VOLUME XVIII.

WAGONER-PATTERSON.

GERMANY MAKES DENIAL.

That a Neutral Government Has

Sounded England For Peace.

"Great Britain and not Germany,"

the statement said, "was responsible for the peace feelers." After asserting

that the peace query was made with thesanction and full knowledge of the British government, the statement

"The circumstances sufrounding the

inqury led to the assumption that not only Great Britain, but also other al-

ies were connected with the sending out of the 'feeler.'.
"A direct verbal reply, through an

intermediary appeared to be the most opportune course. The trend of events,

further steps were not taken German side."

in 1916

in the search.

owever, forced conviction that noth ing was being done by our opponents to facilitate such a direct reply and

COTTON CONSUMED

33,604,650 Acive Spindles

(By International News Service.)

(By International News Service.)

of the bank's cash resulted in the an-

nouncement early today that the ban-

Officers believe the bandits are hiding

Fifteen men, believed to be member

burglaries of homes and stores

TEUTONS PREPARING

More than \$25,000 worth of stole

Against the Italian Positions from

the Brenta to the Piave.

(By International News Service.)

bled under Gen. Von Beulow is being caried out against the Italian posi-

tions from the Brenta to the Piave, according to official dispatches from

he Italian war ministry this after-

The operations of the Teutons against the Capsilo bridgehead which

had for their objective the penetra-tion of the Venetian lagoon, were

halted after they had met with some success. Counter attacks by the Ital

ans have attained successes at sever

Charlotte Today.
Charlotte, Dec. 13.—Miss Margaret
Wilson, daughter of President Woodrow Wilson, arrived in Charlotte this
evening at 7:30 and will be the guest

Miss Margaret Wilson is Guest

al points.

BOLOMEVIKI FUHC

Sources, However, Conflict

IS GOING ON

ity Continues on French Front-Not Known Where Germany Will Strike Blow.

(By The Associated Press) The Bolsheviki forces apparently have been successful in the first clash with the counter revolutionists. It is reported that they have captured the towns of Tamanovka and Kaluga. Gen. Kaledines is besieging Rostov on the Don, the largest city in the Don province and heavy fighting has been to progress since Sunday, Gen. Fonanov ka is near Bielgorod 350 miles sout of Moscow, and near where the forces of Gen. Korniloff, also a counter revo lution, are reported to have been en gaged in a heavy battle with the Bol-sheviki. One report says that Gen Kor-

There is a railroad town named Pa luga, 100 miles southwest of Moscow, and if this is the town referred to in the unofficial report from Petrograd it appears that the counter revolutionists have approached nearer old Russian capital than previous reports have indicated.

Severe fighting has been going around Rostov, which is only 25 miles southwest of Novo Tcherkask, the Don Severe fighting has been Cossacks capital. The Kaledines troops are besieging the city while the Cos-sacks forces in Rostov attacked the Bolsheviki. The losses are reported to have been heavy on both sides. Wire communication has been broken. Artil-lery and local infantry fighting has been in progress on the western from and to which Germany has been rush ing troops and supplies. The eiemy have attempted no further attacks since Wednesday and there is still no outward sign of where the expected blow will come.

In Cambral yesterday the British stormed the German positions on the south end of the sector while on the The only infantry action has been near Juvipcourt, north of Rheims, where

German attack was repulsed. East of the Brenta river on the Northern Italian front there further bitter fighting.. Austro-German troops, reinforced by fresh reserves, attacked the Italian position in the

gion brought no gains.
German bombs have killed a num-

in Chicago. Constables and police offi-cers or nearby towns are aiding Pinkrton detectives and the Chicago police

of a burglar gang that has obtained more than \$100,000 worth of loot from Will Be His Duty to Make Him Come Across With the Heat. Chicago, are under arrest here today goods, it is declared, has been recovered Several of the men are said to have

duty to make him come across with the heat, if—we quote an official satement—a suggestion which came in today on the breath of a snow-storm, is made effective.

The suggestion should "bring joy to the hearts of renters and lessees of homes in all parts of the country. Washington, Dec. 14.—Artillery preparation for a stupendous attack by the Austro-German troops assemthe fuel administrator says, if made effective. Concretely the su s that the local fuel administrator

Third Day of the Argument Started by Mr. Frank Armfield This Morning. - Mr. John T. Dooling Followed.

