

SNOW STORMS ARE SPUR TO TEUTONS IN GREAT EFFORT

Desperate Attempts Are Made To Break Through To Plains And Winter Quarters

SLIGHT GAINS ARE MADE

LONDON, December 20—(Associated Press)—With their avenues of communication through the mountain passes behind them rapidly becoming impassable because of the snow, which has been falling heavily for some days, the Austro-Germans are now making a supreme effort to smash their way through the Italian lines and into the Venetian plains, where winter quarters may be established and where the invading armies may live largely off of the country.

At two points of the line furious battles are raging, each side fighting desperately in the knowledge that the defeat of either will have the most serious consequences. At both points the Teutons have made gains, in neither case of importance, while the German and Austrian losses have been very heavy.

BRIDGED THE PIAVE

One series of attacks was launched against the Italians holding the western bank of the Lower Piave, this blow being aimed directly at Venice. Under cover of a concentrated deluge of shells the Teutons threw a pontoon bridge across the river some three miles from its mouth and just above that section of the district which the Italians had flooded. Across this bridge a strong detachment of the enemy poured before the Italians could rush a force to hold the ground.

After a desperate series of attacks, the Huns were finally driven back to the river's edge, where they are now being held, with the pontoons behind them smashed by the Italian guns.

BATTLE STILL RAGES

To rescue these attackers and break the Italians, four other attacks were made simultaneously along the same sector, each being repulsed with tremendous losses to the Teutons. Other attacks were developing yesterday and the fighting on the Lower Piave is still continuing. The Italians are holding firmly, however, and the situation of the first party of the enemy which crossed is desperate.

Another great battle, of even greater intensity than that being fought before Venice, is raging on the Asiago plateau. The Austro-Germans are making their greatest effort to seize the San Lorenzo Pass, the vital line leading down into the plains, while the Italians, with the British and French forces in Italy fighting by their side, are pounding the attackers mercilessly and surrendering ground only at the bitterest cost.

CONCENTRATED FOR EFFORT

The Teutons along this front have evidently concentrated for this effort and are hurrying attack after attack upon the Allies, returning again and again as their regiments fade away before the fire of the entrenched defenders of the pass.

General von Bulow, in command of the operations for the Teutons, is thrusting his whole strength against the heights commanding the pass of San Lorenzo. Repeatedly his men have been repulsed, but repeatedly they have reformed and returned to the attack with reinforcements of fresh brigades.

ONE POSITION IS LOST

Despite the loss of thousands, the Teutons have made some gains and have succeeded in securing one of the heights east of the Brenta River, this gain forcing the Italian line to fall back to new trenches to prevent an enfilading fire.

Far into the night this battle raged, with every indication that it will be renewed by the Teutons this morning. The pass is essential to the plans of both commanders and the effort to force it will not be abandoned by the German commander-in-chief nor without the wiping out of a large part of his army, while the Italians dare not recede from their positions without surrendering a large portion of Northern Italy and many important cities to the invaders. A break on the Asiago Plateau will endanger a large part of the line holding the Piave River and be as serious as was the defeat which threw General Cadorna back from Trieste.

FRENCH ARE CONFIDENT

Early reports from the French headquarters in Italy yesterday stated that the Allies were becoming more and more satisfied with their ability to hold the line and to hem the Teutons in between their front and the mountains, soon to be almost impassable.

In the fighting yesterday, state the reports from the British commander, the British airmen played a conspicuous part. Two hundred British aviators recently reached this fighting ground, flying in a great fleet from France into Italy, reaching their new theater without the loss of a machine or a man.

NEWFOUNDLAND IS KNOWN AS DOMINION

BOSTON, December 20—(Associated Press)—As a reward for the gallantry shown by its overseas force and the splendid services rendered in men, equipment and money that it has rendered, Newfoundland is officially designated as a dominion, advices received here yesterday say.

In the past Newfoundland has been designated as a crown province. The designation of the former province as a dominion does not include it as a part of the Dominion of Canada. The vote of its inhabitants would be necessary for this. Hereafter it will be the Dominion of Newfoundland.

CHURCHILL'S SKIPPER SURRENDERED TO COURT

SAN FRANCISCO, December 20—(Associated Press)—Captain Granow, skipper of the American schooner Churchill, which was wrecked on French Frigate Shoals, yesterday was surrendered by his bondsmen to the federal authorities. Captain Granow is under indictment charging him with the wrecking of his ship deliberately.

