

The War in Brief

SUMMARY OF THE EUROPEAN WAR FOR ONE WEEK READ AT A GLANCE

January 11—Only in northern France are operations referred to in the latest official communications from a Berlin French war office. There, it is said, a new German offensive has been repulsed, both in the north of Soissons and in the vicinity of Perthesles Hurts.

A Buenos Aires newspaper prints a report that the German battle cruiser von Der Tann has been sunk by the British cruiser Invincible.

Operations in Russian Poland, so far as definite advices are concerned, are virtually at a standstill, but a fierce engagement is developing not far from Marjelow.

Vienna says in west Galicia the Austrians have repulsed the Russians on the heights to the northeast of Szakliczyn.

Unfavorable climatic conditions are interfering with the campaign throughout the entire East, even Montenegro complaining that torrential rains have rendered military operations difficult.

Large German reinforcements are hastening to the support of the troops in Alsace, where the struggle for supremacy has been continuous for weeks.

A report from Geneva estimates German casualties at 6,000 and declares that Belfort, the French stronghold, is filled with prisoners.

Turkey and Greece are believed to be on the verge of a complete rupture owing to the alleged persecution of Greeks in Asia Minor. Roumania is said to be preparing to join in the war.

January 10.—Near Soissons the French assert they have taken and are holding despite counterattacks a German redoubt and two lines of trenches and in the Argonne that they have recaptured positions previously taken from them by vicious onslaughts of the Germans.

In Alsace the fighting continues, as has been the case for several days, with neither side having attained superiority.

In the East and the West bad weather and mud are hampering the armies, virtually holding the men in the trenches prisoners. Movement of heavy guns in the quagmires which have resulted from the heavy rains is next to impossible.

Germany reports slight gains and the capture of prisoners in Poland. A repulse of a counterattack and the taking of 400 prisoners and several machine guns is credited to the Austrians in Vienna's official announcement.

Petrograd says the Turks in Trans-Caucasia again have taken a vigorous offensive, apparently in an endeavor to relieve the predicament of the Tenth army corps, defeated several days ago at Sari Kamysh.

A news dispatch reports that Roumania is mobilizing 750,000 men and that she will enter the war even should Italy decide not to do so. Austria is declared in a dispatch from Innsbruck to have started to fortify her line facing the Italian frontier and an Italian newspaper asserts that Austria has sent a note to Italy's occupant at Avlona, Albania.

Germany has informed the Vatican that there is no truth in the reports that Cardinal Mercier, primate of Belgium, has been arrested or even had been confined in his palace at Malines.

January 8—Next to the Russian victory over the Turks in Trans-Caucasia, which is described in a dispatch to the Russian Embassy from Petrograd as "complete," interest in the war centers in the stubborn fight between the French and Germans for the roads to Cernay and Melhausen in upper Alsace.

The battle in that region, raging for a week, is described in a Berlin dispatch as the most violent of the war.

Along the rest of the western front the tide of battle continues to ebb and flow. On either side of Rheims, according to reports, the French daily push their lines a few yards forward, while in the Argonne, where more hard fighting is going on, both the Germans and the French report the capture of the other's entrenchments.

Another region where the French seemingly keep nibbling away at the German lines is the Woivre.

The Russians with all their other frontiers to cover have found another army with which to take the offensive in the direction of the capture of a village on the road to that town.

The Germans still are hammering at the Russian line drawn directly across the roads to Warsaw from the west but, it is reported, with less force behind them. In West Galicia, however, where they have reinforced the Austrians, they have held up the Russian advance near Gorlice.

In Southern Poland rain has stopped the fighting. Neither side is able to move there owing to the high water and mud.

The Russians continue to drive the Austrians through the snow-covered passes of the Carpathians and out of Bukowka and simultaneously are dealing in detail with the remnants of the Turkish armies in Trans-Caucasia which are reported either to have been routed or surrounded.

January 7.—Turkey apparently has suffered one of the worst defeats of the war. Petrograd reports that two of the Ottoman army corps in the Caucasus have been utterly defeated in the destruction of Sari Kamysh, Trans-Caucasia, one of them surrendering while the remnants of the other are being relentlessly pursued.

Still another corps in the vicinity of Ardahan is reported to be striving desperately to find an outlet through the snow passes of the Armenian mountains to escape from the oncoming Muscovites. These Turkish forces evidently had Tiflis, capital of Trans-Caucasia, as their objective.

That the Russians worked havoc among the Turks at Sari Kamysh is indicated by the statement in the official report that the small bodies of troops which escaped "were vigorously pursued and destroyed."

