

Partly overcast and cooler Thursday; Friday fair.

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REFUGEE SAYS PART OF CHIHUAHUA CITY IS HELD BY BANDITS

Reaches Border and Reports That He Understands All the Foreigners Are Safe.

HE ESCAPED IN AUTOMOBILE

Tells of Having Seen 185 Bandits Thirty Miles to the South-east of Juarez.

VILLA HAS NO HEAVY GUNS

Foreigner Says Little Damage is Done in Chihuahua Capital.

El Paso, Nov. 29.—The first foreign refugee to leave Chihuahua City since the siege began, arrived here today. He reported that Hilila and Julia Acosta were in control of part of the city when he made his escape by automobile at 2 o'clock this morning.

Owing to the fact that he had been in hiding, he explained that he had no means of knowing first hand just what had happened or even the whereabouts of General Trevino.

Carranza forces were holding hard to their part of the city, according to the refugee, who added that he understood all foreigners were safe.

Cannon Ceased Monday

Cannon firing ceased some time early Monday morning, but the small arms firing continued through Monday and Tuesday, the refugee declared. He admitted knowing nothing more about the military situation in the capital than the reports brought to him from time to time by servants and others who came to his home, which he named the home of General Trevino, he said.

As he passed along the Villa Ahumada road in his automobile late today the refugee reported having seen 185 bandits at Los Tanques, about 30 miles southeast of Juarez.

He said the column was moving in the direction of Villa Ahumada, south of Juarez, and the men were well armed but he was not molested.

The new battleships will be of the type of the California and Tennessee, now under construction, except that they will be fitted to carry eight 16-inch rifles instead of twelve 14-inch.

The department now is considering plans for the 1918 ships, three in number, with indications that they will be of 40,000 tons displacement, carry 12 16-inch guns and make 23 to 24 knots an hour instead of 21 knots, the present battleship standard of the Navy.

The two fleet submarines will be of the so-called 200-ton type and similar in size to the German U-53 which called recently at Newport, R. I. A third boat of this size will be laid down at the (Continued on Page Two.)

AWARDS MADE FOR FOUR BATTLESHIPS

Contracts Also Let for Two Fleet Submarines and for Twenty-Seven Coast Type.

A \$65,000,000 EXPENDITURE

Awards Comprise the Bulk of the 1917 Building Programme—Bids For Other Vessels to be Received December 6.

Washington, Nov. 29.—Secretary Daniels awarded contracts today for more than \$65,000,000 worth of new fighting ships for the Navy, including four battleships at \$1,000,000 each, two fleet submarines at approximately \$1,190,000 each and 27 coast submarines at from \$694,000 to \$698,000 each.

Contracts for two battleships each were awarded the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company and the New York Shipbuilding Company. These awards had been delayed by the stipulation that the big ships be equipped with turbo-electric propulsion, and Secretary Daniels said today the contracting companies had finally agreed to the department's specification in this matter.

The vessels contracted for today comprise the bulk of the great building programme of 66 craft of various types appropriated for by the last session of Congress. Bids for four battle cruisers will be received December 6, next, and for three scout cruisers on January 3, with the hope of completing the task of getting all the ships under contract within the six months limit set by Congress.

Already the House Naval committee is at work on the 1918 bill and early in the spring the department must find building facilities for at least three more battleships, one battle cruiser and a proportionate number of other craft remaining on the three-year construction programme. The bill to be put through this winter for the Navy will carry a total of nearly \$400,000,000.

Three of the new submarines will be built by the California Shipbuilding Company, of Long Beach, Cal.; 13 coast and one 850-ton fleet submarines went to the Electric Boat Company, of New York, and the remaining six small boats and one 350-tonner went to the Lake Torpedo Boat Company, of Bridgeport, Conn.

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NEARLY ONE THOUSAND TEACHERS IN RALEIGH

In Attendance at Opening Session of the Assembly.

Entertained Last Night at Reception at Governor's Mansion—Brilliant Musical Programme—Dr. Bagley Speaks.

(Special Star Telegram.) Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 29.—With nearly 1,000 teachers already here and others arriving on every train, the 33rd annual session of the Teachers' Assembly convened this afternoon and held the first general session tonight when President Riddick, of the A. & M. College, welcomed the visitors and H. B. Smith, of New Bern, responded.

