

Uneasiness in Hungary Over Verdun Drive Mexico States Her Position on Villa Affair Infantry Fighting Discontinued at Verdun

DOUBTS BEGIN TO ASSAIL THE ENEMY AS TO FINAL SUCCESS OF VERDUN DRIVE; IS IT OVER YET?

Austrian Guns Being Brought to Verdun and Even Austrian Troops Will Come Soon, and the Other Battle Fronts are Weakened—New Stage of the War Coming When Allies Will Drive.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, March 13.—A Budapest despatch of March 4, to The Morning Post says: "Considerable uneasiness exists here in view of the disappointing results up to now of Germany's offensive against Verdun. People here have been accustomed to something quite different on the part of the German and Austro-Hungarian armies when they decide on an offensive on a scale of this kind, and, as nearly two weeks have passed since the German attacks began, some anxiety is being expressed."

"The first is the relative greatness of the German losses in this fighting; the second, which is regarded here as beyond doubt, is that whatever fluctuation may happen at one or another front point, the French line will not be broken. If these two conditions continue, even the taking of Verdun itself, of which there is no prospect, would be a victory fatal to the German position."

GERMANS HAD TO ATTACK. "There is no temptation to prophesy, indeed when the major signs of the times are so clear. The unfavorable conditions of the last winter month proves that the Kaiser and his generals are under an urgent necessity to find laurels somehow."

MUST KEEP TROOPS IN WEST. "Military circles here point out that it is essential, in view of the German efforts at Verdun, to keep an adequate number of troops all along the western front. They even suggest as a grave peril that if the issue is not brought to a settlement soon it will be necessary for the Germans to send Austro-Hungarian troops to the western front."

GREATEST BATTLE IN HISTORY. A despatch to The Chronicle from Paris says: "We are at the twenty-first day of what may at least plausibly be called the greatest battle of history. In terms of human heroism and suffering, it may not surpass the great battles of Ypres and the Yser of October and November 1914, but the German losses are now very much larger, and France has this time to bear all the weight of the allied cause. In the expenditure of material power, the present struggle is incomparably more terrific on both sides."

In tactical method there is a curious parallelism, which shows the limitation of the German system of scientific preparation. The fighting of the last weeks had the same desperate intensity as that around Ypres, with a still wilder expenditure of life and munitions. The displacements of the batteries and regiments involved must have been on a colossal scale. The French this time had the advantage of working "on interior lines" as soldiers say.

THE FINAL PHASE.

"Have we now reached the final phase of the battle? No one is inclined to prophesy, especially as the hope of the allies does not point to the one more than the other, alternative. If the German command now breaks off the struggle, it will have some later effort; if it continues to sacrifice them, the purpose of the whole war is being won on the heights of the Meuse. "For two things are established: "The first is the relative greatness of the German losses in this fighting; the second, which is regarded here as beyond doubt, is that whatever fluctuation may happen at one or another front point, the French line will not be broken. If these two conditions continue, even the taking of Verdun itself, of which there is no prospect, would be a victory fatal to the German position."

NO INFANTRY FIGHTING LATELY

PARIS, March 13, via London.—There has been no infantry fighting last night in the region to the north of Verdun, according to the official announcement made by the French war office this afternoon. There has been, however, a continuance of the artillery action along all this front.

Remember The Fashion Pageant to be held next Wednesday and Thursday, displaying the Spring's most favored styles, which will be shown on mannequins, should be attended by every lady in Brantford. Cards of admission may be secured on request. E. B. Crompton & Co. Limited.

GERMANY'S FLEET IS GETTING READY TO DASH OUT TO MEET THE BRITISH

Hun Officers Drinking With Enthusiasm the Toast to "The Day"—Navy is Going Out Because If It Is Lost Fighting It Will Cause More Damage to Its Opponents Than If It Does Not Fight at All.

VERDUN LOSSES VERY HIGH No Movement of American Troops Across the Border Will Take Place To-day, Announces the United States Commander.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Rotterdam, March 13.—(Despatch to the London Daily Mail and The Montreal Gazette)—Germany's canal-bound fleet is preparing to move. For many weeks I have been receiving information and now I am able to state that the vaunted high sea fleet is to make an attempt to justify its proud title. I learn that the famous toast of "The Day" is being drunk with an enthusiasm that heralds imminent action.

