

FRENCH, UNDER PAU, PRESS FORWARD TO SUBSTANTIAL GAIN

Veteran General Leads Columns on Advance to Important Victory

ALL SIDES CLAIM GAINS

Austrians Avoid Encounter With Russians—Czar's Men Advance—Germans Progress Along Vistula—Gain in Alsace Questioned

(By the United Press.) London, Dec. 29.—French columns, under General Pau, are pressing forward, advices from Paris say, on the verge of a substantial triumph. The belief is that the British fleet is about to strike again.

Progress of Allies in West. Paris, Dec. 29.—The Allies have made gains of more than two miles in Belgium. Violent bombardment by the Germans of Allied positions along the main road from Roys to Amiens impeded progress. The Allies recaptured lost trenches after violent charges and counter charges. There have been substantial gains in the Alsace district, despite snow and mud. The fighting is on with renewed ferocity at many points. The French gained an important victory in the vicinity of Neuport. Von Kluck's artillery is now shelling the Allied trenches.

Austrians Claim to Hold Own. Vienna, Dec. 29.—An official statement by the Austrian government says that north of the Dukla Pass the Austrians have avoided carefully planned Russian attacks, and maintained their original positions. In the neighborhood of the Carpathian ridge and the plain between the Bzura and Donajec rivers the Russians delivered a series of attacks, but were repulsed.

Petrograd Boasts of Advance. Petrograd, Dec. 29.—Complete failure has followed the Germans' attempt to check the Russian advance, and the German-Austrian offensive has been turned into a very stubborn defense against the Russians, pressing wedges into the dual line along the Bzura river. A Russian army of a hundred thousand men is trying to drive a wedge between the two main Austrian armies.

Weather a Hindrance in East. Berlin, Dec. 29.—The Germans advance along the lower Vistula. Fighting is in progress southeast of Spier-niswice and between the Pilltca and Upper Vistula. The weather is a great menace to the general advance. In Alsace, the French continue their efforts to advance upon Mulhausen without success. French attacks upon Arras and in the vicinity of Verdun have been driven back with enormous losses.

The Fortunes of German Arms. Berlin, Dec. 29.—In the vicinity of Neuport and east of Ypres the Germans have gained ground. Northeast of St. Mouthold a determined French attack was repulsed and 200 prisoners taken. In the forest of Broule, west of Apremont, the Germans captured a trench and three machine guns. A French attack on Senneheim was repulsed. German attacks against Bzura and Rajka are progressing slowly. South of Inow and Lodz a strong Russian attack has been repulsed.

HORS ERAN AWAY, BUT CHANGED ITS MIND.

The need for regulation requiring hitching posts was again evidenced this morning, when, as a band started to play at the corner of Queen and abd Caswell streets, a horse hitched to a Hotel Tall dray ran off up Caswell street at a panicky gait. The horse, at a safe distance from the "horrible" racket, decided to slack up, calmly pulled up at the curb a block and a half from the hotel, and waited for the driver back.

WESTERN UNION MANAGER IS STILL SICK

Dudley R. Smith, manager of the Western Union telegraph office, continues ill at his home on McLewann street.

INVESTIGATION AT FORT ERIE WEDNESDAY

Militiamen Were Only Trying to Frighten American Duck Hunters They Killed and Injured, They Say—One Will Recover.

(By the United Press.) Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 29.—The Canadian militiamen who yesterday killed one American duck hunter and seriously wounded another on Lake Erie today declared they were simply trying to frighten them, and did not aim to hit the men. The injured man will probably recover. The Canadian authorities have ordered an investigation to be held at Fort Erie tomorrow.

SHIP JAP'S ASHES BY PARCEL POST

Boston, Mass., Dec. 28.—The parcel post was called on today to convey the ashes of Teijino Hasengawa, a Japanese artist, to Tokio, Japan. The package was accepted and started on its way after \$1.10 in stamps had been attached.