A brilliant musical programme and an able address by Dr. W. C. Bagley, of the University of Illinois, were other features tonight, preceding a reception at the Governor's Mansion in honor of the teachers, with the officers of the assembly and State officers and representatives of the chamber of commerce and woman's club in the receiving line.

At the business meeting this afternoon President R. H. Wright appointed as a committee to nominate officers for the next year S. M. Brinson, New Bern; Mrs. J. A. Robinson, Durham; Miss Blankenship, Charlotte; J. S. Ray, Gastonia, and J. L. Teague, Statesville.

WATSON TESTIFIES IN HIS OWN BEHALF

Says Publications Containing Alleged Obscene Matter Were Not Mailed by Him.

CHARACTER PROVEN "GOOD"

Defense Wins Contention for Having This Made Part of Evidence in the Case—Two Former Governors Testify.

Augusta, Ga., Nov. 29.—Thomas B. Watson took the stand in his own defense here late today as his trial in Federal court neared an end. The defendant was put under oath and examined by J. Gordon Jones, of Cordele, Ga., a member of his counsel. He was allowed to describe the "general nature" of his writings other than those mentioned in the indictments as obscene and which he is charged with having sent through the mails.

After giving a list of books he had written, Watson turned to charges that he had mailed the copies cited in the charges against him, and declared that not more than once in ten years had he mailed anything. He explained that publications of the Jeffersonian Publishing Company, at Thomson, Ga., of which he is president, were mailed by persons employed by the corporation for that purpose, while other copies went by express. Watson did not complete his statement before adjournment was taken until tomorrow and it was planned that he should resume it at that time. He stated after adjournment that he might introduce one more witness before resting his case. It was thought that argument and the judge's charge possibly might be concluded and the case go to the jury tomorrow night. The trial began Monday.

Early in the day the defense won its contentions that Watson's character as a man and as a writer should be introduced as evidence and 27 witnesses described his character either as a writer or as a man as "good." Former Governors Joseph M. Brown and H. D. McDaniel were among those who testified to both.

The defense also went into detail with reference to Latin quotations cited in one count of the indictment to show that it was difficult to translate. Renewal during the day of what Presiding Judge W. W. Lambdin termed "persuasive" remarks between counsel was followed by an admonition that if necessary he would enforce by fined previous rulings against such passages.

PRESIDENT TO FEAST ON TURKEY SENT BY FRIENDS

Nearly All Cabinet Members to Remain in Washington for Thanksgiving.

Washington, Nov. 29.—President Wilson and nearly all the members of the cabinet will spend Thanksgiving day in Washington with their families. In the morning the President and Mrs. Wilson will go to church and in the evening they will attend a relief ball at the Washington Navy yard. The White House family will have for dinner at St. Patrick's Catholic church for the occasion by friends in different parts of the country.

Many government officials, diplomats and members of Congress will attend the annual pan-American mass and luncheon at St. Patrick's Catholic church. The President will go to his own church or that of Mrs. Wilson.

TRABUE IS ACQUITTED OF CHARGE OF MURDER

Jury Returned Its Verdict in Less Than Hour and a Half.

No Demonstration in Court Room When It Was Announced—Marks End of Trial Which Has Been Given Much Notice.

Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 29.—Charles C. Trabue, a local attorney, who asserted that when he shot and killed Harry S. Stokes in the latter's law office here last April he acted in self-defense, was acquitted by a jury here today.

Argument in the case was concluded yesterday and it was given to the jury today shortly before noon, as soon as Judge Neil had concluded his charge. When the verdict was returned an hour and twenty-three minutes later, there was no demonstration.

The shooting grew out of a feud between the men that had continued more than three years. On the witness stand Trabue said he went to Stokes' office in the hope of securing a signed retraction of alleged derogatory statements he alleged Stokes had made. He said the latter had attacked him and the shooting followed. There were no others present.

TEUTONS' ADVANCE IN ROMANIA STILL IS WITHOUT CHECK

Great Offensive Started by Russians in Carpathians Seemingly Has No Effect.

TOWN OF PETECHTI TAKEN

Petrograd War Office Admits Mackensen's Forces Are Within 20 Miles of Bucharest.

