

FRENCH MAKING PREPARATIONS

FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT OF PRESIDENT WILSON. GERMAN NEWSPAPER INVITES HIM TO VISIT GERMANY. GERMAN PEOPLE MORE FRIENDLY AS BRITISH ARMY ADVANCES. ANOTHER ARMY TRANSPORT JOYFULLY RECEIVED

Paris, Dec. 9.—Elaborate plans are being made by the French for the entertainment of President Wilson. These plans include state dinners, luncheons, official calls and a gala night at the opera. The program will be completed in the next few days.

The proprietors of all the mercantile establishments in Paris have notified their employees that next Saturday will be a general holiday. The celebrations in honor of the President are expected to be the greatest that have ever been held in France.

President Invited to Visit Germany
Amsterdam, Dec. 9.—President Wilson has been invited to visit Cologne by the *Volkes Zeitung* which suggests that the German representatives of the foreign ministry meet him and escort him to the city.

Soldiers Returned From German Prison Camps to Have Christmas Boxes

The friends and relatives of men who were known to be confined in German prison camps during the progress of hostilities with that country, had arranged to send them Christmas packages through Switzerland. These packages were shipped in October to allow ample time for the difficult transfer and necessary delays. It has been estimated that 108 cases containing 2413 Christmas parcels and fifteen cases of cigars, all designed for the American prisoners were sent on the transport *Texas* from New York via Marseilles and thence to Switzerland. These cases have been located by the Red Cross and diverted to Paris instead of to Switzerland, where the names of the men for whom they were intended will be carefully studied and their whereabouts determined in order that the packages may not go astray but that each one will be delivered to the owner as was the hope of the friends at home.

This will be a welcome piece of news to many and the Southern Division of the Red Cross is pleased to make the authoritative announcement.

Army Transport Arrives With Soldiers

New York, Dec. 9.—The United States Army transport the *Sierra* with 35 officers and 1,531 privates and non commissioned officers aboard arrived here today from aboard. The transport was greeted with screams from whistles from fire tugs and the craft in the harbor all the way up the river and when it landed at its dock at Hoboken.

German Population More Friendly
London, Dec. 9.—The German population west of the Rhine have become more friendly to the British as it moves further east.

The Red Cross Provides Relief for French Refugees

The French refugees from the devastated districts of the Oise are gradually returning to their homes, or what is left of them, and are starting life anew. The American Red Cross has established clinics and relief stations to provide prompt medical aid and relief for these unfortunate people. This was done at the invitation of the French local authorities and the medical force employed includes dentists and eye specialists in addition to general practitioners.

FREIGHT RATES UP AGAIN

Maxwell Shows How Proposed Rate Making By Administration Will Place Us

UNDER VIRGINIA CITIES

Washington, Dec. 9.—"Such an adjustment would leave us as completely under the commercial domination of the Virginia cities as Germany will be under the military domination of the Allies when they complete their occupation of the Rhine forts," is the ringing indictment of A. J. Maxwell, of the North Carolina Corporation Commission, in describing the proposed uniform scale of freight rates. The views of the North Carolina Corporation Commission are contained in a letter written by Mr. Maxwell to Edward Chambers, director of traffic, United States Railroad Administration.

Senator F. M. Simmons will this week break away from his engaging duties relating to the revenue bill to make a determined fight on the proposed mileage class rate scale. He will confer with A. C. Prouty, of the Railroad Administration, and will spare no effort this side of the White House to halt the alleged discriminatory rate basing undertaken by the Railroad Administration. The Senator will fight the proposition to the bitter end. The presentation of A. J. Maxwell follows:

"In my letter of the 1st instant, to the Director General, consideration was given particularly to the measure of the rates in the proposed local scales. That letter was written soon after the receipt of the proposed scales, and in something of amazement that such high scales had been proposed, after investigation, by the Railroad Administration. I had not at that time analyzed the matter sufficiently to give consideration to the question of relationship as affected by the proposed adjustment, and after consideration of this feature of it I am much more alarmed for the interests of North Carolina than I was by the measure of the proposed rates.

