

MONASTIR SURROUNDED, VARIOUS REPORTS SAY

Bulgarians, if Not Defeated by French, ay Not Wait For Teuton Forces to Enter Macedonian City.

SERBIANS RETREATING TOWARD SOUTHWEST

Reported That Invaders of Serbia Will Not Hesitate to Pursue Serbians Into Greek Territory.

London, Nov. 27.—Serbian forces will become an army without a country, unless the French should defeat the Bulgarian troops. Reports arriving from various sources state that Monastir has been surrounded by Bulgarians and that they may not wait for their Austro-German allies before entering the city. The main Serbian army is said to be retreating in a south-westerly direction before the advance of General von Mackensen's troops, and it is implied that they may have no rest, even on Greek territory, as it is reported that the invaders will not hesitate to cross into Greece. Apparently, German leaders expect that the Serbians and their allies will await attack in Greece. It is said that these operations will be under the supreme command of Von Mackensen.

Added reports of the battle of Ctesiphon in Mesopotamia, near Bagdad indicate that the British forces won a substantial victory, instead of suffering a defeat as first accounts led to believe. Diplomatic representatives at Athens, of the allies are continuing their late efforts to settle definitely all outstanding questions, having presented a note to Premier Skoulondis detailing measures which seem unavoidable for the security and freedom of action of the allied troops.

The situation along the Roumanian front where a great Russian force is said to have gathered, is still unchanged. Dispatches received in London indicate that a public feeling in favor of the entente allies reigns in Roumania, and that that nation is in a position to disregard the demonstrations of the central powers.

In the south where the situation is somewhat beclouded through lack of information unofficial advice says the French have captured Broussik, west of Krivolak from the Bulgarians, with whom they had been at grips for several days. This same dispatch adds that large Serb forces are marching toward Prilop with the intention of protecting the railway lines running south from that town to Monastir.

Favorable Reply.
Athens, Nov. 26. (via London, Nov. 27.)—It is understood that the Greek reply to the note of the entente powers agrees to partial demobilization with a view to relieving the strain on the country's finances, and that it also undertakes to withdraw Greek troops from Salonki and distribute them to other points on the frontier.

Some of the government papers assert that the cabinet has discussed the question of instituting judicial proceedings against Venizelos, the former premier, because of his recent manifesto urging his followers to abstain from taking part in the coming elections.

Denys Cochin, the French cabinet minister, who has been the recipient of public ovations and honors while in Greece, left for Italy today aboard the Greek cruiser Helle.

Wilson Will Not Take Part In Peace Campaign

Washington, Nov. 27.—President Wilson will take no part in the campaign to bring about a peace conference. While he will interpose no objection to the unofficial movement, he has heard nothing from Europe, that leads him to believe the time is opportune to take any such step. Telegrams, urging the president to support the movement, by a conference of neutrals, continue to pour into the white house. A delegation of peace advocates called on the president yesterday. President Wilson is keeping in close

touch with the peace sentiment abroad through American diplomatic representatives, and is devoting much time, and study to the question. It is stated, authoritatively that at the first intimation from officials of the warring nations, such an effort will be welcomed, and the president will renew his offer of services to aid in ending the war. Henry Ford's peace ship will not carry a representative of the American government, and unless the situation changes in the meantime, the government will not take any part in the proposed meeting.

Serbia Will Be "Born Again", Says War Minister

Paris, Nov. 26.—Predictions that no matter what happened Serbia would be "born again" is made by Serbian War Minister Bokovitch to the Matin's Monastir correspondent, who quotes the war minister as saying: "We are all ready to hold out to the last. If fortune abandons us altogether, so much the worse, but we will still hope. Serbia knew how to win liberty after five centuries under the Turkish yoke. It will be the same tomorrow. Serbia will live forever. You can

not kill all Serbians and Serbia will be born again." When this interview was filed, November 19, the situation was reported unchanged. The Serbian advance posts were no longer in contact with the Bulgarians, who were believed to have detached troops to reinforce the army attacking the French forces. The Serbians then occupied the village of Brod, north of Krushevo, although the town had changed hands several times, being occupied several hours the day before by Bulgarian irregulars.

