

Wilson Holds Out Hope In Spite Of Berlin's Attitude

Washington Believes Germany Is Prepared to Submit Under Seal of Confidence, a Statement of Terms Upon Which The Central Allies Will End The War.

NEW COMMUNICATION IS EXPECTED

Hope Based Upon Statements by High German Officials in This Country—State Department Quiet as to Germany's Failure To Comply With President's Request for Statement of Peace Terms.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Peace advocates in Washington headed by President Wilson tonight pinned their hope on the belief that Germany was prepared to submit to this government under the close seal of confidence—a statement of the terms upon which the central allies will end the war. The hope was based upon statements by high German officials in this country that Germany would not be averse to secretly conveying to this country the aims and objects of her military campaign, and upon persistent reports from abroad, that neutral diplomats in Berlin were, or soon would be, in possession of a confidential communication from the German foreign office relating to this phase of the situation.

At the State Department no announcement was forthcoming as to the effect of Germany's formal note which failed to comply with the President's request for a statement of peace terms.

The possibility of a separate peace move by Spain tonight loomed up as one of the developments receiving serious consideration by Washington diplomats. Ambassador Riano tonight declared that he had received no word from his government relative to the situation but said that the embassy was deeply interested in reports from abroad that Spain might invite the belligerents to an "immediate" peace conference along the lines suggested by Germany in both of her peace notes.

Neutral diplomats credited reports from abroad that Sweden had followed Switzerland in a note to the belligerents endorsing President Wilson's peace program.

Latin American representatives were outspoken in their discussion of the peace situation. They expressed confidence that prompt negotiations would be forthcoming from all of the South American countries, several of which have been conducting negotiations for joint or similar action. One of the most experienced diplomats in the Pan-American circles said tonight that communications would be on the way from South American nations within forty-eight hours, and that the President could expect united support from the countries in the western hemisphere.

"PRINCE OF PILSEN" BIG MUSICAL SHOW

To Appear at Masonic Theatre Saturday Night—Catchy Songs Galore.

"The Prince of Pilsen," the popular musical comedy claimed to be the most successful entertainment of its class shown in recent years, will be seen at the Masonic Theatre on Saturday, December 30. There are more than a score of song hits in this remarkable masterpiece of Pixley and Luder, and each of them has held an enduring grasp upon public favor. "The Song of the Cities" is one of the most popular of the musical numbers. "The Tale of The Sea Shell," "The Satin Song" with its chorus of Heidelberg students, and "Pictures in Smoke" are other big song hits that largely contributed to the emphatic success of the musical play. One of the chief reasons for the continuous sustained interest in this production lies in the fact that it has not been allowed to deteriorate, but has been maintained at the highest possible notch of excellence. The performance this season is said to be the best ever given in this city.

FARM LOAN BANK IS GIVEN TO COLUMBIA

Plum Goes to South Carolina Instead of Raleigh—Will Serve Third District.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Federal Farm Loan board today announced the names of the cities in which the twelve federal land loan banks are to be located and the stage now is set for the opening of the stock books of the banks January 2. Each bank will place on sale \$750,000.00 in stock. Such of the stocks as is not taken up by the public in thirty days will be purchased by the government under the rural credits act. One of the banks will be located at Columbia, S. C., covering the district of North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Federal Farm Loan Board today announced the following locations for farm loan banks: Springfield, Mass.; Baltimore, Columbia, S. C.; Louisville, Ky.; New Orleans, St. Louis, Omaha, Wichita, Kan.; Houston, Tex.; Berkeley, Cal.; and Spokane, Washington.

The Third district is composed of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida; and the Second district of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

CURRENT EVENTS CLUB IS ENTERTAINED

Mrs. J. P. C. Davis is Gracious Hostess at Her Home on South Ft. Street.

Tuesday evening from eight to ten o'clock, Mrs. J. P. C. Davis was charming hostess to the Current Events Department of the Woman's Club at her home on South Front street.

