

THE WEATHER

Showers Friday; Saturday, partly cloudy.

THE MORNING STAR

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

More than war depression will be necessary to dampen its ardor. Have you issued your invitation to the public for a share of its holiday business?

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WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 4, 1914

WHOLE NUMBER 13,889.

INTEREST CENTERS IN RUSSIAN VS. GERMAN STRUGGLE IN THE EAST

Muscovites Have Approached Within Firing Distance of Cracow, Fall of Which Would Lay Open Roads to Vienna. Breslau and Berlin—Heavy Batteries Are Being Mounted for Siege of Strategic Fortress.

HEAVY CANNONADING AT WIDELY SEPARATED POINTS IN THE WEST

Important as is Impending Siege of Cracow, the Main Interest in the East Continues With Operations on the Frontier Through Lodz and Lowicz to East Prussian Border—Official Announcements Indefinite.

London, December 3.—With the lull in the battle in the West, which has become a heavy cannonade at widely separated points, with only occasional infantry attacks, interest centers in the struggle between the Russians and Germans in the East.

At last the Russians have approached within firing distance of Cracow, their advance from Przemysl having proceeded without real check. They were reported today to be mounting heavy batteries around the town of Wieliczka, which they occupied yesterday and from which the outer forts of Cracow can be reached.

Important as this is—for the fall of Cracow would lay open the roads to Vienna, Breslau and Berlin—the main interest in the East continues to rest with the operations on the irregular front through Lodz and Lowicz to the East Prussian border. Official announcements as to progress here are guarded and indefinite, and it is difficult to arrive at a conclusion as to the course of events.

It is apparent, however, that a new battle has developed southwest of Lodz, where the Germans have formed a new line with fresh forces from Kalisz and are again trying to penetrate the Russian center.

The Russians, too, have had time to straighten out their line and, in the eyes of the allies, another battle following so closely that just concluded in this region must help them in the long run, for, it is argued, win or lose, the Germans must be further weakened, and in addition, soon will have to turn their attention to the Russian offensive against Silesia and around Cracow.

On the other hand, German experts believe that defeat for the Russians would enable the German generals to unite all their forces for another blow against the allies in the West.

There has been no news for some days of the fighting in the Caucasus or in Egypt, but throughout the whole of Africa more liveliness is anticipated, now that General Christian De Wet has been captured, and General Louis Botha can carry out his original plans of moving against German Southwest Africa; the first Australian and New Zealand contingents have been landed in Egypt for operations against the Turks, and Portuguese reinforcements have reached Angola to take the offensive against the Germans on their African borders.

The political event of the day was the Premier of Italy's announcement that nothing had intervened to prompt Italy to alter her policy of neutrality.

RUSSIAN OFFICIAL REPORT.

523 Fighting Continues in Certain Places on Front. Petrograd, Dec. 3.—The following official statement was issued today from the general headquarters.

"In Alsace the station of Burnhaupt has been occupied, and we have established ourselves on a line comprising Aspach, the bridge of Aspach and Burnhaupt."

DUTCH TROOPS KILL BELGIANS.

In Riot at Belgian Detention Camp at Zelst, Holland, Dec. 3.—The Bank of Nichols, of which Mr. McG. Buck, of Mullins, is president and Mr. B. E. Elvington, is cashier and general manager, was entered this morning at 3 o'clock and robbed of eighteen hundred dollars. The safe was blown open and completely wrecked and the interior of the office was demolished. It will take about \$1,500 to \$2,000 to cover the damage. There were five in the party for they were seen by a negro as they were running down the railroad track toward Mullins.

10,000 SERBIANS PRISONERS.

