

GERMAN ADVANCE ON WARSAW STURDILY CONTESTED BY DEFENDING RUSSIANS, WHO REPULSE ATTACK WITH BIG LOSS

Invaders' Offensive Extends Over Front of Fifty Miles From Glow to Głono—Battle In Progress South of Cracow

ALLIES ARE GRADUALLY GAINING ON FRENCH SOIL

Austrians Still on Offensive in Western Galicia—Servians Reported to Have Defeated Austrian Right Wing—Fifteen Thousand Killed in Decisive Engagement—Berlin Regards Situation in East as Favorable to Kaiser's Arms and Reports Success in Poland

(By the United Press.)

Petrograd, Dec. 10.—An official statement from the war office says the Russians are meeting persistent attacks within forty miles of Warsaw. The German offensive along a fifty mile front from Iłow to Głono was repulsed with heavy losses. The fighting around Lwow and Iłow has been without result. The Germans are in force in the Piotrkow region, where fighting continues, but the situation is unchanged. South of Cracow the battle progresses and the fighting is being pressed with great persistence. The Germans there have endeavored three times to break the Russian line, but were repulsed with heavy losses. Slowly Sweeping the Invaders from France.

Paris, Dec. 10.—Where a perceptible stiffening of the Allied lines from the coast along the three hundred mile stretch into Alsace. The Germans are being pushed back continually and the Allied trenches extended. French artillery and infantry are giving the British excellent support, holding the Germans in check while new positions are occupied by England's men. Fighting is in progress from the vicinity of Ypres to the coast, and to Lille. Ypres has been bombarded. Unconfirmed reports say the Allies are in possession of Dixmude.

Vienna, Dec. 10.—An official statement by the war office says that in Western Galicia the Austrian attacks continue. There is calm in Southern Poland. The Russian attacks in the vicinity of Pitrokov have failed. Berlin reports that aviators have dropped bombs on Freiburg in the province of Baden. No damage accrued. Serious Claim.

Servians Claim Important Success.

Salonica, Dec. 10.—Victory over the Austrian right wing by the Serbian army is reported. An official statement from Nish says the enemy's fifteenth and sixteenth army corps were dispersed. Fifteen thousand were killed and wounded and two thousand taken prisoners. Fifty-two cannon and fifty-six machine guns fell into the Servians' hands.

Berlin Satisfied With Situation.

Berlin, Dec. 10.—The situation in the east is entirely favorable. In Northern Poland the German operations on the right of Weichel have been stormed. The Germans took Pzanyez, capturing six hundred prisoners and some machine guns. In Northern Poland several Russian attacks have been repulsed.

French Center Moving Forward.

Paris, Dec. 10.—Gains of from two to six hundred yards on the French center are reported in an official communique. In the Aisne and Champagne regions artillery duels continue, with the advantage with the French. In Argonne continued progress is reported.

Situation From the German Point of View.

Berlin, Dec. 10.—Fighting on the western front continues. The situation is declared satisfactory. The Germans are endeavoring to gain control of the railways from Warsaw to Czenstowas.

NOTHING WRONG WITH THE NAVY, SAYS SECY. DANIELS

(By the United Press.)
Washington, Dec. 10.—Secretary Daniels today testified before the House committee on the preparedness of the navy for war. He urges but two battleships plan. He said the navy is sufficiently manned, and denied the charges of weakness and inefficiency.

ANNIHILATION OF VON SPEER'S FLEET BY BRITISH TOTAL

Nurnburg and Dresden Meet Fate of Three Companion Ships.

DEFEATED ADMIRAL LOST

Battle Commenced in Argentine Waters; Concluded on High Seas—Two Vessels Which Escaped Run Down by Six of Enemy's

(By the United Press)

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 10.—A wireless message from Port Stanley states that German cruisers Dresden and Nurnburg, which escaped the Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig were sunk, are reported to have been overtaken and sunk. According to the information at hand, six British cruisers engaged with the Germans. The battle started in Argentine waters, but developed into a running fight and carried to the high seas, where the German cruisers were sunk. The British losses were less than a hundred killed and wounded, and none of the vessels were more than slightly damaged.

Von Spee Went Down With Flagship

London, Dec. 10.—England has asserted herself and assumed her old position as master of the seas as the result of the sinking of the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig. It is confidently believed that the cruisers Dresden and Nurnburg, which escaped during the engagement will be overtaken and sunk, despite their speed.

The German commander, Admiral Von Spee, went down with the Scharnhorst. Some of the crew of the Gneisenau and Scharnhorst were rescued. Vice-Admiral Sturdee's fleet cruised seven thousand miles from British waters to the South Atlantic for the engagement with the Germans.

