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# MORGAN'S ACTIVITIES IN DEAL TO GET POWDER SALES FOR DU PONTS TO BE PROBED BY U.S.

## Banking House, It Is Asserted, Really Dominates Great Munitions Output for the Allies Through the Du Pont Securities Co.

### Government Is Interested in Learning Why the Personal Notes of the Holding Company Directors Were Accepted to Guarantee the $8,500,000 Loan on Unlisted Stocks of Ammunition Concern

*By a Staff Correspondent*

WILMINGTON, Del., Dec. 29.—A Government investigation of the whole financial activities of the firm of J. Pierpont Morgan and the du Pont Securities Company, the former the financial agents of the Allies and the latter the dominant factor in the control of the du Pont de Nemours Powder Company, which is supplying the largest amount of munitions to the warring nations in Europe, is about to begin.

Within the last 24 hours, it has come to light that the house of Morgan virtually dominates the great powder interests through the financial backing of Pierre S. du Pont, president of the powder company and organizer of the securities company, the holding concern, which has just "cleaned up" more than $50,000,000 in "war bride" profits. It is reported that the Federal investigators are already at work in Wilmington and in New York city.

Morgan, as the backer of the securities company which purchased the stock holdings of T. Coleman du Pont, thus giving control of the entire munitions plants of the powder company to Pierre du Pont and his associates, has had the entire financial arrangements of the British, French and Russian Governments in this country and is reported to have assured the United States Government that the firm derived no profits from the companies which received contracts from the warring nations. It has been learned from the highest authority that Philip F. du Pont, of Merion, Pa., who has brought suit against Pierre du Pont and the directors of the du Pont Securities Company, to return the T. Coleman du Pont stock to the company, alleging that Pierre and his associates purchased it knowing that huge munition orders were forthcoming and thus deriving millions in profits to themselves, knew that Morgan & Co. had arranged the loan of $8,500,000 which was given in cash to T. Coleman du Pont for his stock.

NEGOTIATION OF THE LOAN.

In the equity bill filed in the United States Federal Court in Wilmington, Philip du Pont avers that "banking institutions" negotiated the loan. In the reply filed yesterday by Pierre du Pont and the directors of the du Pont Securities Company the name of Morgan is mentioned. The defendants say in the bill that the New York banking house placed the $8,500,000 loan in "certain banks and financial institutions," and that "less than 10 per cent. was retained by J. P. Morgan & Co."

It is understood that the Government is particularly interested in learning which banks took this loan and whether the banks were those which held deposits of the du Pont Powder Company. It has been pointed out by a man in close touch with the powder company that the banks made the loan of $8,500,000 on stock of par value of but a little more than $7,000,000. The du Pont stock is not listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

In this connection it is averred by Philip F. du Pont that the men who negotiated the loan were cognizant of the fact that the European nations were about to place enormous munition orders and that the stock would go to great heights. Pierre S. du Pont and his associates, to secure the loan, gave their personal notes. In Pierre du Pont's answer to the suit it is stated that the powder company was not in a position to acquire the stock. The company is capitalized at $240,000,000. It is understood that the Government is interested in learning the reason for accepting personal notes of the du Pont Securities directors to guarantee a loan on unlisted stocks.

Wilmington bankers openly say that the defendants in the suit brought out the name of Morgan at this time to forestall any sensation at the time of the trial which might be sprung by the Philip E. du Pont group.

THE DEFENDANTS' REPLY.

