

CAPITAL AWAITS CHRISTMAS DAWN

Rich and Poor Alike to Share Joys of Happy Yuletide Season.

Christmas, the day which has been the cause of all the rush and money spending of the past several weeks and the approach of which day dragged along like ages to anxious and excited little boys and girls, is about to dawn. Santa Claus will creep down the chimneys tonight with a sack bulging with toys and gifts.

Santa has been in Washington for several weeks, mingled in the crush of holiday shoppers and in the homes where there has been a bustle in preparation for the celebration of the great day.

All the shopping has been done, and last night Washington merchants closed their places of business after one of the most successful holiday seasons in their history.

Washingtonians are prepared for merry making. After a rest today, all Washington will enter tomorrow into a festive spirit which will find channels in feasting and merriment.

Everything will be going full-blast tomorrow. Special attractions have been arranged in all the theaters, the vaudeville and motion picture houses generally giving extra performances.

Cafes and restaurants will have a large patronage. Many persons have arranged for their Christmas dinner in these places, which are well business after one of the most festive.

Christmas entertainments by churches, fraternal orders, and other organizations are well advanced. Many of these entertainments, which have been given, have been of a high order.

Christmas generally will have special programs of recitations and exercises for the children.

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Day's Developments In Pay-Raise Move

1. Representatives of organized labor are assured by members of the Senate that the 5 and 10 per cent increases will be included in all supply bills.

Party for Poor "Kiddies" Yule Fete at Belasco Arranged.

All the little children have a future of their own, but the present time is Christmas time and children's time.

The future doesn't count when "Christmas Comes," as every child knows, and therefore there is exceptional interest in the holiday party to be given Thursday morning at 10 o'clock in the Belasco Theater under direction of The Washington Herald, the management of the Belasco Theater, and William Fox, Inc.

To make up the list of guests who will enjoy the presentation of "A Daughter of the Gods," with Annette Kellermann in the stellar role, the services of the Associated Charities have been enlisted.

Every beneficent agency of the Associated Charities has been set in motion to make the party an unqualified success.

The efficiency of that organization affords promise for the expressed belief that the children are going to have a good time and that the theater will be as full of children as the capacity will permit.

There are families in Washington that are continuously in need of help, said Mrs. Anna Cunningham, the girl's mother.

"I said families. That presupposes the existence of children. The children surely are there, and eventually they will grow up and be citizens. Just now, though, they are only kids, and they need help."

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WOULD EXTEND RAISES TO ALL

Senators Favor Putting Salary Increases in All Federal Supply Bills.

Members of the Senate who will be members of the Senate conference committee on legislative and other supply bills yesterday assured the labor leaders and others interested in increasing the salaries of Federal and District employees that the 5 and 10 per cent increases would be included in all supply bills.

They further assured them that they would support legislation granting a larger increase, provided that increase was not beyond 10 per cent for the employees between the grades of \$500 and \$1,500, and 15 per cent for the employees below that grade.

Thomas F. Flaherty, of the Postoffice Employees' Union, and other organized labor representatives left the Capitol convinced that the Senate is disposed to grant material increase in salaries over that allowed by the House.

Employees of the Interior Department took up a collection, and \$7 was turned over to one of the department janitors who had those working for eighteen years on a salary of \$5 a month and who is at present in a hospital.

Representative Kennedy, of Rhode Island, yesterday in speaking of the movement for higher salaries, said: "The Washington Herald has taken up a great movement, and its measure of success so far has been remarkable."

"I feel that the time is ripe for a general revision of government salaries, and I feel that this revision will work out to a large degree toward increased wages."

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100 Killed in Train Wrecked by Bandits

Laredo, Texas, Dec. 23.—More than one hundred passengers and Carranista soldiers were killed when Villistas dynamited a passenger train at Carneros, sixty miles south of Saltillo on December 21.

This information was brought here by passengers arriving here today from the neighborhood of Saltillo.

GET ARABIA FACTS Teuton Defense of Torpedoing Declared to Be Weakened.