Grand Duke Nicholas and Gen. Joffre, the French commander in chief, have exchanged felicitations over the Russian victory.

In the Eastern war theatre both Petrograd and Berlin assert that conditions remain unchanged, although operations are proceeding without cessation.

In the West the most severe fighting is taking place on the eastern end of the line where the French declare they have made gains in the occupation of strategic points in the vicinity of Rouvrois and St. Mihiel.

January 6.—Upper Alsace appears to be the centre of the most important fighting in the Western war arena. Violent engagements are being fought in the region of Sennheim, which the French call Cernay, about eight miles northwest of Muelhausen.

BULGARIA SEEKS TO REACH AGREEMENT

TURKS MAKE STAND ON FRONTIER AND FIERCELY ATTACK THE RUSSIANS.

HAVE SUPERIOR ARTILLERY

British Official Historian Claims Allies Are Using All Their Big Guns and Effectively.

London.—The British reply to the American note occupies the attention of the British press and public in the absence of any important news from the European battlefields. The Germans and French official reports of most recent fighting in the western field are almost a repetition of those issued on preceding days.

A British eye-witness who has been the official historian of events at the front, lay stress on the important part played by the artillery and high explosives in modern warfare and claims superiority for the allies in artillery which is being used to its full strength.

From the coast to the River Aise, where the country is under water and the rivers are flooded, the big guns have been engaged continuously, but the water and mud prevent the infantry from coming into action. Along the Aisne Valley however, and through the Champagne district as far as western Argonne the French are pushing their offensive and organizing the ground gained. These gains have been made at heavy cost.

In western Argonne the Germans also claim to have made gains and to have repulsed a French attempt to carry their trenches in the Wpewre and Alsace.

The only news from the East is the German report that the Russian offensive toward Mlawa has failed, their force having been driven back.

In the Caucasus the Turks have made a stand on the frontier near Kara-Urgan and are fiercely attacking the Russian lines.

Seemingly the Russians believe the report that the Turkish cruiser Goeben has been damaged, for their Black Sea fleet which is superior to the Turkish fleet with the Goeben, has been attacking Turkish ports and destroying their shipping.

There is no development in the near east beyond the report from Sofia that M. Guenadiouff, former Bulgarian minister of foreign affairs, is leaving for Rome on a semi-official mission, the object of which is to ascertain the attitude of Italy towards the possible future co-ordination of Italo-Bulgarian interests in the war.

COTTON GINNINGS LARGEST.

Up to January First, Total 14,447,623 Bales.

Washington.—Cotton ginning in the last two weeks of December surpassed the same period of every other year except the record production of the year of 1911 and brought the total cotton ginned from the 1914 crop up to 14,447,623 bales, a quantity greater than ever ginned in any other year to January 1, and 130,000 bales more than in 1911. Cotton ginned during the last three years after January 1 has varied from 1,236,071 bales in 1911 to 635,090 bales in 1913.

Ginnings for the two weeks' period amounted to 470,914 bales, or 95,000 bales less than the record for the period made in 1911. The period's output brought the total cotton in Alabama and Oklahoma to a greater quantity than ever produced in those states.

Included in the ginnings were 44,816 round bales (compared with 94,265 last year, 77,999 in 1912 and 92,227 in 1911).

Sea Island cotton includes numbered 75,888 bales, compared with 74,320 bales last year, 67,257 bales in 1912 and 105,988 bales in 1911.

German Ship Sunk. Buenos Aires.—La Prensa publishes the report that an engagement has taken place off Rio Grande del Norte, Brazil, between the British battle cruiser Von der Tann, adding that the Von der Tann has been sunk.

GOVERNOR CRAIG READS HIS MESSAGE

JOINT SESSION OF LEGISLATURE HELD TO HEAR SUGGESTIONS OF GOVERNOR.

LEADING SUBJECTS NAMED

Severe in His Arraignment of Insurance Companies Doing Business in North Carolina.

Raleigh.—Following the custom inaugurated by Gov. R. B. Glenn during his incumbency, and that of President Wilson in appearing before the two Houses of Congress and reading his messages, Governor Craig, by invitation of the General Assembly, appeared before a joint session of the two Houses in the hall of the House of Representatives and read his biennial messages to the members.

At the noon hour, accompanied by Lieutenant Governor Daughtridge, the members of the Senate filed into the House and were given seats.

