



CUPID, SANTA AND WIRES KEPT BUSY

Baking Company Head to Wed Sweetheart of His Youth; Arranged by Telegraph



The last package has been wrapped and tied; the final eleventh-hour purchase has been made or exchanged; and the tree of trees has been set up as a help to Santa; the day-before preparations for the big dinner are complete; the last rehearsal of the "piece" that is to feature the morning's entertainment has been held by the admiring family; the stockings have all been laid out preparatory to hanging; and all Harrisburg has heaved a weary, happy sigh of relief and is all ready to hurry off to bed.

Harrisburg had lots of money for Christmas this year, comparatively speaking, due in a great measure to the development of the Christmas club idea. The club officers released their accumulations a couple of weeks ago and as a result some hundreds of thousands of dollars were available for Christmas spending. Merchants will be in an especially merry frame of mind to-night as they put up their shutters.

City to Take Day Off To-morrow the whole city will take a day off. The federal, state, county and city offices will all be closed as usual, special holiday hours prevailing at the post office. It will be a [Continued on Page 9]

HARRISBURG IS READY FOR MERRY CHRISTMAS

Whole City Will Take a Day Off in Observance of Great Anniversary

MUNICIPAL FETE TONIGHT

Charitable Organizations Have Planned to Care For Every Poor Family of Town

The last package has been wrapped and tied; the final eleventh-hour purchase has been made or exchanged; and the tree of trees has been set up as a help to Santa; the day-before preparations for the big dinner are complete; the last rehearsal of the "piece" that is to feature the morning's entertainment has been held by the admiring family; the stockings have all been laid out preparatory to hanging; and all Harrisburg has heaved a weary, happy sigh of relief and is all ready to hurry off to bed.

Harrisburg had lots of money for Christmas this year, comparatively speaking, due in a great measure to the development of the Christmas club idea. The club officers released their accumulations a couple of weeks ago and as a result some hundreds of thousands of dollars were available for Christmas spending. Merchants will be in an especially merry frame of mind to-night as they put up their shutters.

City to Take Day Off To-morrow the whole city will take a day off. The federal, state, county and city offices will all be closed as usual, special holiday hours prevailing at the post office. It will be a [Continued on Page 9]

PRESIDENT READY TO PLAY SANTA CLAUS

For the First Time in Many Years, Christmas Tree Will Be Erected in White House

TURKEYS FOR EMPLOYEES

Chief Executive's Grandniece Will Make Things Merry Over Holiday Season

Washington, Dec. 24.—Governmental business practically was suspended to-day and the national capitol was ready for its Christmas celebration. Congress was taking a recess, at the White House, only necessary business was being transacted, in the Executive Department work had been postponed and the Supreme Court had adjourned for the holidays.

Officials of the government from President Wilson down to the humblest employe had made arrangements for the festive occasion.

Many members of the House and Senate from nearby states were on the way to-day to their homes for Christmas, while others from the more distant section of the country remained here.

At the White House the President was taking advantage of the last few hours to see to it personally that everything was in order there for Christmas Day. Little Annie Cotton, grandniece, is a White House guest for the holidays and for the first time in years a large Christmas tree had been set up. The President was to act as "Santa Claus."

Greetings For President The White House mail continued in ever-increasing volume to-day. Postmen bearing greetings for the President and presents for members of the family were frequently in evidence at the White House during the day.

White House employes to the number of 125, including clerks, domestics and policemen were happy to-day because the President had presented each of them with a festive Christmas key as a Christmas gift. Distribution of the birds to White House employes is a long established custom.

All of the executive departments had arranged to close at noon for the holidays and thousands of employes joined in preliminary celebrations. At the capitol plans had been completed for the community Christmas celebration there to-day. A large fire tree stood in the east end entrance to the capitol above the doors of which were appeared in large letters, set with electric lights, the words "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

Thousands of persons planned to attend the exercises there. President Wilson went out golfing early to-day despite a heavy snow storm. Children living along the road he takes to the golf club were made happy by the arrival of an automobile filled with presents from the White House. They watch for the President and wave their hands to him as he goes by.

