

BRITISH WARSHIPS FIGHT ZEPPELINS

Convoy Of Seven British Navy Submarines Make Attack On German Naval Base At Cuxhaven.

SUBMARINES ARE EVADED

British Lose One Man And Three Planes In An Attempt To Dig Out German Fleet

London.—Armed with warring courage spent a busy Christmas holiday. While a solitary German flew over the Thames estuary and dropped a single bomb, which fell in a roadway and did no damage, a convoy of seven British navy submarines visited the German naval base at Cuxhaven and dropped bombs on ships and the gas tanks. All but one of the British airplanes returned safely to the ships which conveyed them. Similar activity was displayed along the battle front. German airmen paying a surprise visit to Hovey; French aviators to Belgium; British to Brussels and other Belgian towns occupied by the German and German airmen to Polish cities.

Assisted by light cruisers, destroyers and submarines, seven British navy submarines, Christmas Day on the German naval base at Cuxhaven, at the mouth of the Elbe. Six of the airmen returned safely, but the seventh, Commander Hewitt, it is feared, has been lost. His machine was found of Helgoland wrecked. The enterprise of the British navy in this attempt to "dig out" the German fleet brought about a battle between the most modern of war machines. The British squadron, including the light cruisers *Archon* and *Albatross*, which have been engaged in previous exploits on the German coast, were attacked by Zeppelins, planes and submarines. By skillful maneuvering the ships were able to avoid the submarines. While the Zeppelins found the fire of the cruisers too dangerous for them to keep up the fight. The German planes dropped bombs, which, according to the British account, fell on the ships.

The British ships remained in the vicinity for three hours without being attacked by any surface warships and picked up three of the seven planes and their planes. Three others were picked up by submarines, but their machines were sunk.

MEXICANS ACCEPT SCOTT PLAN

Further Firing Into American Territory Prevented By Adoption Of American Proposals

Washington.—Secretary Bryan received word unofficially that all Mexican factions had agreed to the plan proposed by General Scott, United States chief of staff, to prevent further firing into American territory along the border.

Bartholomew G. Lorente, Washington agent of the Getzar government, of which General Maytorena, at Naco, is a supporter, was advised that the latter had accepted General Scott's plan. Lorente provided that General Hill of the Carranza forces abandon Naco and be permitted to go unmolested to Agua Prieta, already held by a portion of his troops.

General Maytorena, who has withdrawn his forces southward, would agree not to occupy Naco, which would become neutral.

Congress To Hasten Labors

Washington.—With leaders in both houses determined to push through all necessary legislation and avert an extra session after March 4, congressmen are expected to be cleared up quickly by the house. The senate, however, still has before it practically the entire legislative program outlined at the reopening of the session by the president. In addition to the immigration bill and the appropriation measure.

President Wilson Celebrates Birthday

Washington.—President Wilson celebrated his fifty-eighth birthday December 28. Congratulatory messages poured in from all parts of the United States and from foreign countries. No special observance of the anniversary was planned, and the president spent the day quietly with his family. President Wilson, it became known, plans to make several addresses on his return trip from the San Francisco exposition next spring, and his friends expect him to reply to attacks on his German and other policies.

Destroyer Hits Rocks

St. Andrews, Scotland.—A British torpedo boat destroyer went ashore on the coast of Kingsbarns, six miles southeast of St. Andrews. Her crew was saved by lifeboats. The destroyer, steaming south from Aberdeen, to the Fifth of Forth, in the darkness, and without shore lights, lost her bearings. After the rescue of a portion of her crew one of the lifeboats was stove in by the heavy sea and the remainder of the crew were saved by a second lifeboat only after considerable difficulty.

ALLISON HODGES FOUND DEAD

Well-to-Do Farmer Meets Death Near Dunn—May Have Been Murdered.

Lying dead between the two tracks of the Coast Line about midway between City and Godwin, Allison Hodges, a well-to-do farmer, whose home was near here, was found in a frozen pool of rain diluted blood at an early hour Monday. Mystery surrounds the manner of death, and the theory that the unfortunate man was killed under the wheels of a train is given little credence because of the absence of severe mutilation.

The dead man was here Sunday to visit his brother. Late in the evening he started about for his home several miles to the southward. That was the last known to have been seen of him alive; though the opinion is advanced by some that after leaving his brother's home he was met and murdered—his body being placed upon the tracks to cover the crime. It is not known, however, that there is any foundation for this rumor and few responsible citizens give it credence. The general opinion is that the man was overcome by extreme cold and fainting upon the tracks.