THREE MORE

Mr. Dooling Will Be Followed By Messrs. Hartsell and Cansler, and L. C. Cald-marks to uphold the dignity and jesty of the law. His speech las for two hours.

At the convening of court at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon, M. H. Caldwell, for the defense, continued his argument before the jury. He said that all these proceedings and all the evidence presented here, to him seemed "much ado about nothing." This did not mean, he said, that the death of Mrs. King was "nothing."

of Mrs. King was "nothing."

The statement that Afton Means was said to have made at the moving picture show, that Mrs. King was whirling the pistol around on her finger "like a fool woman," and accidentally shot herself, said Mr. Caldwell, had no bearing on the case. Afton was not where he could see what happened, and the remark simply showed how he thought the accident could have happened. The telephone measure received by Col. W. G. Means that same night from an unknown person, same night from an unknown person, saying there must be a coroner's in-quest was the "sinister voice of suspi-cion, pointing its finger toward Gaston B. Means." The next place this voice Is heard is in the cemetery near Chi-cago, when the autopsy was perform-ed; and again when the New York authorities received a mysterious tele-gram asking them to investigate the death of this woman.

If a motive is not necessary, he ask-ed, why did the State of North Caroed, why did the State of North Caro-lina bring all these witnesses here from New York and Chicago to es-tablish a motive? On the other hand, if there was ever a motive for wanting to keep Mrs. King alive, Gaston B. Means had every reason for wanting to preserve her life.

The trust fund of Mrs. Robinson was dissolved by Mrs. King and herself, said the lawyer, and not by Gaston Means. Mrs. King was badly in need of cash to further establish the validity of Jas. C. King's second will, and this was the reason the trust fund. and this was the reason the trust fund

Mrs. King's hat was not destroyed until several days after the coroner's inquest. The jury had been rendered its verdict, and there was positively no indication that there was any su picion whatever. Why, then, was ther any reason for preserving this tram-pled hat?

with another tribute to the testimony given by Mrs. G. B. Means and to her devotedness to her husband.

The testimony given by the prisoner, he said, should be most carefully scrutinized before being accepted by the jury. The speaker then reviewed the activities of the defendant since his relations with the Cannon Mills ceased several years ago, as testified to by Means himself. This included the employment by the Burns Agency, and the dealings with the so called "German interests."

After becoming business, manager for Mrs. King, the defendant rapidly improved his financial condition, and for Mrs. King, the defendant rapidly improved his financial condition, and moved into fine quarters on Park avenue, which he himself stated might have cost \$20,000. When he needed more money, he though of the trust fund of Mrs. Anna L. Robinson, and began plans to get hold of this fund by telling Mrs. King they needed more funds to get the second will investigated, and telling Mrs. Robinson that she was to get more money every month than she was then receiving. This paper which was shown Mrs. Robinson was never placed in the Merchants Loan & Trust Co., and if it had been it would not have been worth the paper it was written on, because Mrs. King had no money in that bank. The cotton speculations, said Mr. Newell, were carried on without the knowledge of Mrs. King, or of "Old 76," as Mr. Patterson called Mrs. Robinson. When the crash came on the cotton market, did Patterson go and tell Mrs. King the partnership had lost \$31,000? When they gained over \$10,000 on a cotton contract did they give Mrs. King one third of the winnings? Why did Patterson give a note for all of the losses?

Mrs. King was kept from talking with people, said the speaker.

pay one-third of the losses?

Mrs. King was kept from talking with people, said the speaker, as was proven by the threat he made against Mr. Rocketeller, and told of by Mrs. Robinson. All mail for any of the party was to go to Gaston Means, and this was for the purpose of keeping the women from getting in touch with the world. That he received the mail is told of in his own letters to his wife and to his brother.

J. Lee Crowell.

J. Lee Crowell.

J. Lee Crowell, for the defense, began his argument to the jury at 5:20 o'clock. He first attacked the argument of Attorney Newell, for the presecution, stating that he had misquoted the evidence.

