

The War in Brief

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

January 25.—The most important of the week's martial developments in Europe is the report based on fact is the announcement from Petrograd, printed in Paris, that Germany has informed Roumania that the latter country's military measures and its encouragement of a revolutionary movement in Transylvania constitute hostile acts.

Roumania has made no secret of the fact that her army is virtually on a war footing and there have been reports for weeks that she was about to enter the conflict on the side of the allies. Official confirmation of Germany's stand is not obtained, however.

Fiercely contested battles continue at various points on the Western front, but they have been devoid of important results so far as official reports disclose. The heaviest engagements are reported in the Argonne, around Verdun and in Alsace, while along the Belgian coast British warships have bombarded German positions at every sign of action.

Renewed aerial activities by both the Germans and the allies have provided a spectacular feature of operations in the west. Dunkirk has been the target for German bombs while Ostend, Bruges and Zebrugge have been visited by the allies' aircraft. All these cities are bases for military supplies.

The great armies in the east apparently are resting on their arms, while their commanders prepare for new developments.

The Germans' attack in front of Warsaw has become less determined, while the armies in the Carpathians are snowbound. The Austro-Germans are preparing to turn their attention to the southeast, where the Russians are marching on Transylvania. The Russians already have met strong Austrian opposition.

Only minor engagements are reported, however, by the Russian general staff.

January 24.—Russia's plans for an invasion of Hungary and a hurried march to Budapest have suffered a temporary setback, it was officially admitted.

Austria's defending armies have been heavily reinforced. General Janoff has halted the Russian forces planning to break through the Kiribaba pass into the plains of Hungary, and has temporarily abandoned further offensive operations through southern Bukovina. The Russian army in that region retaining possession of few miles north of Watra Dorna.

Meagre reports from Bukovina indicate that these reinforcements consist of fresh levies of Hungarian troops. A patriotic appeal to defend their country from invasion has fired the Hungarians with the zeal almost of religious fanatics. The Russian staff anticipates the most stubborn resistance of the campaign in eastern Austria from these.

It was reported that Russia is content to mark time in Bukovina for a few weeks at least, pending Roumania's possible entrance into the war as her ally in the operations against Transylvania and Hungary.

Concentrating their attack in a fresh smash against St. Mihiel, the French armies south of Verdun are again attempting to force the Germans to relinquish their positions on the west bank of the Meuse.

Reports from the Verdun and Pont-a-Mousson regions indicated that the French forward movement in the Le Pretre woods toward Metz, has been abandoned temporarily.

Artillery engagements and unimportant infantry conflicts were reported from the coast south to Arras.

January 23.—The official Russian statement says no change has taken place in East Prussia, but mentions later operations in Poland.

Wireless dispatches from Berlin refer to the recent attack on English coast towns as having been made by Zeppelins and other dispatches report that the Germans officially explain the throwing of bombs by the fact that in their expedition against the fortified town of Great Yarmouth the airships were fired at and retaliated with explosives.

In anticipation of a Russian incursion, Hungarian troops are reported to be proceeding to the Bukovina frontier. Russia is said to be preparing a new plan of campaign particularly suited to the methods of the Russian army and it is expected that new offensive operations will develop within a month.

The German minister of war, Lieut. Gen. Erich von Falkenhayn, has resigned and has been replaced by Maj. Gen. von Hohenberg. The former war minister has been made a general and retains his position as chief of staff.

The British secretary of state for foreign affairs Sir Edward Grey, does not find it expected to promise that the former Hamburg-American line steamer Dacis, now under the American flag, will not be thrown into a prize court should she attempt to reach Germany with a cargo of cotton, but declares that Great Britain either will purchase the cotton at the German

prices on the seizure of the vessel or have the cargo placed on another ship and forwarded to Rotterdam at its own expense.

January 22.—The German airships for they are thus described by the German official report—which raided the coast towns of Norfolk county, dropped twenty or more bombs. The missiles killed four persons, injured ten or more and did considerable property damage. A report that a fifth person, a soldier, had been killed, proved incorrect.

Battles both in the east and the west now consist largely of artillery engagements, with occasional infantry attacks. The French claim further progress in the region of Point-a-Mousson, to which military men attach much importance. It is predicted that the Germans will launch a heavy offensive as they did with great success at Soissons, to put a stop to the French advance towards the roads leading to Metz.

