

AUSTRIANS SEEK PEACE, BUT REFUSE RUSSIA'S TERMS

This Report Was Sent Out From Berne, in Switzerland, Today

NO ATTACK ON WARSAW

Germans Completely Repulsed in Northern Poland—Kaiser's Forces Have Suffered Severely—Petrograd Has No Water

(By the United Press) Berne, Dec. 15.—Austria, it is reported, has made a tentative peace proposal to Russia. Exchanges between the two governments in which Russia made known the terms she demanded were without result, it is said. Complete Repulse to German Forces Petrograd, Dec. 15.—The German army which invaded Northern Poland from Mlawa has been completely routed. The movement upon Warsaw has apparently been abandoned. The Germans suffered heavily after the taking of Przasnys. German reinforcements are being sent to East Prussia and to the defense of the Mazurian Lake region. For the first time in thirty years Petrograd is without a water supply, and great danger would accrue in case of fire. Fierce Artillery Duel in Progress in Alsace.

Paris, Dec. 15.—A fierce artillery duel is starting in upper Alsace. It is reported that the French have advanced to within five miles of Aspach. The forward movement by the French continues with fighting for the control of the roads leading to Muelshausen. The Allies' artillery is blasting its way through the German lines. The German attack north of Gemay has been repulsed. The Allied wedge in the region of Ypres is being continually strengthened and extended further into Belgium. Allies Drive Enemy From Their Positions.

Paris, Dec. 15.—In the attack by the French and English against the Germans between Hollebeke and Wytschate, the Allies drove the enemy from the woods west of the latter town and captured a position. The French troops held the gained ground despite fierce counter attacks. Intermittent cannonading is reported from Somme and Argonne.

PROSPECTS FOR COUNTY OF 'JARVIS' ARE GOOD

Dunn, Dec. 14.—Attorney John C. Clifford, upon whose shoulders has fallen a large part of the burden in the fight for the formation of Jarvis county, believes that the project's chances for success are brighter now than at any time since the idea gained a grip upon the minds of the people of this locality.

CLEVELAND WANTS 3-CENT ELECTRICITY

(By the United Press.) Columbus, O., Dec. 15.—Cleveland, the city that fought for and obtained three-cent street car fares, today opened its fight here before the State utilities commission for three-cent electric light. The commission heard arguments by attorneys for the city against the appeal of the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company to overrule an ordinance setting three cents per kilowatt hour as the maximum price for electricity in Cleveland. Counsel for the company also was present. The city presented data to show that the Cleveland municipal light plant has been furnishing three-cent light at a profit for more than a year. It is the contention of the illuminating company that these figures are inaccurate, and that their own figures show three-cent light at present is a practical impossibility. The next step in the fight for either side is expected to be an appeal from the ruling of the utilities commission to the State Supreme Court. Should the city win its case officials declare it will lead to the purchase of the privately owned plant by the city.

RUSSIANS PREPARE TO DELIVER A FINAL DEFEAT TO GERMANS

Nicholas' Troops Being Redistributed for Decisive Action in Poland

INACTION IN THE SOUTH

Berlin Claims the Opposite From Russian Statement of Important Success About Cracow—Report of Unrest Among Troops

(By the United Press) Petrograd, Dec. 15.—The Russians south and southeast of Cracow hold the lines of the Austro-Germans they drove back. Owing to the defeat in the North, the Germans have not pressed the attack in the region of Lowicz. The Russian forces are being re-distributed, and it is believed that Grand Duke Nicholas is about to strike a blow which will force German withdrawal.

Berlin Offers a Different Version. Berlin, Dec. 15.—According to semi-official statements, the Russians in Poland have withdrawn northward. Vienna newspapers report that if the fortress of Cracow does not soon fall, there will be a general mutiny in the Russian ranks. It is stated that whole Russian battalions have shown disaffection and been sent away in chains.

WANTS TAX COLLECTIONS HURRIED FOR PENSIONS.