ELICUS HEADACHE

All that is needed is to correct the biliousness and the headache disappears. Take Chamberlain's Tablets and you will soon be as well as ever. For sale by all dealers. Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., Agts. for Hawaii.—Advertisement.

DANIELS PLEASED BY INVESTIGATION

Secretary of Navy Proud of Way Branch of Service Has Met Demands

WASHINGTON, December 19—(Associated Press)—Flat denial that Admiral Sims, commanding the American fleet in European waters, has made complaints against delays in supply service was made to the house investigating committee today by Secretary of the Navy Daniels.

Daniels declared that the American fleet went to Europe. He said that he is glad congress is reviewing what the bluejackets and their officers have done and are doing, and that "taking stock of the navy's work" was bound to show the improvements that have been effected and the more efficient work now being done.

Congressman Britton of Illinois asked Daniels what complaints Admiral Sims had made. The secretary answered vigorously that he did not think the question was a proper one to ask, and went on to say that Sims had made no complaints. He said that the admiral had asked for the services of particular men but that certain of these could not be sent on account of home exigencies.

Admiral McGowan testified that the requests of Admiral Sims have been immediately attended to.

WINTRY BLASTS ARE FELT BY SOLDIERS

Intense Cold Has Effect of Increasing Illness in Some National Army Camps

WASHINGTON, December 20—(Associated Press)—General improvement in the health conditions of the national guard in the various training camps occupied by that branch of the service is reported by the division of field sanitation in its report for the week ending December 15. The health conditions of these bodies are now reported as very good.

On the other hand in the national army training camps, where a short time ago the health conditions were much superior to those in the national guard corps, conditions are now not quite so good as then, bringing the condition of the two divisions of the army on more equal terms. The less satisfactory report as to the national army is the result of the cold weather, which has set in upon some of the camps. This has brought about more pneumonia and a slight increase in the number of cases of measles and meningitis, though not to an extent that is considered in any wise serious.

UNITED STATES NOT THROUGH IN RUSSIA

Railroad Commission Is Not To Be Now Withdrawn

WASHINGTON, December 20—(Associated Press)—At this time the United States has no intention of withdrawing from Russia its railroad commission. This information was brought out yesterday by the receipt by officials here of private messages urging that the commission shall not be withdrawn.

Officials receiving these messages are at a loss to understand whence emanated the idea that the government was planning such withdrawal, they said. No withdrawal is at this time contemplated, they asserted, and a telegram to that effect was sent to Russia.

MEAT PACKERS WILL VOICE COMPLAINTS

WASHINGTON, December 20—(Associated Press)—The packing industry will be given a hearing before the federal trade board today, at which heads of the various meat packers will be given an opportunity to air the grievances which they have been attempting to voice ever since a price was set upon their fresh meat output by the federal food administration.

HIGHWAYMEN MAKE RICH HAUL IN GARY SALOON

GARY, December 19—(Associated Press)—Two highwaymen today held up a saloon on one of the principal streets of this city, killed a guard on duty at the saloon because of the large amount of money there, wounded the saloonkeeper and escaped with \$125,000.

MAY APPEAL RATE CASE

Following the ruling of the supreme court in the Inter-Island rate case in which it was held that the public utilities commission is without power to alter the rates of the navigation company, Attorney Will T. Carden said yesterday that the commission may take the case on up to the United States Supreme Court or it may be referred to the federal shipping board.

It was stated that no decision in the matter has yet been reached, but the question will be one of the important matters to be presented at the next meeting of the commission to be held within a few days.

DIRECT WIRELESS TO PHILIPPINES IS FORMALLY BEGUN

Cavite Sent Congratulations of Admiral Knight To Secretary Daniels via Pearl Harbor and San Diego—Cavite Plant Duplicates Naval Radio Here

The wireless chain connecting the Atlantic seaboard with the Philippines, of the coast of Asia, has been completed with the formal opening of the great naval radio station at Cavite yesterday.

Passing through Pearl Harbor yesterday morning came a wireless greeting from Admiral Knight, commanding the Asiatic squadron, sent from his flagship, and relayed on to the office of the secretary of the navy.