The exact text of the reply, mentioning the name of Morgan for the first time, is as follows:

"This defendant admits that he and his associates for the purpose of assisting in the acquisition of said stock caused to be formed under the laws of the State of Delaware the defendant corporation, the du Pont Securities Company, as alleged in paragraph eight of said bill of complaint, but this defendant denies that said corporation so formed used the credit of said E. I. du Pont de Nemours Powder Company in any manner whatsoever for the purposes of purchasing said stock, but on the contrary alleges that the corporation did borrow the sum of eight million five hundred thousand dollars ($8,500,000) in cash for

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# PEA COAL PRICE TO BE BOOSTED 25 CENTS A TON

## Shortage of Cars and Labor Given as Cause of Advance

### SUPPLY BELOW NORMAL

### Traffic Hindered by Munitions Shipment—Compensation Act Figures

The wholesale price of pea coal will be advanced 25 cents a ton on January 1, making the retail price $5.50 a ton, as against $5.25, now ruling. As yet it has not been decided to boost the price of other prepaid sizes.

The statement was made today by one of the largest wholesale dealers in the city. He gave as the reason for the advance the scarcity of coal at the present time because of the inability to get cars to carry it from the mines, nearly all of the freight cars on the different railroads being engaged in the transportation of war munitions to New York.

RETAIL PRICE TO RISE

Several retail coal dealers, when asked this afternoon, said that they had not heard of the contemplated advance in the wholesale price, and when informed that 25 cents was to be added the first of the year, they were in unison in saying that this would mean the same advance in the retail price, or what the consumer will have to pay.

It was hinted by several retail dealers that if there continues to be a scarcity of coal, the price may go even higher. At present prices are from $1.50 to $2 above what they were this time last year. It is estimated that the supply now is about 1,000,000 tons below what it should be and in Philadelphia alone it is about 200,000 tons below the average on hand at this time of the year.

One of the most important factors entering into the coal trade now is the scarcity of labor at the mines. It was estimated today that the miners at work were between 33 per cent. and 40 per cent. below normal, a large majority of the miners having gone back to Europe to fight. Then, too, fears are expressed

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## THE WEATHER

By the persistent use of the "Australian crawl" stroke we managed to arrive at the office on time today. We left home in plenty of time, but while turning the corner of 7th and Chestnut streets, swimming easily on our back, we—fortunately for him—bumped into a man going down for the last time. To make a long story short, and for the sake of our innate modesty, we will simply say he owes his life to us. He that as it may, the ferry companies are contemplating a schedule for their boats from river to river. Further, there is an English firm making a life preserver waistcoat that retails for only $15. And to cheer you up a bit, the Weather Bureau predicts "rain."

The only fowl that crosses the road today to get on the other side or for any other reason is a duck

*FORECAST*

***For Philadelphia and vicinity—Rain or sleet this afternoon and probably tonight; Thursday partly cloudy; not much change in temperature; strong easterly winds shifting to westerly gales.***

## LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Liberal reward for return of three-quarter length leopard coat, with seal collar, cuffs, belt and buttons; also short seal coat with yellow crepe lining and seal pillow muff to match. Room 210, 1525 Chestnut st.

BARPIN—Gold and platinum barpin set with pearls and diamonds; lost Monday evening downtown to West Philadelphia; liberal reward. 5120 Hazel ave.

DOG—Lost, from 2228 S. 22d, on Sunday evening, a small white Coatie dog. Return to above address and receive reward.

POCKETBOOK, sterling silver, lost on 12th st. car, Monday evening. Reward if returned to Bailey, Banks & Biddle Co.

SEAL MUFF lost between North Phila. station and 22d st. Reward if returned to 26 Rel. 1500 W. Tioga st.

Other Classified Ads on Pages 14 and 14

THOMAS L. SHEVLIN

Pneumonia, contracted while coaching the Yale football team last fall, caused the death of one of Old Eli's greatest ends. Shevlin died this morning at his home in Minneapolis, Minn.

# T. L. SHEVLIN, YALE'S IDOLIZED ATHLETE, DIES OF PNEUMONIA

## Former All-American Football Player Contracted Cold That Led to Death Coaching Blue Last Fall

### WAS MAN OF WEALTH

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 29.—Thomas L. Shevlin, millionaire lumberman and Yale football coach, died at 7 a. m. today of pneumonia. He was stricken with the malady six days ago after being weakened by overwork and exposure in drilling the Yale team this fall.