Raleigh, Dec. 14.—State Treasurer Lacy today calls upon the sheriffs of all the counties to come to his aid in the payment of pension warrants to the Confederate soldiers and widows. "We have only \$163,000 in the treasury," Mr. Lacy says, "and the amount immediately necessary is \$500,000. It will take \$50,000 a day for some time."

BULLETINS

(By the United Press.)

THE SUPPLYING AUSTRIANS CLAIM FURTHER SUCCESS

Vienna, Dec. 15.—An official statement says the Austrians are pursuing the Russians in eastern Galicia. The Austrians have reached the Plain of Allenthal. The fighting is almost continuous.

AVIATORS DROP BOMBS ON GERMAN TOWNS

Amsterdam, Dec. 15.—French aviators passed over Freiburg and Baden, dropping bombs upon the towns.

NEUTRAL MONARCHS TO DISCUSS THE WAR

Stockholm, Dec. 15.—King Gustav of Sweden; Haakon of Norway and Frederick of Denmark, are to meet at Malmo for a conference over difficulties growing out of the European war.

TURKISH CRUISER BOMBARDS BATUM

Berlin, Dec. 15.—A Turkish official bulletin says the large cruiser Sultan Jawus Selia has bombarded Batum, setting fire to the city. The cruiser escaped despite heavy gun fire from the land batteries. Dispatches from Constantinople say that in the Caucasus region 50,000 armed Russians, all Mohammedans, have joined the other Moslems to fight Russia.

RUSSIANS NOW AT AUSTRIA'S DOOR

Petrograd, Dec. 15.—It is officially admitted that the Austrians are now defending the northern slopes of the Carpathian mountains into Galicia through Dukla Pass, against advancing Russians.

RUSSIAN CRUISERS AWAIT DRESDEN'S DEPARTURE

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 15.—It is reported that two British cruisers are in the Straits of Magellan off

PRESIDENT WON'T OPPOSE KITCHIN FOR NEXT LEADER

Will Not Dictate to House in Matter of Selecting Successor to Underwood, Mr. Wilson Says—Garrett A Candidate.

(By the United Press) Washington, Dec. 15.—The President said today that he has decided to comply with Governor Goethals' request for destroyers for the Panama canal neutrality guard. He said he is opposed to the immigration bills for literacy test.

President Wilson said he is not opposed to Representative Kitchin for the next House leader, and will "not attempt to dictate to the House."

Washington, Dec. 15.—The confirmation here Monday of the report that Finis Garrett of Tennessee will be a candidate for chairman of the ways and means committee and majority leader of the House to succeed Oscar Underwood, who goes to the Senate at the beginning of the Sixty-fourth Congress, was the most interesting subject of conversation around the capitol. Claude Kitchin of North Carolina is the ranking member of the ways and means committee, and therefore, has been looked upon as Mr. Underwood's successor.

Garrett, it is said, will have the support of President Wilson.

Mr. Garrett has held no very important committee assignments, and is now third member on the Rules Committee, ranking next to Pou.

TEACHER-MOTHER FIGHT TO FRONT AGAIN TODAY

(By the United Press.) New York, Dec. 15.—Miss Henrietta Rodman, Wadleigh High School teacher whose letter referring to the teacher-mother controversy in the humorous column of a local newspaper brought upon her the censure of the board of education, will appear today for trial. She is charged with gross misconduct and insubordination, based on the letter-writing episode.

TWEEDY SHARES HIS PROFITS WITH WORKERS.

(By the United Press.) Danbury, Conn., Dec. 15.—Profit-sharing will have a new recruit today when Arthur E. Tweedy, president of the silk mills which bear his name, will give to all his operatives a share in the profits of the company. He employs about 150 workers. Last January he gave a voluntary increase of ten per cent to all his employes.

Punta Arenas, waiting for the German cruiser Dresden. Pro-German reports say the British vessels intend not to respect the neutrality laws. The German consul here charges Brazil and Chile with violation of neutrality.

GERMANS LAY BLAME FOR MINES ON THE ENGLISH

Berlin, Dec. 15.—It is officially stated that mines strangled on the Dutch coast by a storm are all English except eight Dutch and four French.

