

## Russians Are Making Progress Along Lines

### Have Pushed Back The Germans All Along the Vistula—Bruges Bombarded By Aeroplane -- Famous Church Is Damaged.

LONDON, Dec. 22. (Central News Cable)—Fighting their way from Plock northward along the lower Vistula, the Russians have pushed considerable forces over the southern boundary of east Prussia between Ilwa and Thorn. This is the newest development in the eastern theatre of the war aside from the checking of the German advance now battling before Warsaw in an effort to cross the Ezura to Sochaczew.

### BOMB EXPLODES

ROME, Dec. 22.—Tonight a bomb exploded in the courtyard of the famous church of St. Clemente, damaging the yard and a number of buildings adjoining it. Another bomb was later found inside of the church but this was removed before it caused any damage.

### BRUGES ATTACKED

AMSTREDAM, Dec. 22.—A number of American officers arrived today at Berlin from Munich, bringing with them a story of an aeroplane which, risking the many searchlights last night, dropped three bombs on Bruges. There was a violent explosion when the bombs struck, but the damage by them is unknown.

### SUMMARY OF WAR

In the opinion of French military authorities the Germans are beginning to lose their grip on France and Belgium. An official summary of results achieved by the allies in their offensive movements recounts progress at many points, which "seems to have disturbed the enemy."

It is asserted the Germans are now fearful of attacks and are everywhere on the defensive. Latest communications from Berlin, however, tell of spirited offensive movements, with resulting gains, and make it appear that the German armies are firmly holding the conquered ground.

There is a similar conflict of statements concerning the east. The Russian war office challenges recent accounts of great German victory in Poland by "malevolent reports" of the last few days. While it is admitted at Petrograd that the recent retirement of the Russian forces to new positions was not entirely voluntary, the claim is made that the armies are now in safer and stronger positions.

David Lloyd George, British chancellor of the exchequer, is quoted as saying that before spring Great Britain will have 500,000 more men at the front.

### PASTOR'S BODY FOUND BY TRACK

#### Rev. L. P. Howard Killed By Lake Shore Train

Kingston, Dec. 22.—The details of the killing of Rev. Leslie P. Howard of Durham, son-in-law of Mr. J. W. Goodson of this city, whose death under a train near Kingston, N. Y. were received here today. The body was found on the track about three miles from Kingston, and was badly mangled. He had been dead several hours when discovered. The coroner at Kingston stated that he was killed by a Lake Shore train about midnight Sunday, but the body was not located until 6:30 a. m. Monday.

Mr. Howard had been ill since late in the summer, but friends in Durham had been informed that he was getting along nicely and understood that he hoped soon to be able to return to the pastorate of Memorial Methodist church in that city. It seems that he left the sanatorium where he was staying late Sunday night, and was not seen again until his dead body was found.

It was stated at first that Rev. Mr. Howard was killed in a wreck, but his friends did not expect him to return to North Carolina for Christmas, and did not accept the report without reservation.

Mrs. Howard was preparing to come here to spend the holidays with her father and was on the way to take a train when she received the shock in intelligence.

Rev. Mr. Howard was a native of Alabama, but had been in North Carolina many years. He graduated at Trinity College. He has held pastorates in Rocky Mount, Morehead City and Durham.

The body was shipped to Durham Monday night.

Besides the widow, who was Miss Nan Goodson, two children survive.

### NEW BERN COTTON MARKET

Middling	6 7-8c
Strick Middling	7 1-8c
Good Middling	7 3-8c

Receipts yesterday 42 bales.

### THE MUNICIPAL TREE ERECTED

#### Put Up Yesterday By the City Beautiful Club

Once again will New Bernians have the pleasure of gazing upon a Municipal Christmas tree during the holidays. For the first time, last year, New Bern had a Municipal tree. This year the City Beautiful Club again took the matter in charge and yesterday erected at the corner of Broad and Middle streets, a tree which is said by many who have seen similar trees in other cities, to be one of the prettiest of them all. The tree is beautifully decorated with various colored lights and its prominent locations makes it even more noticeable. The City Beautiful Club have arranged for appropriate exercises around the tree on Christmas eve and this program will be carried out to the letter.

### WILSON ALSO HAS A MUNICIPAL TREE.

Wilson, Dec. 22.—Workmen are busy placing in position the immense holly tree to be decorated and lighted Christmas night. This tree will stand on the southeast corner of the court house square facing Nash street and directly opposite the Branch bank building. This is to be the first municipal Christmas tree in the history of the town.

### BRITISH VESSEL BADLY BATTERED

#### The Cruiser Glasgow Damaged In Recent Engagement

Santiago, Chile, Dec. 22.—The British cruiser Glasgow was damaged on bow and stern in the battle off the Falkland Islands with Admiral Von Spee's German fleet. The Glasgow and Bristol arrived at port Monte today in a search of the Pacific for the German cruiser Dresden. The Bristol and Glasgow proceeded north after spending a few hours at Port Monte.