Shortly after the governor appeared accompanied by the committee from the two houses, and without any further ado proceeded to deliver his message. As the governor entered the chamber, every man arose, and he was greeted with a round of applause.

Handsomeness in appearance, faultlessly attired, the governor never appeared to better advantage in his life. His well-rounded voice carried to the extreme corners of the hall, and he was listened to with the closest attention.

The State's Progress. The governor in the beginning called attention to the substantial progress in evidence throughout the state, both materially, industrially, and in an educational way.

He recommended the establishment of a training school in the western section of the state for teachers, similar to that at Greenville, in the east, and dealt fully with the tuberculosis situation, stating that he thought it better to establish a bureau for the prevention of this plague rather than keep the sanatorium at Montrose in existence at the expense of the state, where so few people would derive any benefit from it.

The governor was outspoken as regarded child labor and went on record as being opposed to working children of tender years in the mills.

Taxation Problem. He declared that the present system of taxation in the state was far from what it should be, saying that the fault with our present system is that our property is not assessed for taxation as it should be, and that the quadrantal assessment of property will be for the purpose of lowering the tax rate if a more equitable listing of taxable property can be secured.

The governor transmitted the reports of the several departments of the state, reviewing their work in his message and declaring that all these departments and other state institutions had been administered with economy, ability and honesty, and after being thoroughly audited by competent experts.

The governor recommended that the matter of apportioning convicts to railroads and other public works be given over to the board of directors of the state prison and this matter be taken out of the hands of the governor and the council of state as is now the case.

Would Appoint State Officers. The governor opened up a new line of thought when he recommended that the administrative officers of the state, except those named in the constitution, be appointed by the governor.

The governor claimed that the people, the treating toward Montrose with the Villa forces in close pursuit. Another engagement is expected at Monterey. The defeat of the Carranza army is said to have resulted from a misunderstanding of orders from the Villareal and Herrera becoming demoralized after positions of advantage had been gained.

New Paper at Hickory. Hickory.—J. F. Click, former editor of the Times-Mercury, a local newspaper, is making arrangements to start up a new paper here to be known as the Nut Shell. The new paper will not be intended as a newspaper but will be more on the order of a magazine, still any local news of an interesting character will be carried and commented on. Mr. Click is making arrangements to purchase a complete mechanical outfit for the publishing of the paper.

ACT TO REGULATE HIRING CONVICTS

BILL INTRODUCED IN SENATE GIVING PRISON BOARD ALL RIGHT OF HIRE.

DISPATCHES FROM RALEIGH

Doings and Happenings That Mark the Progress of North Carolina People Gathered Around the State Capital.

Senator C. M. Muse of Carthage, dropped into the legislative hopper the feature state-wide bill under the title of a bill to be entitled "An act to regulate the hiring of state convicts." The bill provides for transferring from the governor and council of state to the state's prison board the right to hire out convicts, and prescribed that the prison board shall hire them out only for money value considered by the board to be reasonable. It specifies that a sufficient number shall be retained at all times at the state farm for its proper cultivation, and is especially designed to put an end to working convicts for stock railroads being constructed as at present. The bill specifies April, 1915, as the time the act would be effective.

Committees. The personnel of the more important committees announced follows: Manufactures—Dixon, Chatham, Weaver, Cohoon, McRackin, Nash, Efrid, Cooper, Currin, Steadman, Maje and Herbert.

Military Affairs—Paxton, Hobbard, Johnson of Hoke, Johnson of Duplin, Gardner, Gilliam, Currin, Snow and Herbert.

Privileges and Elections—Morris, Paxton, Ballou, Gilliam, Stubbs, Thompson of Iredeil, Dixon, McRae and Fisher.

Public Roads—Ballou, Washington, Harding, Miller, Paxton, Snow, Muse, Efrid, White Cohoon Lineback and Haymore.

Railroads—Gardner, Thompson of Onslow, Washington, Efrid, Dixon, Harding, Johnston of Duplin, Snow, Stubbs and Jonas.

Pensions and Soldier's Home—Sneight, Atwater, Currin, McLeod, Nash, Washington, Muse, Polk, Stevens and Haymore.

Penal Institutions—Ward, Chair, man, Chatham, Currin, Johnson of Duplin, Johnson of Hoke, McRae, Steadman, Weaver, Stevens, Washington, McAuley, Polk Ballou Snow, McRackin, Speight and Haymore.

Bills Introduced. Cooper—To amend Chapter 33 Public Laws of 1913 so as to make the state library appropriation for clerical help payable annually.

Johnson—To repeal the act of 1913 relative to taxing dogs in Duplin county.