At 7:30 a. m., on the 8th of December, the Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Nurnburg, Leipzig and Dresden were sighted near the Falkland Islands. King Congratulates Victorious Sailors.

London, Dec. 10.—King George today sent a message of congratulation to Admiral Sturdee and his men.

(By the United Press.)

Domodossola, (Italian frontier) Nov. 3. (By mail to New York)—With a thoroughly and unanimously homogeneous cabinet, for the first time since the outbreak of the present European war, Premier Salandra is today working feverishly for Italy's ultimate participation in the great conflict.

"Armed neutrality, with 1,000,000 men mobilized, to the end that Italy does not lose any rights or advantages accruing to her by reason of her neutrality." This is Italy's present motto.

In the event of the success of the Triple Entente, it is already an established fact that the three powers will not be allowed any portion of the Adriatic coast to remain in the hands of Austria, which might eventually, either through treaty right, the unification of Austria and Germany, or other means, afford Germany a port on the Adriatic. The only other countries to whom this can go are Serbia and Italy, and Italy does not propose that Serbia get all.

Although, as a matter of fact, this was the policy of Premier Salandar from the beginning of the war, a lack of harmony in his cabinet made it impossible for him to work effectively to that end.

King Victor Emanuel, evidently also in sympathy with the views of Premier Salandra, charged him to form a new cabinet. This Salandra, did and now for the first time since the outbreak of the war he is entirely surrounded with colleagues in sympathy with his views that Italy cannot afford to see the map of Europe readjusted without the realization, at least in part, of her dreams of the past 50 years.

Salandra now has at his disposal the \$200,000,000 necessary for Italy's

TOOK HOUR TO CHECK THE KAISER'S COUGH

(By the United Press.)

London, Dec. 10.—Kaiser Wilhelm has experienced a severe coughing spell, which was relieved only after the court physicians and the empress had administered to him nearly an hour. It is accepted that the Kaiser is seriously ill, although the strictest censorship is exercised by the German government.

London, Dec. 10.—The Kaiser's condition is unchanged this afternoon.

CONFERENCE FOR GREATER ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY

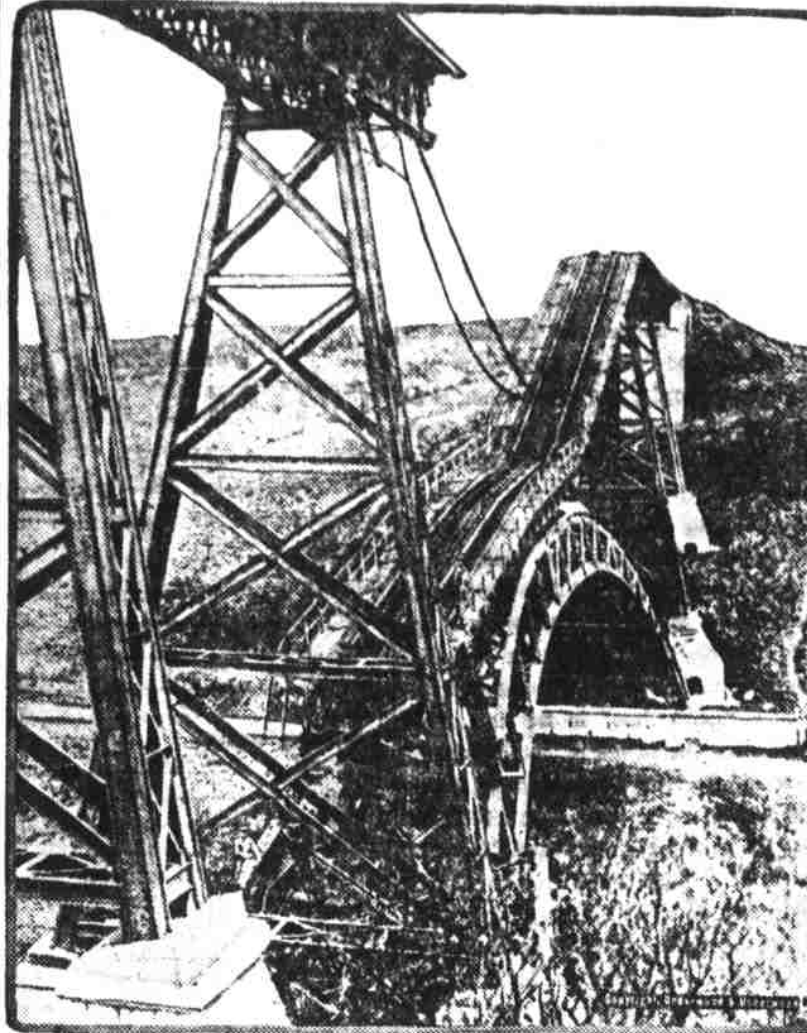
Eugene, Ore., Dec. 10.—Called for the purpose of hearing reports of committees that have, since their appointment at the regular session held last May, been considering the unemployment situation, greater economy and efficiency in state administration, and the possibility, financially, of developing and fostering more extensive use of electricity in the every day needs of the home, factory and farm through the creation of hydro-electric districts, a special meeting of the Oregon Commonwealth Conference was opened here today. The conference will continue over Saturday and the time will be spent in the discussion of the recommendations of the three committees.

