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ASHEVILLE, N. C., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 29, 1914.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

RUSSIANS ARE MASTERS IN CARPATHIANS AGAIN

AUSTRIA ADMITS NEW SETBACK

Means Withdrawal of Austrians From Attempt to Take Part in Concerted Attack on Russians. Tedious French War in West Continues. British Observers Admit Importance of Trenches Captured at Hollebeke by German Forces.

have made slight progress along our entire front. "In the Vosges the enemy bombarded the railroad station at St. Die. "In upper Alsace to the northeast of Steinhach several counter attacks by the enemy were repulsed.

London, Dec. 29.—British observers of the progress of the war, point this morning to the admission in the Austrian official statement that the Russians have once more made themselves masters of the passes in the Carpathian mountains and that the Austrian troops along the entire Austrian front from the Biala river to a point to the northeast of Dukla pass seems to be falling back.

TWO DREADNAUGHTS INSTEAD OF FOUR

Majority on Naval Affairs Committee Said to Favor Middle Course. The house committee on naval affairs expects to submit its report on the naval building program for the coming fiscal year shortly after congress reconvenes.

On the west front the slow and tedious trench warfare is uninterrupted and only slight gains are being noted by either side. British observers concede the importance of the trenches at Hollebeke to the south of Ypres which were lately captured by the Germans and point out that their strategic value is emphasized by dispatches from French sources.

The bill also will provide for various auxiliary craft, such as the six destroyers, which Secretary Daniels asked for, one gunboat and one oiler. The total appropriation, it is estimated, will be about \$145,000,000.

Paris, Dec. 29.—An official statement issued in Paris yesterday is as follows: "In the region of Lens, near Carpiennes the enemy yielded under our attack, 400 yards of the first line trenches.

NOT AMERICAN VESSEL. Washington, Dec. 29.—Capt. O. S. Jones of the armored cruiser North Carolina stationed at Beirut, Syria, has informed the naval department that it was a Russian and not an American vessel that threatened to bomb Tripoli because Turk airplanes attacked the crew of an American merchantman, Captain O. S. Jones, in the Mediterranean south of Alexandria, Syria, on December 23, 1914.

SAYS DIRECTOR SHOULD DIRECT

Comptroller of Currency Urges Uniform By-Laws for National Banks in Annual Report. LIMIT TO DEPOSITS OF U. S. BANKS URGED. Thinks the Comptroller Should Have Power to Remove Officers and Directors—More Bank Business.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Comptroller Williams of the currency bureau submitted his annual report to congress today. It covers the beginning of the transition from the old national banking system to the new federal reserve system, as well as the operations of more than 7000 national banks which have become part of the new system since his last annual report was made.

At some length the comptroller reviews the activities of governmental agencies to aid the financial and business world during the stress of the outbreak of the European war. He covers practically the same ground as Secretary McAdoo did in his recent report to congress.

There were 26,766 banks reporting to state and federal officers in the United States at the close of business on June 30. Those banks, including all kinds, had aggregate resources of \$28,971,998,931 showing an increase of more than \$1,200,000,000 in the year. There were 772 more banks reporting than the year previous.

CHRISTMAS RUSH DID NOT SWAMP SALISBURY. Salisbury, Dec. 29.—The Christmas rush made unprecedented demands upon the local postoffice force but these demands were met by increased force and extra hard work so that no congestion was noticeable when Christmas was over.

U. S. AWAITING BRITISH REPLY

This Government Makes Strong Representation to England in Regard to Neutral American Shipping. HOSTILE DESTINATION MUST BE ESTABLISHED. Objection to Method of Putting Burden of Proof on Vessels—Note May Have Far Reaching Effect.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Official Washington is awaiting with much interest the outcome of the forthcoming conference between American Ambassador to London Page and Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary, at which the representative of the United States will present a long note insisting that legitimate commerce of Americans be not molested by the British fleet.

At the time of the conference the note will insist that the United States exhibits much patience during the early days of the war when it realized the burdens of the British foreign office. It declares that during the five months of fighting the situation has grown worse.