Farm Demonstration Criticisms

So far we have heard no criticisms from those who have worked a piece of corn or other crop under the demonstration methods and this convinces us that it is good work. It is a species of education—a kind that produces a lasting, perpetuating sort of knowledge that grows as time passes. There is no method so effective as a demonstration before a man's eyes; he sees and knows that it works, and he believes and begins to practice what his neighbor practiced under the personal supervision of the demonstration agent.

Some persons claim that they know as much about farming as the demonstration agent; perhaps they do, and in some instances they may know more, but they do not go from place to place throughout the country directing other farmers who do not practice the best methods here.

Must Go and Personally Supervise

this work until it becomes the rule of farming or it soon drops back into the same old run of indifferent farming. Another point not to be overlooked is this: the demonstration agent does not disseminate his own knowledge of experience, except as proven out under the methods he is instructed to use. The reports of all the tests are sent in to the departments, all details are recorded and the department goes through these reports from every state in the union and sifts out those methods found to be most successful and instruct the demonstration agents what sort of preparation, seed and cultivation, etc., to adopt for best results. Therefore when we work under the direction of the agent we are getting the cream of the most successful agricultural experiences the country over. We should be glad to learn the best. One other thing: This work that goes directly for the farmers best interest should be encouraged by everybody for indirectly all are benefited by it. When the farmer is prosperous everybody is prosperous.—Troy Montgomerian.

WAIT FOR HER, BOYS.

The girl who is unkind to her moth or isn't worth a tinker's dog gone. This isn't written in any part of the Bible, but it's written in the history of thousands and thousands of misfit homes. If one of you boys ever run across a girl with her face full of roses, with eyes that would make the song of an angel seem discordant and she says as she comes to the door:

I can't go for a few minutes, I've got to help mother with the dishes, don't give her up, stick to her like a burr to a mule's tail. Just sit down on the door step and wait. If she joins you in two or three minutes so much the better, but if you have to stay there on the door step for half an hour, or an hour, or you just wait for her. If you don't, somebody else will, and in time you will be sorry. For you will realize that you have lost.

Wait for her boys, she is worth it.—Laurinburg Exchange.

On Friday next the new year begins its 265-days journey. The past year has been a remarkable one for Dunn and its environs. The town has grown substantially during the past twelve-month. Of course development has been hindered by the business depression brought on by the low price of cotton, but fundamentally the town is in good shape. Every good citizen has good reason to believe that 1915 has many good things in store for this community.

WESTERN SAMPSON NOTES.

Cooper, N. C., Dec. 27.—Christmas passed off very quietly in this section. A few of our people, however, failed to understand the music that rang so strangely sweet across those Judson hills, "Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth, Peace, Good Will to Men."

We have had splendid weather for saving pork, and many of our farmers have fine prospects for plenty of homeraised meat.

Township Constable Barefoot had quite an exciting experience with a negro in the lower part of the township a few days ago. Barefoot, in company with a half dozen deputies, undertook to arrest the man when he refused to be taken, using a gun to defend himself. Many shots were fired but no one was seriously hurt. The negro escaped and has not been apprehended.

Plenty of quail in the forests this winter, but we are too far away from the sportsmen to be disturbed by any one trespassing.

Permsimon beer! Yes, we have had it, and none of the prohibitionists have objected to an occasional glass.

Not many of our people have made arrangements for their farming operations for 1915. The prevailing idea is I believe, to avoid debt as far as possible.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Page of Holt Morgan Mill, Fayetteville, spent the Christmas holidays in this section.

Many of her friends and neighbors find a tagging at her heart strings over the recent death of Mrs. Evander Dudley. She had been in declining health for many months, and her death wasn't unexpected. How pleasing to know that her life was void of mutterings and complainings and we cannot help but believe that she found favor with God and is today rejoicing in the presence of the Redeemer.

We had occasion to attend the Community Fair at Autryville a few days ago, and greater evidence for community progress we never saw. By far the best live stock and horticultural lectures we ever heard, being both practical and instructive.

Don't Keep Another Man's Money

One trouble now is that some people who can pay won't do it because times are tight. The little fellow who has to hustle to make ends meet manages somehow to pay a little here and a little there, and this is what it takes to keep things moving. A five dollar bill, if prized loose from some fellow's pile in the morning may get busy and pay a dozen debts before the sun goes down. If you owe and can pay now is the time to do so. Do you want some poor fellow to suffer just because he looked you in the face and thought you would do to trust? When you buy on the credit you simply say to the other fellow, "Give me a part of what you have until I can get the money or it is more convenient for me to pay you." But some folks act on the principle that the transaction merely implies a gift and not an obligation. Don't keep the other man's money.—Wadesboro Anoniam.

What The Farmer Did.

