

TEUTONS PUSH WITHIN 6 MILES OF RUMANIAN PORT

Mackensen's Outposts In Sight of Galatz, at End of Sereth Line.

TOWN OF VADENI WAS CAPTURED YESTERDAY

Few Modifications on Rumanian Front—Russians Maintain Their Advances in the Riga District; Heavy Attacks Faced.

(By Associated Press.) Field Marshal von Mackensen's outposts are now planted only six miles from Galatz, the important Rumanian port on the Danube end of the Sereth line.

Teutonic attacks northeast of Fort-shani were repulsed by the Russians, who inflicted heavy losses on their opponents.

Elsewhere along the Rumanian front the continuing battle, which is being waged under adverse weather conditions, has resulted recently in a few modifications of the line.

Petrograd's reports have indicated a virtually unchanged position, while Berlin's claims have been for the most part of isolated points of vantage won along the Moldavian frontier mountain chain.

On the northern end of the Russian front in the Riga district the Russians appear to have been maintained in the face of heavy counter attacks by the Germans.

Twice on successive days Petrograd has announced the repulse of heavy assaults by masses of troops.

The operations on the Franco-Belgian front are confined for the most part to the artillery. Paris has only activities by this arm of the service to report today.

PRISONERS ARE TAKEN. Berlin (via Sayville), Jan. 15.—"North of the Somme lively artillery continues," says today's army headquarters report on the Western front operations.

While at several places advances by hostile patrols were repulsed. Our reconnoitering detachments in successful enterprises brought in prisoners and machine guns.

Strong attacks were made yesterday by Russian and Rumanian troops on the recently captured Teutonic positions north of the Suchitza valley on the northern Rumanian front.

The statement announces the capture of the town of Vadani, southwest of Galatz, reported in last night's supplementary headquarters statement. The statement reads:

Front of Archduke Joseph: North of the Suchitza valley, the positions recently captured, were attacked by stronger Russo-Rumanian forces. The enemy was everywhere repulsed.

"Army group of Field Marshal von Mackensen—between the Buzeu and the mouth of the Sereth, in spite of unfavorable weather, Vadani, the last town held by the Russians south of the Sereth was taken by storm and in hand-to-hand fighting."

The statement announces conditions on the Racedonian front unchanged.

"The weather being cloudy, the fighting activity was small," says today's German army headquarters statement regarding operations along the Russian front."

Artillery Is Active. Paris, Jan. 15.—There was active artillery fighting last night in the vicinity of the Avere river and in the zone of the Aisne and the Argonne. Otherwise the night was uneventful. This afternoon's war office announcement reports:

"The communications follow: 'No important developments were reported last night. There was, however, fighting reported in the vicinity of the Avere river and between the Aisne and the Argonne.'"

In the Macedonian theatre of hostilities there has been a violent bombardment of the Vardar positions, together with various artillery activities. Otherwise bad weather has interfered with operations. The war office announcement concerning the Macedonian front follows:

"Bad weather has resulted in many floods, and violent snow storms are reported from the region of Lake Prespa. The enemy has shown activity along the front held by the Italians, where an attack has been repulsed and prisoners have been taken. The Vardar positions have been heavily bombarded and in the region of Rapesch our artillery repulsed with energy. A depot of munitions has been destroyed at Futures, in the north of Armatz."

"There has been several encounters to the south of lake Ochrida, probably at Coliberna, where one of our Indian detachments was engaged. Another detachment has made a slight advance in front of Zvezda."

\$10,000 DECREE FOR S. C. WIDOW UPHELD

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 15.—South Carolina decrees for \$10,000 damages against the Atlantic Coast Line in favor of the widow of W. E. Hulligan, Columbia, S. C., a locomotive engineer accidentally killed, were affirmed today by the Supreme Court.

GOVERNOR NOT TO HURRIEDLY NAME OFFICE HOLDERS

Petitions Are Piled High On His Gubernatorial Desk, Urging Appointments.

APPOINTMENTS WILL FOLLOW LEGISLATURE

"I Desire to Give My Attention To Matters I Wish Brought to Pass, Before Naming Anyone," He Says.

(By Associated Press.) Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 15.—Governor Bickett is to keep the faithful waiting. His appointments will be made with even more deliberation than that employed in his fetching speech.

