ward toward Bagdad this would place the Turks on the defensive and oblige them to withdraw forces from the Kut-el-Amara region. From Kermanshah to Bagdad is about 165 miles. Kermanshah lies about half way between Hamadan and Bagdad.

The Turkish General Staff, with its German advisers, is believed to be preparing to meet this menace. Reports of numerous reenforcements, supplies and particularly of heavy Austrian artillery being rushed to the Mesopotamian front have been frequent of late. A decisive victory in the land of the Tigris and Euphrates is considered by the Turks and Teutons as a fundamental condition for a drive against the Suez Canal and Egypt.

The successful resumption of the offensive by the reenforced Russians in the Caucasus and a subsequent defeat of the Turkish forces there was the third piece of news from the Near East front received here to-day with satisfaction. The Turkish War Office announced that on January 11 the Russians began to attack on a front of 150 kilometers (about ninety-five miles), between the mountain range of Kara Dag (just south of the River Arras) and a point southward of Milo. A severe battle is in progress, which Constantinople says is progressing in the Turks' favor.

Petrograd reports officially that on Friday the Russians defeated the Turks, capturing twenty officers, more than 400 men and six guns, as well as war material. The statement follows:

On the Caucasian front in the course of fighting on Friday we captured twenty Turkish officers, over 400 men, six guns, including artillery, and provisions and engineering outfit.

The official Turkish statement telling of the new Russian offensive in the Caucasus follows:

On the Caucasian front on the night of January 9 the enemy undertook minor attacks against the left wing of our centre. He was repulsed.

On January 11 the enemy began a general offensive with fresh reenforcements on a front of 150 kilometres between the Kara Dag Mountain and a point southward of Milo. For five days severe fighting has been going on. It is progressing in our favor.

The Athens correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, telegraphing under date of January 14, says:

"German military action at present is being concentrated against the British in Mesopotamia, where troops are marching to the relief of Gen. Townshend, commander of the forces at Kut-el-Amara, but probably will have to pierce strong bodies of the enemy."

THE accompanying map shows the theatres of operations in Mesopotamia and Persia. On the Tigris the British relief force on the way to aid the main British force at Kut-el-Amara has driven the Turks to Orah, twenty-five miles below Kut-el-Amara. In Persia the Russians have captured the town of Kengavar, between Hamadan and Kermanshah. The latter place is in the hands of the Turks. Both points are on the road to Bagdad.

BRITISH ROUT ARABS.

Disperse 400 in Egypt and Capture 100 Camels.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—The dispersal of 400 Arabs encamped forty miles from Mersa Matru, half way between Alexandria and the western frontier of Egypt, is announced in an official statement issued to-day in Cairo and forwarded by Reuter's. The statement says:

A column from Mersa Matru on the Mediterranean coast, 150 miles east of the western frontier of Egypt, dispersed on Thursday 400 Arabs located forty miles from Mersa Matru. The Arabs did not resist, but fled at the approach of our force. Over a hundred camels, all the sheep, goats and tents and two Arabs were captured. There were no British casualties.

WAR SPURS MEAT EXPORTS.

Value of Shipments Increases $110,000,000 in Nine Months.

In the eleven months of 1915 ended with November the value of exports of meat and dairy products was $110,000,000 greater than the value of such exports in the corresponding period in 1914.

"This indicates the volume of export business due to the war," says the *National Provisioner*. "Of this enormous growth in export meat trade in the eleven months period the chief features were the increase in exports of fresh beef from 24,000,000 to 234,000,000 pounds, canned beef from 25,000,000 to 68,000,000 pounds, pickled beef from 20,000,000 to 40,000,000 pounds, bacon from 162,000,000 to 465,000,000 pounds, hams and shoulders from 128,000,000 to 242,000,000 pounds, pickled pork from 34,000,000 to 65,000,000 pounds. Growth in exports of fats was not so marked.

"It must be remembered that this great growth in beef exports includes the South American beef sent here and reshipped to Europe because of steamship conditions. The volume of beef sent abroad is not all domestic product by any means."

RIOT AT PEACE MEETING.

London Police Clear Brotherhood Church After Free Fight.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—A riot occurred at Brotherhood Church, North London, tonight, incident to a demonstration in favor of stopping the war which had been advertised. Pastor Shaw began to deliver an address when somebody shouted, "We will have peace when Germany lays down her arms!"

This started a half hour "Donnybrook fair." Opponents of peace drowned the organ's tones, singing "God Save the King" and "Rule, Britannia." All refusing to join in the singing were roughly treated. A crowd cleared the platform and tore down the peace mottoes. The police were called and cleared the building.

