

ABOUT everybody who is really interested in Washington, the city's and people's welfare, reads The Herald. The HERALD has more than 30,000 paid circulation daily, which covers most of the best homes in Washington.

The Washington Herald

14 BUYING DAYS TO CHRISTMAS

NO. 3341.

WEATHER: CLOUDY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1915.

ONE CENT; In Washington and Public Buildings Therein, ELSEWHERE TWO CENTS

ALLIES IN HARD FIGHT TO HOLD NEW POSITIONS

Heavy Attacks on Lines at Demir Kapu Repulsed, Is London Report.

NEAR TO GREEK BORDER

Forced from Kevali by Mixed Army of Germans and Bulgarians.

RIGHT WING IS UNDER ATTACK

Bulgars in the Strumitza Sector Carrying On Almost Incessant Fire On the British Troops.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. London, Dec. 8.—Imperilled by a Bulgar-German outflanking movement, the British and French have retreated ten miles from their Krivolak positions to Demir Kapu, twenty miles from the Greek border.

Heavy attacks are being launched against their new front. All so far have been repulsed, according to official dispatches from Paris and reports from correspondents at the front.

The occupation of Kevali, south of Monastir, by a mixed force of Germans and Bulgarians forced the allied withdrawal. They have now entrenched themselves along the Saloniki-Nish Railway, their supply line.

Right Wing Under Heavy Fire. The allies right wing, in the Strumitza region, is under heavy attack. The Bulgarians are carrying on an almost incessant fire on the British troops. Infantry attacks so far have failed, a Serbian dispatch states. The allied losses are reported to be small.

The majority of the German strength in the Balkans is now being thrown against the allies in an effort to drive them from Serbian soil. The entire army of Gen. von Gallwitz is reported in a dispatch to the Temps, of Paris, to have reached the southern front, while Bulgarian forces, estimated at more than two divisions, are concentrating in the Doiran region.

Kevali was occupied by German cavalry, re-enforced by Bulgarians. Monastir also has been occupied in force after Bulgarian troops remained in the outskirts of the town for some days.

Pursued into Albania. Further pursuit of the Serbian groups retreating into Montenegro and Albania is reported from Vienna and Berlin. Armed Albanians are co-operating with the Teutons.

The capture of more than 2,000 additional prisoners, 200 of whom are Montenegrins, is claimed by Vienna. Progress has been made north of Berane, in Montenegro, and the last hostile has been driven out of Ipekus.

A Montenegrin war office report, made public by the consul at Paris, says Austrian regiments in northeastern Montenegro were repulsed. The invaders are said to have been forced back for some distance.

Negro Hucksters Get His Goat.

Two negroes in a huckster's wagon yesterday robbed Walter Graham, 219 Ninth street northwest, of his goat. Walter was driving his goat at Thirteenth and Wylie streets northeast, and left his pet while he ran off with a playmate. He returned to see the colored men driving off with the goat. The boy's wagon was left behind by the negroes.

Accuses England of Coercing China.

Berlin, Dec. 8.—"England is apparently trying to force China also to give her neutrality," says a semi-official statement issued today. "However, according to all the reliable information received in Germany, the Chinese government intends not to change its course. It desires to remain neutral."

Do Your Christmas Shopping Early— Early in the Week and Early in the Day!

S. S. MINNESOTA IS SAFE.

Mechanical Trouble, Not Mutiny, Cause of Delay.

Special to The Washington Herald. San Francisco, Dec. 8.—Rumors of mutinous crews and German spies aboard the big Hill steamer Minnesota, current on this coast for the past four days were wiped away tonight with the receipt of a radiogram from Capt. Garlick. The message reads: "Steamship Minnesota, December 8. We have no mutiny or crew trouble of any kind whatever. Our troubles are mechanical, which we can not repair on board. We are coming to San Francisco." "GARLICK."

ONLY ONE DIES IN DEATH PACT

Girl Lives to Tell Story of How Man Shot Her and Himself.

AGREED TO END THEIR LIVES BECAUSE OF TOWN GOSSIPS

Crisfield, Md., Druggist and Employee First Tried Suicide by Taking Morphine.

Special to The Washington Herald. Crisfield, Md., Dec. 8.—With life ebbing away as the result of two bullet wounds in her lung, Miss Hilda Sterling told painfully but graphically tonight of her part in a suicide pact. Her partner, a druggist of this city, will be buried tomorrow, and his wife, Mrs. Agnes Reese, is in a critical condition as a result of the shock.