Traversing the same route, via Pearl Harbor, was sent the formal congratulations of Secretary Daniels to the admiral commanding in the Far East, and the exchange marked the completion of the wireless system that now makes the navy independent of every other system of quick communication but its own chain of radio towers, from which both the Atlantic and the Pacific may be swept in their entirety.

In no way now, except through the capture of Oahu or the naval base at Cavite, will it be possible for an enemy to sever the communications between the navy department and American naval commanders afloat or ashore.

The greetings of the Asiatic squadron to Secretary Daniels were wireless from the Cavite station, where a "Positron" high powered line that at Pearl Harbor, received it and flashed it on to Pearl Harbor. There it was relayed to the naval radio plant at San Diego and from there on to Arlington, from whence the message was telephoned to the secretary.

The response of the secretary, expressing his appreciation of the greetings and the significance of its transmission, was relayed back to the Philippines over the same route.

Captain Clark, commandant at Pearl Harbor, stated last night that he had no official knowledge of the exchange of messages between Admiral Knight and Secretary Daniels, but he had known of the official opening of the Pearl Harbor-Cavite radio service.

Yesterday afternoon he filed a message of congratulation to Admiral Knight, but to ten o'clock he had received no reply.

BABST TELLS ABOUT LOUISIANA SUGAR

Head of American Company Testifies Before Committee

WASHINGTON, December 20—(Associated Press)—It was able to secure, to the shortage of the sugar supply President Babst of the American Sugar Refining Company was before the committee during the entire session. He told chiefly of the efforts which his company had made to secure sugar in large quantities from Louisiana, of the agreement which he entered into in New Orleans to take a hundred thousand tons of raw cane sugar at a price above the one fixed by the sugar commission and of the contention on the part of the American Sugar Company that the price ruling of the commission was not applicable to American grown sugar.

Tells of Attempts The agreement with the Louisiana Planters, Babst said, did not bring the amount of sugar desired and required and his company had secured less than what is ordinarily was able to secure, in all less than a third of the 100,000 tons. In prior years the company had purchased as much as 190,000 tons of Louisiana sugar he said.

Speaking of the testimony that Claus Spreckels had given before the committee Babst said that he considered it just "small talk" and minimized the importance of such testimony.

Saved Western Consumers Upholding the action taken by the Hoover food control officials as justified by public policy, many sugar dealers of the West and Middle West have telegraphed to Herbert Hoover and Gust M. Rolph, the head of the sugar bureau, that if the California & Hawaiian Sugar Refining Company had not been provided with raw sugar for refining during October, there would have been a sugar famine in their sections of the country.

This answers the charge made in the investigation before the senate subcommittee that Mr. Rolph, who left the management of the California refinery to serve under Mr. Hoover, used his official power to hold raw sugar on the coast.

The charge arose during the hearing in which Claus Spreckels gave testimony.

May Close Tonight It is hoped to call Hoover and Rolph before the committee today and to close the hearing with their testimony all by tonight so that the committee may start its investigation of the coal shortage tomorrow.

RUSSIAN BONDS DROPPED

Owing to the reported renunciation of the Russian national debt by the Bolshevik government the quotation for Russian five and a half percent bonds on the mainland has fallen to 850. The par value of these bonds is a thousand rubles or approximately \$145.00. News of the drop was received by the Bishop Trust Company.

No quotation on the six and a half percent bonds has been received.

ALIAS ASSUMED BY FRANCISCO VILLA

Mexican Revolutionary Bandit Reported To Have Changed Name But Not Methods

EL PASO, Texas, December 20—(Associated Press)—Francisco "Pancho" Villa is going under an assumed name and as "Severino Gonzales" continuing his war-like operations, is the report that has been brought to Juárez Federal soldiers who had been his prisoners to the south but had succeeded in making their escape and working their way up from the interior to the border port of entry. They report that he is conducting a guerrilla warfare much as has been his former practice, except when he has drawn to himself a large following and that his operations consist chiefly in raids upon ranches and small towns.

Another revolution in Mexico is reported. It is said that Eulalio Gutierrez, formerly provisional president of Mexico, appointed at the Villa convention, has taken the field in the state of Coahuila on an independent move. After the convention he rebelled at Villa's dictation and left the capital and has never since been in harmony with "Pancho."

MERRY CHRISTMAS IN FRANCE IS SURE

Officers Are Securing Turkeys For Unit, Mince Meat There and All Will Have Gifts

AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, December 20—(Associated Press)—Preparations for the observance of Christmas day by the American soldiers in France are going merrily forward. For the second time within a month commissary officers are scouring the country round about and purchasing thousands of pounds of turkeys, needed for the supplying of the various units.