Senator Muse—To regulate the hiring out of state convicts.

Senator Ward—To repeal Chapter 71, Public Laws of 1913 relating to inheritances of illegitimate children from their mothers.

Chorwood—Resolution to facilitate work of senators by employing two stenographers to do the official correspondence of the senators.

Weaver—Resolution for printing 1,000 copies of the governor's message.

Brummitt of Granville—Relative to holding courts in Granville.

Bell of Chowan—To amend the act providing recorder's court for Chowan county. Passed readings and sent to the senate.

In the house Speaker Wooten announced the appointment of the following pages: Walter Lee Horton, chief page; Will West, Gilbert Moody, Hugh Carrawan, Sam Johnson, Clyde Anderson, Will Cooper, James Johnson, Robert Collins, Stafford Forshae, Jake Palmer, Larry W. Smith, Croxell Earp, Charles Henry Smith, Jack Meekins.

In Good Working Order. The clerical working forces of the senate and house of representatives are now fully organized and will only have to be recruited from time to time as the volume of the legislative work increases, and no legislature ever had more competent and accommodating staffs of clerical workers than those in both ends of the capitol for this session are proving to be.

The Senate. The gavel, in the hands of Lieut. Gov. E. L. Daughtridge, sounded for order in the Senate chamber at noon and Principal Clerk R. O. Self was directed to call the roll of members for them to approach the desk and administered in regular form by Associate Justice W. A. Hoke of the Supreme Court.

The election of officers was taken up and O. Max Gardner, as the choice of the Democratic caucus for President of the Senate, was placed in nomination by Senator R. D. Johnson of Duplin. Senator Lineback of Spruce Pine for the minority, placed in nomination the choice of the Republican caucus, Senator R. L. Haymore. The vote was 39 for Gardner and 6 for Haymore. Senator Gardner was sworn in by Justice Hoke.

Other Officers. Senator Hobbard nominated R. O. Self for reelection as principal clerk, seconded by Senator Gardner. J. H. Lambert was elected reading clerk, W. G. Aycock engraving clerk and W. D. Gaster sergeant-at-arms.

Lieutenant Governor Daughtridge announced a number of stenographers, pages and laborers. The stenographers are Misses Nell Hinsdale, Sophie Busbee and Irene Smith. The pages are Weston Taylor, chief, Percy Meekins, Edwin Pless, Francis Johnson, Heath Price, James Messenberger, messenger, and Edward Spruill.

The House. Principal Clerk T. G. Cobb called the House to order and Dr. R. T. Vann, president of Meredith College, offered the prayer. Then there was for an hour the routine of administering the oath of office to the members, which was done by Chief Justice Walter Clark.

In the lining up of the members in groups to take the oath of office there was especially noticeable youth among the members. There is not wanting, however, men of advanced age; for there is Capt. T. W. Mason of Northampton, who is here with his grandson, W. L. Long, Representative from Halifax, the two occupying adjacent seats. Captain Mason is not the oldest nor is Mr. Long the youngest man in the House. Bryan Conley of McDowell is the most youthful and J. C. Meekins of Tyrrell County is 81.

There are numbers of the members 25 and under and also a goodly percent of members of rather advanced age, veterans of the Confederacy or in service to their state.

At 1:30 o'clock the House took up the work of electing officers. E. R. Wooten of Lenoir was nominated by Representative Dunning. The second speech was by Representative Thomas of Anson.

Other Officers. For reading clerk David P. Dellinger, Democratic caucus nominee, was nominated by Representative Bowie and his election was unanimous. Indeed the votes on all the other officers were unanimous, the Republicans having no candidates for any of the subordinate officers.

J. H. Morling was elected sergeant-at-arms and Elias J. Jenkins of Granville assistant. M. D. Kinsland of Haywood was re-elected engraving clerk.

Representative Benehan Cameron introduced a resolution providing for a joint committee of three from the House and two from the Senate to represent the state at the celebration of the battle of New Orleans January 8. A duplicate of the resolution from the Senate was passed unanimously and ordered enrolled for ratification.

Meeting of Mental Hygiene Society. The North Carolina Society of Mental Hygiene was in annual session here with President W. A. Erwin of Durham, presiding. At the afternoon session the old officers were re-elected for another year, and Dr. Albert Anderson, secretary, submitted his report showing much educational work as to the purposes of the society done throughout the state through issuance of literature and by other means. There were vigorous talks by Dr. J. K. Hall of Richmond, Dr. A. Kent of the General Assembly.