A city man recently visited his "country cousin." The man from the city wishing to explain the joys of metropolitan life said: "We have certainly been having fun the last few days. Thursday we autted to the country club and golfed until dark, then trolled back to town and danced until morning." The country cousin was not to be stumped in the least, and began telling of some of the pleasures of the simple life: "We have had pretty good times here, too. One day we bugged out to Uncle Ned's and went out to the back lot, where we baseballled all the afternoon. In the evening we meeked up into the attic and pecked until morning." A sturdy old farmer who was listening, not to be outdone, took up the conversation at this point and said: "I was having some fun about this time myself. I muled to the cornfield and gee-hawed until sundown. Then I spent several dark and pipped until 9 o'clock, after which I bedstedded until the clock struck, after which I breakfasted until it was time to go muling again.—Selected.

EMPHATIC NOTE TO ENGLAND FROM U.S.

BRITISH MUST CHANGE ATTITUDE TOWARD AMERICAN COMMERCE

WILL PROTECT EXPORTERS

President Wilson Personally Supervises the Documents Framed in State Department

Washington.—The United States dispatched a long note to Great Britain insisting on an early improvement in the treatment of American commerce by British ships. It warned England that such feeling had been aroused in this country and that public criticism was general over unwarranted interference with the legitimate foreign trade of the United States. The document, constituting the strongest representation on the subject made by the United States to any of the belligerents, was formally presented to Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary, by Solicitor General Johnson, Counselor Robert Lansing and Secretary Bryan and during the last two weeks had the personal attention of President Wilson, who revised its phrasing with minute care.

As the detailed point of view of the United States in the numerous specific cases of detentions and seizures of cargoes had been set forth in a series of emphatic protests most of which have gone unheeded, the communication was couched in general terms covering the entire subject of the relations between the United States and Great Britain as affected by the latter's naval policy, considered highly objectionable in this country.

The note declares that the United States is a friendly nation and that the United States considers it a duty to speak in terms of protest against any such policy.

LEO FRANK'S APPEAL GRANTED.

Washington.—Justice Lamar of the United States supreme court has granted an appeal from the refusal of the Federal district court for Northern Georgia to release on habeas corpus proceedings Leo M. Frank under death sentence for the murder of Mary Phagan, at Atlanta.

Frank has been sentenced to be hanged January 22, but Justice Lamar's action causes a stay of execution. Thirty days are given for the record of the proceedings in the lower court to be filed in the Supreme court here. The state of Georgia then may ask that the hearing of the case be advanced. Such suggestions generally are granted.

As a result of Justice Lamar's action the entire court will pass upon Frank's right to seek release from custody on a writ of habeas corpus on the ground that the trial court in Fulton county, Georgia, lost jurisdiction over him by its failure to have him present when the jury returned its verdict.

Mexican Factions Split.

Washington.—Despatches from the Brazilian minister in Mexico City dated there and received here described the political situation as full of uncertainties. The minister referred to the lack of harmony between the several chiefs, but indicated that nothing alarming had developed and that good order was being preserved. From his own agents also the state department was advised that friction existed between the Espino and Gutierrez-Villa factions.

Collapses of Geoply Mills Fear.

Kansas City, Mo.—Pine men were sought here in the collapse of a wooden canopy built to protect pedestrians passing a million dollar hotel building under construction. Two were killed and six seriously injured.

Walter S. Dickinson, an actor of Lincoln, Neb., died in a hospital. His skull was fractured. The other dead victim was a negro, James McLean, business agent for a labor union, who in a critical condition. The others injured were workmen employed on the building.

PLANT TOBACCO.

Mr. Cotton Farmer It Will Pay You To Plant Tobacco This Year.

If you feel that you are bound to have some cotton, buy a crop. You can buy it now cheaper than you can raise it, and the prospects for better prices the coming year do not look very encouraging with the large set surplus to be carried over in the history of the country. On the other hand the tobacco crop in Eastern Carolina has been short for the past three years. The average price for that time has been about \$15.00 per Cwt. The war has not cut this average down the past season and there is every reason to believe that the prices will be just as good another year. The countries that are at war are large producers of tobacco, and their crop will probably be cut entirely out, while the war will increase the demand for tobacco, as the armies are being furnished with tobacco and millions of men are using it that never used it before. Besides this the demand for our tobacco in other foreign countries is increasing in enormous proportions every year.

The average number of pounds raised per acre in Eastern Carolina the past three years is about 700, which, at the average price of 15 cents, is a revenue of \$105.00. This is three times the revenue received from cotton per acre in North Carolina the past three years and it does not cost any more to raise tobacco than cotton. Tobacco matures early and is harvested at a time when labor is not busy with the other crops. You can have your tobacco crop marketed by the time your cotton is ready to pick. Land that will raise a half of cotton per acre will produce 1,000 pounds of tobacco, which, at half the average price of the best three years, will net fourteen cents per acre. There have been millions of dollars of good cold cash, not cotton certificates, circulating in the tobacco market of Eastern Carolina this fall, and the tobacco farmers are in better shape during these hard times than anybody else in the South. Why not plant by their example?

