

Probably rain Thursday; Friday fair in west, rain in east portion.

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WHOLE NUMBER 39,283

NORTHERN ITALY AND CAMBRAI REGION IN FRANCE MAY SOON BE SCENES OF TITANIC STRUGGLES

Indications Point to Early Re-Opening Operations There by the Teutons

ALLIES PREPARED FOR IT Both the British and Italians Are Awaiting With Complacency the Enemy's Attacks

ANGLO-RUSSIANS ADVANCE Significance Attached to Operations in Mesopotamia

(Associated Press War Summary)

While for the moment there are no infantry operations of magnitude in progress on any of the numerous battle fronts, indications are not wanting that shortly the Cambrai sector in France and the northern line in the Italian theatre will again witness titanic struggles with the Germans and the Austro-Hungarians the aggressors.

Lines Reinforced. Already the Germans in the Cambrai sector have brought up reinforcements with the object of blotting out the salient driven into their line by General Bing's dash, a small portion of which they have reconquered, but at a fearful price. In Italy, along the Sette Comuni and the Asiago plateau, enemy guns of all calibres have opened fire on the Italian positions and several hill positions have been captured in small attacks. Both before Cambrai and in the Italian region the allied armies are awaiting with complacency the enemy's assaults.

Alles Prepared. While near Cambrai it is conceded that the British will be forced by reason of the dangerous salient held by the enemy in their line to somewhat withdraw their front, optimism is expressed that on the whole General Bing's forces will be able to give a good accounting for any attacks the enemy may launch.

Likewise the menace of a dash by the Austro-Germans down through the hills and out upon the plains of Venetia have been provided for, so far as the British are concerned, the main effort of the fighting of the Austro-Germans against the Russians with the British line in this region since they formed a junction after the British captured Bagdad.

Although a British official announcement characterizes as a "shameful statement" the reports from Berlin and Vienna that Rumania has proposed to enter into negotiations for an armistice with the Teutonic allies, both Berlin and Vienna reiterate that negotiations are in progress.

British Shipping Losses. Submarine or mines were responsible for the sinking last week of 16 British merchantmen of more than 1,000 tons as compared with 14 the previous week. Only one vessel under 1,000 tons was sent to the bottom, however, as compared with seven the preceding week.

ONE OF BERNSTORFF'S CLOSE FRIENDS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY Boston, Dec. 5.—Clemens A. Haass, a wealthy German resident of Milton, who is said by federal officials to be a close friend of Count Von Bernstorff, was arrested at his office today charged with having violated the enemy alien act. Haass was said to have given a dinner in celebration of the sinking of the Lusitania, but this he emphatically denied after his arrest. Two batches of correspondence were taken from his private safe and a department of justice clerk was assigned to the work of translating the letters.

CITY OF CHUNGKING IN HANDS OF CHINESE REBELS Pekin, Dec. 5.—Rebels have taken the city of Chungking. A state of panic is said to prevail among the Japanese marines have led to produce food administrator quits. Amsterdam, Dec. 5.—A Budapest dispatch from the Hungarian food minister, Count Haff, has resigned.

Transport Facilities of Allies to Be Co-ordinated

Inter-Allied Conference at Paris Decided to Create an International Organization for the Purpose—Duplications in War Manufactures Will Be Avoided.

London, Dec. 5.—The inter-allied conference decided, it was announced in Paris today, to create an international organization to co-ordinate the utilization of transport facilities. In this way, without hampering the employment of the various nations' resources, it is planned for them to restrict their imports to permit as much tonnage as possible to be released for the carrying of American troops. The conference also provided for an inter-allied committee to carry out the decisions of the body with regard to the whole with the technical question of manufacture, such as armament and airplanes by avoiding duplications and for specialization by the various nations in the branches of production for which they are best fitted.

DR. M'GLOTHLIN IS HEARD BY BAPTISTS

Delivers Historical Address on "Anglicans and Methodists" Before Convention

ROUTINE WORK IS BEGUN

Sunday School Affairs Taken Up Last Night—Members of the Mission Boards Speak—Rev. Mr. Crane Draws Tears.

By REV. W. M. GILMORE. Durham, Dec. 5.—The Baptist convention, now in session here, reached a climax tonight with the historical address of Dr. W. J. McGlothlin on "Anglicans and Methodists."