VAN DYKE WITH FORD PARTY.

U. S. Minister to Holland on Way Here for Short Visit.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ROTTERDAM, Jan. 16.—Dr. Henry van Dyke, American Minister to Holland, is a passenger on the Holland-America liner Rotterdam, which sailed from here yesterday. He intends to pay a short visit to the United States.

On board the ship also are the remaining members of the Ford peace party.

CAMEROON PORTS REOPENED.

British Report Trading Resumed at Victoria and Rio del Rey.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—The official press bureau announced to-day that Victoria and Rio del Rey, in the Cameroon, had been reopened to trade, subject to restrictions.

Victoria and Rio del Rey are important ports of the German colony of the Cameroon on the west coast of Africa. The Cameroon was invaded by British and French colonial forces early in the war and was occupied gradually, recent despatches indicating that the great part of the interior is now under control of the allied forces.

KAISER RETURNS TO FRONT.

"Fully Recovered," Berlin Says—Operated On, Rome Hears.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—A wireless despatch received this morning (Monday) from Berlin says the following official communication was issued there Sunday:

"After his complete recovery Emperor William returned Sunday afternoon to the war theatre."

A despatch from Rome says:

"According to reports received by the Vatican, Emperor William underwent an operation last Thursday. Although the operation is described as having been successful, it is said a week must elapse before the monarch may be pronounced out of danger."

AUSTRIANS FAIL IN DRIVE NEAR GORITZ

Capture Trenches in Attack on Oslavia, but Italians Retake Them.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—The Austrians made a violent attempt on Friday to recover the positions at Oslavia, northwest of Goriz, which they lost on November 20. These positions have been subjected to many attacks since the Italians drove the Austrians out of them two months ago.

The attack on Friday was begun with a heavy artillery bombardment on the positions between the Peumico torrent (south of Oslavia and between that village and the village of Peuma) and Oslavia. This was followed by an infantry attack which was repulsed. Then came another infantry attack which was successful in gaining for the Austrians some of the trenches occupied by the Italians between Hill 188 and Oslavia.

The Italians made a counter attack yesterday morning, driving the Austrians back beyond Oslavia and reoccupying the positions east of the village.

The battle in which the Italians captured Oslavia in November was a particularly bloody engagement, the captured trenches being filled with Austrian dead when the Italians finally occupied them.

The Italian official statement issued to-day says:

On the heights northwest of Goritz an intensive bombardment on Friday was followed that night by an attack by the enemy on our positions between the Peumico torrent (south of Oslavia) and Oslavia. The first attack was repulsed. At the second attempt stronger enemy forces penetrated some of our trenches between Hill 188 and Oslavia.

The next morning we drove back the enemy beyond Oslavia and reoccupied the trenches to the east of the village, taking arms and munitions and a number of prisoners.

The Austrian official statement says:

On the Italian front the enemy artillery has been active against Malborghetto and Raibl.

Austro-Hungarian troops have taken a strongly fortified position near Oslavia.

The Italian official statement issued yesterday says:

Artillery action was very lively along the Isonzo, assuming a most violent character on the heights northwest of Goritz, where the enemy's fire, though effectively returned by our artillery, continued until evening, especially against our Oslavia position.

On the Carso plateau our artillery bombarded the intrenchments at Monte San Michele, destroying them for a distance of 400 meters.

Our aeroplane squadron made an incursion east of the Isonzo, bombarding th Aisovizza aviation grund, the Chiapovano and Boruberg encampments and the railway stations at Longatica, Pregasina and Lubiana. The squadron returned safely.

BIG FIRE SWEEPS BERGEN.

Twenty Blocks Burned; Thousands of Norwegians Homeless.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

CHRISTIANIA, Jan. 16.—A large part of Bergen, Norway, has been destroyed in the biggest fire Norway has ever suffered. Twenty blocks have been practically burned out.

The fire was checked this forenoon by using dynamite to destroy buildings in the path of the flames. The damage is estimated at 50,000,000 kroner ($12,500,000). No deaths are reported.

A gale fanned the flames and nullified attempts to stop their spread. The central telephone exchange, four hotels, three schools and the greater part of the business quarter were destroyed, besides thousands of houses, but the banks seem to have escaped. Thousands of persons are homeless. Four thousand refugees have arrived at Stavanger.

The cause of the fire has not yet been discovered.

Bergen is the first ship owning city of Norway and second only to Christiania in volume of shipping. It has a population of about 72,000.

