

The Asheville Gazette News.

WEATHER FORECAST:
WARMER.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., SATURDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 12, 1914.

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PENDULUM IS SWINGING IN FAVOR OF RUSSIANS

PEUTON PLAN OF ATTACK HAS FAILED

Official and Unofficial Russian Reports Indicate Germans Have Generally Been Repulsed.

MAKE BLOODY AND USELESS ATTACKS

Claims of Advantage Are Made by Both Sides in West Where Hard Fighting Continues.

The pendulum of war apparently has swung back again in favor of the Russians in the western war zone.

An official report from Petrograd declares the Russians have repulsed two units of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's army near Miava and Lowicz, administering enormous casualties and taking many prisoners and guns. At some places on the Miava front and before Lowicz the Russians assert that the Germans made fierce attacks but that these were repulsed and that the Germans retreated in disorder. Near Lowicz, according to the Russian statement, the Muscovites permitted the Germans to approach their trenches and then put them to flight with a galling fire.

Successes also are claimed by the Russians south of Cracow where, however, the Germans are said to be stubbornly resisting.

Fighting continues in France and Belgium and claims of advantages are made by both the contenders. After having admitted the loss of trenches in the region of Ypres, the latest French report declares these again are occupied by the allies.

With the return of the French government to Paris from Bordeaux a squadron of aeroplanes is doing scout duty over the capital to ward off possible attacks by hostile aircraft.

German Plan Fails

Paris, Dec. 12.—The Matin's Petrograd correspondent wires that the German plan of attack in Poland has completely failed. The dispatch says: "The German plan of campaign which was to turn the right wing of the Russian army at Lodz and at the same time to carry out a similar maneuver on the extreme left at Donetsch has completely failed. The Germans are reduced to bloody and useless attacks on our fronts."

"A Petrograd dispatch to the Havas agency gives a brief official statement given out by the Russian general staff concerning the situation in the Caucasus. It says:

"No important activities occurred during the day of December 10."

Petrograd Report

Petrograd, Dec. 12.—The following statement from the general staff from the Russian commander in chief was issued last night:

"In the direction of Miava the Germans on December 10 kept up a strong offensive through the day and night but we succeeded in repulsing them. Our troops, themselves, taking the offensive, gave chase to the German columns which, in some places, retreated in disorder.

"In the region to the north of Lodz the enemy made some fierce attacks on the night of December 9-10 and throughout the whole of the following day. We repulsed these attacks and inflicted enormous losses on the Germans.

"We repulsed, in all, seven attacks during which some of our units perished." (Continued on page 2)

SENATOR WEEKS IS HEARD FROM

He Thinks There Has Already Been Too Much Publicity About "Preparedness for War."

BELIEVES IN SECRECY IN MILITARY MATTERS

He Scores Those Who Are Demanding an Investigation—Praises Strength of the U. S. Navy.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Declaring that there had been too much publicity about the national military affairs, Senator Weeks of Massachusetts, in the senate yesterday, opposed the agitation of the special investigation into the military preparedness of the United States. He praised the strength and personnel of the navy and urged the organization of an army reserve.

"Anyone may learn about our military and naval establishments by reading the reports of the secretaries of the respective departments and the reports of the various bureaus and branches of the service," he said, "and need have no doubts about our relative military and naval position, if he is disposed to study the reports instead of seeking notoriety in the press."

"In fact there has been too much publicity, in my judgment. Demonstrations during progress of the present war have shown the value of secrecy in military operations and I see no reason for spreading broadcast knowledge of what we have done or what we are preparing to do.

"At this time," he continued, "it does not seem a wise proceeding to change our policy or add to our naval equipment except by the omnibus appropriations, which are to be expended under the direction of the naval board with the approval of the secretary of the navy and the president."

Through the reserve system, the senator contended, a much larger army could be maintained at less expense than through a standing army.

PREAS IS REINSTATED BUT UNDER CONDITION

Former Bingham Athlete Must Surrender Scholarship in the Georgia Tech.

Lexington, Ky., Dec. 12.—The executive committee of the Southern Inter-Collegiate Athletic association, meeting here, has reinstated J. H. Preas, a student of the Georgia School of Technology at Atlanta, on condition that he surrender scholarship which he now holds. Preas is an all-around athlete and has been under suspension because of alleged violation of the association's eligibility requirements.