FIVE HURT IN COLLISION ON LAKE SHORE RAILROAD

(By the United Press.)

Buffalo, Dec. 10.—Five trainmen were seriously injured today in a collision between an eastbound passenger train and a freight of the Lake Shore Railroad near Bayview.

GREAT BRIDGE DESTROYED BY AUSTRIANS



During the recent fighting in Galicia, when the Russians were driving the Austrians before them, the Austrians destroyed this magnificent bridge to retard the progress of the enemy.

ITALY IS PREPARED NOW TO JOIN THE TRIPLE ENTENTE

Salandra Has Two Hundred Million Dollars, Half Million Men

HIS CABINET IS IN ACCORD

Obstacles Which Prevented Nation's Participation in the World War All Overcome by Persistency of Premier, Aided by King

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POSTMASTER GENERAL'S R. F. D. PLANS CRITICIZED

Mr. Burleson's Contract Ideas Have Caused Compton Among Patrons and Those Interested Who Say Service Will Suffer

Aprpos of the belief that Postmaster General Burleson will make a vigorous effort this winter to secure legislation which will enable him to let the rural free delivery carrier service by contract, the R. F. D. News, a newspaper printed at Washington for the 43,000 carriers, in the current number has an editorial on "demoralizing a public service."

"It is to be sincerely regretted that the Postmaster General will again agitate contract service for rural delivery. Discussion of this question can only have a demoralizing effect upon the service itself," it is stated in the editorial. "In view of the present agitation, carriers will hesitate to incur the expense of vehicles for fear that if Mr. Burleson's desired legislation should be enacted they would be left with wagons on their hands for which they would have no use. Another thing: apparently the department is requiring a greater degree of uniformity in vehicles," and if they were required to discard present vehicles for new ones of a stated pattern, they would have the former left on their hands. The loss of horses in the winter season is heavy.

It is gratifying to note the adverse comments on Mr. Burleson's contract proposition in a large number of influential newspapers," says the News. "While it is not believed that Congress will heed the Postmaster General's recommendation, rural delivery patrons should, nevertheless, begin an active campaign to prevent any possibility of a change in the service, which has been of such convenience and value to them."

through preparation. The press of Italy is also demanding that the mobilization be increased to 1,000,000. In general, however, it is not believed this will be done until the actual moment when it is up to Italy to take possession of the provinces she desires—the provinces that have been openly offered her by Russia and England—and hold them if necessary by force.

Italy at the present time has 500,000 men under arms. These form the nucleus of all the units that would be engaged in a war calling for her full mobilization. They have already completed every detail of the organization so that the final call to arms merely means the filling out numerically of these units already on a basis for war. For that reason further mobilization at the present time would only mean additional expense without any advantage.

In any event, Italy considers herself ready for now on and she will be fully prepared, fully organized and ready to act when the psychological moment arrives.

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EIDSON'S SUPPOSED FIREPROOF PLANT A GREAT PILE DEBRIS

Seven-Million Dollar Fire Sweeps Away Fourteen Concrete Buildings

SIX THOUSAND OUT WORK

Only Building Saved Was Laboratory Filled With Inventor's Valuable Scientific Apparatus—Firemen Confined Efforts to One Structure

(By the United Press)

West Orange, N. J., Dec. 10.—With the exception of one structure, the seven million dollar plant of fifteen modern reinforced concrete buildings of the Thomas Edison Company, supposed to be absolutely fire-proof, is a mass of ruin and debris. Six thousand of the seven thousand employees are out of work.

The fire broke out during the night and was soon beyond control of the firemen. The only building saved in the block was the laboratory building containing valuable scientific machinery under the immediate superintendence of the inventor, Thomas A. Edison. Especial efforts made to save this structure were successful.

SEVENTEEN INJURED IN OHIO TRAIN WRECK

(By the United Press)

Joplin, O., Dec. 10.—Seventeen persons were injured in a wreck on the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad when passenger train No. 9 was derailed four miles east of Joplin.