The communication is couched in friendly terms. A reply is not expected for several days. Washington, Dec. 29.—The United States government has dispatched a long note to Great Britain insisting on an early improvement in the American-commerce by British fleets.

PHILIPPINE INCIDENT IS CONSIDERED CLOSED. Washington, Dec. 29.—With no additional advice from the Philippines, war department officials last night expressed the opinion that the recent disturbance there, which they declined to call an uprising, was a closed incident, fully explained in the report captioned Sunday by Governor General Harrison.

BIG INCREASE IN N. C. CRIME

The Attorney General's Report Shows Growth in Criminal Cases During the Past Two Years. SUGGESTS FULL TIME FOR ATTY. GENERAL. Would Combine Indictments and Thinks There Should Be Seven Justices of Supreme Court.

Raleigh, Dec. 29.—Attorney General T. W. Bickett's review and recommendations made to Governor Craig carry criminal statistics that show a large increase in crime, and record numerous cases whose interest is not confined to North Carolina.

Of the 22,509 cases reported, he cites 19,165 actually tried, 3,344 not prosecuted; and of the 19,165 actually tried, 16,458 were convictions and 2,707 acquittals. These figures will impress with the power of the state's attorneys. There were 123 cases of homicide tried in this biennial report.

FAYETTEVILLE POLICE PULLED OFF A BAD ONE. Special to The Gazette-News. Wilson, Dec. 29.—Local police officers have not yet apprehended the negro Willingham wanted for shooting to death another negro on the street last Thursday night.

STEAMER DEM MINED IN THE NORTH SEA. London, Dec. 29.—The Glasgow steamer Lem, a vessel of about 500 tons, has been sunk in the North sea as the result of coming in contact with a mine. Two of the crew of the vessel were rescued, but the fate of the others is unknown.

URGES BETTER DISTRIBUTION

Dr. Meeker Says Farmers Suffer Great Loss From the Failure to Study Conditions. CO-ORDINATION WOULD REDUCE LIVING COST. Says Low Price to Farmers and High Price to Consumers Is Mostly Due to Waste.

Princeton, N. J. Dec. 29.—Co-ordination in distributing commodities will do much toward reducing the cost of living and bring greater profits to the farmer, Dr. Royal Meeker, United States commissioner on labor statistics, told the members of the American Economic association in convention here today.

"Cantaloupes were shipped last August into Washington in such quantities that commission merchants refused to handle them. On one day fifty-eight carloads of peaches were dumped into St. Louis, which ordinarily can absorb about fourteen or fifteen carloads a day during the peach season.

MINES CAUSE LOSS OF TEN MILLION DOLLARS. That Loss to Shipping Suffered by Scandinavian Countries Alone. Stockholm, Sweden, Dec. 29.—(Correspondence of the Association Press.)—The total loss to the Scandinavian shipping as the result of mines is as follows to mid-December:

FRANK AT LAST SCORES POINT

Justice Lamar Grants Appeal From Refusal of District Court to Order Release. STAY OF EXECUTION CAUSED BY ACTION. Another Result Will Be That the Entire Supreme Court Will Pass on Disputed Point.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Justice Lamar of the United States Supreme court has granted an appeal for the refusal of the federal district court for northern Georgia to release on habeas corpus proceedings Leo M. Frank, under death sentence for the murder of Mary Phagan, at Atlanta.

Justice Lamar then was asked to grant the appeal and issue the certificate. He found that several questions of federal law, unsettled by the Supreme court, existed in the case and hence gave rise to "probable cause" for the appeal.

That Loss to Shipping Suffered by Scandinavian Countries Alone. Stockholm, Sweden, Dec. 29.—(Correspondence of the Association Press.)—The total loss to the Scandinavian shipping as the result of mines is as follows to mid-December:

Sweden: Eight ships and 46 lives. Denmark: Six ships and six lives. Norway: Five ships and six lives. To the total must also be added the loss to Holland shipping of three ships and 13 lives. The Shanghai losses on account of the destruction of the 22 vessels reaches about \$18,000,000.