Mrs. Davis' home was aglow with red-berried holly and the open fires dispensed much Christmas cheer. The Christmas idea prevailed everywhere.

A large number of club members answered roll call with a thought on "Christmas in Latin-America."

Mrs. H. M. Bonner, chairman of the meeting, before taking up the literary part of the program for the evening, Mrs. Bonner asked Mrs. W. K. Baxter to read Parliamentary Rules which Mrs. Baxter graciously did to the edification of all present.

Mrs. C. M. Dockham's name was received for membership. This name makes the full quota for the club.

Plans for the Annual Reception and Reciprocity meeting were discussed at length.

The first number on the Literary program was Mrs. George A. Caton with an article from Hamilton W. Mabie on "Christmas in England in the Sixteenth Century." This article was much enjoyed and brought out great contrasts to Christmas in England today.

Following Mrs. Caton, Mrs. Frank Ashley read extracts from "My Best Christmas," by Andrew Carnegie. Billy Burke, Mary Pickford and others. At the close of the program Mrs. Davis assisted by her daughter, Miss Charlotte, served delicious cream tipped with nuts and cherries, cake and coffee. The souvenirs decorated with holly bore the name and date of the meeting.

Guests of Mrs. Davis were: Miss Mary Summerell, Miss Grace White, of Greensboro; Miss Minnie Lee Hart, Miss Riddle, Mrs. Charles Hall and guest, Mrs. George Bryan, and Mrs. C. Whit Gaskins. Club members present were: Mrs. Carrie Willis, Mrs. S. H. Scott, Mrs. N. W. Jones, Mrs. P. B. Hall, Miss Eva Nunn, Mrs. S. L. Dill, Jr., Mrs. Frank P. Ashley, Mrs. H. M. Bonner, Mrs. L. H. Cutler, Jr., Mrs. Clyde Eby, Miss Pauline White, Mrs. William Baxter, Mrs. Z. V. Parker, Mrs. Walter Lane, Mrs. George Caton, Miss Charlotte Davis and Mrs. Davis.

400 CARRANZA TROOPS REVOLT AND JOIN VILLA

Part of Command of Gen. Gonzales Desert to Go With Bandit Forces.

VILLA AHUMADA NOW HELD BY VILLISTAS

EL PASO, Dec. 27.—Four hundred Carranzista troops, part of the command of General Gonzales, the deposed commander of Juarez, mutined at Villa Ahumada late this afternoon, and joined the Villistas operating in that neighborhood.

General Gonzales with five hundred troops left Juarez tonight ostensibly for the south to operate against Villistas. Carranza adherents in Juarez professed the belief that Gonzales either will be captured by the Villistas at Villa Ahumada or will join the Villistas with his five hundred troops. Villa Ahumada now is in full possession of Villistas together with the Gonzales recruits, a special train of thirty-five cars and a locomotive.

TORNADO CARRIES DEATH IN ITS PATH

Six White Persons and Several Negroes Killed, 15 Injured, in Arkansas.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., Dec. 27.—Six white persons and several negroes dead and fifteen persons injured, was the toll exacted by the tornado which swept through central southern Arkansas, according to available reports today.

Rumors that the convict camp at Tucker had been demolished, many convicts killed and all the others freed, were set at rest today when word from Tucker said that the camp was undamaged.

PRESIDENT WILSON SIXTY YEARS OF AGE

Chief Executive Shows Strain of Worries Over International Problems.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The President of the United States will be sixty years of age tomorrow.

At this, the beginning of his second term as President, the executive shows his years much more than he did at the beginning of his occupancy of the White House in 1912. He is a bit more stooped than then and the heavy lines in his face are much more sharply drawn than they were before he came through the international crisis that have confronted him since the war began. He is, however, strong and well.

Letters, telegrams and remembrances from friends and relatives began pouring into the White House by scores today.

