

The Weather
Full data concerning the weather will be found today on Page Three

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WARSAW OBJECTIVE POINT OF GERMANS

Frontal Attacks and Outflanking Tactics Keep Russian Center Busy

MAY GET IN BY BACK DOOR

Instead of Christmas Truce Armies of The Belligerent Powers Are Engaged in Fierce Battles On Both The Eastern and Western Fronts. Allies Hammer at Germans

(By the Associated Press.)
London, Dec. 24.—(10:00 p. m.)—Instead of the Christmas truce which Pope Benedict endeavored to arrange, Christmas eve finds the armies of the belligerent powers engaged in fierce battles on both the eastern and western fronts, and all Europe celebrating the anniversary in a subdued manner. In the west, the allies hammer is pounding at the German entrenchments, trying to find a weak point, while in the east, the Russians who have been driven back from the Austrian and German frontiers, seemingly have been brought to bay behind rivers which offer them natural defense, and, turning, have counter-attacked the Austro-German forces.

Rush Toward Warsaw

The Germans in their great rush toward Warsaw, drove the Russians over the Buzza and Rawka rivers and they themselves succeeded in crossing but according to Russian official report today the Germans there reached the main Russian line and were routed. From this report it is gathered, that the Germans directed their main attacks against the Russian front, which lies along the banks of the Vistula, and thence southward to the Pilica, but without success.

Russians Claim Victories

Along the rest of the front south to the Carpathian mountains, the Russians claim similar victories, but in East Prussia the Germans apparently have turned the scales on their adversaries and after having retreated into their own territory resumed the offensive and again are back in Milawa.

Even now it is possible that the Germans have resumed their outflanking tactics, and while keeping the Russian center busy by making frontal attacks are hoping to get into Warsaw by the back door. All that is certain at present is that the two great armies are engaged in one of the greatest battles of the world's history on a front which extends from East Prussia to the Carpathians and in which the advantage swings first one side and then to the other.

Can Hold Germans in Check

Military experts say that the Russians, by virtue of the retaining of the right bank of the Vistula as far west of Plock, can prevent the Germans from crossing the river for transit of supplies, and that along the whole of the rest of the front they have rivers and streams to fall behind when hard pressed. This, however, will all be changed, the experts say, when the rivers freeze, and the armies can easily be moved over them.

Bomb Dropped in Dover

England has had its first experience of an attack, when a German aeroplane coming from the Belgian coast, flew over Dover and dropped bombs in the garden of St. James rectory, in front of Dover Castle. No damage was done. Two British aeroplanes went in pursuit but the German escaped in the mist.

TO MAINTAIN NEUTRALITY

Plans To Be Submitted by South American Countries.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—Committees to consider the plans proposed by various South American countries for maintenance of neutrality by the representatives of the western hemisphere were named at today's meeting of the special commission of the governing board of the Pan-American Union.

CANADIANS TO FRONT

One Regiment Leaves and Others to Follow Soon.
London, Dec. 24.—(8:25 p. m.)—Princess Patricia's regiment, a part of the Canadian contingent, which has as its honorary colonel, the daughter of the Governor General of Canada, has left for the front. It will be followed soon by the Scottish regiments of Canada's army which after training on Salisbury plain, are considered fit to take their places with the seasoned soldiers of Great Britain.

Japan Was Not Asked

(By the Associated Press.)
Tokyo, Dec. 24.—During an interpellation today the war minister declared no country asked Japan to send an army to Europe.

The minister said the Japanese had sent arms to Europe to the value of 10,000,000 yen (\$4,000,000).



GENERAL SCOTT MEETS MAYTORENA

The Mexican Border Problem Seems To Be Nearing Friendly Solution

(By the Associated Press.)
Naco, Ariz., Dec. 24.—Governor Maytorena, Villa commander, showed a friendly attitude and a disposition to consider the settlement of the Mexican border problem, according to Gen. Hugh L. Scott, United States chief of staff, who conferred with him today in an army tent pitched on the international boundary four miles from Naco.