The Sunday school work came into the limelight at the evening session. Prof. J. H. Highsmith, Raleigh, delivered an address on "The Problems of the Modern Sunday School."

The convention settled down to routine work today. Dr. V. I. Master, Atlanta, representing the home mission board, and Dr. J. E. Love, Richmond, representing the foreign mission board, made notable addresses.

The report of the board of missions reveals the fact that southern Baptists are working in the following foreign lands: Africa, Argentina, Brazil, China, Italy, Japan and Mexico. A total of \$861,974 was raised last year for this purpose, \$47,923.56 of this amount coming from North Carolina.

The home mission board, located in Atlanta, doing work in the south has done a wonderful work during the past year, outranking all similar boards in America in the tangible results in the matter of baptisms.

SPIRITUAL FEAST MARKS OPENING

North Carolina Methodists Begin Conference in Atmosphere of Great Spirituality

BISHOP CANDLER PRESENT

After 13 Years He is Again Presiding Over the Annual Gatherings. Greatest Miracle of the Ages is Celebration of the Christ.

(Special Star Telegram.) Greenville, N. C., Dec. 5.—The 81st session of the North Carolina conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, convened this morning at 9:30 o'clock in Jarvis Methodist church, Bishop Warren A. Candler of Atlanta, Ga., presiding. It has been thirteen years since the bishop presided over the North Carolina conference, but while he has aged some, he still keeps his vigor and enthusiasm.

After singing one of the old hymns, the conference entered upon the celebration of the Lord's Supper. An atmosphere of great spirituality prevailed. Fervent were the songs, quiet and thoughtful the demeanor of the audience. The bishop was assisted in the administration of the sacrament by Presiding Elders J. E. Underwood, J. B. Hurley, J. T. Gibbs and J. H. Hall.

Feeling Talk by Bishop. After all had participated who cared to do so, the bishop made a feeling and impressive talk on the reality of the supernatural. He said that the greatest miracle of the ages was the fact that the death of our Lord was celebrated 2000 years after it occurred.

200 Answer Roll Call. Rev. R. H. Willis, last year's secretary, was then asked to call the roll. In response to the roll call nearly 200 ministers answered to their names. Quite a large percentage of the lay representation was also present.

Rev. R. H. Willis was then elected secretary for the present session of the conference, and Rev. J. M. Ormond and G. T. Simmons were named as assistants upon nomination of Rev. J. C. Wooten, for the presiding elders.

The following committees were elected: Books and periodicals—Clerical, W. W. Peelle, C. E. Culbreth, W. R. Royall, secretary for the present session of the conference, and Rev. J. M. Ormond and G. T. Simmons were named as assistants upon nomination of Rev. J. C. Wooten, for the presiding elders.

RUSSIAN FORCES AID THE BRITISH IN MESOPOTAMIA

General Maurice Announces Successful Operations Against the Turks There

TALKS OF CAMBRAI FIGHT

Says "The Enemy Has to a Certain Extent Got Us Into an Awkward Position"

London, Dec. 5.—British troops, acting in conjunction with an efficient force of Russians, have carried out a successful operation in Mesopotamia, Major General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the war office, announced today.

Speaking of the German attacks on the British salient in the Cambrai area, General Maurice said: "The enemy has to a certain extent got us into an awkward position and some adjustment of our line may be necessary. We may have to make slight withdrawals on the north of the salient as the settlement of loans and rates of exchange and thus assure concerted action."

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The Sunday school work in the state which is in charge of Secretary Middleton of Raleigh, showed substantial growth. This state leads the entire south in the matter of teacher training. There are now in the state 2,151 Baptist Sunday schools with a membership 219,971. Ten years ago there were only 1,679 schools with an enrollment of 139,467.

The B. Y. U. work, under secretary J. D. Moore of Raleigh, also makes a fine showing. Secretary Walter N. Johnson strongly recommends the one-mission idea and that the work for the ensuing year be laid out with a view to raising \$150,000 for home, state and foreign missions by April 30.