Mince pie is to be served for dessert since a large consignment of mince-meat which arrived too late for the Thanksgiving dinner will be cooked up and used for pies.

Every man is to have his gifts. This the Y. M. C. A. and the Red Cross are looking after and whether or not anything has arrived from home for an individual soldier he will not feel forgotten for there are to be individual gifts for all which will include tobacco and candy.

SHINGLE IS NAMED HAWAII DIRECTOR

Business Man Selected By Government To Conduct War Savings Campaign Here

SAN FRANCISCO, December 20—(Associated Press)—Robert W. Shingle of Honolulu was yesterday appointed director in Hawaii for the war savings campaign now being launched.

The organization work for this campaign was begun early in the month and the war savings committee, consisting of Frank A. Vanderlip, New York, chairman; Mrs. George Bass, Chicago; Frederick A. Delano, Chicago; Henry Ford, Detroit; Eugene Meyer, Jr., New York, and Charles L. Baine of Boston has been selecting and appointing State and territorial directors.

PORTO RICAN EDITOR GETS HIS DESERTS FOR DISLOYALTY

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, December 20—(Associated Press)—Viscount Balboa, editor of Revista de las Antillas, a new publication, who has been convicted of sedition because of a number of anti-American articles published in his paper, was yesterday sentenced to serve eight years in the federal penitentiary at Atlanta and to pay a fine of \$4000.

ILLEGAL PRICE FIXING IS CHARGED TO COLGATE

NORFOLK, December 19—(Associated Press)—The Colgate Company was indicted today by a federal grand jury, the United States alleging that it has engaged in illegal price fixing.

BIGGEST DUGOUT READY

LONDON, December 19—(Associated Press)—The biggest air-raid dug-out in England has just been opened to the public for use during air raids. It will accommodate 20,000 persons. The dug-out is really an unfinished railway tunnel, 100 feet underground, on which work was discontinued at the beginning of the war. It is electric lighted and seats have been provided for 2000 persons.

COLDS CAUSE HEADACHES

LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE removes the cause. Used the world over to cure a cold in one day. The signature of R. W. GROVE is on each box. Manufactured by the PARIS MEDICINE CO., St. Louis, U. S. A.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN IS LESS EFFECTIVE

Losses of British and French Craft Smaller—Naval Efficiency Is Apparent

NEW YORK, December 20—(Associated Press)—Smaller degree of success in the German campaign of submarine ruthlessness is shown by the official reports that were last night received from London and Paris telling of the losses of those two nations during the week ending last Saturday night.

British losses for the week, the admiralty reported totaled eighteen vessels of all descriptions as against twenty-one each week for the two preceding weeks. Of these eighteen, there were fourteen that were of 1400 tons or more, three under that rating and one fisherman.

French Loss Small

From Paris the ministry of marine reported the loss of one smaller craft and no vessels of 1400 or more tons burden.

Arthur Pollen, the British naval expert, now here, last evening after having been shown the reports, issued the following statement:

"The campaign of the allied navies against the submarines of the enemy has at last resulted in keeping the world's tonnage of shipping from showing a monthly decrease, or if it has not actually done this it soon will."

Mr. Pollen gives the credit for this to the participation of the American navy and the efficient service which it is rendering and the change in the chief of command of the British navy.

Details of the sinking of a German u-boat by a French transport which was itself sunk, were received from Paris yesterday.

Submarine Destroyer Chateau Renault, now in the French transport service, was torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean Sea on December 14, according to an official statement given out today. The submarine attacking the transport was attacked in turn by the Chateau Renault, the French vessel destroying the submarine before it in turn went down.

All passengers on the transport were saved, but the crew went down with the ship.

The Spanish steamer Noviembre has been sunk by a submarine. Thirty of the crew were saved.

THREE MILLION HUNS HOLD FRENCH LINE

WASHINGTON, December 20—(Associated Press)—The strength of the German armies in France at the present time is officially placed at one hundred and fifty-four divisions of all services, or approximately three and a quarter million fighting men.

This is one division more than the Germans had in the field in France last July, when the maximum effort to crush the French was made.

It is understood that the Allies continue to maintain a considerable superiority in man power over Germany on the west front.