A. M. Sikes, a student of Vanderbilt university at Nashville, Tenn., who also was under suspension during a part of the last football season because of alleged violation of eligibility rules but who was later allowed to play on the Vanderbilt eleven, was found not guilty in a formal statement issued by the committee last night. Sikes was charged with playing summer baseball outside of his home county.

"AMAZING PROFITS" OF GENERAL FILM CO.

Philadelphia, Dec. 12.—Amazing profits of the General Film company were recited yesterday by Edward P. Grover, assistant attorney general, closing his argument in the government's suit against the alleged moving picture trust. On an investment of \$10,000 each of ten manufacturers comprising the General Film company made a profit of 1000 percent in 1911, he said, while it cost Lewis M. Swaab, a Philadelphia exchange dealer, \$10 a minute for ten minutes for releasing a film too soon.

Counsel for the defendants will submit briefs and Federal Judge Dickinson will announce his decision later.

WOULD BUILD SHIPS IN YARDS

Secretary Daniels Thinks Every Navy Yard Should Be Able to Construct and Equip.

THINKS TOO MANY ARE BUILT BY CONTRACT

Repeats to House Naval Committee His Belief in the Necessity for More Submarines.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Secretary Daniels continued his testimony before the house naval committee concerning the naval construction program. Secretary Daniels stated that emergency battleships were being constructed in various places and that while 36 months were usually required to complete them for the sea it was possible to cut this time to two years.

Secretary Daniels stated that all naval yards should be equipped to build vessels. The New York and Philadelphia yards should be equipped to build and equip vessels, and the New York and Portsmouth yards should be able to build vessels at a low price.

"We ought to have a place to build ships in the Pacific," he stated. "The secretary testified that the additional gunboat which he had recommended in his report could be sent to the Caribbean sea and to the Gulf of Mexico where the dreadnaught can not go."

He said that the navy had \$41,091,734 available for new construction this year and this was \$5,736,039 more than was available last year.

He urged that each yard should build a certain class of vessel and said that too many were being constructed by contract and too few by the government navy yards. He would use the smaller yards for the construction of submarine boats.

Secretary Daniels reiterated his views that the government ought to have more submarines.

"What country are we likely to go to war with?" asked Representative Hensley of Missouri.

"Dahomey," replied Secretary Daniels, amidst great laughter.

THREE LYNCHINGS IN CADDO PARISH

Eight Illegal Hangings in 12 Months; Five Within the Past 10 Days.

Shreveport, La., Dec. 12.—Reports from Sylvester today indicate that Watkins Lewis, the negro who was taken from the Caddo parish jail by a mob shortly after midnight, was lynched early today. The body has not been found, it is stated. Ten days ago two other negroes were hanged near Sylvester for the robbery and murder of Charles Hicks, the postmaster and a merchant at Sylvester. Lewis was in jail charged with complicity in the crime.

Two negroes were lynched near Morrisport last night after confessing to the murder of Cyrus Hopkins, a field worker near that place. The negro Lewis was taken from the office, who were taking him from Caddo parish jail to Mansfield for safe keeping.

With the lynching of these three negroes, eight illegal hangings have taken place in Caddo parish during the past 12 months, five of them within the past ten days near Sylvester.

RIVERS AND HARBORS CONGRESS ADJOURNS

Washington, Dec. 12.—The National Rivers and Harbors congress has adjourned after adopting resolutions favoring the building of a comprehensive system of water transportation, at an annual expenditure by the government of not less than \$50,000,000.

The resolutions also urge "the continuing contract system" as the best means of securing economy, efficiency and speed in construction of government work.

Senator Joseph E. Ransdell of Louisiana, was re-elected president.

TWO SUBMARINE ATTACKS FAIL

Raids by German Submarines on British Fleet at Firth of Forth Yesterday Were Repulsed.

TWO WERE DESTROYED BY THE BRITISH FIRE

The Attack Was Made at Very Strong Naval Base, Where Big Fleet Is Probably Stationed.