He also discredited the testimony given by Dr. Burmelster. The pathologist, he said, had not mentioned in his first evidence, given at the preliminary hearing, the presence of the track through the brain of Mrs. King, evidently shade by a probe after death. When he came to testify at this trial, and had learned of this track, he tried to revise his testimony accordingly.

And why have all these experts come as far, of their own voiltion, to take part in helping the State convict this defendant? Doesn't it show that there is some power back of all this? The State has presented evidence for something like 84 hours, but how much of this time has been devoted to the charge of murder?

Under the evidence, said Mr. Crowell, only two verdicts are possible—guilty of murder in the first degree, or not guilty.

Gaston Means is no traitor, said the speaker, but a hero. To bear out the assertion, he rend a part of a letter

Gaston Means is no traitor, said the speaker, but a hero. To bear out the assertion, he read a part of a letter written by the defendant to his brother Afton, saying that if his country needs his services, he would offer them. He divulged to the United States government the whole plot to foment trouble between Mexico and this country. If that is not correct, why did the State not bring Josephus Daniels here to deny it. The experts who testified here that the shot could not have been fired by Mrs. King, are contradicted by hine physicians here, most of whom we know. Does not this raise a reasonable doubt as to whether or not she did so?

In conclusion—the speaker said the

or not she did so?

In conclusion the speaker said the only thing brought the defendant is simply intimation as marke he might have killed Mrs. King. If he can be put out of the war the Northern Trust Company would have nothing close to fear from the second will of Jas. C. King. The Jurors must be satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt, he concluded, and asked whether there was not a reasonable doubt in this matter.

Court at 7:08 o'clock adjourned until 9 o'clock Friday morning.

til 9 o'clock Friday morni

TODAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

devotedness to her husband.

J. F. Newell.

J. F. Newell, for the State, said that there was no pleasure for him to assist in the prosecution of this case, and wished that he could help make the world so there would be no need of any such proceedings.

He reviewed to the jury the law relating to first degree and second degree murder, and stated that the solic for was correct in saying that in this case a verdict of guilty in either of the saying that in this case a verdict of guilty in either of the saying that in this case a verdict of guilty in either of the saying that in this case a verdict of guilty in either of the saying that in this case a verdict of guilty in either of the saying that in this case a verdict of guilty in either of the saying that in this case a verdict of guilty in either of the saying that in this case against him I than been done.

embezzler, it does not necessarily follow that he would want to kill the witness against him. It has been done in a few instances, he admitted, but there are thousands of instances in which it has not happened. The relations of the defendant and his employer were the best possible, and there had never even been a threat of a suit by the employer. There is, therefore, no connection between a notive and the crime.

The papers which would enable the defendant to account for all his transactions with the dead woman, said Mr. Armfield, had been withheld from him, and he had not been given a "square deal."

The fact that Mrs. Robinson's trust fund had been revoked, was an additional reason for the defendant to want Mrs. King to continue to live, since she herself, could explain why the trust had been revoked. The old lady was to receive, instead of \$600 per month, the sum of \$1.000 and later \$2,500 per month. Therefore no wrong had been done to Mrs. Robinson in this respect.

The restraint exercised over Mrs. King by the defendant, said the speaker, amounted to nothing. Therewere telephones in the Chicago Beach Hotel rooms of Mrs. King and Mrs. Robinson in adjoining apartments, and Mrs. King could have easily got.

Because of the Temptations Thrown in the Way By War Conditions.—Adulteration of Food is a Danger.

MUCH SUGAR HAS BEEN ADULTERATED

The Substances Used to Increase the Bulk of Articles Are Deleterious to Health In Many Cases.

(By International News Service.) Washington, Dec. 14.—Federal offi ers charged with the enforcement of he pure food laws are keeping an esthe pure food laws are keeping an es-pecially sharp watch on producers of food products because of the new tem-peations thrown in their way by war litions. Because of the price fixing plations of the food administraregulations of the food administra-tion food manufacturers and dealers cannot run prices up to the extent they would in ordinary times. With his customers clamoring for such products as sugar, the jobber and the grocer cannot charge increased prices although they would be well paid if they did. Instead, it is feared there will be a general attempt to take advantage of this situation by adulterating food

In fact, adulteration of some products already hase been reported to the Federal authorities. It is alleged that certain dealers having on hand only a fraction of the amount of sugar which they can readily sell, have which they can readily sell, have mixed other substances with sugar to ase the bulk. Many complain have been received of sugar which is not normally sweet. Such sugar, it is

alleged, has been tampered with.