THE question will at once be asked: Why should the German fleet accept battle now after refusing to fight for nineteen months? What has happened in the meantime to give her admirals greater confidence and endow her ships with greater power? What miracle of organization, what triumphs of invention, have occurred to send the German high sea fleet to do battle with the mightiest navy of all time?

NO MOVEMENT TO-DAY. "The total of our losses at Verdun is less than one-third of our losses in the Champagne in September."

San Antonio, Tex., March 13.—No movement of the expeditionary forces that will search for Francisco Villa has been announced today, Major General Funston announced this morning.

RECRUITING MEETING UNDER NEW SYSTEM OF NOT CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS PROVES GREAT SUCCESS

Two Splendid Addresses Delivered Last Night by Major Sharp and Captain Price—The Serbian People and the Hun Invasion—Unpleasant Facts Canadians Are Reluctant to Admit.

The first of the weekly recruiting meetings held under the new system whereby no appeals are to be made to eligible young men to come forward to the platform to join the colors, was held last night at the Brant Theatre. Barring the fact that it was a little too long, the meeting was a splendid one, thoroughly enjoyable and a happy augury of all future gatherings of its kind. There were two speakers, Major Sharp of the Army Medical Corps, who saw active service in Serbia, and Captain Price of the 97th Battalion (American Legion) Toronto. Lt.-Colonel Cockshutt spoke briefly, also, and told the audience that the 125th and 126th were both ready and willing to receive recruits.

Major Sharp told a thrilling story of his experiences in Serbia. He paid a fine tribute to the Serbian people, to their loyalty, their patriotism, their gentleness, and their unconquerable spirit. He hinted at the horrible things he saw from Turkish misrule, the Serbs were not up to modern standards, especially in sanitary arrangements, and the plague of typhus and other diseases there was an appalling one. He described how the Germans made war on women and children, and his story of how a wonderfully intelligent and moral person, having appeared often in

newspapers and magazines, but coming altogether, their cumulative effect was to show that Germany is a madman, indeed—but a madman armed to the teeth, running wild to destroy the world. Before the speeches moving pictures were shown, consisting of war dramas and war pictures. There were depicted some very interesting scenes of the British navy. The 125th Battalion had also rendered a spirited selection and was heartily endorsed. On the platform were Mr. Joseph H. Ham, M. L. A., Lt.-Col. Cutcliffe, S. Brewster (chairman), Hon. Lt.-Col. Cockshutt, M.P., Capt. W. N. Andrews, Capt. E. Sweet, Lt.-Col. Harry Cockshutt, Major Sharpe, and Capt. Price.

MR. BREWSTER "I am glad to see the ladies here to-night because I believe they are the best recruiting agents in the city of Brantford," said Mr. Brewster, in a brief address. The object of these meetings was to create a spirit of enthusiasm, among the young men, so that they would join the colors. As the war went on, it was becoming more and more apparent that it would be won by British men and British money. That was saying nothing in disparagement of the splendid work of the great thing was to win the war. The manufacturers of Brantford would recognize that, he felt sure, and would willingly allow their employees to join the ranks of the 125th and 126th.

MAJOR SHARPE. "I would feel my time was wasted if I did not bring a message," said Major Sharpe in opening his address. We had to have one purpose and one purpose only, to win this war as soon as possible. Canadians had to have a duty to win, not merely a will to win. Major Sharpe went forward to Belgrade last July in response to a cablegram. He went forward with the idea in his mind that whatever sacrifice he had to make it was worth it in these times. The Serbians were a noble, intelligent people. They were not removed more than a degree or two from being peasants. They love music, they love poetry, they love flowers. They are a soldier in the hospital when writing to his wife penned the epistle in poetry.

