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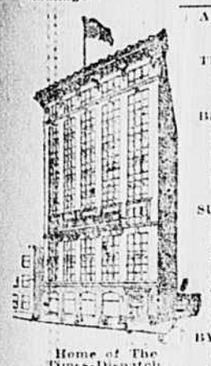

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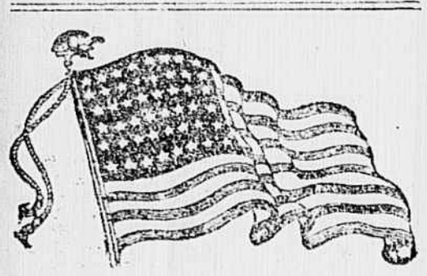
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1919.



In more than one respect it was not a Red Christmas. The Reds were prevented [illegible] for the overthrow of the gov- [illegible] the American people were [illegible] giving expression of the joy [illegible] accustomed way.

[illegible] profound obscurity of [illegible] Mr. Marshall announces [illegible] to enter public life it will [illegible] for the Senate, his ob- [illegible] having given him [illegible] of its usefulness and [illegible]

[illegible] take the position that be- [illegible]

[illegible] judge is displeasing [illegible] proper remedy is to do what [illegible] cause suffering and distress by striking, which illustrates the ideas some people have been teaching of the meaning of law, the functions of courts and the duties and rights of citizens.

Charles A. Frank, peripatetic labor organizer, was "invited" by 2,500 employees of the International Shipbuilding Company at Pascagoula, Miss., to leave the community forthwith, and as the invitation was underwritten by a large number of outside citizens, known to be of sensitive disposition and capable of activities, no R. S. V. P. card was required to assure acceptance.

In the "News of Fifty Years Ago" one reads this comment on the ancient Christmas festivities in Richmond: "There was much less than the usual tippling, and real drunks were, comparatively speaking, few and far between." The which may be repeated for Christmas, 1919, except it should be amended by striking out the words "comparatively speaking," and the whole passage read with a more pronounced emphasis.

Typically German was the conduct of the officer, Robert Roeckling, "steel king," who, in order to further his own business and destroy competition [illegible] years to come, pillaged Eastern France and systematically ruined its great metal-working plants. Ten years in prison and fifteen years in exile, the sentence imposed on him by the court-martial, should give him ample time for reflection on the ultimate cost of that kind of warfare.

The decision of the Shipping Board not to permit the use of liquor on government-owned ships is expected by shipping experts to make competition with privately owned vessels practically impossible. The latter will be able to serve intoxicants outside of the three-mile limit, and this is expected to give them a monopoly in passenger traffic, with the probability that many new short lines operating just outside the three-mile limit between coast points will be established to meet an ever-increasing "travel" demand.

Brazil and other South American republics are going out of their way to borrow trouble in letting down the bars and offering flattering inducements for German immigration. There was a time when the United States considered the German immigrant industrious and thrifty, a most desirable asset, but events of the past few years have sadly altered that viewpoint. The refusal of the German to be assimilated into the country of his adoption is his one great fault, and the time may come when the little countries to the south of us, now holding out lures for the Hun, will find themselves Germanized beyond redemption.

Christmas Day in Richmond was notable not alone for the marked absence of the egg-nog bowl, which heretofore had contributed to the general joyousness of the season, but for the further fact that the lordly turkey was missing from many a home where, in former years, it had graced the center of the dinner table. Rather than do without the holiday bird some householders paid the outrageous prices demanded, but perhaps as many others, profiting by the oft inculcated lessons of thrift, balked at the 80 cents a pound, the prevailing figure in the local markets, and got along just as well with the more lowly hen or other less expensive dish.

A story of marvelous, almost unbelievable prosperity in Richmond is told in the reports of its banks and other financial institutions. Extra dividends, generous bonuses to employees, large amounts carried over to surplus accounts, and their coffers swelled with deposits, to the point of actual embarrassment, is the record of nearly every one of them. Other businesses generally have prospered likewise and perhaps all records in volume of business done have been surpassed in the last twelve months. But, even in this midst of plenty, conditions surrounding the salaried man and the wage earner remain more or less distressing. Wages have been increased from time to time in a way that a few years ago would have seemed prodigal, but never have they overtaken the increase in what it takes to live. As wages have gone up, the purchasing value of the dollar has gone down, but even more rapidly. There is more necessity now for thrift and economy perhaps than ever before, for while encouraging signs appear on the economical horizon, the struggle to make ends meet is far from over for the average citizen.