Although the Russians, probably as a diversion, are carrying on with great intensity an offensive in the Carpathian region around Kirilbaba, northwest of the Rumanian border, the advance of the Teutonic Allies all along the line in Wallachia toward the Rumanian capital of Bucharest apparently is meeting with little impediment.

The left flank of the forces of the Central Powers have now captured the important railroad junction of Pitechti, 65 miles northwest of Bucharest; in the center the Rumanians are reported to be retreating eastward in disorder while the right flank, composed of the army of Field Marshal Von Mackensen which crossed the Danube, is carrying out maneuvers in co-operation with the other commanders to the north.

Turkish Troops Engaged. The Petrograd war office, in admitting a continuation of the retreat of the Rumanians, says Von Mackensen's men operating from the Turnep road to Kullugrena, the latter town being 20 miles south of Bucharest, Turkish forces are fighting with the Germans and Austrians in this region.

The Russian official communication asserts that the Russian attack east and south of Kirilbaba has resulted in the capture in both regions of ridges and the taking of 700 prisoners.

The Berlin war office admits that slight gains were made but says the Russians suffered heavy casualties. Little Infantry Fighting. Apparently little infantry fighting has taken place on any of the other fronts. On the line in France and Belgium there have been artillery duels at various points and here and there small attacks by raiding parties of both the belligerents. Similar fighting is taking place on the Italian front.

The latest German official communication says quiet prevails on the Macedonia front, there having been no resumption of the great battle of the early week in which both the Teutonic Allies and the Entente claim to have had the advantage.

Further Gains by Turks. The Russians admit a further advance by the Turks south of Van, in Turkish Armenia. The Petrograd government, beginning December 1, will take control of all the coal mines in South Wales, apparently to prevent the wage dispute between the miners and operators from interfering with the coal supply.

HARBOR AT ZEEBRUGGE IS RAIDED BY BRITISH AIRMEN. London, Nov. 29.—British naval aeroplanes made a raid upon the harbor of Zeebrugge yesterday, it was officially announced tonight. What damage they inflicted and the results could not be observed. All the machines returned safely.

GOVERNMENT TAKES OVER SOUTH WALES COAL MINES. London, Nov. 29.—Under the defense of the realm act, the Board of trade announced that from December 1, it will assume control of all the coal mines in South Wales.

The action of the government is an entirely new departure and appears to have been caused by the imperative necessity of preventing a trade dispute from interfering with the coal supply.

PITECHTI, ROMANIA, TAKEN BY FALKENHAYN'S FORCES. Berlin, Nov. 29.—The Teutonic Allies in Rumania, 65 miles northwest of Bucharest, has been captured by (Continued on Page Two.)

Civilians Do Not Want U. S. Troops Withdrawn?

Juarez, Mexico, Nov. 29.—Mexican marchers who reached here Monday night from San Buena Ventura and Namiquipa, reported today that petitions were being circulated in the towns and settlements in the vicinity of the American expeditionary force headquarters and outposts asking the United States government not to withdraw the American troops now. They claim Villa has made threats against all who lived in Namiquipa, Guernero, San Buena Ventura, Casas Grandes, Colonia Dublin, Colonia Juarez and the other towns in western Chihuahua, saying he would kill all residents of these towns and burn their homes because they had aided the Americans.

PUBLIC'S REFUSAL TO PAY HIGH PRICES FOR TURKEYS GIVES A SCARE TO DEALERS

"Boycott" in New York Creates One of Most Remarkable Food Situations Ever Noted in Connection With Thanksgiving Season—Mayor of Troy, N. Y., Calls for Public Uprising Against the Prevailing High Prices.

New York, Nov. 29.—One of the most remarkable food situations ever noted in connection with the Thanksgiving season developed here today as a result of the unprecedented food prices. On one hand there was a semi-panic among dealers in the Thanksgiving turkey market as a result of the public's refusal to buy at the price demanded, it was announced by Joseph Hartigan, commissioner of weights and measures. On the other hand a call for a concerted public uprising against the high cost of living was issued here by Mayor Burns, of Troy, president of the New York State Conference of Mayors, who advocated proclamations by the governors of all the states and mayors of all the cities of the country to be published and read in the schools and churches setting days for a series of boycotts against high priced foods.