METCHNIKOFF SERIOUSLY ILL.

Discoverer of Milk Culture Remedy Has Heart Trouble.

PARIS, Jan. 16.—Prof. Elie Metchnikoff of the Pasteur Institute is critically ill of heart trouble. His condition has been serious for several days. Yesterday it was believed that he could live only a few hours, but his great vitality enabled him to rally and to-day his condition is described as slightly better.

Dr. Metchnikoff is the discoverer of the treatment for intestinal diseases by the use of milk containing a special culture. He received the Nobel prize for medicine in 1908.

MIKADO WON'T RECEIVE MISSION FROM CHINA

Refusal Regarded as Voicing Japan's Displeasure at Change of Regime.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PEKIN, Jan. 16.—Japan has notified China that it will be "inconvenient" for the Emperor to receive the Chinese special mission headed by the Minister of Communications and has asked that the mission be postponed. This action by the Japanese Government, it is supposed, implies Japan's disapproval of the change in China from a republic to a monarchy and the elevation of Yuan Shih-k'ai to the throne.

Announcement was made recently in Pekin that Chow Tzu Chi, Chinese Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, would leave for Tokio on January 15 to confer the highest Chinese order upon the Emperor of Japan. The Chinese Foreign Minister said at the time that the mission had no connection with recognition by Japan of the newly established monarchy.

Before Yuan Shih-k'ai accepted the throne the Japanese Government advised China against a change in the form of government at this time. The Japanese advice was supported by the British and Russian Ministers. China replied that the people of China already had voted on the question and had shown they favored the change, and took the position that the matter was out of the hands of the Government. After once refusing the throne Yuan accepted it when it was offered to him a second time and announcement has been made that he will be crowned on February 12.

YUAN'S ARMY DEFEATED.

60,000 Rebels Said to Have Captured Tse Chow Fu.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 16.—Sixty thousand revolutionary troops have defeated the forces of Yuan Shih-k'ai, head of the Chinese Government, in an action fought in the province of Sze Chuen. This is reported in a cablegram received here to-day from Shanghai by Tong King Chong, president of the Chinese Republic Association.

The battle, according to the cablegram, ended with the capture and occupation of Tse Chow Fu by revolutionary forces, which also are threatening Cheng Tu, capital of the province of Sze Chuen.

The losses in killed and wounded, the cablegram stated, were about 1,000.

RETREAT COSTLY TO TEUTONS.

Russians Mow Down Troops Crossing the Strypa.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—The Petrograd correspondent of the *Times*, telegraphing under yesterday's date, says:

"Prisoners describe the Austro-German retreat across the Strypa as terrible. There were only two wooden bridges on a twenty mile front for artillery and transport. The infantry crossed the flooded ice under a ceaseless Russian fire, which caused frightful havoc. One division took a day in the crossing and barely half of it reached the destination. Masses of wounded remained on the Russian bank. Two thousand wounded were captured.

"There was a sudden thaw in the Pollesie region. German guns and supplies are stuck in the mire and the Austro-German forces will be fortunate if these are extricated before they are overtaken by the Russian advance which is progressing the entire breadth of the Pollesie."

$1,000,000,000 FOR DISCOUNTS.

Russia to Increase Exchequer's Power of Placing Bonds.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 16.—The *Bourse Gazette* says that the Government contemplates increasing by £200,000,000 ($1,000,000,000) the Exchequer's power of discounting bonds with the State Bank.

This step is due to the extraordinary demand for the supplementary assignments evoked by the war.

VATICAN FIRE ALARMS POPE.

Swiss Guards Easily Quench Blaze, the Damage Being Slight.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ROME, Jan. 16.—Fire started in the armory of the Swiss Guards in the Vatican to-day. Some uniforms were destroyed, but the blaze was easily and quickly put out by the guards themselves, so that it was unnecessary to call in the Roman firemen.

The Pope was alarmed, but was assured that there was no danger.

GERMAN PAPERS DENOUNCE WILSON

Message Declared to Have Astonished Teutons by Its Language.

RETALIATION IS URGED

Special Correspondence to THE SUN.

BERLIN, Dec. 10.—President Wilson's message to Congress—or rather his reference therein to the German American element in the United States—aroused a storm of protests in the German papers. In many instances the criticisms have been tinged with scorn for the President and for what the Berlin papers term the pro-English element in the United States.

The *Lokal Anzeiger*, publishing the message in full, says:

"That the acts of President Wilson have for the greater part been of a very one sided nature is no secret over there any more than here. The President has set the example himself with which side, according to his opinion, its citizens are in duty bound to sympathize. It is the pro-Germans who have incurred his anger, who have reason to be deeply offended by this fine language.

