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### FEDERAL SOLDIERS CAPTURE SEVERAL IMPORTANT TOWNS

San Marcos, important strategic point between Vera Cruz and Mexico City, has been taken by troops.

### REBEL TROOPS LEAVE PUEBLA

This city has been occupied by loyal followers of President Obregon—hard fight for San Marcos.

(By the Associated Press.) El Paso, Dec. 18.—Federal troops have taken San Marcos, the important strategic point between Vera Cruz and Mexico City and are advancing steadily toward the seaport stronghold of the rebels, according to advices received here today by the Mexican consul general Enrique D. Ruiz.

### FEDERAL TROOPS OCCUPY PUEBLA

Mexico City, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—Revolutionary forces evacuated Puebla last night, and Federal troops have occupied the city, according to the War Department announcement.

### POLICY SAME

Washington, Dec. 18.—The revolutionary movement in Mexico has not operated to change the policy of the American government toward Mexico, it was announced today at the White House.

### NOTHING KNOWN OF PROGRESS OF BATTLE

Vera Cruz, Dec. 18.—(Rebel headquarters today still were without information as to the progress of the battle of Vera Cruz and San Marcos, two important railway towns about 75 miles each from Mexico City. Reinforcements sent from Vera Cruz yesterday to the aid of the rebels generally at both places were not expected to come up for some time because railway lines have been torn up.

### FEAR SEVERAL PERISHED WHEN HOTEL BURNED

One charged body has been taken from ruins of hotel in Houston.

(By the Associated Press.) Houston, Tex., Dec. 18.—A badly charred body was removed from the ruins of the Capitol Hotel, destroyed by fire this morning. It is thought by officials of the fire department that other bodies are in the ruins. The body was burned beyond recognition.

### MORE BODIES FOUND

Houston, Texas, Dec. 18.—Three bodies had been recovered at 10:30 this morning from the ruins of the Capitol Hotel which was destroyed by fire this morning, and firemen thought many more bodies would be found. The identity of the bodies, all men, had not been established.

### THREE INJURED IN AUTO ACCIDENT NEAR SALISBURY

Frank Thompson, of Franklin Township, and two unidentified passengers hurt.

### REGULARS IN HOUSE STILL FEAR POWER OF THE INSURGENTS

Meeting of Ways and Means Committee postponed because leaders were afraid of block and Democrats.

### TAX REDUCTION BEFORE BONUS

This is plan of party leaders and they are not certain they can get enough strength to carry plans.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.—Republican leaders of the House who perfected their committee organization yesterday after a delay of two weeks, encountering a fresh setback today when they made the first attempt to begin legislative business of the session.

### GUNBOATS PREPARING FOR ANY EVENTUALITY

Situation in Canton, where boats are on duty, is very tense now.

Hong Kong, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—The flotilla of foreign gunboats in the harbor of Canton where a tense situation has prevailed since the recent threat of Dr. Sun Yat Sen, South China leader, to seize the customs funds, apparently is preparing for eventualities.

### FEWER DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS SHOWN

Kansas has lowest rate—10,695 deaths in New York as compared with 10,836 in 1921.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The Department of Commerce announces that compilations made by the Bureau of the Census show that 50,452 deaths were due to tuberculosis in the registration area of the United States in 1922, with a death rate of 07 per 100,000 population.

### LULL IN GERMAN CRISIS, BUT THOUSANDS CANT BUY BREAD

Berlin, Dec. 18.—Germany is having a temporary breathing spell. Some of the German political leaders, however, say that the quiet obtained at present cannot last longer than January 1st if substantial aid is not received from abroad.

### PREACHER CATCHES TRAIN THEFT SUSPECT WITH PLIERS

Kentucky pastor's automobile rammed by truck found to hold 700,000 cigarettes.

(By the Associated Press.) Asheville, Dec. 18.—The Rev. Charles Stephenson, pastor of the Episcopalian Church, by use of a nickel-plated pair of pliers which looked like a pistol in the darkness, has uncovered clues to a band of freight train robbers, it is believed by authorities here.

### FOX WILL NOT TAKE STAND IN DEFENSE

This announcement made by party who is in close touch with defense in Philip Fox case.