On his gubernatorial desk are petitions piled high. Some of them want Jim Collie for the superintendency of the State prison; W. T. Woodley, E. F. McCulloch and T. W. Fenner for the chief clerkship; dozens for wardens of the same institution and a respectable few for the secretaryship of the North Carolina Railroad, the juiciest fruit of the administration.

For a time it looked fair enough to say that Jim Collie will be Jule Mann's successor; Bruce White Jim Cook's; E. F. McCulloch his own and Sam J. Busbee again the executioner. It is now known that Governor Bickett will not appoint men faster than he is obliged to do.

"You may say that I shall not appoint any men to positions until after the legislature unless the appointments are those upon which the legislature must act," Mr. Bickett said yesterday. "I desire above all things now to give my attention to things that I wish brought to pass, some of which are now pending before the general assembly. Some appointments must be made before the legislature adjourns. I shall act upon those as soon as I can get to them."

If Bruce White finds it impossible to quit teaching law at Wake Forest and Jim Collie doesn't want to leave Washington, these two choice places in the State administration, secretary of the North Carolina Railroad and superintendent of the State prison, may not go to the Louisburgers. As for Governor Bickett he hasn't said a word about his intentions. He is allowing the boys to guess his mind. Senator Jim Cook would not be averse to holding over and doing the little work connected with the secretaryship, and Jule Mann, while a rotationist, isn't so crazy about it that he would object to helping Bickett out in a manifest extremity—making a choice among the forty who would like this juicy job.

Before Bickett has had time to take the temperature of the Governor's chair, political talk has begun. Everybody who is curious about such things wants to know who will be the "Big Ike" of his administration.

Folks who didn't especially care for Governor Craig—had always been Kitchenites or anti-Craig—loved to see J. W. Bailey, Col. A. D. Watts, Charley Webb and Judge R. W. Winston come from the Governor's office. To them it was patent that Governor Craig relied intellectually upon Bailey, legally upon Judge Winston, politically upon Watts and fraternally upon Webb. Tenth district Democrats who have been busy preventing Britt from "running over the Democrats" cannot say things too severe about the Webb domination of Governor Craig.

And of course it doesn't offend Bailey or Judge Winston to be saddled with the policy of the Craig administration. Nobody would get either Raleigh lawyer to admit his belief that the other could master the mountain governor. Each believes that Governor Craig has "caught on to" the other. The better friends of Governor Craig will not admit that anybody dominates him save as loyalty to past friendships hules the ex-Governor. Plenty of the folks about Raleigh who heard in former years that Secretary Daniels would take charge of the State, when Governor Craig came down here, but everybody who heard this prophecy lived to see its negative.

But who will boss, cajole, or otherwise manage Bickett? They are asking now.

Not one of the so-called machine organizations was open and active for Bickett. Watts voted for him and had somebody not called him down it is more than probable that Jim Hartness might have succeeded Bryan Grimes. Early in the primary campaign Jim Hartness looked up to the Bickett handwagon and every where in North Carolina he just let the cat out of the bag. He told them that Bickett would sweep the State. Hartness knew and he was riding the same conveyance.

The Daughtridge men persuaded him that he might be mistaken. They told him to line up with them on rotation, Sandy McKinnon et cetera, most et cetera. Hartness perhaps never did, but it got out. But Hartness was rampant for Bickett and must have done him good everywhere he went scattering the seeds of Bickett's victory.

Watts voted for him too. So did Chairman Tom Warren and others of the big league. Bailey joined in late but Bailey never wanted to do it and he knows that Bickett is not bound to anyone. It is no secret that Bickett has no senatorial aspirations and has time and again said that Senator Simmons ought to follow himself without

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ADMIRAL DEWEY IS SLOWLY SINKING

Practically Every Organ In His Body Affected By Arterial Sclerosis.

GREAT AMERICAN PASSING.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 15.—Admiral Dewey, hero of Manila Bay, is lying at his home here. Late this afternoon he was conscious and physicians said his chances for living another 36 hours were remote. A general breakdown with arterial sclerosis is the cause.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 15.—Admiral Dewey, hero of Manila Bay, who has been confined to his home here for the last five days by a general breakdown, was reported as "slowly sinking" by his doctors at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

His physicians issue the following bulletin: "Admiral Dewey has been slowly declining since early this morning. The primary condition is arterial sclerosis which affects practically every organ in the body, especially the kidneys and brain. Although he has shown great rallying power at times, he is slowly sinking. So far his heart is strong and his lungs are clear, but these organs may be suddenly and seriously affected at any time."