"What must be the result if an honorable and component part of a people are continually and openly denounced by the highest officer of their State? According to European ideas, we should not be at a loss for an answer. However, for American conditions other standards may be applicable in this respect. The German Americans proved themselves loyal sons of their adopted country long before President Wilson was in the White House. They will not allow themselves to be expatriated by this man. To do that the power of one man is not sufficient in America."

The *Zeitung am Mittag*, commenting on the message, says:

"With extraordinary sharpness—yes, with expressions strong enough to compete with the style of a Roosevelt, President Wilson in his message attacked the German Americans, or at least those German Americans whom he deems disloyal and guilty of revolutionary proclivities. In truth it is not the majority of the German Americans, but rather the Anglo Americans who have committed the worst breaches of neutrality.

"One might plead that the real art and paramount object of a statesman is to conciliate the opposing parties in a country, to settle all party disputes and to fuse together diverging factors in a common cause. (Cavour declared that with an exceptional state of affairs any ass might rule.) President Wilson's speech, however, deepens the gulf that has been created in the American land by sympathies and hatred.

"It must be the object of the German Americans, entitled to the rights of citizens, to assert themselves against President Wilson and to claim as their own that which was permitted a Taft a Morgan, an Eliot, a Wanamaker, a Gordon Bennett, a Carnegie, in their numerous hostile and mischievous publications: the freedom of decision and liberty to express their opinion."

Count Reventlow in the *Tageszeitung* comes out editorially with the following:

"The American press seems to be dominated by Wilson's message and expressed desires. As any possibly plausible reasons for the present antagonism toward Germany are not forthcoming, one might almost be inclined to believe that Wilson, convinced that it is impossible for him to win over the German American element, has decided not to make a further attempt and, all being lost anyhow, to 'give it to them' for all he is worth. He calls them 'enemies of their country' and thus at least hopes to gather all those opposed to Germany around his banner. Possibly he hopes also by such means to take the wind out of the sails of his political competitor, Roosevelt.

"It behooves us to add that among the German people the feeling was one of astonishment at the language employed by the President and by a large part of the American press, especially after Germany had shown herself so exceedingly obliging toward the United States. While we can fully understand this astonishment we cannot share it."

CRY "VENGEANCE FOR BARALONG MURDER"

Germans Demand Reprisal, and Reichstag Hears of a Secret Measure.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

AMSTERDAM, via London, Jan. 16.—The German press is filling many columns with an outcry for vengeance for what is termed the "murder" of the crew of a German submarine by men of the British steamship Baralong.

The newspapers quote statements concerning the Baralong incident made in the Reichstag yesterday. Under Secretary Zimmermann for the Foreign Office expressed pleasure at the unanimity of the condemnation of the affair and assured the House that "the Government will find the right means to punish the revolting deed sharply and impressively."

Count von Westarp, member of the Progressive party in the Reichstag, said with reference to Sir Edward Grey's reply to the German note about the Baralong incident delivered through the American Embassy:

"Sir Edward Grey's note is full of English arrogance. It will be a statue to England's shame. The unanimous feeling is that the only possible reply is a decisive act of reprisal. The nature of the reprisal must be kept secret."

Another member declared that "England is fattening on the blood of nations," and continued: "Germany now has lost all sentimentality. We must undertake swift and energetic reprisals in behalf of the heroes of our U boats."

The *Vossische Zeitung* says:

"It would be impolitic to announce in advance the methods of our reprisals, but Great Britain will not be delighted at them. Her proposal of arbitration is not meant seriously. It is a cunning trick."

The *Kreuzzeitung* says:

"Sir Edward Grey's note proves England's determination to destroy all crews of submarines and to take no prisoners."

WINS A $2,000 000 SUIT.

Milwaukee Inventor to Be Paid by Westinghouse Co.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 16.—Nels A. Christensen, president of the Christensen Engineering Company, will about February 1 write himself down as being $2,000,000 richer than he is to-day, when the Westinghouse company of Pittsburg, under an order of the United States Supreme Court, will pay over to him this sum in royalties for the use of an air brake invention which the courts have decided was a violation of the Christensen patents.

After a fight of years the Milwaukee inventor, who came to America a penniless immigrant, has won his battle. The Westinghouse interests have already paid in part for his invention by purchasing his old company, the National Brake and Electric Company.

LILLE IS SET AFIRE BY BRITISH SHELLS

Bombardment Resumed, Interior of City Being Damaged, Germans Report.