Mr. Hartigan said that large quantities of turkeys, chickens and geese had been shipped here from the West by the raisers in the expectation of high prices. "But the public is being scared off by the excessive prices of the last few days," he said. "The price of 38 cents to 45 cents which now prevails is so high that retailers state that the public indicates it will not buy, for the price is beyond its means."

The dealers are finding, he said, a feeling that if the public were to pay the high prices they would establish a precedent which would mean the same high prices at Christmas and New Years.

They were predicting better eleventh-hour sales when the prices dropped, he said. The egg boycott, he said, has produced less buying and "in self-defense the dealers have been obliged to reduce the price in order to induce purchases."

HIGH PRICES THE MAIN TOPIC AMONG CONGRESSMEN. Washington, Nov. 29.—With the arrival in Washington of members of Congress the subject of general discussion dominant among them is the high cost of living and the food embargo to be urged by Representative Fitzgerald, of New York, as a remedy. The subject threatens to lead to much debate in Congress and there is fear that it may

impede progress of appropriation measures. Representative Fitzgerald said today that he would have two bills ready for introduction Monday when the proposed embargo. Minority Leader Mann said he did not believe an embargo would be placed on food products and that it was not a remedy for the situation. An embargo offered as a retaliatory measure, in his opinion, differed greatly from an embargo to regulate prices and sufficient warrant did not exist for retaliatory embargo.

DECLINE OF FIFTEEN CENTS POUND IN PRICE OF TURKEYS. Baltimore, Nov. 29.—Turkeys, in the face of an unorganized but none the less effective boycott, dropped from 35 cents a pound this morning to 20 cents tonight, with small demand reported at the principal market here.

"BOYCOTT" SENDS PRICES OF TURKEYS AND EGGS DOWNWARD. Chicago, Nov. 29.—Turkeys and eggs took a sudden drop today when dealers found they were certain to have larger quantities on hand than had been expected. Inquiry revealed that housewives had turned to duck, geese and chickens for their Thanksgiving dinners and were buying only a few eggs.

ADVANCE PRICES OF FOOD AND DRINKS 20 PER CENT. Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 29.—A 20 per cent advance in the prices of food and drink will be put into effect in eating houses here within a week, according to an agreement reached by the Los Angeles restaurant men's protective association, representing 941 places.

MANY HOUSEWIVES IN NORFOLK REFUSE TO PAY HIGH PRICES. Norfolk, Va., Nov. 29.—The declaration of war on what was alleged to be exorbitant prices, issued this morning by the Housewives' League, in a resolution adopted urging the people of the city to forego the pleasure of Thanksgiving turkey and to restrict the use of eggs to those absolutely necessary in cooking, was more generally observed than expected, market men declare tonight. As a result dressed turkey this afternoon was freely offered at retail from 32 to 38 cents. Prices yesterday were from 40 to 45 cents for the same stock. Poultry dealers admit they are over-stocked and will (Continued on Page Two.)

PROTEST AGAINST THE EJECTION OF ENVOYS

Germany Charges Allies With Contempt of Law of Nations.

State Department Asked to Forward to England Protest Against Action of the Entente Allies in Greece.

Washington, Nov. 29.—In a note delivered to Secretary Lansing today from Count von Bernstorff, Germany protests against the ejection of the German, Austrian and Turkish legations from Greece, and asks that the State Department forward the protest to Great Britain. The text of the note, signed by Count von Bernstorff, and addressed to Secretary Lansing, follows:

"The French commander of the naval forces of the Entente in the Greek waters has notified the envoys of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria that they had to leave Greek territory immediately with the staff of their legations and of the consulates. 'The German Empire most emphatically protests against this contempt of international law, of the free will of a neutral country, and of the most elementary rules of international courtesy. Acting under instructions from the imperial government, I have the honor to request your excellency to forward this protest to the British government.' Germany's protest will be sent on to Great Britain as requested and requires no other action on the part of this government, which is involved only because it represents Germany's interest in England.

Surprise was expressed that the request to transmit the note to Great Britain only, especially as Admiral Du Fournet, commander of the French fleet, is the active head of the whole allied force before Greece and has conducted all the negotiations.

DEBATE AT ELON COLLEGE. Those Arguing for President's Mexican Policy Win Contest.