DEFENSE FAILS TO WEAKEN TESTIMONY

Prosecution's Case Against Conspirators Is Made Stronger

SAN FRANCISCO, December 19—(Associated Press)—More revelations of Hindu plotting in conspiracy with Germany were made today. Nawab Kahn, a Hindu, took the stand and testified that he attended a meeting here in 1913 organized to disseminate revolutionary propaganda.

The testimony of Har Charan Das, given yesterday, on the voyage of the Maverick and plans of the conspirators abroad, could not be shaken by the defense on cross-examination.

WOULD ELIMINATE TIPPLE TO SAVE WASTED SUGAR

SPRINGFIELD, Massachusetts, December 19—(Associated Press)—In order to save sugar an appeal has been sent out by the state food commission to the saloons asking that the popular holiday egg-nogg be not served this year, the concoction requiring a considerable amount of sugar.

Advisers from Newport said that the search made by federal authorities of the homes of wealthy summer residents of that seaside resort failed to find the stores of sugar which the tips they had received and were being hoarded.

PINEAPPLE COMPANY MAY INCREASE CAPITAL STOCK

Increase in the capital stock of the Hawaiian Pineapple Company from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 may be expected to be the result of a meeting of the stockholders of the company to be held next Saturday, according to reports that were current in the financial district yesterday. This would explain the demand in which the stock was held yesterday and the sharp advance in price. The report says that the stock of the company is to be increased 10,000 shares. Sales yesterday were 475 shares at \$44.50.

Another report in circulation was that the wholesale price is to be raised. It is known that the company has had a very prosperous year.

INDEPENDENCE OF COSSACKS IS PROCLAIMED BY THEIR LEADER

After Important Victory Kaledin Offers Terms For Cessation of Civil Strife To Bolshevik Government At Petrograd

LONDON, December 20—(Associated Press)—After winning a decisive victory with his Cossacks Kaledin has proclaimed the independence of the Cossack territory and has made an offer to the Bolshevik government that strife shall cease upon the basis which he names. This was the news contained in a despatch received by the Post from its Petrograd correspondent last night.

On Monday the Cossacks finally occupied Rostov, the Post says this morning. The infantry that remained there joined forces with the Cossacks, the rear guard surrendering to the combined forces.

DEMANDS INDEPENDENCE

Following this Kaledin proposed to the Bolshevik government that civil strife shall cease. In this proposal he expressly stipulated that the territory occupied by the Cossacks should be independent of the Petrograd government and free from any interference or intervention on the part of the Maximilists.

Reuters Agency in a despatch received here says that a decree was issued in Petrograd turning over the entire administration of the fleets to the central committees.

ELECT CONSULS

Other Petrograd despatches told of the preparing of a decree by the commissioner of justice reinstating the death penalty against all "enemies of the nation" and that Trotsky had decreed that all consuls to foreign governments shall be elected by the Russian colonies in which they reside while the ambassadors shall continue to be named by the government.

Disorders in Petrograd continue serious. This is shown by a decree of the executive council which declares that a state of siege, equivalent to martial law, in order to repress the disorders that have become common following the looting of the wine cellars by the populace.

Airdrome Is Destroyed

Details of a successful air raid by British aviators upon the Engol airdrome back of the German lines at Flanders were given out last night by the admiralty. One German aircraft was seen to fall in a mass of flames and leaving a fiery trail while all of the British aircraft returned to their own lines in safety.

Two persons were killed Tuesday night and seventy injured in London, with five others outside London hurt, in air raids of the Germans.

The machines made a raid on the eastern counties in force, not less than twenty machines trying to break through the cordon which surrounds London with anti-aircraft defenses. Only five of the twenty actually reached the city, the others being driven off by English patrol machines and by the storm of explosives sent up from the anti-aircraft guns on the ground. One of the raiders was destroyed as it flew over the city dropping bombs. Another was shot down just outside the city.

The city anti-aircraft defenses drove the raiders off before any serious damage is believed to have been done. There are no details of the damages in Essex or Kent, if any was inflicted.

WHEAT ACREAGE LARGE BUT YIELD IS SMALL

WASHINGTON, December 19—(Associated Press)—The department of agriculture forecast for the winter wheat yield, made public today, gives an estimate of 540,000,000 bushels. The largest average in history has been so far, but the yield per acre averages the lowest on record, the condition being due largely to droughts.