

NO WORD FROM CHINA IN REGARD TO TROOPS

United States Likely to Oppose Withdrawal of International Forces.

The State Department has received no information from an official source that the Peking government acquiesces in Russia's proposal for the withdrawal of the international forces in China.

The proposal, however, has at no time met favor with officials here. When Minister Reisch recently conveyed to the State Department Russia's proposal for the withdrawal of the international forces, officials here took the ground that absolute assurance of the restoration of order in China province would be the first condition of acquiescence.

Assurance Not Given. No such assurance, however, has been forthcoming, and on the contrary officials here are making every effort to prevent any such withdrawal of the international forces.

It is thought here that Russia's proposal, now apparently agreed to by China, would be acceptable only to those two nations and possibly Japan. It is thought here that Great Britain, Germany and France, which have not yet agreed to accept the proposal, would be disposed rather to increase the forces which guard the interests of their nationals in China.

ARCADÉ DANCE PAVILION SUBJECT OF LITIGATION

John Tobin Asks Court to Dissolve Partnership Existing Between Him and His Brother.

The Tobin brothers, who have been conducting the dance pavilion at the Arcade, 14th street and Park road, have had a disagreement. Today John Tobin asked the District Supreme Court to require his brother, W. Maurice Tobin, to show cause why a receiver should not be appointed to conduct the business. He also asks the dissolution of the partnership. Justice Stafford directed the brother to show cause next Friday why the receiver should not be appointed and why he should not be enjoined from incurring or increasing the lease of the auditorium.

Allegations Made to Court.

John Tobin tells in his court his brother took the lease in his own name instead of the joint name of the business. He has netted \$900 per week. The brother says there was nearly \$6,000 in bank to the credit of the partnership, but alleges his brother has drawn out the fund and is planning to dispose of the business and the lease, which has nearly two years to run.

EMPTY SAFE STOLEN.

Visit of Burglars Had Been Anticipated by Railroad Agent.

JAMESVILLE, N. Y., December 24.—Burglars pried off the back of the Lackawanna railroad station here early today and carried away the safe of a handcar. There was no money in the safe, because the attack was anticipated by the station agent, T. B. Grace.

SAYS SCHMIDT IS INSANE.

Fourth Alienist Says Idea of Sacrifice Obsessed Slayer's Mind. NEW YORK, December 24.—The fourth alienist called by the defense at the trial of Hans Schmidt for murder agreed today with his predecessors that the priest was insane. The witness, Dr. M. S. Gregory of Bellevue Hospital, said Schmidt's mind was so obsessed with the idea of making a sacrifice when he killed Anna Amuller that he did not think of homicide law.

Judge Warren W. Foster, who presides in the trial, told the jurors that it must be established by the defense that the defendant, December 31. "There must be a question of a mistrial," he said.

TROOPS COMING TO FORT MYER.

Sections of Third Squadron, Fifth Cavalry, Leave Fort Huachuca.

Troops I, K and M of the 3d Squadron of the 5th Cavalry are being ordered to quarters and the band of that regiment left Fort Huachuca, Arizona, Monday, by rail for this city, to take station at Fort Myer, where they will replace the headquarters, band and 1st Squadron of the 5th Cavalry, recently transferred to Fort Bliss, Texas.

Muskogee's Community Christmas.

MUSKOGEE, Okla., December 24.—Muskogee systematically took a census of all the children in the city when plans were made for a municipal Christmas tree, and tomorrow night one of the small citizens here will be overlooked when nuts, fruits and candies are distributed from a tree in one of the parks. The tree, a cedar fifty feet in height, will be lighted by thousands of incandescent globes.

Pardons Their Christmas Gifts.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, December 24.—Christmas gifts in the form of pardons were made by Gov. Cox today to ten prisoners in the Ohio penitentiary. Heading the list of those given immediate freedom was Paul Zeitner of Wood county, serving a life sentence for murder. The terms of the other nine prisoners would have expired on or before January 1, next, and the governor granted pardons to them so that they might spend the holidays at home.

Vote Against Change in Name.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., December 24.—The proposal to change the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church South to "Methodist Episcopal Church in America" has been defeated, according to figures given out here by the Christian Advocate. Thirty-two of the annual conferences of the church opposed the change and only twelve favored it. Three Mexican conferences have not voted. The balloting showed 4,002 against the proposal and 1,333 favoring it.

Washington News.

There is perhaps no better way to keep out-of-town friends informed as to Washington news than to mail to them from time to time a copy of The Star after you have finished with it. It is a special interest.

WHITE FLAGUE WITHM DIES PLAYING SANTA

Hastens Death From Exposure Carrying Gifts to Poor Denver Family.