Elon College, N. C., Nov. 29.—That there should be no armed intervention on the part of the United States in Mexican affairs and that President Wilson's policy toward our leaders of the Mexican Revolution should be maintained was the decision of three lawyers who sat in judgment on the senior-junior debate here tonight. Seniors H. J. Fleming and Warren McCulloch argued for intervention. Juniors J. F. Raper and E. H. Hsiney defended the President's programme. Great enthusiasm attended every speaker and rebuttals gleamed with witticisms and flashes of trenchant humor.

SAFE CONDUCT IS AGAIN ASKED FOR COUNT TARNOWSKI

England and France Requested to Reconsider Refusal to Pass the Austrian Envoy.

IS NOT ASKED AS A FAVOR

United States Bases Its Case on International Rights—Prompt Reply is Expected.

Washington, Nov. 29.—The United States has sent notes to Great Britain and France, it became known today, requesting re-consideration by those governments of their refusal to issue a safe conduct through their blockade lines for Count Tarnowski, the new Austro-Hungarian ambassador to this country, and speaking of unfortunate effect that a continued refusal would have on opinion here.

The notes point out that it is an inalienable right of sovereign nations to exchange ambassadors and insists that a third nation, even in time of war, is not justified in denying that right. Great care was taken to base the representations solely on the ground of international rights as distinguished from mere international courtesy, making it clear that the United States is not asking a favor or assuming the attitude of a pleader.

Bitter Public Opinion. If the present note meets with an unsatisfactory response it is admitted that a very difficult situation will be developed. The allied embassies are deeply concerned over the bitter public opinion aroused here and are taking unusual care to keep their governments fully informed.

Early replies to the American notes are expected, owing to the fact that Count Tarnowski is scheduled to sail from Rotterdam on the Dutch steamer Nieuw Amsterdam on December 16.

Should the replies prove unfavorable, the United States might send a final note notifying the Allies to disturb the Austrian envoy at their own risk, or it might be decided to send an American merchantman or warship to some neutral port to receive the ambassador and bring him across the Atlantic. As yet, however, such a contingency has hardly been contemplated in view of the confident belief that the Allies will see the wisdom of yielding.

ADMIRAL JELlicoe FIRST SEA LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY.

Other Changes in Management of the British Navy Announced.

London, Nov. 29.—Admiral Sir John R. Jellicoe, commander of the British fleet, was today appointed first sea lord of the admiralty, being succeeded in command of the grand fleet by Vice Admiral Sir David Beatty, who commanded the British battle squadron in the Jutland naval battle. Admiral Sir Henry B. Jackson, the present first sea lord, has been appointed president of the royal naval college at Greenwich.

The announcement of the change in command of the British grand fleet was made this afternoon in the house of lords by A. J. Balfour, first lord of the admiralty. Mr. Balfour said there would be consequential changes also in the board of the admiralty.

These vital changes in the management of the navy were not unexpected as recently there has been a demand for an infusion of new life on the board of the sea lords at White Hall. The case is presented by the critics was that none of the sea lords had had active service afloat during this war, and that the active direction of the fleets by the admiralty should be in the hands of officers who had participated in and worked out the latest style of operations.

BRITISH DENY THE CRUISER NEW CASTLE HAS BEEN SUNK

Official Statement Brands Berlin Report as a Fabrication.

London, Nov. 29.—Denial that the British cruiser New Castle was sunk, as reported in a Berlin wireless dispatch on the strength of advices from Rotterdam, is made in an official statement issued this afternoon, as follows: "With reference to the statement made in the German wireless today that the British cruiser New Castle struck a mine on November 15 and sunk at the entrance to the Firth of Forth, and that 27 of her crew were killed and 45 wounded, none of his majesty ships was mined or sunk during the week from November 12 to November 18, in the North Sea. The whole story with its circumstantial details, is a fabrication."

RE-AFFIRM THEIR LOYALTY Polish Citizens to Stand by the Stars and Stripes.

Southend, England, Nov. 29.—Resolutions re-affirming their loyalty and attachment to the American flag, their desire to make the Polish residents of this country better citizens and demand that the right of the Poles in Europe be established, were passed by delegates to the fourth biennial convention of the Polish Federation of America at the closing session of the convention here today. Racine, Wis., was chosen for the 1918 convention.