GUNS ROAR NEAR YPRES

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—The allied bombardment of Lille, which resulted recently in the destruction of a German ammunition depot, as told by the German official report, was resumed to-day, according to the same authority, causing a fire which up to the present has caused only slight material damage.

The German official statement follows:

The British fired on the interior of the town of Lille, but up to the present only slight damage has been caused by the fire.

There was local lively artillery fighting and mining activity on the western front.

The official communiqué issued tonight says:

In Belgium our artillery in conjunction with the British artillery caused serious damage to the enemy trenches in the region of Het-Sas and occasioned two powerful explosions behind the German lines.

Our batteries successfully bombarded the approaches to the road from Lille, to the south of Thelus, and blew up a munition depot at Hill 119, to the northeast of Neuville-St. Vaast. One of our mines destroyed a small German post.

In the Argonne there was bomb and grenade fighting in the region of Vauquois.

In Lorraine we brought under our fire an enemy party to the south of Bromenil, northeast of Badonviller.

The French official communiqué issued this afternoon mentions only artillery actions. It says:

Outside of some artillery actions of a spirited character in Champagne, in the Argonne and in the Woevre, there is no important event to report on the whole front.

The following report from British headquarters, made public here, says that the artillery fire on a position to the north of Ypres was "satisfactory":

On the whole the day was quiet. There was some hostile shelling about Givenchy and Ypres. Our artillery fire against a strong German position to the north of Ypres was satisfactory.

There were bombardments on both sides in the regions of Malincourt, Hill 152 and Hollebeke.

MENOCAL FACTION WINS.

President to Be Renominated Today Despite Revolt Talk.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

HAVANA, Jan. 16.—The Presidential convention of the Conservative party rejected by 92 votes to 70 a resolution against the renomination of President Menocal. This means that the convention to-morrow will renominate the President and also the Vice-President.

The palace was crowded late to-night with friends congratulating President Menocal, whose private secretary, Senor Montoro, authorized the correspondent of THE SUN to say that the President will accept renomination.

The fiercest excitement prevails among the Liberal revolutionaries and arrests are likely unless the revolutionaries are more circumspect in their talk. President Menocal, his friends say, will not permit a conspiracy to grow, as did President Palma.

Many of those who took part in the August revolution are assembled in a safe near by and are solemnly whispering that the reelection of President Menocal means a revolution.

NEW YORKER KILLED IN WAR.

Russell Kelly One of Five Americans Slain in France.

PARIS, Jan. 16.—Five Americans attached to the Foreign Legion, whose names were included in the list of casualties at Givenchy on June 17, are now officially reported as having been killed in action.

They were Russell Kelly of New York, Harman Edwin Hall of Chicago, John Earle Fike of Wooster, Ohio, and Kenneth Weeks and Henry Farnsworth, both of Boston.

Russel Kelly, 22 years old, who was the son of James E. Kelly of 45 Broadway, left this country more than a year ago and joined the Foreign Legion. He fought at La Targette, at Souchez and in Champagne, and when he was not fighting he put in his spare time writing slangy, boyish letters of the life he was leading and the cause he was fighting for.

DOUBLE LOAD FOR AMBULANCE.

Starts Out for Pistol Victim and Finds Two—One Dies.

St. Mary's Hospital, Jamaica, received a telephone message last night that a man had been shot in the back at Ozone Park by somebody who took aim from behind a tree, and Dr. Otto Bryning started out in a motor bus to get the victim.

As the bus was running through Richmond Hill Bryning was hailed by a crowd, members of which told him that the wounded man was in a saloon at Jamaica avenue and Spruce street. He found George Kehoe, a laborer of 465 Spruce street, Richmond Hill, in bad shape from a bullet wound in the stomach. Believing that there had been a mixup in telephone orders the doctor returned to the hospital with Kehoe and then learned that Ozone Park wished to know what made the ambulance so slow.

The motor bus then went to Ozone Park and picked up Paul Rouoci, victim of an unseen enemy. His condition was serious. The man who did the shooting was chased a short distance by Patrick Ambrosino, but got away.

In the meantime Kehoe explained at the hospital that he acted as peacemaker in a saloon fight when he saw an Italian reach for a pistol with which to shoot Joe Johnson and got the bullet in his stomach. Kehoe was operated on by Dr. George K. Meynen, but died at midnight.

BENCH TO HONOR BLANCHARD.

Dinner to Ex-Supreme Court Justice Next Saturday Evening.

