

IMPORTANT NEWS THE WORLD OVER

Happenings of This and Other Nations
For Seven Days Are
Given.

THE NEWS OF THE SOUTH

What is Taking Place in the South
and Will Be Found in
Brief Paragraphs.

Mexican

One more appeal for modification of the protocol providing for the withdrawal of American troops from Mexico is made by General Carranza in a message delivered to Secretary Lane by Luis Cabrera, chairman of the Mexican members of the joint commission.

Carranza's chief insistence in his latest utterance is that the American troops shall be withdrawn unconditionally.

An El Paso dispatch says that 300 recruits for the regular American army have been quarantined in tents on the parade grounds at Fort Bliss because five of the recruits were found to be suffering with measles.

A report has been received in El Paso, Texas, from sources known to be close to Villa saying that Villa's forces captured San Luis Potosi. No details are available.

Domestic

The jury in the case of eleven defendants charged with the use of the mails to defraud in sales of wild horses in Coconino county, Arizona, returned a verdict of guilty against eight defendants and found two not guilty. One defendant was dismissed by the judge.

David Caplan, last of the alleged dynamiters brought to trial for the destruction of the Los Angeles Times building in 1910, was sentenced to ten years in San Quentin penitentiary on a charge of manslaughter.

President Wilson passed his sixtieth milestone on December 28.

Southern Methodist members of the joint commission on union with the Methodist Episcopal church met in Baltimore for organization. Bishop Warren A. Candler of Atlanta was selected as chairman, succeeding the late Bishop A. W. Wilson of Baltimore.

Four persons are known to have been killed near England, Ark., in a tornado which swept through portions of Loncke and Jefferson counties. More than a score of others are reported to have lost their lives at Keo, Tucker and other small towns in the path of the storm.

The statement was made at the meeting of the American Genetic Association in New York that every woman should rear at least three children. It was further stated that college women were shirking the responsibility of motherhood, and that they were not only damaging their mentality but their physical beauty and proportion as well.

Six men are under arrest at Salt Lake City, Utah, as a result of the finding of a bomb near the residence of Governor William Spry. A reward of \$1,000 has been offered for a conviction in each case.

Washington

A joint session of the Mexican-American commission will be held early in January, at which the Americans will give the Mexicans their answer, and on its nature depends the future course of the commissioners, who have been trying for four months to adjust questions at issue between the two countries.

It is learned in Washington that Carranza has raised no insuperable barriers to an adjustment of the difference between the United States and Mexico.

It is stated that one of the conditions to which Carranza objects to the protocol is that under which the territory evacuated by the American garrison would have to be filled by Mexican troops.

At the session of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in New York, the principal topic of discussion was that this continent was inhabited between 125,000 and 300,000 years ago. A machine that shows "how sound looks" was also exhibited, and attracted much interest.

The League of Peace, in session in New York, opined that for the United States to join a world-wide peace league would in no way jeopardize the Monroe doctrine.

In a circular sent out by the military bureau, it is stated that every able-bodied male citizen between the ages of 18 and 45 is liable for military service in case of war.

Miss Julia Williams, daughter of Senator John Sharp Williams married Thomas Rivers Boykin of Savannah December 28.

It is announced that the resources of the national banks of the country exceed \$321,000,000.

There were 23,500,000 persons attending schools of some kind in the United States in 1916, according to estimates of the United States bureau of education. "This means," declares the annual report of the commissioner of education, "that approximately 24 per cent of the inhabitants of the United States are attending school, as compared with 19 per cent in Great Britain, 17 per cent in France, 20 per cent in Germany and a little over 4 per cent in Russia."

A policy of absolute silence regarding the peace negotiations for the warring Europeans and Asiatics has been adopted by President Wilson and Secretary Lansing.

Resources of national banks of the United States, Comptroller Williams announced, have increased more than four billion dollars during the past two years.

Farm loan banks will be located in Springfield, Mass.; Baltimore, Md.; Columbia, S. C.; New Orleans, La.; Houston, Texas; St. Paul, Minn.; St. Louis, Mo.; Louisville, Ky.; Omaha, Neb.; Wichita, Kans.; Spokane, Wash., and Berkeley, Cal.