INSURE EMPLOYEES AGAINST SICKNESS

Firm of S. Coplon & Sons Plan To Protect Workers From Loss.

The firm of S. Coplon & Sons are planning to inaugurate an insurance department. There are about sixty persons employed in this department store and each employee, or those who may desire, will pay a certain amount per week which will insure them against loss in case of sickness.

It was first planned to start this department the first of January, but it may be a week or more before the plans are perfected. Just when the insurance department will start has not been decided, nor have the plans on which it will be conducted been completed.

TEUTONS SMASH THROUGH RUSSO-ROUMANIAN LINE

Gap Ten and Half Miles Wide is Made in Fore-field Protecting The Sereth Line.

FALL OF BRAILA IS MATTER OF HOURS

Smashing a gap ten and a half miles wide into the Russo-Romanian fore-field protecting the Sereth line, Field Marshal von Mackensen's ninth army today effected the great "break through" for which the Teutons have fought in a terrific battle lasting five days.

Rimnicu-Sarat, the vital rail head northeast of Buzeu, is in Teuton hands. Braila the great Danube fort forty-five miles to the east, surrounded from three sides, is outflanked and must fall automatically. As must the Macin bridge-head now being battered by Mackensen's Dobruja forces.

Galata the last remaining source of supply for the Romanians from Bessarabia becomes the immediate objective of the invaders right wing while the centre is aimed at Focsimi. The centre is now only twenty-six miles from the Sereth line.

Petrograd admits a withdrawal of the Russo-Romanian line at two places on the Rimnicu-Sarat high road and in the region of the upper Rimnicu-Sarat river.

In other sectors the Russian war office asserts the assaults of the invaders were beaten back with great losses, to the attackers.

MISS JENNIE COPLON BRIDE OF MR. LIPMAN

Quiet Marriage Ceremony Performed at Goldsboro Last Evening.

Mr. Sol Lipman and Miss Jennie Coplon were quietly married at the home of Rev. J. L. Meyerberg in Goldsboro last evening. Mr. Lipman and Miss Coplon, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. S. Coplon, parents of the bride, left New Bern at 8:45 o'clock last night for Goldsboro, and immediately after their arrival they went to the home of Mr. Meyerberg, who performed the ceremony in the presence of only a few friends of the couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Lipman returned to New Bern at 12:40 this morning and will be at home to their friends here.

The affair came somewhat as a surprise to the friends of the couple. They have been friends for some time and the nuptial was expected by their friends, but not at this time. It was their desire, however, to have the ceremony quietly performed and no invitations were sent out.

The bride is an attractive young lady and is very popular among a large circle of friends. Mr. Lipman owns and conducts a tailoring establishment and is a promising young business man.

LIVERY STABLES DESTROYED BY FIRE

Six Horses and Two Mules Perish in Conflagration At Washington.

WASHINGTON, N. C., Dec. 27.—Fire broke out at midnight last night in the stables owned by Josh Mills on Water street, completely gutted the place and also did considerable damage in the laundry of Mr. Capehart, next door. Six horses and two mules were burned to death in the fire and considerable hay and equipment was also destroyed. It is reported that there was no insurance carried by Mr. Mills. None of the machinery in Mr. Capehart's establishment was hurt to any great extent, but his loss will probably amount to four or five hundred dollars. Mr. Capehart was out of town at the time the fire occurred, but it is understood that he is fairly well covered by insurance.

CUTTERS FIND NO TRACE OF THE MARYLAND

American Tank Steamer Believed to Have Gone to Bottom.

CREW OF THIRTY-ONE PROBABLY PERISHED

NEWPORT, Dec. 27.—All hope held for the steamer Maryland and her crew of thirty-one was swept away here today with receipt of wireless messages from the coast guard cutters Gresham and Acushnet.

The cutters reported they have reached the position where the Maryland was last heard from and could find neither vessel, wreckage, nor any trace of life boats.