Six German Supply Ships Chartered By One Man

New York, Nov. 26.—One man alone, John T. Turney, of Philadelphia, procured for, and chartered to the Hamburg-American line six of the sixteen vessels which the government charges the officials of the line with having sent to the aid of German cruisers in the Atlantic, and Pacific. This development in the trial of the men charged with conspiracy to defraud and deceive the United States government came from the witness stand today, from the lips of Mr. Turney, a frankly hostile witness.

The confession of the defendants, interviewed on an earlier date, show that they spent \$545,000 alone for chartering these vessels, and that the total cost including supplies was \$689,692. Mr. Turney testified, apparently with great reluctance, that Adolph Hachmeister, and George Kotter, purchasing agent and general superintendent of the line, respectively, gave him all of the information regarding chartering the vessels, and told him their alleged destination.

Fighting on Gallipoli

Paris, Nov. 26.—Heavy fighting has been in progress the last few days in Gallipoli, where the Turks undertook a strong offensive movement, but were repulsed by the combined fire of the British and French guns. Allied aeroplanes have bombed the rail-roads between Constantinople and Dedagathacie, mining the bridges, and warships have bombarded the coast of Asia Minor.

GAY CROWDS AT ARMY-NAVY GAME

President, Government Officials, and Officers of Service Add Color to the Contest.

New York, Nov. 27.—Men who govern and guard the nation, arrived here in thousands to see the Army-Navy football game. The streets and hotels are gay with the gold and gray of the army, and the blue and gold of the navy. Admirals, generals, cabinet members, senators, and representatives are as much in evidence as policemen. It is estimated that over 25,000 people came here from out of town to witness the game. The stands at Brush stadium, where the major league teams play baseball all summer began to gather a brilliant throng, long before 2 o'clock, the time set for the beginning of the game. The gridiron has been groomed to billiard ball smoothness, and the condition comforted the adherents of the Navy who hoped for a fast dry field that would give the Middies an opportunity for their best defense against the heavy line plugging tactics expected of the Cadets. Betting favors the Army, on its record.

GEN. VILLA'S GARRISON HAS EVACUATED NOGALES

El Paso, Tex., Nov. 27.—A dispatch to the El Paso Herald, says, "Villa's garrison evacuated Nogales, the capital of the state of Sonora yesterday after looting the stores and saloons. Governor Randall and General Acosta are now on the American side, having crossed Thursday."

GERMAN PROTECTED CRUISER SENT DOWN

London, Nov. 27.—The German protected cruiser Frauenloeb has been sunk by a submarine of the allies, according to a semi-official announcement from Petrograd, dispatched to the Central News agency. The Frauenloeb is reported to have been sent to the bottom in about the same locality that the German protected cruiser Undine, a sister ship to the Frauenloeb, was lost.



WATSON QUESTIONS ARE OBJECTED TO

Publisher Tries to Show Character of Author by Quizzing Government Witness.

Augusta, Nov. 27.—A large crowd had gathered today at the opening of federal court in expectation of a lengthy argument on whether Thomas E. Watson, politician, author and publisher of Thompson, Ga., on trial on the charge of sending obscene matter through the mails, should be allowed to introduce testimony to show his character as an author. After argument on this point the court adjourned without making a ruling. Mr. Watson brought out through cross-examination of John M. Barnes, former postmaster of Thompson, Ga., the first witness called, that Watson was the author of a number of works of history and fiction. Watson's questions were as to the nature of the works. "Are they high class or low class works?" asked Mr. Watson, who as a member of the Georgia bar was conducting the case for himself. Barnes was introduced by the government to show that the publication containing the alleged obscene articles had been mailed. He had got so far as saying, "They are high class," when the prosecution interrupted and reiterated the government's contention that such questioning was not pertinent to the case.

BORDER PEOPLE FEELING SAFER

Inhabitants of Nogales, Ariz., Believe That Further Firing Across Border Will Be Promptly Returned.

TWO NORTH CAROLINIANS ARE SHOP BY SNIPERS

Villa Has Evacuated Nogales, Sonora, and 1700 More U. S. Troops Are Sent For Patrol Duty.