It is expected that the government will have to supply most of the \$9,000,000 capital for the farm loan banks, but stock subscription books will be opened nevertheless.

In spite of the wide gulf between the insistence of the central powers for an immediate peace conference and the forecast of a unanimous refusal by the entente allies to enter such a conference without knowing Germany's terms in advance, the American government believes that the negotiations in progress are resulting in good.

House leaders predict that the proposed increase in postage rate on second class matter never will be enacted into law.

Congressman Jeff McLemore of Texas and Miss Fannie Clark were married at the home of the bride in Galveston.

Foodstuffs continue to leave American ports in vast quantities.

The official returns of the national election held in November show that Wilson received 9,116,296 votes and Hughes 8,457,474, a plurality for Wilson of 558,822.

The total popular vote in the national elections in November was 18,638,871, against 15,045,322 in 1912. This is an increase of 3,593,549, accounted for by the increased population and the women vote in the new suffrage states.

Plans for a great naval demonstration to signalize American acquisition of the Danish West Indies, are being considered by state and navy department officials. Probably the entire Atlantic fleet will be ordered to St. Thomas, the long-sought naval base site, to participate.

The Atlantic fleet will mobilize at Guantanamo, Cuba, for winter maneuvers during the month of January, and will be reviewed by Assistant Secretary Roosevelt.

Germany's reply to President Wilson's note is regarded in Washington as having advanced the peace movement another step, despite the fact that it disappoints in not meeting his suggestion for an avowal of terms.

The battleship Delaware was rammed and a hole three feet in diameter was stove in her stern above the water line by the naval tug Sonoma at the Norfolk, Va., navy yard. None was injured.

A Havana, Cuba, dispatch says: "Raising a flag saying that they would be removed only by violence, 174 inmates of the San Lazaro hospital for lepers, who were to have been transferred, refused to leave the building. The officers of the institution were unwilling to use force. However, the lepers agreed to leave San Lazaro hospital for Mariel, on receiving the promise of health officials to remove them thence to a new hospital now under construction, as soon as it is finished."

The presence on this side of the Atlantic of a formidable fleet of allied warships is indicated definitely at Boston, Mass. The vessels are known officially as commerce protectors. They are heavily armed and disguised. For obvious reasons their exact disposition is not revealed.

More than one billion dollars net income from operations was made by the railroads of the country during the year now closing. The huge total is the peak of prosperity in railroad operations, and stands more than one-third higher than the total of 1913, hitherto the banner year.

European War

The Greek government has addressed a second note to the entente powers, pointing out the growing popular resentment against their blockade.

Considerable fighting is again taking place on the Erdun sector around Le Mort Homme and on the eastern slopes of Hill 304.

Air raid by French, Germans and British are reported in the western zone of fighting.

The net of the Teutonic allies is apparently closing in upon Braila, Roumania's oil and grain center on the lower Danube.

Having taken Filipecht, thirty miles to the southwest, Field Marshal von Mackensen's troops have now captured the railroad town of Rinnik Sarajev, relatively the same distance to the east.

In northern Wallachia, along the southern Moldavian border, and in Dobruja, the Teutonic allies continue to make gains over the Russians and the Roumanians.

Two allied patrol boats were sunk and four other allied warships were damaged in the recent naval engagement in the Strait of Otranto.

The guns of the Teutonic Dobruja army are hammering the Russo-Roumanians at the bridgehead at Matchin, on the east bank of the Danube.

In Mesopotamia the British forces are still in quest of Kut-al-Amara, in which sector they have made further advances.

The British victory over the Turks at Maghdaba, 90 miles east of the Suez canal, is considerable proportion. In addition to make prisoners of 1,350 men of the Turkish force, seven guns, a large number of rifles, much ammunition and large quantities

ALLIES MAKE KNOWN THEIR PEACE TERMS

SPECTATOR OUTLINES DEMANDS
ON CENTRAL POWERS BY EN-
TENTE ALLIES.

ARE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZED

Peace Terms Are to Start From Status Quo Before the War.—Must Give Up Much Possessions and Change Government.

London.—The Spectator devotes the greater part of its issue to answering President Wilson's question as to what are the peace terms of the entente allies. Briefly summarized the principal demands as outlined by the Spectator follow:

"The peace terms are to start from the status quo before the war, thus including the evacuation of the whole of northern France, Belgium and Luxembourg, and of all lands taken from Serbia, Rumania, Russia and Montenegro.