The coroner's jury gave a verdict of self-inflicted death tonight and made an ineffectual effort to suppress three letters. Two Reese had written before his death, the other was from Miss Sterling, who had been in his employ.

The notes from Reese professed his love for Miss Sterling, whom he eulogized as a high-minded, innocent girl, and announced their purpose to commit suicide as a result of the town gossip.

Miss Sterling told tonight of their decision. She said they had gone to the woods in an isolated part of the county, and after wrapping up in a blanket together had each taken six grains of morphine. They went to sleep, expecting never to awaken again, but both recovered, chilled and dazed.

Reese then drew a pistol and asked if she should shoot. She nodded in the affirmative, and he pulled the trigger. The pistol refused to work. Reese then declared he would go to Crisfield and get one that would shoot.

After he had gone Miss Sterling tried to leave the woods, but was too weak and dazed. Oh Reese's return they talked for a little while and then agreed to complete the pact. After kissing each other good-bye, Miss Sterling sat down and bade Reese shoot. He fired three shots into her body, of which two pierced her lungs. He then shot himself in the chest, and when this did not prove fatal, put the last bullet into his brain.

Reese fell back dead as the girl recovered from a swoon. When Miss Sterling recovered sufficient strength to crawl to his lifeless body she wrapped the blanket about it, covered it with leaves, ever which she placed her own coat, and fell across the body unconscious. Here she was later found.

The three letters follow: From Miss Sterling to Reese, written last Thursday:

"Tip: I am never going to step my foot in the store again, and I am mad with everybody. I think we had better call it off at separate friends. I want to stop all of this talk that's going on, and I am not going to work in the store any more. I will talk to you if I see you on the street, or if you come here, and I want you to be friends, but I will never come to the store again.

"Your friend, "HILDA."

"PS. I hope you will be willing to give me up, and let us quit."

From Reese to his wife:

"Race: When this reaches you I will be dead. I am going to fly away with the girl I love better than anything on this earth."

"TIP."

From Reese, addressed to Somerset Pharmacy:

"To Whom It May Concern: When this note is found, I will be dead. People's talk is responsible for my death, and I am going to leave it all. My love for Hilda and hers for me is as clean and pure as can be, but people have made life unbearable by talking about us. The talk is the cause of me doing this.

"C. REESE."



WILL THEY GROW AGAIN?

Says Greece Is Firm as Neutral

But Athens Dispatch Beating the Censor Admits "Situation Is Still Dark."

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Rome, Dec. 8.—An Athens message to the Idea Nazionale, transmitted by way of Messina to avoid the Greek censorship, says: "Though the situation is still dark, one thing is certain—the government's determination to remain neutral."

Biggest Man Ends Life With Poison

G. C. Mountcastle, Weighing 425 Pounds, Kills Self With Paris Green.

The largest resident of the Capital, weighing 425 pounds, committed suicide yesterday by swallowing four tablespoons full of Paris green. The corpulent victim was George C. Mountcastle, 59, former proprietor of the Brightwood Hotel, at Georgia avenue and Military road, and owner of a livery stable at the rear of the Portland Apartments, Fourteenth street and Vermont avenue.

The suicide occurred at Mountcastle's chicken farm at Annapolis, Prince George County. About 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Mountcastle told a hired man he had taken the poison in the morning and that he was just commencing to feel the effects. Dr. G. B. Heinicke, of Brightwood, was summoned. He arrived about 7:30 o'clock, but Mountcastle died a few minutes later.

Mountcastle was suffering from gangrene of the foot and Dr. Heinicke had advised an operation. It is said he had often threatened to take his life.

Several years ago Mountcastle, while at Brightwood Hotel, attempted to kill himself, firing three bullets into his chest. He was so stout that the bullets failed to penetrate to a vital depth. Robert E. Joyce will hold an inquest this morning. Mountcastle's wife resides in Brightwood.

Sommunipaw Safe, Cables Captain. New York, Dec. 8.—The Standard Oil tank steamer Communipaw, reported torpedoed and sunk off Tripoli, is safe, according to a cablegram received by officials of that company today. The message said the ship was at Alexandria when the cable was sent, Sunday, and would leave today for New York.

Kaiser Must Pass On Envoy's Recall

Embassy and State Department Differ Over Note From Lansing.

Emperor William of Germany will have to pass personally on the request of the United States for the recall of Capt. von Papen and Boy-Ed, the military and naval attaches, respectively, of the German Embassy here.