NIGHT SCHOOL PLANNED FOR WAR—CHASED ALIENS

Brainerd, Minn., Dec. 29.—So numerous have illiterate foreigners become since the outbreak of the war, forced most foreigners from Canada, that the school board is considering night schools to teach them.

STREET CAR COMPANY IS GOOD TO CHILDREN

Washington, Dec. 29.—Twenty-five hundred children of employees of a local street railway will be guests tonight of the company at a Christmas festival. The company will supply free transportation and have a Christmas tree with gifts for every child.

GEORGIA MILITIA TO "REPEL INVASION."

Hartwell, Ga., Dec. 28.—Governor Slaton tonight was asked by Mayor Thornton to send State militia here to protect negro prisoners in the county jail from possible mob violence.

Reports received here indicate that a mob was forming across the State boundary in Oconee county, South Carolina, to lynch a negro who was placed in jail here after a recent stabbing affray with a white man in Oconee county. The negro was badly wounded in the fight tonight, but this was not known by the public.

COTTON MARKET A FICKLE THING NOW

New York, Dec. 24.—In spite of considerable opposition by many professional interests and without buying enthusiasm in any direction, cotton advanced very sharply this week. It was not until May contracts reached nearly eight cents that sufficient selling resulted to halt the persistent daily advance. As we pointed out last week, buying by Continental and Western interests has been the main impulse back of this strength. The buying of October has been on a scale that attracted general attention. These contracts will hardly be resold and the net result of such steady buying is a sort of congestion that will require more hedge selling to relieve. Thus far the South has not sold very many hedges. Prices have not been attractive, then too the contract requirements are so drastic that holders of spots seem more inclined to run the chance of selling actual cotton later on, rather than hedge with an untried contract, which is a buyer's contract, at least it may easily turn out to be one, as it will require a class of deliveries not readily met. From the standpoint of the speculative buyer, however, this makes the situation very favorable. It means that whenever prices decline there will be a buying power of decided importance.

As a result of recent activity, fluctuations are now on a more extended scale, and the cotton market presents a most interesting field in its uncertainty. October over eight and a quarter cents will attract selling on every advance, yet the fact that cotton is below the cost of production will bring in the buyers on every break.

BANKS TO CLOSE FRIDAY

The banks of the city will be closed on Friday, it being New Year's Day and a legal holiday.

PRESIDENT WISHES A GENERAL AMNESTY GRANTED IN MEXICO

Puts Off Naming the Trade Commission Until Next Week—Uprising Will Not Hinder Philippine Independence

(By the United Press.) Washington, Dec. 29.—The President today asked the Mexican factions to declare a general amnesty.

The President deferred naming the trade commission until next week.

He declared the Philippine uprisings will not kill the Philippine independence bill.

Another general cold wave is forecast. Congress reconvened today as scheduled.

America Acts on Own Account

The Battleship Rhode Island now at Vera Cruz, has been detailed to New Orleans to participate in the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the battle of New Orleans.

That America acts on her own account is deduced from the President's declaration that the recent gathering of representatives of Pan-American countries here to discuss violation of their neutrality by combatant European powers, had no bearing on this nation's note to England.

Fighting at Tampico. Mobile, Ala., Dec. 29.—The oil field at Tampico is the scene of a violent battle between Mexican armies which is endangering the property of Americans and other foreigners.

U. S. CONSULS TO BELGIUM TO GET GERMAN APPROVAL

Germany May Ask America to Recognize Her Right to Annex Belgium and Withdraw Those Representatives Persona Non Grata to Her.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 29.—Germany has notified the American State Department that American consuls in Belgium must be acceptable to the German military authorities, it was learned today. The notification also said it was desirable that some of the American consuls in Belgium be withdrawn for the present at least.

Secretary Bryan declined to make public the text of the German communication or to comment upon it until he had had full opportunity to consider it. The understanding in official circles, however, is that the notice is similar to the one sent Argentina and other neutral countries, and that, while the German government does not insist that consuls in Belgium take out new exequators from German officials, it announces that such consuls must exercise their functions only by permission from the military authorities in control of the territory in which the consulate is situated.