DENVER, Col., December 24.—Little Wilbur Harris, eight-year-old son of a poor mother, will have his Santa Claus Christmas, but W. H. Heap, a philanthropist, who came to Denver from Paterson, N. J., because he was dying of tuberculosis, and who made possible the salvation of the Christmas myth for little Wilbur, is dead. His death came yesterday because he ignored his physician's order to remain in bed, and walked several blocks through deep snow in the impoverished section of the city. He carried a sled, train of cars, clothes, toys, candies and many other presents for the destitute Harris family.

To Heap had come word, through his interest in a local legion of "Goodfellows," that Mrs. Harris had, in despair, told her little boy there was no Santa Claus for poor children. Mr. Heap rose from his bed, and in his automobile was driven through the shopping districts, where he made the selection of gifts which were to bring happiness to the boy.

Staggered Under Load.

The automobile could not penetrate the deep drifts of snow in the lower part of town, so Mr. Heap, staggering under his burden, walked to the Harris door, a couple of blocks away.

In presenting the sled to the mother Mr. Heap remarked, in despair, "I think if the youngster (who is a cripple) can get out in the open with plenty of pieces and many other presents for the little ones, at many of the Catholic churches of the city there will be Christmas trees, with presents for the little folk."

FEAST FOR 200 CHILDREN.

Directors of Free Kindergarten Will Be Hosts Tomorrow.

Two hundred or more children of the free kindergarten at 207 John Marshall place and members of the Loyal Temperance Legion of the District of Columbia are to be guests of the directors of the kindergarten at a Christmas feast tomorrow. The festivities, according to plans of the committee, are to include a Christmas tree, exercises around which are to begin at 2 o'clock Christmas afternoon.

The members of the committee having the celebration in charge are Miss Helen Hillbelle, Mrs. Fearnow, Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Brewitt, Mrs. Keim, Mrs. Colbertson, Mrs. Gale, Miss Callahan, Miss Wade and Albert Ivan Froese.

FOG DELAYS STEAMER.

Vessel Carrying Christmas Packages Lost Somewhere on River.

Laden with Christmas packages for residents of this city, the steamer Wakefield of the Potomac and Chesapeake Steamboat Company's fleet is detained down river by the foggy weather, and which reached this city early this morning at the 8th street wharf had heard nothing from her, but were looking for her arrival at any time.

The steamer Northumberland of the Maryland, Delaware and Virginia line, which reached this city early this morning, brought in a big cargo of Christmas packages from points in the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, which were being large through at the wharf after their boxes, bundles and bags. The Northumberland will be the last steamer to arrive from the lower river until the latter part of this week.

CLUB GIVES PLAYLET.

Feature of Christmas Exercises at M Street High School.

"Christmas Eve at the Wayside Inn," a Christmas playlet, was presented in the assembly hall of the M Street High School, colored, yesterday, by the members of the school dramatic club. The playlet was written by Miss Frances B. Brooks, a member of the club, and was given as the closing exercises of the school preceding the Christmas holidays.

Hours at Library of Congress.

All divisions of the Library of Congress will close at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon, December 24, because of the celebration of the Christmas and New Year holidays. Employees who can be spared were excused at 12 o'clock noon today, and will be excused at the same hour Tuesday before New Year.

Farr Makes Page Boys Happy.

Representative Farr of Pennsylvania gave each of the forty-six pages of the House of Representatives a \$5 gold piece yesterday as a Christmas present. Mr. Farr tried to keep the matter a secret, but the smiling faces of the page boys betrayed the gift.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE ON EAST FRONT OF CAPITOL

More than 600 baskets filled with overflowing with goodies were distributed to Washington's unfortunate this morning, the occasion being the annual Christmas distribution of baskets by Almas Temple, A. O. N. M. S. The distribution, which was held at National Rifles Armory, began at 7 o'clock this morning, at which time a line of about seventy-five persons was waiting to present orders which would obtain for each of them one of the baskets.

Each basket contained the following articles: One ham, one sack of flour, potatoes, a sack of sugar, a pound of coffee, a bag of baking powder and one can each of corn and tomatoes. In addition to the basket, each recipient was given car fare, and a dozen or more porters carried the heavy baskets from the armory to the street cars.

GIVE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON.

Employees of District Surveyor's Office Entertain Superiors. With Engineer Commissioner Harding and Assistant Engineer Commissioners Brooke, Schley and Powell as invited guests, officials and employees of the surveyor's office of the District of Columbia this afternoon gave their annual Christmas luncheon at the municipal building. Col. Harding and George H. Bailey, assistant engineer in the surface division, one of the oldest employees in the District service, were the principal speakers. The former complimented the work of the surveying force and the services of employees of the engineer department generally.