At the close of the Yale season Shevlin went to California to recuperate. He returned to his home here last Wednesday. On Thursday pneumonia developed. Last night four physicians of the Twin Cities gave up hope of saving him and summoned a specialist from Chicago, who made the trip here on a special train in record-breaking time.

Shevlin ranked as one of the greatest players the gridiron game ever produced, and his love for his alma mater was so great that he really gave up his life to serve it in its hour of need.

Shevlin captained the 1907 Yale team and then after graduation went into the lumber business in the west. In 1909 when the Yale team was shot to pieces, a call was sent for "Old Reliable Tom." He answered it by rushing to New Haven, whipping the team into shape and enabling it to beat Princeton and tie Harvard.

This season when the Yale team was floundering in the mire of defeat Shevlin once again was called upon to serve his college. And he answered the call. He worked day and night in his attempts to develop the material into championship calibre. He surprised the football world when his rejuvenated outfit beat Princeton.

Shevlin was born in Minneapolis in 1882. I went to Yale after graduating from Hill School at Pottstown, Pa. In 1909 he married Elizabeth Sherley, a Kentucky belle. Shevlin's estate is valued at close to $20,000,000. His widow and his young daughter Betty will inherit it. Just a few months ago Shevlin took out a $1,000,000 insurance policy on his life.

### Dying Woman Begs to See Son

Mrs. Elizabeth O'Rourke, who is dying at her home, 1816 East Allegheny avenue, at the age of 73, has asked her three sons who are living with her to find her eldest boy, Michael, whom she has not seen for some time. Michael O'Rourke is married and lives somewhere in this city, but his address is not known. The mother hopes to find him before she dies.

# SCUTARI E' ATTACCATA DA FORZE AUSTRIACHE

## La Gazzetta del Popolo Dice Che le Truppe Teutoniche Marceranno su Valona

Un telegramma da Torino dice che, a quanto afferma la Gazzetta del Popolo, le forze austriache attaccano Scutari d'Albania e che la caduta della citta' e' imminente. Un telegramma da Bucarest all'Echo de . . ris diceva invece che l'offensiva austriaca nel Montenegro era completamente fallita e che le forze austriache erano state battute a sud-ovest di Ipek. Se cosi' fosse stato esse non avrebbero potuto rasggiungere Scutari. Una volcaduta Scutari, gli austriaci ed i bulgari marcerebbero su Valona, secondo la Gazzetta del Popolo.

Nulla di nuovo annuncia il generale Cadorna nel suo rapporto piu' recente, ad eccezione di azioni di reparti di fanteria intese ad obbligare il nemico a rivelare le posizioni della sua artiglieria e delle sue trincee, che cosi' vengono violentemente bombardate dalle batterie italiane. Gli austriaci continuano a vendicarsi del fuoco dei cannoni italiani contro i centri abitati, specialmente nella zona del basso Isonzo. La situazione pero' resta immutata per ora, giacche' le forze italiane sono occupate ai consolidamento delle loro nuove linee.

(Leggere in ta pagina le ultime e piu' dettagliate notizie sulla guerra, in italiano.)

### McKEAN COUNTY HOME BURNS

#### Thirty-three Children Are Saved. $10,000 Loss

BRADFORD, Pa., Dec. 29.—The McKean county home at Dogola, conducted by the county Children's Aid Society, was burned today. The 31 children in the building escaped.

# YOUTH'S SUICIDE ENDS HIS PARENTS' DREAM

## Hangs Himself in City Hall Cell—Father Wanted to Send Him to College

A youth hanged himself in a cell at City Hall early today after he had admitted detectives say, that he had robbed houses in West Philadelphia, and had explained the clever methods he employed to gain entrance to the dwellings. The suicide was Walter W. Bender, of 845 North 40th street. He was 20 years old.

