

The Asheville Gazette News.

WEATHER FORECAST: PROBABLY RAIN.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 4, 1914.

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FORCES OF RUSSIA ARE GETTING NEAR CRACOW

NEW BATTLE TO SOUTH OF LODZ

ermans Have Formed New Line of Fresh Forces and Again Attack Russian Center.

ighting in West Confined to Cannon

ussians Advance to Przemysl Without Serious Check—Reformed Lines in Poland.

London, Dec. 4.—With the all 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 yesterday to be mounting heavy batteries all round 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 pronouncements 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 south-west of Lodz, where the Germans have formed a new line with fresh forces brought 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.

Provision Against Famine. Berlin, (via wireless to Sayville), Dec. 4.—The German military authorities are providing measures to prevent famine among the inhabitants of that part of Russian Poland occupied by the German army, according to news given out by the official press bureau in Berlin today.

VIVID STORY BY CORRESPONDENT

Associated Press Correspondent Tells of Impressions Received on Visit to Flanders Trenches.

RIFLE PITS, INFANTRY AND ARTILLERY NEAR

Was in the Midst of 100,000 Men, Yet Saw Few Movements and Heard Very Little Noise.

In Flanders (via Paris), Dec. 4.—A correspondent of the Associated Press has just made a visit to the French trenches in Flanders and thus describes his experiences: "Standing in the shelter of the deep trenches in the midst of what is undoubtedly the bloodiest battlefield in Europe, the first and most notable impression is one of utter surprise at the absence of movements and lack of noise.

"Within the range of vision of an ordinary field glass are concealed, possibly, 100,000 men, but except for the few French soldiers in the rifle pits, standing or kneeling in the immediate vicinity and peering out over the flat country ahead in the direction of the enemy, no human presence is noticeable.

"A staff officer imparted the information that behind a slope about 300 yards away many German guns were hidden, but except for an occasional burst of flame a whirling noise told of the presence of the German artillery.

"A little farther to the left, there was reason to believe that the ground fairly bristled with machine guns backed by infantry in pits and trenches. Approach to these positions appeared to be almost impossible, so far as the infantry was concerned, on account of the barbed wire entanglements and other interferences. Covered with brush and brambles, the ground here, from a distance, has the appearance of a copse of heather."

Richmond, Dec. 4.—The last important action preliminary to actual operation of the Cotton Relief Scheme Completed.

COMMITTEES NAMED IN SOUTHERN STATES

ANOTHER STEP IN LOAN PLAN

Last Important Action Preliminary to Actual Operation of the Cotton Relief Scheme Completed.

CHAIRMEN OF STATE COMMITTEES TO MEET DECEMBER 15 TO ARRANGE DETAILS OF THE PLAN.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The last important step preliminary to the actual operation of the \$135,000,000 cotton loan fund has been taken, the state committees in eleven of the southern states. These committees will select local committees at once in every cotton producing community. The cotton loan committee also announced last night that a meeting of the chairmen of the state committees would be held here December 15 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 last night 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. At the same time it was said the plan is regarded as successful whether a dollar is borrowed under it or not. The very fact that the cotton exchanges have reopened and that cotton is selling for fairly good prices, officials declared, was due to some extent at least to the completion of the loan fund.

The state loan committees announced last night included: North Carolina: Joseph G. Brown, chairman, Raleigh; W. C. Wilkinson, Charlotte; J. V. Cranger, Wilmington; J. Elwood Cox, High Point; John F. Wily, Durham; Neil Ellington, Greensboro.

TOLEDO, O., Dec. 4.—One Louisville, Ky., gunman is dead, three others are hiding in the underworld section of the city, a Toledo man is perhaps fatally wounded, and his wife is being held by the police authorities as the result of a shooting in the residential district of Toledo last night. The wounded man is Harry C. Plummer, until about a year ago a mailman keeper in Louisville, Ky. His wife is said to have fired the shot that resulted in the death of the gunman.

The theory of the tragedy formulated by the police is that it was caused by some infraction of the rules of the underworld and that the four Louisville men came here to wreak vengeance on Plummer.

ORGANIZE CAMPAIGN IN HENDERSONVILLE

Special to the Gazette-News. Hendersonville, Dec. 4.—The North Carolina Red Cross seal commission has appointed Mrs. Charles R. Whitaker, of this city, to manage the campaign for the sale of the seals in this section. Mrs. Whitaker called a meeting of the ladies of the community as a result of which they have organized the city into districts to facilitate the sale of the Red Cross seals.

BOYD WILL HEAR KIDNAPING CASE

Cleveland and Smith, in Mecklenburg Jail, to Apply for Liberty Through Second Habeas Corpus.

ALABAMA GOVERNOR INTERESTED IN CASE

(By W. T. Bost.)

Raleigh, Dec. 4.—Before Judge James E. Boyd in Greensboro Tuesday, December 3, attorneys for Cleveland and Smith, Mecklenburg county, men under conviction and sentence of fraud in the courts of that county, will make application for their liberty through the second habeas corpus proceedings.