COLORADO TEACHERS TO BECOME CLIMATE SHARPS

Greeley, Colo., Dec. 29.—One of the few courses in "climatology" offered in the United States will be established soon at the Colorado State Teachers college by Prof. Geo. A. Barker, head of the department of geography.

Prof. Barker believes the ordinary course in meteorology, which deals only with weather phenomena and the instruments for recording them, falls short of the facts desired by health seekers, home hunters and students. He hopes to impart to students the principles of studying climatic conditions, as opposed to weather conditions.

REJECTED SUITOR MURDERS LITTLE GIRL

(By the United Press.) Millville, N. J., Dec. 29.—John Horn, the rejected suitor of six-year-old Beatrice Bailey's aunt, today shot by mistake and killed the little girl.

Evan Hughes, Horn's rival for the hand of Miss Pettie, was seated at a table, and was probably the intended victim. Horn fled after the shooting. Beatrice Bailey professed her willingness to assist the police in every way before expiring.

GALIENI IN NEW UNIFORM



General Gallieni, military governor of Paris, wearing the new uniform adopted by the French army. It is modeled on English lines and is of a blue-gray tint.

ELDERLY ADVISER SAYS PROSPERITY IS SURE TO COME

Patience and Better Provision for Food Crop Urged by Man of Experience—Prof. Kinsey Overhears Optimistic Counsel

"When I boarded a train last night for LaGrange, I took a seat near two young men who were talking earnestly about the low price of cotton and their inability to meet bills for fertilizers and store accounts," said Professor Joseph Kinsey, superintendent of the county schools, this morning.

"After exhausting their vocabularies over their complaints one of them turned to an elderly gentleman on the next seat and said: 'Old friend, what is the remedy for this bad condition?'"

"The old man, who had been an attentive listener, replied in substance as follows: 'Young men, patience is the remedy. You doubtless have observed that this crop of cotton is very large, and those people across the ocean who usually buy at least one-half of the crop in the United States are now fighting and not taking any. This crop and the war will teach our people this lesson: That every farmer should arrange to make his own supplies and not look to the other fellow. Our country is very fortunate in having a level-headed President, who has kept the United States out of a wrangle with Mexico. Before the war can close and Europe can adjust its affairs, the United States will get the South American trade coming this way through the Panama canal and our country will have the greatest period of prosperity it has ever known. Already the papers say very large orders for our manufactured goods have been placed in this country, and all the money in the world will soon be in the United States. It is believed by many that this war will bring to the world a broader field for democratic government, and all Europe will be one great democracy, electing one President, instead of the crowned heads transmitting the rulership of their kingdom to their heirs, and the change will see Turkey out of Europe. Now, young men, be patient. Sell enough of your cotton to ease your creditors. Shelter the balance, plant grain for man and beast, and have meat and bread to sell the starving Europeans. Some good must come out of this war, though we cannot see it. He then repeated the following stanzas of a little poem I happened to know:

MOUNTAIN GUIDE COMMITS SUICIDE.

Asheville, Dec. 28.—Otis B. Candler, a well-known mountain guide, grasping revolvers in both hands, today ended his life near here by firing a bullet into his left temple. Although he left no message, it is thought he committed suicide in a fit of melancholia brought on by poor health. He is survived by a wife and three children.

MORE COLD WEATHER HEADING SOUTHWARD.

Washington, Dec. 28.—A flareback from the cold wave that passed today was sweeping the Southland tonight through Illinois, the Great Lakes States and the Ohio Valley to the Atlantic coast. It is expected to drive temperature down along the coast by Wednesday.