Secretary of State Lansing yesterday announced that the United States government was in receipt of information from London tending to weaken materially the defense of the submarine attack on the British steamer Arabia made in the Mediterranean several weeks ago.

The information furnished by the British government is still, in the opinion of the State Department, insufficient upon which to base an authoritative protest to the German government from Washington.

Secretary Lansing authorized the following announcement on the subject: "The Department of State has received a reply from the British government to its inquiry regarding the status of the steamer Arabia, to the effect that she was not at the time she was sunk, and never had been, in the service of the British government or any of the allied governments; that she carried some government passengers, booked as ordinary passenger passengers at the expense of the government."

"The number of such passengers will be communicated later. It is understood also that there were no Asiatics on board except the Indian native crew, and that vessels do not follow the ordinary peace route on account of the operations of submarines."

On board the Arabia at the time of her sinking were some American citizens. None of them were either killed or injured.

Telegraph Tips

Baltimore, Dec. 23.—Jere S. Black, financier, of York, Pa., and reputed to have been one of the wealthiest men in Pennsylvania, died at 10 o'clock this morning at Johns Hopkins Hospital, following an illness of about five weeks from intestinal trouble.

Copenhagen, Dec. 23.—Only the financial details remain to be settled in the sale of the Danish West India and West Indies for \$25,000,000. King Christian has ratified the treaty providing for the sale following the passage of the ratification bill in both houses of Parliament. The ratification will be sent to the United States on January 11.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 23.—Work of floating the Norwegian steamer Kronstad, which went aground last night near Cape Henry Lightship, was started today. Coast cutters responded to distress calls, but it was found that the vessel was in no immediate danger. She was bound for Norfolk from Galveston, with cotton. The crew remained aboard.

London, Dec. 23.—The North German Lloyd liner Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm, which went aground near the Danish island of Samsø, has been refloated, according to a Reuter dispatch from Copenhagen today.

Philadelphia, Dec. 23.—Sallie Bethel, a neeress, 35 years old, was found dead at midnight last night, with her head almost severed in her home at 2635 Arizona street. The woman was murdered, the police believe. William Bethel, said to be her husband, is missing.

London, Dec. 23.—Australia is about to float another war loan of \$200,000,000 on terms similar to previous loans, says a Reuter dispatch from Melbourne today.

Amsterdam, Dec. 23.—A telegram from Berlin says Germany has completed arrangements for the establishment of a submarine mail service between that country and the United States.

London, Dec. 23.—The order prohibiting the importation of American cotton hosiery has been revoked. It was announced today.

London, Dec. 23.—Owing to the increased submarine menace the government war risk insurance office has increased the insurance rate per voyage for British vessels to 40 shillings per cent, the Daily News announced today.

CITIZENS HONOR COL. W. W. HARTS

Washington, City Beautiful, Motif of Speeches at Complimentary Dinner.

Washington, the city beautiful—the finest capital city in the world—has conceived more than a century ago by the infant, and as perfected today by Col. W. W. Harts, aid to the President and superintendent of public buildings and grounds—was the motif of a dinner given last night at the University Club by a group of representative citizens of the National Capital in honor of Col. Harts.

In a banquet hall made festive with Christmas greenery, more than two-score of the most prominent residents of the District gathered about the dining table to do honor to Col. Harts as the man who has done more than any other man in late years to beautify the Capital city of the nation.

Col. M. M. Parker, former Commissioner of the District, and president of the University Club, who appointed the committee of citizens that arranged the dinner, presided as toastmaster and first called on E. C. Brandenburg, president of the Board of Trade, for a toast.

Mr. Brandenburg drew a word picture of Washington of years ago as compared with the magnificent city of today and paid a tribute to the genius of Col. Harts by declaring that the greatest improvement to the National Capital had been accomplished in the last five or six years.

Gen. William M. Black, chief of engineers of the army, told of the first work of Col. Harts as a young army officer and described Col. Harts' work of today in perfecting the plans of the infant. Gen. Black concluded:

"Col. Harts is giving his best to the city of Washington. It is not too much to ask that the residents of our National Capital give him their best in co-operation in making this city the finest capital city in the world."