Turning Back the Railroads

WHILE it seems to have had no effect on the determination of the President, who has ordered the railroads to be returned to their private owners on March 1, the petition of the labor leaders and spokesmen of the farmers' organizations that they be not returned for another year, in order that the American people might make up their minds as to the advisability of turning them back to private control, was worthy of deep consideration on the part of the President, Congress and the whole people. A convincing argument was made by the labor leaders in behalf of their plan. They contended that government operation of the rail lines has had no fair test. The war created a series of conditions under which it was impossible for the present managers to make their best showing. It was impossible for them to take time for careful development of traffic routing, to work out the best possible economies, to eliminate waste and duplication of service or to make effective other vastly important plans for increasing business and increasing earnings.

Even the year of reconstruction which has just passed has afforded no genuinely fair test of government control, it is added. There have been strikes, labor disturbances, business stagnation, doubt and uncertainty in all directions. This has made it totally impossible for the government to get satisfactory results from the operation of the railroads. Yet, in spite of the handicaps, it is pointed out that at last the railroad administration is able to show a profit to the government. For the next few months there has been no deficit for Congress to meet.

It was argued, therefore, that the government should maintain its rail control for at least another year, perhaps two, in order that the railroad administration might show the country, once and for all, whether or not the interior transportation system should be left in private hands or whether the government should take it over, either by purchase or by an indefinite lease of the properties.

The arguments presented by these interests made the deeper impression for the reason that Congress has shown a total incapacity to deal adequately with the railroad problem. If that body, during the seven months it has had to write and enact a railroad bill, comprehending a permanent railroad policy, had come forward with a great constructive measure, a measure which would protect the American public, and at the same time give private interests the right to own and operate their properties—if all this had come to pass, the country as a whole would have been unalterably opposed to further government operation of the railroads. But that body has drifted along, week after week, and month after month until the first of the year is approaching, without a railroad law on the statute books. The President now has given notice that on March 1 he will hand over the roads to their owners, and Congress thereby is given two months' grace in which to produce the legislation needed to protect the public and prevent transportation chaos.

John Sharp Williams to Quit

THE brilliant and courageous senior Senator from Mississippi is having difficulty in convincing his home folks that he is in dead earnest about his retirement from public life at the expiration of his present term. Three years ago he made the announcement that under no foreseeable circumstances would he ask for re-election, but the friends and admirers of this statesman refused to take him seriously. It was incomprehensible to them that any man who might wear the senatorial toga for the remainder of his life, merely for the asking, should deliberately cast it from him.

The admirers of the Senator outside of his State have taken much the same view. So many millions of men, old and young, look with longing eyes to the Senate chamber at Washington and so passionately aspire to the station of a seat in that body, that they totally fail to understand the psychology of any man who rejects the support of a State that actually clamors for the chance to keep him in the Senate.

Senator Williams is apparently as sincere as a man can be in his determination to quit the whole business. He is profoundly disgusted with the activities of the Senate, as now constituted. He evidently feels that what was once the "greatest deliberative body in the world" has degenerated into a hotbed of partisanship and as such service in it is no longer honorable or even agreeable.

A few days ago the Senator found occasion for a second time to pronounce his unwillingness to stand for re-election or to accept another term, if tendered to him by the unanimous choice of his fellow Mississippians. He did this in a communication to friends in his home State, a communication in which he said: "I am disgusted with the whole political situation, especially with the treatment of international affairs as if they were questions of party politics, and I would rather be a dog and bay at the moon than spend one day in the United States Senate after the expiration of my present term." It would be difficult for him to be more emphatic in his refusal to accept another term.

Girls at the New York State Reformatory who use bad language had their mouths washed out with soap and water, doubtless with the hope by the management that the treatment would have soaporific effect on their tongues.

With prohibition in full effect it will be necessary to prepare a new and revised edition of good resolutions for the coming January 1, those heretofore in use being now obsolete.

