

**THE WEATHER**  
Local rains Monday; Tuesday, partly cloudy; fresh north winds.

# 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?

VOL. XCV—NO. 57. WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 7, 1914. WHOLE NUMBER 13,842.

## LODZ IS TAKEN BY GERMANS IS OFFICIAL BERLIN REPORT

Manufacturing Center of Russian Poland Taken by Germans Sunday Afternoon, According to Dispatches Received Late Last Night—Battle for Possession Has Raged for a Number of Weeks in Poland.

## GERMANS ARE AGAIN ATTEMPTING TO ENVELOP RUSSIAN FORCES IN POLAND

Servian Capital May be Moved Again, But Officials of Servia Deny That Step is Already Taken—Renewal of Heavy Fighting in the Argonne Region, Where the French Are Reported as Making Some Progress.

Berlin, December 6.—Via London—It is officially announced that the Germans occupied Lodz Sunday.

Lodz, a city of some 150,000 population, is the chief manufacturing center of Russian Poland. It has numerous textile mills, the majority of them for the manufacture of cotton goods. In addition, it has flour mills, dyeing establishments, brick yards, machinery plants and breweries. The population is made up of Poles, Germans and Jews.

**Ostend is Reported Burning.**  
London, December 7—3:15 A. M.—"Ostend is reported on fire," says a Daily Chronicle dispatch from Dunkirk. "It is believed the conflagration was caused either by British bombardment or German incendiaries."

**Detailed News is Scarce.**  
London, December 6.—Battles for possession of Lodz and railways leading through Northern Poland to Warsaw continue without abatement, but the reticence of the German and Russian headquarters staffs and the meagerness of telegraphic communication which is interrupted by storms, prevent a clear view of the progress of the fighting.

The German official report tonight dismisses the struggle in a single sentence: "The battles of Lodz are developing according to our expectations," while the last Russian report sent from Petrograd Friday simply recorded that fighting was in progress.

From unofficial sources, however, it is gathered that on Thursday last the Germans, having failed to pierce the Russian center, commenced with the aid of reinforcements another attempt to envelope the Russians on both flanks. This is indicated by the fact that there is fighting near Ilow, north of Lodz, and at Piotrkow, to the south. Both places are in advance of the positions at which the Germans previously have been reported in their second invasion of Poland and, like Lodz, they are on the main roads to the Polish capital.

There is no news from South Poland beyond a German denial of a reported Russian success at Czenstochowa.

The capture of an advanced position at Przemysl is regarded as conferring a valuable advantage to the Russians in their attack on the fortress. Leaving this city to the attention of the besieging armies, the Russians are pushing in small bodies steadily across the plains of Hungary, and fugitives are said to be pouring toward Budapest.

In the face of the Austrian advance in Servia, there has been talk of the removal of the capital from Nish to Mitrovitz, but Servia denies that this step actually has been taken. The allies continue to push forward in Flanders, and in Northern France, but the Germans explain they are giving ground for tactical and strategical reasons. The advance, as far as Flanders is concerned, seems to have been checked on the outskirts of Langemark.

There has been a renewal of hard fighting in the Argonne district where the French claim progress. On the whole, however, in these siege operations, successes and reverses, only mean a gain or loss of a few hundred yards and a slight readjustment of positions.

Seemingly more important is the unofficial statement that the French have seriously interfered with the German communications between Metz and the Woerwe district in France, for here, as elsewhere, command of the roads is of the greatest importance.

It was announced officially tonight that during his visit to France King George conferred the Order of Merit on Field Marshal Sir John French, and also pinned the Victoria Cross on the first Indian soldier to win that decoration.

**GERMAN CLAIMS RIDICULOUS**  
Says Official Statement Issued by Russian Government at Petrograd.  
Petrograd, (via London), Dec. 6.—An official statement issued here describes as ridiculous German claims of having captured enormous numbers of prisoners, cannon and machine guns. It says the armies have been fighting continuously and that it is impossible to estimate the losses.

"This fact," continued the statement, "prevents us from publishing an official denial, as the general staff carefully avoid giving details not verified."

"On the other hand, the German denial that they have lost a single gun is disproved by the fact that in the Bezany district alone, near Lodz, we took 23 guns and a large amount of spoils. As to German prisoners, 10,000 have past one point alone of our front, where prisoners are registered."

"Neither do the Germans mention the supply columns which they burned or cannon and ammunition abandoned in the forests and which we are finding."

"Germans also conceal losses sustained in the November fighting, although witnesses state that never has a field of battle presented such a sight, as on the roads of the German retreat towards Strykow. At some points the German dead were piled not less than a metre high. All inhabitants of the district have been burying the dead and (Continued on Page Eight.)"