Via Dolorosa Have ye not, at the city gate been told "no room for one so late," "Wayno Mary?"

The kine alone and bleating sheep Afford a refuge where may sleep Weary Mary.

Night walks the slumb'ring thoroughfare, Her dark wings blind the eyes of care, Rest thee, Mary.

What 'nquished cry astounds the night And puts sweet sleep to instant flight? (Holy Mary).

THINGS YOU'VE SEEN IN MARKET STREET THIS WEEK



White Christmas? Well, It's to Snow All Night and Tomorrow

Cold Wave to Follow Close on Heels of Storm Sending Mercury a-tumbling; Clear in Afternoon

Harrisburg WILL have a white Christmas. Snow started to fall this morning at 10 o'clock and according to the forecast of E. R. Demain, chief of the local weather bureau, snow will continue to fall until to-morrow morning.

ALL HARRISBURG TO GATHER 'ROUND TREE

Municipal Christmas Celebration Starts Promptly at 7:15; to Last One Hour

All Harrisburg is expected to gather 'round the city's Christmas tree at Front and Market streets, to-night. The exercises in connection with the municipal celebration will start promptly at 7:15 to-night.

The Commonwealth Band will open the exercises with a short concert. At 7:30 Mayor John K. Royal, with other city officials, and members of the municipal tree committee, will leave the Mayor's office to join the large chorus which will form in Market Square. The procession will move up Second street to Walnut, to Front, to Market.

Following the singing of a Christmas carol by the large chorus, prayer will be offered. A selection by the band will precede the pictures depicting the life of Christ. Singing by the chorus will follow and the exercises will close with the singing of a patriotic hymn.

The exercises will not last longer than one hour, as planned.

Out of Jail This Year, but Must Spend His Christmas on Stonepile

Christmas on the stonepile at the almshouse will be the merry day for Joe Turner this year. Following his annual custom, Joe got on another of his spees and was lately sentenced to thirty days breaking stones.

It is said by the police that Turner has not spent Christmas out of jail for many years, and although he earnestly promised to behave after the last offense and was helped out of trouble by a friend, he fell back into his old ways at the first temptation.

ARRANGE TO WITHDRAW TROOPS

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—Details of the plan for the gradual withdrawal of several troops from the Colorado strike zone, in accordance with the agreement reached at a conference between Secretary Garrison and Governor Ammons, of Colorado, were being worked out to-day at the War Department.

POST OFFICE CLOSING

The main Post Office and Hill and Maclay stations will be closed to-morrow from 10 a. m. to 12 p. m. All carriers will make their 7.15 a. m. delivery and collection, and the 5.40, 7.30 and 10.20 p. m. collections.

AUSTRIAN BANK RATE REDUCED

London, Dec. 24, 3.50 a. m.—Reuter's Vienna correspondent says the Austrian bank rate has been reduced to 5 1/2 per cent.

TO SELL RED CROSS SEALS UP TO JAN. 1

1914 Campaign Formally Closes Today, but Stamps Are Still Available

SCHOOL CHILDREN SELL 65,034

Miss Weitmeyer's Room in Cameron Leads; Miss Welcomer Best Salesgirl

While Harrisburg formally closed its Red Cross Christmas seal campaign for 1914 to-day the Yuletide stamps can be purchased on up until New Year's Day, according to an announcement made this morning by John Fox Weiss, chairman of the general committee.

The Christmas "stickers" while in demand for pasting upon the Christmas gifts bear a New Year's greeting as well, and they can easily be used for post-Christmas gifts and letters. The various lines along which Harrisburg's campaign has been conducted—churches, schools, fraternal organizations, etc.—officially put business to-day. So did the booths in the post office and the department stores.

Just how many stamps were sold, until the various subcommittees make their reports. These figures may not be compiled for a week.

