

FRENCH COMPELLED TO EVACUATE FIVE MILES OF TRENCHES

Germans Pour Heavy Fire Into Positions Impossible Withstand

KAISER AT SOISSONS NOW

Allies Being Reinforced—Russian Attacks Along Nida Ceased—Austrians Stave Off Every Attempt Upon Positions Sought

(By United Press)

New York, Jan. 15.—The Germans in the midst of their success are driving the French across the Aisne east of Soissons. They have earned the most important victory for either side this winter. The allies fear a new drive on Paris.

Paris, Jan. 15.—The Germans have driven the French from five miles of trenches north of the Aisne and east of Soissons. The Germans have mounted heavy artillery and captured trenches by pouring a heavy fire into the French lines. The Kaiser is at Soissons. The French lines are being heavily reinforced.

Austrians Repel Attackers.

Vienna, Jan. 15.—Russian attacks along the Nida have been suspended. All Russian attempts to take Austrian positions have been repulsed with very heavy losses.

French Make Slight Gains.

Paris, Jan. 15.—North of Arras heavy fighting continues. French Zouaves today took a line of German positions following a series of bayonet charges. From the sea to Lys severe cannonading continues, with the French progressing slowly in the vicinity of Lombaertzyde and Beclaire.

German Pontoons Demolished.

Paris, Jan. 15.—Progress by the Allies in the vicinity of St. Mihiel continues. Pontoon bridges had been thrown across the Meuse in that vicinity by the Germans, but these were promptly demolished by the French artillery.

Allies Start New Move Along Yser.

Paris, Jan. 15.—The Allies have started a new drive toward the German positions along the Yser north of Lombartzyde and Nieuport. The land batteries are being aided by monitors and torpedo boats. The Germans fortified positions around Westend, have been badly damaged. German aviators tried to drop bombs on the warships, but did no damage. No word has been received from the operations in upper Alsace, where it is rumored that a great German victory has occurred.

Von Hindenburg's Task Hopeless.

Petrograd, Jan. 15.—The Russians' drive toward the German lines in east Prussia is increasing in proportions. The entire Russian left wing is forcing the Germans back upon their own frontier. Von Hindenburg, convinced that the Russian defense of Warsaw is unbreakable, is planning to send a part of his forces to France, where the Germans are now essaying the offensive. The weather has checked the offensive operations in the Carpathians and Caucasus.

KAISER WITNESSED BATTLE NEAR SOISSONS.

Berlin, Jan. 14. (By Wireless to London).—Emperor William was present in person during the spirited battle on the Vregny plain, northeast of Soissons, which resulted yesterday in that elevated ground being cleared of the French and which is described in the German official statement today as a "brilliant feat for our troops." In the engagement the Germans claimed to have captured fourteen of the French officers and 1,150 men.

PHILADELPHIA HAS NO FLOOD FEARS NOW

(By United Press)

Philadelphia, Jan. 15.—All danger of the overflowing of the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers is today abated.

CHILD LABOR LAW BILL INTRODUCED IN SENATE TODAY

Senator Weaver Would Prohibit All Children Under Fourteen Years of Age From Being Employed in Factories

(By W. J. Martin)

Raleigh, Jan. 15.—Senator Weaver today introduced a bill in the Legislature to prevent the employment of children under fourteen years of age in factories, or employment of any sort for them during the school periods. The bill would prevent employment for all under sixteen on Sunday.

A joint session heard President Alderman of the University of Virginia, in a speech in which he expressed great pride in the progress of the State of North Carolina.

OHIO AUTO SHOW HAS WOMEN DEMONSTRATORS

Cleveland, O., Jan. 15.—Women automobile demonstrators made their first appearance in Cleveland at the annual show which opened here today. The women drove and demonstrated cars for prospective women purchasers.

Nearly every brand of car made in the United States was on exhibit. Local dealers blamed the European war for the almost total absence of foreign exhibits.

AGED FARMER LOSES LIFE IN BURNING BARN

Salisbury, Jan. 14.—Miles Holsinger, an eighty-year-old farmer, lost his life in a fire which he probably started at his place in Morgan township, at 4 o'clock this morning. Mr. Holsinger occasionally slept in the barn. This morning the barn burned and the trunk of Mr. Holsinger's body was found in the ruins.

MANY SALESMEN WANT THIS FAT \$5,000 JOB

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 16.—Traveling men of the Middle West meet here tomorrow to attend the annual meeting of the Iowa State Traveling Men's Association and take part in the election of new officers and directors.