## OLD TIME VESSEL BRAVES BAD STORM

Constellation Weathers Blow Without Damage.

## WAS ADRIFT FOR HOURS

Excepting for the Loss of Two Anchors, Frigate of Ancient Days Reaches Norfolk None the Worse for Her Experience.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 6.—With two anchors gone, but otherwise apparently uninjured, the historic old frigate Constellation, which came near being driven ashore off Ocean View beach yesterday during a severe northeast gale, was towed to the Norfolk navy yard this afternoon by the tugs Ontario, Hercules and Massachusetts.

There were twenty men on board the Constellation, which was in command of Boatswain Arthur B. Smith. The Ontario, which had the vessel in tow when she ran into the storm, was commanded by Boatswain Sanstrom.

Boatswain Smith and his crew were inclined to minimize the danger in which they were placed, but naval officers regard the saving of the old ship without damage a remarkable feat.

The Constellation broke away from the Ontario at 6 o'clock yesterday morning. She was then off the Timble shoals light. The wind was blowing 56 miles an hour and the seas were very high. The tow line, parted by the force of the gale, became entangled in the propeller of the Ontario, and she was forced to call for assistance.

The Constellation, in endeavoring to save herself, from being driven ashore, lost two anchors. Boatswain Smith said when the vessel finally anchored she had 24 feet of water under her.

**Other Vessels Saved.**  
The Cape Charles lightship, which broke away from its moorings last night, was anchored within half a mile of the shore at Virginia Beach today. The revenue cutter Itasca, which went to sea for assistance, was unable to reach her, because of high seas and dangerous shoals. Life savers were unable to launch life boats on account of the surf.

The lighthouse tender Orchid reached the imperilled lightship this afternoon and three men on a small boat risked their lives to get a line to her. They succeeded, and the lightship was taken in tow.

An unknown man suffering only the pangs of hunger, was cast on the beach between Lynn Haven and Ocean View this morning, when a scow which broke away from the tug Tormentor, during Saturday morning off Cape Henry, came ashore.

The Tormentor lost two screws, but managed to recover one and came into the Lynn Haven Roads for shelter. The lone man on the scow spent thirty hours in the water, but was rescued with no means of helping himself. The scow is only slightly damaged, and may be floated.

Life savers at Virginia Beach have received reports that an unknown schooner is ashore on the North Carolina coast, near Poynters' Hill Life Saving Station.

## CONSTELLATION'S RECORD

**Oldest in the Service of Uncle Sam—Built in Baltimore in 1797.**  
Washington, Dec. 6.—The frigate Constellation, most ancient of vessels in use by the navy, had been on exhibition at the Washington navy yard and was being towed back to Newport, R. I., where she serves as a training ship for recruits, when she went adrift in Chesapeake Bay last night.

One of three sister ships built for the navy during the administration of Washington in 1797, the Constellation is the last of the group to be in practical use. The United States was stricken from the list years ago. The more famous Constitution, doomed to a like end, was saved by Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes' poem "Old Iron-sides" and has been in honored retirement at the Boston navy yard.

The Constellation was built in Baltimore and was towed to that city for participation in the Star Spangled Banner Centennial celebration last September. On her way to Baltimore the ship stopped at Norfolk where guns and spars were installed to give her the appearance she had in the old days when she took part in the war with Tripoli in 1802 and struck terror into the British in 1812.

Her visit in Baltimore concluded, Secretary Daniels, in response to urgent requests ordered the old frigate to Washington. In the capital, where she lay at the navy yard dock, she was visited by thousands. Among others were scores of veteran naval officers who served aboard her during their rise from midshipmen to commanders and admirals. Rear Admiral Victor Blue, chief of the powerful naval bureau of navigation, as a midshipman made his first cruise on the old ship thirty years ago.

Captain Thomas Truxtun was the first commander of the Constellation and her roll of officers has included many of the great heroes of the American navy.

Petrograd, Dec. 6.—The Turkish cruiser Hamidieh struck a mine and returned to Constantinople considerably damaged, according to the Russian official news agency. Constantinople advisers. These advisers say also Russian warships have sunk six Turkish sailing vessels which were carrying war supplies.

London, Dec. 6.—During his visit to France, King George conferred the Order of Merit on Sir John French, commander of the British forces on the continent.

## BELGIUM IS LIVING ON AMERICAN FOOD

Saved From Starvation for the Past Fortnight.