The body was discovered by James Martin, a turnkey, hanging in the door of the cell. He used a belt from his trousers to effect his purpose, and had been dead several hours when the turnkey entered the room.

Since the boy's arrest, about a week ago, his father, Edward T. Bender, a letter carrier, has been on the verge of a breakdown, and his mother is ill in bed under the care of physicians. The father is said to have lavished money on his son to prepare him for a professional career.

Bender was arrested on a charge of larceny and had a hearing yesterday in Central Police Station before Magistrate Pennock. He was accused of stealing $300 worth of jewelry and goods from the homes of Robert Norris, 5229 Catharine street, and Mrs. Marmaduke Boker, 3914 Carpenter street. Both Norris and Mrs. Boker attended the hearing. It was testified that Bender purloined a key from Norris' daughter while she was cashing a check in the Land Title Building and effected an entrance to her home in this way.

About two years ago Bender was a student at the Central High School. According to the police, he was arrested at that time for stealing $400 worth of microscopical instruments. His father came to his rescue, paid the money and the matter was dropped. Young Bender was the only child of his parents. His father intended to send him to college when he graduated from high school.

# GERMANY PUTS OUT "FEELERS" FOR EARLY PEACE

## Official Press Agency Gives Out Reported "Possible Terms" to End War

### "FRANCE NOW FOR WAR"

### Gallieni Tells Chamber Country Is Eager to Continue Hostilities

***Possible Peace Terms Germany May Accept***

A minimum indemnity of $4,015,000,000.

Restoration of Germany's colonie by England.

Separation of Poland from Russia and its institution into a separate State.

Evacuation of Belgium and France by Germany.

Part of the indemnity would represent a transfer to Germany of Russia's indebtedness to France. Another section would be represented by an annual payment to Germany by Belgium of an amount equal to the sum hitherto expended by Belgium upon her military establishment.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

A decision to call new armies into the field by conscription is Great Britain's answer to what official circles regard as a new "peace feeler" from Germany.

Press dispatches from Berlin and Geneva today contained new peace hints and reports that the official news agency of Germany, the Wolff Bureau, has sent to newspapers a summary of possible terms of peace.

This summary, according to the Wolff Bureau, was prepared and printed by the Neue Zuricher Zeitung, of Zurich. Though the Wolff Bureau specifically declares that though circulating this summary it is not representing the Government in putting out "peace feelers" that view was generally taken here today. British officials ridiculed the alleged German peace program, commenting sarcastically on the idea that Germany would exact huge indemnities from the Allies.

POSSIBLE PEACE TERMS.

The possible peace terms suggested by the Swiss newspaper and printed in Germany call for:

Evacuation of Belgium and northern France by Germany.

Establishment of a Polish kingdom under the domination of Germany and the payment of a large sum annually to Germany by Russia.

Payment to Germany by Belgium of the sum Belgium formerly spent each year on her armies.

Return of all German colonies conquered by the Allies.

Transfer to Germany of Russia's debt to France and the payment of other indemnities, amounting to $4,015,000,000, approximately.

The peace terms, the Swiss newspaper declared, should also contain some guarantees that Belgium would enter into no alliance with Germany's enemies. Germany probably would maintain garrisons in Belgium until the Allies fulfilled all conditions of the peace treaty.

French claims upon Alsace-Lorraine

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# 'NOT GUILTY,' SAY TWO ACCUSED IN ARMS PLOT SUIT

## Lamar and Taylor Enter Pleas—Held Under $5000 Bail

### "WOLF" APPEARS BORED

### More Indictments Expected in Huerta and Munition Export Conspiracies

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—David Lamar, known as "The Wolf of Wall Street," and Jacob C. Taylor, president of Labor's National Peace Council, two of the eight men indicted yesterday on the charge of conspiring to restrain trade by bribing labor leaders and fomenting strikes, appeared voluntarily before Federal Judge Hand today and entered pleas of not guilty. Both were liberated under $5000 bail.