This was learned last night on definite authority from the Embassy itself. It was stated that inasmuch as military and naval attaches of the German diplomatic service are personal appointees of the Kaiser, upon him alone rests the final decision when a demand is made for their recall.

The Kaiser's answer is not expected by the Embassy officials to reach Washington before early next week.

In the meantime a difference of interpretation still exists between the State Department and the Embassy concerning the personal note sent to the Ambassador by Secretary of State Lansing in reply to the Ambassador's demand for the recall.

At the State Department it is still insisted that these reasons have not and will not be given. In Embassy circles it is insisted with equal emphasis that Mr. Lansing gave Count von Bernstorff, that the latter desired, and that the Ambassador, satisfied from what Mr. Lansing wrote him, that the two attaches were not personally involved in any violations of American law, believes that the two men will be recalled.

Freedman Will to Stand. New York, Dec. 8.—The will of the late Andrew Freedman, leaving half of his estate and eventually all of it except \$50,000, for the establishment of a home for aged poor will stand. There was no other will, and on the authority of Samuel Untermyer, who was Mr. Freedman's lawyer, there will be no contest. The testament, which will be filed for probate, disposes of an estate estimated at \$1,000,000.

Report from McMillan Expedition. Freeport, Me., Dec. 8.—A short letter from Donald B. MacMillan, leader of the Crocker land expedition, has been received by his sister, Mrs. F. W. K. Fosk. It was dated Etah, Greenland, April 6, and stated that all members of the party were well.

Prof. MacMillan reported that on account of ice conditions, the worst he had experienced in the north, meat was very scarce. He said he would probably remain another year.

Germans at Greek Frontier. Athens, Dec. 8.—German troops have reached the Greek frontier, according to a dispatch from Florina, which states that Teuton and Bulgarian cavalry forces have occupied the railway town of Kenali, on the Serbo-Greek boundary line.

Holiday Excursion Papers. South and Southwest, including Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas. Consult agents, Southern Railway.—Adv.

German-Moslems To Invade India

Kaiser's Big Drive for "Kultur" to Be Backed by Army of 500,000.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Rome, Dec. 8.—According to advices from Constantinople all the German efforts are now being directed towards the organization of a great Turco-German army against India. The German project comprises the formation of an army of 500,000, of whom 400,000 will be Turks and 100,000 Germans, under the command of Field Marshal von der Goltz and officered exclusively by Germans.

The expedition will start in the spring, preceded by a large Turkish advance guard which is now en route to Baghdad. German headquarters has abandoned its idea of an expedition against Egypt in order to concentrate its entire activity in Asia. The Bulgarian army is expected to look after the Balkan lines of communication and insure supplies for the Germans in Asia.

Turco-German circles reckon with certainty upon Greece and Roumania. Large supplies of German coal have arrived at Constantinople, but British submarines guard the coast of Macedonia. A fleet of transports carrying coal has already been destroyed. The German submarines in the Black Sea have been recalled to Constantinople to chase the British.

ROOSEVELT FINDING IT HARD TO KEEP QUIET

Refuses to Speak in Canada Because He Fears He Might Mention the War.

Toronto, Dec. 8.—I cannot speak in Toronto until the war is over. I cannot trust myself, for I would certainly say what would be unwise to say. I cannot speak except on what is in my heart, and the thing that is in my heart now is war. I am advising our government in my own country and I cannot do so elsewhere.

Thos. Col. Theodore Roosevelt gave his refusal to Maj. Fred H. Deacon, president of the Toronto Canadian Club, when pressed to address the club in the near future.

Seen at his Sagamore Hill residence, Col. Roosevelt was very reticent but equally emphatic in rejecting the invitation, although Mr. Deacon suggested that the visit need not necessarily involve any reference to the war.

Maj. Deacon then referred to the fact that the United States was already contributing much to the cause of the allies. "You cannot buy honor with money," cried Col. Roosevelt.

Kills Wife, Babe and Himself. Watertown, N. Y., Dec. 8.—William H. Lonas, a wealthy farmer of Greig, Lewis County, killed his wife and infant daughter and committed suicide at his home today. Lonas cut his wife's throat with a hunting knife, dashed the baby's brains out on the floor, and then cut his throat. It is believed that jealousy was the cause.

BIG GUNS STILL BELIECHING.

Daily Artillery Fighting on Western Front by Paris.

Paris, Dec. 8.—The war office says: The day was relatively calm. Artillery actions were fought in Artois in sectors of Loos and of Ghenvich, between the Somme and the Oise.

In the face of enemy artillery activity in the region of Pouscappelle, in Champagne, our guns entered into action with great violence. Observations made by aeroplane established the efficacy of our fire.