"It is hardly necessary that I should observe in correspondence with you, that rate relationship is the life of commerce and industry of communities and states. It is not too extravagant to say that freight rate relationships have caused more bad feeling in North Carolina than any other economic question in the last twenty years. You can readily understand why this should be so, with no rate basing point in North Carolina, while just across the State line there are strung out a series of rate-basing points all along its northern border (like forts along a defended line—Norfolk, Portsmouth, Richmond, Petersburg, Lynchburg and Roanoke) and to which favored rates are made from every point of the compass, even when all-rail hauls clear across North Carolina are involved to reach them.

"The rate-basing point system of constructing long distance rates into the southeastern territory has been condemned by every unbiased text writer who has analyzed the subject. Before the roads were taken over by the government, the Interstate Commerce Commission had shown a decided tendency to work out such unjustifiable favoritism. Professor Ripley, in his work on transportation rates, says:

"And then, finally, it is indubitable that commercial competition as a compelling factor has been somewhat over-emphasized by the railroads. Too often conditions in part brought about by themselves, or in which at least they have acquiesced, have been set up as a defense for rates favoring certain points. This is especially true of the southern-basing point cases."

"So that it was in the confident (Continued on last page)

AN URGENT APPEAL

Volunteer Your Services to the Red Cross
100 men and women wanted to help canvass Wilson Township Sunday afternoon, Dec. 15th to secure members for the Red Cross Christmas Roll Call. Call H. E. Barlow, county chairman at 463 or 551L and offer your services.

Think what the Red Cross has meant to our boys. Don't wait to be approached but volunteer NOW.

HOW THE BRITISH NAVY

Helped to Carry American Troops. Diverted Ships From All

PARTS OF THE WORLD

London, Dec. 9.—Regarding British aid in the transport of American troops the Shipping Controller Saturday made the following statement to The Associated Press:

"The real effort to accelerate the movement of American troops began at the end of March, when we realized that it was necessary to do what we could with British bottoms to supplement the American effort. We sent a mission to the United States with the object of seeing the fitting-out facilities there. So far as they were not required for American troops they were utilized to the maximum in fitting out British troopships.

"Ships were gathered from every source, with the result that in the six months between April and September 850,000 American troops, or 60 per cent of the total number carried within that period, were transported in British bottoms. In all, of the 2,000,000,000-odd American troops transported to France, well over a million were carried in British ships. The whole of this million were escorted to the United Kingdom danger zone by ships of the Royal Navy. British shipping at that time was in a perilous situation, but in order to further the movement of American troops we were prepared to make every sacrifice.

"The following steps were taken: From South Africa we removed every passenger steamer, and for the time being practically killed trade with that country. From India and Australia we removed all that the fast steamers plying to and between those two countries, and we made very dangerous sacrifices of meat supplies—endangering even those of the British Army—by transferring these ships to the North Atlantic, thus wasting refrigerator space, as meat was not available for export from North American ports.

"Our loss of essential imports owing to the fitting out of ships for the carriage of American troops amounted to well over 1,000,000,000 tons. That sacrifice of imports was made at a time when our total imports had been reduced to 32,000,000 tons a year, of which 14,000,000 were munitions and 13,000,000 essential foods, as compared with the peace figure of 54,000,000 tons.

"One hundred and seventy-five British vessels of more than 1,500,000 tons deadweight were put especially in the service of carrying American troops, and we even fitted up ships for that purpose.

"While the sacrifice to Great Britain was heavy, the practical isolation for the time being of the overseas dominions involved very serious hardships—which were borne without complaint—recognizing as the dominions did the vital necessity of the measures taken."

THE WEATHER

For North Carolina generally cloudy tonight and Tuesday, probably rain in central and western portion with moderate winds, mostly southwest.

Pay your bonuses and dividends in War Savings Stamps and buy the Stamps this month.