PORTRAIT OF DORTCH IN WAYNE'S COURTHOUSE

Goldsboro, Dec. 10.—The presentation of a portrait of the late William T. Dortch by ex-Judge W. S. O'B. Robinson took place in the auditorium of the new courthouse here this morning at 10 o'clock. Hon. William T. Dortch was one of the most prominent figures in the history of Wayne county.

TO BRING SCHOOLS CLOSER TO CHURCHES AIM OF BAPTISTS

Raleigh, Dec. 9.—Two notable features characterized the meeting of the Baptist State Convention today. One was the raising in the house of \$7,833.50 for the Wake Forest church in answer to the appeal of the church for \$1,000. The other was a radical change in the educational system of the convention, by which it is hoped to bring the colleges and secondary schools into closer touch with the churches, by putting them under a board named by the convention.

POSTMASTER SHORT IN ACCOUNTS, ON TRIAL

Wilmington, Dec. 9.—George L. Pridgen, formerly postmaster at Kelly, N. C., was given a preliminary hearing before United States Commissioner George Harriiss yesterday on a charge of defrauding the government out of \$722.23, which amount is his admitted shortage, but he has another explanation. The defendant says that his store had postoffice were burned and that the amount claimed by the government was burned at that time. He disclaims any intention to defraud the government. The hearing was continued indefinitely.

FLEET EQUAL TO ANY FLETCHER'S OPINION

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.—The ability of the American navy to successfully meet the war fleet of any nation except Great Britain was asserted today by Rear Admiral Fletcher, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, before the House naval affairs committee. The possibility of conflict with Great Britain was so remote, the Admiral said, that he did not believe in a naval policy designed to control the oceans as against the country.

LA GRANGE COUPLE ELUDED PURSUERS AND ARE MARRIED

Sensational Elopement Culminated In Ceremony at Lumberton Today

POLICE CHIEF STOLE BRIDE

Young Daughter of John H. Rouse Defied All Parental Objection and Departed Amidst Regular "Movie" Melodrama Scenes.

(Special to The Free Press)
Lumberton, N. C., Dec. 10.—Miss Lemoine Rouse and U. S. Paige were married here this morning. This is the bridegroom's home.

U. S. Paige, a LaGrange policeman, and Miss Lemoine Rouse, the pretty young daughter of John H. Rouse, a prominent citizen of that town, caused a sensation there and Kinston late Wednesday by eloping in an automobile. Paige, who had been paying ardent attention to the girl, who is said to be only 17 years of age, took her from a bazaar conducted by ladies in the business section of LaGrange, bundled her into a waiting automobile, and drove off.

Hallie and Harry Rouse, brothers of the young lady, followed in another machine, armed with the father's orders not to stop until they had the runaways. The wires were heated hot with instructions to the sheriff here to use every means to arrest the couple. A reward of \$50 for their apprehension before they had been married was offered. Paige and Miss Rouse are supposed to have been seen on the edge of the city, but they evidently had warning that the officers were waiting for them and headed in the direction of Greenville. The brothers were compelled to drop out of the race when almost up to the elopers, by motor trouble. The father followed after. Sheriff Taylor wired to every town within a radius of a hundred miles, but the night passed without a word concerning the elopers, except that they were believed to have been seen passing an A. C. L. station between here and Greenville.

Paige went to LaGrange after being discharged from the navy last summer, in answer to an advertisement for a policeman. The town commissioner selected him for the job of "cleaning up the place." He locked up a constable, was in turn locked up by the constable, and had a number of other interesting experiences during his first few weeks there. Of late he has incurred the dislike of the father of the girl he eloped with by persisting in his attentions to her when he had been forbidden the house. At least one previous attempt to elope was foiled. Paige as a result of the courtship has been whipped by Harry Rouse, and an attempt was made by John H. Rouse to have him discharged from the police force. Out of the latter, after a magistrate had cleared the officer of charges preferred by Mr. Rouse, grew a suit for damages, which is now pending.

FEDS. CLAIM THEY WILL SAVE QUARTER MILLION

By Hal Sheridan

(Written for the United Press)

New York, Dec. 10.—The Federal League announces that it hopes to save more than a quarter of a million dollars next year. The statement is hard to reconcile with the oft-repeated assertion that the Feds would sign up more big league stars next season than they did in 1914, which assertion is now being brought out.

If the Fed magnates continue the pace they capered last spring and summer in the matter of bidding and paying high to snatch the stars they did from organized ball, they wouldn't be able to save a cent. If they don't continue the same pace they won't get any more stars. If they don't get the stars, organized ball will be pretty able to cater along. Ergo—The Feds are going to reach the crisis of their career next year.