London, Dec. 12.—An Edinburgh dispatch to the London Daily Mail says that two German submarine attacks, made yesterday at the Firth of Forth, were repulsed by the British vessels lying there. Two of the attacking submarines were destroyed, the dispatch stated. The British admiralty has received no confirmation of the reported attack.

The Firth of Forth faces the North sea and it is the British naval base at Rosyth. Because of its admirable situation, there was undoubtedly a strong fleet gathered there. Hence the report of the German submarine raid has caused no surprise.

The Firth of Forth is an estuary of the River Forth and is a bay-like extension of that river, which is about 50 miles long and at places about 15 miles across. The principal port on the firth is Leith, the port of Edinburgh.

EXTRADITION OF THAW ASKED FOR

Request by State of New York Taken Under Consideration by Supreme Court.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The request of the state of New York for extradition of Harry K. Thaw from New Hampshire to answer an indictment charging conspiracy to obstruct justice by escaping from Matteawan asylum has been taken under consideration by the United States Supreme court after oral arguments.

Members of the court asked Thaw's attorneys many questions about various points in their contentions. They did not interrupt William Travers Jerome, however, during his argument that Thaw was a fugitive from justice nor challenge the argument of Franklin Kennedy, deputy attorney general of New York, that the law under which Thaw was committed to Matteawan after the killing of Stanford White was constitutional.

Chief Justice White asked his first question when Philander C. Knox, former secretary of state, appearing for Thaw argued that only those who had committed crimes could be extradited, and that New York courts had held in five decisions that Thaw had committed no crime because he was insane.

The chief justice suggested that a man might be declared insane one day and sane the next. Mr. Knox replied that the presumption was that Thaw remained insane.

TWO NEGROES LYNCHED; THIRD TAKEN BY MOB

Shreveport, Dec. 12.—Two negroes were lynched near Shreveport yesterday and last night another, Watkins Lewis, accused of complicity in the killing of Charles M. Hicks, a merchant of Sylvester, La., was taken from the parish jail here by members of a mob and is believed to have been hanged.

Lewis was secured by five men, who gained entrance to the jail through a window and overpowered the jailer. The negro was forced to accompany the men to an automobile, which hurried away, presumably to join other members of the mob.

Endorses Marine Plan.

New York, Dec. 12.—The council of the Society of Naval Architects and marine engineers in session here has endorsed President Wilson's plan for a merchant marine, and the services of the society were offered in behalf of it.

New Cabinet.

Paris, Dec. 12.—A Havas dispatch from Lisbon says that Victor Coustinho, president of the chamber of deputies, has undertaken the formation of a new cabinet in place of the ministry which resigned on December 5.

U.S. NAVY NEEDS MORE AIRSHIPS

House Naval Committee Hears Report of Chief of Uncle Sam's Aeronautical Bureau.

ADDITION WOULD COST OVER TWO MILLIONS

Capt. Mark L. Bristol Shows How Craft Would Be Used in Our National Defense.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Two hundred naval air craft—100 for active service and 100 for reserve—are urgently needed by the United States navy in its plans for national defense, according to the recommendation of Captain Mark L. Bristol, chief of the United States aeronautical bureau, submitted to the house naval committee today. It would require an appropriation of \$2,200,000 to bring the aeronautical branch of the navy up to the proposed standard of efficiency, Captain Bristol told the committee. The purposes of the air fleet were thus described by the chief of the bureau:

"The air navy must consist of aeroplanes of the rigid or semi-rigid type and non-rigid airships to destroy the cruiser, and battleships of the air, respectively.

"The aeroplane is for scout duty, to discover the fleet of the enemy, to locate submarines and mines and to attack the dirigibles and aeroplanes of the enemy. It is the torpedo of the air against the aeroplane, cruiser and battleship of the air. After it has discovered the enemy's submarines and mines, it can direct our air cruisers to attack the hostile craft. It would probably lay counter mines and protect our cruisers from the enemy.

"It would also drop aerial torpedoes on surface vessels of the enemy and could be utilized over land for reconnaissance and for dropping bombs on land.

"The uses to which air craft can be put will probably be better known after the European war is over.

"The front of our fleet should be vertical, with submarines and mines under the water; battleships and cruisers on the surface and air craft in the air.

"To be successful, our fleet must have command of the air as well as of the sea."