ALLIES COMBINE IN ATTACK UPON GERMANS

London, Dec. 15.—A statement by the war bureau says a combined attack on the Germans is being made by the British and the French lines between the railroad leading from Ypres to Lille and the main highway.

ACTIVITIES OF FORMER GERMAN MAN-OF-WAR

Berlin, Dec. 15.—A Turkish cruiser, the former German warship Breslau, has bombarded Sebastopol. The Turkish cruiser Sultan Jawus Selim is reported to have bombarded Batum. This vessel was formerly the German cruiser Goeben.

FEW AUSTRIANS REMAIN ON SERBIAN SOIL NOW

Nish, Dec. 15.—An official statement says the Serbians have reentered Belgrade. The Austrians fled across the Danube and Save rivers in great disorder. Serbia is now clear of Austrians except at two points.

HAD SHOES FOR HIS BABY



Two little shoes found in the pockets of a mortally wounded Belgian soldier touched the heartstrings of the nurses in the French hospital to which he was taken. With them was a letter to his wife, from whom he had been separated since the destruction of their home in Termonde, saying he was sending a pair of shoes for their three-year-old baby, bought with money he had earned as a scout in King Albert's army. The shoes were hung above his deathbed.

CONGRESS DID ITS DUTY BY THE NAVY, DECLARES SECRETARY DANIELS

Policy of the Department to "Save Ashore for Expenditure Afloat," Results in Decreased Expenses of Nation's Navy Department

(By the United Press) Washington, D. C., Dec. 14.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels today submitted his annual report to the President.

In the introduction the report states that "the navy was not neglected in the unparalleled record of constructive legislation made by the second session of the Sixty-third Congress. That forward looking body evinced a true appreciation of the country's real need for a continuously healthy and normal growth of the navy; and the legislation it enacted approved nearly every recommendation made in the department's report of last December. As a result of the ready spirit and wise discrimination of that Congress, the naval appropriation bill, decreased below last year's figures, provided for two dreadnoughts instead of one, and, later in the session, seizing upon a rare opportunity, Congress authorized the sale of two old ships, ill-adapted to the present needs of our navy and the construction in their stead of a powerful dreadnought."

The appropriations for the fiscal year 1914-1915 for the naval establishment amounted to \$140,233,716.61, exclusive of the \$4,635,000 appropriated from the proceeds of the sale of the battleships Idaho and Mississippi for the battleship authorized in their stead. Estimates submitted for the naval establishment for the fiscal year 1915-16, exclusive of the amount required to continue work on the vessel authorized to replace the Idaho and Mississippi (\$5,827,410), amount to \$139,569,409.88, or \$664,306.73 less than the 1915 appropriations and this reduction has been made notwithstanding advances recommended in the appropriations "Pay of the Navy" and "Pay of the Marine Corps" of \$1,359,839 and \$149,284.47, respectively, to meet the normal increases already authorized by law in these two arms of the service.

The policy has been, as it was a year ago, to save ashore for expenditure afloat; to maintain shore stations for the fleet, and not the fleet for shore stations. The biggest reduction made was for "Public Works." In his concluding paragraph Secretary Daniels said: "This has been a proud and solemn year for the American navy. It has shown that it knows how to bear itself under fire, how to obey orders, how to maintain the honorable traditions of the service. Allow me, Mr. President, to congratulate you as its commander-in-chief, upon the record it has made, upon its preparedness for duty, upon the reliance you can place upon it in any time of national need."

MEXICANS DESIST FROM FIRING OVER BORDER FOR A DAY

Observe Orders of Their Chiefs to Stop Killing and Maiming Americans in Arizona—No Casualties Reported to Washington

(By the United Press) Washington, Dec. 15.—Orders to Gutierrez and Carranza commanders at Naco to avoid firing which would endanger the lives of persons on the American side were observed to some extent today. No casualties have been reported up to this afternoon.