The Most Widely Read Women's Pages

In this or any other good newspaper are the pages devoted to the advertising of the live, up-to-date merchandise. Women are the world's buyers and practice has made them shrewd spenders. A woman will shop round all day rather than buy without being sure. Women are advertising readers because the news appeals to their delicate dollar sense. To buy right, they must know the market—the day-to-day advertisements are the news of the markets in which they are most interested. Shrewd advertisers know that if they can make their announcements convincing to the women, they are sure of returns. And where the women go there the men will go also. For the most realistic Christmas suggestions in the advertisements today!

WHERE MR. TURKEY IS A LEADING SUBJECT OF CONVERSATION



AMONG THE FARM WAGONS NEAR CENTER MARKET.

CHRISTMAS PEANS TO ASCEND TO SKIES

(Continued from First Page.)

Maggie Newby, Agnes Phillips, Esther Taylor, Margaret Taylor, Gladys Fortbert, Ruth Wells, Irene Williams, Ruth Tabbutt, Irene Hefron and Doris Fishery.

Distribution of Gifts by K. of C.

The five councils of the Knights of Columbus in the District of Columbia have appointed committees to call upon the widows and orphans of those who were members of the order to distribute Christmas gifts and baskets of food today. Keane Council, No. 353, will have a Christmas celebration Friday night, at which there will be a Christmas tree for the little ones. At many of the Catholic churches of the city there will be Christmas trees, with presents for the little folk.

Reception by Salvation Army.

The Climbers League of the Salvation Army held a reception and Christmas entertainment last evening at old Masonic Temple, having as its guest Henry B. F. Temple, former Commissioner of the District. F. L. Russell, chairman; H. D. Bailey, John W. Parks and Archibald Morrison served as the committee in charge of the program.

Independence Hall Belfry Wired for Electric Lights.

PHILADELPHIA, December 24.—In preparation for the dedication tonight of the community Christmas tree in Independence Square, "Santa Claus" has broken an old tradition, which was that the belfry of Independence Hall must not be wired for electric lights or signals. It had heretofore been considered too big a risk, because of possible fire from crossed wires, and many complaints that the historic structure is now in danger have been received at the electrical bureau.

WANTS LARGER DINNER FUND.

Salvation Army Canvasses Financial District for Christmas Donations. NEW YORK, December 24.—The Salvation Army sent a cloud of woman skirmishers into the financial district today to seek contributions for its Christmas dinner fund. "Now that the currency bill has been signed by the President," said Eva Booth, commander of the army in this country, "we may expect that the bankers and financial men in the downtown section will come forward generously with contributions for dinners to the needy folk of the city. If we do not get the \$2,000 by tonight we shall have a deficit and many will have to go without their dinner."

Firm Entertains Its Employees.

The Lanman Engraving Company, following its usual custom, entertained its

Employees at Dinner at the Occidental Hotel today.

Those present were: Charles F. Lanman, J. Harry Cunningham, G. L. Lanman, Clayton Thomas, Frances Stevens, Edward Norris, Morris Appleby, Elmer Good, James Godsey, Louis Reed, Nathan Pekofsky, Harold Keady, Earl Bonjeanour, R. E. Clark and Edward Walter Ferber, Henry Jaenke and Frank Young.

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SANTA CLAUS IS AIDED BY CORPS OF WORKERS

Washington Saengerbund and Arion Gesang Verein to Second His Efforts.

Santa Claus, assisted by the members of the Washington Saengerbund and of the Arion Gesang Verein and the women of their households will hold forth in all his Christmas glory at the Saengerbund Friday evening and at the Arion Gesang Verein next Monday afternoon and evening. Both organizations will have a musical program, a Christmas tree and all sorts of gifts for the children. Later in the evening dancing is on the program at both places.

Saengerbund Committee.

Those who will have charge of the arrangements for the Saengerbund are Albert Lepper, president; William Berens, Jr., vice president; A. Brauner, financial secretary; F. Brauner, recording secretary; William Hannebaum, librarian; Fred Carl, treasurer; Charles Bauman, Edward Levery, John P. Redeker, C. H. Schulze, John Waldman, Karl Xander, directors; Jacob Karr, musical director; Prof. Armand Gumprecht, Frank Claudy, Charles Dismar, Henry Donch, L. Gress, Christian Heinrich, Emre Schuler, Edward S. Holmes, Dr. Ernst Kunzfeld, Joseph Rakemann, George Ritter, Lieut. W. H. Santelmann, Ernst Schmidt, Wilhelm Mann, August Schuler, Simon Wolf, Henry Xander, John Wilson, Ferd Waldman, Thomas A. Murray, G. C. Pauls, G. L. Pitt, Charles Schuler, Charles E. G. M. Carter, M. E. Ford, Dr. H. S. Gamble, R. Kralling, E. Kuebel, H. A. Schuler, Dr. H. B. Burley, H. E. Burley, John Alt and W. Pauls.