National Gaurd Meeting Postponed. The annual meeting of the North Carolina National Guard Association, which was called to meet in Goldsboro January 12 and 13 has been postponed to January 26-27. This change is on account of there having been a call issued for the National Association of Adjutants General to meet in Washington January 15 and the officers of the North Carolina National Guard prefer to await the action of the adjutants general as to just what legislation is to be passed upon the present Congress.

STATE ITEMS

OF INTEREST TO ALL NORTH CAROLINA PEOPLE.

COMING EVENTS. Annual Live Stock Meeting, Stateville—January 19-21, 1915. Tri-State Medical Association, Charleston, S. C.—Feb. 17-18, 1915.

Health Officer For Pitt. A telegram from Greenville to the State Board of Health announced that Pitt county is the next to have a whole time county health officer. The matter has been pending before the commissioners of Pitt for some time. It has been a county issue brought to bear by the friends of good health conditions and by the advocates of systematic health policy for the county to have this step taken. The commissioners had the right kind of a new year spirit, says the bulletin of the State Board of Health in regard to this matter, "when they voted unanimously for a whole time county health officer. This was the termination of a long and continuous effort on the part of the county's wide awake and progressive citizens in behalf of their people's better health and welfare and the decision is a positive one.

Cut Size of Loaves. Wilmington—Local bakers have reduced the size of the loaves of bread from 14 1/2 ounces to 12 ounces. The reason for this is the skyward tendency of the price of wheat, it is explained. Local bakers have expressed themselves as being strictly "up against it" because of the increase in price of flour.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS BRIEFS.

There are 343 students enrolled at Wake Forest for the spring term. The corporation commission has ordered a new set of tariffs on glass jars from Pittsburg. Work will soon be begun to replace the Presbyterian Farm School near Asheville, which was destroyed by fire recently.

Joseph A. Baldwin, aged 71, prominent citizen of Columbus county died of paralysis recently. Cracksmen broke open a safe in the store of J. C. Adams near Fayetteville recently and secured \$400 in cash. The Duplin Enterprise weekly paper that has been published at Warsaw for the past year has been moved to Bowden and will be published there.

J. E. Provo, formerly superintendent of the changang system of Craven county, has been elected by the Pasquotank county commissioners superintendent of the Pasquotank county changang and manager of the public roads, at a salary of \$1,200 per year. Three Cumberland county prisoners, John Garvin, charged with house breaking, George Hart, charged with burglary, and Walter Riddle, accused of larceny, affected a successful jail delivery from the county jail at Fayetteville.

John C. Drewery has been elected president of the Capital Club at Raleigh. Charlotte was visited by a severe wind and rain storm a few days ago. Kinston is discussing the city manager form of government.

The publication of The State Journal has been resumed here under the editorship and ownership of Col. Alex Field, who was one of the founders of the paper. The first issue of resumed publication appeared recently.

The Spring term of the East Carolina Teachers Training School has begun. Applications continue to come in every room is taken. The attendance would no doubt run up 100 more if room could be had.

The Asheville Ministers' Association at a meeting recently gave its endorsement to the proposed bill looking to the restriction of marriages in this state, adopting resolutions similar to those which have been adopted by other bodies of ministers during the past few weeks.

The City of Savannah, a passenger and freight steamer of the Ocean Steamship Company, sailed from Wilmington, a few days ago under charter by D. H. Lippert of this city with 9,529 bales of cotton, valued at about \$400,000, her destination being Rotterdam.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Roanoke Baptist Association Rev. R. A. McFarland of the Scotland Neck Baptist Church, was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the recent death of Noah Biggs.

Thos. McNeely, who was crushed beneath a wrecking derrick near Morganton recently died at an Asheville hospital. Salisbury property increased in value \$220,150.81 during the year 1914. Nearly all students enrolled during the Fall term at the A. & M. college have returned for the Spring term.

Rowan's commissioners have voted \$5,000 to the farm life school which opened its first session at China Grove recently. This amount is to be paid in five yearly payments. The school has a \$14,000 building and ten acres of land.

Acting upon legal advice Sheriff Richard B. Lane recently closed the doors of the Mutual Aid Banking Company, a negro concern of New Bern and telegraphed the Corporation Commission to send an examiner to look into the affairs of the institution. Henderson and Mecklenburg Counties are soon to join other counties in the state that maintain whole-time health officers according to Dr. W. S. Rankin, who has just returned from an inspection trip to both of these and other western counties. This will make 13 counties that have whole-time health officers.