FLOUR GOES UP 24C SACK IN LIVERPOOL

(By the United Press)

Liverpool, Jan. 15.—Following the advance of wheat in Chicago to \$1.44 a bushel, flour advanced 24 cents on the sack in Liverpool today.

Housewives Appeal to Wilson.

New York, Jan. 15.—President Wilson was urged today by Mrs. Heath, president of the National Housewives' League, to take drastic measures at once to prevent the further advance of the price of flour.

PERSONAL REASONS CAUSED VON BERTCHOLD TO RESIGN

Washington, Jan. 14.—Announcement of the resignation of Count von Berchtold as Austro-Hungarian minister for foreign affairs reached the embassy here today from Vienna. Important personal reasons were said to have caused his withdrawal. Embassy officials said the appointment of Baron Burian as foreign minister would not imply a change of policy.

It was stated at the embassy that Count von Berchtold for some time had desired to withdraw from active political life, and it was only because his predecessor, Count Aehrenthal, requested him to do so that he accepted the office in the first place. He has been in bad health for some time. Baron Burian was described as a man of great energy and of similar political views as the retiring minister.

WESTERN GOLFERS TO HOLD AN IMPORTANT MEETING.

Chicago, Jan. 15.—Golfers from the leading clubs of the Middle West will arrive here tomorrow to participate in the annual meeting Saturday night of the Western Golf Association. Election of officers and assignments of tournaments for the coming season will follow the annual banquet.

George R. Balch of the Cincinnati Golf Club, is the only nominee for president, and will be elected.

MEAT INSPECTOR STOPS SALE OF BAD PORK FROM ONSLOW

Two Pigs Brought to Local Market From Adjoining County Showed Tuberculosis Affection, But Condemned Before Retailed

"Doc" Foley, city veterinarian, this morning peered into the carcass of a 75-pound pig in a local market, probed around for a minute and said something to the effect of "Take it away." E. G. Hargett, a representative of the State Department of Agriculture, here assisting Dr. Foley in administering the tuberculosis test to dairy cows, chimed in with "That's the worst I ever saw."

"Who's responsible?" however, was another matter. Dr. Foley is as considerate as he is thorough, and the man who brought the carcass and a "companion piece" here from a point in Onslow county, twenty-eight miles distant possibly, never saw a tuberculosis germ before. Prosecution was withheld, but the two dangerous things were ordered removed. Those around the meat shop had never seen tuberculosis to recognize it before, either. The proprietor, with proper spirit, seemed to be pleased that the lurking colony of mean little death-dealers had been discovered. The wisdom of meat and milk inspection was borne out by this single incident.

The two slaughtered pigs were apparently healthy to the unknowing eye. They had been prepared for market with skill and care as to cleanliness. But around the portion where the kidneys had lain the veterinarians scraped up a lot of white, cheese-like stuff. It was in great quantity. Several of those looking on admitted they had seen it before. "Well, that's rotten with 'em," the city and the State animal experts concurred, referring to the millions of invisible microbes that had attacked the porkers in the Onslow low grounds.

BIG MAN-OF-WAR SUFFERED IN GALE

Newport News, Va., Jan. 14.—Encountering a terrific gale, which, it is said, reached the velocity of over sixty miles an hour, about thirty miles off Cape Hatteras, while on a speed run from Philadelphia to Hampton Roads, the dreadnought Kansas Tuesday night suffered damages to the extent of \$20,000 to \$30,000. Huge breakers swept over the bow of the big sea fighter and for seven hours she was in danger of foundering.

The Kansas limped into Hampton Roads tonight, and men who came ashore declared the storm was the worst they have ever experienced.

CLAIMS DIAMONDS WERE QUEEN OF SHEBA'S.

New York, Jan. 14.—Treasury officials today seized from A. Anpikadjian, a resident of Constantinople, two egg-shaped diamonds of more than 18 carats each, which they said he had failed to declare to customs officials when he arrived here October 19, and which he was trying to sell. Anpikadjian declared the diamonds were artistic antiques, free from duty, but that he had shown them to the customs officers and they had passed them.

Anpikadjian said he had purchased the diamonds in the jewelry market at Constantinople from an Egyptian princess, who declared they had been in her family for centuries, and had been worn at one time by Queen of Sheba.