#### Honor The Dead

Buenos Aires, Dec. 22.—The British honored the bravery of the German enemies in the Falkland Island battle, according full military honors to those mortally wounded who died aboard the flagship Invincible. Unwounded German prisoners refused to come on deck to attend the services and openly declared their belief that the invitation was to trap them on deck, where they would be shot. A firing squad fired a last volley over the watery graves of the Germans.

### FALL ON ICE CAUSED INJURY

#### Mrs. George Green Slipped Up On Ice Covered Street

George Green, secretary of the New Bern Chamber of Commerce, yesterday afternoon received a telegram from his son, who on the previous night had gone to Washington, D. C., in response to a telegram stating that his mother had been injured. In the message to his father young Mr. Green stated that his mother had fallen on the ice covered streets of the capital city and had seriously injured her back. Mrs. Green, who is an ardent worker in the ranks of the W. C. T. U. had gone to Washington to be present at the reading of the Hobson bill in regard to national prohibition.

### THE MUSIC OF THE ROAD.

Along the road I hear  
The humming of the wire;  
It says Chicago beef  
Is high, and getting higher.  
—New York Dispatch.

### EMPRESS GETS PINCH OF SALT

#### She and Emperor Are Accorded High Honors

Moscow, Via Petrograd, Dec. 22.—The arrival of the emperor and empress here Monday was marked by an enthusiastic reception at the railway station. The emperor was welcomed by the civil and military authorities and the delegates of the Zemstvo.

M. Teholuykoff, lord mayor of Moscow, in presenting bread and salt to the emperor made a speech of welcome in which he pointed out the loyalty of the people to the emperor and thanked him for the benefits arising from the abolition of the government monopoly on vodka which was largely due, he declared, to the efforts of the emperor.

The lord mayor spoke of the brave fight the Russian army was making and predicted a victory and a resurrection of justice for all slaves and for all peoples.

### FAMOUS WRITER SERIOUSLY ILL.

New York, Dec. 22.—Alfred Henry Lewis, the writer, is seriously ill at his home here. He is said to have developed intestinal trouble.

### EIGHT HOURS FOR DISCUSSION ON HOBSON BILL

#### House Members Want to Hear Amendment Talked Over

### WOMEN THERE

#### Hundreds of Delegates of W. C. T. U. Are In Capital City

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—Without indicating how they will vote on the final show down on the Hobson national prohibition amendment, the House members this afternoon voted *viva voce* to pass a rule allowing for a period of eight hours for a general debate on the resolution.

#### White Ribboners There

Debate on the Hobson national prohibition bill in the House was begun today by Richmond Pearson Hobson, who was greeted with vociferous applause. Women wearing white ribbons thronged the galleries, and most of the officers of the National W. C. T. U. were among them. Temperance workers and anti-saloon league forces from all parts of the country are assembled for the battle.

#### Another Bill.

The Leverbill providing for federal licensing of cotton and grain warehouses was on its way today to conference of the senate and house. The measure, a substitute for a senate bill which would have applied only to cotton warehouses, passed the house late yesterday.

Advocates of the bill contend it will enhance confidence in agricultural products, while the opponents assert it is unconstitutional.

Representative Lever of South Carolina, its author, in a statement today, declared it would result in uniformity of warehouse receipts for agricultural products and enable farmers for the first time to know the class or grade of his products and their commercial value.

#### Debate Continued.

Debate on the immigration bill, pending in the senate, was continued today with indications that action would be deferred until after the holidays. That was made practically certain as a result of the announced intention of Senator Lewis to introduce an amendment to eliminate from the bill the proposed illiteracy test on the ground that it is not a fair test for one seeking admission to American shores.

Sponsors of the measure assert that to strike out the literacy test provision would not cause the defeat of the bill, because no substitute method of restriction has been agreed upon.

### FORMER SENATOR DIES IN GEORGIA

#### Ex-Senator W. S. West Succumbs to Attack of Heart Trouble

Valdosta, Ga., Dec. 22.—A sudden attack of heart failure caused the death today of ex-United States Senator W. S. West at his home in this city.

Ex-Senator West's term of office expired on November 3, last. He was appointed by Governor Slaton to serve the unexpired term of former Senator O. A. Bacon who died.

### POSSE SURROUND ARMED SLAYER

#### Matthew Jarrel Will Soon Be In the Hands of the Law

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 22.—The sheriff of this county and a posse have surrounded Matthew Jarrel who is alleged to have shot a deputy sheriff and wounded two other men at Eskdale.

The shooting took place when the officer attempted to place Jarrel under arrest and the latter escaped a short time later. He is said to be heavily armed and it is probably that the officers will be compelled to fight before he is taken.

### GERMANS DRIVEN FROM TRENCHES BY THE RUSSIANS

#### Teuton Forces Forced to Get Out of Argonne In A Hurry

### NEW POSITIONS

#### Attempted Offense Between Lys and Aisne A Failure

Berlin, Dec. 22. (Central News Cable)—The Germans are greatly pleased at huge shoals of sprats which have been sighted in the Elbe river. This means that a new source of food supply has been found.

#### 50,000 Men Wounded

Berlin, Dec. 22.—Medical papers declare that during one week fifty thousand only slightly wounded soldiers returned from the western battle front.