WILL ATTEMPT TO REGULATE DRINK

Californians Propose Sweeping Reforms in Distribution of Intoxicating Liquors, Although State Voted Down Prohibition Only Last Month—Legislative Reform

THE SUPREMACY OF EAST CAROLINA IN THINGS POLITICAL

Will Be Undisputed When Kitchin is Chosen House Leader; Wooten Speaker of State House and Simmons Retains His Place

"It will be unanimous," said E. B. Lewis, private secretary to Congressman Claud Kitchin, referring to the coming selection of the representative from this district to be floor leader of the Democrats in the next House of Representatives, this morning. There is absolutely no opposition announced to Mr. Kitchin, all other aspirants having been squelched some time ago.

Unless there should be an extra session between March 4 and December, in which case the new House would have to be organized, it will be nearly twelve months yet before Congressman Kitchin is chosen to succeed Leader Underwood, who after March 4 will become Senator instead of Representative Underwood.

With the Senator from the east at the head of the party in the Senate, the Representative from the Second district in a similar capacity in the House, and Lenoir county's representative in the speaker's chair of the State House of Representatives, Lenoir county, the district and the section will be, as a whole, the most favored region in the country politically.

WILL ATTEMPT TO REGULATE DRINK

San Francisco, Dec. 29.—Confident that the hour has struck for sweeping reforms in the retail distribution of intoxicating liquors in California, the California Grape Protective Association, through Attorney Theodore Bell, has announced its intentions to take the initiative in a legislative reform program. This is done despite the fact that California voters overwhelmingly defeated a proposed prohibition amendment to the State constitution in the November 3 elections. The legislative program which the association hopes to put through is as follows:

County option, except in cities having 5,000 or more inhabitants; in licensed territory, not more than one saloon for each 1,000 inhabitants or major fraction thereof, exclusive of table licenses for hotels and restaurants; separate licenses to sell malt and fermented liquors, as distinguished from distilled liquors, no saloon license to be issued to an individual, but only to property, under heavy bond, to be responsible for the faithful observance of the law, unlawful for any wine maker, brewer, distiller or wholesaler to have any pecuniary interest in a saloon, midnight and Sunday closing; anti-treat law; drastic laws concerning the sale of intoxicating liquor to minors, women or to persons in an intoxicated or partially intoxicated condition; such limitations and restrictions respecting the granting of licenses in license territory as will forever eliminate dives and dead-falls.

Madison, Wis., Dec. 29.—Military drills are compulsory at the University of Wisconsin. Nevertheless, there is a body of students who don't drill. They are Quakers, and in addition to defying the commandment they meet in the Y. M. C. A. building every Sunday and discuss the advancement of peace ideals. The young Quakers and the officials of the University have not yet settled their differences in this respect.

BRUMBAUGH SPEAKS TO PENN. TEACHERS

Harrisburgh, Pa., Dec. 29.—With educators from all parts of Pennsylvania in attendance, the State Educational Association opened a three days' convention here today. Governor-elect Martin G. Brumbaugh, a Philadelphia, was one of the principal speakers at the opening session. "Standards in education; Matera Phase," was the subject of discussion at both sessions today. The meeting were held in the Technical High School building.

TO GIVE AWAY BIBLES TO SEAMEN AT CANAL

New York, Dec. 28.—Every sailor passing through the Panama Canal will be given a Bible, James Wood president of the American Bible Society, announced here tonight. Col. George W. Goethals, Governor of the Canal Zone, has selected a place on the Pacific side as a Bible distributing station.

BLEASE RUNS UP HIS SCORE SOME

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 28.—Forty four State prisoners, including ten serving life sentences for murder were granted clemency today by Governor Blease, making the total number liberated by him in the last four years 1,488.

COURT OFFICIALS MAKE READY FOR NEXT WEEK

Uncertainty As to Judge Peebles' Attitude With Reference to Annulment and Shortness of Time Make Playing on Safe Side Necessary.

Uncertainty exists at the Court-house if Judge R. B. Peebles will grant the Bar Association's request that the January civil term of Superior Court be annulled. The clerk and sheriff are preparing to go ahead with the preliminaries to be on the safe side, as but four more days remain before the term is scheduled to be convened.