ONLY A PRETEXT. The murder at Sarajevo was only an excuse for the war. In 1914, even Austria asked Italy to assist her in attacking Serbia. Italy refused; Germany, when asked, said she was ready. But she hastened to get ready and snatched the pretext of the Archduke's assassination. The murderers were really Austrian Serbs; the man who actually committed the crime was imprisoned by the Belgrade police and was released on demand of the Austrian Consul. The ultimatum of Austria to Serbia simply could not have been accepted by an independent nation. She had 48 hours to answer the demand, and agreed to all the terms except two, which were referred to the Austrian minister left; next day Serbia was bombarded. Even then, Serbia offered to accept the terms. But Austria invaded Serbia, and were utterly defeated 120,000 of their men were taken. From a whole year that was kept the way to Constantinople closed to the Central powers.

KING PETER'S APPEAL. A touching story was told by Maj. Sharp of the aged King of Serbia, King Peter. When the Austrians invaded Serbia, the king addressed his troops. He told them that they and their country had just come through two wars, and he would not ask them to fight. He himself, whatever they did, would advance against the enemy.

These sayings were slaughtered ruthlessly by the great exponent of "blood and iron" roused the audience. Any man who whereby no appeals are to be made to eligible young men to come forward to the platform to join the colors, was held last night at the Brant Theatre. Barring the fact that it was a little too long, the meeting was a splendid one, thoroughly enjoyable and a happy augury of all future gatherings of its kind. There were two speakers, Major Sharp of the Army Medical Corps, who saw active service in Serbia, and Captain Price of the 97th Battalion (American Legion) Toronto. Lt.-Colonel Cockshutt spoke briefly, also, and told the audience that the 125th and 126th were both ready and willing to receive recruits.

Major Sharp told a thrilling story of his experiences in Serbia. He paid a fine tribute to the Serbian people, to their loyalty, their patriotism, their gentleness, and their unconquerable spirit. He hinted at the horrible things he saw from Turkish misrule, the Serbs were not up to modern standards, especially in sanitary arrangements, and the plague of typhus and other diseases there was an appalling one. He described how the Germans made war on women and children, and his story of how a wonderfully intelligent and moral person, having appeared often in

GENERAL CARRANZA ISSUES MANIFESTO TO HIS PEOPLE; U.S. MUST RESPECT MEXICO'S RIGHTS

Expedition of American Troops After Villa is for the Purpose of Capturing Him and Turning Him Over to Mexican Authorities—Some Highly Colored Editorials From the Official Mexican Newspapers.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Mexico City, March 13.—General Carranza last night issued the following manifesto to the nation: "Because of the assault which Francisco Villa and the bandits who accompanied him on the town of Columbus, in American territory, burning houses and killing some of the inhabitants, soldiers as well as civilians, the international situation in these moments is very delicate as the North American press have excited their people against Mexico, and discussed the situation in the American congress, members of which have advised intervention."

"The constitutional government which I have the honor to represent, is also occupied diligently in an effort to solve this delicate situation, trying at all costs to maintain the dignity and sovereignty of Mexico and we are confident that this lamentable incident will be decorously arranged, and that there will be no reason for an international conflict."

INDIANS ONCE INVADED MEXICO.

"I have addressed the government of the United States through the foreign office, stating that the invasion of Mexico has historical precedents, as in the years 1880 and 1886 two parties of Indians coming from the United States, invaded Sonora and Chihuahua, committing crimes and depredations on the lives and properties of Mexicans. "It was then agreed between the two governments that the United States should permit the respective passage of armed forces, resulting in the extermination of the Indians. I have asked the United States government to pursue a like course in order to solve future difficulties, should they arise, noting that Villa and his companions are a group of bandits, whose acts the Mexican government or people would not be responsible for and that their reprehensible conduct is due to instigations of the reactionary element of its defeat, is trying by all means to bring on armed intervention in this hemisphere."

"I have not yet received the answer of the American Government. Along the frontier, I learn that the American forces are mobilizing to pursue and capture and deliver him to the Mexican authorities. That the expedition is in the nature of a punitive campaign, and that the sovereignty of Mexico will be respected. "The constitutional government has given instructions to its confidential agent at Washington that under no circumstances will any motive, be the reasons or explanations of the United States what they may, justify TO AVERT WAR.

A FIRE

At the Bell Factory in St. George.