RESTRICTIONS ON COTTON REMOVED

Which Were Imposed by War Industries Board When Armistice Was Signed

COTTON GINNED 9,563,124

New York, Dec. 9.—The prohibition of cotton selling on the New York and New Orleans exchanges which was imposed November thirteenth as an emergency measure to prevent the too rapid decline of cotton on account of the signing of the armistice removed today by the cotton distributing committee of the War Industries Board.

Amount of Cotton Ginned

Washington, Dec. 9.—Cotton ginned this season to date are 9,563,124 running bales, including 134,150 rounded bales; 10,170 bales of American Egyptian, and 25,741 bales of Sea Island the census bureau announces.

Prior to December first last year, there were 9,713,529. The ginning by states follow: North Carolina, 647,203; South Carolina 1,241,122 and Virginia 15,020.

MARKETS

COTTON

New York, Dec. 9.—The feature of the cotton market today was the removal of the restrictions against short selling as a war measure by the War Industries Board.

The market opened steady at a decline of from 28 to 40 points on the continued realizing movement. The offerings were quickly absorbed however and the active month sold from twelve to twenty points net higher after the call.

New York, Dec. 9.—Cotton futures opened steady with December 27.60 to 27.41, June 26.35 to 26.10, March 25.15 to 25.03, May 24.30, January 23.50.

At noon January was 26.10 and spots on the Wilson market are 24 cents.

STOCKS

New York, Wall Street, Dec. 9.—Firmness accompanied the early dealing on the stock exchange today, the events over the week-end were in evidence and served to produce a more hopeful feeling. The speculative issues were the most conspicuous. Beet Sugar and Industrial Alcohol adding from one to three points to their former figures. The Steels and the equipments were sustained by the weight of United States Steel, Bethlehem Steel and the prominent Coppers as well as the rails also improved under the lead of Southern Pacific.

GREAT BRITAIN WILL DEMAND FORTY BILLION OF GERMANY

London, Dec. 7.—Great Britain will demand of Germany 8,000,000,000 pounds sterling for Great Britain and her dominions and reparation for the war, according to the Daily Mail. The newspaper says it understands that David Lloyd George, the premier, will make this announcement in a speech at Leeds today.

This, the Daily Mail adds, is what the war cost Great Britain and her dominions and British tax payers will be relieved of 400,000,000 pounds per annum by the German payment.

THE PRESIDENT OF PORTUGAL

ARMED SOLDIERS CONTROL BERLIN

And Also Munich. Force Minister of the Interior to Resign and Close

THE NEWSPAPER OFFICES

Munich, Saturday, Dec. 7.—A crowd of armed soldiers last night went to the residence of the Minister of Interior and after forcing an entrance demanded the minister's resignation, which he conceded.

Revolutionists also stormed the newspaper offices except one. They withdrew several hours later at the earnest request of the Bavarian Premier, Kurt Eisner, who hurried to the scene.

Herr Auer, the minister whose resignation was demanded, was given two minutes to decide at the point of a revolver. He was then forced to put his resignation into writing. At first he wrote: "I have been overcome by about 300 armed men in my dwelling and forced to resign the office of Minister of Interior. I declare herewith that, surrendering to force, I lay down the office of minister of the Interior."

This did not satisfy the revolutionists, who demanded a statement that the resignation was voluntary. The crowd was led by Erich Muehlen. They proceeded from a communist meeting to the office of the Bavarian Courtier, and appointed a woman as editor of that newspaper. They remained in the Courier office until Premier Eisner went there with a guard.

The *Neueste Nachrichten*, was the only Munich paper able to appear this morning.

Berlin, Saturday, Dec. 7.—The rioting of Friday in Berlin, the mysterious raid on the executive committee of the Soldiers' and Workmen's Council, and the demonstration by soldiers and sailors on behalf of Chancellor Ebert (when he was acclaimed as President of the Republic, but set aside the honor) have intensified the existing gap between the two wings of the social democracy, which seems now more than ever hopelessly divided.