NEWSBOY WINS FAME AS POET

(By the United Press.) Chicago, Dec. 15.—Praised by Ruskin, Gosse and Swinburne for verse written while he was in his teens, Scharmel Iris, once a hustling newsie, is doing literary hack work, teaching Italian and fingering happily today "Lyrics of a Lad," his first book, and what is said to be the first book of verse by an Italian published in English in this country.

Iris was a newsie when Ruskin, the great English critic, praised his verse. When he was thirteen the poet Swinburne wrote to a New York paper a tribute to his verse. Yet in spite of this recognition Iris continued as a factory worker. He is now twenty-five years old, and so far as finances are concerned, a literary hack, but his book is on sale and Iris is happy. "It will rebound to the credit of my dear Italy," he says.

Asheville, Dec. 14.—Members of the Southern Surgical and Gynecological Association spent today in committee meetings, preparations being made for the formal opening of the twenty-seventh annual meeting tomorrow morning. More than 100 delegates have arrived.

GARDNER RESOLUTION WILL CREATE FIGHT

It is Expected That Forces Will Be Divided and Lines Drawn Non-Partisan—The Administration Hopes for Its Defeat.

Washington, Dec. 15.—A sharp clash between powerful elements in Congress and the administration over questions of navy and army policy is looked for at this session. Large numbers of members, of both Republican and Democratic parties, say this country must wake up and do something with reference to preparedness for defense. The Gardner resolution for an inquiry will have strong support. President Wilson is opposed to the Gardner resolution, and has no sympathy with the agitation of the question of preparedness. It is expected that he will oppose allowing army and navy officers to give testimony before a commission named in pursuance of the Gardner resolution if that is adopted. It is very probable that administration and Congressional opposition already manifested will defeat the Gardner resolution. Secretary of War Garrison takes the position that Gardner or any committee in Congress may have all the information desired concerning the military establishment, but that such information must come through him and through "loose relations" between army officers and Congress. If the rules committee takes up the Gardner resolution, Secretary Garrison expects he will be the first witness called, as the responsible officer of the government. But Secretary Garrison will probably refuse to detail officers to appear before Congress to give testimony.

However, should the inquiry be made, by no means will it be under the control of the administration or of the War Department. Men will probably be called in who are quite as well informed about national defense as army officers, and whose ideas are well matured. Some of the foremost adjunct generals of the States may be called. Colonel Roosevelt may be summoned. Former Secretary of War Stimson is suggested as a valuable witness. Prominent civilians who have given thought to the policy of preparedness are likely to be asked to give testimony.

CRUISER CORMORAN MUST LEAVE GUAM OR INTERNE THERE

German Ship Given Twenty-five Hours to Clear from American Island

GOVERNOR IS POSITIVE

With Empty Larder and Bunkers, Friendless Rover of the Pacific Cannot Have More Than Momentary Asylum at Guam

(By the United Press)

Washington, Dec. 15.—The German cruiser Cormoran, with coal, provisions and water exhausted, has been given the alternative of interning in the port in the island of Guam, or leaving there today.

The commander of the Cormoran said he needed supplies to get to some German port. Captain Maxwell, naval governor of Guam, allowed the German vessel some supplies and notified the commander that he must leave port in twenty-five hours.

MR. LOVIT HINES' HOME BADLY DAMAGED BY FIRE

Flames Soon Under Control, But Water and Smoke Damage Will Amount to \$4,000 or \$5,000. Started About 2:30 P. M.

Fire which started about 2:30 o'clock this afternoon did damage to the extent of \$4,500 or \$5,000 in the handsome home of Mr. Lovit Hines, at the northwest corner of Caswell and McLewear streets. The cause has not been determined. Several were of the opinion that the blaze had its origin in the furnace-room, but Mr. Hines was firm in the belief that a defective electric wire was the cause.

The principal damage was by smoke and water. This damaged much valuable furniture and ruined the walls in a number of rooms, so that most of the interior will have to be replaced. Flames were licking about the bookcases in the library while neighbors were attempting to remove them.

The blaze at no time was spectacular, and the firemen, who had less than two blocks to run from the downtown station, soon had it checked.

The Hines home is one of the handsomest on Caswell street, and is valued at a high figure. It is a commodious slate frame roof building of modern design.