After entering his plea Taylor, who is connected with organized labor in Orange, N. J., gave out a statement in which he denied that any of the money received by Labor's National Peace Council came from a German source.

"I am known throughout the United States as a man who has the best interests of labor at heart," said Taylor. "I never met Lamar in my life, that I know of. I never heard of Franz von Rintelen until I saw his name in the newspapers. I never knew of any money being paid the council that came from a German source. I have been interested in the universal peace movement a quarter of a century. I have known the source of all the money received by the council. None of it came from Germany.

"All money we have received so far amounts only to $2500. The reason Congressman Buchanan left the presidency of the organization was that he disagreed with members on questions of policy."

Lamar is already at liberty on $25,000 bail on other charges. Assistant United States District Attorney Raymond H. Soferty asked that an additional $5000 be furnished, which Lamar immediately provided.

Lamar, dressed in the extreme of fashion, appeared unconcerned during the arraignment proceedings, and seemed bored when Mr. Soferty referred to him as "a gentleman whose migratory habits are well known."

A sweeping series of new indictments, including charges in connection with the alleged Mexican revolutionary plot which caused the arrest in Texas of ex-President Huerta, was forecast here today, following the indictment of the eight alleged labor conspirators yesterday.

A new Grand Jury will be sworn next Tuesday, it was announced, to investigate all alien conspiracies against the United States in the last 16 months. One official in charge of the investigation said the indictments of yesterday were "just a beginning."

The relation of Franz von Rintelen, German agent, now under arrest in London, to Lamar was believed to have been clearly established in the Grand Jury investigation just closed. Lamar was placed in the position of disbursing agent for von Rintelen. The latter's activities will be further investigated by the coming Grand Jury, especially in relation to the Mexican plot.

The Department of Justice is known to be taking a renewed interest in Huerta's case, and it was reported about the Federal building here today that a complete investigation was impending to clear up the intervention plot.

# CARLTON E. DAVIS GETS PHONE CALL TO KEEP HIS JOB

## Mayor-elect Smith Reappoints Water Bureau Chief Over Long Distance From Atlantic City

### WHO SUCCEEDS WEBSTER?

CARLTON G. DAVIS

He was reappointed Chief of the Bureau of Water today by Mayor-elect Smith.

Carlton E. Davis, chief of the Water Bureau, was reappointed this afternoon to serve in the administration of Mayor-elect Smith in the same capacity.

The appointment was tendered over the telephone by the Mayor-to-be from Atlantic City. "Davis is a very good man," said Mr. Smith, "and I am glad that he is to continue in the service of the city during my administration."

Chief Davis declined to make any comment regarding his re-appointment.

News of the re-appointment of Mr. Davis was regarded by those interested in the city's progress as an indication that Mr. Smith intended to do all in his

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# PROMISE OF COLD WAVE IN STORM'S WAKE DISPELLED

## Hopes of Grip-Racked Victims Vanish in Statement by Forecaster Bliss of the Weather Bureau

### RAIN TO STAY WITH US

The cold weather promised for tonight will not materialize, according to a statement made by Forecaster Bliss this afternoon. The temperature will continue about the same in Philadelphia for the next 36 hours, according to the weather man.

Thus go a-glimmering the hopes of all the grip-racked Philadelphians who saw in the probable cold spell their one chance quickly to rid themselves of their ills. "Bear cold weather worries the germ "gripus," according to many of its victims, and it is driven away till a "spell" of humidity brings it back.

But after folks have wandered around in the rain all day and got thoroughly wet, and have gone home all a-sniffle and bothered with coughs, there wouldn't be much consolation in cold weather, anyhow, declare patients, and so they don't care what the weather is by night.

Tomorrow will be cloudy, with a possibility of more rain, said Mr. Bliss. The high eastern wind will shift to a westerly direction and may drive away the storm which is centred today over the eastern section of Kentucky.