WOODEN OR STEEL CARS UP TO P. S. COMMISSION

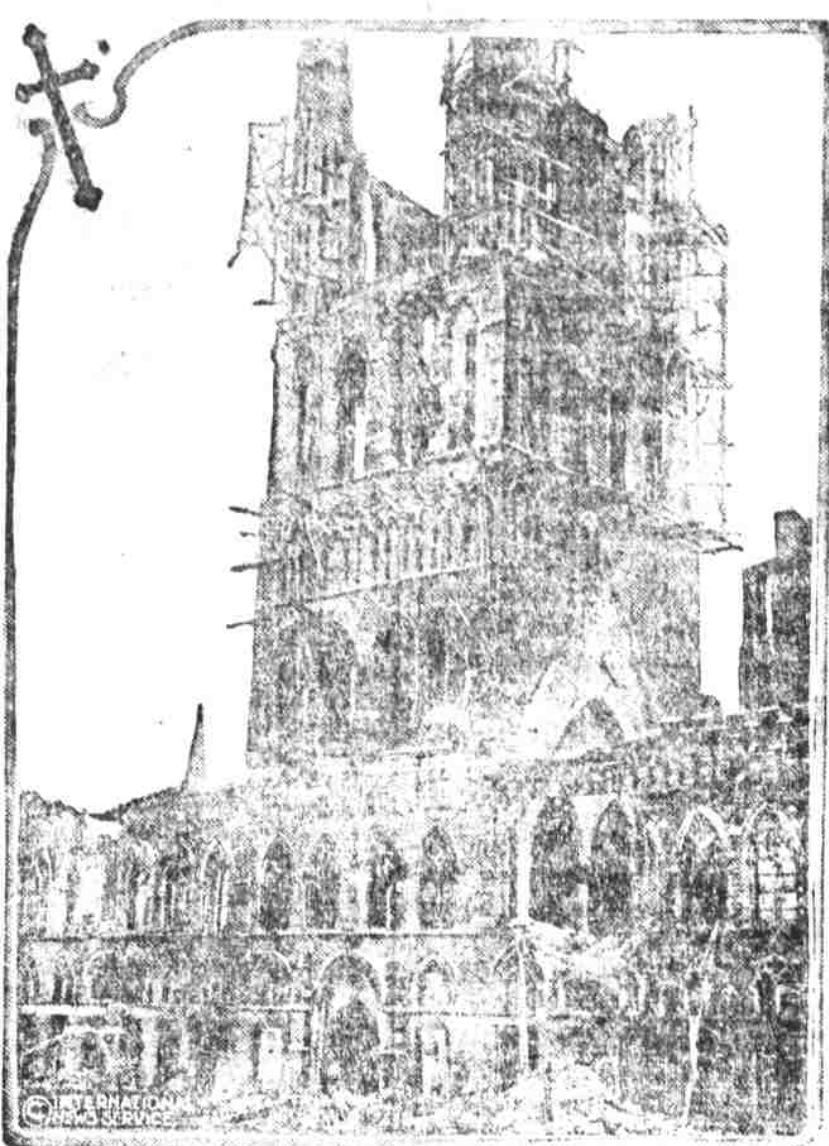
New York, Jan. 15.—Whether or not the subway management shall change entirely to steel cars will be discussed today at the meeting of the Public Service Commission. To change from wooden to steel cars would cause the Interborough to spend \$4,000,000.

THREE PERISH IN TENEMENT BLAZE

(By United Press)

New York, Jan. 15.—Two children and one man perished in a fire in a five-story tenement today. Firemen made a score of thrilling rescues.

YPRES CLOTH HALL IN RUINS



Repeated bombardments of Ypres have resulted in the virtual destruction of the ancient and beautiful Cloth Hall.

NO AMERICANS ARE AMONG THE VICTIMS

Ambassador Page at Rome, Estimates Earthquake's Victims at 12,000 to 15,000—Italy Refuses to Accept Aid

(By the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 15.—Ambassador Page at Rome today called the State Department that he estimated the number killed by the earthquake at from twelve to fifteen thousand, and the seriously injured about as many more. Mr. Page says Italy has refused aid from other countries. No Americans are reported dead or injured.

HOBSON GIVEN GREAT RECEPTION IN RALEIGH

Address Before Anti-Saloon League Said to Have Been the Finest Ever Heard in Capital City. Enthusiasm Prevailed.

Raleigh, Jan. 15.—His auditors in the First Baptist church here last night almost roared with applause when Mr. Hobson, representative in Congress from Alabama, at the conclusion of his speech which was the closing feature of the convention of the North Carolina Anti-Saloon League. Hardly had the last words escaped the congressman's lips before his delighted hearers swarmed about him, all bent upon seizing his hand.