THAW'S MOTHER WON'T DISCUSS SON'S CASE

(By Associated Press.) Philadelphia, Jan. 15.—Harry K. Thaw's mother today refused to make any statement regarding the plans of the family in the matter of Thaw's extradition to New York to answer to charges of assaulting Frederick Gump, Jr., of Kansas City.

Friends of the Thaw family, however, believe that the final decision in the matter of Thaw's removal to New York will be to resist extradition.

Counsel for Oliver A. Brower, arrested in connection with the Gump charges, will make an effort at hearings late today to have Brower released from custody on the ground that he had nothing to do with the offense alleged against Thaw. Extradition papers for Brower's removal to New York were received here today.

LAST PERIOD OF CONTEST STARTED WITH A WHIRL

Hardest Fight of Entire Contest Will Take Place in Third and Last Period—Candidates All Realize Time Is Growing Short.

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TODAY'S LEADERS.

- Ada Humphrey . . . 38,760
Frankie Anderson . . . 38,520
Elizabeth Sloan . . . 38,020
Mrs. G. A. Bishop . . . 37,974
Pauline Newsome . . . 37,673
Maude Ivey . . . 37,433
Mrs. Earnest A. Taylor . . . 37,108
Almeria Wolff . . . 36,816

There are two new occupants of high seats in the Dispatch contest as the result of the voting Saturday, and several others who attempted to reach the coveted positions fell only a few votes short of accomplishing their object.

The list is headed by Miss Ada Humphrey, of Wilmington, who has not been among the leaders for several days.

Miss Frankie Anderson, one of the four fighting candidates from Fair Bluff, deposited 30,000 votes, which was enough to put her in second place and only 240 votes behind Miss Humphrey.

Miss Sloan was one of the leaders among the leaders since January 4th, when she occupied the last position. Since that date she had been gradually dropping behind, and decided that it was time to let her friends and competitors know that she was still in the race to win.

In third place is Miss Elizabeth Sloan, Wilmington. This is the first time Miss Sloan has been among the leaders, and the 35,000 votes which she cast Saturday, was one of the largest deposited during the day.

Mrs. G. A. Bishop, Winter Park, is fourth; Miss Pauline Newsome, Clinton, is fifth; Miss Maude Ivey, Clarkton, is sixth; Mrs. Earnest A. Taylor, Maysville, is seventh, and Miss Almeria Wolff, Wilmington, is eighth. All have been on the honor roll before.

In a voting way, the honors for the day go to Miss Annie Maye Butler, of Phoenix, who cast 60,000 votes. While this was not enough to get her name among the leaders, she is many rungs of the ladder nearer the top, than she has been for many days.

The third and last period in the

great race for the valuable prizes offered by The Dispatch started off with a whirl today. Each of the active contestants seemed to be imbued with the same idea, to start their third period work with the final signal to "go" and thus gain the advantage of some few thousand votes while some were resting up and accomplishing nothing.

The contestants showed by their efforts today that they realize the time is growing short in which to make themselves the winners of the valuable prizes offered by The Dispatch. Many of them were busy yesterday among their friends and supporters in starting their "home stretch" campaigns that will land them among the elect on the last night of the contest. "New subscribers" is the slogan of the contestants as they are starting out on the work on the last lap.

Every thought and every energy of the different contestants is devoted to winning one of the prizes, and their efforts are being furthered by a host of loyal supporters and friends who have been quick to answer the battle cry and rally around the standard of their favorites. Each contestant seems to be imbued with the spirit of her forefathers and is determined to fight the battle to the last ditch.

"No mercy" is the watchword of one, and "no quarter" the answering cry from the rest. The fierce intoxication of contest seems to run riot in their veins, and no warrior of old ever fought with more evident relish for the honor and integrity of the crown. Each is determined to overwhelm the others in a decisive manner. Sorties and skirmishes to test the mettle and strength of their opponents and direct charges to rout the former leaders from the positions of vantage they have gained, it seems, are already prominent features.

Ordinary attention has been augmented to the highest pitch of enthusiasm. As the various contestants advance or fall back before the repeated and well directed onslaught of their aggressive competitors, interest reaches the fever stage of intensity. It is one of the fundamental traits of human nature to enjoy a scrimmage and interest in this particular scrimmage has resulted in campaign managers wisely directing their candidates to throw down the gauntlet to their opponents and come out in the open.

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SOUTHERN CITIES ARE COVERED BY SNOW BLANKETS

Northern and Central Texas Has to Dig Itself Out of Element.