"Any nation which has suitable air craft equipment can detect submarines," he added, "for the aeronaut can see submarines and mines very plainly and can direct dirigibles to the place, which can descend comparatively close to the water and drop high explosives to counter-mine the mine to destroy the submarine.

TRADING RESUMED ON N. Y. EXCHANGE

After Interruption of 111 Days, Tone of Trading Strong—Buyers Cautious.

New York, Dec. 12.—Open trading in shares was resumed on the New York stock exchange this morning after an interruption of 111 business days. The tone of the initial trading was strong but indicated caution by both buyers and sellers. The first quotation was on 100 shares of Pittsburgh Coal, which declined 1/4 point.

Among the marked changes was 7 1/2 points in Central Leather, 18 points in Texas company, and 10 1/2 points in Lehigh Valley and 10 points in Americas Best Sugar.

The largest single block was 1,400 in Reading. Among the early declines were Southern railway common and preferred, which suffered a loss of 1 1/4 and 2 1/4; and Northern Pacific, which yielded 3/4. In secondary prices there was some recession after the first 10 minutes of trading.

Dutch Loan.

London, Dec. 12.—Reuter's correspondent at The Hague says the Dutch government's proposal for an emergency loan of 250,000,000 florins, (\$100,000,000) was adopted by the second chamber of the states general.

Servians Reinforced.

Amsterdam, Dec. 12.—(Via London)—The Frankfurter Zeitung says the Servians have been reinforced by five Russian regiments which left Archangel October 27 and arrived at Antivari November 23.

MR. WIGGS HITS WAKE CO. JURY

Road Supervisor Makes Charges With Reference to Attack on His Management in Jury Report.

REPORT CHANGED AFTER READING, HE ASSERTS

Declares Section of Report Was Inserted After Report Had Been Made—Affidavits Filed.

Special to The Gazette-News, Raleigh, Dec. 12.—Road Supervisor W. L. Wiggs in a communication to the News and Observer, hits sharply back at the grand jury that assailed his roadbuilding in its report Wednesday and makes a hotter news story than the grand jury's recommendation that County Superintendent Judd's school board be investigated and Mr. Wiggs be fired.

Mr. Wiggs charges that the report of the grand jury was tampered with and that the section which struck at his management of the road, was inserted after the grand jury in a bed had made the report. He produces an affidavit from W. S. Horton, member of the body, in which the grand juror declares that this report on the roads was not read to the court and that it was changed in the office of the register of deeds. Horton's charge is given substantial corroboration by Foreman R. P. Jones who declares that he was not present when the report on the roads was made. From these two statements Mr. Wiggs deduces his belief that the road question was never fully presented to the grand jury and that its attack on some sections was not justified.

He directs the popular eye to the fact that the chauffeur running the machine in which some of the grand jurors rode, perhaps their first time in an automobile, ran recklessly and jostled the gentlemen of the jury somewhat. Moreover, he says "his particular car has always been a 'Jonah' and has several months ago it found Hillsboro street, the best of them all, too narrow for it and the street cars and it proceeded to knock the car off the track, almost killing chauffeur and motorman. He says, too, that the mud on new roads has caused trouble to the grand jury.

The reply of Mr. Wiggs has stirred up things considerably. Many were after his scalp just as quite a few wanted the school board investigated for its adherence to Superintendent Judd while the university professor holds to the county superintendent.

Exchange of Courts. Governor Craig has authorized an exchange of courts by Judges George Rountree and W. A. Devin.

Beginning January 4, Judge Rountree will hold one week in Richmond county; January 11, one week in Anson; January 18, one week in Moore; January 25, one week in Union; February 1, a week in Stanly; February 8, a week in Moore; February 15, two weeks in Union; March 1, one week in Anson, and March 8, one week in Scotland.

Judge Devin, beginning January 4, holds two weeks in Forsyth; January 13, one week in Rockingham; February 1, one week in Surry; February 8, two weeks in Forsyth; February 22, two weeks in Rockingham; and March 8, two in Forsyth.