Officials will be especially vigilant ecause there is more involved than froud in selling a substance which is not wholly what it purports to be. The substances used to increase the buly of articles are delterious to health in many cases. The officials are deter-mined that adulterated food and food substitutes shall not bring about here he troubles which they have caused in Germany.

WHAT A GERMAN

VICTORY WOULD MEAN. Permanent Peace Must Remove Rivalry of Power. .

(By The Associated Press)

Amsterdam, Dec. 14.—German victory in the war woud mean that the Germans "as the dominant race, would have to keep in subjection by force of arms the crushed and dispossessed people," asserts George Gothein, a leading Liberal member of the German Reichstag, in an editorial article in the official organ of the influential German Association for Comential German Association for Com-mercial Treaties.

mercial Treaties.

"Should we actually succeed in gaining a decisive victory, which only a few persons believe possible," he writes, "We should have to bear a weight of armaments for that purpose which would make it impossible for our national strength, so terribly weakened in any case by bloody losses, again to regain its economic power. And yet without this permanent political strength is impossible. One day the world would rise against the German cases, would burst its fetters, would world would rise against the derian sway, would burst its fetters, would destroy our power which would be lacking in economic support. For if we have been able to hold out this time we have above all to thank our

"There remains only one solution, peace by understanding. A peace which is permanent must remove from the world the rivalry of power.

"An economic war after the war would be unbearable for Germany."

PLENTY OF SUGAR.

SAYS CLAUS SPRECKELS Declares That There is no Shortage

Except in Spets. (By International News Service.) Washington, Dec. 14.—Claus A preckels president of the Federal sug fore the Senate Manufacturers sub-committee in the sugar investigation today, declared there is no sugar short-age "except in spots." One of the spots is the Eastern United States, he said. "The United States has ample sug-ar," he said. "The shortage is localized in the eastern states. As a while there

in the easier states. As a wine that is plenty of sugar."

Mr. Spreckles added that there is enough sugar in Java to supply the whole British Isles for a year.

COLLISION ON SOUTHERN BAILWAY NEAR CALHOUN

tally Injured.

(By The Associated Press)

Washington, Dec. 14.—In a collision of the Southern railroad this morning ear Calhoun, S. C., between north-band local train No. 46, and southern descriptions of the southern of t express and mail train No. 43 reman and baggage man of the a train were fatally injured and eer of the local.

THE COTTON MARKET

Later Sells 19 to 20 Points Lower.

(By International News Service.) New York, Dec. 14.—The cotton narket opened steady and about 3 to points net lower. The market evenually sold off 18 to 28 points under ast night's close.

Cotton opened: December 30.20, January 20.40, March 20.10, May 28.83, July 28.82, October 27.15 a 27.29.

Inches of Snow Today.

"Resolved, That the Keating Child Labor Law Should he Sustained," will be debated, and the entire programme will measure up to the high standard set by the society is the past.

Mr. Ben McAllister returned Wednesday night to Comp Sevier, Greenville, S. C., after spending a five day furiough at his obnie here.

Miss Julia von Obsen, of Spartanburg, S. C., has been the guest of friends here for the past week.

Mrs. A. N. Jatus was hostess Wednesday, afternoon, to the Study Play Club. TRAFFIC FACILITIES

Club.
First term examinations are being held at Mont Ameena Seminary this

week.
Mr. Paul Foil, who has joined the aviation corps, left yesterday for a training camp in Kempeky.
Mrs. L. S. Shirer, who has been quite sick for the past week, is improving steadily.

Prof. and Mrs. J. H. C. Fisher have

Prof. and Mrs. J. H. C. Fisher have issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Katherine Brown, to Mr. Luther Bowman Barrier, the wedding to take place in Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 6:30 Monday evening, December 24.

Miss Lucille Beatty has returned to her home in Churlotte, after spending the past week with relatives here.