Taken Since Austrians Began Present Offensive Movement. Berlin, Dec. 3.—(By Wireless to London.)—Nineteen thousand Serbian prisoners have been taken since the Austrians began the present offensive movement, according to a report received today from Vienna. News from other sources indicates that Serbia's casualties since the beginning of the war will reach about 100,000, or virtually one-third of her entire strength. Reports of further Serbian retreats to the east of the Kolubara, the Tiber rivers tend to confirm the prediction of military observers that the end of Serbian resistance cannot be far off.

PARIS OFFICIAL REPORT.

Allies Have Occupied Lesmentis and Signal of Xen. Paris, Dec. 3.—The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight:

"The only interesting news relates to our right wing and to the day of December 2d. On the right bank of the river Moselle we have occupied Lesmentis and the Signal of Xen."

Paris, Dec. 3.—The French official report given out in Paris this afternoon says that yesterday there was a rather

Continued on Page Eight.

LOAN COMMITTEES BY STATES NAMED

For Handling \$135,000,000 Cotton Pool Fund.

IN SOUTHERN STATES J. G. Brown, of Raleigh, Chairman and J. V. Grainger, of Wilmington, Member of North Carolina Committee—Local Committees Next

Washington, Dec. 3.—The last important step preliminary to the actual operation of the \$135,000,000 cotton loan fund was taken today by the cotton loan committee when it completed the state committees in 11 of the Southern states. These committees will select local committees at once in every cotton producing community. The cotton loan committee also announced tonight that a meeting of the chairman of the state committees would be held here December 15th to discuss details of the loan plan.

Although the plans for putting the fund into the hands of cotton producers have gone steadily forward, it was indicated tonight that possibly a large part of the \$100,000,000 contributed by Northern banks might never be used. Officials here realize that some Southern producers are not particularly enthusiastic over the plan, in view of the interest to be paid on loans, and the prices now quoted on cotton on the New York and Liverpool exchanges.

North Carolina Committee The state loan committees announced tonight included: North Carolina: Joseph G. Brown, (chairman), Raleigh, W. C. Wilkinson, Charlotte, J. V. Grainger, Wilmington, J. Edwood Cox, Pine Point, John E. W. Durham, Neil Ellington, Greensboro.

South Carolina: R. G. Rhett (chairman); Henry Schachte, and E. H. Pringle, Jr., Charleston; E. W. Robertson, Columbia; C. G. Rowland, Sumter, and John M. Kinard, Newberry.

Tennessee: E. L. Riddle (chairman); Charles S. E. Ragland, Memphis; Memphis A. Lyster, and T. R. Preston, Chattanooga, and J. W. Vanden, Jacksonville.

Virginia: John M. Miller, Jr., (chairman) and Julien H. Hill, Richmond; Caldwell Hardy, Norfolk; Thomas B. Mc Adams, Richmond, and H. T. Nicholas, Lynchburg.

Completed copies of the plan, form of application for loans and general instructions were mailed to the chairman of the committees from the New York office today.

The State committees under the general plan of organization will appoint local committees in various towns of their states. It will be through these local committees that applications for loans will be forwarded to the State committees and by them to the cotton loan committee.

BANK OF NICHOLS, S. C. IS ROBBED BY YEGGMEN

Safe is Blown Open and \$1,800 Taken.

Interior of Building Damaged to Extent of \$1,500 or \$2,000—Robbers, Five in Number, Escape—Three Arrests Made

(Special Star Telegram) Nichols, S. C., Dec. 3.—The Bank of Nichols, of which Mr. McG. Buck, of Mullins, is president and Mr. B. E. Elvington, is cashier and general manager, was entered this morning at 3 o'clock and robbed of eighteen hundred dollars. The safe was blown open and completely wrecked and the interior of the office was demolished. It will take about \$1,500 to \$2,000 to cover the damage.

There were five in the party for they were seen by a negro as they were running down the railroad track toward Mullins.

Columbia was immediately called on for bloodhounds, which arrived on the train due here at 10:16 A. M. The dogs were immediately put on the scent and failed to make good and were called off.

Two men were arrested in Mullins this morning and are being held for examination, also one was arrested at Pee Dee.