Fighting with grenades continues east of the Souain Hill, where our progress is more marked. Near Bethincourt, between the Argonne and the Meuse, our batteries demolished some reservoirs of suffocating gas.

This morning one of our aeroplanes, giving chase to a fast German machine at an altitude of over 9,000 feet, succeeded in coming within twenty yards of it and attacked it with machine guns. The German aeroplane caught fire and exploded. Its two occupants fell without our lines toward Tillon.

RED CROSS IS ON NEW BASIS

"Preparedness" Plan Segregates Civil from Military Relief Work.

FULL FORCE OF SURGEONS TO BE READY SHOULD WAR COME

Maj. Murray Heads Military Division With Bicknell in Charge of Civilian Aid.

At what its leaders consider the greatest annual meeting in its history, the American Red Cross was reorganized yesterday on a "preparedness" basis. The department of civil relief was segregated absolutely from that of military relief, so that as Miss Mabel T. Boardman put it, "if the occasion ever come—God forbid—for war within our own country, this organization to take care of the wounded and the refugees will be complete and ready."

Reorganization was effected without opposition. The meetings were held at Hauscha's, with former President Taft in the chair in the afternoon and Robert W. deForest, financier of New York, presiding at the evening or closing session.

The American Red Cross has differed from many foreign Red Cross associations in having civil relief activities. Directing the rescue and relieving the suffering at mine disasters, municipal fires, and similar catastrophes has been a great part of the Red Cross work in this country. Until yesterday the civil and the military in organization had been intertwined. From this time on they will be separate and in case of war the military Red Cross will be ready without having to enlist or swear in a single surgeon.

President Wilson Head. To effect the change an old office was abolished and two new ones created. This required changing the association's constitution. Instead of a national director, which position has been held by Ernest P. Bicknell of Washington, there is now the director general of military affairs, filled for the time being by a man widely experienced in battlefield problems, Maj. Gen. Arthur Murray, retired, and the director of civilian relief, Mr. Bicknell.

President Wilson is still president and Robert W. deForest, vice president, both semi-honorary positions. With the due change all executive officers were re-elected, with John Skelton Williams, treasurer; John W. Davis, counselor, and Charles L. Magee, secretary. On the central committee there were four vacancies to fill. James Tanner, of Washington; John M. Glenn, of New York, and Charles Nagel, of St. Louis, were re-elected. Alfred T. White, of Brooklyn, was the new member chosen.

A new office in this Central Committee, that of vice chairman, immediately beneath that of Chairman Taft, was created largely to relieve the chairman of his excessive burden.

Accounts of war relief activities by American organizations made up the program for the evening meeting. The large mirrored hall was filled. It was an audience of wealth and distinction.

Mrs. Robert Bacon, of New York, with an address on "American Ambulance Hospital," and Mrs. Ethelbert Nevins with a talk on "French Emergency Wounded Fund," came first.

Norman Haggood, editor of Harper's Weekly, told of the work of the Committee of Mercy, organized soon after the beginning of the Great War and devoted to assisting non-combatants. It sent \$125,000 to help out the suffering women and children in Belgium in the first weeks of the war, and some \$2,000,000 recently to Serbia, as well as amounts to be used for Armenian relief and other purposes.

See Good from War. Mr. Haggood was greeted with laughter, when, in describing the Serbian relief, he said that they had sent a relief expedition of "twenty-five Ford autos, twenty Columbia students, and eighteen Serbian."

For one moment last night the audience sat tense. In his opening remarks Julius Goldsfer, of Chicago, head of the German-Austrian Relief Committee, had expressed the belief that good will come.

Continued on page two

U. S. SENDS PEREMPTORY DEMAND UPON AUSTRIA FOR ANCONA ANSWER

Note to Vienna Calls For Disavowal of Responsibility for the Loss of Lives and Punishment of Submarine Commander

NO MORE LUSITANIA AFFAIRS

This Nation Will Make It Plain in Message to Be Dispatched that Neutrality of the Seas Must Be Respected by All Belligerents.

The United States has sent to the Austro-Hungarian government a note of peremptory character in regard to the sinking of the Italian liner Ancona by an Austrian submarine and the loss of American life. The note, which has gone forward to Vienna is sharper in tone even than the communications to Germany on the Lusitania, in which President Wilson served notice on Berlin that the United States would hold Germany to strict accountability and would omit "no word or act" in upholding the rights of the United States as a neutral.

WHAT THE U. S. DEMANDS OF AUSTRIA.