Salazar Launches Revolution

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 24.—The Carranza government has declared void all contracts made by the Gutierrez government, which is backed by Villa's army, according to a bulletin issued today from the local Carranza consulate. The Mexican border town of Palomas, opposite Columbus, N. M., is threatened by Gen. Salazar, who has launched a revolution against Gutierrez and Carranza. It was learned today that Salazar troops

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The Good Cheer of the Christmas

The Spirit of the Day in Sentiments by Many Women of North Carolina

None more fit in all the world to give expression to the sentiments which have to do with the Christmas day are to be found than the women of North Carolina. The smile of love and joy which first fell upon the face of the Babe in the Manger was that of a woman, and in all the ages since that day of the Nativity of the Christ it has been woman who has given the sweetest smile to the world.

The very Apostle of Peace it is from the heart that woman can give expression to sentiments which should animate mankind, and it is the high privilege of The News and Observer in this Christmas morn to present to the State Christmas Day sentiments from a number of the women of North Carolina. To secure these there was sent to out the following letter:

"When Children Rejoice."
This is the time when universal sympathy and kindness pervade the earth, when children rejoice, and tones of the Divine benediction sweeten and bless the lives of men.
MRS. LOCKE CRAIG, Raleigh, N. C.

"May the Hearts of Those at War Be Softened."
May the Christmas spirit soften the hearts of those in battle and impress upon them the uselessness of causing such untold suffering as has never been witnessed before.
MRS. E. L. DAUGHTRIDG, Rocky Mount, N. C.

"Let Love Abound."
Love is the great propelling force in the Christian religion. "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." This gift of love to a perishing world, our own beloved Saviour said "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you that ye also love one another." Unless love-abounds in our hearts and is the dominating controlling force of our lives we cannot truly and fitly enter into the spirit of this world-wide celebration of the birth of the word's Christ whose life on earth was love incarnate and who loves us with an everlasting love.
MARY W. JARVIS, Greenville, N. C.

"Good Will Towards Men."
We cannot claim "Peace on Earth" at this Christmas tide, yet we can rejoice that we have peace in America, and that we feel the "good will towards men," which prompts us to cheer and succor the sufferers in Europe, with the plenty which has blessed this land.
SALLIE SOUTHALE COTTEN, Former President North Carolina Federation of Woman's Clubs, Bruce, N. C.

"That The Nations at War May Pause"
Other days permit a variety of sentiment; but not "Christmas." The Master spoke in His birth the only true "Christmas sentiment: "Glorify to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men." Our legacy from Him was peace. "Peace, I leave with you, my peace I give into you." I pray that the nations at war may pause. Have they forgotten the meaning of His coming? I pray that this carnage in Europe may end. Godly men and women should end it.
MRS. FRANCIS D. WINSTON, Windsor Castle.

"Let Us Be Glad."
Christmas! The Shepherds, the Wise Men, the gifts, the manger, the Christ-Child! Merry, merry Christmas! The season of happy children, "Ring in the Valiant Man and Free!"
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AUSTRIAN NAVY GETTING ACTIVE

Torpedoes French Armored Cruiser in Gulf of Oranto

(By the Associated Press.)
Amsterdam, Dec. 24.—(Via London, 7:40 p. m.)—An official telegram received here today from Vienna says: "The French submarine Curie was fired upon by our coast batteries without having been able to deliver an attack. The members of her crew were imprisoned."
"Our submarine No. 12 attacked on December 21 a French squadron composed of sixteen ships in the Oranto Channel. The submarine successfully torpedoed two battleships of the Courbet type, but the consequent confusion among the hostile squadron, the dangerous proximity of some of the ships and the high sea running, rendered it impossible for the submarine to establish with certainty the fate of the torpedoed ships."

Paris Admits It

London, Dec. 24.—(8:57 p. m.)—An official statement given out in Paris today says that an Austrian submarine torpedoed a French armored cruiser in the Gulf of Oranto. The battleship was damaged only slightly. No one was injured.