The Maryland wireless for help on Christmas night. She was then about 350 miles east by southeast of Sandy Hook. Since that first message, which said she was sinking, no word has come from her.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE BY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Exercises Held at First Baptist Church Last Night Greatly Enjoyed.

The special Christmas exercises held at the Tabernacle Baptist church last night were well attended and a well selected program was rendered in a highly creditable manner and thoroughly enjoyed by those present.

The program consisted, principally of songs and recitations, and the greatest part of it was rendered by children members of the Sunday school. Every child knew its part perfectly and acquitted themselves in a manner which reflected credit on those who were in charge.

SPECIAL EXERCISES AT THE TABERNACLE

Christmas Program Rendered by Members of Sunday School.

A special Christmas service was held at the First Baptist church last night and a very interesting program rendered by members of the Sunday school.

The program began with a song by the school and was followed by prayer by Mr. S. M. Brinson, and greetings by Miss Fannie Holland. After a selection by the choir, Mr. W. F. Dowdy, superintendent of the school entertained the gathering with a short address. Other musical selections and the Christmas cantata, were rendered by several boys and girls.

The program was rendered in a very creditable manner and thoroughly enjoyed by a large audience.

GEN. LUIS HERRERA KILLED BY BANDITS

One of Best Known Carranzista Generals Killed in Action Near Torreon.

MEXICO CITY, (Via Galveston) Dec. 27.—Gen. Luis Herrera, one of the best known Carranzista commanders, has been killed in a battle with bandits near Torreon, it was announced here today.

LADIES' SMOKE SHOP IN NEW YORK HOTEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—What is believed to be the only cigar shop for "ladies only" in the country has just been opened by the Ritz-Carlton Hotel here, the first of the fashionable hostesses to allow women to smoke. The management reports it very popular. Hereafter when women wish to obtain cigarettes, they were obliged either to depend on a waiter, who was apt to bring the wrong kind, or to wait until the waiter had been sent to the store.

Carranza Sends Word Protocol Is Not Satisfactory

MISS CARMICHAEL BRIDE OF MR. WHITE

Popular Jones County Couple Wed—Dr. Summerell Performs Ceremony.

A wedding of considerable interest was solemnized near Pollockville yesterday afternoon at four-thirty o'clock, when Miss Dora Carmichael became the bride of Mr. H. W. White. The ceremony was held at the home of the bride with Dr. J. N. H. Summerell officiating. The home was tastefully decorated and a number of friends of the bride and groom were present.

A most sumptuous dinner was served at five o'clock immediately after which Mr. and Mrs. White left for their home.

Mrs. White nee, Miss Carmichael, is the daughter of Mr. N. J. Carmichael, a prominent planter of Jones county, and is an accomplished and talented young woman.

Mr. White is the son of Mr. George N. White, one of Jones county's prominent farmers and is held in high esteem by those who know him.

Dr. Summerell and Mr. C. E. Foy, of this city, went down on the three o'clock train, attended the wedding and returned on the 6:20.

Talk is cheap, in spite of the fact that most things are going up.

NORWAY'S "GOULASH BARONS" ROLL IN GOLD

Correspondent Tells of Abnormal Condition Created by The War.

BERLIN, Dec. 27.—A correspondent who spent fourteen months in Christiania and returned lately gives a vivid description of the abnormal conditions in the Norwegian capital created by the war.

"The conditions in Christiania today are very much as they were in Bucharest before Roumania entered the war," the correspondent says. "Gold flows in streams and fortunes beyond the dreams of avarice are made in a few days. Men who six months or a year ago did not own the clothing on their backs and hardly knew where their next meal would come from, now roll in wealth. All Norway is in the midst of an insane, fantastic adventure and has but one thought—to make money and still more money.

"The 'goulash barons,' as the speculators furnishing foodstuffs and other necessities to the belligerents are called, are in evidence everywhere. Their luxurious automobiles make the streets of the capital unsafe and their princely steam and motor yachts cruise in the fjords and bays. Palaces rivaling those of Paris, London, Berlin and Vienna are growing out of the earth.