Political onlookers are wondering today whether the Ebert and Haase factions have reached the parting of the ways, and are asking what will be the attitude of the Berlin regiments from the front when they arrive home next week.

The clash between government troops and followers of the Spartacus, or Radical, group resulted in from twelve to sixteen persons being killed, according to various reports. The number of wounded is not expected to exceed fifty. Several girls who were passengers on a street car were among those killed.

It appears that the audience from one of the three meetings of deserters from the army was marching northward in Chaussee Strasse to join the audience from a meeting held in a hall further north. The Fusilier guards were drawn up at the intersection of Invaliden Strasse and the commander warned the people to disperse. The marchers were crying "forward! The soldiers won't shoot their comrades!" The marchers tried to pierce the line whereupon the order to fire was given. Besides the wounded, several were badly hurt rushing through broken show windows seeking cover.

A group of soldiers stormed the editorial rooms of Karl Liebknecht's newspaper and attempted to destroy the paper and plant. Frustrated in their raid in the newspaper office by the government orders, the soldiers then attempted to arrest the members of the executive committee of the soldiers and workmen's council, the soldiers apparently laboring under the misapprehension that their officer had been ordered by the government to make the arrest.

This occurred at the same hour as

FIRE AT BY UNIDENTIFIED MAN. MISSED THE MARK HOWEVER AND WAS ARRESTED. FIVE ADDITIONAL DIVISIONS ADDED TO AMERICAN ARMY OF OCCUPATION. AMERICANS IN COBLENTZ GERMANY. TURKS MASSACRED 10,000 ARABIANS WHEN THEY EVACUATED CITIES.

Lisbon, Portugal, Dec. 7.—An unidentified man fired at Dr. Sidonio Paes the President of Portugal in the streets here yesterday. The shot missed its mark, however, and the would-be assassin was arrested.

Americans in Coblenz

Amsterdam, Dec. 7.—Five American officers arrived in Coblenz on Thursday and conferred with the Burgomaster and the local German commander and the railroad authorities, according to the *Cologne Gazette*.

The newspapers stated that the last German troops would leave Coblenz on Saturday.

President Calls For Davidson and Baruch

Washington, Dec. 7.—Bernard Baruch, Chairman of the War Industries Board and Henry P. Davidson have been asked by President Wilson to attend the peace conference in Europe that he might have the benefit of their knowledge and experience.

the clash between the government troops and the Spartacus insurgents. The executive committee was holding a meeting in the former Prussian House of Deputies. The chamber was invaded by the armed forces and a demand made for the surrender of the council of twenty-eight in the name of the Ebert-Haase government. People's Commissioner Barth who also is a member of the commission, faced the invaders with a challenge for their authority.

Meanwhile, inquiry was made at government headquarters and resulted in the detention of the leaders of the insurgent forces, who were armed with hand weapons and flame throwers for the purpose of establishing responsibility for the attempted revolution. It developed that the men had been invited by unattached officers to meet at a given hour at the Brandenburg gate for the purpose of raiding and overthrowing the soldiers and workmen's committee as such action, they were told, was demanded in the interest of the Ebert-Haase government and furthermore that it was certain to meet with public approval.

The raid proved a complete fiasco as did a similar attempt an hour later which apparently was planned by Dr. Liebknecht's followers, as it was announced at their meetings.

Yesterday evening Berlin foot-guards and soldiers marched to the former Chancellor's house and calling out Premier Ebert, who made a speech urging the men to keep their military units intact for the purpose of responding to hurry calls. Premier Ebert was cheered as the coming President of the German Republic. He modestly declined to seriously consider the proposition, urging that the cabinet for the present was concerned in problems of immediate urgency, such as the food situation and demobilization.

The streets tonight are deserted, the university is closed, as its buildings on the Unter den Linden have been requisitioned for the purpose of quartering troops here.

If you want to see the soldier boys come back home, buy War Savings Stamps.