Mr. Hobson's address, it is said by scores, who heard him, was the finest speech in the cause of prohibition ever delivered here. "I may be politically dead, but I'd rather enter this great fight to cut the millstone of liquor from the neck of the American people than be ten times President of the United States," he declared with vehemence. "I would be unworthy of the North Carolina flag that flies in my veins were I afraid of this death," was a passionate statement that brought the great prohibition champion nearer and dearer to the hearts of those who heard him.

GARDNER TO GET THE INFORMATION WANTED.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Representative Gardner's resolution calling upon the secretary of war for information about the strength of coast defenses was passed today by the House.

It inquires whether there are mounted anywhere in the coast fortifications any guns of greater than 12-inch caliber; whether the range of the 12-inch gun is more than 13,000 yards; whether British dreadnoughts of the Queen Elizabeth type, do not carry 13-inch, 45-caliber guns, with a range of 21,000 yards; and whether that range does not exceed by more than four miles the range of any guns in the coast defense of continental United States.

BRADSTREET'S REPORTS MORE ENCOURAGING

Increased Sales of Horses, Flour and Other War Supplies—Better Collections and Lower Discount Rate Proving Beneficial.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 15.—No potent change is noticeable in business conditions. An increased number of travelers are out with samples following the holidays, and in some lines the volume of sales shows an increase. Groceries and provisions are in fair demand. Large shipments of horses are being made to European countries at war, and orders for flour and heavy harness from the same source are being executed. Dry goods and sheet continue quiet. The same may be said of lumber and building materials. Tobacco is being marketed in fair volume, but prices continue to lag. Retail trade has been stimulated by reasonable weather and collections show some improvement. The lowering of the discount rate by the Federal Reserve Bank has had a wholesome effect on the financial situation. The number of unemployed is not increased, rather to the contrary.

EAST MOTOR BOATS TO FEATURE MIAMI FETE

(By United Press)

Miami, Fla., Jan. 15. The speediest motor boat races ever held, and a picturesque marine carnival were in progress before the conclusion of the celebration of the Marine Knights of the Empire, which opened here today, and which will continue until next Wednesday.

Carl Fisher, of Indianapolis and for the motor boat races, which will probably be held on Tuesday and Wednesday. Some of the fastest motor boats in the world have been entered for the races, and new records are promised.

RAILROADS SUBMIT BLOCK SYSTEM DATA

(By the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 15.—Today is the last day for all American railroads to submit to the Interstate Commerce Commission complete, detailed information regarding their block signal systems. The Commission has ordered the railroads to file this information for use in its physical valuation work. It will give, for the first time, accurate information of the exact mileage of block signal safety apparatus in operation and under construction. The information will also be used by Congress in connection with the safety appliance and compulsory block signal laws under consideration there.

CHAIRMAN BOARD IS NON-COMMITTAL ON BOND QUESTION

But Admits That Twenty Years or More Will Be Required to Get Good Roads Unless Bonds Are Provided For

Chairman R. E. Churchill of the Board of County Commissioners this morning stated that he has not been requested to call a special meeting of the board to discuss the \$250,000 bond issue proposed by the Chamber of Commerce for road improvements in the county. He thinks that if it is thrashed out by the board it will be at the next regular meeting, on February 1. It is supposed that if the Board of Directors of the Chamber and the commissioners meet in joint session, the latter as the guests of the former, as has been suggested, it will be in plenty of time to get a bill before the present term of the Legislature for the bond election should the joint meeting so decide.

Mr. Churchill would not say about what action he thinks the Board of Commissioners will take, since he has not canvassed the opinions of the other members; nor did he say how he would accept the proposition in full meeting. He declared, however, that his belief is that if Lenoir county is going to have a thoroughly up-to-date system of highways "soon" the bond issue is the only way to accomplish it.

"At the present rate of construction and under the same methods, we might have a complete modern system in about twenty years," the chairman stated. He would not discuss the weight of an issue of a quarter million dollars on the county no other phases of the matter, intimating that he would rather go over the proposition with his colleagues first.

The Chamber of Commerce good roads leaders believe the quarter of a million issue could be borne by the county, with no present bonded indebtedness, with practically no increase in the tax rate. Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, they say, would not be a heavy burden, although that sum has only been roughly estimated as adequate for building an entire modern system.