## NATION IS GRATEFUL

All Americans in Liege Hailed as Benefactors While "Old Glory" is Saluted Whenever Seen—More Food Badly Needed

Rotterdam, Holland, Dec. 6, via London.—"For the past fortnight American food has saved us from starvation," was the statement today of a Belgian committeeman distributing American relief shipments in Liege Province.

"All our grain was exhausted," he said, "because it was requisitioned by the German army. Except for a small supply of meat and a meager quantity of field crops we had nothing. The Americans have saved us from starvation," is the cry on every lip. Every American seen, the Liege was hailed as a benefactor. Whenever an automobile carrying an American flag passed in the streets, the people take off their hats.

"Seventeen thousand tons of wheat has been received in Liege and 35,000 people are being supplied with nearly a half pound each, daily. It is not a great quantity for a grown man, but it is saving us from starvation. Rich and poor receive the same amount. Our supply of bread is running out already. We are mixing potato flour with the wheat and by this means we can last another three or four days by which we are praying more American wheat will arrive."

"We need 200 tons of wheat daily. The only other foods we are able to distribute are less than a quart of potatoes daily with a tiny quantity of meat occasionally. Distribution is difficult because the Germans commandeered our means of transport. In offering our heartfelt thanks to the American people we pray they will allow their generosity to continue for without them we should have starved and without them we must starve."

**ROCKEFELLER REPORTS BELGIANS AND WILL SPEND MONEY IN AIDING STARVING BELGIANS**  
New York, Dec. 6.—The Rockefeller Foundation already has spent about \$1,000,000 for the relief of the starving population of Belgium. The Foundation further "is ready to spend millions of dollars, if necessary in this direction."

A statement detailing the activities of the Foundation authorized tonight by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., as president of the foundation, said in part: (Continued on Page Eight.)

## War News at a Glance

Lodz, the second city of Poland and lying 75 miles to the west-southwest of Warsaw, was taken by the German army. It was occupied Sunday, according to an official announcement from Berlin.

Around this important town, a desperate battle has raged for days. Countless thousands have spent in desperate hand-to-hand conflicts and from the shells of hundreds of guns.

It was evident from the occupation of Lodz by the Germans that the heaviest kind of fighting has been going on, for late advised told of a vicious attack and bombardment of Lodz and fighting on the outskirts of the city and, previous to that, of operations 20 miles south of Lodz, which lie considerably south of Lodz and along a line from Glogno, 16 miles northeast of Lodz, to the Vistula River.

Lodz long has been an objective point of the German army. It has grown in recent years from an insignificant place to one of the most populous cities in the Russian Empire. In 1910 its population numbered 415,603 and with its important place as a base for the German army, it has become a strong effort to reach Warsaw. Regarding other operations in the East, the Servian war office reports Servian successes on the whole front, with the capture of 2,400 men and four complete batteries.

On the other hand Vienna reports that Austrian troops are gaining ground south of Belgrade.

In Flanders, the North of France Sunday was comparatively quiet. The French war office had nothing to report and no marked successes on either side were recorded in the territory from the previous day.

While the attitude of Roumania is not known officially, a Swiss newspaper asserts that Roumania has decided to enter the war on the side with the allies. The time for doing so, however, has not been determined.

Forty British and French warships have assembled at some place, the name of which is not given in the dispatch making this announcement "to be ready to go through." It is probable the correspondent intended to foreshadow an effort by the allied ships to break through the Dardanelles but, the name evidently came under the eye of a censor.

"The German field marshal, Baron Von der Goltz, who spent many years in Rugs, with the Turkish army, is reported on his way to Constantinople to teach himself to the entourage of the Sultan.

Petrograd says the Turkish cruiser Hamidieh has been damaged by a mine and has returned to Constantinople. King Nicholas of Montenegro admits that a third of his army has fallen on the battlefield, but declares the Montenegrins will continue to depend their country.

French aviators have succeeded in dropping bombs on the German aviation hangars in Freiburg im Breisgau, Baden, it is acknowledged in an official report received in Washington from the German foreign office.

## CONGRESS FACES ACTIVE SESSION

Third Session of Sixty-Third Congress Meets Today

## HEAR WILSON TUESDAY

Leaders Rush to Get Supply Measures Out of the Way Before the Christmas Holidays—Cotton Relief Measures Up First.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The third session of the Sixty-third Congress will be convened at noon tomorrow. Members of both Houses flocked to Washington today, ending their holiday recess of six weeks which followed the long session that closed late in October.

Democratic leaders express the hope that the legislative programme of appropriation measures can be concluded by March next, when the present Congress automatically will end. Many Republican leaders, however, have said they would urge important measures and some indicated that supply bills ought to be delayed, to such an extent that an extra session next spring and summer would be necessary. Democrats think an extra session unlikely.