Washington Gets News

Washington, Dec. 24.—Foreign office dispatches to the Austrian embassy today confirmed the Vienna announcement of the submarine attack upon French battleships in the Oranto channel, giving the date as December 21, and told of the sinking of an enemy submarine by shore batteries.
The message said: "In Galicia and in Poland stubborn fighting continues with success for the Austro-Hungarian troops."
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CHRISTMAS SPIRIT SWEEPS COUNTRY

American Cities Vie With Each Other in Dispensing Gifts and Charity

SNOW IN WASHINGTON

New York and Boston Will Also Have White Christmas. Community Trees Given in Many Places; President Wilson Holds Family Reunion

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 24.—The nation's government was virtually a still-still tonight. On Christmas eve everybody, from the President down to the minor departmental employe, had declared a holiday. The first real snow storm of the winter put in its appearance to add to the setting of the Christmas celebration.
A community celebration was held on the plaza in front of the capitol, thousands of children drawing the snow storm to gather about a brilliantly decorated tree, loaded down with presents.

President Wilson, with a group of his close relatives, spent Christmas eve at the White House preparing a tree for his small grandsons, Anna Cothran and Sally McAdoo, daughter of the Secretary of the Treasury. In the party were the President's three daughters—Mrs. B. Bayre, Mrs. McAdoo, and Miss Margaret Wilson, Mr. Bayre, Secretary McAdoo, Sally McAdoo, Mrs. Edward Howe, the President's sister, Mrs. Anne Cothran, his wife, Anne Cothran, and Miss Helen Jones, his cousin.

Poor, Guests of Mobile

Mobile, Ala., Dec. 24.—Twenty-five hundred poor children in Mobile county were guests of the people of Mobile today at a Christmas tree given in a local theatre. The Salvation Army also distributed Christmas dinners for twenty-five hundred inmates of all charitable institutions will be fed by the merchants of Mobile tomorrow.

Pittsburg Celebrates

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 24.—Pittsburg celebrated tonight a "municipal Christmas eve." A giant Christmas tree, erected in the heart of the city, was the center of the festivities.

Irish Are Thankful

Washington, Dec. 24.—The British Ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring Rice, today received the following cablegram from Lord Aberdeen, viceroy of Ireland: "Please convey loving thanks from Irish soldiers cheering for Santa Claus gifts from the children of the United States."

In The Mississippi Valley

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 24.—Many public Christmas tree displays were held throughout the larger cities of the Mississippi Valley tonight. In some cities the European custom of burning candles in windows was revived. In others choruses sang carols in front of houses displaying a signal light that charity had been given by the occupants.
In addition to extensive aid to the poor in the various cities, many gifts of food and clothing were sent to nations affected by war and to families of strikers in Colorado.

Will Speak for Belgians

New York, Dec. 24.—In their Christmas sermons tomorrow more than 2,000 ministers of all denominations throughout the United States will dwell at length on the needs of the starving Belgians. This concerted action it was stated today in an announcement by the Commission for relief in Belgium will come as a result of a request from the entire body of them by the commission.

White Christmas in Boston

Boston, Mass., Dec. 24.—With snow flaking down about them groups of men and women today sang Christmas carols in the streets, on Beacon Hill and other districts while households kept lighter candles at the windows. Another old custom revived was the sounding of hymns by four trumpeters from the balcony of the Old State House. It was estimated that nearly 50,000 persons would be cared for by charity.

Christmas in the South

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 24.—The advent of Christmas in the South was marked by executive clemency to prisoners, aid to the poor, and various public celebrations in city and country.
Among the governor's who issued pardons, commutations and paroles to convicts were those of South Carolina and Georgia. Many city and county judges also showed leniency in court actions.
Governor Hooper also made the occasion one for abolishing striped uniforms in the two State penal institutions. The new garb is a brownish gray. Heretofore it has been allowed only to prisoners whose good conduct made them eligible for the first class.

Gifts of food and clothing to the poor were especially extensive in the chief Southern cities. Funds for the purpose were collected by both newspapers and charitable organizations. Public Christmas dinners for the needy have been provided for by charitable agencies.
Montgomery, Memphis, Jackson, Miss., and other cities had municipal Christmas trees tonight attended by
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