The Germans captured more trenches in the Argonne, but, according to the French official report, they were retaken.

The only point of importance disclosed by official statements, is an intimation in the Berlin communication that the Germans have undertaken a counter-offensive in Alsace.

In Poland and west Galicia the Germans and Austrians continue isolated attacks against the Russian lines, which, according to the Russian report, have been repulsed with heavy loss to the attacking forces.

The Russians are advancing slowly through the mountains separating Bukovina and Transylvania, and are approaching Dorna-Watra, a town of some importance near the Roumanian border.

It is believed the Turkish Caucasian army will not retire to Erzerum, but will be put in readiness for defense against the Russians when they decide to advance. It is considered likely, however, that the Russians will be content for the present with successes already gained in this region, and turn their attention to the Turkish forces in Azerbaijan before invading Turkey.

January 21.—An air raid on the British Isles with towns in the country of Norfolk as its objective and the royal residence at Sandringham as its special target is the latest enterprise undertaken by the Germans. Bombs were dropped near Sandringham palace. Other bombs fell on Yarmouth, King's Lynn, Cromer, Sheringham and Beeston. The casualty list has not yet been made up, but it is known that several persons were killed and that considerable damage was done.

One report has it that a Zeppelin dirigible was brought down by a warship at Hunstanton eight or ten miles north of Sandringham.

The royal residence was not damaged, although it is said bombs fell in the king's estate. King George and Queen Mary only recently left Sandringham to resume their residence in Buckingham palace.

Fighting is going on in northern France at certain points, but generally along the line in the West there is comparative quiet.

In the East the Russians apparently are carrying out an envelopment in Poland, while the Germans express satisfaction with the situation and the progress of their own campaigns.

The German chief of staff and minister of war, Lieut. Gen. Erich von Falkenhayn, in a statement to the definite prediction as to the length of the war, said it was possible for it to go on indefinitely; that the advantage thus far had been with the Germans; that nothing could force the Germans to stop fighting, and added: "If in this war to crush a nation whose offense is that, through industry and hard work, it has prospered and is prosperous, we should go down, we shall go down with honor, fighting to the last ditch and the last man."

January 20.—Characteristic fighting is going on in northern France where the village of Le Boiselle, 20 miles northeast of Amiens, was taken from the French by the Germans and later recaptured by the French.

At this point there has been much work with the bayonet. A French ammunition depot blew up and part of the village was destroyed by the fire. The Germans, taking advantage of this incident, attacked the French recaptured the position.

A French eye witness with official authority gives some idea of the nature of fighting that has been going on in the west. He describes the fighting near Soissons 10 days ago as resulting favorably for the allies, but later the waters of the Aisne, swollen by the heavy storms, came over the banks, washed bridges away and prevented the allies from sending reinforcements to points where the French troops were being hard pressed by the Germans. This resulted in a retirement of something like a mile and the establishment of a strong front in a good strategic position on the right bank of the river.

In Galicia the Austrians have succeeded, east of Zakliczyn, in forcing the Russians to evacuate their trenches for several miles.

FIGHTING IN WEST GROWING FIERCER

HEAVY ENGAGEMENTS IN THE ARGONNE, AROUND VERDUN AND ALSACE.

WATCH EVERY GERMAN MOVE

Russian and German Troops in Poland Placed so Either May Flank Oder if Vistula is Crossed.

London.—Although official descriptions of fighting in the west are brief, there is evidence that it is growing fiercer at many points. The Germans are showing renewed activity in the neighborhood of Ypres and heavy bombardments of the Allies left wing are almost incessant.

It is from the center eastward, however, that the battles are most bitter. In the Argonne, around Verdun and in Alsace heavy engagements continue apparently without any decision having been reached. But these are merely local affairs compared to what is expected when the ground becomes more suitable for moving troops.

Along the Belgian coast every German move is the signal for a renewed bombardment by British ships while the aviators of both forces are continually dropping bombs behind the hostile lines.

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SOME STATE-WIDE BILLS AND MANY LOCAL BILLS ARE ACTED UPON.

DISPATCHES FROM RALEIGH

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

WEATHER FORECAST.

Movements Due and Their Local Effects for the Cotton States January 31 to February 6, 1915.

Sunday, January 31.—The week will open cool in the South, but with temperatures starting upward and it will be generally fair.