The Bazaar, held last Friday and Saturday under the suspices of the Civic Betterment Club, was a decided success.

Misses Stella Foll and Stella Mis enhelmer are spending several days with friends in Charlotte. Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Moose and lit-tle daughter, of Belmost, spent the past week end with relatives here.

KEEPING AN EYE ON AUSTRIAN SUBJECTS

lany Austrians Are Experienced Workmen in Steel and Other Mills.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The main compelling reason for the extremely lenient tenor of the resident's proclamation governing the restraints upon subjects of Austrian-Hungary in this subjects of Austrian-Hungary in this country during existence of a state of war is that the interment of these enemy nationals would have cut steel and coal production thirty per cent.

Persons of the nations making up the dual empire secret service officials have reported, are well-disposed and have conducted themselves with uniform orderliness being good workers in many large industries. In the great steel mills of the Pennsylvania district there are thousands of these substeel mills of the Pennsylvania district there are thousands of these sub-jects engaged in the various duties in-cident to steel manufacture. As the winning a war depends very largely upon the steel output of the United States it has been defined inadvisable, in view of the disposition of the Aus-trians to cut off this tremendous supply of experienced and skilled labor.

of experienced and skilled labor. Before drawing the proclamation which permits Austrians to do about as they please as long as they do not aid the enemy or break the peace. President Wilson received data showing to what extent the steel mills and other vital industries would be crippled by the internment of large num-bers of these nationals.

Although the proclamation is couched in the most lenient terms and apparently places no restrictions on the Austrians except as to exit from and entry to the United States, agents of the department of Justice and other Federal officers will keep in close touch with the Austrians here and those misbehaving will be summarily

CIVIL WAR ALL OVER RUSSIAN EMPIRE. Reliable Reports as to Result of Fight

ing Cannot Be Obtained. (By International News Service.) Civil war has spread to practically every part of the Russian empire. Troops supporting the Bolsheviki are being engaged by Cossacks at many places. Reliable reports cannot be obtained as to the result of the fighting. The Bolsheviki leaders are putting out

The Bolsheviki leaders are putting out a veritable flood of dispatches claiming to have defeated the Cossacks.

Only a few reports have come from the Cossack leaders. These add declare that the Bolsheviki force are being crushed and that the end of the Lenine and Trotzky government is in light. Germanys proposed gigantic drive Germanys proposed gigantic drive surrounded with mystery. Both Paris and London report only minor activisight.

NUMBER OF AMERICAN

ENGINEERS ARE KILLED. Met Death by German Aerial Bom a Town Somewhere Behind the British Front.

With the American Army in France Dec. 13.—(By the Associated Press.—A number of American rallway engineers have been killed by German aerial bombs in a town somewhere behind the British front. Details are

not yet known.

It is now permitted to announce that a 'German bomb fell in a street in a town through which American troops were passing. Pieces of the bomb shattered the windows of a house in which there were officers, showering them with glass, but hurting no one.

Two American soldiers have died in hospital from gunshot wounds.

(By International News Service.) training camps. The arrangement is a mutual one, the lecturers who have come from the United States having agreed in return to speak to the British soldiers at their billets behind the

New York and the Surrounding Territory Blanketed Under From Four to Six

ARE PARALYZED

The Central Railroad of New Jersey Forced to Abandon All Its Trains.—Telegraph (By International News Service.)

Amsterdam, Dec. 14.—A flat depial of Foreign Minister Balfour's recent declaration in the House of Commons that a neutral government had sounded England for Germany upon the possibilities of peace was made in a Germany official statement received here today. Wires Down.

(By International News Service.) New York, Dec. 14.—Sweeping down from the northeast on the wings of a gale which reached a velocity of fifty miles an hour, the heaviest the heaviest early December snowstorm in years, early today blanketed New York and the surrounding territory under from four to six inches of snow Transportation and communication facilities are paralyzed.

At 3 a. m., today the Central Railroad of New Jersey was forced to abandon all its trains. Officials of the of its telephone and telegraph wires were down and that train schedules were completely demoralized.

"We are all mixed up. Our trains are from one to five hours late and most of our wires are down," was the report of the Eric Railroad.