A testimonial dinner to ex-Supreme Court Justice James A. Blanchard in recognition of his twenty years service on the bench is to be given at the Hotel Biltmore next Saturday evening by the Judges of the Court of Appeals, Appellate Division and Supreme Court, members of the bar and business men.

The members of the committee in charge are Senator O'Gorman, chairman; Alton B. Parker, Henry A. Gildersleeve, David Leventritt, Morgan J. O'Brien, Edward W. Hatch, George W. Wickersham, George Gordon Battle, Charles Strauss, John B. Stanchfield, Henry A. Wise, William R. Willcox, Morris J. Hirsch, Job E. Hedges, George C. Austin, Abraham Stern, Warren Leslie and Henry Birrell.

VON BERNSTORFF NOT TO PROTEST VON PAPEN CASE

German Embassy, However, Continues to Denounce Seizure of Papers as British Perfidy—Payment to Horn, the Dynamiter, Is Defended.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Count von Bernstorff, it was learned to-night, will make no protest to the State Department against the seizure of the papers, checkbooks and correspondence from Capt. von Papen, recalled German military attache, who was returning to Europe under a safe conduct obtained for him by the United States Government. In German quarters to-night, however, no hesitancy was shown in describing the safe conduct given the attache as a British "scrap of paper."

The Ambassador, it is understood, expects to hold another conference with Secretary Lansing in reference to a final settlement of the Lusitania controversy. It is said he is awaiting necessary instructions from Berlin. When he sees Mr. Lansing he probably will not refer to the Von Papen papers, it is said, nor to the fact that efforts have been made to involve him in the transaction appearing on the check stubs of the attache under which Von Papen appears to have paid $700 to or in behalf of Werner Horn, who attempted to blow up the Canadian railroad bridge on the Maine border.

Explanation of Horn Payment.

In quarters close to the embassy reference is made to the fact that the stub entry in the Horn payment is dated subsequent to the attempt to blow up the bridge and the explanation is offered that after the arrest of the would-be dynamiter Count von Bernstorff, who was in New York at the time, was given to understand that Von Papen had employed counsel to defend the man on the ground that he was a German subject in trouble. Such service, it is said, is perfectly justifiable at all times on the part of embassy officials, regardless of the crime charged.

It is also conceded as possible that Von Papen may have paid money to Kuepferle, the German spy arrested in London, and that Von Papen himself employed the man while the latter was in this country to spy upon the affairs of rival embassies. In German quarters such a procedure, it is said, would be entirely justifiable, as Germans charge that the British Embassy in Washington employs a corps of detectives to spy on the affairs of the German and Austrian diplomats.

Payments Are Not Denied.

Nor is any attempt made to deny the payments to the German consulate in Seattle, it being explained that these payments were to transport German reservists across the country in the hope that they might be able to find passage back to Germany.

It is said also that the alleged payment to Paul Koenig, the Hamburg-American official now under indictment in New York for conspiring to blow up the Welland Canal, may be explained from the fact that Koenig, being in the employ of the Hamburg-American Line, may have been employed by Von Papen on a number of perfectly legitimate matters.

POPE GIVES AUDIENCE TO CARDINAL MERCIER

Rome Shows Sympathy for Belgium in Greeting Accorded to Primate.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ROME, Jan. 16.—Cardinal Mercier, Primate of Belgium, was received in audience by Pope Benedict this morning in the latter's private library.

No statement was given out, but it is understood that Cardinal Mercier gave the Pope a detailed report of the situation in Belgium speaking from the political and economic as well as the ecclesiastical points of view, and placing before the Pope the great need of the Belgians for his sympathy.

In reply the Pope, it is said, assured the Cardinal of his favorable sentiments toward the Belgians and the inhabitants of the occupied territory in France and assured him further that everything possible would be done for the Belgians. He said that he believed this could best be done by the Holy See's maintaining a strict neutrality, thus strengthening its authority.

Cardinal Mercier was stirred by the demonstrations of sympathy which greeted his arrival. His secretary said the Belgian Primate was most gratified at the welcome accorded to him by the Romans, unprecedented in Rome since the abolition of the temporal power of the Pope. The tribute was paid, the secretary said, not to the Cardinal personally but to Belgium, hence he appreciated it most keenly.

Cardinal Mercier conferred with the Bishop of Namur yesterday and the latter was received in audience by the Pope in the evening. The Cardinal also visited Cardinal Gasparri, Papal Secretary of State.

EX-PRISONERS AIDED BY POLICE

Woods Tells of Helping Offenders After Terms Expire.