STREET CAR AND R. R. SERVICE IS IMPEDED

Eastern Arkansas, Northern Mississippi and Western Tennessee Are Also Hit.

(By Associated Press.) Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 15.—Snow and sleet today covered a large portion of the South. North and Central Texas are under one of the heaviest snow falls in their history, 7.1 inches having fallen in Dallas since early yesterday. The storm extended over Eastern Arkansas, Northern Mississippi and Western Tennessee, Western North Carolina and Virginia.

Street car service was interrupted in Memphis where snow to a depth of 4-12 inches lay in the streets. In Nashville, three inches of sleet coated the streets and interfered with traffic.

Sleet was reported also from Charlotte, Greensboro, N. C., and several points in Virginia.

Heaviest in History. Dallas, Texas, Jan. 15.—North and Central Texas today was literally digging itself out of one of the heaviest snowstorms in its history.

The snow, which began early yesterday, continued until late last night, at times assuming the proportions of a blizzard and reached a depth in the city of 7.1 inches.

Although delayed somewhat last night, street car service was practically normal today.

Incoming trains were running two hours late.

Traffic Impeded. Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 15.—All Nashville was at work late this morning in consequence of three inches of sleet on the ground. Street car traffic all over the city was all but stopped because of cars being unable to climb the hills. The thermometer registered 18 degrees above at 7 o'clock, a rise of three degrees from the coldest during the night. Sleet was still falling.

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TOM LAWSON TAKES STAND; MUST REPLY

Clothed With Authority To Compel Him to Answer, Committee Is Prepared.

WHITE POLITICAL SUPREMACY WHEN "SUFFS" GET VOTE

Southern Women will argue That Power Will Be Clinched With Suffrage.

MORE WHITE WOMEN THAN ALL NEGROES.

Bills For Presidential Suffrage Modelled After Illinois Statutes Will Be Introduced This Winter.

(By George H. Manning.) Washington, D. C., Jan. 15.—The granting of suffrage to women in the Southern States will clinch the political supremacy of the white race. This is the special argument which Southern women will advance in the legislatures of the twelve Southern States in which bills for presidential suffrage, modelled after the Illinois equal suffrage statutes, will be introduced this winter.

In four Southern States, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Texas, the number of white women exceeds the whole negro population. In six states, Alabama, Arkansas, North Carolina, Louisiana and Georgia, woman suffrage would tremendously increase the preponderance of white votes; in Mississippi and South Carolina, where the negro population exceeds the white, equal suffrage would double the intelligent electorate.

These are the claims made by National American Woman Suffrage Association in behalf of suffrage for women.

Not only would suffrage give white control in these states a more permanent footing now, but, it is pointed out by Southern women, that white supremacy will grow with the years because the increase of white population is more rapid than the increase of negro population. The official estimates for population in 1916, published by the Census Bureau, show that white population in 12 Southern States has increased 10.8 per cent in the last seven years, while the negro population has increased only 5.6 per cent.

Walter E. Clark, chief justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, has endorsed equal suffrage in the South as an essential to white supremacy. Thoroughly familiar with conditions in the South, he advocates equal suffrage on precisely the same grounds that the bill for presidential suffrage will be urged.

"It can be confidently relied upon that the more intelligent people will vote and that the less intelligent will not," said Senator Robert L. Owen of Oklahoma, today. "The assertion that the weak and vicious women will vote while the intelligent women will not is utterly fallacious. That was proved beyond doubt in the last election."

"Equal suffrage in the South will strengthen white supremacy, because the white women of the South are intelligent and educated and can be depended upon properly to exercise the right to vote if it is given to them."

"The South has been the backbone of Democracy. It should not forget that the national Democracy owes its last victory to the votes of the intelligent women of the West. That fact should count in the South."

Among the Southern women who will be active in urging the passage of the several presidential suffrage bills are: Miss Mary Henderson, Chapel Hill, N. C.; Mrs. C. M. Platt, Asheville; Miss Pauline V. Orr, Columbus, Miss.; Mrs. B. B. Valentine, Richmond; Mrs. Pattie Ruffner Jacobs, of Alabama; Mrs. John H. Lewis, Lynchburg; Mrs. C. H. Collier, Selma, Ala.; Mrs. Julian B. Parks, Selma, Ala.; and Mrs. A. B. Single, Baton Rouge, La.