Trains from Chicago are all report-

ed from one to seven hours late.. Railroad officials say it is impossible to predict when traffic will again aproach normal conditions.
Outside of The Narrows the gale assumed the proportions of a hurri-ans. Scows and lighters were torn away from their moorings and a num-ber of trans-Atlantic ships were un-

easels turned tail and fairly ran for the open sea.

Twenty barges laden with grain, cotton, food and rails, consigned to the American troops in Europe, broke loose from their mooring and were drawn into the bay. Seventeen of these finally were towed back, but three were so

able to enter the harbor. Scores of

badly damaged they sank,

The coal situation is immeasurably
worse as a result of the storm, and thousands of tons en route from Penn-sylvania, West Virginia and Ohio are held up along the line by blockade. Coal lying in yards as close as Jersey City cannot be conveyed rapidly across the Hudson, because so many barges have been sunk or beached.

Zero Weather at Chicago.

Chicago, Dec. 14.—More than six

inches of snow covered the ground here and more is falling. The thermometer is dropping and the forecast is for zero weather before nightfall. Trains entering the city continue to meet with delay and traffic within the city also is hampered by the storm.

FURIOUS STORM IN THE NEW ENGLAND COAST.

Plays Havoe With Traffic,-Trains all

Running Behind. (By International News Service.) Boston, Dec. 14.-Driven by a fifty land coast was lashed by a snowstorm last night that played havoc with traffic. The trains on all roads enter ing Boston were from twenty minutes to one hour late. Suburban car lines were crippled by the snow. A rise iu temperature today turned the snow to slush and the city streets and country roads were inches deep in water. The

coast guard patrol was doubled but so far no wrecks have been reported. 30 Inches of Snow at Buffalo. Buffalo, Dec. 14.-After experience ing another period of suspended traffic in the midst of a blinding snow storm Buffalo today awoke to find the tem-perature hovering around zero. There is about thirty inches of snow on the level and in outlying sections the drifts are ten feet high. All traffic is suffer-ing. Trains are from one to ten hours late and the freight yadrs and express houses are congested with millions of dollars worth of merchandise.

ARMY NEGOTIATIONS AT BREST-LITOVSK.

If Armistice is Signed, Russian Delegates Are Empowered to Enter Into Peace Negotiations, (By The Associated Press)

London, Dec. 14.—Leon Trotzky, the Bolsheviki Foreign Minister, accord-cording to Reuter dispatch from Petro-grad, announces that if an armistice for the eastern front is signed at Brest-Litovak, the Russian delegates are empowered to enter into peace nogatiations.

Amsterdam, Dec. 14.—Official Ger-

man and Austrian statements say that Russian delegates arrived at Brest-Litovsk Wednesday, and that the army egotiations were resumed yesterday.

QUARTERS AT OLEVELAND of the city during Friday and Saturday. Friday night she will appear in a concert at the city anditorium in the interest of war relief work. Miss Wilson was met at the station by a grumber of promineria citizens by a grumber of promineria citizens by a grumber of promineria citizens band RAID ON I. W. W. HEAD-

(By International News Service.) Cleveland, O., Dec. 14.—Tons of inflammatory posters, dodgers, post cards and other printed matter was seized by Federal authorities here today following a raid last night on I. W. W. headquarters here. Seventeen said to be leaders of the I. W. W. activity throughout the nation were arrested and will be interned, according to the district attorney. A majoriing to the district attorney. A majority of the offenders in smaller towns were receiving instructions and supplies from the Cleveland offices.

leave tomorrow for her home in Char-lette to spend the Christmas holidays. She will be accompanied by Miss Sarah Miller who will be her guest for a few days.

arriage of Two Popular Concord Young People to Take Place This This evening at 8 o'clock Mr. Charles B. Wagoner and Miss Janie Alexander Patterson will be united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. K. Patterson, on North Union street. The ceremony will be performed by Rev. Z. Paris, pastor of Central Methodist Church.