KAISER'S NEPHEW WEDS AMERICAN

(By the United Press)

Berlin, Jan. 15.—Prince Christian of Hesse, nephew of the Kaiser and a captain in the German navy today was married to Miss Elizabeth Rogers of Washington. They left on a short honeymoon trip, and the Prince will join his ship.

NO INDICTMENTS OF ALABAMA LYNCHERS

Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 14.—The special grand jury impaneled at the order of Governor O'Neal to investigate the lynching two weeks ago of Ed and Will Smith, negroes, by a mob near Wetumpka adjourned today with the report "no evidence which would warrant indictments."

NEW RAILROAD STATION FOR LOS ANGELES OPEN

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 15.—Replacing the Arcade Depot, which dates almost from the public days of Los Angeles, the new half million dollar Southern Pacific station was opened formally here today.

AMERICAN RED CROSS TO ASSIST ITALIANS

Washington, Jan. 14.—The American Red Cross tonight issued an appeal for funds to aid those rendered destitute by the earthquake in Italy. The organization announced it would be glad to transmit relief contributions to the Italian Red Cross.

VIRGINIAN SUICIDES IN NORTHERN CITY

(By the United Press)

Utica, N. Y., Jan. 15.—Hartley Spence, aged thirty years, a traveling salesman of Richmond, Va., is dying here from self-administered bichloride of mercury.

NAPLES FEARS LONG INACTIVE CRATERS WILL BECOME ALIVE

Volcanoes Show Signs of Menacing Italian Cities Again

AVEZZANA CITY OF DEAD

"No Longer Exists" Is Said of Town Where More Than 10,000 Were Killed By Earthquake—Death List Stands

(By the United Press)

Rome, Italy, Jan. 15.—The dead from the earthquake are still estimated at 20,000. The total killed and injured will number 75,000. Avezana "no longer exists." These 10,479 were killed. At San Benedetto 3,000 are dead. At Pescara 4,000 were killed, and 1,300 were killed at Capelle.

It is reported from Naples that many supposedly extinct craters in that section are showing signs of life, and fears are expressed of volcanic disturbances.

Most of the victims in the devastated area were crushed beyond recognition. Three thousand soldiers are searching the debris. Three hundred dead soldiers, taken from wrecked barracks were buried in one grave. Military Engineers have taken over the operation of trains. Thousands of injured have been brought to home. The King and the Pope are visiting the injured.

Half Million Italians In Need.

Rome, Jan. 15.—It is estimated that a hundred cities suffered from the earthquake. Half a million people are in need. Mountain springs which supplied Avezana with water have dried up, and the people are using lake water. Many survivors went insane when they found their entire families killed. The latest report estimates the dead at thirty thousand, and the injured at a hundred thousand. All government buildings in Rome have been ordered turned into hospitals. Minor shocks still continue. Thousands still refuse to return to their homes, but remain quartered in open squares. The valley of Avezana is facing a new danger. The outflow of Lake Eucino was dammed by the earthquake and there is fear that a break will come and the valley be flooded.

WILL USE EVERY MEANS FOR PEACE IN OHIO MINES

Wheeling, W. Va., Jan. 14.—The federal conciliators in the strike of Eastern Ohio coal miners heard opening arguments of the operators today and will leave tomorrow for Columbus, to question miners. A committee of seven operators was closed with the conciliators, Hywell Davies and Daniel J. Keefe, all day.

Mr. Davis announced that he and Mr. Keefe would hear business men as well as operators and miners and said:

"We will endeavor to have laid before us every phase of the situation in the hope that we may come upon some idea that may later form a basis of reconciliation."

LAST OF ESCAPED VIRGINIA LONG-TERMS RETAKEN

Richmond, Va., Jan. 14.—Harry Hamilton, forger, and E. N. Hanley, highway robber, who, with Siler Adkins and Allen Burton, murderers, escaped from the Virginia penitentiary here Monday night, were made prisoners today at Coleman's Mill, Carolina county, thirty miles north of Richmond, by J. A. Sanford, a farmer, armed with a shotgun. When they asked Sanford for food and a bed last night, he recognized them from newspaper pictures, fed them and stood guard all night while they slept the sleep of exhaustion. Warden Wood was summoned and he brought the unresisting prisoners to this city Tuesday.

Portland Ore., Jan. 15.—Today is being observed by members of the National W. C. T. U. as a day of national prayer. Mrs. Lillian M. Stevens of this city, the national president has issued a proclamation calling for world wide crusade.