

THE ENTENTE REPLY IS NOW COMPLETED

WILL GO FORWARD TODAY OR TOMORROW.

MADE PUBLIC ABOUT WEDNESDAY

Will Be Submitted to All the Allies Before Final Delivery.—Communication Will Be Forwarded to Germany Through American Channels.—The Reply is Very Long, Much More Lengthy Than the German Note.—Its Length Was One of the Matters for Discussion During the Conferences, the Objection Being Raised That It Was Too Long.

(By The Associated Press) London, Dec. 29.—As the result of conference which have been in progress for several days, the entente reply to the German note is now completed. It will go forward today or tomorrow except for the necessary formality of transmitting it to all the allies before its final delivery. This means the delivery will be made early in, or in the middle of next week, perhaps on Wednesday.

The delivery will be made at Paris, after which the communication will be forwarded to Germany through American channels. The reply is very long, much more lengthy than the German note. This point has been one of the matters of discussion during the conferences, the objection being raised that it was too long, and should be short and sharp. But there were so many points for elucidation and such a complete difference of concept of the objects and purposes for which the two sides went to war that it was found desirable to extend the note to considerable length. The pressure here of the French minister of finance permitted the French minister to be represented.

Unusual optimism is shown here as the result of the final form which the reply has taken, which is believed to be such that will meet with satisfaction in Washington.

The reply to the American note will follow within a few days after the delivery of the reply to Germany.

JAPANESE ARTIST LOST IN DISMAL SWAMP

Searching Parties at Work in the Dense and Wild Swamp. (By The Associated Press) Norfolk, Dec. 29.—Taken Shiota, a prominent and wealthy Japanese artist of New York, has been lost in the Dismal Swamp, near Moyock, North Carolina, since yesterday about noon. Searching parties at once were formed, and are at work. The swamp at this section is very dense and wild.

THE WHEAT MARKET

Urgency of the Export Demand Rallied the Wheat Market Today. (By The Associated Press) Chicago, Dec. 29.—Continued urgency of export demand rallied the wheat market today after an early decline. Opening prices, which ranged from unchanged to one cent lower, with May at 172 3/4 to 173, and July at 138 to 138 7/8, were followed by moderate further losses, and then a rise all around to well above yesterday's finish.

He—Good heavens, the clock just struck one, and I promised your mother I'd leave at twelve. She (comfortably)—Good! We've eleven hours yet.

MOUNT PLEASANT NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Barrier Entertain.—Embroidery Club Organized.—Personals.

Mt. Pleasant, Dec. 29.—Rev. B. L. Stanley spent Christmas Day at the Nazareth Orphan's Home at Crescent.

Miss Mary Van Poole and Mr. Tom Poole, of Salisbury, spent Sunday here with friends.

Messrs. Baird Efrid and David Parker, of Albemarle, spent Sunday here.

Messrs. Carl Cook, of Asheville and Will Johnson, of Charlotte, spent several days here with the former's sister, Mrs. L. S. Shirey.

Mr. and Mrs. Richter Barringer and children, of Sumter, S. C., and Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Wall and children, of Concord, spent the holidays here with Rev. and Mrs. Paul Barringer.

Mr. Lew's Hight, of Florence, S. C., spent several days in town.

Mr. Minnie Layton, of Lexington, and Mr. Roy Thayer, of Richmond, spent several days with the latter's sister-in-law, Mrs. Charles Thayer.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Richardson and daughter, Camilla, of Concord, spent several days with Mr. and Mrs. John Foil.

Mr. John Foil, of Lynchburg, Va., spent Monday here with his sister, Mrs. J. B. McAllister.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Beaver, of Roanoke, Va., are spending the holidays with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Beaver.

Messrs. A. W. Fisher, of Laurens, S. C., Paul Dry, of Concord, and Paul Lentz, of Salisbury, spent several days in town.

Messrs. Burley and Guy Beaver, of Kannapolis, spent Christmas Day with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Beaver.

Miss Gussie Dantzer, of Whitmire, S. C., is spending the holidays with Mrs. J. H. C. Fisher, at the Seminary.

Mr. Roy McEachern spent Tuesday in Charlotte with his sister, Miss Bess McEachern, who is at the Presbyterian Hospital, where she underwent an operation for appendicitis.