(By the Associated Press.) Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 18.—Cross examination of Dr. J. C. King, an alienist, was resumed today in the trial of Philip E. Fox, Ku Klux Klan editor, charged with the murder of Captain W. S. Coburn, Klan attorney. Dr. King yesterday corroborated previous defense testimony that Fox was a paranoiac.

### LIBERALS REMAIN FREE FROM ALL OTHER PARTIES

Former Premier Asquith says party will not form coalition.



### OPPOSITION DEVELOPED AGAINST FIVE ARTICLES

Demanded by fundamentalists of North Presbyterian Church.

New York, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—Vigorous opposition has been developed in the Presbyterian Church against the adoption of the five articles of faith demanded by fundamentalists in their victory over modernists in their General Assembly last May, it was learned today at headquarters of the New York Presbytery.

### ASHEVILLE WILL CONSTRUCT LARGEST OFFICE BUILDING

Asheville, Dec. 17.—Details for a new 12-story fireproof office building to cost in the neighborhood of \$400,000, which is to be erected at the intersection of Otis Street and Battery Park Avenue, were announced today.

### WITH OUR ADVERTISERS

Parker's Shoe Store is having a special Christmas sale on shoes and hosiery.

The Bollinger Service Station of Church Street, phone 232, is now making special prices on Exide batteries, Ford \$17, and Chevrolet over \$20.

### WHAT SAT'S BEAR SAYS

Pair and warmer tonight in extreme west, Wednesday cloudy, warmer in the northeast.

### U. S. NOT TO NEGOTIATE WITH SOVIET RUSSIA

Secretary Hughes says America not proposing to barter away its principles.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Secretary Hughes informed Russian Soviet officials today in a statement transmitted through the American consul at Revel that there would seem to be at this time no reason for negotiations with the soviet government such as suggested in the message from the soviet foreign minister yesterday at the White House.

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### MANY FRIENDS ATTEND FUNERAL OF CAPT. CALDWELL AT CHARLOTTE

Charlotte, Dec. 17.—The funeral of Capt. Melvin Caldwell, who died Sunday in France during the world war, took place this afternoon.

### NOT ONE CHILD BLIND OF CHICAGO 1922

Chicago, Dec. 17.—Of 56,724 births in Chicago in 1922, not one case of blindness has developed, it was announced today by the Chicago Health Department.

### TWO AVIATORS KILLED

San Antonio, Dec. 18.—Capt. Harold B. E. Stuecken, commander of the seventy-fourth school squadron, Brooks field, and Sergeant C. E. Rylas, were killed today when their ship crashed to earth at Pendleton, Texas.

### W. G. McADOO ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR NOMINATION

War-Time Railway Director wires South Dakota Democrats.

Los Angeles, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—Wm. Gibbs McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury under President Wilson, and wartime Director General of Railroads last night definitely announced his candidacy for the Democratic Presidential candidate.

Los Angeles, Calif., Dec. 17.—(By the Associated Press.)—Wm. Gibbs McAdoo, war-time director of the railroads, tonight formally announced his candidacy for the democratic presidential nomination in a telegram to W. W. Howes, democratic state chairman, at Pierre, S. D.

Mr. McAdoo's formal acceptance of the platform adopted by the democratic proposal convention already is in the mail en route to Pierre.

The telegram to the South Dakota democratic state chairman read: "Having led my formal acceptance of the platform adopted by the democratic proposal convention as required by South Dakota law, I desire again to express my appreciation of the honor conferred upon me by the convention and to say that I am willing to fight with and for the people of South Dakota in support of the progressive principles and endorsed by the convention.

"We shall get no relief from the burdens now oppressing us, nor shall we progress in any direction through the republican policies of stand-stillism and wishful wishing for these problems to solve themselves.

"The democratic party stands for progress and popular rights. It welcomes the opportunity to do battle for them.

"Mr. McAdoo's friends who have been crystallizing public sentiment in the democratic ranks are delighted that the full force of this sentiment had the effect of convincing him of the very real demand for his entry into the race for the democratic presidential nomination," the statement said, "the action of South Dakota, the first state to express a preference, inviting Mr. McAdoo to enter the race was the determining factor in convincing him of the magnitude of the call.

"We expect to make a vigorous campaign in every essential state. This announcement from Mr. McAdoo will greatly accelerate the movement that has so auspiciously been inaugurated.