Surely Texas has fallen on degenerate days when a citizen of the State can be held up and robbed in his own room in New York, and by Spaniards at that.

Prohibition officers, digging around suspected premises, are not searching for gold, but do hope to strike quarts.

SEEN ON THE SIDE

BY HENRY EDWARD WARNER

Eyes.

Hands are made for the tasks of men, and feet on errands go;
Dimples are made to help the smile, because we love it so.
Brains are made that a fool may learn and sit at the feet of the wise.
But it takes a lover to tell you why the good Lord made girls' eyes!

These Days.

The kid ran into the grocery all out of breath and money.

"Say, Mister, my ma says send her a pound o' beef, quarter peck o' potatoes, loaf o' bread an' pound o' butter an' charge it!"

The grocer looked over the top of his glasses, just like that, and replied:

"A'right, Sister; you run back an' tell mamma I've got all th' other things, but I've just run out o' Charge-It!"

The harder a man works for a living the more he appreciates the beauty of labor.

The honestest business man refrains from putting his littlest apples on top, all the same!

A Benedict.

"And so, after a long argument, Mrs. Smith decided to let him have his own way," said Mrs. Jones.

"The Quitter!" hissed the Married Ladies' Union in one hiss!

These Days.

The other day we strolled into a restaurant, ordered a small tenderloin, some potatoes and peas, coffee and a piece of pie; gave the waiter $2.25, which left him 40 cents, and went away very well pleased.

Less than twenty years ago we knew a dairy place where a fellow could walk all around a counter with one glass of froth and pick up a solid meal for a nickel.

Last week we bought a suit for $84 that used to cost $21.30, and we've known the time when a patch on the differentials of a man's apparel was an honorable expedient.

A colored lady of unquestioned pre-eminence has just declined to accessorate herself to our menage at $13 a week and food to take home, on the ground that she's no piker.

And for all we care, they can bring on another war.

H. C. L.

And even
A mosquitto
Always greets you
With a bill!

Gifts.

"Some people have the darndest taste in giving presents!"

"As for how?"

"Look at this outfit mother sent me! A bottle of tonic for my appetite and a box of pills for indigestion, and Lord knows when I'll ever get a chance to use 'em!"

Tomorrow, as I've always maintained, is the Unattainable Day. It holds all there is of promise, but Today is the day of Hope. If we could use Tomorrow Today, perhaps we would find our joys there to fritter and waste; but it is not given man to advance his Fates, and for me, Tomorrow may hold gladness, for you, sadness; for one, cheers and for the other tears. Better let it go as it is, Gents! . . . We've known happy bachelors to wed widows Tomorrow!

Hope Ahead.

"After all," said Abe Gibbs, Pessimist on Provender, "after all, this food situation seems to be slowly returning to normal."

"How d'yuh get that?" we inquired, hoarsely.

"Why," he said, flipping a coin to see whether the girl got it which she didn't, "it's got so now that I can speak to a poached egg without apologizing to the toast."

These Days.

"When other lips and other hearts
Their tales of love shall tell,"
"If one of 'em weds and lets you out
You'll be doin' mighty well!"
This love of auld lang syne comes dear
In the days of H. C. L.

From Other Viewpoints

Money Camouflage.
BY HOMER HOYT.

There is no patent medicine that will relieve us of the pain of high prices. That fact should be extensively advertised by the government.

Congress and the President may succeed in tearing down local price peaks that have risen higher than the general plain; they may succeed in curbing some profiteers and in smashing a few trusts that may lower the present price level as much as 5 per cent, but the expectation that we can enjoy 1919 wages and 1913 prices is illusory, and should not be held out as a false hope. The facts are that prices have doubled because wages have doubled, or that wages have doubled because prices have doubled. Like the hen and the egg, it is impossible to say which came first.

Instead of trying to cut off the heads of a million separate prices faster than new heads can spring up to take their places, Congress might attempt the method suggested by Professor Irving Fisher and regulate the value of the dollar itself. Since prices have doubled and wages have doubled, let us declare by law that the value of the dollar shall be doubled. This can be done by doubling the gold contents of the dollar.

If this proposal would be adopted the value of the dollar would be determined by the average prices of all commodities, instead of the average prices of all commodities being determined by the value of the dollar as at present. In other words, we would keep our measuring-stick of value constant, we would not allow the variation with which we measure prices to shrink to eighteen inches as it has done during the war.