In Charge for Arions.

The Arion celebration is being arranged for by August Schuler, William Wiesmann, George M. Siebert, John Weber, Charles Germer, Henry Wassman, Jacob Brueger, Nicholas Wiegand, E. G. Schaefer, Fritz Reckeweg, H. Daiker, August Schmidt, Jr., Prof. C. E. Christian, August Schuler, Wolfgang Ruckdaeschel, William Xander, William Schmidt, Henry Stafel, John Scheder, L. J. Gies, Rudolph De Zapp, F. W. Painter, E. W. Upler, Simon Wolf, Henry Xander, John Wilson, Ferd Waldman, Thomas A. Murray, G. C. Pauls, G. L. Pitt, Charles Schuler, Charles E. G. M. Carter, M. E. Ford, Dr. H. S. Gamble, R. Kralling, E. Kuebel, H. A. Schuler, Dr. H. B. Burley, H. E. Burley, John Alt and W. Pauls.

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The forest service today held its annual Christmas celebration with a tree for the children of the forest service employes and a little Christmas play. The stage was set in the drafting room of the Atlantic building, on the eighth floor, and at noon all of the children were gathered there, saw the curtains bearing the forest service device drawn aside, disclosing a room with an old-fashioned fireplace and stockings hung before the chimney and a great Christmas tree beside the hearth.

They were all on the qui vive when the curtains opened, because G. G. Anderson, who had charge of the celebration, had stated he had received a cablegram from Santa Claus announcing his intention to appear, but suggesting that because of the great load he carried he might be a little late. Santa also suggested that Will C. Barnes might talk to the children until he could arrive on the scene.

Mr. Barnes then spoke of the forest service celebrations, which were started as a personal matter by Harry C. Towers, known throughout the service as "Uncle Harry." After he died, three years ago, the annual celebration was taken up by a personal matter by Fred G. Plummer, geographer of the service, who died suddenly last summer. It then became a question as to whether the annual custom should lapse, whether it should be taken up again by an individual in his private capacity or whether the forest service itself should continue the custom as a memorial to Mr. Towers and Mr. Plummer. The latter course was taken, and the forest service, through Mr. Graves, appointed a regular Christmas tree committee, since it was felt to be a service devoted to forestry should take a peculiar interest in Christmas trees.

STEAMER FREEDA AGROUND.

Sulphur-Laden Vessel Stranded, But in No Immediate Danger.

NORFOLK, Va., December 24.—The American steamer Freeda, from Sabal Pass, Tex., to Baltimore, laden with sulphur, was today ashore near Little Island, twelve miles south of Cape Henry. The revenue cutter Onondaga and the wrecking tug Merritt from Norfolk were standing by, ready to lend assistance. The vessel appears to be in no immediate danger. She struck last night during a heavy fog and is the same vessel heretofore reported as an unidentified tank steamer aground near Little Island. It was reported that the vessel had floated, but this proved to be a mistake.

Students Hurt in Class Battle.

ST. LOUIS, December 24.—One Washington University freshman was injured seriously and eight other students were hurt in the annual battle between the freshman and sophomore classes yesterday. The freshman class most seriously hurt, fell from a platform fifteen feet high, breaking two ribs and spraining his back.

Target for Black Handers.

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DISTRICT'S PROTEST NOT VOICE OF "GANG"

Citizens Who Fight for Organic Act Are Representative of the Capital.

To the Editor of The Star: The antagonism which a number of the present House of Representatives show toward the District of Columbia is certainly disquieting to every fair-minded citizen of Washington, especially those who have its interests at heart and are constantly working for civic improvements, also with a desire to make this city the show place of the nation.

The lower House of Congress seems to be willing to imitate England's treatment of the colonies such as "taxation without representation" and the crushing out of any spirit of independent thought or action. As soon as there is a protest from the citizens regarding some action considered detrimental to the best interest of the District representatives arise and shout that the dignity of the House has been assailed.

Under the present arrangement existing between Congress and the District of Columbia, our revenues are deposited and controlled by the United States and are necessary to ask Congress for appropriation of money for the general upkeep of the District. It would seem no more than justice to the citizens of Washington because of the fact that they turn over to the Treasury about \$7