

RUSSIA BOASTS OF HER VICTORIES

"BRAINS" OF CONSPIRACY IS DOUBLY INDICTED

Federal Grand Jury Makes Two Charges Against Paul Koenig, Hamburg-American Line Policeman.

WILL HAVE HEARING AFTER CHRISTMAS

Authorities Think They Now Have All of the Head Men in Pro-German Plot Rounded Up.

[United Press Leased Wire Service] NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Paul Koenig, chief of the Hamburg-American police and declared to be the "brains" of the tontonic conspiracies, was indicted by the federal grand jury here this afternoon on charges growing out of the alleged plot to blow up the Welland canal.

Richard E. Lyendecker and Edmund Justice charged with complicity in the tontonic activities, were also indicted. Two indictments were also returned against Koenig. One charges him with attempting a military expedition against a friendly power in the plot to destroy the canal. The other makes the same charge in connection with the mission on which he is alleged to have sent Justice and Frederick Metzler to Quebec. There, the

ONE AMERICAN WAS ON BOARD

All of the Passengers on Torpedoed Japanese Steamer were Taken Off.

[United Press Leased Wire Service] LONDON, Dec. 23.—Nearly 300 passengers and crew of the Japanese liner Yasaka Maru, sunk by a submarine in the Mediterranean, were rescued by a French warship and landed at Port Said yesterday, according to dispatches received here today. Among them was one American, it is stated.

Hospital Fire Was Sensational

MUSCATINE, Iowa, Dec. 23.—With patients, four of whom are still in a critical condition, being cared for at Hersey hospital, Hotel Muscatine and Hotel Grand, Muscatine, was recovering today from the shock of the most sensational blaze in the history of the city. The fire spread with such rapidity that patients were carried shrieking and moaning to private houses as every doctor in the city was rushed to the scene to care for them.

Doctors J. L. Klein and A. J. Weaver, owners of the hospital, announced this morning that it would be immediately rebuilt.

Found Guilty of Murder.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa, Dec. 23.—The district court jury at Glenwood, trying Francesco Guidice, for the slaying of Howard Jones, here, brought in a verdict of guilty and fixed his punishment at imprisonment for life. He was found guilty at the first trial, but the supreme court found errors and ordered a new trial.

Bernhardt Is Improving.

ANDERNOS, France, Dec. 23.—Madame Sarah Bernhardt's physicians admitted today that the famous actress has been seriously ill, but declared she is improving rapidly, considering her age. She will remain at her villa here until completely recovered.

SCANDINAVIANS PUNCTURED TIRE OF FORD'S PEACE CART

Denmark, Norway and Sweden Will Not Co-operate in the Good Work.

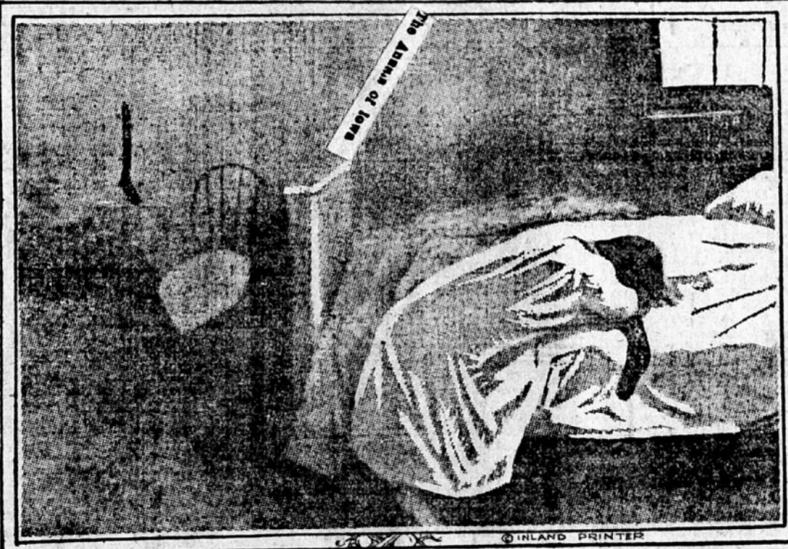
[By Chas. P. Stewart, United Press Staff Correspondent.] CHRISTIANIA, Dec. 23.—Henry Ford was missing when the Ford peace party left for Stockholm today to recruit delegates for the neutral peace conference.

peace prize. Certain newspapers expressed the view that he might be rewarded for his good intentions, regardless of any accomplishments. Norwegian peace delegates did not accompany the party on its trip to Stockholm today. Ford's secretary, Louis P. Lochner, said they objected to a separate announcement of their names. It was therefore decided to publish no lists of neutral peace delegates until delegations have been obtained from all the European neutrals. One of the highest Norwegian officials, a member of the cabinet, told American correspondents the time was not ripe for peace efforts and that any sort of a conference, official or unofficial, may work harm at this time.