"Mr. McAdoo is a real progressive and we confidently expect progressives everywhere to rally to his banner. The people are for Mr. McAdoo and we know their determination cannot be balked."

### KING AND QUEEN OF GREECE ADVISED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY

Government has told King George National Assembly will determine kind of regime Greece will have.

### ROYAL COUPLE TO VISIT ROUMANIA

They will remain until it is determined whether Greece will change from its form of government.

Athens, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—King George and Queen Elizabeth will leave Athens tonight for Roumania, it is announced by the newspapers here today.

The government last night informed the King in writing that it considered it advisable for him to leave Greece until the national assembly had decided on the regime best fitting the country. The King reserved reply until today.

The official communication issued after the cabinet meeting said: "As the constitutional assembly based on the election is about to meet to discuss the regime best suited to the country, the heads of the revolutionary government consider that with a view to assuring calm in the debate on this very important question, it was their duty to convey to His Majesty, the King, the opinion that he should leave the country until, such a time as final decision has been reached regarding the regime. This opinion has been communicated to the King who will make known his reply tomorrow (Tuesday)." 

REMEMBER SERVICE MEN AT OTEEN CHRISTMAS

### REMEMBER SERVICE MEN AT OTEEN CHRISTMAS

Baraca-Phylathe Union will fill boxes and send them to Yuletide.

Asheville, Dec. 17.—The task of providing a well filled box of useful gifts for every disabled ex-service man at Oteen hospital, Craigmont and other sanatoriums which is annually undertaken by the state Baraca-Phylathe Union, bids fair to be very successful this year, according to Mrs. N. Buckner, general executive secretary of the Baraca-Phylathe Union.

The beautiful Christmas boxes, which have been furnished by the Keystone Paper Box Manufacturing Company, of Burlington, are a bit larger than any that have been used heretofore by the Baraca-Phylathe Union, yet it is believed that every box will be generously filled by the good friends who have always assisted in making the Christmas plans successful and take this opportunity to send a message to the patients by their gifts.

Many splendid gifts have been received by the Baraca-Phylathe office in Asheville, and many more are on their way. Individuals as well as large manufacturing concerns are showing interest and appreciation to the disabled men and nurses and sending gifts of handkerchiefs, cravats, socks, safety razors, all kinds of toilet articles, fountain pens, cigars, cigarettes, smoking tobacco, pipes, bathrobes, sweaters, bedroom slippers, etc., in addition to auto and candies.

Mrs. Buckner has called attention to the particular need for men's furnishings and gifts rather than edibles. The disabled men are often so shy and every box will be generously filled by the good friends who have always assisted in making the Christmas plans successful and take this opportunity to send a message to the patients by their gifts.

### THE COTTON MARKET

Opened barely steady at decline of 12 to 23 points under selling orders.

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 18.—The cotton market opened barely steady today at a decline of 12 to 23 points under overnight selling orders, inspired by a belief that the sharp advance of yesterday afternoon had weakened the technical position. Liverpool was better than due and prices here steadied up shortly after the opening, with January advancing from 34.03 to 34.25 and May from 34.87 to 34.89. Offerings increased on this bulge, however, and there were re-advances of 10 to 15 points from the best. Private cables reported a better undertone in Liverpool, but complained of poor spot demand.

Cotton futures opened fairly steady, Dec. 34.80; Jan. 34.20 to 34.03; March 34.50 to 34.35; May 34.70; July 33.85.

### SEEK KINNANNON FOR FACTS ABOUT MURDER

Officials want to clear up the death of A. I. Berch, hotel man.

(By the Associated Press.) Marlow, Okla., Dec. 18.—Search for Marvin Kinnannon, aged 20, son of a well known family here, and a party of young men who are said to have left the city last night in an automobile was started today by county authorities as an aftermath of the killing last list of A. L. Berch, proprietor of a hotel, and the fatal wounding of Robert Journagan, negro porter. The negro died today.

County Attorney Paul Sullivan declared that Kinnannon was wanted for questioning in connection with the shooting which occurred when a party of about fifteen men went to Berch's hotel, threatening to lynch a negro whose presence in Marlow defied a rule of years' standing which forbids negroes to tarry in town after sundown.

"E" is the most common letter. In one thousand letters, E occurs 137 times in English, 184 times in French, 145 in Spanish, 179 in German.