Monday, Feb. 1; Tuesday, Feb. 2, Wednesday, February 3.—A cool wave will lower temperatures somewhat, beginning in Western Cotton Belt Monday and crossing to the Eastern Belt by Wednesday. There will be frosts from this movement in Western Belt and Northern half of Middle Belt, and a generally freezing temperature in Eastern Belt Wednesday and Thursday.

Thursday, Feb. 4; Friday, Feb. 5; Saturday, Feb. 6.—A cool wave will overspread Western Belt late on Wednesday, Middle Thursday and Eastern Thursday and Friday. It will be accompanied by dashes of rain or snow, but soon clear and bring freezing weather all along the Gulf and South Atlantic Coasts, with heavy frosts.

Senate.

The senate discussed for an hour the Nash bill for abridging courts under the direction of clerks of the courts to settle differences out of court and then let the bill go over for another day. Another hour was consumed with debating the house bill to make debts due and payable when any part of the security is disposed of in Hertford and Union counties. It finally squeezed through second reading and went over for another day by agreement.

Charging that the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad has flagrantly disregarded the condition under which the Wilmington & Weldon was authorized by statute to consolidate with other railroads in the formation of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in its having merged further into the Atlantic Coast Line of Virginia and claiming to be non-resident and not subject to the jurisdiction of the state courts, Senator Gilliam introduced in the senate a bill to repeal the acts of 1893 and 1899 authorizing the mergers and directing that the attorney general of the state institute suit in the name of the state for the dissolution of the mergers effected in the consolidation in this state and proceed to have receivers appointed and the individual lines of the system in this state sold. The bill went to the committee on railroads.

A notable bill introduced was by Senator Miller to amend the revenue act so as to eliminate double taxes in the case of mortgaged property through the mortgagee paying on the solvent credit and the mortgagor on the property involved.

The senate passed the Allen bill from the house providing that for the future any rule of contempt issued by a judge, except in cases of acts in the presence of the court, must be returnable before some judge other than the one issuing the rule.

The Miller bill to make it unlawful to give liquor to minors was passed after having been forced over by objection from the previous day's session.

The senate and house both received from Governor Craig the report of the state board of internal improvements sharply criticizing the policy of the state treasury and conditions in other state institutions and recommending that a commission of business men be appointed to put the state's finances and methods on a business basis.

"Portland Ned" Gets Seven Years.

Judge Connor in the Federal court a few days ago sentenced "Portland Ned" alias James Johnson, to seven years, and T. A. Conway, to five years in the Atlanta prison for the robbery of the Silver City and Plymouth post offices. A jury having found both guilty earlier in the day. Portland Ned made a statement to the court in which he insisted that much of the black record given him by the government detectives was a "frame-up" against him.

Would Compel Tobacco Reports.

Commissioner of Agriculture Graham has prepared two bills to be presented to the Legislature. One is for machinery to compel leaf tobacco warehousemen to make their monthly reports. There is a law requiring that these reports be filed with the commissioner, but it is not complied with by some. Major Graham said that there had not been a complete report for any month since he had been commissioner. At various times there have been one to a dozen reports lacking.

New Charters Are Issued.

Charters were issued as follows: The Pioneer Gold Mining Company, Charlotte, capital \$200,000, divided into 2,000,000 shares of the value of 10 cents a share. The Southern Veneer Company, Charlotte, capital \$200,000 in 2,000,000 share. The Greenville Furniture Company, Greenville, capital \$20,000 authorized and \$4,000 subscribed for general furniture business. The Greensboro Rest Cottage, to be established as a refuge home for fallen women, incorporated without capital stock.

Democrats Agree on Ship Bill.

Washington.—Senate Democrats in caucus reached final agreement on the ship-purchase bill and adopted a resolution making it a party measure. Three Democrats voted against it, but later it was made unanimous. No material amendments to the bill as perfected in previous caucuses were advanced. The principal differences of opinion arose on Senator Hoke Smith's amendment to provide that the government after restoration of normal world conditions should lease purchased ships to private concerns.

Belgians Don't Complain.

London.—"The impression I take away from Liege are of wonder that a people can suffer so much in silence and of admiration for the bravery which enables them to do it."

This statement was made by Dr. P. H. Williams of New York, whom, at the suggestion of the Rockefeller Foundation, directed operations of the American Commission for Relief in Belgium at Liege and is now returning to America. "The people of Belgium never complain, but they never sigh," he said.