Miss Helen Martin, of the Concord Hospital, spent several days at her home here.

Messrs. Lee Crowell and Lee Moore spent yesterday in Charlotte.

Mrs. Luther Shirey and children and Mr. Carl Cook spent Monday in Concord with Mrs. John M. Cook.

Mr. and Mrs. Othar Barringer have returned from Chester, S. C., where they spent several days with Mrs. Barringer's sister.

Rev. and Mrs. Homer Barnhardt and children, of Shelby, and Misses Mary Barnhardt, of Asheville, and Cora Lee Buchanan, of Concord, are spending the week with Mr. and Mrs. A. N. James.

Mr. E. M. Dry spent last Saturday in Albemarle.

Mr. S. P. Ludwig, of Albemarle, is spending the week here with his mother, Mrs. Sophia Ludwig.

Miss Pauline Johnson, Messrs. Lester Johnson, Cramer Moore and Ernest McAllister spent several days here.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Foil and children, of Salisbury, spent Wednesday here with Mr. and Mrs. John Foil.

Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Barrier entertained at a five o'clock dinner on Tuesday evening. Their guests were Misses Margaret and Emma McAllister, Bonnie, Stelle and Ruby Misener, and Elaine Moore; Messdames Harvey McAllister and Sarah Misener; Prof. and Mrs. G. F. McAllister, Prof. and Mrs. B. L. Stanley; Messrs. Lewis Hight and Will Johnson.

Miss Stelle Foil entertained a number of friends at dinner last evening at 6 o'clock.

Mrs. J. J. Bunn entertained a number of her friends very informally on Wednesday afternoon from 3 to 5. At this time it was decided to organize a

REOPEN HEARING ON THE PAPER QUESTION

BUT LITTLE RELIEF FROM THE PLAN PROPOSED.

IF MANUFACTURERS HAVE THEIR WAY

Publishers Charge That They are Paying Extortion Prices and That an Artificial Shortage Has Been Created.—Manufacturers Say They are Privileged to Produce Kind of Paper That Pays Largest Profits.—Big Publishers May Relinquish Part of Their Contracted Supply So As to Take Care of the Little Fellows.—Prices But Little Lower. (By The Associated Press) Washington, Dec. 29.—The Federal Trade Commission re-opened its hearing today in the news print paper investigation.

The committee plans to present again the facts concerning the cost of paper manufacture and profits in the news print. The publishers charge they are paying extortion prices, and artificial news print shortage has been created by a diversion of paper machines to other processes of work. The manufacturers contended that the prices were reasonable and the publishers are privileged to produce any kind of paper that pays the largest profits.

Under the distribution plan proposed by the paper manufacturers, all publishers would get a small reduction from the present prices, and obtain the bulk of supplies under arrangement supervised by the Commission, by which the large publishers would relinquish part of their normal paper supply for next year.

Commissioner Davies made it clear that the commission is determined to find some relief for the publishers. He said the commission in the very immediate future would decide if the distribution plans were feasible. If not, and the commission could find no other measure for relief, said other agencies of the government would be given the facts. A report will be made to Congress on the situation soon.

J. H. Zerby, of Pottsville, Pa., publisher, declared all depended on who the publisher was whether he could buy in the open market.

C. S. Andrews, also of Pennsylvania, declared his competitor in the same town was able to buy paper cheaper than he.

Among others who gave similar testimony was H. B. Varner, a North Carolina publisher, and Frank P. Glass, of Birmingham, vice-president of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association.

The jobbers, who followed the publishers on the stand, were questioned, concerning the reasonableness of their profits.

Publishers who testified today were asked for a suggestion as to the solution. Representative Crampton, of Michigan, proposed that if it were not unconstitutional the commission would take into its own hands the matter of the price and distribution. When a combination, he said, could control a public commodity, some public authority should have the power to see that justice was done.

Other publishers testified that the prices were widely different.

A note obtained by fraud or from a person in a state of intoxication cannot be collected. It is a fraud to conceal a fraud. Signatures made with a lead pencil are good in law. The acts of one partner bind the rest.

Fortnightly Embroidery Club. The guests were Miss Mary Heilig, Messdames Jesse and Ray McEachern, Harry Foil, Othar Barringer, P. A. Moore, J. M. Earnhardt, L. E. Foil and B. L. Stanley.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Y. McEachern entertained at dinner on Wednesday. Miss Anna Schenek was hostess at a tacky party last night. Miss Maud Nussman won the prize.