P. T. Moran, president of the Chamber of Commerce, delivered a characteristic address, full of anecdotes and reeking with humor, which he concluded with the declaration that every member of the Chamber of Commerce is "backing" Col. Harts in his work. Mr. Moran added:

"Col. Harts, you are engaged in one of the greatest undertakings a man ever engaged in in the world."

41,000 CIGARS ARRIVE FOR TROOPS IN MEXICO

About 11,000 Pounds of Candy Also Shipped Soldiers.

By EDMUND BEHR. Field headquarters expeditionary forces in Mexico, Dec. 23, via radio to Columbus, N. Mex., Dec. 23.—Thousands of presents have arrived and Christmas is sixty days high. The number and value of the gifts received from Red Cross organizations and individual donors. Thus far 41,000 cigars, 11,000 pounds of candy and 300 pounds of smoking tobacco have arrived and there are two truck loads of presents on the way.

It is estimated that the value of gifts to the soldiers will average \$2 to \$3 each and that not one man of the 10,000 in Mexico will be overlooked. "Comfort" bags including both comforts and luxuries predominate, but there are other kinds of packages ranging from baseball outfits to home-made candies and jams.

8-HOUR DAY PROVIDED IN ARBITRATION REPORT

Board Grants Part of Demands of Railroad Switchmen.

New York, Dec. 23.—The arbitration board, representing thirteen railroads and their switchmen, today submitted a report to grant the eight-hour day, straight pro rata time for overtime and increase of 5 cents an hour for firemen and helpers. The arbitration was conducted under the Newlands act.

Eventually 5,635 employees will benefit by the changes. Most of the roads affected are in the Central West. It is stipulated that 10 per cent of the employees affected must be given advantage of the new schedules within the next year.

Round Robin Costs 20 "Noncoms" Rank

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 23.—Twenty or more non-commissioned officers of the Eighth Ohio National Guard Regiment who signed a petition protesting camp and food conditions have been asked to resign and return to the ranks as privates. It was announced today.

Investigation by regular army inspectors proved the charges in the round-robin protest false. Gen. Bell said that more than 500 privates who signed the paper will not be punished because of "ignorance on their part." The case of Private Richard Dixon, alleged author of the protest will be considered further.

TELLS OF "LEAKS" Thomas Lawson Declares Market Panic Is Coming.

(By the International News Service.) Boston, Dec. 23.—Thomas W. Lawson, who with Bernard M. Baruch, of New York, cleaned up several million dollars in the stock crash that followed the Wilson peace note, acknowledged that information on which the "clean-up" was made came directly through official Washington. He said that an even bigger "leak" would occur this week.

Lawson's statement followed by only a few hours a statement from Secretary Clegg that those of last week who had information about the peace note even before Lawson's statement in part is as follows:

"Between now and — there will be something specific and particular happen that will make last week's leaks appear cupped droplets to reservoir tapings by comparison. Baste this up for future reference, or put it in your pipe and smoke it."

"There were not only leaks last week but similar leaks in almost all important Washington doings, particularly Supreme Court doings during the past twenty years, and beneficiaries of the leaks were those public guardians who now loomed for leak investigations. What are you going to do about it?"

"This week's leaks netted Blank and Black and Blank and Black millions and netted the public, but what are you going to do about it?"

"To assist you in doing something, I call your attention to the coming next week's leak which should make prices so low that those of last week will appear Woolworth tip-top lanterns by comparison."

"P. S.—Did you know, Messrs Washington leak tracers, that the leak beneficiaries are thumbing their noses at you? Well you ought to."

MANIA FOR STEALING FANCY HANDKERCHIEFS

Dentist Held for Theft of Scented Articles from Women Shoppers.

(By the International News Service.) Baltimore, Md., Dec. 23.—That he is subject to an uncontrollable impulse to steal handkerchiefs and gloves from women shoppers, was the statement made here today in Central Police Station by Dr. John J. Gross, 24 years old, a dentist, of Edmondson avenue.