Administration leaders await eagerly the message of President Wilson which will be delivered Tuesday for a definite outline of the President's wishes for legislation. As yet, however, they have prepared for a session generally expected to be pressed before adjournment. Conservation measures for which there is strong support include the general water power and land leasing bills.

**The Philippine Bill.**  
The bill to pave the way for Philippine independence, which passed the House last session, is pending. Another important measure pending in the Senate is the immigration bill with the literacy test for aliens which has passed the House. Some majority leaders have declared that it will be permitted to die with the session, but Congress to be considered when conditions resulting from the European war have assumed more definite shape.

Rural credits legislation is pending. The bill to amend the act providing for the list of measures administration leaders are understood not to want to press at this time.

At least seven of the great annual supply measures are to be pushed up as to report them to the House before the Christmas holidays. These are the legislative, executive and judicial; the District of Columbia; fortifications, penitentiary, postoffice and officers and harbors appropriation bills. Others are to be hastened through to head off the necessity, if possible of an extra session.

**Cotton Relief First.**  
When the House convenes the business before it will be postponed financial relief for the cotton States. Representative Henry, chairman of the committee on commerce, has announced to renew his fight for the \$250,000,000 cotton currency bill as a substitute for a currency measure for enlarging the amount of currency that can be issued on commercial paper, a measure the Federal Reserve Board and Democratic leaders have agreed is no longer necessary. Chairman Glass of the House currency committee, who presides this commercial paper bill at this session, has abandoned his efforts. Indications are that the cotton proposition will be defeated. A conference of Southern Senators and Representatives on the subject was held last night or Tuesday morning to discuss the subject.

Members already in Washington have informally discussed the military situation, particularly the bill introduced by Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, for an investigation into the preparedness of the United States for war. Representative Gardner's resolution for investigation has been pending in the House since the latter part of last session. Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, plans to introduce a similar resolution in the Senate.

Administration is opposed. The President's attention is opposed. The President is understood to oppose the resolution, arguing that all facts relating to the condition of the army and navy are known or are available. Appropriations for the army and navy will further open debate on the military situation. Both the House military and naval committees have been at work on supply bills and will continue daily sessions.

In the naval committee, the battleship construction programme is the chief subject. Secretary Daniels will appear before the committee during the week to discuss the building programme, the erection of more torpedo boats and submarines and increased outlays for aviation work.

Rivers and harbors appropriations, greatly curtailed at the last session, will be pressed again but it is not likely, according to party leaders, that new projects will be urged. Another measure which will occupy the attention of the committee will be the ship purchase bill, which it is understood, will be included in the administration programme. Constitutional amendments for suffrage and national prohibition also are expected to be considered.

**Backs Warehouse Bill.**  
"President Wilson is for my cotton warehouse bill and it will pass the House," declared Representative Lever of South Carolina, tonight. He added that Chairman Henry, of the rules committee would report tomorrow a rule to consider it, that committee already having agreed to it. The bill is a substitute for a similar measure that passed the Senate and is designed to make the purpose of the legislation more clear.

"I have no doubt," Mr. Lever said, "that the estimates of the various congressional committees show large increases over last year. The increase in the estimates of the Secretary of Agriculture to Congress tomorrow aggregating \$28,796,000, constitutes an increase of \$100,000,000." (Continued on Page Eight.)

## UNIDENTIFIED BATTLESHIP AGROUND OFF MARYLAND COAST A MILE FROM SHORE

Revenue Cutter Speeding To Assistance of Unknown Man-O-War.

## DENSE FOGS AND HIGH SEAS PREVENT SUCCOR

Life Savers Unable to Aid Distressed Vessel

## ITALIAN PREMIER ANSWERS CRITICS

Regrets Unmeasured Language Used in Attacks. PREPARED, BUT NEUTRAL

Rome, Dec. 5.—"Today, whoever has doubted the fitness of our army, whoever has intended to expose the vicissitudes traversed for military preparation, sins against the Fatherland."

Such was Premier Salandra's declaration in the Italian chamber today, prior to the passage of a resolution expressing confidence in the government. This statement was in a speech delivered in answer to deputies' attacks on the government.

On Thursday, at the opening of Parliament, the premier explained the situation of Italy, and advised that she maintain an attitude of loyal but watchful and armed neutrality. He also alluded to what he termed the just aspirations of Italy. Today those who spoke in the chamber, especially members of the extreme left, tried to construe this statement according to their own views.

Some urged more explicit declarations while others attacked the cabinet, asserting that Italy, notwithstanding her heavy military expenses, was obliged to remain neutral, owing to military unpreparedness.