And while Mr. Anderson's friends are remarking the retirement by election of county commissioners, one candidate, and suggesting that Editor Josephus Daniels has elevated Mr. Britton to an editorship with increased pay, both the Brittonites and Gatlingites are replying that Mr. Anderson seeks to be one of the city commissioners at \$3,000 next year, just a few months off and each mends the other's business beautifully.

POPE'S EFFORTS FOR A CHRISTIAN TRUCE FAIL

Failure Due to "Opposition of a Certain Power," Is Announcement.

Rome, Dec. 12.—The Vatican authorized today the publication of a document setting forth the efforts by the Pope to obtain a truce in the European war during the Christmas season.

Efforts of the Pope unfortunately failed, according to the Vatican announcement, "owing to the opposition of a certain power."

Approves Dismissal.

Washington, Dec. 12.—President Wilson has approved the sentence of dismissal from the army imposed upon First Lieutenant John K. Hume, fifth cavalry, convicted by general court martial at Trinidad Colorado of violating his pledge to abstain from intoxicants and of deliberate absence without leave. Hume rose from the ranks.

ANDERSON ASKS PRIMARY AGAIN

Candidate for Raleigh Post-office Renews His Request to Submit Issue to the People.

WOULD ELIMINATE CANDIDATE GATLING

Arguments Against Mr. Anderson—Treasurer Lacy Clears up Last Indebtedness on Heating Plant.

(By W. T. Bost).

Raleigh, Dec. 12.—State Treasurer B. R. Lacy has paid the last installment on the central heating plant which keeps the administration warm and issued a check for \$2,503.12 to C. W. Christian of Charlotte, whose company put the heating apparatus in.

The state appropriated \$40,000 for this purpose and built a power house in the spare space between the old Supreme court building and the state museum. The several streets and the capitol lawn were tunneled and pipes to carry the steam across the square were laid. It took many months to do the work but the heating system appears to be perfect now and the old stoves and heaters have been cast off.

The original appropriation called for an electrical apparatus that would give the state its own light, but the local company made such a cut as to reduce the cost of the outfit greatly. Treasurer Lacy thinks the commonwealth would make nothing by installing its own dynamo.

Charles H. Anderson, candidate for postmaster, has renewed, according to the Washington end, his request to Congressman Edward W. Pou to give him the benefit of a postoffice primary in the absence of the organization pull that appears to give his opponents, Hart M. Gatling, and Edward E. Britton, advantage.

Mr. Anderson takes note of the fact that many oppose the primary, particularly that Collector J. W. Bailey does, but he doubts Mr. Bailey's ability to justify his powerful faith in popular rule and his indisposition to allow a primary to settle it. Mr. Bailey gives his reasons which are not considered bad. The collector feels that there is no way to control the illegal vote, that there is no way to restrict the primary to a vote of those only who have the right to vote, and that the office having patrons all over the county, it might be contended that the county ought to be allowed to vote. Mr. Anderson would be agreeable to that, however, and offers to put up the money for it.

The retired register of deeds also makes the point that Mr. Gatling as an aspirant for county attorney lost this week and that this should reduce the field to a brace of runners, himself and Mr. Britton. What makes the prodding of Mr. Anderson somewhat interesting right now is a rumor here that Mr. Pou, for several reasons, feels most kindly to his candidacy and that with the congressman the cause of Mr. Anderson has been held as close as anybody's.

And while Mr. Anderson's friends are remarking the retirement by election of county commissioners, one candidate, and suggesting that Editor Josephus Daniels has elevated Mr. Britton to an editorship with increased pay, both the Brittonites and Gatlingites are replying that Mr. Anderson seeks to be one of the city commissioners at \$3,000 next year, just a few months off and each mends the other's business beautifully.

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RUSSIAN SEAPORT IS BOMBARDED BY TURKS

Turkish Fleet Throws Shells Into Environs of Batum, Is the Report.

London, Dec. 12.—A dispatch received from Constantinople by way of Berlin says that a Turkish fleet has bombarded the environs of Batum, the Russian seaport on the Black sea. The dispatch stated that 100 Russians were killed during the bombardment and that many were wounded.

GERMAN OIL STEAMER CAPTURED BY BRITISH

London, Dec. 12.—A German steamer with a cargo of 7000 tons of oil, proceeding to Italy from the United States, has been seized at Gibraltar by British warships, according to a report from Berlin.