Other reasons than that local lawyers wish to go to Raleigh next week in the interest of Representative Wooten's candidacy for the speakership, and more material ones, have been advanced with the request that the Judge pass up the term. Besides the fact that all of Lenoir county is interested in seeing Mr. Wooten head the House of Representatives of the Legislature, it is pointed out that the attorneys have much private business ahead of them, such as renewing papers for their clients, of which there is an unusual lot to be attended to, etc. There are no cases that could not be conveniently left over for the March term, it is said.

Since a separate criminal term will be held later in January, anyway, and the civil court was supposed to try no criminal matters at all, the criminal docket would be in no way affected by the annulment.

INDOOR ATHLETES TO HOLD BIG MEET

New York, Dec. 29.—With a large entry list, the junior national track and field championships to be contested in the 13th Regiment armory, Brooklyn, tonight, promises to be the most successful in recent years.

This interesting indoor event was won last year by the New York A. C. with 25 points with the Irish-Americans second with 16 points. No less than 17 different clubs and colleges figured in the final score.

TO INVESTIGATE SHOOTING BY SOLDIERS

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 28.—Major General Sam Hughes, Canadian Minister of Militia, has ordered an immediate inquiry into the shooting of two American duck hunters at Fore Erie by Canadian guards.

"I greatly regret the occurrence and will have a thorough investigation made," said General Hughes to day.

QUAKER COLLEGIANS REFUSE TO DRILL

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PAROLED GIRLS MAKE GOOD WIVES

Sauk Center, Minn., Dec. 29.—Marriage is depleting the population of the Sauk Center Home school girls, according to Ralph W. Wheelock of the state board of control today. "We average one marriage a month from the home," he says. "Most of the girls when paroled are sent to good homes and there they become good housekeepers. After they are married, these former state charges almost always make good wives," he concluded.

GOVERNMENT TO PRINT A DAILY NEWSPAPER

Washington, D. C., Dec. 28.—To promote the foreign commerce of the United States the government will go into the newspaper business January 1, next, when the first number of "The Daily Commercial Report" will be issued by the Department of Commerce. It will be carried all important commercial cablegrams received from the attaches at the various embassies abroad and from consular offices throughout the world.

DEFINE ATTITUDE OR UNITED STATES WILL TAKE ACTION

Indignation Aroused in This Country Over Conduct of the British

Either England Must Make Known Policy Toward This Country or Steps Will Be Taken to Protect Rights of Americans

(By the United Press.)

Washington, Dec. 29.—Prompt and generous response is expected from the government's note to Great Britain complaining of British interference with United States commerce.

The United States wishes England's attitude and policy toward this country to be defined or will take steps by congressional enactment or an executive proclamation to protect American rights, it is said.

The United States today dispatched a long note to Great Britain insisting on an early improvement in the treatment of American commerce by British fleets. It warned England that much feeling had been aroused in this country and that public criticism was general over unwarranted interference with the legitimate foreign trade of the United States.

The document constituted the strongest representation on the subject by the United States to any of the belligerents.

Since France has adopted virtually the same decrees on contraband as has Great Britain today's note is a statement intended for all members of the Triple Entente.

North Carolina Did Not Threaten to Shell Turkish Port.

President Wilson states that America intends, after the war to hold England to a strict monetary account for the violation of the rights of American shipping.

Captain Oman of the cruiser North Carolina, off Beirut, today cabled a denial that the cruiser threatened to bombard Tripoli, Syria. The Russian cruiser Askold, on December 25, threatened to bombard the village of Banias, and this probably gave rise to the rumor.

Mann Attacks Shipping Policy.

Republican Leader Mann bitterly attacked the administration's British shipping policy in a speech to the House.

WEALTHY MAN AND FAMILY BURNED TO DEATH IN DWELLING

Winterhaven, Fla., Dec. 28.—Harry Alvey, a retired capitalist of Baltimore, his wife and three small children lost their lives when their winter home, near here, was burned early today. The charred bodies of the victims were found together in the ruins of what had been the children's room. The origin of the fire has not been determined.

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