

WEATHER.

Partly cloudy tonight, with temperature slightly below freezing. Tuesday fair, light variable winds.

The Evening Star

About every one in Washington who reads at all reads The Star.

CLOSING NEW YORK STOCK QUOTATIONS PAGE 13

No. 19,822.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1915.—SIXTEEN PAGES.

ONE CENT.

COURT OF APPEALS AFFIRMS DECISION IN NEWMAN CASE

Says District Commissioner Is Not Entitled to Hold Office, in Opinion Today.

Justice Van Orsdel Speaks for the Court

Justice Robb Concurs, But Chief Justice Shepard Dissents—Views Not Yet Filed.

To Appeal to Supreme Court Mr. Newman Makes No Comment When Appraised of Verdict, Other Than to Say the Case Will Be Taken Higher Up.

Oliver P. Newman, president of the board of District Commissioners, is not entitled to hold the office and exercise the functions of a civil Commissioner of the District of Columbia, according to an opinion of the Court of Appeals rendered today by Justice Van Orsdel. Justice Robb concurred in the opinion, but Chief Justice Shepard dissented.

No dissenting opinion has yet been filed, but may be shortly, as the chief justice also dissented from the views of his associates on the law questions decided last April and filed a separate opinion then.

Ouster Judgment Affirmed.

The action of the appellate court affirms the order of the district court rendered last July by the District Supreme Court, following a trial of Mr. Newman before a jury of twelve citizens. The finding of the jury was that Mr. Newman is an "unlawful usurper" of the office of Commissioner of the District of Columbia.

The cause was remanded to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and came on for trial before a jury of twelve citizens. The finding of the jury was that Mr. Newman is an "unlawful usurper" of the office of Commissioner of the District of Columbia.

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INVITATIONS POUR IN ON PRESIDENT

Many Western Cities Ask Him to Pay Them Visits Next Spring.

NO STOPS TO BE MADE ON INDIANAPOLIS TRIP

Pressing Demands From Different Sections for Rural Credits Legislation Being Considered.

The rush of invitations for President Wilson to stop in western and Pacific coast cities on his return from Panama and San Francisco next spring began today. The Colorado congressional delegation started by asking the President to stop in Denver and become the guest of the Press Club of that city. The President told his visitors he could not now tell what he would do about making stops in the west. The condition of public business would largely determine his course. It might be that he would not be able to make any stops at all, but if he could he would arrange as many as possible.

The tentative plans so far are for the President to go to Panama shortly after the middle of March and be present at the formal opening of the canal there, going from there to the San Diego and San Francisco ports.

Senators Gore and Fletcher, accompanied by Dr. Clarence J. Owens, secretary of the Southern Commercial Congress, called on the President to ask him to attend the annual meeting of that congress in Muskogee, Okla., the date for the meeting to be fixed to suit his convenience if he is able to stop in Muskogee on his return from San Francisco.

Senator Sheppard asked the President to visit Dallas and other Texas cities. In spite of many invitations to make stops on his way to Indianapolis and return this week, President Wilson has been compelled to decline. He will leave here Thursday night, returning Saturday.

Seek West Point Designation. Senator Swanson and Gov. Stuart of Virginia called on President Wilson today to ask him to designate E. B. Stuart of Norfolk as a cadet at West Point. Young Stuart is a grandson of the famous Confederate cavalry leader, Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, and the President asked some questions about the young man.

On the same day, E. B. Stuart, Jr., of Norfolk, called on the President to ask him to designate E. B. Stuart of Norfolk as a cadet at West Point. Young Stuart is a grandson of the famous Confederate cavalry leader, Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, and the President asked some questions about the young man.

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WAR OFFICIALLY REPORTED

German Statement

BERLIN, January 4, by wireless to London, 3:55 p.m.—The official communication issued today by the German army headquarters says: "In the western theater of the war, except for a more or less heavy artillery combat along the front, it was generally quiet."

French Statement

PARIS, January 4, 2:45 p.m.—The French war office gave out an official statement in Paris this afternoon as follows: "From the sea to the Oise the day passed in almost complete calm. The weather was rainy. There were artillery exchanges at some points of the front. In front of Noyelles our heavy artillery reduced the German batteries to silence."

Turkish Statement

CONSTANTINOPLE, via London, January 4.—The Turkish war office has given out the following communication: "Our troops took Ardahan (a Russian fortified town in Transcaucasia, forty-five miles northwest of Kars) January 1, Ardahan was defended by Gen. Zaichen, with 3,000 infantry, 1,000 Cossacks, six field guns and two machine guns."