But Congress will doubtless refuse to tamper with such definitions as the dollar. We do not yet seem to have quite confidence enough in the prognostications of the prices bureaus to trust them with the practical regulation of values.

The time may come when prices and price-control will be relegated to the field of science and when a board of experts will regulate the values according to monthly price quotations, but this time is not yet. The confidence of the people is a vital factor in the success of such a proposal, and that confidence must be won by educating the people in the mysteries of the price calculus.

A heavy demand for the munitions of war on the part of our allies led to increases in prices in the United States in 1916, and munition plants paid higher wages to secure labor. Other industries competing with munition plants were obliged to pay higher wages in turn, and higher wages brought on higher prices. As prices went up, laborers demanded and received higher wages to meet the increased cost of living. Thus prices and wages are tied together; they rise and fall together.

The masses of consumers also are laborers, and when they pay high prices they are merely paying the higher wages that go into the envelopes of laborers. The Railroad Brotherhoods pay more for their food because farm wages and the wages of packing-house employees have doubled, while the farmer pays more for his plow, because the wages of the Railroad Brotherhoods have advanced. The city workman pays a higher street-car fare because street-car motormen and conductors receive higher wages, and the street-car employees pay more for their clothing because some of the city workmen also receive higher wages. Thus labor transfers more money from the coat it wears as consumer, but it also receives more money into the pocket of the jacket it wears as producer. The net result is the same as before, but popular reasoning about it is vastly different.

The average man cannot get it into his head that more dollars in his pay envelope does not mean more actual purchasing power. He cannot for the life of him see that the consumers are simply paying higher wages to themselves as laborers, and that he merely has the luxury of handling more money.

Congress and the President can help to solve the problem of the high cost of living by pointing out that there is no nostrum that will give us substantially lower prices and still maintain high wages, and that there is no financial legerdemain by which we can create wealth without good hard labor.—Copyright, 1919.

Health Talks by Dr. Wm. Brady

The Annoying Germ Theory.

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Once upon a time two cows got into a farmer's corn and trampled down all they could not eat. In the morning the farmer found them there and went over and raised hob with his neighbor who owned the cows. The neighbor was incredulous and went out to see for himself. "Well," he finally admitted, "yes, they're my cows. But I still deny that my cows would do such a thing. It is more plausible to assume that the cows found the fence broken and the corn trampled down and just walked in without meaning any harm." Whereupon the owner of the corn handed the owner of the cows a rail from the fence, and the jury called it justifiable homicide.

Anthrax is a disease which destroys sheep and cattle and sometimes man. It is commonly called malignant pustule. Often sheep infected with the bacillus of anthrax drop dead without noticeable premonitory illness, though sometimes there are staggering and trembling, hurried breathing, fever, bleeding from the nose and eyes and other orifices, and then death after an hour or two. Wool sorters and handlers of hides sometimes contract anthrax, which begins with a lesion resembling a boil or a carbuncle at the point of inoculation. The bacillus of anthrax is found in the hair or wool, on the hide, and in the pustule. In animals dead of anthrax the bacillus is found occluding the small arteries or capillaries of internal organs.

Yet some people, usually with something to market, speak of the "germ theory" as though it were not a demonstrable fact. Unfortunately for these plausible folk, belief in the bacterial origin of disease just naturally destroys the market for that which they wish to sell.

Scoffers at the "germ theory" offer many and weird explanations for certain familiar everyday facts, such as the contagiousness of erysipelas, the risk of "blood poisoning" from unclean wounds, the occurrence of epidemics, the way in which malaria and yellow fever spread, the mysterious spreading of disease by apparently healthy human carriers, and the countless lives saved by the simple expedient of asepsis (that is, germ-free environment) in surgical obstetric and sanitary practice. Obvious facts like these are hard to reason away with the cows in the corn.

But let us not assume that because diseases are caused by germs antiseptics or germicides can be expected to destroy the germs in the tissues of the host—the only place where disease germs do an individual any harm. Although many concoctions do purport to exert an "antiseptic" or "germicidal" influence in the tissues or in the blood of the host without seriously injuring the tissue cells or destroying the life of the host, no one with any knowledge of the nature of disease and of bacteriology takes such remedies seriously.