The case has been long in the courts and the men have spent a year in Mecklenburg jail. Their conviction has caused quite a lot of gubernatorial comment between Governors Craig and O'Neal, the governor of North Carolina saying to the governor of Alabama that it is a "fur piece" between Montgomery and Charlotte.

Everything from kidnaping down to comity has been urged to get these youngsters away from North Carolina. Even those who are not crazy about living in Charlotte do not understand why the prisoners should be in such a hurry to get back to Alabama. The men had done some machine boosting and handled considerable money which brought them a world of trouble. They fled to Alabama. North Carolina officers went down for them. It is said here that one of the officers was arrested in Alabama but came back. When they were returned to North Carolina they were tried before the recorder, then the Superior court and appealed, failing before the Supreme court.

Then they took the matter up with the governor. Governor O'Neal thought there had been a violation of comity between states, but Governor Craig sought a ruling from Attorney General Bickett who did not think that anything in the dictionaries gave that word such a meaning as the Alabama-North Carolina controversy carried to it.

They went before Judge Boyd. He had not received any request from Alabama to release the men and dismissed the petition. Governor Craig had declined to interfere with the judiciary. When attorneys appear next time they will have the request of Governor O'Neal for the release of Smith and Cleveland. Attorney General Bickett will argue the case for the state. He goes Sunday to make the Elks' address at High Point and on his return will remain in Greensboro to put the federal points in the case before Judge Boyd. The Alabama governor has always thought the men were rushed into a trial in North Carolina. He has called it a "kidnaping."

STATESVILLE ADVICES RESULTED IN ARREST

G. R. Simerly Taken Here Last Night—Charge of False Pretense Made.

On advice of Sheriff J. M. Deaton, of Iredell county, members of the local police force last night arrested G. R. Simerly, wanted in Statesville on charges of securing goods on false pretense.

A telegram was received by the local police yesterday afternoon stating that Simerly would arrive in Asheville on train No. 21 and to arrest him. A description was given of the man, which said that he wore a moustache, but when he arrived here the moustache

INSURANCE MEN ENTER PROTEST

Big Insurance Companies of State Gently Object to the Ruling From Commissioner J. R. Young.

MR. YOUNG PUTS IT UP TO U. S. GOVERNMENT

Solicitor Norris May Oppose Congressman Pou in Fourth District—Other News From Capital.

(By W. T. Bost.)

Raleigh, Dec. 4.—Insurance Commissioner James R. Young has before him a number of the big insurance men of the state and their attorneys who were gently protesting against the commissioner's recent ruling as to the stamp tax.

The commissioner has not ordered that the companies must pay the tax; he interprets the federal war tax measure to mean that they must, and sends out a document in which he says so. These gentlemen and their attorneys were here yesterday to make appeal to them. The order of Mr. Young a week ago reads thus: "I have not attempted to rule that insurance companies must pay the stamp tax levied by the federal government. That is a federal and not a state question. But I have expressed the opinion that congress intended that the payment of the same should be made by the companies and not by the policyholders. This opinion is borne out by the exemption of mutual companies from this tax and by the fact that a similar tax during the Spanish-American war was paid by the companies, without any attempt to collect it specifically from the policyholders."

"I have ruled that the payment by the agents of this tax would be a violation of our anti-rebate law as set out in section 4766, and about this ruling I do not think there can be any question."

Early in the Race. Though Solicitor Herbert E. Norris has not authorized anyone to make the statement that he is in the race against Congressman Edward W. Pou, the weekly newspapers of the fourth district are carrying announcements of his candidacy, some of them printing the news as "paid advertisements."

The solicitor declares that he would account it an honor to go to congress from the fourth, but he thinks a campaign now is a trifle early. Nevertheless, the appearance of so many articles in these papers moves those who are expected to oppose him to begin early the counter. They declare that the solicitor is beginning to take the country weeklies and he is expected to keep a watch. He also takes the dailies and is treasuring records.

That the entrance of Mr. Norris into the race will make it interesting, nobody doubts. He will have a working organization in the county that will drive Collector Bailey to the utmost to meet it in the county if Judge R. W. Winston happened not to be in the race. Mr. Norris is accounted a powerful prosecutor in the results that the courts show and is a fine organizing politician.

Craven for Lieutenant Governor. Bruce Craven of Randolph county, even since the recent election, is going to run for lieutenant governor. Mr. Craven has been here this week. He admitted that being assistant to Wilton McLean, E. L. Daughtridge, T. W. Bickett, Judge W. R. Allen, Col. W. H. Osborn, or Carey Dowd would not in the least embarrass him. "I do not think it will be necessary to spend more than \$5,000 in the campaign," he said.

Mr. Craven believes in the primary, in the initiative, the "ruff and raddom" and woman suffrage. He advocated the amendments and knew their doom when the party deserted them in convention. He would like to preside over a recalcitrant or a progressive senate. He would be pleased to scratch and bite an upper house majority of standpatters or put motions to an excess of progressives. Mr. Craven does not see why he is not eligible. He is geographically and historically correct.