The explosion was heard by a great many people here, but nothing was thought of until the telephone operator notified a citizen and he gave the general alarm. By this time they had made good their escape. They are supposed to belong to the Portland, Ned gang. It does not exactly look like professional work, but it was thoroughly done.

Quite a lot of excitement was created and Nichols had the appearance of the tobacco season. No statement has been made as to what the bank officers intend doing, but the presumption is, things will be put in first class trim, and the bank will do business at the same old stand.

WHEN BANKS HOARD THE PEOPLE HOARD

No More Panics Due to Distrust of Banks.

NEW BANKING SYSTEM Governor of Federal Reserve Board Describes Effects of New System and Gives President Wilson Principal Credit.

New York, Dec. 3.—Panic due to distrust of banks has been relegated to the museum of antiquities by the new Reserve Banking system, in the opinion of C. S. Hamlin, governor of the Federal Reserve Board, voiced today in a speech before the New York Chamber of Commerce.

"The Federal Reserve system will relegate to its proper place, the museum of antiquities, the panic generated by distrust in our banking system leading to a struggle of self preservation between bank and bank, individual and individual, and ultimate hoarding by the people," Mr. Hamlin asserted. "Such hoarding usually follows hoarding by the banks and does not precede it. If hoarding by banks should cease, hoarding by individuals would never occur, and both, I believe, will be relegated to obscurity under the Federal Reserve system."

Mr. Hamlin did not think that all panics would be gone away with, of necessity, by the new system. "If, in the future, business expands unduly under the spirit of speculation, the day of reckoning will surely come as it has in the past," he said. "Undue expansion will correct itself, just as the air bubble will ultimately burst. I believe, however, that the Federal Reserve banking system will materially check undue expansion."

"It is a fact, however, that even under the Federal Reserve system the banks still have it in their power to permit, if not to encourage, undue speculative activity, and if they do this the inevitable result—commercial stringency—must follow. When, however, the banks hoard and trust companies of the United States join the Federal Reserve system (I hope in the near future) even that possibility will be greatly minimized."

"Much speculation exists as to the authorized plan of the Federal Reserve system," he said. "I can say with confidence that no selfish interests assented at its birth. I can further say that beyond those primarily responsible for its provisions—Mr. Glass and others of the House; Senator Owen and others of the Senate, and the Secretary of the Treasury—there looms up one figure more entitled to the credit for its provisions than any other, and that is the man primarily responsible—President Wilson."

CHARGED WITH JUMPING BOND 20 YEARS AGO

Wealthy Chicago Lawyer and Churchman Arrested.

Carlton Hudson Believed to be Carlton H. Betts, Who 20 Years Ago Was Charged With Forgery in New York.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—Charged with forfeiting the bond on which Carlton Hudson Betts had been held 20 years ago when accused of forgery, Carlton Hudson, a wealthy attorney, for many years an active member of the Moody church of Chicago, was arrested here today at the request of the New York police. He was released on bond and will be given a hearing tomorrow. The arrest was made on complaint of Dr. Charles Sanders, whose uncle, Joshua Sanders, was on Betts' bond in 1894.

Hudson would make no statement. The policemen forced their way past Hudson's clerk today. Hudson was impatient at the intrusion.

"Captain O'Brien wants to see you," said a detective.

"What about?" snapped Hudson.

"This telegram from New York," replied the policeman.

Hudson read the telegram and turned to James McKee, an attorney, and an office partner.

"Would I better go with them?" he asked.

"I guess you'll have to," answered McKee.

At detective headquarters he begged to sit in the lieutenant's office while his attorney arranged a bond.

Hudson would not discuss his identification as Betts, the bond jumper of 20 years ago.

Charged With Forgery. New York, Dec. 3.—Carlton H. Betts fled this city 20 years ago, while awaiting trial on a charge of forging the name of Mrs. Margaret McGowan to a check for \$500. He was out on a bond of \$1,500, which was furnished by Joshua Saunders, his father's friend. The bond was forfeited.