Mrs. J. J. Bunn entertained at dinner yesterday.

Mrs. Jesse Peck is spending some time with Mr. and Mrs. James Peck.

The Ladies Aid Society of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church will entertain the congregation at the Seminary at 7 o'clock this evening.

RENEWED ACTIVITY AROUND VERDUN

GERMAN EFFORT TO PENETRATE FRENCH LINES.

ONLY BREAK IN THE MONOTONY

According to Paris, the Attack Was Broken Up, the Germans Succeeding in Getting Foothold in Only One Trench.—Battle on Somme Front in State of Suspense Because of Bad State of Ground.—Von Mackensen Keeping Up the Thrusts in Rumania.—Germans Evidently Determined to Drive the Russians From All Dobruja. (By The Associated Press) Striking back at the French in the Verdun region, but on the banks of the Meuse opposite the scene of recent French successes, the Germans made strong efforts last night to penetrate the French line between Hill 304 and Deadman Hill, the two dominating eminences northwest of the fortress.

According to Paris the attack was broken up, the Germans succeeding in gaining a footing in only one trench, south of Deadman Hill. Berlin claims French positions were entered on Hill 304 and on the southern slope of Deadman Hill.

The activity around Verdun has been virtually the only break in the monotony of the winter trench warfare along the French-Belgian front.

The battle of the Somme is in a state of suspense because of the bad state of ground and unfavorable atmospheric conditions, according to British authorities.

From Rumania where the real activity of the war now centers, von Mackensen is keeping up the thrust for the line of the Sereth in Moldavia, driving the Russians before him, the German reports intimate.

Braila, important as a grain and petroleum depot, is itself reported under fire from across the Danube, where the Bulgarians, with the Germans and Turks assisting, are vigorously assaulting the Matchin bridgehead. Apparently the hope is to clear Dobruja completely of Russians and effect a permanent junction with the German forces in Wallachia at a point where the lower Danube will be closed completely to Russian uses, and a way opened north of the river for a possible advance into Bessarabia, just beyond which lies Odessa.

NEGROES CONFESS TO KILLING FIVE PERSONS

They Implicate Also a Neighbor and Youth.—Latter Also Makes Confession. (By The Associated Press) Minden, La., Dec. 29.—Two negroes, held as suspects in connection with the killing of five members of the family of John Nelson Reeves, nine miles north of here on Christmas Eve, have confessed, according to the county officers, implicating Henry Waller, a farmer and neighbor of Reeves, and John Long, a 20 year old youth. Long, it is said, also made a confession, declaring Waller instigated the crime and with an axe killed Reeves, his wife and three children.

Robbery and an old feud between Waller and Reeves are given as motives. The negroes claimed they were forced to aid in the killing.

Waller, Long and the negroes have been spirited away from Minden. It is reported that they have been taken to the penitentiary at Baton Rouge.

NO INDICTMENTS

Water Haul Made in Investigation Into High Cost of Living. (By The Associated Press) Chicago, Dec. 29.—The Federal Grand Jury which has heard a large amount of evidence in connection with the high cost of living is to conclude its session today and be discharged. No indictments will be returned, according to United States district attorney.

Theatorium

—today—

"A ROMANCE OF BILLY GOAT HILL"

A Red Feather feature in five thrilling parts, featuring MYRTLE GONZALES

With George Hernandez and Val Paul.

MAKING PLANS TO MAKE UP DEFICIT

PRESIDENT CONFERS WITH ADMINISTRATION LEADERS.

DEFICIT AMOUNTS TO \$180,000,000

The President Has Tentatively Agreed to Plans, and It is Likely The Bonds Will Be Issued to Meet the Deficit.—Under Previous Acts of Congress the Government Can Issue Panama Canal Notes, and This Will Probably Be Done.—The Mexican Situation Has Caused Most of Emergency Expenses.—Would Bear Three Per Cent. (By The Associated Press) Washington, Dec. 29.—President Wilson has tentatively agreed with administration leaders in Congress on a bond issue to meet part of the treasury deficit which confronts the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, estimated at about \$180,000,000.

With Secretary McAdoo the President is working on the plans for raising the additional revenues.