"Alsace-Lorraine is to be restored to France. The Danish portion of Schleswig-Holstein is to go to Denmark and Posen, Polish Prussia and Austrian Poland are to be added to the new sub-kingdom of Poland which the Czar has pledged to create.

"The Slavs of Bosnia, Herzegovina, Delmatia, Croatia, etc., are to be created into a new kingdom.

"Bohemia is to be an independent state.

"The Rumanian section of Transylvania to be added to Rumania.

"The whole Austrian Tyrol, plus Trieste, Istria, and the other portions of Austria which are Italian in blood or feeling, to be added to Italy.

"Turkey to yield Constantinople and the straits to Russia.

"The Armenians to be put under Russian tutelage.

"The Arabs to be freed, while Syria, Asia Minor and Mesopotamia are to be under external protection guaranteeing tranquility.

"The German colonies to remain in the hands of the entente. Moreover, a money indemnity for the ruin Germany has done in Belgium, France, Serbia, Montenegro, etc.

"As regarding shipping, Germany to make reparation in kind for all ships of commerce destroyed ton for ton, neutral shipping to be replaced only after all the demands of the allies have been satisfied.

"The German navy to be handed over and distributed among entente nations.

"As a guarantee against future war, the allies are to insist upon the democratization of the German government. "The Kiel canal to be neutralized under an international non-German commission including the entente countries, the United States and other neutrals."

REFUSAL OF MAKERS TO TALK STOPS PAPER PROBE.

Department of Justice May Be Asked to Take Hand in Investigation.

Washington.—Hearings reopened here by the Federal Trade Commission in its news print paper investigation came to a sudden end when paper manufacturers refused to discuss the reasonableness of news print prices. Both publishers and jobbers had been heard.

The manufacturers declared that they had not had time to study tables prepared by the commission's investigators purporting to show huge profits. Members of the Trade Commission announced that despite an apparent unwillingness by the manufacturers to co-operate in the investigation, the commission's report would be issued probably in about 10 days and that such recommendations to Congress would be made as were thought necessary. At the same time it was said the commission would soon be in position to announce whether its consideration of a paper distribution plan showed an actual paper shortage and a need for distribution under supervision of the commission.

FOREIGNERS IN MEXICO MUST RESIGN RIGHTS.

Mexico City.—A decree has been issued giving foreigners holding title to real estate, mining and oil properties and timber lands until April 15 to resign their treaty rights in so far as the properties in question are concerned. Formal renunciation of such rights must be made in accordance with the decree issued more than four months ago which provided that such foreigners must become citizens in so far as their property was concerned.

NATION-WIDE RAIL STRIKE AGAIN RESTS WITH ORDERS.

New York.—Special circulars putting up to the 400,000 members responsibility for the next steps to be taken by the railroad brotherhoods in their controversy with the railroads over the application and interpretation of the Adamson act, were sent broadcast by telegraph after a conference of the four brotherhood chiefs. Announcement of the action was made by William G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.

GARRANZA APPEALS FOR CHANGE IN PLAN

FIRST CHIEF SENDS OBJECTIONS
TO PLAN FOR MEXICAN
BORDER CONTROL.

NOTE IS NOT MADE PUBLIC

Latest Suggestions For Changes in Agreement Will Be Considered by The Three American Representatives, Lane, Mott and Gray.

Washington.—One more appeal for modification of the protocol providing for the withdrawal of American troops from Mexico is made by General Carranza in a message delivered to Secretary Lane by Luis Cabrera, chairman of the Mexican members of the joint commission.

The Mexican first chief replied to the insistent American demand that the protocol signed by his spokesman at Atlantic City be ratified with an eight hundred word document in which he failed to accede to the demand, but refrained from writing anything that could be construed as a flat repudiation.

The latest suggestions for changes in the agreement now will be considered by the three American representatives—Secretary Lane, J. R. Mott and Judge Gray. Secretary Lane advised his colleagues of the character of the reply and asked them to meet him here as soon as they conveniently could.

A joint session of the Mexican-American commission will be held at which the Americans will give the Mexicans their answer and on its nature depends the future course of the commissioners.