Nogales, Ariz., Nov. 27.—With the evacuation of Nogales, Sonora, by General Villa's forces and the arrival here today of an additional 1,700 infantrymen to reinforce the border troops at this point, the residents of this town experienced a feeling of security that they have not been able to enjoy since the Villa forces first took possession of Sonora following their defeat at Agua Prieta. There was evidence of renewed confidence, and even quiet, and should there be a repetition of yesterday's firing, when Villa snipers fired into American territory, killing one United States soldier, and wounding two others, it is felt that the attack would meet with a prompt response.

COMPTROLLER WILLIAMS REPEATS STATEMENT

Again Says That a Great Many National Banks Charge Usurious Rates.

Washington, Nov. 27.—In reply to criticisms of the American Bankers' association in connection with his declaration that many national banks charge usurious interest rates, John Skelton Williams, comptroller of the currency, issued a statement last night again giving instances of such practices. Mr. Williams said it was true that a majority of the national banks obeyed the usury laws of the various states, but that the reports rendered to him showed, as he announced in speeches and previous public statements, that this was far from being universally true. "The only states where there were no national banks which admitted under oath in their statements of September 2, 1915, that they were charging as high as twelve per cent on any of their loans were Connecticut, Delaware, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin," said the statement. It added that reports of September 2, 1915 showed that 2,743 out of 7,613 national banks of the country were charging ten per cent on some loans. Mr. Williams suggested that hereafter national banks be required to print in their published statements of condition the maximum rate of interest charged. He expressed the hope that the association will work with the comptroller's office to end the practices complained of.

THE LARGEST

advertisement appearing in The Gazette-News today is that of—

CHAS. E. HENDERSON

on page 2, calling attention to Holiday Line of Jewelry.

MAY SET ASIDE ROGERS' VERDICT

Judge Long in Superior Court Conducting Inquiry as to Why Jurors Failed to Answer All Issues.

VERDICT YESTERDAY GAVE PLAINTIFFS \$12,000

Jurors State They Thought If First Issue Was Answered "Yes" Next Two Need Not Be Answered.

An investigation, instituted by Judge B. F. Long, is being conducted in Superior court today as to the reasons the members of the jury, in the case of W. F. Rogers and Mrs. Belle Rogers against the Southern Railway company, did not answer two issues given to them by the court. The jury early yesterday morning returned a verdict awarding the plaintiffs, who were suing for \$40,000 on a death claim for the death of Furman Rogers, the sum of \$12,000. As yesterday was Thanksgiving day and no court was in session, both sides had agreed that the clerk of the court, John H. Cathey, should receive the verdict, if it was returned during the day. After remaining out all night the jury reported early yesterday and Mr. Cathey took the verdict. Two of the issues were unanswered and he so informed an attorney for each side, neither of whom objected.

NOTIFIED COURT

When court convened this morning Judge Long was notified of the two of the issues not answered. About 11 o'clock he stopped the proceedings of the court and started an inquiry as to what caused the jurors to return such a verdict. The attorneys for the defendants objected to the inquiry, but no objection was entered by the attorneys for the plaintiff.

Foreman C. M. Johnson, upon being questioned by the court, stated that the reason the jury did not answer the two issues mentioned, was because they thought from the judge's charge they would not have to if they answered the first issue "yes," which they did. The jury was in the room when the attention of the court was called to the matter and he had the members go back to the jury box. The issues in the case, the first and the fourth of which were answered, are as follows: First, was the plaintiff intestate injured and killed by negligence of the defendant as alleged in the complaint? This was answered "Yes." Second, did the plaintiff, Furman Rogers, die as alleged in the answer? This was not answered. Fourth, what amount, if any, is the plaintiff entitled to recover? This was answered by giving the plaintiff a verdict of \$12,000.

JURORS EXAMINED

Foreman Johnson and Juror Stepp, on examination by the court and cross examination by the attorneys, agreed as to all the issues, but did not answer them all, according to the charge of the court, as they understood it. The foreman and juror stated that while no answer was given to issues two and three, all members of the jury had agreed they should be answered "No."