The damage is practically covered by insurance, it was said.

COURT PUTS BAN ON A STAR CHAMBER HEARING

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 14.—The New York Court of Appeals will hear the appeal today of Vincenzo Campiello Oscar Vogt and Gregorio Jordane the three Brooklyn murderers. Special interest is attached to today's hearing as District Attorney Cropsey last month asked for affirmative judgment of conviction by default, alleging dilatory tactics on the part of the defendants' counsel. This the court refuses to do.

STYLES IS DUE FOR A SURPRISE

Mandan, N. D., Dec. 14.—When F. L. Styles and family, en route in a house-boat from Mandan to Miami Flava, a distance of 4,000 miles, arrive at their destination there may be a crowd to meet them. There may be a band. There may be cheering and there may be jollification. But among other things there will be an officer of the law, to collect bills it is alleged Styles forgot to pay before leaving Mandan.

HUSON IS SPEAKER AT AGRICULTURAL CONVENTION

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 15.—State Agricultural Commissioner Huson will be one of the principal speakers during the three-day joint convention of the New York State Dairymen's and Breeders' Associations, which opens today. Commissioner Huson is president of the former organization

WEATHER MAN'S "JUDGMENT" POOR THINK MAJORITY

Not as Cold by Two Degrees On A Previous Day of This Winter

COLD WEATHER GENERAL

Local Official Thermometer Recorded 21, But Early Risers Thought It Lower. Florida Fruit Crop In Danger, It Is Feared

(By the United Press)

According to Observer H. C. V. Peebles, the thermometers of the government here dropped to twenty-one this morning. This, although it would be scoffed at if any one else than "Judge" Peebles had told it, was two degrees higher than the season's minimum. Several weeks ago the mercury tumbled to 19.

Several cold days had preceded the present drop. For that reason, the ice formed hard and thick this morning. On previous cold days, Observer Peebles states, usually because they came with sudden weather changes, the ice was not noticeably thick. The ice had much to do with the general impression held by early risers today that the weather was much colder than any before this winter.

The cold spell seems to be general all over the country. The Florida orange crop was threatened last night by temperature which was predicted to range around 26.

Montana, Minnesota and the Dakotas Monday had weather severer than any so far this season. At points the mercury dropped to sixteen below zero.

Zero weather is being experienced today in Pennsylvania. In that State and West Virginia the country is covered with snow for six inches to a foot and a half deep.

Rising temperatures are expected to follow in a few hours.

SUPERIOR COURT MADE FAIR PROGRESS MONDAY

Indications Are That Docket Will Be Closed By Ends of Term—Cases First Day Mostly Drew Small Fines.

Superior Court is making fair progress in the disposal of the 211 cases which confronted the court when it convened for the December criminal session Monday morning.

In the court Monday Oscar Edwards was fined \$25 for carrying a concealed weapon, Jim Holloway was fined \$15 for the same offense, Jake Farmer was fined \$10 for assault and battery, Henry Satterthwaite was fined \$15 for carrying a concealed weapon, the costs to accrue to the defendants in all of the above cases; Isaac Sutton was sentenced to six months on the roads for assault with a deadly weapon, and Augustus Washington, for larceny, was ordered hired out for a year. Sutton, colored, shot a brother near Grainger on November 26, while they and two other brothers were "frollicking" on a road. He was sentenced for reckless use of a firearm. Washington, colored, is only thirteen years of age.

At the rate of progress now being made, the court will clear off about all of the docket by Saturday night, when the term expires by limitation, it is believed.

One of the largest crowds to attend a court this year—witnesses principally—was congregated in the Courthouse Monday and repeated today.

CORCORAN GALLERY EXHIBIT AGAIN

(By the United Press) Washington, Dec. 15.—Hundreds of visitors today flocked to the Corcoran Art Gallery to view the opening of its fifth biennial exhibition. This institution, Washington's most notable art institution, has had about 200,000 guests at its four special exhibits thus far, but the number of sightseers throughout the year amounts to far above that number.