Several attempts to locate Betts failed. Yesterday Lowell Thomas, a Chicago newspaper man, appeared at the office of Henry S. Cook, attorney for the heirs of Saunders, and announced that he knew where Betts could be found. Thomas later appeared in District Attorney Whitman's office and a warrant was sworn out.

FOR CONFERENCE WITH GEN. ZAPATA

Gutierrez and Villa Have Gone to Cuernavaca.

MEXICO CITY QUIET Villa Orders That No Private Property Be Occupied Without Consent of the Owner—Zapatistas Patrol the City.

Washington, Dec. 3.—Provisional President Gutierrez and General Villa and several military chiefs have gone from Mexico City to Cuernavaca to discuss with General Zapata the distribution of forces in the capital and vicinity. This was reported today in official dispatches to the State Department, which said conditions in Mexico City were quiet.

"Zapatistas patrol the city," said an announcement from the State Department, summarizing official messages, dated late last night.

"The army of the North is encamped in the suburbs. No further molestation of foreigners has occurred, and fair order is being maintained. There has been no friction."

General Villa, according to the dispatches, has ordered that no private property be occupied without the consent of the owners.

While the Mexican Railroad east from Mexico City has been damaged by Carranza troops, official dispatches say the British-owned railway system was left intact, and has been restored to the company's management and is operating.

The State Department was informed that General Carranza and General Candido Aguilar went to Jalapa three days ago, on an inspection tour.

DISCUSSED AIRCRAFT AND THEIR PART IN WARFARE

Captain Bristol Appears Before House Naval Committee.

Washington, Dec. 3.—Aircraft and their great part in modern warfare, were discussed today before the House Naval Committee by Captain Bristol, in charge of the naval aviation corps. Captain Bristol explained the value of aviators as seacraft and said that while submarines might not be discovered from the deck of a ship, they would be detected by airmen even if submerged 50 to 100 feet under the surface of the water.

Captain Bassett, in charge of naval militia, told the committee the naval militia under the new law of last session of Congress has been better organized and now numbers 7,100 men and 580 officers. No state is yet up to its full quota. The 7,650 have passed the Federal requirements and he expected a steady growth in this branch of the service.

CAPE FEAR TOWNSHIP LEADS ENTIRE SOUTH

Work in New Hanover Attracts Country's Attention.

U. S. Public Health Service, in Report Says Every School House and Every Residence Has Sanitary Conveniences

(Special Star Telegram) Washington, D. C. Dec. 3.—A remarkable instance of what a rural township can do in sanitation if it really makes up its mind to be progressive is given in an article just published by the United States Public Health Service, Cape Fear township, in New Hanover county, started out last summer on a sanitary campaign under the combined leadership of the County Board of Health, the State Board of Health and the United States Public Health Service in Wilmington.

As a result there has been great improvement in sanitary conditions. According to reports that have just come in, every school house and every home in the township is provided with sanitary conveniences.

"If there is any other rural township in the entire South that can show a progress equal to this, it ought to come to the fore and let itself be known," says the report.

"When a study of several hundred counties shows nearly one half of the farm homes without any sanitary conveniences at all, it is a matter of pride to point to the achievement of a township like Cape Fear in New Hanover county which demonstrates itself as being far ahead of the average."

P. R. A. Washington, Dec. 3.—Romulo S. Nacón, for three years minister to the United States from Argentina, today presented his credentials to President Wilson as the first American ambassador from his country.

DEFECTS OF NAVY ARE EXAGGERATED

Department Answers Misleading Statement Circulated.

TORPEDO EQUIPMENT GIVEN BY COL. SWINTON Statement Disproves Declaration That "of Long Range Torpedoes There Are Only 58 in the Navy" by Congressman Gardner.