Ford and Dean Marquis, of Detroit, one of his closest friends, disappeared a few hours before time for departure and their whereabouts were unknown. Ford's physicians said it was necessary that he detach himself from the party to obtain some rest. Whether Ford has preceded the party to Stockholm or intends to follow immediately, could not be learned. It is not known when Ford will be able to participate actively in the affairs of the peace enterprise, it was stated.

He asserted that Mme. Schwimmer, who proposed the peace cruise to the Ford commission, visited him twice last spring, but he told her on both occasions that the peace movement was useless then. He gave her neither letters, nor assurances that she would have Norway's support, the cabinet officer said. Even should President Wilson ask Norway to join in peace proposals, no steps would be taken until after a conference with Denmark and Sweden, the three countries having decided to act as a unit in any peace movement. Judge Ben B. Lindsey of Denver, is remaining with the peace party it was learned today, under an agreement by Ford who compensates him for sacrificing a lecture tour.

THE EMPTY STOCKING—A CHRISTMAS MORNING TRAGEDY



DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN IN KEOKUK.

There is still time to help avert any such tragedies of childhood as this picture shows. There is a check for \$100 waiting for the community Christmas fund whenever there is another \$100 to match it. It will take all of this and more, and all of the donations that people can give to help fill the stockings of the children here who otherwise would have no Christmas.

The community headquarters are at the Industrial association offices on North Fifth street. Leave your contribution there tonight, or the first thing in the morning, if you would help to prevent the most terrible tragedy of childhood, the empty stocking.

<h3>ENGLAND</h3>	<h3>GERMANY</h3>	<h3>RUSSIA</h3>
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[United Press Leased Wire Service] LONDON, Dec. 23.—British casualties at the Dardanelles to December 11 total 112,921, Under Secretary for War Harold Tennant announced in Commons this afternoon.

TOMMY'S PLUM PUDDING.

[By Wilbur S. Forrest, United Press Staff Correspondent.] LONDON, Dec. 23.—Having taxed John Bull's postoffice workers to the utmost, "Tommy's" 3,000,000 pound Christmas pudding is on its way today. In half a dozen war zones, the British army, collectively known as "Tommy," will on Christmas day put teeth into England's traditional yuletide concoction, "ye olde plum pudding." If a single Tommy fails of his Christmas cheer this year, the post-office has been spent to see that he is well nourished on merrie Xmas.

[United Press Leased Wire Service] ROTTERDAM, Dec. 23.—A Christmas manifesto, calling upon every German soldier to quit the trenches and depose the kaiser "from the throne he has fouled," was issued today by an organization called the "German Humanity League." It was signed by Karl Bernstein and nine others.

"On the eve of Christmas, when the bloodstained monarchs are exchanging messages of peace and good will with the sovereign pontiff at Rome," read the manifesto, "our brave soldiers are still shedding their life blood as the pawns of a ruthless clique without shame or pity for the widows and orphans of the fatherland. Our homes are still being desolated."

"This campaign is not waged in lawful defense of German territory, but to satisfy the insatiable and savage greed of Prussian conspirators. Today the German name is the scorn of civilization. The German flag has become the emblem of infamy. German chivalry is buried in the trenches of Flanders and the village grave plots of Belgium. We are loathed by all honest men. Napoleon failed. The kaiser must fail. There can be no peace until he

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FRANCE

[United Press Leased Wire Service] PARIS, Dec. 23.—Czar Nicholas of Russia has been decorated with the French war cross, it was announced here today. General Paul Pau, one armed French commander, who is now at the Russian front, conferred the decoration.

BIRD MEN LOST. NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—More than 1,100 French aviators have met death in air battles or have been captured by the Germans, since the beginning of the war, according to three American birdmen, members of the French legion who arrived from the French front aboard the liner Rotterdam today.

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BALKANS

[United Press Leased Wire Service] BERLIN, (via wireless to Sayville, L. I.) Dec. 23.—Bulgarians shore batteries drove off four Russian torpedo boats which attacked a Bulgarian torpedo boat in the Black sea, according to Sofia dispatches today. The Bulgarian torpedo boat was unharmed, it was stated.

[The above report undoubtedly refers to the same action off Varna that led to reports that the Russians had occupied the Bulgarian port.]

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ITALY

[United Press Leased Wire Service] ROME, Dec. 23.—Two allied submarines have captured an Austrian submarine and are towing it to Malta, according to dispatches received here today.

[Malta dispatches to Paris yesterday asserted that an Austrian submarine had been destroyed by two allied torpedo boats. If the Rome version is correct, this is the first time in history that a submarine has been captured by vessels of the same type.]

GRIP GERMS ENTRENCHED THROUGHOUT MIDDLE WEST

One Half of the Population is Sneezing These Days While the Invasion is Pushed by the Enemy.