Immediate Action to Unify The Country's Railroads Recommended to Congress

Government Operation Among the Measures Suggested by the Commerce Commission

POOLING PLAN INADEQUATE

Is Agreed That the Competition Among Roads Must at Least be Greatly Diminished

FUNDS NOT GREATEST NEED

Even With Ready Money, New Equipment Can't be Bought

Washington, Dec. 5.—Immediate action to effect national unification of the railroads, either by government operation, or by suspension for the war of anti-trust and anti-pooling laws, a federal loan and regulation of security issues to permit more effective voluntary co-operation was recommended today by the Interstate Commerce Commission in a special report to congress.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY READY FOR PEACE

Wants to Quit War Under Terms That Would Guarantee Integrity of Monarchy

HAS BEEN READY FOR IT

Emperor Says, However, That Austria Will Fight On Until Enemies Renounce Intention of Dismembering Monarchy.

Amsterdam, Dec. 5.—A dispatch from Vienna quotes Emperor Charles of Austria-Hungary as saying in an address to an Austro-German delegation that the dual monarchy is ready at any time to conclude a peace that would guarantee the integrity of the monarchy.

The emperor's declaration comes in the face of reports that the Austro-Hungarian government is ready to accept the peace terms of the allies.

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YOUNGEST MAJOR IN U. S. IS 9 YEARS OLD



MAJOR JANE PULVER. Woe to the rookie who fails to salute "Major" Jane Pulver, one of the "officers" at the Houston, Texas, camp. Jane is the youngest "major" in the United States. She was nine her last birthday.

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WAY CLEARED FOR QUICK ACTION ON WAR RESOLUTION

It is Unanimously Approved by House Committee and Will be Reported Today

APPLIES TO AUSTRIA ALONE

Some Members Want War Declared on Bulgaria and Turkey But Are Not Persistent

Washington, Dec. 5.—Congress cleared the way today for prompt response to President Wilson's call for a declaration of war with Austria-Hungary. A joint resolution approved by the President and the State Department declaring existence of a state of war between the United States and the imperial and royal Austro-Hungarian government from today at noon was introduced in the House and unanimously approved by the House foreign affairs committee. It will be reported tomorrow for House debate Friday with final action in the Senate late this week or early next week probably.

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DEATH CLAIMED 243 SOLDIERS IN A WEEK

Health Conditions Improve, But Number of Deaths Increases

The Greatest Number of the Men Died of Pneumonia—164 Were in National Guard Camps and 79 in the National Army.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Although health conditions generally in the national army and national guard camps showed improvement during the week ending November 30, the number of deaths materially increased.

The report of the division of field sanitation shows that there were 164 deaths among the guardsmen as compared with 97 of the previous week and 79 among the draft men as against 60 the preceding week.

One hundred and thirty-four of the guardsmen and 39 of the draft men died from pneumonia and nine of the former and fifteen of the latter died from meningitis.

HYLAN INTENDS TO MAKE NEW YORK CITY CLEAN

New York, Dec. 5.—After January 1, when the new city administration comes into power, all places that tend to debauch the morals of the community will be gone after "hammer and tongs." District Attorney Swann declared tonight.

Not only had Mayor-elect Hylan endorsed the plan for making the city as clean as possible, said Mr. Swann, but he had offered to give the district attorney material as well as moral backing in the "clean up."

SLAYER OF ANGELES MOUTOS IS ARRESTED

L. Sturm Admits Killing Greek But Says He Was Justified

He and the Woman in the Case Are Caught at Rocky Mount and Carried Back to Fayetteville. Inquest Last Night.

(Special Star Telegram.) Fayetteville, Dec. 5.—L. Sturm, of Berkeley county, S. C., and Rose Edwards, of Winston-Salem, the man and woman charged with the death of Angeles Moutos, the Greek restaurateur whose body was found bound and gagged under a bed in their room in a lodging house here Monday night, were brought here by Rocky Mount police late this afternoon, having been arrested in that city late last night after M. C. Hall, of Fayetteville, deputized by being run down by Osborn Melvin and Sheriff McGeachy.

Sturm admitted killing Moutos, but claims that he was justified under the unwritten law, though the Edwards girl has admitted in a statement to the coroner that she is not married to the man. A coroner's inquest is being held tonight.

The train which brought the couple from Rocky Mount, was met at the A. C. L. station by a tremendous crowd, on foot and in every description of vehicle. (Continued on Page Seven.)