It was learned that the Mexican commissioners were confident that no inseparable barrier had been raised by Carranza.

The chief insistence of Carranza has been that the American troops should be withdrawn unconditionally which the American commissioners would not consider. It was indicated that Carranza's insistence on that point was less pronounced now and that the change in his attitude had been wrought largely by the altered military situation in northern Mexico.

ADAMSON ACT CONFERENCE SPLITS OVER WAGE ISSUE

End Comes Abruptly—No More Meetings Until Supreme Court Passes On Law

New York.—Conferences between representatives of the railroads and the four brotherhoods of railway employees at which were discussed the possibilities of a settlement of the eight-hour controversy, were discontinued abruptly today when it became apparent an agreement could not be reached.

It was announced by both sides that there would be no more meetings until after the United States Supreme Court hands down its decision on the constitutionality of the Adamson act.

The break came, it was learned, when the railroad representatives refused to concede the demands of the new wage schedule fixed by the Adamson law, which goes into effect January 1st.

The brotherhood chiefs held, it was said, that their men had the right to begin drawing wages according to the scale provided by the Adamson law immediately after the law became effective, irrespective of the suits brought by the railroads to test its validity.

CALIFORNIA PRESS TO INCREASE RATES

Sacramento, Cal.—An increase in subscription and advertising rates as a means of fighting the high cost of newspaper paper is favored by members of the California Press Association, according to a report made by a special committee of the association.

PRESIDENT WILL VETO PUBLIC BUILDINGS BILL

Washington.—President Wilson told callers that he would veto the \$28,000,000 public buildings bill if it comes to him in the form in which it is now pending in the house. Its advocates plan to seek to obtain a rule for consideration of the measure by the house soon after the Christmas recess. The president has reached no decision on the rivers and harbors bill laid before him recently by Chairman Sparkman of the Rivers and Harbors Committee.

128 VESSELS SUNK BY ONE SUBMARINE CAPTAIN

Amsterdam, via London.—Announcement is made in the Berlin newspapers that the Order of Merit has been conferred on Captain Valentines, captain of a German submarine for sinking 128 ships of a total tonnage of 282,000. Included among the boats sunk are a French gunboat, a troop transport, four steamships loaded with war material and a French submarine conveying 14 coal steamers.

GERMANY TO GIVE TERMS ON FIRST DAY

CENTRAL POWERS WILL HAVE
PEACE OFFER READY WHEN
CONFERENCE CONVENES.

BERNSTORFF'S STATEMENT

Count Von Bernstorff in Statement Says He Considers Answer to Wilson's Proposal as Acceptance By Teutons of All Suggestions.

Washington.—In spite of the wide gulf between the insistence of the Central Powers for an immediate peace conference and the forecast of a unanimous refusal by the Entente Allies to enter such a conference without knowing Germany's terms in advance, the American government believes that the negotiations in progress are resulting in good. It was said with authority that until the door to peace actually closed by one side or the other, President Wilson will continue to hope that any discussion of the subject will tend to hasten the end of the war.

Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, returning unexpectedly from New York, authorized the Associated Press to make the following statement:

"I regard the note of my government as constituting an acceptance of everything suggested by President Wilson in his note to the belligerent nations of Europe."

It was made clear at the Embassy that Germany stands ready to make known her terms on the first day of any conference that may be held, and officials expressed themselves as being greatly surprised at the view prevailing in some quarters here that the Berlin government had failed to meet the President's suggestions by note, setting down in the reply the terms upon which it is willing to make peace.

The German diplomats say President Wilson has no intention of drawing a public declaration concerning terms from the Central Powers. On the contrary they think the President's suggestion "that an early occasion be sought to call out from all the nations now at war such an avowal of their respective views as to the terms upon which the war might be concluded" was fully met by Germany in seeking an immediate conference with her enemies.

RESOURCES OF NATIONAL BANKS SHOW BIG INCREASE.

Gain of Four Billions Made in Past Two Years, Making Gigantic Total of \$15,520,000,000.