STATE ITEMS

OF INTEREST TO ALL NORTH CAROLINA PEOPLE.

COMING EVENTS.

Tri-State Medical Association, Charleston, S. C.—Feb. 17-18, 1915.

Iredell County Creamery Opened.

The Moore's Valley Co-Operative Creamery was formally opened here with public exercises in the graded school auditorium, followed by a butter-making demonstration during the afternoon. It will be recalled that about 18 months ago an effort was made in Iredell county to establish a creamery, but owing to the fact that the cream routes were not organized and there was not sufficient butter-fat gathered at this point to maintain one, it was deemed advisable not to attempt starting such an institution until routes were thoroughly organized and the cream obtainable. Farmers began at once with their dogged determination to succeed, and with a united effort, the creamery was launched.

Masonic Grand Lodge Officers.

The North Carolina Grand Lodge of Masons elected Frank P. Hoggood, Jr., of Greensboro grand master to succeed John T. Alderman of Henderson, retired. A. B. Andrews, Jr., of Raleigh was advanced to deputy grand master, Claude L. Prigden of Kinston to senior grand warden and George S. Norfleet of Winston-Salem, advanced from the appointive office of senior grand deacon to the first elective officer of junior grand warden.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS BRIEFS.

Western contractors are exploring the bottom of the Cape Fear river for unknown reasons.

Capt. Steve Smith of the gasboat Carl T. Plying between Newbern and Adams Creek and carrying freight, was some way knocked from the vessel and drowned before assistance could reach him. Just how the accident occurred is not definitely known.

Provision for the erection of a monument costing \$20,000, in Wilmington to the Confederate soldier is made in the will of the late Mr. Gabriel James Boney, filed for probate recently. Mr. Boney leaves an estate estimated at \$50,000.

Lee S. Overman, North Carolina Senator, has just celebrated his 61st birthday.

Quaker Gap Township held its election for a bond issue to build good roads. The movement was defeated by a majority of only 31 votes.

Asheville citizens are considering a modern form of commission government.

Policeman Bob Kendrick of Shelby was shot by a negro recently. The wound is not serious.

Maj. Graham had on exhibition in his office at Raleigh a sample of paper bagging manufactured for the use in baling cotton. It was submitted by a manufacturer.

Judge Lyon appointed Chas. D. Rose of Fayetteville, clerk of the superior court of Cumberland county, temporarily, succeeding Clerk McKeithan, who recently died. Judge Lyon will make a permanent appointment later.

Mr. Hitchcock, an enterprising New Yorker who came to Shelby several months ago to visit Rev. J. B. Sill, the Episcopal minister, has concluded to make Shelby his home. Believing there is money in eggs, he has started a chicken farm two miles east of town and proposes to raise eggs for the Northern markets.

"Resolved, That North Carolina should adopt a state-wide dog tax for the benefit of public schools," was the query discussed by the North Carolina Club at Chapel Hill at its recent semi-monthly meeting. The debate was supplemented by the audience's vote on the subject, which favorably voted for a state-wide levy on dogs, the decision standing 22 to 16.

Robeson county led in total production of cotton for 1914. 63,197 bales were ginned.

Halifax farmers intend to greatly increase their tobacco acreage this year.

Work will be begun on Charlotte's new Federal postoffice building about July 1.

Asheville Union Printers are urging the selection of Asheville as site for home for tubercular printers.

Three-fourths of the truck growers in New Hanover county have agreed to join a truck growers association.

Adjutant General Laurence W. Young has issued commissions to W. C. Albright as first lieutenant and Lt. A. Blizzard as second lieutenant of Company I, First Regiment, Mount Airy. These men were elected by the company in compliance with a recent order.

Spray has become a model community. An up-to-date health officer, sanitary inspector, medical examination of school children and drinking water looked after are some of the things accomplished, and a program of systematic health education inaugurated.

The sinking of an experimental deep well to determine whether or not Wilmington can be supplied with an adequate quantity of pure water has been completed, and, according to reports made, has a capacity of from 2,000,000 to 2,500,000 gallons of water every 24 hours.

The Cape Fear Lath & Shingle Co., with offices in Wilmington, has announced that early in February a chain of mills will be put in operation in Duplin, Bladen, Pender and Swain counties for the manufacture of laths, shingles and lumber from gum, cypress and pine.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of Sunday School Course Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.