SELL 65,034 IN SCHOOLS

The result of the sales in the city schools was announced yesterday and the expectations were more than realized. The school children of Harrisburg sold 65,034 seals—which means \$65,034—as compared with 51,820 in 1912. The Cameron building had the open-air school kids, Miss Anna Weitmeyer's room, the high room last year, led again with sales totaling 16,591 and netting \$165.91. To pretty little Miss Winifred Welcomer belongs the honor of being the best Red Cross Christmas seal salesgirl in Harrisburg. She sold 1,100. Oddly enough, last

At the Cameron building 4,809 seals were sold. This is a few hundred more than Central High School which was credited with 4,369. Technical High school very few, as the students devoted funds and energies to entertaining the open-air school kids.

First Meal in Three Days Fatal to Penniless Man

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 24.—George W. Archer, aged 25, a salesman thrown out of a job by the depression last October, died of ptomaine poisoning to-day in the Alton Hospital. His first meal he had in three days, a can of chili con carne, caused his death on the day that friends had found a new position for him.

A few weeks before he lost his position Archer drew his last cent out of the bank to send his sick wife and their dying son to Texas for their health. When he lost his position he was practically penniless and too proud to tell his friends. He managed to exist by selling all his clothes except those he wore. Sunday, after three days without food, he borrowed a dollar and ordered his ten-cent meal.

Almost immediately afterwards he was taken ill. While he was delirious a friend telephoned the hospital that he had found a good position for him, but Archer never recovered sufficiently to understand the message.

\$7,000 FIRE AT NEWVILLE

Newville, Pa., Dec. 24.—Fire last night badly damaged the Pitez Five and Cent Store, in the Maxwell Building, caused a loss of about \$7,000.

BOMB DROPPED ON DOVER; RUSS MEET SUCCESS

Heavy Fighting Continues in France and Belgium, but Renewed Activities Have Accomplished Little; Aviator Flying Toward Paris Brought Down by French Soldiers; Accounts Vary Regarding Fighting in Poland

London, Dec. 24, 3.17 P. M.—An official statement given out in Paris to-day says that an Austrian submarine torpedoed a French battleship in the Gulf of Otranto. The battleship was damaged only slightly. No one was injured.

London, Dec. 24, 1.25 P. M.—Hostile aeroplane dropped a bomb over Dover this morning and then disappeared according to a statement made this afternoon by the official press bureau.

The text of the statement follows: "An aeroplane of the enemy dropped a bomb while passing over Dover this morning and then disappeared according to a statement made this afternoon by the official press bureau. The bomb fell in a garden and exploded, but no damage was done. The aeroplane was seen for a few seconds only. It left immediately passing over the sea. A British aircraft went up but did not see the enemy again. The weather was cloudy and foggy."

To-day's official statements reveal the intense nature of the fighting now in progress both east and west, but indicate that, with the possible exception of East Prussia, there has been no significant change in the alignment of the opposing forces.

The German statement tells of a fight for possession of a trench in France, which was won by the French, recaptured by the Germans and finally abandoned. So fierce was the struggle the trench was almost leveled by artillery fire. No important movements were reported in the German communication.

The French statement, while saying that small gains have been made here and there, mentions German attacks on many points. The enemy was again checked and that the Russians at Mlawa in Poland near the Prussian border have been defeated.

French cruiser in the strait of Otranto, near the southern end of Italy, was torpedoed by an Austrian submarine. It is stated that the damage was slight and that no men were injured.

Although accounts vary as to the present status of military affairs in Poland, it is evident that the scene of heaviest fighting has shifted southward from Sochaczew, the town on the Buzura river thirty miles from Warsaw toward the Germans for several days direct the principal efforts. Austro-German forces operating from the Cracow Bazaar are attempting to push northward into Poland.

In this effort, however, they are meeting with determined resistance from the Russians.

A semi-official statement from Petrograd says that Russian successes in Galicia continue and that in the Carpathians the Austrians have been thrown back. Another sortie by the garrison at Przemyśl, which has long been under attack by the Russians is said to have resulted disastrously for the Austrians.

Heavy fighting continues in France and Belgium but thus far the renewed activities have accomplished little. The German gains are highly creditable to the recuperative powers of the formidable enemy. Emperor William has promised his troops rest and rewards at Warsaw, which he has ordered to be taken by Christmas.