Washington.—Resources of National banks of the United States, Comptroller Williams announced, have increased more than \$4,000,000,000 during the last two years and now aggregate \$15,520,000,000 exceeding by about \$1,000,000,000 the total resources of the Bank of England, the Bank of France, the Bank of Russia, the German Reichsbank, the Bank of Italy, the Bank of Spain, the Bank of the Netherlands, the Bank of Denmark, the Swiss National Bank and the Imperial Bank of Japan combined.

In a statement based upon returns from the last bank call, November 17, the Comptroller calls attention to the fact that the increase has been at the rate of approximately 18 per cent a year during the last two years.

COLUMBIA GETS FARM LOAN BANK FOR CAROLINAS.

Washington.—Twelve cities in which are to be located the Federal Farm Loan Banks were announced by the farm loan board, and it is expected that within 60 days the new system will be in operation, ready to make the loans for which applications already are pouring in from every section of the country.

The banks will be set up in Springfield, Mass.; Baltimore, Md.; Columbia, S. C.; New Orleans, La.; Houston, Texas; St. Louis, Mo.; Louisville, Ky.; St. Paul, Minn.; Omaha, Neb.; Wichita, Kan.; Spokane, Wash.; and Berkeley, Cal.

VILLA PREPARES TO ATTACK TWO CITIES.

El Paso, Texas.—Francisco Villa's forces are preparing to attack Chihuahua City and Juarez simultaneously in an effort to establish railroad traffic between the border and Torreon. It was said by a man known to be close to Villa. A Mexican refugee from Torreon said Villa was preparing to move north with 5,000 men to attack Chihuahua City. He reported another force of 500 Villa followers to have been at the Calderon ranch.

TEUTONS CLOSE IN ON RUMANIAN SUPPLY CENTER.

The net of the Teutonic Allies apparently is fast closing in upon Braila, Rumania's oil and grain center on the Danube. Having taken Filipecht, 30 miles to the southwest, Field Marshal von Mackensen's troops have now captured the railroad town of Ainnik Sarat, relatively the same distance to the east, while the guns of the Dobruja army are still hammering and with some success the Russo-Rumanians at the bridgehead of Matchin.

CENTRAL POWERS REPLY TO NOTE

SUGGEST THAT CONFERENCE
BE HELD TO DISCUSS BASIS
OF PEACE TERMS.

ADVANCE PEACE MOVEMENT

In Washington, Action is Looked Upon as Advancing Cause, Although There is Disappointment Because No Terms Are Set Forth.

Washington.—Germany's reply to President Wilson's note is regarded here as having advanced the peace movement another step despite the fact that it disappoints in not meeting his suggestion for an avowal of terms.

The reception German's reply receives among the Entente Allies, whose state-men have publicly declared against such a program, now becomes the point upon which a further possibly leading to a series of carefully considered delicate moves in the great game of world diplomacy all possibly leading to an approach for a real discussion of peace terms on grounds which all the belligerents can place them at no disadvantage.

This is the official view of Germany's reply, so far as it has been formulated on the basis of the unofficial text. The official copy had not been received and President Wilson was keeping his mind open.

Neutral diplomatic quarters, too, regarded the note as a step toward peace and rather leaned to the view that Germany might follow it with a confidential communication of some sort outlining her terms.

The reply of the Central Powers as given out at Berlin, says:

"The high-minded suggestion made by the President of the United States of America in order to create a basis for the establishment of a lasting peace has been received and considered by the Imperial Government in the friendly spirit which was expressed in the President's communication.

"The President points out that which he has at heart and leaves open the choice of roads.

"To the Imperial Government an immediate exchange of views seems to be the most appropriate road in order to reach the desired result.

"It begs, therefore, in the sense of the declaration made on December 12 which offered a hand for peace negotiations to propose an immediate meeting of delegates of the belligerent States at a neutral place.

"The Imperial Government is also of the opinion that the great work of reventing future wars can be begun only after the end of the present struggle of the nations.

"It will, when this moment shall have come, be ready with pleasure to collaborate entirely with the United States in this exalted task."

The answer of the Central Powers concludes with the usual diplomatic terms of politeness.

PLURALITY OF 568,822 GIVEN FOR PRESIDENT.

Increase of 3,631,589 in Total Popular Vote For Four Candidates Over That of 1912—Socialists Fell Off.