Philadelphia has only had a taste of the very outside part of the storm and a few of the straggling weather waves belonging to the main detachment. According to the weather forecast, they will be with us all day, with a possibility of the rain turning to sleet by night.

The heavy rain and windstorm which

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***London Market Strong After Christmas Recess***

The London Stock Market reopened quiet but firm after the Christmas holiday, says Francis W. Hirst, editor of the Economist, London.

Rubbers are strong and the money market unchanged. The recent increase of Treasury notes to $475,000,000 has attracted attention.

English ten-shilling notes, with the Turkish inscription added, circulate freely at Mudros, says Mr. Hirst in an article on British finances sent by special cable to the EVENING LEDGER and published exclusively in this issue.

## *QUICK NEWS*

### FORD, EN ROUTE HOME, "FEELING BETTER"

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 29.—Henry Ford is "feeling better and enjoying the trip," according to a wireless message received today from the homebound peace leader by E. G. Liebold, his private secretary. The message was the first received from the Detroit millionaire for nearly a week. It was filed from the steamship Bergensfjord, on which Ford is a passenger.

### BOMB CONSPIRATOR TAKES CASE TO SUPREME COURT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The Department of Justice learned today that Paul Dacho, held in New Jersey as one of the conspirators in the Fay bomb plot case at New York, plans to apply to the United States Supreme Court for a writ of habeas corpus to obtain his release.

### AUSTRO-HUNGARIANS HAMMER AT SCUTARI

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Turin quotes the Gazette del Popolo as saying that the Austro-Hungarians are attacking Scutari, in Albania, and that the fall of the city is expected soon. When Scutari falls, according to the Italian paper, the Austrins and Bulgarians will then advance on Avlona, where 130,000 troops have disembarked.

### ALLIES' WARSHIPS HIT IN DUEL WITH TURK GUNS

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 29.—In a great artillery duel between all the Anglo-French warships at the Dardanelles and the Turkish batteries near Sedd-El-Bahr one battleship and a cruiser were struck by Turkish shells, it is officially announced.

### RUSSIANS CAPTURE KASBAN; MARCH ON ISPAHAN

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A Reuter dispatch from Teheran says that the Russians have occupied Kasban and are marching toward Ispahan. The dispatch shows that the Russians are cutting into southern Persia toward Mescpotamia, and it is possible that they contemplate co-operation with the British in that zone of operations. Kasban is 115 miles south of Teheran, and Ispahan is about 110 miles south of Kasban.

### SERBIANS ON ROAD TO DEATH BY HUNGER

PARIS, Dec. 29.—Dispatches received here today say that the Albanians are venting their hatred upon exiled Serbs. Exorbitant prices are being charged for food. A small piece of moldy bread is often sold for a dollar or more. All reports from Albania say that the entire Serbian nation is on the high road to death by starvation. Babies expire at their mothers' breasts. The roadsides are strewn with corpses that are little more than skeletons.

### MOTHER DROWNS TWO SONS; HER OWN LIFE SAVED

Mrs. Edward Krause, formerly of this city, threw her two small sons into a reservoir at Milford, Conn., yesterday, and then leaped in after them in an attempt to commit suicide. The boys were both drowned, but she was rescued. At the hospital Mrs. Krause said that her act was caused by the belief that her husband had been killed in an automobile accident. The boys were Sidney, aged 6, and Edward, aged 5. According to Mr. Krause, his wife had acted peculiarly on several occasions, and although she had told him that she was going to kill herself he paid no attention to her.

### LANSING DENIES FRICTION BETWEEN U. S. ENVOYS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Because of the belief that the usefulness of the American diplomatic corps in Europe would be seriously impaired if the belief becomes current there that Colonel E. M. House, Ambassador-at-Large for President Wilson, has been sent abroad to reprimand them, Secretary of State Lansing today issued a formal denial that there is any friction between Ambassadors Page, at London, and Gerard, at Berlin, and Penfield, at Vienna.