AMMUNITION IS SCARCE AND COSTLY

Medicine Used in Warfare Against Grip Germs Costs More Than Usual at the Most Critical Time.

Guards Against Grip. Don't kiss infected persons—or any one if you yourself are infected. Avoid the careless cougher, the careless sneezer and the careless spitter. Don't work or live in stuffy, overheated, ill-ventilated offices or homes. Sleep out doors if possible; take outdoor exercise but avoid chilling. Don't wear flannels; the same weighted in year round is best. Avoid the common towel and drinking cup and all articles used by infected persons. Isolate grip patients. Don't rely on patent medicines. Get a doctor.

Chicago health authorities today followed the example of Milwaukee in banning kissing. Dr. John Dill Robertson, commissioner of health, limited the warning, however, to "those with colds." Commissioner Ruskland of Milwaukee, warned against "kissing of any sort."

[United Press Leased Wire Service] MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 23.—"Out of bed by Christmas," was the slogan of nearly twenty thousand Milwaukeeans today, who are suffering from the grip. The epidemic, however, is on the decline, Dr. George C. Ruhlman, city health commissioner announced.

Preparedness is Urged. WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—With epidemics of grip—the old fashioned influenza our grandmothers knew—reported in various parts of the United States and others threatened, "red flag" warnings were given today by Dr. W. C. Rucker, assistant surgeon general of the United States public health service.

This has been the worst grippé epidemic which Milwaukee has experienced in years," said the health commissioner. "During the last two weeks, nearly forty per cent of the school children have missed classes at various times. There are but few families which have not had at least one case."

Camden, N. J., Jackson, Miss., and a number of middle western cities have reported serious grippé epidemics to the health service. "Grip is not to be sneezed at," Dr. Rucker declared. Latest statistics shows it causes the death of 12,200 persons annually in the United States. Right now is the middle of the grip season. It begins in November, with the advent of cold weather, closed windows and hot furnaces, and attains its maximum in February and early March.

Grip Medicine Costs More. ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 23.—Aspirin and rhinitis, commonly used in combating that grip germ, have increased in price one-third on account of the war and the northwest has thousands of grip cases. This was the only bit of near Christmas cheer the state health department could let loose today. Physicians explained that a few days of real cold weather—30 to 40 degrees below—would put an everlasting quietus on pfeeters bacillus; the bug medical men found guilty of starting the grip epidemic that has as victims one out of every five school children in the twin cities.

"We must keep up our physical defenses, our preparedness against this germ disease. The best preparedness is fresh air, outdoor sleeping and plenty of outdoor exercise. Sneezing, coughing and expectation is the principal modes of transmission. Children's kissing games spread the grip. Kissing between infected and non-infected persons should be avoided. Guard against being sneezed or coughed upon. Infected persons should be avoided, and avoidance of towels and other articles they may touch with their hands, mouths, noses, should be observed. Overheated, poorly ventilated houses and offices and lack of exercise are the chief cause of the disease."

Half the West Sneezing. CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—With Milwaukee facing a kissless Christmas and half of the rest of the middle west sneezing too much to enjoy kissing any way, physicians today warned several million sufferers that the epidemic of grip and influenza sweeping

Dr. Rucker said medical records show grip is an old human foe. The first epidemic was recorded in 1173 and the first in the western hemisphere in 1627 in Massachusetts, spreading as far south as Chile. One of the freak and unsolved features of grip epidemics is that they travel from east to west in a community.

THE ANXIETY OVER AUSTRIA HAS ALMOST PASSED AWAY

No Break Expected Between Two Countries Over the Sinking of Ancona.

[United Press Leased Wire Service] WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Less apprehension of a break between the United States and Austria was manifested in diplomatic and official quarters today. The foreign diplomatic corps here, usually a good gauge of opinion, professed to see a possible amicable solution of the Ancona dispute in the dispute.

cooling off process in Vienna. The more temperate terms of the last American note, diplomats pointed out, may be seized upon by Austria as an American concession.

Unofficial reports that Minister Burián may visit Berlin before replying to this government's final friendly settlement. German influence is expected to be swung in favor of the United States. The state department is withholding publication of Germany's last note regarding sinking of the American schooner William P. Frye, because of its bearing on the submarine warfare situation with both Germany and Austria. The German note is reported non-committal regarding this government's insistence that non-combatants must be assured a "place of safety"—and that open boats in mid-ocean are not "places of safety"—an issue indirectly involved in the Ancona case.

A confidential report regarding private conferences with Austrian Foreign Minister Burián, was also awaited today from Ambassador Penfield. He will later transmit a summary of Austrian newspaper expressions following publication there of the last United States note.

Relaxation of tension at the state department was also in evidence. A considerable waiting period is now expected to elapse, which of itself is hoped would be in the nature of a