WAR ECONOMY BOARD CREATED IN PRUSSIA

(By Associated Press.) Amsterdam, Jan. 15 (via London).—The Berlin Vossische Zeitung says that in order to safeguard the food supply the Prussian ministry has created a war economy board in each province.

The boards consist of government officials and farmers whose duty it is to encourage agricultural production and supply labor, horses and machinery. The boards have no powers, however, to requisition goods for distribution or as aids to production.

PREPAREDNESS BODIES MEET IN WASHINGTON

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 15.—Delegates from more than a score of patriotic and preparedness organizations in the United States gathered here today for a conference to consider principally the co-ordination of the country's plans to advance the cause of preparedness.

The following organizations were represented: American Defense Society, American National Red Cross, American Society, Army League of the United States, National Association for Universal Military Training, Daughters of the American Revolution, Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, Naval and Military Order of the Spanish-American War, Navy League of the United States, Order of Washington, Society of American Wars, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of Veterans, United States, United Daughters of Confederacy, United Spanish War Veterans, United Daughters of 1812, Sons of the Revolution, Washington Corral Military Order of the Carabao, Maryland League of National Defense and National Security League.

ENTENTE ALLIES HAVE TAKEN CERIGO ISLAND

(By Associated Press.) Athens, Friday, Jan. 12.—via London, Jan. 15. (Delayed)—The Allies occupied the Island of Cerigo on Wednesday.

RUMANIANS THROW OPPONENT BACK

Russians Repulse Germans, Then Withdraw to North of Vadeni.

(By Associated Press.) Petrograd, Jan. 15 (Via London).—In the course of a violent engagement yesterday near the Kasino river on the Northern Rumanian front, the Rumanians threw back their opponents one verst (66 miles), the war office announced today.

Teutonic attacks northeast of Fort-shani were repulsed by the Russians, who inflicted heavy losses on their opponents. Field Marshal von Mackensen's army has made a further advance toward Galatz, causing the Russians to withdraw towards the north in the vicinity of Vadeni.

BATTLEFIELDS ARE COVERED BY SNOW

White-Covered Fields Make Sunday Strangest Day Since Start of War.

(By Associated Press.) London, Jan. 14.—This has been one of the strangest days in the strange world war. It is as been a wonderfully white day—a day of snow, white fog, white fields, and strange white trees glistening in magical mantles of clear white frost. Even the brown, gripping, remorseless mud of the Somme—the mud that has been almost the master of the war for these past two months, has hidden its treacherous depth for the time at least, beneath the soft, fleecy flakes that came during the night to spread a Sabbath veil of purity over the wretched, squallid and somber battle grounds of Northern France.

In most of the front line trenches there was the mystic quiet that comes with snow. No man's land had been lifted for the moment out of its degraded and abject state of melancholic desolation and placed on a picturesque white equality with the untrammelled lands that lie about the fighting zones. The torturous rusted barriers of grim barbed wire in front of the enemy positions had been transformed into tangled and clinging snow.

Back of the lines, the British guns that never seem to tire or sleep—guns that winter cannot muzzle or frosts subdue—spoke with a white, hot breath from hiding places screened and doubly secure beneath the white cover of the newly fallen snow.

Under the spell of the snow and the mists there was, what is not often the case out here, an almost tangible touch of Sunday in the air. Whether it was the white fog that enveloped so much of the front or whether it was just some such shadowy spirit of the Sabbath, the stringent voices of the guns seemed more muffled than usual and further away. But the messengers that the guns sent smashing through the miles of glacial space spoke to their foes in the same determined tones that have been heard with such unrelenting regularity during all these wintry days.

The war that stretches out over the years is a war that necessarily resolves itself into a routine of much the same trend over and over again. Today, however, in all its whiteness, it seemed just a wee bit different.

WEAVER'S ELECTION TO BE CONTESTED

Congressman Britt Will File With House as Soon As New Congress Comes In

(By George H. Manning.) Washington, D. C., Jan. 15.—Congressman James W. Britt sent by registered mail to his attorneys at Asheville yesterday a formal notice for them to serve on Zebulon Weaver, the Democratic candidate who defeated Britt in November, notice that he will contest his election before the House of Representatives.

The document, which covers twenty-seven typewritten pages, reviews the whole election campaign and sets out the grounds for contesting the results of election actions. Mr. Britt will file with the House of Representatives as soon as the next Congress comes into existence after March 4, a final contest and attempt to prevent Weaver being seated as his successor.

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