Questions and Answers.

This Guy is Joshing Us—The subscriber read with close sympathy your thorough modus operandi of exterminating the truculent Pediculus capitis whose intimate affection for the human cuticle is truly a high example of constancy. The problem now suggests itself to the discriminating reader, would the same formula, viz., kerosene and vinegar in equal parts, suffice to effect the evacuation of one's virtuous couch by the hosts of Cimex lectularius? (B. A. J.)

Answer—No, the jovial bedbug requires more potent treatment than ordinary "company." Fumigation of the room gets the unwelcome bedfellows. This demands expert application for a successful job. Fumigation, though needless to prevent disease, is the best method of destroying vermin.

Voice of the People

Letters must give the name and address of the writer. Name will not be published if writer so requests.

League of Nations People's Cause.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

There is a clever bit of sophistry in the trite saying that if we fought to "make the world safe for democracy," we must now make "democracy safe for the world." Men use this tag to blame democracy for our present ills. But as Dr. Leighton Parks said several years ago at a church congress at Washington: "The cure for the ills of democracy is more democracy." We are threatened again by the aged and hoary greed of Mammon. The Mammon-worshipers have sought war with Mexico. The Mammon-worshipers have sought to preserve the old Hamiltonian alliance of money and the U. S. Senate. They have staved off Wilson's plans for world-peace in order to build up a Prussian-aping militarism here in this country. If we need a strong government it must be a government of, for, and by the people. We want no government by Mammon and Militarism. For Mammon and Militarism are mere materialism, and are as godless as anarchy itself.

Some of the nation's best blood was shed to crush this menace abroad. Who could blame the President, if he be physically able, if he fights it even by seeking a third term, here at home? If the selfish nationalism scorned in case of Germany erects its head here in this country? With a new "balance of power" set up in Europe, what could we do but pay billions to arming this nation? What hope for the people, or for the rights of man? Have we already forgotten the millions killed, the wasting and famine and disease and pestilence that are the inevitable accompaniment of war? Will not the people try any sort of experiment to prevent its recurrence? Eighty Senators for a league of nations, and fourteen blocking the progress of the whole world! Ballots, not bullets, must make the world safe for human life!

WYTHE L. KINSOLVING.

Richmond, Va., December 16, 1919.

Keyboard Touches

Worse Than the Lion's Roar.
BY FRANK H. BROOKS.

No matter how secure you feel in the possession of a stock of information, there is one sort of man whom you dread to meet—and you don't meet him until you are cornered. He is the one who watches and waits his opportunity to minimize from his own concealed and narrow mentality any statement you have made. We rather enjoy one who differs from us when he makes us feel that there are two sides to what we have asserted. It is the nincompoop who is alert to belittle us, as he hopes, before our equals or our betters. You know and others present know that such a fellow is not competent to criticize or analyze, or even question what has been said. But the bray of an ass is always more to be dreaded than the roar of a lion.

In some way unexplainable, one of these pests was present at an otherwise delightful gathering, not long since. One of the speakers by way of riveting his point said that Goethe had observed that death must be a benefit since it was so universal. The momentary lull was broken by the "I say" of the hoddy-noddy who added, "that whatshisname you mentioned must a got his idea from Lincoln, who said that the Almighty must a loved people 'cause He made so many of 'em." He did not know, of course, that an impassable gulf of time stood between the man who died in 1832 and the one who died in 1865. The only idea he had of time was the time that came for him to bray. The time when he could fling a wet blanket with the notion that he had tripped some one on what he thought was the ignorance of a better, or a slip of the tongue.

In spite of the fact that the gathering knew that this creature did not have to make a break in order to show what he was, his vulgar break so dampened the atmosphere that it simply "broke up the meeting."

News of Fifty Years Ago

(From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 27, 1869.)

Yesterday W. E. Tanner & Co., of the Metropolitan Iron Works shipped an entire carload of building material of their manufacture to Marion, S. C.

General Canby yesterday appointed George W. Whitsento be Commissioner of State Revenue for the city of Petersburg.