EMPEROR VISITS HOSPITALS Moscow, Dec. 24, via Petrograd.—Emperor Nicholas and the Empress, accompanied by their children, yesterday visited a number of hospitals in Moscow organized in aid of the wounded by public and private associations. Notable among these is the Union of All Russian Zemstvos.

GERMANS WITHREW DEMAND Moscow, Dec. 24, 3.30 a. m.—A dispatch to the Dutch newspaper Amsterdamsche says: "The Germans have withdrawn their demand for a new war contribution of \$100,000, presumably owing to the protest of the American government."

PLACE FOR EMPEROR'S SON Moscow, Dec. 24, 3.58 a. m.—The Morning Post's Petrograd correspondent says: "Germany is energetically pushing the candidature of Prince Eitel Frederick, second son of Emperor William, for the throne of Hungary, the independence of which is expected to be one result of the war."

FRENCH MAKE PROGRESS Paris, Dec. 24, 2.59 P. M.—The French war office this afternoon gave out an official communication which reads as follows: "From the sea to

Philadelphia, Dec. 24.—Charles A. Ambler, of Montgomery county, candidate for Speaker of the State House of Representatives, to-day ran down and killed a man named John Forsyth, 70, near here, while driving his automobile. Mr. Ambler gave himself up to the police of Abington township who, after investigating the accident absolved him from all blame. The accident, it is said, was unavoidable.

MOTHER MAY VISIT THAW

Manchester, N. H., Dec. 24.—It was learned at the home of Harry K. Thaw to-day that it was probable Mrs. Mary Copley Thaw, his mother, would spend Christmas with her son. It is understood that Mrs. Thaw visited his chief counsel, ex-Secretary of State Phillander C. Knox, at the latter's country home in Valley Forge, Pa., yesterday, when further legal procedure on behalf of Thaw was discussed.

WOMAN HURT IN FALL

Shortly after noon to-day a woman slipped and fell at Third and Briggs streets, fracturing her right kneecap. She was taken into the Hartman hospital for treatment, and an X-ray was taken of the injury. The hospital report taken to give her name.

WILL PROLONG MORATORIUM

London, Dec. 24, 5.17 a. m.—The announcement is made that the Swedish government has decided to prolong the moratorium for foreign debts until March 1, says a dispatch from Stockholm to Reuter's Telegram Company.

The Lys we made progress by sapping operations in the dunes and we repulsed an attack in front of Lumbarzyde. At Zwartelen, to the southeast of Ypres, we occupied a group of houses and we drove back as far as the southern part of this village a counter attack.

Capture of Lodz Marks Turning Point of War in East, Says General

Lodz, Russian Poland, Monday, Dec. 21.—(By automobile Courier Posen, Prussia, Dec. 23.)—London, Dec. 24, 11 A. M.—The capture of Lodz according to a declaration made to-day by General Von Hindenburg, the German commander, to the correspondent of the Associated Press was the turning point of the campaign in Poland. The Russian lines in Northern Poland rested on the city of Lodz, the capture of which there occurred the most bitter struggle of the entire war on this front. After the Russians, following a most obstinate resistance on their part, were forced to evacuate the town, a general Russian retreat in the direction of Warsaw became necessary.

Under the guidance of Major Von Follenben, a cousin of the late Baron Von Follenben who was at one time German ambassador to the United States, the Associated Press correspondent to-day visited some of the battlefields in the vicinity of Lodz and gained an idea of the nature of the operations which led to the capture of the city.

ENEMY AGAIN ACTIVE Berlin, Dec. 24.—Wireless to London, 3.15 P. M.—The official communication issued to-day by the German headquarters staff says: "The enemy did not renew his attacks in the neighborhood of Nieuport yesterday. At Hixchoote we took 230 prisoners on December 22. The enemy was again active yesterday in the neighborhood of Chalons. Infantry attacks followed a fierce artillery attack made by the enemy in the regions of Souain and Perthes. These were repulsed."