The President has pointed out he believes a bond issue should be used to meet the temporary and emergency expenditures. Many of these have been caused by the Mexican situation.

The treasury already has authority by previous acts of Congress to issue Panama Canal bonds, and about \$240,000,000 of these are available. They would bear 3 per cent.

The plans for raising other revenue is understood to concern the income tax and inheritance tax, and special taxes on internal revenues and imports.

CONCERT TONIGHT

To Be Given at Central School, Building at 8 o'clock.

The concert to be given tonight at 8 o'clock at Central graded school is free to the public, and a New Year's greeting to all who attend. The programme is as follows:

1. Piano solo: "Silhouettes." Op. 8, Dvorsky—Miss Nancy Lee Patterson.

2. Vocal solo: "The Sea is the Home For Me." Petrie—Mr. Lindsay Ross.

3. Vocal solo: "La Donna e Mobile," Rigoletti, Verdi—Mr. Sam Goodman.

4. Reading (a) "The Talking Mule." (b) "How Bigbyville Went Dry."

5. Solo: "The Sea is My Sweetheart," Shackelford—Mr. Lindsay Ross.

6. Aunt Malinda's Song.

7. Solo: "Jean," Charles Gilbert Spross—Mr. Sam Goodman.

8. Quartette: "Livest Daughter of the Graces," Rigoletti, Verdi.

Miss Nell Herring accompanist.

Our people will be glad indeed to have the pleasure of hearing again Mr. Sam Goodman, who possesses a wonderful tenor voice. He has been studying in New York for some time, and will return there in a few days to continue his studies.

THE COTTON MARKET

Opened Steady at an Advance of 8 to 11 Points Today. (By The Associated Press) New York, Dec. 29.—The cotton market opened steady at an advance of 8 to 11 points in response to relatively firm cables and coverings after the sharp break of yesterday. Buying was not active, while scattering local selling, which caused reaction 8 or 9 points after the call, but the market firmed up again on covering and moderate demand. March advanced to 17.55 before the end of the first hour, with the general list selling 20 to 24 points net higher.

Cotton futures opened steady: January, 17.12; March, 17.39; May, 17.72; July, 17.77; October, 16.28.

Turkey's Reply Received

(By The Associated Press) Washington, Dec. 29.—Turkey's reply to President Wilson's peace note was received today at the State Department. It is substantially the same as Germany's and Austria's.

Principals are responsible for the acts of their agents.

NO GIRL IS TOO OLD to profit by the lesson in "THE LITTLE GIRL NEXT DOOR."

At the Strand Monday and Tuesday.

HOSPITAL COMMITTEE MEETS IN SALISBURY

To Consider Location of the Proposed Methodist Hospital. (Special to The Tribune) Salisbury, Dec. 29.—The Hospital committee of Methodist conference met at Empire hotel here last night. This committee was appointed at a conference at Gastonia November 28.

The meeting was called to order by Rev. C. M. Pickets, of the Methodist Church, of Spencer. Parties present were: Rev. Walter A. Lambeth, Rev. R. G. Tuttle, of Hickory, Rev. C. W. Byrd, of Greensboro, W. H. Burton, of Spencer, Dr. John W. Long, of Greensboro, J. B. Ivey, of Charlotte, and E. L. Bain, of Greensboro.

Rev. Mr. Pickets was made chairman, Rev. Mr. Bain secretary. Rev. Mr. Lambeth stated that J. L. Nelson proposed Lenoir for the location. Chairman and Secretary were ordered to address a letter to the medical societies of the boards of trade of Gastonia, Charlotte, Statesville, High Point, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Asheville and Hickory, and the letter to embody the action of the conference, stating the conditions necessary to be met before the city can be considered competent for a hospital, and it is the intention of the conference to raise an additional sum to build a hospital not less than \$150,000.

The city is to furnish an adequate medical staff, and a suitable site and at least \$40,000.

THE ANSWER TO CARRANZA'S APPEAL

Will Be Determined on Washington Next Tuesday. (By The Associated Press) Washington, Dec. 29.—What answer will be returned to Gen. Carranza's latest appeal for modification in the protocol signed in Atlantic City will be determined here Tuesday. On that day the American members of the Mexican-American joint commission will meet and consider the Mexican communication, delivered yesterday to Secretary Lane by Luis Cabrera, of the Mexican commission.