Washington, Dec. 3.—What officials regard as popular exaggeration of admitted defects in the American navy torpedo equipment was the subject of a statement issued tonight by Secretary Daniels embodying a special report from Rear Admiral Strauss, chief of the bureau of ordnance. Specially the statement was prepared to disprove a misleading declaration that "of long range torpedoes there are only 58 in the navy," quoted from a speech by Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, who is urging the administration to support his resolution for an investigation of the Nation's military preparedness.

While the recent discussion of the subject has dealt only with the equipment in battleships and cruisers, Admiral Strauss took occasion to point out that long range torpedoes are neither required nor desired for submarines. He recalled that the British armored cruisers Aboukir, Cressy and Hogue were torpedoed and destroyed by a German submarine at a range of 500 yards.

"This statement standing by itself is calculated to leave a false impression," said Mr. Daniels. "In view of repeated statements that the navy has only 58 long range torpedoes, the chief of the bureau of ordnance has been asked to furnish a statement concerning the torpedo station and has complied as follows:

"The 58 long range torpedoes so often referred to as the only ones the navy possesses are of the 21-inch, 21-foot type, and there is no ship in the United States navy yet in commission that is prepared to take them. They are manufactured for new construction beginning with the Nevada, and the Oklahoma, and the two ships will not go into commission until about the end of next year. Their long range is possible only by an increase in the existing types and no ship prior to the Nevada and Oklahoma is constructed for torpedoes of this length. So far as the bureau of ordnance can ascertain, the only torpedoes having a range, or higher, than any torpedoes manufactured abroad.

"Beginning with the Virginia class, which went into commission principally in 1906, and up to and including the Texas, which went into commission this year, all the battleships are provided with 21-inch, 17-foot tubes. Within the last two years it was found that the 17-inch, 17-foot torpedo was to practically double its range and steps were taken at once to construct new torpedoes having the increased range. We already have a sufficient number of these longer range torpedoes to outfit the eight most recent dreadnoughts in commission and that is the equipment that they will have on board.

"In addition to the above there are being manufactured at the government works at Newport and the Bliss Works at Brooklyn a sufficient number to provide for the battleships of the long range States navy with the long range torpedo.

"All of the armored cruisers except four, and all of the older destroyers are provided with 18-inch tubes. All of the cruisers and all of the destroyers subsequent to destroyer No. 28, are provided with torpedoes that were up to date in range and speed one year ago. Since the beginning of the war developed for increasing the range of the 18-inch torpedoes of the newer type which will outfit all destroyers from No. 28 with the long range weapon.

"Long range torpedoes neither are required nor desired for submarines. Submarine warfare is of such a character as to make it advisable to use short range, high speed torpedoes and that is the class that submarines are being furnished with."

RECEPTION ENCOURAGING.

Villa Faction's View of Entry into Mexico City.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 3.—The reception of President Gutierrez and Gen. Villa in Mexico City was encouraging, according to advices to the Villa agency here today.

The Carranza agency made public dispatches dated Vera Cruz, saying the Carranza general, Ramon Turbe, had captured Guaymas on the west coast, and that Hermosillo was being besieged by Carranza troops. The Vera Cruz dispatch says General Caballero, claiming to be in control of the Villa faction, had attacked and routed Villa forces attempting to take Panuco. Attacks by General Herrera's Carranza forces on Villa strongholds in Chihuahua State were reported in unconfirmed dispatches.

The Vera Cruz reports said Zapata troops, which last week cut communication between Mexico City and Vera Cruz, had been driven into the mountains. Communication between the capital and Vera Cruz has been restored, it was said.

TWENTY PER CENT INCREASE OF WAGES

Greensville, S. C., Dec. 3.—H. D. Wheat, owner of the Irene Cotton Mills, of Gaffney, has announced that he will increase the wages of all operatives connected with his mill, which is one of the largest in the State.