The work of the Police Department in helping criminals to rehabilitate themselves after serving their terms in jail was described last night by Police Commissioner Arthur Woods at the Sunday Evening Forum of the Free Synagogue, 56 West Sixty-eighth street.

Mr. Woods's subject was "The Police Department and City Welfare." He described the educational work being done by police sergeants who visit schools and dispel in short talks the conviction held by most youngsters that policemen are dreaded enemies instead of jovial protectors and friends. The police sergeants also visit penal institutions of various sorts and assure the inmates that the police are willing to give them a square deal when they come out.

MUCH COLDER, THE PROMISE.

Forecasters Predict Mercury Will Drop to 10 Degrees.

More samples of eccentric weather came to this neighborhood yesterday from several points of the compass.

At 9 o'clock the temperature was 35. Under the influence of a cold wave that the seers say will last from twenty-four to thirty-six hours and send the mercury down to 10, the temperature had dropped to 30 at midnight.

A "low" of considerable intensity over the St. Lawrence Valley last night will suck the frigidity down this way. The forecast says it will be partly cloudy and much colder to-day, with a cold wave to-night and fair skies and continued cold to-morrow.

STILL ZERO IN CHICAGO.

One Woman Frozen to Death, Two Others Dying.

CHICAGO, Jan. 16.—The weather man redeemed himself to-day for falling down a few days ago on his prediction of 18 degrees below zero. The cold wave, which he said would return, struck Chicago shortly after midnight and despite the sunshine the mercury hovered in the neighborhood of the zero point all day.

Mrs. Andrew Charleston, 83 years old, was found frozen to death, and her husband, a veteran of the civil war and also 83 years old, is at the county hospital.

Mrs. Caroline Nicholson was found lying unconscious from exposure in the snow on a vacant lot in South Chicago.

CALL FOR SNOW FIGHTERS.

Fetherston Asks Enrolment From Central Federated Union.

The Central Federated Union yesterday received a letter from Street Cleaning Commissioner Fetherston asking the aid of the central union in the formation of a snow fighting brigade.

"The recent snow found this department with about one-third of the number of laborers required for the rapid removal of snow from the streets," his letter said. "This condition in the event of a big snowstorm would tie up traffic. If there are any men of your organization who would care to enroll as snow fighters this department will gladly assign them to work as near their homes as possible, if you will send their names and addresses to this office."

HOLLAND DIKE FLOOD LOSSES IN MILLIONS

Desolation Everywhere in Stricken Districts—Farms Covered, Cattle Gone.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—Despatches from Amsterdam and Rotterdam say that it is impossible as yet to estimate the extent of ruin caused by the floods resulting from the break of the Zuyder Zee dikes, but it is certain that, apart from the indescribable suffering of the people in the stricken region, the damage will take years to repair. It amounts to millions of pounds sterling.

Despatches from Copenhagen via Amsterdam briefly record the damage done in Hamburg, where a wave eighteen feet high destroyed foodstuffs stored in warehouses. The damage is said to amount to many millions of marks.

The Amsterdam correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs:

"The country looks as if the people had been driven to adopt the historic Dutch defence against invasion. It is impossible to contemplate the spectacle of this great disaster without the deepest sympathy mingled with admiration at the qualities which made the country what it was.

"There is desolation everywhere. Ruined homes, abandoned villages, drowned cattle floating in the water yards deep over what two days were meadows owned by hardy peasants, who in one night have been bereft of all means of livelihood—such are the pictures that tell the tales of destruction."

The correspondent took a motor boat trip through the flooded area, where, he says, railways have been destroyed, while in the canals are windmills standing out in the oddest manner above the water. Houses are submerged up to their attics.

"Nobody is visible," says the correspondent. "Here and there an unhappy dog is famishing on a rooftop. Turkeys and chickens are roosting in the trees."

The correspondent continues his story of the devastation:

"The water is not far below the highest mark of the memorable flood of 1825. It is said that the agricultural land will not recover from the effects of the salt water for five years. As the farmers supply Amsterdam, besides other places, and buy everything in Amsterdam the consequences of the flood will be serious for the city.

"The devastation is all the more serious, as owing to the war the Government has imposed new heavy taxation, a large share of which will fall upon the rich farmers living in the flooded area. The whole of Marken Island (in the Zuyder Zee) is submerged. Whole houses have been blown away. One was carried bodily 600 yards. Sixteen persons were drowned.

"Only four houses on the island, whose population is 1,350, escaped damage. Telegraph lines between Rotterdam and Marken Island are badly wrecked. The fishing fleet has been destroyed. Two small craft were thrown atop a group of houses.