Each answer as given in the verdict and the answers that were not given to the issues were unanimous, the jurors stated. This new turn of a case, which has already attracted more interest than any proceeding of a like nature for many years, will be followed with great interest by many people in the city. The plaintiffs were represented by Judge J. D. Murphy, Zeb F. Curtis and Judge W. P. Brown, while Martin, Rollins and Wright, and Guy Roberts of Marshall appeared for the defendant.

INVESTIGATING CAUSE OF SALISBURY WRECK

Salisbury, N. C., Nov. 27.—Members of the Interstate Commerce commission were in session yesterday, with officials of the Southern Railway company investigating the cause of the rear end collision here on Wednesday night, November 24, between an excursion train, and the Southern New York and New Orleans, limited, which resulted in two persons being killed and 22 injured. In addition to this investigation, a coroner's inquest into the death of the two passengers will be called for 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

D. HARSHBURGER KILLS HIMSELF

Bookkeeper of Laurel River Logging Company, and Former Postoffice Inspector, Commits Suicide.

LEFT SHORT MESSAGE INDICATING INTENTIONS

Body Found With Bullet Through Head Near Deceased Home—Is Survived by Three Small Children.

A message stating that D. M. Harshburger, bookkeeper of the Laurel River Logging company at Runion, near Marshall, and formerly postoffice inspector in this district, had committed suicide was received here yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock by W. T. Randolph, secretary of the Masonic bodies of Asheville. Mr. Randolph at once left for Runion and Dr. Moore went down from Marshall. It was found that Mr. Harshburger had placed the muzzle of a pistol in his mouth and sent a bullet through his head. The dead man left three little children.

Left Message.
Mr. Harshburger left a message, stating that he was going on a "long journey" and leaving directions for the care of his children. His body was brought to Asheville this morning, and is being held pending directions for its disposition by relatives.

Yesterday morning Mr. Harshburger did not appear for breakfast. His housekeeper, Mrs. Barnes of Greenville, S. C., after a time began to investigate. Going to his room she found a note addressed to her lying on his desk. In it, he stated that he was going on a long journey and she was asked to take good care of his three children. Alarmed by this message, she summoned aid and a search was instituted for the missing man. After searching for about two hours, the body of Mr. Harshburger was found in the woods about 100 yards from his home. A pistol near the body and the wound through his head showed how he had taken his life.

The deceased had been bookkeeper for the Laurel River Logging company with headquarters at Runion, for the past three years. Before taking that position he was for years inspector of postoffices in this district, and in this work he had formed a wide acquaintance and had made many warm friends. Many expressions of regret were heard when he left the federal service, in which his efficiency was well recognized. He was a member of the Masonic Mt. Hermon Lodge No. 118 and Asheville chapter No. 25, the officials of which were notified of the tragedy and took charge of the body.

The children of the dead man are now with Mr. and Mrs. Whitehurst at Runion. They are Stella, aged 14 years; Lucy, aged 12; and David, Jr., aged 10. Friends who have visited Mr. Harshburger were especially impressed with the brightness and charm of his three children. They also speak of his pleasant home which overlooked the French Broad river.

Had Been Despondent.
The deceased had been despondent for some time, and it is believed that melancholia finally induced by this despondency, caused him to take his life. His friends can think of no other cause for the act.

The body of the deceased now rests in the undertaking establishment of Noland-Brown company, where it was brought from Runion, Claud Holdeit having gone down with Mr. Randolph to bring the body here. It is being held until the arrival of Mr. Harshburger's sister, Miss Harshburger of Philadelphia, who was at once notified of the tragedy.

CURRENT EVENTS CLUB WILL MEET

The Current Events club of the Y. W. C. A. will hold its first regular winter meeting at the Henrietta this evening at 8 o'clock with the chairman, Miss Phoebe Houston, presiding. All members and their friends are invited to be present and share in the discussion of national, state and international affairs. Tomorrow afternoon at 4:30 o'clock there will be a vesper service at the Y. W. C. A. building on Blitmore avenue. Mrs. W. H. Woodall will make an address on "What Next?" There will be special music and those attending are asked to bring Alexander hymn books. Washington, Nov. 27.—President Wilson has cancelled the cabinet meeting yesterday that he might work on his address to congress. He wrote until late Thursday night but could not finish the document. The president plans to leave for New York this morning, to see the army or by noon yesterday but was unable to.