LESSON FOR JANUARY 31

THE BIRTH OF SAMSON.

LESSON TEXT—Judges 13:1-16, 24-25. GOLDEN TEXT—Beware, I pray thee, and drink no wine nor strong drink.—Judges 13:4.

The story of Samson bulks large in the book of Judges and in the interest and imagination of all men ever since his day. This being the only lesson in a seven years' course we suggest, in outline, Samson's entire life.

I. Samson's Parents. God chooses a humble man and woman, folk of piety and prayer, to bring forth and rear this great deliverer. The angel's most improbable promise (13:3) is accepted by Manoah and his wife (13:6, 7). They express a desire to be able to measure up to the responsibility—a suggestion to parents. There is also a hint of the dual responsibility of parents in the words, "teach us." (See Eph. 6:4; Jas. 1:5-7.) It was reasonable to believe that the one who brought the promise could also tell them how to train and nurture the child. God honored the mother's prayer and she shares her experience with the father (v. 9). As the mother of a Nazirite she must keep herself from all things unclean (v. 14; II Cor. 6:17), even as Mary, the mother of Jesus (Luke 1:38). The experience of the sacrifice, the worship of Manoah and his wife and the fact of Samson's birth completes the record of chapter 13. Manoah could not worship the angel, but could show him hospitality. Verse 18 (R. V.) seems to indicate that this was another premanifestation of our Lord Jesus.

II. Samuel's Power. Every race has its superman, and usually it is one of physical strength. That Samson had physical evidence of his superior strength is evident from the fact that Delilah asked to know his secret. Nor was his strength in his hair, else there was no need that the "Spirit of Jehovah" should come upon him. The secret of his power is indicated in 13:25. The word "move" suggests to play upon a harp, as if Samson's heart was open to God as a harp is open to human touch. "Samson's power was the result of a faith that was open to the infinite storehouse of the divine dynamic." Such spiritual power is within the reach of every man. Samson ("sunny") was full of laughter; not the comic, but the joyous. He did the big things God gave him to do and was filled with gladness. But Samson came under the spell of an evil woman and all of this true laughter and glad joyfulness left his soul.

III. Samson's Impurity. A woman can make or mar the man with whom she associates. As a Nazirite, Samson was dedicated unto God, must not allow a razor to touch his head, was not to touch anything unclean, nor drink intoxicating liquor. This vow was usually for a short period. Samuel and John the Baptist are other Nazirites recorded in Scripture, and are said to have been such from birth (3:14; 16:17; Luke 1:15). Samson's strength burned out when he lay his head in a harlot's lap and the laughter went out of his soul. It was that which broke the contact between him and God. Samson's birth in a godly home, his knowledge of his relation to God and the experience of God's power did not keep him from an ignoble fall.

IV. Samson's Imprisonment. We find him after his excesses grinding in the Philistine prison, where he perhaps overheard praises being sung to Dagon who had overthrown Jehovah's judge. It is never safe to play with temptation though conscious of our own strength; then it is we are most apt to fall (I Cor. 10:12). One act and the gay hero is grinding in a prison house. Directly a man goes into impurity, whether in act or thought, he loses the power that formerly moved men or worked wonders. Year after year Samson plodded his round of enforced toil, a type of the force and power of Intemperance and other impure habits.

Finally, "when their hearts were merry" (16:25), he is brought out to make sport. During one of his resting periods he said to a boy near by, "Let me feel of the two pillars," those upon which the main walls rested and which were within a man's reach. Then it was that he was able to grip the mysterious power of the unseen (16:30). Was Samson a suicide? No! He accepted death as the inevitable consequence of his act of duty (See Heb. 11:32).

The growth of his hair was only a token of that consecration which he had surrendered when he failed to withstand the wiles of Delilah.

The Temperance Teaching of this lesson is all too plain. It must begin in the home and continue throughout all of life. As we have scattered information throughout our land we have seen the work of temperance advancing mightily. Samson's exploit with the lion is a temperance sermon in parable (14:5, 6; Prov. 20:1). The business of the temperance forces is to slay the lion. We are also to eat "honey out of the rock," to gain victories, within and without, and, like Samson, we can give glory to others. To have a part in helping to redeem a lost world requires that we keep clean.

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