Victory or defeat for one or the other of the contending armies will bring little or no blessing to the people who suffer, bleed and die, except as it may open the eyes of those who survive to the brutality of war, its waste, its uselessness.

It is now time to emphasize our American unity in spite of our diversity to glory in it; to be careful not to transplant and propagate the old world hate upon this newer continent; to realize that the United States must become a world server, and the stars and stripes in some form a world flag. We must also realize that the men who are working in the mines and shops, and that the hands which are to hold up that flag are consecrated to hard and dangerous toil in our midst. As we deal with them we deal with the world, we deal with humanity.

Now is the most auspicious moment to begin a holy war against war, and this is the one country in which may be forged the strongest weapon against it—a consciousness of our common likeness—a realization of our brotherhood.—Prof. Edward A. Steiner in the *Congregationalist*.

The Wonders of Cotton

ouched all the important movements of living. None has so much and none so little but cotton is a necessary part of his daily life. A bit of the irony of the gods is the fact that while war has demoralized the cotton industry, yet without cotton there could be no war. Not a single modern gun could be fired, nor a battleship sailed, nor an army be put in motion without this wonderful product of the modest cotton plant, for its fruit is the basis of all high explosives and smokeless powder. A warship is a floating cotton mill, from the natty suite of its jolly Jack tar to the grim shells ready as fuel for the 12-inch guns that make modern warfare so terrible. Long ago wood was brown into dyes as the material for army uniforms and the world fights its bat the today clad in cotton.—Southern Woman's Magazine.

Before planning your crops for a nother year, think over the tobacco proposition. It will pay you to try a small crop if you never have had any before. After many hard knocks trials and tribulations we have gotten the Dunn tobacco market established, so you can be sure of having a good market where you can dispose of your crop at the best advantage and with the least possible expense.

G. W. STALLINGS.

MUTE TALKS ON DEATHBED

Womas Born Speechless Tells of Her Suffering

The rarest case of its kind in local medical annals proved a puzzle to physicians when Mrs. Meliani Fouts, of Canaanville, born mute, was able to talk just before she died. Her daughter, Mrs. Mary McIntire nearly fainted when her mother told her how much she was suffering, these few words being the first she had ever uttered. She called her daughter by name several hours later and then passed away. Her husband, who died several years ago, also was a mute.—Zanesville (Ohio) Dispatch to Cleveland Press.

The Opportunity of America.

This generation of American citizens has never had such an opportunity to become conscious of its blessings as it now has. While the old world is rocking with the shock of war, while many of the nations involved have to face not only the foe from without, but alienated, unassimilated subjects, who will either refuse to fight or give but half-hearted support to their rulers, the United States of America has never been more united, more vitally one, than now.

It has two possible foes to face—neither of them from without, both of them from within. One of them is the struggle between capital and labor, with its sharpening of class consciousness until it may become a two-edged sword liable to hurt not only the contending forces but the vital life of the nation. The other is the growth of race prejudice, which may be strengthened rather than weakened by the present conflict in Europe.

We have a Monroe Doctrine, which justly excludes foreign powers from getting a foothold upon the continent. We also have a Christ doctrine, which includes humanity, as the other excludes governments. The sympathy of the American people must be with the people—with all the people who have been suddenly severed from their country's civilization.

BRITISH AIRMEN PURVEY

Seattle Aeroplane Struck Over Ocean and Crashed to Sea By Accident

Several reports were filed from Seattle, apparently without being checked by the British, that a British aeroplane had crashed in the Pacific Ocean near the coast of the United States.

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ITALY MAY WAR WITH THE TURKS

Landing of Italian Fleet at Athens Against Turkish Rule May Have Far-reaching Results

A REVOLUTION IN ALBANIA

French Report States That Further Small Advances Have Been Made in West

London.—Christmas brought no rest to the European armies. It found the Russians still fighting desperately in the snows of Finland against the three attacks of the German and Austrian allies; Przemysl in still in the grip of the invading army; the French making spasmodic thrusts against the strong German line of trenches in northern and southwestern France, and the British and Italian forces engaged in almost hand-to-hand warfare against the German trenches in west Belgium.

The French fleet covered the coast along the coast and eastern Spain, while the German destroyers they have taken the second British trenches in Belgium. Both sides assert they have repulsed attacks at various points, which indicates that the fighting process is under way all along the front.

So close are the trenches of the Allies and Germans at many points that almost the only weapons used are hand grenades, since it is impossible for the men to expose themselves even to use their rifles.

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