The wedding music from Madame Butterfly will be played by Miss Nell Herring. Miss Nancy Lee Patterson, the youngest sister of the bride, will be maild of honor, and Mr. Hugh Propst, of Pamplico, S. C., will be best man: The bride will be given in marriage by her brother, Mr. 8, Kay Patterson. The wedding will be a quiet one, only relatives and a few intimate friends being invited. This evening at 8 o'clock Mr. Charles n the First Clash With the

Counter Revolutionists.-The Reports from Various

SEVERE FIGHTING

Intermittent Artillery Activ-

niloff has been defeated and wounded while another says he was victorious.

Census Report Made Public - Now Washington, Dec. 14.-Census reort shows cetton, exclusive of linters, consumed during November 509,733 running bales in 1917 compared with 583,044 in 1916, of which 332. 526 bales were consumed in cetton growing states in 1917 and 323,029 in 1916. Cotton held in consuming

in 1910. Cotton held in consuming establishments on November 30, was 2,408,327 bales in 1917 and 2,196,502 in 1916, and in public storage and at compresses 3,745,485 bales in 1917 and 4,088,798 in 1916. Imports, 7,038. equivalent to 500 bales in 1917 and 13,200 in 1916. Exports, including linters 418,585 running bales in 1917 and 733,271 in 1916. Cotton stundles active during November 33. south end of the sector while on the north end there was bomb fighting and which German prisoners were captur-ed. The German artillery is especially active south of Scarpe in the Arras area and northeast of Ypres in Flan-ders. Intermittent withlery activities are continuing along the French front. steindles active during November 33, 604,650 in 1917 against 32,758,045 Cotton exported during November 2,700 bales in 1917 and 8,658 in

LOOKING FOR THE BOLD, BAD BANDITS. Five Youthful Bandits Get \$46,730 From a Chicago Bank. attacked the Italian position in the valleys descending toward the river from the Relia Bretta region. The Italian resistance held the attackers and forced them to give up the effort after having suffered heavy losses. Other violent attacks in the same region beauty to gains Chicago, Dec. 14,-Every available deective and policeman in Chicago today is searching for the five youthful auto-mobile bandits who robbed the La-Grange State Bank. A careful audit

ber of railroad engineers in a town bedits obtained \$46,730, the largest bank loot obtained in the Middle West in hind the British front. town a German bomb fell in a street hrough which Americans troops marching. Although the missile fell very close no injuries resulted.

SIC FUEL ADMINISTRATOR ON THE LANDLORDS

(By International News Service.) Washington, Dec. 14.—Sic the Fuel Administrator on the landlord. It will be the Fuel Administrator's FOR STUPENDOUS ATTACK

be expowered to take up the matter directly with the landlord if the tenant's refuses to repair a house, or make furnace equipment (work-

Dogs Can't Run at Large in Gastonia Gastonia, Dec. 13 .- After January Gastonia, Dec. 13.—After January Ist no dogs will be allowed to run at large in Gastonia, an ordinance to this effect having been passed by the city council at its last meeting. Hereafter every owner of a dog must keep the canine securely confined on his premises or, when taking the dog out, the latter must be led by a chain. The enactment of this law was the result of the biting of a little girl on the street by a dog some weeks ago.

wilson was met at the station by a number of promanerial citizens and as, from there, driven to the hotel. She gave audience to the reporters but saw no one else.

Friday she will remain in her room all day. She will be escorted to the auditorium Friday night by the French, and British officers and American officers at Camp Greene. She will be oresented by Major General Diekman, commanding officer of Cauro Greene, who with Mayor McNinch, and the French; British and American officers who escort her from the hotel will have seata on the stage. Saturday morning Mess Wilson will be taken on a drive over the city add at 1 o'clock will be ten dered a luncheon by the women of Charlotte at the Selsyn hotel. She leaves Saturday hight for Sparian, hurg where the will size Monday.

13-21

For the information of my custe ers I will state that I haul out a gradeal of coal for the different cott mills to their help and when you may wagons hauling coal it is not dence that I have coal.

Today I have orders on my be for all the coal I expect to receive a ling the next three weeks. However, I can secure some additional coal will be in shape to book orders or the stage. Saturday morning Mess Wilson will be taken on a drive over the city add at 1 o'clock will be ten dered a luncheon by the women of Charlotte at the Selsyn hotel. She leaves Saturday hight for Sparian, hurg where the will size Monday.