WOULD INSURE FOR SICKNESS

Before Public Health Convention Dr. B. S. Warren Urges Sickness Insurance for Working People.

SHOULD BE OPERATED ON A MUTUAL BASIS

Says Changing Conditions Will Sooner or Later Force Enactment of Such Economic Provision.

(By W. T. Bost.)

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 4.—Dr. B. S. Warren, surgeon of the United States Public Health service, and sanitary adviser of the United States commission on industrial relations, addresses the American Public Health association here today on "Sickness Insurance and Its Relation to Public Health," predicting that "changing conditions in the United States will sooner or later force the enactment of a law providing for sickness insurance."

Dr. Warren said, in part: "The productivity of a healthy man is so potentially great that, other things being equal, he has little worry over making a living, whereas the sick man, or partially disabled man, is often a social burden. It is, therefore, a simple business proposition for the community to aid the workman with small incomes to provide adequate insurance against loss due to sickness."

"Changing conditions in the United States will sooner or later force the enactment of a law providing for sickness insurance. The industrial centers are growing in numbers, size, and density of population so that the individual can no longer protect himself against the hazards of living and working conditions. It is a social problem and cannot be left to private business enterprise."

"At present the income of the people, who require this insurance, is so small that they cannot afford to meet the cost when it is operated by private business enterprise for profit. It must be operated on a strictly mutual basis with the smallest possible expense for administration. On this account insurance companies operated for profit should be eliminated from this field. It should be operated on a strictly social basis."

"The study of the experience in the field of sickness insurance shows practically unanimous conclusions that the following provisions are necessary to the success of the plan. (1) It must be compulsory, especially for those with small incomes; (2) Cash benefits not to exceed 66 2/3 percent of the wages for a period of not more than 26 weeks in one calendar year; (3) Invalidity benefits in elastic character; (4) A small death benefit sufficient to meet the ordinary expenses of burial and other immediate necessities; (5) Medical benefits to include medical and surgical relief in home, hospital or sanatorium, as necessary, and medicine, appliances and specialist service including dentistry."

The funds, he suggested, would be provided by contributions as follows: Insured persons 50 to 66 2/3 per cent; employers 33 1/3 to 50 per cent; community or state 10 to 25 per cent. The amount of weekly contributions he roughly placed at 50 cents per person per week from all sources.

WALTER JOHNSON GOES TO CHICAGO FEDERALS

Premier Washington Pitcher Signs for \$20,000,000 Year—Tinker's Deal.

RUN IS MADE ON SAVINGS BANKS

Suspension of Banks of Abraham Has Resulted in Withdrawal of Deposits by Many Customers.

FOREIGN DEPOSITORS' UNEASINESS IS CAUSE

Twelfth Run Experienced in 20 Years by One Bank—Institutions Were Prepared.

(By W. T. Bost.)

New York, Dec. 4.—Withdrawal of accounts by depositors from private and savings banks yesterday, after the suspension of the banks of Abraham Hass, continued yesterday. Two banks appeared to be the most affected by the run. Each had taken steps during the night to meet the situation, which is said to have resulted for the most part from the uneasiness of foreign depositors on account of the closing of the Hass banks.

Large crowds had formed in the street early in the morning and when the doors of the banks were opened the line of uneasy depositors reached for several blocks and it appeared that many added themselves to the waiting throngs as the day progressed.

One of the two banks adopted the policy of paying to each of its depositors demanding his account the sum of \$100 with the promise that the balance would be paid, if desired, at the end of a week.

The \$100 was paid out in silver and dollar bills in each case. This is the twelfth run experienced in 20 years by one of the banks.

NO CAUSE FOR CHANGE IN ITALY'S NEUTRALITY

Premier Salandra Says There Are no Factors in War Requiring Change.

London, Dec. 4.—The Rome correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph company has sent a message saying that in the Italian parliament Premier Salandra stated that there were no new factors in the European situation in the course of development which demanded that there should be any alteration in the policy of neutrality which Italy had defined for herself.

NINE ARMED MEXICANS CAPTURED BY CAVALRY

Filibustering Expedition Is Taken in Texas by United States Troops.

Brownsville, Dec. 4.—The United States cavalry has arrested nine heavily armed Mexicans. They are understood to be part of an alleged filibustering expedition of 25. The capture was made after a chase near the town of Hildago, Tex.

PANICS RELEGATED TO MUSEUMS OF ANTIQUITY

Governor Hamlin Thinks New Reserve System Solves Situation.

New York, Dec. 4.—Panics due to distrust of banks have been relegated to the museum of antiquity by the new reserve banking system in operation in the United States, in the opinion of Governor Hamlin, in the opinion of Governor Hamlin, in the opinion of Governor Hamlin, in a speech before the New York chamber of commerce yesterday.

Ball, vice president of the St. Louis Federals.

"The St. Louis Federals engineered the deal whereby Chicago got Johnson," declared Ball. "Our price for obtaining Johnson for Chicago was Eddie Plank."