The Courier has succeeded in securing, what are perhaps, the finest group photos of the 125th Battalion, including both bands, which may ever be possible to get. These will be published on Saturday, March 18th. The grouping of the different units is exceptionally well done, and the officers and men show up well. In addition to the group pictures, a limited number will be printed on heavy litho paper suitable for mounting, as a panel, and for cents each. The groups will not be ready until Thursday of this week, but proofs can be seen at the Courier Office, and orders for the pictures will be accepted at once.

"Fashion Pageant"

Secure your card of admission for the Fashion Pageant, to be held next Wednesday and Thursday. E. B. Crompton & Co. Limited.

the armed invasion of Mexican territory without reciprocal rights being granted to the Mexicans, and that not for an instant will the invasion of Mexican territory, or an outrage to its dignity be tolerated. "I am sure that in this I interpret the national sentiment and that the Mexican people will worthily comply with their duty, be the sacrifices what they may, to sustain their rights and sovereignty. If, unfortunately, we are dragged into a war, which the United States never can justify, we will not be responsible for the disastrous consequences, but will serve as instruments for Mexican traitors within and without our country, who have labored long to produce this result, and upon their heads will fall the inexorable justice of the Mexican people."

BLAMES U. S. REACTIONARIES. Under the caption "The Columbus case—rogueery of nationals and foreign-born," El Pueblo, the official organ of the Carranza Government, says editorially: "The infamous and traitorous work of reactionaries in the United States has finally reached its most abhorrent point. Because they were impotent to stem the military and political triumph of constitutionalism, they have tried to force armed intervention by the United States in the affairs of Mexico, in an endeavor to regain their lost power. "These enemies of civilization and liberty, conspire against the harmony and peace that ought to prevail between the two peoples, who, because of their inclinations, culture, ideals and geographical position, are called upon jointly to share the task of working out the destinies of this western hemisphere."

"The invitation of the Mexican government, founded, as it is, in international practice, is the most efficient means for satisfying public vengeance. We are profoundly convinced that the American government, maintaining that sanity and judgment so necessary in these unhappy events, will follow its initial policy of respect towards the Mexican government, and will combine with it to take such action as circumstances warrant. TO AVERT WAR. "In this way the misery of war thus provoked by the criminal manoeuvres of the enemies of both governments and both peoples will have been averted. At any rate, we can assure the whole world that Mexico will never lose her international citizenship, because, before that, she would prefer to succumb gloriously in the rough sea of an heroic struggle—the supreme recourse of a people born never to be slaves."

Blames U. S. Reactionaries. Under the caption "The Columbus case—rogueery of nationals and foreign-born," El Pueblo, the official organ of the Carranza Government, says editorially: "The infamous and traitorous work of reactionaries in the United States has finally reached its most abhorrent point. Because they were impotent to stem the military and political triumph of constitutionalism, they have tried to force armed intervention by the United States in the affairs of Mexico, in an endeavor to regain their lost power. "These enemies of civilization and liberty, conspire against the harmony and peace that ought to prevail between the two peoples, who, because of their inclinations, culture, ideals and geographical position, are called upon jointly to share the task of working out the destinies of this western hemisphere."

COURIER'S DAILY CARTOON



HEATRE FEATURES SPECIAL Paramount Features Present ALL STAR CAST in—The Old Homestead COMING SOON The Style Revue Displaying on Living Models All the Latest Creations For Milady

MARCH 13 - 14 Matinee Tues. an Festival! of the Eminent Actor Kellerd pable Company and Production ---Monday Venice---Tuesday linee Tuesday Night

Thursday MARCH 16th EXTRAORDINARY presents the Great Success SH and MUTTER and Production That Played and Hamilton. 50c, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.50. BOLES' DRUG STORE. After Performance.

use Saturday MARCH 18 TENNIS Present ancing Carnival of Youth Dreams me True Comedy That Delighted New ago One Entire Season. Glorious Girlhood Magnificent Costumes THE LAST WORD IN fun Dancing SALE, BOLES' DRUG STORE. \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c

UMBRELLAS Recovered and Repaired Always made sure to get the right man if you want a first-class job. H. Morrison, 51 Jarvis St. Bell phone 804. Work called for and delivered.