Russian Statements

PETROGRAD, January 4.—An official communication issued by the general staff of the Russian army regarding the fighting in Poland and Galicia says: "A strong artillery combat has been fought all along the front of the left bank of the Vistula. The attempt of the Germans to gain ground in certain places in the region of the Baura river was without success."

Pestilence and Hunger Reported in Przemysl

LEMBERG, Galicia, via Petrograd and London, January 4.—It is reported here that pestilence is spreading in the city and among the garrison of Przemysl, which is now almost without provisions.

FRENCH AIRMEN'S BOMB HITS A ZEPPELIN SHED

LONDON, January 4, 10:30 a.m.—According to an Amsterdam dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company, French aviators dropped several bombs in the vicinity of Brussels Saturday, partly destroying a Zeppelin shed and killing several German soldiers.

N. Parker Shortridge Dead.

PHILADELPHIA, January 4.—N. Parker Shortridge, the oldest director of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, died at his suburban home in Wynnewood yesterday from pneumonia. He was eighty-five years old.

WHEN FATHER PLAYS SANTA TO HIMSELF.



War Officially Reported.

RECORD FOR MAY WHEAT

Reaches \$1.32 3/4—Highest Since the European War Began.

CHICAGO, January 4.—Wheat prices today overtopped all previous high records since the beginning of the European war. May delivery went to \$1.32 3/4 a bushel, as compared with \$1.22 September 5 last, when speculative excitement in regard to transatlantic developments was most acute.

Shutting out fear of Argentine competition was the immediate cause of today's advance in the wheat market. Ocean freight rates from Argentina have been sharply advanced, and the South American grain is no longer relatively cheap. Besides higher quotations at Liverpool this morning showed the urgency of European demand.

During the advance in wheat prices here a jump of 1 1/2 cents Saturday night trading appeared of a decidedly livelier character than has recently been the rule. The explanation is a measure of the fact that margins required on transactions are now only about half what were required not many weeks ago.

TO HEAR SIDMONS AGAIN

His Nomination as District Judge Referred Back to Subcommittee.

The unfavorable report of the subcommittee in charge of the nomination of Commissioner F. L. Siddons as associate justice of the District Supreme Court was submitted to the full committee today, and the nomination was re-referred to the same subcommittee so that further testimony might be taken. The testimony given before the subcommittee by Mr. Siddons himself was not taken down, and it is desired to have this to lay before the full committee.

The subcommittee in charge of the nomination of Senator Chilton, Clark of Wyoming and Nelson, with the exception of Senator Chilton, all the members of the subcommittee approved the unfavorable report.

Mr. Siddons probably will be requested to appear before the subcommittee tomorrow.

PESTILENCE AND HUNGER REPORTED IN PRZEMYSL

LEMBERG, Galicia, via Petrograd and London, January 4.—It is reported here that pestilence is spreading in the city and among the garrison of Przemysl, which is now almost without provisions.

Ineffectual sorties still continue from Przemysl, but they are less vigorously pushed. This is due, it is thought, to the garrison's acknowledgment of the failure of the Austrian relief forces to break through the Russian lines.

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MEXICANS BLOW UP ISTHMIAN RAILROAD

Destroy Tehuantepec Tunnel and Bridges There and in Oaxaca.

REFUGEES FLEEING OVER GUATEMALAN BORDER

Villistas Here Denounce Statements Given Out by Carranzistas as Lacking Truth.

State Department advices today say the only tunnel on the railroad across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and several important bridges on the road, as well as railroad bridges in the state of Oaxaca, have been blown up.

The legation at Guatemala City reported arrival of many Mexican refugees, but no Americans.

The American consul at Vera Cruz reports, under date of the 2d, that he is advised by the foreign office that the Tamaulipas state government has issued a decree which prohibits the exportation of corn.

The American consul at Matamoros reports that Davis, Burnham and Holland have been released by the military authorities and exonerated of all charges of political activities.

Enrique C. Lorente, confidential agent of the provisional government of Mexico, today discredited reports circulated in this country, which he says are calculated to give undesired importance to supposed military movements and alleged victories by the Carranzistas. He says that these reports are in every instance subsequently shown to be pure exaggerations or deliberate falsehoods, proven such by the official reports of agents of the State Department.

Cites Alleged Untruths.

"During the past four weeks," said Mr. Lorente, "the Carranzista sensational makers have had President Gutierrez in prison twice in Mexico City and once in flight to join Carranza; they have had Gen. Angeles in arrest a score of times, and in the same breath have had Gen. Villa proclaiming his president; they have insisted that Jose Vasconcelos of President Gutierrez' cabinet has been jailed at least once a week by order of Gen. Zapata, notwithstanding he has continued in daily contact with the Carranzistas; they have had Gen. Villa once more deposing President Gutierrez, and putting himself in power in his place. In other words, they just naturally insist on having all these things happen in a very short time, and it is time the public should know the purpose of this campaign is to deliberately create distrust and nothing else."