Washington, Dec. 3.—President Wilson today declined an invitation to speak at the opening of the Congress here next week. He told Senators Fletcher and Ransdell that other engagements would prevent his attendance. Some members of the cabinet, however, are on the programme.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—More than half the public employees in the United States are in politics and their jobs are the sub-structure of the great political machines, Richard Henry Dana, of Boston, president of the National Civil Service League, declared here tonight in his annual address at the League's convention.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS

Of British Expeditionary Force for Six Weeks.

Recent Lull in Active Operations in the West—No Progress by Either Side, But a Re-Adjustment on Part of British.

London, Dec. 3.—Col. E. D. Swinton, of the intelligence department of the general staff of the British expeditionary force on the continent, in a narrative November 26th, gives a general review of the developments of the situation of the force for six weeks preceding that date.

There recently has been a lull in active operations, he says. No progress has been made by either side and yet there has come about an important re-adjustment in the scope of the part played by the British army as a whole. He explains the movement from the river Aisne to the Belgian frontier to prolong the left flank of the French army, and says that in attempting this the British force was compelled to assume responsibility for an extended section of the front. He points out that the British held only one-tenth of the line, and that the Allies in the common task of opposing the enemy fell and still falls to the French, while the Belgians played an almost vital part.

With the fall of Antwerp, the Germans made every effort to push forward a besieging force toward the west. Altogether they had a quarter of a million fresh men. Eventually the Germans had forth La Bassée about 14 corps and eight cavalry divisions, that is, a force of three quarters of a million men with which to attempt to drive the Allies into the sea. In addition there was immensely powerful armament and heavy siege artillery, which also had been brought up from around Antwerp.

German Forces Tremendous. The eye-witness tells of blows delivered by the Germans at Neuport, Dixmude and Ypres, where at first the Allies were greatly outnumbered.

For a long time the British army around Ypres held its ground against repeated onslaughts by vastly superior forces. The writer details the German attacks and describes how they were frustrated.

The British forces, says Col. Swinton, "had to withstand an almost continuous bombardment and to meet one desperate attack after another, carried out by such units from the large numbers which the Germans were devoting to the operation." Finally the French came to their assistance and never was help more timely.

By then our small local reserves again and again had been thrown into the fight in the expectation of counter-attacks and our men were exhausted by the incessant fighting.

The British front has been considerably shortened and in addition has been reinforced while a lull has enabled the commanders to re-adjust their forces, strengthen their positions and bring up the reserves. There has therefore been a great general improvement in the conditions under which we are carrying on the fight.

Of the fighting which has been re-organized the writer says it was due solely to the resource, initiative and endurance of the regimental officers and men that succeeded in laying out the British Expeditionary Force.

"As the struggle swayed backward and forward the fighting assumed a confused and desperate character. The units became intricately mixed and in many cases the front lines were threatened point or to fill a gap in the line officers had to collect and throw into the fight what men they could, regardless of the units to which they belonged."

Purpose of the Allies. The duty of the French, Belgians and British in the western theatre has been to hold out and to keep as long as possible, while the Russians were attacking in the East. In this we have played our part and have contributed materially towards the success of the campaign.

"The value of years of discipline and training is as noticeable on the side of the enemy as on our own. The phenomenal losses suffered by the Germans have again and again been made up in part due to their lack of training."

The Allies, continues Col. Swinton, have undergone great sacrifices. The writer points out that the Germans continue to attack with great courage and while they have not gained the Straits of Dover, they have consolidated their position on the western frontier and retain all but a small portion of Belgium.

"As well as they have fought, however," continues the narrative, "it is doubtful if their achievements are commensurate with their losses, which recently have been largely due to a lack of training and a comparative lack of discipline of the improvised units they put in the field."

Col. Swinton concludes with the statement that as the war will be one of exhaustion, after the regular armies of the belligerents have done their work, success will depend on the raw material of the countries concerned.

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