New York.—Complete official returns on the presidential election show that Mr. Wilson received 9,116,296 votes; and Mr. Hughes 8,547,474, a plurality of 568,822 for Mr. Wilson. In 1912 Wilson (Democrat) received 6,297,099, Taft (Republican) 3,846,399, Roosevelt (Progressive) 4,124,959.

The vote for Mr. Benson, Socialist candidate for President, was 750,000, with eight missing states estimated against 901,873 for Debs, Socialist, in 1912, and for Mr. Hanly, Prohibitionist candidate, was 225,101, against 207,928 for Chafin, Prohibitionist, in 1912.

The total popular vote for the four candidates was 18,638,871, as against 15,045,322 in 1912. This is an increase of 3,593,549 accounted for by the increased population and the woman vote in the new suffrage states.

LUIS CABRERA DENIES ANY TIME LIMIT FOR SIGNING.

New York.—Luis Cabrera, chairman of the Mexican delegation on the Mexican-American point commission said here that no time limit had been fixed for General Carranza either to accept or reject the protocol proposed by the Mexican-American conference at Atlantic City. There was no understanding during the sessions of the joint commission he added, which gave the American commissioners authority to impose such a time limit.

PLAN BIG NAVAL SHOW FOR THE U. S. ISLANDS.

Washington.—Plans for a great naval demonstration to signalize American acquisition of the Danish West Indies are being considered by state and navy department officials. Probably the entire Atlantic fleet will be ordered to St. Thomas, the long-south naval base site, to participate in the celebration. Minister Brun of Denmark, formally advised the state department that the treaty for the sale of the islands had been approved

WILL ASK LAW FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE

WITHOUT IT STATE CANNOT
CLAIM \$114,000 FEDERAL ROAD
APPROPRIATION.

COMMISSIONERS MEET JAN 8

State Highway Commission Will Consider Plans For New Years Work and Report to Legislature.

Raleigh.—Unless the State Highway Commission can get from the General Assembly legislation providing for the maintenance of roads constructed, the state cannot claim \$114,000 of the Federal road fund already apportioned among the counties of the state. The commission will meet here on January 8, when it will consider plans for the new year's work, and also settle upon the requests it will make of the legislature.

For one thing, the commission wants its appropriation increased from ten thousand dollars to fifty thousand dollars. Already its work has extended to more than three-fourths of the counties of the state, and the possibilities of further extension are only limited by the finances.

Mr. W. S. Falls, state highway engineer, stated that the commission's work has succeeded thus far in every instance where the commission has supervised county work, in saving between 25 and 30 per cent of the cost as estimated by the lowest bidder. And with the road work in North Carolina aggregating five million dollars annually, he declares he is perfectly safe in estimating the saving of one million dollars annually on highway construction, if the commission were put in charge of all this work.

As to the federal aid, the stipulation which now holds North Carolina from its benefits is the one requiring maintenance provisions in the state. Under present conditions, the county commissioners in the various counties have maintenance authority for only two years. The federal law requires something permanent. And that \$114,000, which is due to increase from year to year, will remain idle, so far as this state is concerned, until that maintenance provision is secured.

The highway engineer hopes it will come through the use of the entire automobile license tax for maintenance purposes. This will be one of the things the commission will ask of the general assembly. It will ask that 60 per cent of the tax be turned back into the counties in proportion to the taxes paid in that county, to be used by the county authorities under supervision of the Highway Commission for maintenance. The other 40 per cent the commission wants turned over to it for use in its discretion wherever it is needed over the state for highway upkeep.

Big Hotel For Greensboro.

Greensboro.—The long-hoped-for "big hotel" for Greensboro will probably be a fact before Christmas, 1917. When the needed \$75,000 in common stock was all subscribed at a meeting in the Chamber of Commerce rooms a sigh of relief went up from those who have been working on the proposition for some time. The site is to cost \$20,000 and the building \$300,000. First mortgage bonds to the amount of \$160,000 will be issued, and second mortgage bonds will be in the amount of \$85,000. The first bonds and \$65,000 of the second class bonds have virtually been placed, so that all the stock and bonds, only \$20,000 yet remain to be placed.

Another Dam at Badin.

Albemarle.—That work on the second big dam to be built by the American Aluminum Company at the falls of the Yadkin about three miles below Badin is to commence upon a big scale is evidenced by the fact that a double