Dr. Gross was arrested in the big shopping district by plain clothes men, and a charge was lodged against him for attempted pocket picking. When searched, two women's handkerchiefs and a pair of women's gloves were found in the dentist's pockets. They were highly scented and the police want to learn the identity of their owners. To the lieutenant Dr. Gross explained:

"I admit I stole the handkerchiefs, but I am not guilty of trying to steal money. I don't know what it is, but I have a constant desire to take handkerchiefs from women's handbags and pockets and smell the perfume. I am not a thief. I am married and have two children. This is an awful mess for me to get into. I am a dentist and why I have the impulse to smell the perfumes."

AMERICANS GET MEDALS

Paris, Dec. 23.—The French government has awarded medals to a number of Americans engaged in Red Cross work. Announcement of the honors was made today. Gold, silver and bronze medals were given out. The gold medals went to Laurence V. Benet, president of the American ambulance committee; Capt. Arthur Wellesley Kipling, of the automobile ambulance corps, and Lieut. Henry S. Rogers and John Hochford, of the ambulance corps.

DOVE OF PEACE FLITS AS XMAS

DRAWN NEARER

No Definite Move to End War Likely Until After Holidays End.

WATCHFUL WAITING HERE

Adverse Criticism of Peace Note Fails to Disturb United States Officials.

There will be no definite move in peace negotiations as a result of President Wilson's peace note to the warring nations until Christmas has come and gone, government officials here declared last night. The joyous season will be in the past before either German or Entente allies will declare their intentions, or even intimate their purpose of replying to the President's communication. There will be no "out of the trenches for Christmas" for the military millions of Europe.

President Wilson last night settled down to a quiet holiday rest, and while no statement was forthcoming from the White House, it became known that no further move in the peace situation is contemplated until some definite word comes from abroad, which certainly will be later than the middle of next week.

Secretary of State Lansing left his office last night with the announcement that he would not return until Tuesday, and that he would have nothing to say as to the general situation or new developments until that time. Washington officialdom settled down today to await action in Europe.

Undisturbed by Criticism. Confidential reports from abroad of adverse criticism of the President's peace note in the press of the Entente powers did not disturb administration officials. While they declined to comment on the position assumed by the British and French press, they let it be known that they considered the press of the belligerent countries too closely controlled by the military governments to allow them to express the real views of the people. They took the position that public opinion in the belligerent nations would gradually force a more favorable view of the President's action.

Optimism in Teutonic diplomatic circles and pessimism in Entente diplomatic circles here continued as to the final success of the peace move started by the President. Both sides, however, were more inclined to withhold definite expressions as to the possibilities of the diplomatic correspondence which will follow.

A new view of conditions in the entente countries, particularly Great Britain, was presented by officials here yesterday when George Foster Peabody, Paul U. Kellogg, and Emily Green Black communicated to President Wilson the peace plea of Bertrand Russell, the British pacifist.

Declares Victory Impossible. The Russell communication, in the form of an open letter, was smuggled out of Great Britain, as Russell has been under strict surveillance by the British authorities for some time. It was a plea for mediation by the United States and made the flat statement that victory for either side of the present war was impossible. The committee which brought the Russell letter to Washington represented the American Neutral Conference.

Speculation on the peace situation among diplomats in Washington revived reports that the administration is preparing to announce that the American policy of avoiding "entangling alliances" abroad and leading the way toward a world alliance to enforce peace, State Department officials, headed by Secretary Lansing declared, is subject to this possibility.

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GUARDSMAN ATHLETE PERISHES IN FLAMES

Lieut. Harold Powell's Young Niece Also Burns to Death.

Grantwood, N. J., Dec. 23.—Overcome by smoke while asleep, Lieut. Harold Powell, 35-year-old lieutenant, New York National Guard, and his 8-year-old niece, Margaret Brewster, were burned to death today in a fire which destroyed the home of Dr. Margaret Brewster here. Mrs. M. Smith and her 2-year-old daughter, Ethel, guests of the Brewsters, were seriously injured by fumes from a third story window.