Rimmon Lodge, No. 65, I. O. B. B., has elected the following officers for the ensuing six months: William Heller, president; Moses Hutzler, vice-president; Jacob May, treasurer; Leon Schaap, recording secretary; M. S. Block, financial secretary; N. Ezekiel, mentor; D. Stern, assistant mentor; Julius Sycle, inside guard; H. Saal, warden; William Lovenstein, Isaac Hutzler and D. Mittledorfer, representatives to the District Grand Lodge at Philadelphia.

The Grand Consistory, thirty-second degree Masons for the State of Virginia, will assemble at Mason's Hall, in Lynchburg, Monday next at noon. Three or more delegates from Richmond will be there.

The Spanish fleet of gunboats came into Hampton Roads yesterday, remained a few hours only and set back at sea.

An altercation took place in Capitol Square yesterday between State Senator E. W. Massie and Mr. Wentworth, of the House of Delegates. Blows were exchanged but no serious damage done. Political differences were the cause of this Christmas week entertainment in Capitol Square.

Married: On the 23rd instant by Rev. James Gates, Joseph A. Sadler and Mrs. Louisa Browning; both of Richmond.

General Canby has, merely by special order, extended the operations of the stay law until ten days after Virginia gets back into the Union and possibly that may mean forever.

Edwin M. Stanton, ex-Secretary of War, died yesterday morning at his residence in Washington, of heart disease, aged 54. He was Secretary of War under both Lincoln and Johnson.

AMERICANS DID BIG WORK

FRENCH OFFICIAL PAYS TRIBUTE TO SOLDIERS

Doughboys Won His Personal Admiration and His Professional Respect, Says De Castelnau.

BY GENERAL CURIERES DE CASTELNAU.

PARIS, Dec. 26.—I have no hesitancy in declaring that the military forces of the United States of America contributed very largely, by their splendid display of valiance, efficiently directed, to the final supreme triumph of right and liberty.

During the war I gained an intimate first-hand knowledge of the American fighting man's qualities. My personal admiration for him is only equalled by my professional respect. A considerable number of American combat divisions were trained under my command in the zone of the group of armies of the east. I saw these divisions pass triumphantly through their first baptism of fire in the trenches north of Toul. Later I watched them go "over the top" in the victorious offensives of 1918. They were my own troops; I know them as only a commanding general knows his men.

Remarkable Courage Shown.

From the moment the American soldier first met the enemy until the very end, he displayed the most remarkable individual courage. His magnificent spirit in battle was invincible. Officers and enlisted men rivaled each other in bravery, coolness, energy, tenacity and the spirit of self-sacrifice.

My own French troops, veterans of a score or more campaigns, were struck with admiration for their new allies. One old campaigner on my staff, aptly described the American soldier to me in this pithy phrase: "He never knows when he's had enough." I can conceive of no higher and no more just tribute to the doughboy who fought with us on the battle fields of France. He was literally unbeatable because he never knew when he was beaten.

Renewed French Confidence.

After once seeing the American army in action we were so impressed that had our confidence in victory needed a stimulant, the presence of our transatlantic comrades would have been sufficient to assure us of the inevitable victory.

Whenever troops show such splendid soldierly qualities as displayed by the Americans individually—and it is on the individual soldier that the general, in the last analysis, counts for success—all hopes are justifiable, all strategic and tactical plans are feasible and success is inevitable.

Not only the individual American ranker, but the collective military organization, proved a model of excellence. The offensive and defensive engagements successfully undertaken by the American army in 1918 threw into brilliant relief this incontestable fact. The excellency of the American staff, the discipline and flexibility of the units engaged gave proof of competent and methodic instruction, progressive training and hard work, the essential factors in all human perfection.

Left Happy Memory.

From a sentimental standpoint, my relations with the officers and men of the A. E. F. have left me with a most happy memory of brothers in arms, who were loyal in battle, lovable in camp and profoundly imbued with the spirit of the fraternity of arms. I retain the most sincere affection for many of those American officers whose duties brought us into intimate contact.

It is a source of the greatest satisfaction that I have been given this privilege of renewing during the late war the cordial relations with the army of America, which existed over a century ago, between my ancestors and the men who fought for the freedom of America in the War of Independence, both on land and on sea.

KOLCHAK GOVERNMENT REPORTS SOVIET REPULSE

Declares Bolshevists Are Defeated at Several Points by Siberians and Poles.