The note to Austria demands: A disavowal of the submarine attack on the Italian liner. Full reparation to the relatives of the Americans who lost their lives. Assurances that such an attack will not be repeated. The punishment of the commander of the submarine and others responsible for the act.

In all respects, except for the stipulation concerning the punishment of those responsible for the sinking of the Ancona, the demands made upon Austria are similar to those made upon Germany in connection with the sinking of the Lusitania and the Arabic.

MAY END DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

The vigorous character of the note that has been addressed to Austria-Hungary, even before that government has formally replied to the United States' first request for information, is interpreted here as indicating that the President is prepared to break off diplomatic relations with Austria unless the demands of this government are met.

Many here are skeptical of the way in which Austria will receive this communication. It is pointed out that that government would have little to lose through a rupture in diplomatic relations, especially since Austria already has been obliged to recall her Ambassador at Washington through objections raised by this government.

The note to Austria was communicated through Ambassador Penfold at Vienna and probably will be presented to the foreign office there today. Three weeks ago Ambassador Penfold laid before the Austrian government a formal request for information from the United States concerning the circumstances of the attack. No formal reply has been received to that communication, although before the inquiries had reached Vienna Austria had volunteered certain information, but recently had asked for more time in which to make a report.

The action of this government is taken to mean that the President is convinced that the Austrian submarine violated the rules of international warfare.

At the time the Ancona was sunk it was alleged in statements obtained from survivors, that the ship was attacked without warning, and that the submarine opened fire with her guns on the lifeboats in which the passengers were trying to escape. Within a few days after the attack the Austrian admiralty gave out a contrary version, a copy of which was sent to Washington by Ambassador Penfold. According to this version, Austria did not hesitate to admit that the attack was made by an Austrian submarine, but it was added that the liner had tried to escape after being warned. It was also intimated that the casualties were due to a panic which occurred on board the vessel.

In view of this statement of the admiralty, which, the admiralty stated, was based on information obtained from the submarine commander, the State Department was at a loss a week later to understand a dispatch from Ambassador Penfold, stating that his formal inquiries had not been replied to because the Austrian government, finding it difficult to communicate with the commander of the submarine, desired more time within which to reply.

While the State Department has only the vaguest reports concerning the submarine attacks on the American oil tankers Petrolia and Communipaw in the Mediterranean, and while these reports do not contain essential details as to whether the vessels were warned and tried to escape, enough is in hand to indicate that Austria has launched a submarine campaign against unarmed merchant ships.

WILL HAVE NO MORE LUSITANIA AFFAIRS. by the lives of non-combatants and neutrals may be safeguarded in submarine attacks. Moreover, it was admitted yesterday that except in so far as Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, was able to pledge his government in the personal note which he sent to Mr. Lansing on the Arabic case, the German government itself has in no formal way replied to the last formal note of the United States on submarine warfare.

Spread of Islam, Via Wireless. Berlin, Dec. 8.—(Wireless via Saville).—According to dispatches from Constantinople to the Frankfurter Zeitung, the Turkish victories on the Iraq front have exercised a prompt influence on the whole district along the Persian Gulf. Arabian tribes also, that hitherto have been loyal to England, have now changed their attitude, to dispatches state.

Unrest is reported especially in South Persia. Tribesmen on December 2 made successful attacks on Bender and Bushire.

German Attacks on Hospitals. London, Dec. 8.—A despatch from Belgian headquarters at Havre says: "German aviators have made five attacks on the hospitals and medical establishments behind the Belgian front, which are directed by Queen Elizabeth. Last week German bombs killed 103, three of whom were soldiers. The Belgian Queen refuses to leave her post of danger."

Fiscal Committee Meets Today. Senator Chilton, chairman of the Joint Select Committee of Congress on Fiscal Relations between the United States and the District, has called a meeting of that body for this morning at 11 o'clock in his office to continue work on the committee's report to Congress. Individual members will be expected to submit their views for consideration of the committee at the meeting this morning.

Hits Tree to Avoid Boy. Nevin Brown, 25, of 42 Massachusetts avenue northwest, operating a taxi-cab at Seventeenth street and Pennsylvania, late yesterday drove his machine over the curbing to avoid running down a boy who had stepped in front of the automobile. A sapling was broken down by the cab, which was damaged. Brown was not hurt.

ONLY 50 HOURS TO HAVANA. Atlantic Coast Line, "Florida & West Indian Limited." All Florida resorts reached, 3 trains daily, 1:40 P.M. are now—Adv.