"The cafe of the Grand Hotel has become a kind of an annex to the stock exchange. Day and night the place is crowded with Norwegian, Danish and Swedish speculators and agents of foreign governments. Around the little tables, loaded down with champagne bottles and delicacies from all parts of the world, deals amounting to hundreds of millions are made daily. Everybody talks in millions.

"That is one side of the medal, but the other looks different. The cost of living has become so high in Christiania that not only the poor, but also the middle classes suffer severely. Money is too plentiful, and has lost its buying power.

"The result is that the prices of all foods and other necessities have risen so enormously that only the wealthy can pay them. Rent, food, clothing and fuel are much cheaper in 'half starved' Germany than in Norway, although the latter country is at peace with all the world and piles gold upon gold.

"Bacon—'You know our preacher says that the Bible is man's best friend.' Egbert—'Well, why does he pound his best friend so?'—Yorker Statesman.

Communication From Head of Mexican De Facto Government Reaches Washington—Seeks to Prolong Conferences In Hope of Securing More Favorable Concessions.

UNITED STATES HAS NEXT MOVE

What Step Will be Taken is Matter of Speculation—Feeling of Impatience at State Department—Joint Commission Is Called to Meet in Washington—American Members See Little Hope for Settlement.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The protocol arranged by the commission of American and Mexican delegates, as a working basis for the conduct of affairs of the two governments, is not satisfactory to Carranza. A communication from the head of the de facto government of Mexico, objecting to the terms of the protocol, was received here tonight and was at once placed in the hands of translators to be prepared for transmission to the State Department.

While the Mexican embassy declined to disclose the contents of the communication from Carranza or even to admit its arrival it was learned from official sources that the reply was unfavorable. It was stated that the First Chief questioned the fairness and equity of the arrangements made by the joint commission and sought to force a continuance of negotiations evidently with the hope of securing more favorable terms.

What action the administration will take as a result of the Carranza reply could not be ascertained tonight, but a feeling of impatience was apparently among State Department officials. They declined to discuss the situation asserting that the entire matter was still in the hands of the joint commission. Representatives of the latter, which is headed by Secretary of the Interior, Lane, were outspoken in their belief that the Carranza government has about reached the limit of the extraordinary patience displayed toward Mexico. The reply of General Carranza will probably be turned over to the American members of the commission, which has been called together by Chairman Lane to meet in Washington later this week. It is believed that the members of the commission are opposed to any further consideration of any counter proposal which may be made by the de facto government in Mexico. They are understood to be prepared to recommend drastic diplomatic action unless Carranza accepts the commission's protocol without quibble.

COLLEGE STUDENTS IN PROHIBITION MEETING

About a Thousand, Representing Many States, Gather at Lexington.

LEXINGTON, KY., Dec. 27.—About a thousand college students, representing many states, gathered here today for the National Student Convention of the Intercollegiate Prohibition Association. William J. Bryan will address the delegates tonight at a big banquet, arranged by a committee of dry Democrats.

The National Oratorical Contest will be held Saturday night. The eight picked speakers are: Earl W. Foster, of Georgetown College, Kentucky; Leonard V. Buschman, of the Southern Presbyterian Seminary, Kentucky; Bernard C. Clausen, of Colgate University, New York; De Loyd F. Wood, of Ohio Wesleyan University; Joshua B. Lee, of the University of Oklahoma; Harold R. Husted, of Sioux Falls College, South Dakota; Eugene U. Blalock, of the University of Southern California; and Monte C. Smithean, of McMinnville College, Oregon.

Among those who will address the convention are Charles Steacie, United States Senator; William S. Kenyon, President Edwin Eric Sparks, of Pennsylvania State College; Dr. Ira Landrith, George Irving and Daniel A. Poling.

Charity begins at home. Let each...