### PETITIONS FOR MUNITIONS EMBARGO FLOOD CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The movement for legislation imposing an embargo on the shipment of war munitions abroad has become so insistent that Chairman Flood, of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, has determined to call a meeting of the committee with a view to hearings on the subject. The committee last year received petitions signed by 3,000,000 persons asking for an embargo. The committee is again being flooded with the petitions, while many members of Congress are being urged along the same line.

### $2,900,000,000 SUBSCRIBED TO NEW FRENCH LOAN

PARIS, Dec. 29.—"Subscriptions to the new Government loan exceeded 14,500,000,000 francs ($2,900,000,000) are for the greater part in cash," says an official announcement. The statement further says: "The first care of the Treasury will be to reimburse the Bank of France for its 2,400,000,000 francs ($980,000,000) in advance. Thus the Government of France emphasizes the soundness of its financial policy. This policy indicates clearly that the French State has firmly resolved to maintain the value of its bank notes. The confidence in our credit abroad is great. England, Switzerland, Holland, Spain, Argentina and other countries have subscribed important sums to the loan."

### SLAVS DESTROY GERMAN OUTPOSTS

PETROGRAD, Dec. 29.—A statement issued by General Headquarters says: "At Schmarden, in the direction of the coast region, a Russian detachment organized a surprise attack upon a German post. At 4 o'clock in the morning the Russians approached without being seen, cut the wire obstacles in many places, threw themselves upon the German huts, flung hand grenades through the windows, and after a hand-to-hand encounter destroyed the whole post. Despite a heavy fire from the south, the Russians retired successfully with insignificant losses. In the region of Czartorysk Station, near a cemetery in the village of Novo Podcherevitchi, we annihilated another German post, taking 16 prisoners."

### JAPANESE SHIPS ABANDON SUEZ ROUTE

TOKIO, Dec. 29.—On account of the war dangers to vessels which pass through the Suez Canal and the Mediterranean, the Japan Mail Steamship Company, which controls the bulk of the shipping of this country, has decided to abandon the customary route and dispatch its steamships around the Cape of Good Hope from Colombo, Ceylon. The voyage to England will be lengthened a fortnight. Vessels from Europe to the Orient will follow the same course. From Colombo the Japan Mail liners will proceed to Durban, Cape Town, Madeira and London. The new service will be inaugurated by the Kamo Maru, which is to sail from Colombo on December 30. Several vessels of this line are at Mediterranean ports awaiting orders. The Japanese cruisers Tokiwa and Chitose sailed today from Yokosuka on a secret mission. It is believed that they will go to the South Seas.

### BRITAIN TO LIFT BAN ON RED CROSS SUPPLIES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Informal assurances that the British order restricting American shipments of hospital supplies to the Central Powers is about to be modified have been received by the Red Cross. Preparations are being made to send through some of the equipment most needed. American Red Cross officials began compiling specific lists of the contents of three large shipments of hospital supplies which do not include articles of rubber. It is expected authorization will be granted by the British Government for their shipmen to Germany, Austria-Hungary and Bulgaria. The State Department has instructed Ambassadors Page at London and Sharp at Paris to obtain safe conduct for a cargo of condensed milk to feed the starving babies of Germany.

### COLONIES TO PLAY BIG PART IN PEACE, SAYS LAW

LONDON, Dec. 29.—Andrew Bonar Law, the Colonial Secretary, is quoted in an interview given to the London correspondent of an Australian news agency as saying that when the time comes for the conclusion of peace "the dominions will be consulted and their views will have great weight in determining what the terms of peace shall be." "The brightest spot in the whole war," the Colonial Secretary is quoted as saying, "is the attitude of the self-governing dominions toward us. Compulsion, of course, was out of the question. The voluntary response of the dominions has been greater than any one could have foreseen. How appreciative we are is shown by the enthusiastic applause given at every opportunity to the work of the dominion soldiers."