[By Associated Press.]

IRKUTSK, Dec. 26.—The general staff of the all-Russian government announced today that an attempt by the Bolshevists to occupy the Litvinvo station of the Trans-Siberian Railway just west of Taika, was repulsed by Siberian and Polish troops.

The Bolshevists have been defeated at many points, losing machine guns and prisoners. The Siberians and Poles are in possession of the Litvinvo Taika region.

Insurrections by the social revolutionaries have occurred at various points in the Province of Irkutsk and in Irkutsk City. The government has taken measures to put down the uprisings.

The uprising in Turkestan against the Bolshevists continues, according to a wireless message sent out by the Soviet government at Moscow. The anti-Bolshevists forces have occupied the cities of Khokand and Shobeley, in Firghana Province, and are advancing on Tashkent.

PREDICTS IRISH REPUBLIC WILL SOON BE RECOGNIZED

Eamonn de Valera Says He Expects American Action During New Year.

[By Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—A prediction that 1920 may see the recognition of the "republic of Ireland" by the United States was contained in a New Year's message cabled to Arthur Griffith, "acting president," by Eamonn de Valera and made public here tonight. The message follows:

"Greeting to the persecuted people of Ireland from the many millions of Americans who love liberty and admire people everywhere who will not be denied liberty. Endure yet a little while. You will be sustained. The year 1920 may see the republic of Ireland officially recognized by the United States, and then final victory after 750 years. Work and pray. Every one, colleagues and self, are doing our duty. We send our affectionate regards to every Irish citizen.

"DE VALERA."

STILL COMRADES IN DEATH

Seamen Who Were Mates for Half a Century Found Unconscious Near Open Gas Jet.

[By Associated Press.]

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Friendship of more than fifty years, formed when they sailed before the mast from Norway to see the ports of the world, today was ended for Olaf Johnson, 83, and Early Jacobson, 77, and police were investigating their deaths from gas poisoning.

Side by side they died as they had worked and lived after a half century's smelling salt water had lost its lure.

Six years ago they retired and came to Chicago to live. A visitor found the aged mariners unconscious on the floor yesterday with gas pouring from an open jet. They died at a hospital.

REDS INVADE OIL FIELDS

Radicals Endeavor to Spread Propaganda of Discontent Among Workers in Texas.

[By Associated Press.]

WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS, Dec. 26.—Radicals are spreading "red" propaganda in the oil field camps in Northwest Texas, and are making an organized effort to create discontent among the workmen, Department of Justice officials announced today.

Reports that radicals were planning an invasion of Waggoner City, fourteen miles northwest of here, last night caused heavy guards to be stationed about stores and in the outskirts of the town. Several persons were arrested.

King and Queen to Sail.

PARIS, Dec. 26.—King Alfonso and Queen Victoria of Spain will sail for South America next June, according to the Eclair.

NAME SAVED BY SERVICE

MAN WHO STOLE $15,000 WINS CROIX DE GUERRE

On Return From War He Is Arrested but Is Given His Freedom on Probation.

[By Associated Press.]

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—That Arthur E. Abbott, long wanted as a fugitive from justice for the theft of $15,000 from the Federal Trust Company of this city, enlisted in the marines and, as Sergeant William H. Haskell, was cited for brilliant war service, was disclosed today when it was announced that he had been set free on probation by the district attorney, and that he had received the Croix de Guerre officially under his right name.

Had Spent Bank's Money.

Abbott, who was employed as a bank bookkeeper at $20 a week, disappeared in the fall of 1917 after the bank loss became known, and it was learned that he had been living like a man of wealth and leisure away from his family.

He evaded a nation-wide search and enlisted in the marine corps at New Orleans as Haskell, and went overseas with the Sixth regiment. He was one of the forty-four men left of the famous 1,300 marines who went through the Argonne. He was cited for bravery after capturing a machine gun and nine prisoners near Vierzya on July 19, 1918.

Re-enlists as Haskell.

After receiving an honorable discharge last January, he immediately re-enlisted again as Haskell. He was detailed aboard the United States ship Dolphin in July and ordered to Portsmouth, N. H., where he was recognized and arrested.