The Mexicans probably will be here on that date in the event the Americans decided Carranza's reply can be given serious consideration, an immediate session of the joint commission may be held.

ROBBERS BLOW SAFE IN TEXAS TOWN

And Then Escape in Automobiles With Booty of \$5,000. (By The Associated Press) Sherman, Tex., Dec. 29.—Robbers blew the safe of Hagertown, Texas state bank, at Hagertown, Tex., 15 miles northwest of Sherman, early today and escaped in automobiles with \$5,000.

Officers are in pursuit of the robbers, who had about two hours' start. Telegraph wires had been cut before the robbery was undertaken.

RICHMOND IN GRIP OF A HEAVY FOG

Street Cars and Automobiles Forced to Use Lights This Morning. (By The Associated Press) Richmond, Va., Dec. 29.—Richmond had a saturation fog (100 per cent humidity) at 8 o'clock this morning with a temperature of 68 degrees is spoken of at the Weather Bureau as quite remarkable. A West-hampton interurban car ploughed through a string of wagons killing four mules.

Tenon Troops Still Marching On

(By The Associated Press) Berlin, via Sayville, Dec. 29.—In Rumania yesterday Teutonic troops captured several positions, taking 1,400 prisoners, 18 machine guns and 3 cannon.

SHOULD NOT NOTE OF PRESIDENT WILSON

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES SEND A JOINT NOTE.

SYMPATHIZE WITH EVERY EFFORT

Norway, Sweden and Denmark Declare That They Would Consider Themselves as Falling in Their Duties Toward Humanity if They Did Not Express Sympathy With Every Effort for Putting an End to the Suffering and Losses of This Terrible War.—Express Hope That President Wilson's Efforts Will Lead to Definite Results. (By The Associated Press) London, Dec. 29.—The Scandinavian government has sent a joint note to the belligerents supporting the peace note of President Wilson.

A Renter dispatch from Copenhagen says the Danish, Swedish and Norwegian governments, have instructed their legislation to address to governments of belligerent countries notes in which the Scandinavian government, adhering to the note of President Wilson, concerning measures to be adopted for facilitating durable peace, declared they would consider themselves as failing in their duties toward the respective peoples and humanity as a whole if they did not express profound sympathy with every effort which may contribute toward putting an end to the suffering and losses, moral and material, which are ever growing in consequence of the war.

The three governments in conclusion cherish the hope that the initiative taken by President Wilson will lead to a result worthy of the generous spirit which prompted this action.

Bost Family Reunion at Kannapolis

It is usual for a father to catch up with the pranks of his children, but the bottom rail got on top in south Kannapolis on the 27th of December.

Mr. J. A. Bost and wife have two less children than Jacob. They stole a march with basket and bounty, and set a table royal. The day was spent in interesting singing and pleasant intercourse. Many Father Bost and wife have many more such happy birthdays. There were present: Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Bost and family, Mr. and Mrs. I. Locke Bost and family, Mrs. Lillie A. Ritchie and family, of Saw. N. C. Tabron Bost, wife and children, of Barbers Junction, M. L. Bost, Mrs. C. L. Litaker and family, A. A. Bost and family, Glass; his sister, Mrs. Sarah Jane Wineoff and her daughter, Miss Edith; a brother, H. H. Bost and family, of Glass, a friend, Mr. Benton Wiggins, and family.

There were three absent children, C. T. Bost, Maranda, N. C.; J. H. Bost, Landis, and E. S. Bost, Concord. In all there were present 37. Such family reunions are foretastes of that above. A FRIEND.



Next Christmas Santa Claus

will climb down your chimney if you will join our Christmas Club NOW

Come, join in with your friends and neighbors in this splendid plan to

SAVE DURING THE YEAR

and assure yourself of ample funds for next year's holiday shopping. All you have to do is pay a small amount each week; you will be surprised how fast it will accumulate.

No Red Tape
No Expense to Join
Everybody Welcome

CITIZENS BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

Your Working Dollar Never Sleeps

Get a Savings Bank Book From

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Deposits Made NOW or to January 5th will draw interest from January 1st.

MINISTERS AND SOCIAL WORKERS PRAISE

The Wonderful Story of "THE LITTLE GIRL NEXT DOOR."

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