**Regrets Unmeasured Language.**  
Premier Salandra expressed regret at the unmeasured language and declared those who asserted that Thursday's statement was sphinx-like were wrong and that on the other hand it was clear. Indeed, he continued, he had received the approval of most of the people who are not represented by the extreme left, and added:

"What I said was understood by all, and need have no word added. The vote must be given on my declaration, but a further explanation is impossible, because it is against the interests of the State. Regarding military preparation, I can affirm that the Italian army and navy are ready for any event. For this military preparation, both we and our predecessors have assumed grave responsibilities, which Parliament will be able to judge later from documents, but not now. Today, who has doubted the fitness of our army, whoever has intended to expose the vicissitudes traversed for military preparation, sins against the Fatherland."

**Action Unpatriotic.**  
The Premier deplored the action of some of the orators, "in trying to diminish the importance of our country, is unpatriotic and unbecoming."

He continued: "The country agrees with the government that it will have its interests protected. I can repeat firmly that we are determined to protect them. Further I cannot say, but the terrible responsibility that rests on our shoulders, which no government can rule the country in this moment."

The Premier's speech was constantly interrupted by applause.

Giovanni Gioiello, former premier, approved the government's policy. He said he thought it necessary to emphasize that Italy always had been loyal to treaties, and in this connection added:

"I feel it my duty to recall a precedent showing how correct was the interpretation of the alliance by the government in the Balkan war, on August 19, 1913, being absent from Rome. I received this telegram from the late Marquis Di San Giuliano (the late Marquis Di San Giuliano at the time referred to was Minister of Foreign Affairs in the cabinet of which Signor Giolitti was Premier):

**Italy Could Not Join.**  
"Austria has communicated to us and Germany that it has been her intention to act against Servia, defining such action as defensive, and hoping for an application of a casus foederis by the Triple Alliance, which I consider inapplicable. I am trying to agree with Germany concerning efforts to prevent Austrian action, but it may be necessary to say clearly that we do not think there exists a casus foederis. Please send a telegram saying whether you approve."

"I answered Marquis Di San Giuliano thus:

"If Austria goes against Servia, a casus foederis evidently does not exist. It is an action she accomplished in her own account. It is not defensive, because nobody thinks of attacking her. It is necessary to declare this to Austria in the most formal manner, hoping that Germany will act to dissuade Austria from a very dangerous adventure."

"This was done, and our interpretation of the treaty was accepted by our allies, our friendly relations not being in the least disturbed. Thus the declaration of neutrality made at the beginning of this conflict is, according to spirit and letter of the treaties, I recall this incident, wishing to demonstrate the complete loyalty of Italy before the eyes of Europe."

The former Premier was interrupted by great applause. He concluded by (Continued on Page Eight.)

**SIX MASTER, RUNNING LIGHT FOR NORFOLK, IS AGROUND**  
Yoneyard Haven, Mass., Dec. 6.—The six masted schooner Alice M. Lawrence, bound light from Portland for Norfolk, was ashore tonight on Tuckerneck shoal in Nantuxet sound and leaning badly. Her captain and crew remained on board. The schooner struck Friday night and is nearly filled with water.

A wrecking tug is alongside the schooner and will try to save her when the weather permits. Tonight the wind was blowing 60 miles an hour and the seas were battering the vessel heavily.

**ANOTHER LIGHTSHIP DRIFTS**  
Number 85 on Nantuxet Shoals Breaks Aloose in Storm  
Newport, R. I., Dec. 6.—Lightship No. 85 on Nantuxet shoals, went adrift today when her anchor chains parted in a northeast gale, and tonight she was steaming slowly toward Vineyard sound. The revenue cutter Acushnet has started to her assistance.

Radio stations and steamers were kept informed of the vessel's position by messages sent at frequent intervals by her wireless operators. This is the first time in four years a storm has driven the lightship off her station.

**DAMAGE IN NEW JERSEY**  
Northeast Swamps Coast with Destructive Wind.  
Seabright, N. J., Dec. 6.—The Northeast which raged last night and today caused extensive damage along the waterfront of this resort.

The storm destroyed scores of bulkheads, undermining many small buildings, and away sections of improved land close to the shore and caused two washouts on the Central railroad of New Jersey, trying up traffic.

Considerable damage was caused at Highland Beach and neighboring resorts.

**ATLANTIC CITY INJURED**  
Storm and High Tide Do Damage at Great Resort.  
Philadelphia, Dec. 6.—High tides and wind sweeping the Atlantic coast since yesterday have caused heavy damage at Atlantic City, and other points along the coast according to reports received here tonight. Many bulkheads have been washed away and several cottages destroyed.