Firemen are searching the ruins for the bodies. The origin of the fire is undetermined. Although seriously injured, Mrs. Smith dragged her 8-year-old niece, Margaret Brewster, from the burning house. Lieut. Powell was 25 years old and was well known as an athlete and horseman. He recently returned from the border.

GETS TEN YEARS FOR SLAYING.

Philadelphia, Dec. 23.—Frank C. Mara, a seaman on the battleship Rhode Island, who was found guilty of slaying James C. Morris, another sailor in the engine room of the battleship on the night of September 18, today was sentenced to ten years imprisonment at hard labor by the court martial board at the local navy yard. Mara will serve his sentence at Concord, N. H.

Quickest Service to Baltimore. Every Hour on the Hour, Baltimore and Ohio, \$1.75 round trip, Saturdays and Sundays, \$1.50.—Adv.

"CAN" FOR HARVARD MARVEL.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 23.—It will be a proud sardine that is canned in the Abernathy plant at West Pembroke, Me., very shortly. Thomas J. Abernathy, a Harvard senior, who was pronounced mentally perfect by the late Prof. Hugo Münsterberg, announced today that he is going into the sardine canning business at West Pembroke.

Florida—Superior Service via Atlantic Coast Line. 1406 New York ave. n.w.—Adv.

MOTHER AND FOUR TOTS DIE.

Newark, N. J., Dec. 23.—A mother and her four small children were found dead today in their gas-filled home in a Vernon avenue tenement. The bodies were discovered by the father, Fred Baker, night watchman, when he returned home from work. Mrs. Baker and the three eldest children lay in the same bed. A baby lay in a crib nearby. All apparently had died while asleep.

WEDS WIFE FOR ECONOMY. Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 23.—The Birmingham News and the Birmingham Ledger, afternoon papers, have announced that, effective January 1, their daily subscription rates will be advanced \$1 because of the increased cost of newsprint paper.

STOCKINGS DISPLACE TREES.

New York, Dec. 23.—Santa Claus stockings will displace Christmas trees in the homes of 10,000 members of the National Housewives League this year, according to a statement today by Mrs. Julian Heath, president of the organization. High prices of trees is given as the reason. Each member of the organization has been urged to provide one Christmas dinner for the poor and to turn her children's toys over to organizations for distribution to the poor.

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 23.—The body of Judge A. G. Foster was found beside a railroad eight miles east of here. Apparently he had been struck by a train. Judge Foster was a nephew of John W. Foster, formerly Secretary of State.

MOTHER KILLED, SON SAVED.

New York, Dec. 23.—A mother was burned to death and her son was rescued by firemen today when fire swept the garage of Grant B. Schley, millionaire banker, in East Sixty-sixth street. Mrs. Schley, 45 years old, was in the garage and was suffocated. Firemen rescued her son, Harold, 14, whom they found clasped in her arms. A policeman revived him.

Altoona, Pa., Dec. 23.—The Morning Tribune and the Morning Times, as well as the Evening Mirror, all the daily newspapers in Altoona, have announced that beginning January 1 the price will be 2 cents a copy or 50 cents a month.

WIND, HOSE, THEN POLICE.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 23.—If many more glasses strike Baltimore this winter the police force may have to be increased. Also there are a large number of Baltimore men who today can tell the very latest in women's hosiery. The explanation is that so many men gathered at Liberty and Lexington streets, the wind-swept corner in Baltimore's shopping district, that the fair shoppers became panic-stricken and a riot call was sent to police headquarters. Mounded policemen dispersed the crowd of curious males.

Germany Makes Correction. Berlin (via Sayville wireless), Dec. 23.—The Overseas News Agency today characterized as "absolutely incorrect" the assertion made by an entente news agency that the Germans publish their losses of wounded only after dismissing them from the hospitals.

BRITISH TO BUILD SHIPS.

London, Dec. 23.—The British government shortly will let contracts for the construction of a large number of freight ships of standardized cargo, the Times announced today. They will be put into government service.

Berlin Bans Gaiety. Berlin, Dec. 23.—The police have received numerous petitions for the closing hour of cafes and restaurants on New Year's eve, but all have been refused. Before the war Berlin always "made a night of it" beginning New Year's eve.