#### Austrians Progressing

Vienna, Dec. 22.—In the Upper Latorza river district of the Carpathians, the Austrians are progressing in the severe fighting. The fighting continues along the Kronn and Tuckow fronts and in lower Donajec. In southern Poland the situation is unchanged.

#### The Russian Action

London, Dec. 22.—The Russian forces on the line of defense around Warsaw are directing a strong counter attack on the Germans between Rawa and the Pilica river. According to reports today, Skiermie-Wice, an important railroad point has been practically abandoned by the Russians, who are endeavoring to swing the main contact of the engagement in Poland further to the south, to avoid being cornered against the fortresses of Warsaw and Novo Gorgievsk and the Vistula river.

#### Germans Driven Out

Paris, Dec. 22.—Driving the Germans from their trenches in Argonne at the point of the bayonet and taking new positions in Northern France and Belgium on the western end of the battle line, is the Allies' work today. It is officially announced that the Germans attempted an offensive movement between Lys and the Aisne, but were repulsed. About Carey, Manette and Lihons, where violent fighting is in progress, there have been gains by the French at several points. In the Champagne district and Argonne the French have advanced by bayonet charges. Between Argonne and the Meuse the French made progress today. Trenches were taken despite wire entanglements.

The gas freight boat Fannie arrived in port yesterday from Gatlin Creek with a cargo of potatoes and cotton seed.

### TWO WHITE MEN SCARE NEGRO

#### Attempted Hold Up Elijah Wilder Early Monday Morning

A hold robbery was attempted Monday morning about one-thirty o'clock, when two white men attempted to hold up Elijah Wilder, a colored bootblack employed in the Banks barber shop on Broad street.

Wilder stated that he was going down Broad street when he encountered them. (Continued on Page 8)

### SOUTH CAROLINA HAS RACE RIOT

#### Three Negroes Killed and Four White Men Are Wounded

Walhalla, S. C., Dec. 22.—Following the serious stabbing of a white man on Sunday by a negro at Fair Plains, Oconee county, a race riot has occurred.

Since the trouble started three negroes have been killed and four white men have been seriously wounded.

Further trouble is feared and the entire force of officers of the county have gone to Fair Plains.

### ALABAMA RAILROADS GRANTED BIG INCREASE

#### In Some Cases They Are Allowed to Go Up 10 Percent

### 33 COMMODITIES

#### This Number of Articles Come Under New Ruling

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 22.—In some of the most far-reaching and important cases ever handled, the Alabama commission yesterday afternoon permitted railroads operating in Alabama to make a ten per cent increase in intrastate rates on thirty-three common commodities which do not bear percentages, issued orders requiring railroads to withdraw all special coal rates not open to the public except those to pig iron furnaces and steel plants, denied petitions of Montgomery, Dothan and Alexander City for reductions in coal rates from Birmingham and adopted Southern classification No. 40 of the Interstate Commerce Commission, which makes intrastate rates in Alabama on a uniform basis with the interstate rates.

In addition, the commission granted several petitions of railroads for the discontinuance of local passenger trains, denied the petition of railroads for another hearing of the Mobile pig iron case, withdrew its order for a lower rate on coal from Birmingham to Selma, denied petition of railroads for an increase in rates on coal from mines to Birmingham and authorized the Louisville & Nashville railroad to discontinue the double daily passenger service on the Camden branch.

In the commodity cases the railroads asked for increases ranging from ten to twenty-five percent. In granting a ten percent increase the railroad commission stipulated that it was to meet present conditions only and that it would not be effective after June 30, 1915. The railroad's petition asked for increase on thirty-four commodities by the commission refused a change in rates on fertilizers. In many cases freight rates bear a certain charge plus a certain percentage which averages twenty-five percent.

### STEAMER ASHORE ON CEDRO ISLANDS.

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 22.—An unidentified steamer is ashore on the Cedro Islands, 200 miles south of here, wireless advices reported early today. The steamer Arizona, of the American Hawaiian line, reported that she was standing by.

### SEVERAL ROADS ARE MERGED

#### The Lake Shore and New York Central Are Combined

Cleveland, O., Dec. 22.—Merger of the Lake Shore Railroad Company with the New York Central Railway, a \$300,000,000 project, was effected here today at a meeting of Lake Shore stockholders. Stockholders of the New York Central voted for the consolidation July 20.

Under plans for the merger every share of Lake Shore stock will be traded for five shares of stock in the new corporation.

The Lake Shore was incorporated on August 14, 1869.

It comprises 1,872 miles of road extending from Buffalo to Chicago. The Lake Shore has filed a deed of record here to the Central Trust Company and G. F. Littleton, of New York, securing an issue of \$100,000,000 twenty-five year four percent gold bonds, covering all equipment, real estate, etc. It is dated July 1, 1914. This is one of the first legal steps in connection with the merger.

### RAILROAD WAS SOLD AT AUCTION

New York, Dec. 22.—The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway was today bought at auction by James N. Wallace, president of the Central Trust Company, for \$7,135,000.