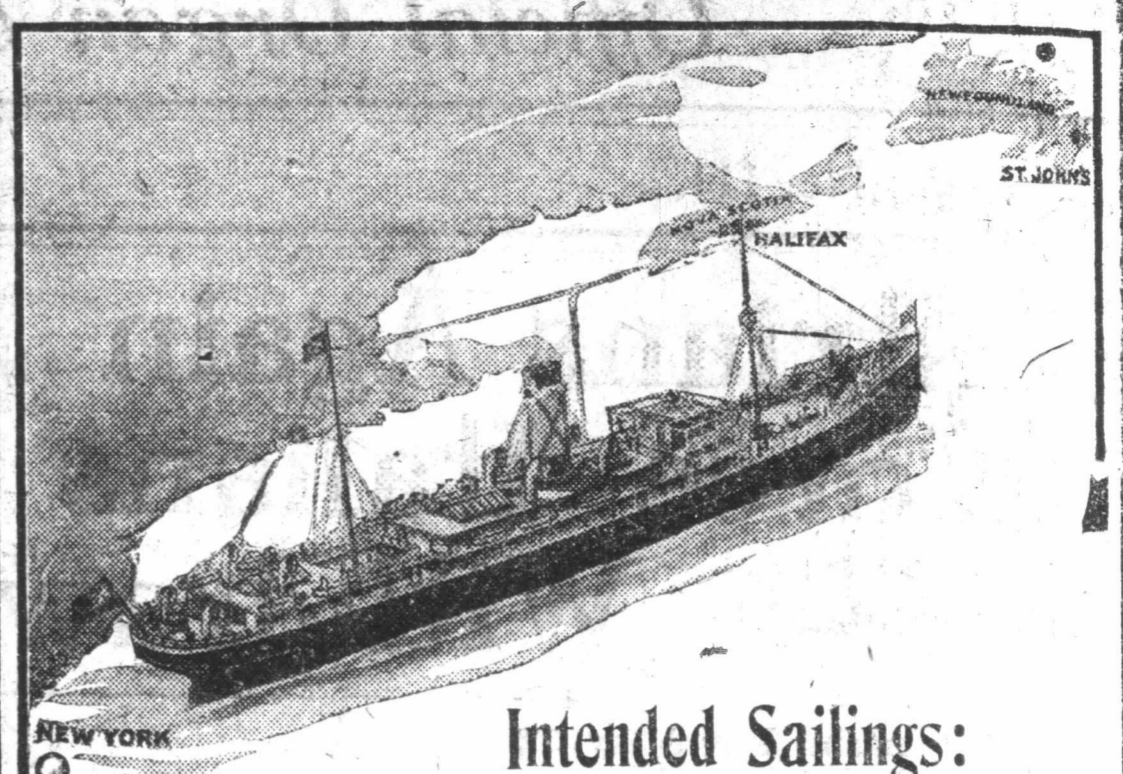
The Napierville member maintained that Canada was spending, between five and six millions a month, and that further recruiting should be stayed till those already recruited went forward, as western farms & industrial enterprise needed more men than they could secure. There were now, he maintained, some 200,000 enlisted men in Canada, who were doing here no good to themselves or the country. He further said that the British forces in Flanders were holding merely thirty-seven miles of trenches, a statement Hon. Mr. Casgrain promptly amended to 100 miles.

Mr. Lancot suggested that Dr. Michael Clark go back to England and seek to use his powers to stay political and Parliamentary turmoil there. "If all these soldiers in Canada were needed to save the Empire I would not be kicking," he continued. "In my constituency there is not five per cent of the people approving conditions as they are. I speak for myself, and if any others talk otherwise for the Liberal Party they are not talking for me. On this question I am not with the Liberal Party. I am not talking for votes in my country. I am talking from conscience."

Mr. Lancot added that if Sir Robert Borden had known two years ago that the war was coming he should have gone to England and told England to prepare, because England was not ready.

"If anyone will move an amendment to reduce this vote by one hundred millions I'll vote for it," concluded Mr. Lancot, who sat down amid silence. No one else spoke, and the bill was given its final reading.

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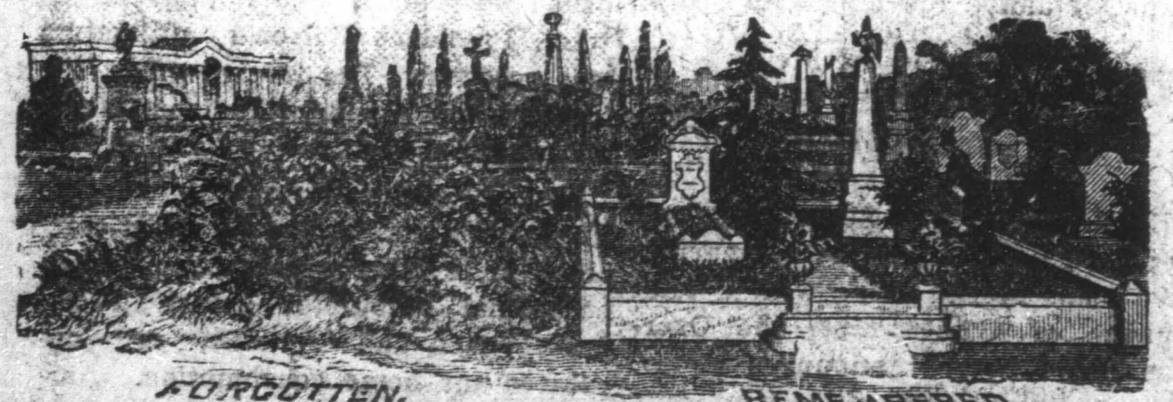
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