District-Attorney Palletier, of Boston, on learning of his service record, ordered his release on probation. He was rearrested by the Navy Department, charged with enlisting under a false name, but his commanding officer, Captain John Grady, of the gunboat Dolphin, effected his release within a short time, and a few days later decorated him as Arthur Abbott with the Croix de Guerre before the ship's crew and a marine detail drawn up at attention.

NEBRASKA'S LANGUAGE LAW UPHELD BY COURT

Act Fought by Evangelical Lutheran Synod Curtails Use of Foreign Tongue in Schools.

[By Associated Press.]

LINCOLN, NEB., Dec. 26.—Constitutionality of a State law designed to curtail use of foreign languages in Nebraska schools as an Americanization measure was upheld by the State Supreme Court today.

The law which applies to all public, private, parochial and denominational schools in the State provides:

That foreign languages shall not be employed in giving instruction on any subject to pupils below the ninth grade.

That foreign languages may be taught in the ninth and higher grades in so far as the teaching of such languages may require, but may not be used as a medium of instruction in any other subjects.

Validity of the law was attacked by the Nebraska district of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other States.

DELEGATES PREPARE TO PUT PEACE TERMS INTO EFFECT

Conference Will Begin Early Next Week Between Allied and German Representatives.

[By Associated Press.]

PARIS, Dec. 26.—Conference will begin here early next week between allied and German delegates on measures preparatory to putting the peace treaty into effect, it was announced today. The sessions will be held under the presidency of General Lerond, a member of the French delegation.

Herr von Simson will head the German delegation. British and Italian delegates will arrive here Monday to have part in the deliberations.

The supreme council did not hold a session today, but announced a meeting for tomorrow.

Herr von Simson has been here since Sunday, but has been unable to arrange during this time for a conference between the Germans and the allied representatives. This morning, however, Baron von Lersner, head of the German mission stationed in Paris, called on Paul Dutasta, general secretary of the peace conference, and was informed that conferences had been arranged for, probably beginning Monday.

SUCCESSFUL TEST MADE OF NEW SYNTHETIC FUEL

Is Found to Be More Economical Than Gasoline and Easier on Motors.

[By Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Successful tests of a motor fuel, declared to be more economical than gasoline, as well as easier on motors, were announced today by Otto Praeger, Second Assistant Postmaster-General, in charge of the air mail service.

The fuel consists of thirty-eight parts alcohol, thirty of gasoline, nineteen of benzol, three and five-tenths of ether and four of toluol. Ingredients making up the remaining parts were not given. Mail plane No. 35 was used in the tests between New York and Washington. Another plane using high test aviation gasoline was used as a check.

A saving of 3.9 gallons an hour in favor of the synthetic fuel was indicated. Economy of lubricating oil was also shown by the tests. After 125 hours in the air the two motors were torn down, and that in which the new fuel had been used was found in the better condition, with a smaller deposit of carbon.

Find Hand in Alley.

PONTIAC, MICH., Dec. 26.—Investigation of a human hand and arm found this forenoon in a downtown alley, leads officers to believe the person from whose body it came may have died by torture. The arm is apparently that of a woman. Driven into the hand beneath the tendons is a piece of wood half an inch square, both ends cut off cleanly. Two carefully folded pieces of a foreign language newspaper were under one of the cords of the hand.

One of the Crowd in Between.

In every small city and every large town,
The ones who waste pennies, the ones that hoard gold,
And some far too modest and others too bold,
Some folks are way up and some others way down,
Some people go hatless and some wear a crown,
And from what I have heard and what I have seen,
I rather belong to the crowd in between.

Then there are the workers who never will rest,
The lazy as well who like idleness best,
The men who are always way up on tip-toes,
No matter what comes and no matter what goes,
And those who forever are wearing a frown,
The smile of a seraph would darken and drown,
When I size them all up, I owe that I lean
To the much larger crowd that comes in between.

Of all that men have from their plans to their dreams,
There are a large number who go to extremes,
And while their queer actions some good folks annoy,
And they spoil for themselves much they might enjoy;
But yet, since extremists oft much good produce,
Which is for their being a good, fair excuse,
Still nothing on earth my affections can wean
From the fact I'm one of the crowd in between.

—Thomas F. Porter, in Lynn Item.