ORDERS CAPTURE OF WARSAW

London, Dec. 24, 3.35 a. m.—Telegraphing from Petrograd the Morning Post's correspondent says: "The Germans brought up vast forces and re-organized in a manner highly creditable to the recuperative powers of the formidable enemy. Emperor William has promised his troops rest and rewards at Warsaw, which he has ordered to be taken by Christmas."

EMPEROR VISITS HOSPITALS Moscow, Dec. 24, via Petrograd.—Emperor Nicholas and the Empress, accompanied by their children, yesterday visited a number of hospitals in Moscow organized in aid of the wounded by public and private associations. Notable among these is the Union of All Russian Zemstvos.

GERMANS WITHREW DEMAND

Moscow, Dec. 24, 3.30 a. m.—A dispatch to the Dutch newspaper Amsterdamsche says: "The Germans have withdrawn their demand for a new war contribution of \$100,000, presumably owing to the protest of the American government."

PLACE FOR EMPEROR'S SON

Moscow, Dec. 24, 3.58 a. m.—The Morning Post's Petrograd correspondent says: "Germany is energetically pushing the candidature of Prince Eitel Frederick, second son of Emperor William, for the throne of Hungary, the independence of which is expected to be one result of the war."

FRENCH MAKE PROGRESS Paris, Dec. 24, 2.59 P. M.—The French war office this afternoon gave out an official communication which reads as follows: "From the sea to

Philadelphia, Dec. 24.—Charles A. Ambler, of Montgomery county, candidate for Speaker of the State House of Representatives, to-day ran down and killed a man named John Forsyth, 70, near here, while driving his automobile. Mr. Ambler gave himself up to the police of Abington township who, after investigating the accident absolved him from all blame. The accident, it is said, was unavoidable.

\$4,000,000 Worth of Barbed Wire Wanted by Warring Nations

Pittsburgh, Dec. 24.—Demand from the belligerent nations of Europe for barbed and plain wire to-day reached the feverish stage in the wire mills of this district. Offers of orders aggregating 125,000 tons, of which 25,000 tons are specified as barbed wire of special design, have been made within the past few days, the only point at issue being the time at which delivery can be made. This business is worth approximately \$4,000,000 and will keep the mills going for several months. Mill officers said that the length of the barbed wire alone would reach 50,000 miles, while that of the remainder of the orders would bring the total to 275,000 miles. England, France and Russia have been large customers of the Pittsburgh Wire Mills since the war began.

ANDREW CARNEGIE SENDS GREETINGS ACROSS WATER

New York, Dec. 24.—On the anniversary of the signing of the treaty of Ghent and of one hundred years of peace among English speaking peoples Andrew Carnegie, chairman of the American peace committee to-day sent two cablegrams in behalf of the committee. One was of good will to the citizens of Ghent through the king of Belgium, the other to Earl Gray, chairman of the English committee, expressing the hope that England and the United States would unite after the present war in proclaiming that international disputes shall hereafter be adjusted by peaceful arbitration at The Hague.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Snow or rain this afternoon and to-night; lowest temperature tonight about 25 degrees; Friday generally fair and colder.

For Eastern Pennsylvania: Snow or rain this afternoon and to-night; lowest temperature tonight about 25 degrees; Friday generally fair and colder.

River The river will remain icebound and nearly stationary.

General Conditions The high pressure area that was central over Tennessee, Wednesday morning, is passing off the Middle Atlantic coast; it is separated from the low area of the considerable strength over the Canadian province of Ontario. This disturbance is causing cloudy weather east of the Mississippi river and in the Southwest, with rain in Southern districts and snow in the Ohio Valley.

Temperature: 8 a. m., 22. Sun: Breezy, 7:25 a. m.; sets, 4:44 p. m. Moon: First quarter, to-day, at 3:25 a. m. River Stage: 2.7 feet above low-water mark.

Yesterday's Weather Highest temperature, 28. Lowest temperature, 10. Mean temperature, 21. Normal temperature, 34.

NO PAPER TOMORROW

In accordance with a long established custom, there will be no issue of the Telegraph on Christmas Day.