Villa Names Successor to Maytorena.

Gen. Villa, as commander-in-chief of the forces of the Gutierrez government, has ordered Gen. Juan Cabral, chief of the forces in Sonora, to succeed Gen. Maytorena as Naco.

Brig. Gen. Hugh Scott, chief of staff of the United States army, has been decided upon by the Gutierrez government as the best way to prevent continuance of hostilities at Naco and to bring about a settlement of the comparatively small Carranza forces.

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TURK GIVING RUSS A HARD CAMPAIGN IN THE CAUCASUS

Ottomans Claim Decisive Victories, While Petrograd Hints at Losses.

STRUGGLE IN THE WEST IS HALTED BY FLOODS

Battle of the Rivers in Russian Poland Has Not Yet Come to an End.

CUTTING A WAY TO WARSAW

Germans Claim to Have Captured Borjnow, a Strong Russian Position to the East of Lodz.

LONDON, January 24, 12:28 p.m.—Utterly irreconcilable are the claims of the contending armies in the east. In the west the unprecedentedly wet weather precludes operations which could give decided advantage to one side or the other.

The activities of the Turks in the Caucasus seem to be assuming an increasing importance, judging from the attention the Petrograd official communications are devoting to this region.

Turks Show Great Valor.

Although not admitting that the Turks have been victorious, it is conceded that they are fighting with great valor and stubbornness in the vicinity of the fortified town of Sari Kamyah.

The Turks claim to have taken this position. Russia, however, does not admit this, and says the Turks have suffered enormous losses.

Ottomans Making Headway.

Comparing the Turkish and the Russian statements it would seem that the Turks at the present time are making some headway, although both sides are losing heavily as their troops flounder and fight through the deep snow and in the bitter cold of those high altitudes.

The battle of the rivers in Poland has not yet come to an end. The Germans say that they have taken Borjnow, northeast of Lodz, a strong Russian position east of Lodz, and a step nearer Warsaw. This the Russian contradict flatly, saying that the German assaults here have been repulsed with heavy losses, and that elsewhere they have been held at bay.

Thinks Battle Near End.

Petrograd professes to see the end of the battle of the Polish rivers and a concentration of German forces at some other strategic point in a renewed attempt to break through, but, like the predictions of what this side or the other proposed to do in Belgium and France, this must be classed as a guess.

If it is true that the Russians have taken another pass over the Carpathian mountains, the invasion of Hungary in real force should, in the opinion of British observers, soon be a reality. Up to the present time detachments of Russian cavalry have crossed these mountains, but there never has been an invasion in strength.

Berlin Thinks Russ Offensive Has Been Smashed in Galicia

BERLIN, January 4 (by wireless).—The official press bureau has given out the following statement: "The Russian offensive in the east is considered by themilitary critics to be steadily improving. They believe the Russian counter offensive in Galicia has been utterly shattered for the time at least. Events in the east, however, have so frequently brought surprise that predictions as to the situation there cannot safely be made."

"The small amount of space given by all the newspapers to the western war theater apparently is indicative of a feeling that the central point of interest still is in Poland and that the struggle in the west has settled down into a monotonous endurance test."

Petrograd Claims Capture of More Than 22,000 Austrians

PETROGRAD, via London, January 4.—The Russian army has captured 22,570 Austrians and 40,000 machine guns during the last fortnight, according to an official announcement given out here.

Having fortified themselves along the line through Sochaczew, Skiermiewice, Rawas and Opoczno, Russian soldiers the Germans have again renewed their attacks simultaneously to the south and west of Warsaw and have endeavored to cross the Vistula river at the town of Polansko, evidently with the intention of directing a movement against Nowo Georgiewsk. This is the information contained in dispatches received here from the eastern war theater.

Advance Toward Vistula.

In the south, near Groitzy, the Germans are attempting an advance toward the Vistula in the region midway

A Year of Increased Usefulness

The past year has been one of increased usefulness in The Star's service to both its readers and advertisers, as shown by the greatly increased circulation and consequent increase in advertising.

The total circulation of The Star during the year, daily and Sunday, was 23,954,811, an increase of 834,800 copies over the year 1913.

The total lines of advertising of all natures was 10,896,033, an increase of 142,292 lines, or 466 columns—an average gain of over a column a day throughout the entire year.