"The crushing danger of the disaster remains, according to a message from Edam, for if the wind veers northwest the water, which is now streaming back seaward, will return. There can be no certainty until the water has receded enough to enable the dike to be repaired."

FLOODS HALT SMUGGLING.

Holland's Dike Disasters Destroy Food Germany Needed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—The Rotterdam correspondent of the *Daily Mail* telegraphs:

"The flood will be more effective than Government measures in preventing fats and food from entering Germany from Holland. Thousands of cattle and sheep have been destroyed and the damage to the land will temporarily stop the smuggling of foodstuffs."

LANSING CALLS FOR NEW NEUTRAL CODE

Secretary Says Present R[illegible] Show the Prejudice [illegible] Belligerents.

PAN-AMERICAN ACTION

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—A study of neutral rights and duties from the point of view of neutrals rather than of belligerents is the first task to be proposed by Secretary Lansing for the newly organized American Institute of International Law.

In a memorandum made public today by Dr. James B. Scott, president of the organization, the Secretary of State calls attention to the fact that prize courts and military and naval experts have had most to do with formulating rules regarding neutrality. The result has been, he adds, that all aid has been given to the belligerent and little regard has been shown for the rights of neutrals. He suggests that it is time to reverse this process and deal with the problem from the point of view of the neutral.

"At the first meeting of the institute," Mr. Lansing writes, "I had the honor to direct attention to the imperfect state of rules which define and govern the relations between belligerents and neutrals. These rules, which have grown up during the past 125 years and have been in some cases differently interpreted by courts of different countries, have been frequently found inadequate to meet new conditions of warfare and as a result every war has changed, modified or added to the rules, generally through the process of judicial decision.

"The prize courts of belligerents have thus become the interpreters of belligerent rights and neutral obligations and their interpretations evidence an unconscious prejudice arising from overappreciation of the needs of the belligerents. Writers on international law have relied upon these prize court decisions in dealing with the subject of neutrality so that they have laid down rules formulated indirectly from a belligerent point of view.

"In addition to these influences affecting a code to govern the conduct and treatment of neutrals international conferences and congresses have generally confided the drafting of rules relating to belligerent and neutral rights to military and naval experts, who naturally approach the subject from the belligerents' standpoint.

"It would appear that it is time to reverse this process of treatment of the subject of neutrality and to deal with it from the point of view of the neutral.

"I would therefore suggest that a committee be appointed to study the problem of neutral ships and neutral duties seeking to formulate in terms the principle underlying the relations of belligerency to neutrality rather than the express rules governing the conduct of a nation at war to a nation at peace.

"I would further suggest that the subject might be advantageously divided into two parts, namely, the rights of neutrals on the high seas and the duties of neutrals dependent upon the territorial jurisdiction.

"In view of the past year and a half of war the present time seems particularly opportune to study this question, and this institute, composed of members from neutral nations, is especially fitted to do this from the proper point of view and with the definite purpose of protecting the liberty of commerce from unjustifiable restrictions on the high seas and from the imposition of needless burdens in preserving neutrality on land."

The American Institute of International Law, which was organized at the recent Pan-American Scientific Congress, is made up of five members from each of the twenty-one American republics. The American members are, in addition to Dr. Scott, the Secretary of State, Elihu Root, honorary president; Robert Bacon, former Ambassador to France; Dr. Leo S. Rowe of the University of Pennsylvania. Most of the European nations are represented by corresponding members.

SENATE CLERK FASTS 30 DAYS

Drinks Only Water and Has Lost Little Weight.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—J. Ray Alexander, clerk to the Senate Committee on Woman Suffrage, will to-morrow begin a thirty day fast.

In the thirty days that Mr. Alexander has abstained from food of any kind he has taken a glass of hot water each morning and cold water during the day. He has lost little weight and says he feels very good, better than he has for many months previous to beginning the fast. Mr. Alexander has not been down a day from his work.

He took the fast to overcome a troublesome case of indigestion.

PRICELESS ARCHIVES BURN

Washington's Letters, College Library and Manuscripts Destroyed.

CHESTERTOWN, Md., Jan. 16.—William Smith Hall, part of Washington College, was destroyed by fire early to-day.

So rapidly did the flames spread that all the archives, including many documents, some of them in the writing of George Washington, were burned. The building cost $[illegible].

In the building was the library of the college, which was also destroyed. The institution had books and manuscripts of great value.

The cornerstone of the building was laid in 1782 and it was used by the Kent County School Commissioners from 1723 [illegible]

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